



THE COMPASS

Current Series:



December 20, 2015



THE
ASCENT
CHURCH

Get Connected

If this is your first visit, thank you for joining us. We hope your visit is meaningful! Please fill out a Connection Card and drop in the offering or at the Welcome Areas so we will know you were here. For all guests and attenders, below are steps you can take to engage in our community.



Explore I

Learn more about our church, meet our Campus Pastors and others on our leadership team. Woodmoor Campus: every 2nd Sunday at 11:00 am in Room 214. **Northgate Campus: TODAY at 10:45 am in the lobby.**
No pre-registration required.



Explore II

Go deeper into the vision and mission of our church. Become an active part of our church community, learn our trail map for each person, ministry values, doctrine, and connecting with a Base Camp. Held quarterly at 10:45am at both campuses.



Base Camps

Base Camps are neighborhood-based groups that meet regularly around our community. To build deeper relationships with your neighbors, visit our website at theascentchurch.com/basecamps.



Serving

Use your talents and interests to serve with others in your church, accomplishing common ministry goals. There are always teams you can join! Contact Joel Witzel at joel@theascentchurch.com.



Equipping

Our Equipping Classes are designed to help further your walk with Christ. There are many short-term classes offered at both campuses, as well as ongoing women's and men's bible studies. For more information, visit our website or contact Joel Witzel at joel@theascentchurch.com.



Worship Team & Technical Arts

Join our Tech Team or Worship Team. For more info, contact carson@theascentchurch.com.



Sunday Morning Team

Serve as an usher or host with the welcome team. Meet new people, serve together and grow in Christ as you serve our community. Contact joel@theascentchurch.com

Community Life

Christmas Eve

service times

at THE ASCENT CHURCH

Woodmoor Campus: 2:00, 3:30, and 5:00pm

Northgate Campus: 4:00pm

Guatemala Missions Trip

July 16-23, 2016



Ascent Student Ministries

For more information about
the missions trip, contact:

ASM@theascentchurch.com.

End of Year Giving

The church office will be closed Dec. 24 - January 4.

In order for your year-end gifts to be credited in 2015, please make sure your checks are dated and postmarked no later than December 31. Online transactions need to be completed by midnight December 31. Questions, please contact Tara Kuntzsch at 955-2509 or tara@theascentchurch.com.

December 27 Worship Times:

On Dec. 27, we will have one service at each campus.

- Woodmoor Campus: 9:30am
- Northgate Campus: 9:30am

January 10, 2016

Transition Update Meeting: 4:00-5:00pm

Response Time

Each Sunday service, after the message, we have a time of response to God. We invite you to engage in worship through some tangible ways throughout our worship space.

- Communion: Available to all who profess Jesus Christ
- Prayer: Pastors or Prayer Partners available in the room
- Song: Engage in singing and expression to God
- Offering: Offering boxes and kiosks are available for giving
- Other: At times we will offer artistic/tactile worship stations

We invite you to move around the room at your own pace and in freedom to worship and respond to God as you feel led. You may engage these areas of worship in any order and at your own pace.

Financial Update

Last Week's Offering: \$79,569.87

As of 11/30/2015:

YTD Giving:	\$355,716
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$382,608
YTD Budget:	\$480,942

Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Avg. Weekly Giving:	\$31,335
Avg. Weekly Budget:	\$36,995
Min. Weekly Need:	\$34,000



Giving @ The Ascent

- (1) Offering Boxes: cash/check (in our worship service)
- (2) Online from our website
- (3) Kiosk: In the lobby
- (4) Mobile/Text: The Ascent Church App (download from your App Store)

Connection Opportunities *This Week*



Ascent Student Ministry (ASM)

(Middle & High School)

Please note: ASM will not meeting from Dec. 21-Jan. 4.

After break, the next meeting is Jan. 5.

- Middle School: 5:30-6:45pm
- High School: 7:00-8:30pm

ASM meets this Sunday! Future dates: Jan. 10, 17, 24.

See you all in the New Year!

Email Micah, Rob & Taylor at asm@theascentchurch.com for any questions.

Children's Ministry (Birth—6th grade)

Family services will be held on Dec. 20 and 27.

Tiny Town is available for birth - PreK:

Adventure Quest is available for K - 4th grade:

Elevate is available for 5th & 6th grade:

- Woodmoor Campus: 9:30 & 11:00am
- Northgate Campus: 9:30am

For more info, go to www.theascentchurch.com.



Ascent Missions

The Guatemala Missions Trip is scheduled for July 2016.

For more information, email asm@theascentchurch.com

Equipping, Women's and Men's Ministries

Equipping Classes: Sunday 9:30am at Woodmoor, *Book of Revelation* study. All are welcome!

Catalyst Equipping Class: Catalyst is for those seeking to get connected with others and be equipped for Biblical community. Catalyst meets Sunday mornings, 11:00am at the Woodmoor Campus in room 212.

Parents of Teens Equipping Class: The Parents of Teens Class meets Sunday mornings, 11:00am at the Woodmoor Campus in room 210. Join other parents for support and to help one another with raising our teens.

Men on the Ascent Bible Study: *Gospel of Mark* study, Tuesdays at 6:15am; will resume Jan. 5 after the Christmas break.

- Woodmoor Campus: room 213
- Northgate: Cafe Communitas at Marcos Pizza

Women on The Ascent: The winter session of Bible Studies will start on Jan. 12. Please visit the website for an updated list of Bible Studies. Neighborhood studies are also available. For more information, contact joel@theascentchurch.com.





Message Notes

Sermon Passage: Luke 2:13-14.



Shared Engagement and Preparation

The Compass is a daily devotional and study guide for individuals, families, and Base Camps. The Compass begins devotions on Monday and leads up to the Sunday which will focus on the week's passage. In this way, the whole of the church engages in God's Word and prepares for our time of worship and preaching.

Deep Engagement and Doable Application

In order to allow for deep impact by God through His Word, The Compass centers on one passage in three ways — as individuals, with others, in our corporate gatherings — and focuses on applying what God is showing us, not biblical information itself. Life transformation happens when God's people depend upon and live out what He has revealed to us in His Word.

Consistency Over Time

With a tool such as The Compass, we can mistakenly measure personal spiritual success or failure based on whether we've completed a given day's devotion. Rather, use The Compass as a resource for individual and community growth. If you miss a few days, move on and seek growth; God will honor this.

Our prayer is that God will bless you as you seek to connect intimately with Him, intentionally with His people, and influentially in His world.

The Compass Passages for 12/21/15–12/26/15: Luke 2:13-14.

Monday, December 21, 2015

Read: Luke 2 as an overview. Your focus is Luke 2:9-14.

Reflect:

1. How could the glory of the Lord have “shone around them” v. 9? How do you think this would appear to the shepherds?

2. Where do you see the glory of the Lord in your life?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

Spend some time in prayer, asking God to help you become aware of His glory around you. Journal anything you noticed during this time.

Tuesday, December 22, 2015

Read: Luke 2:9-14 and Proverbs 4:23.

Reflect:

How do you think guarding your heart brings glory to God?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

1. How can you verbalize God's glory? What will you make known to God during your quiet time today?

2. Ask God what you could do practically to show His glory to someone else (reach out, befriend, serve, etc.). Plan to respond immediately.

Wednesday, December 23, 2015

Read: Luke 2:8-18.

Reflect:

Read through these verses and list the ways the shepherds showed glory to God in the highest.

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

1. In what ways will you show glory to God this week?

2. Think about your neighbors. How can you show glory to God by living as a loving and grace-filled neighbor?

Thursday, December 24, 2015

Read: Luke 2:13-14.

Reflect:

Think about the ways people have shown glory to God over time. List some of these below.

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

As you prepare for Christmas Eve, what are ways you can show glory to God in your preparations and participation in the celebration of Christmas?

Friday, December 25, 2015 Christmas Day

Read: Luke 2:13-14.

Reflect:

1. How have you seen the work of God in your life this year?

2. The greatest gift God gave to his children was Christ. How does giving God glory in the highest place all other gifts in perspective?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

1. Spend time in prayer, thanking God for all He has done for you this year. Give Him the glory.

2. How does giving glory to God prepare you to trust Him more fully?

Saturday, December 26, 2015

Read: Luke 2.

Reflect:

From your study this week, what new thoughts do you have about glorifying God?

What transforming thoughts and/or actions were revealed to you today, and how might you put them into practice?

1. The shepherds were obedient in responding quickly and fully to the angel of the Lord. How will you respond to these verses?

2. What will be the result of your obedience in showing God's glory to others?

Building Our Base Camp Family

This is week four of our suggested four-week pattern for Base Camps: intergenerational, adult study, mixed, invitation/service. Each week will have an intergenerational element (such as the meal); then there will be a focus for the meeting that follows the pattern and is attentive to God's Word and the age mix.

Prepare:

As you have been reading through Luke 2:8-20, you've noticed how shepherds are significant to what we read. Take time to think about shepherds and their role, or better yet, their status in the culture of that time. Maybe even do a bit of online research.

God sent His angels (messengers), to make sure the shepherds were able to see Jesus and know who He was. Who would be considered modern day shepherds?

Invitation/Service:

Ponder about folks in your neighborhood with whom you might have an opportunity to share time, and possibly some baked goods. Think about people who might have to work on Christmas instead of being with friends and family. Pray about doing something special for those who serve you in businesses close to home. How about giving a thank you note to the place you frequent to get coffee, a favorite food establishment, or a trusty mechanic? You might give a special gift to the people who pick up your trash each week, or plow your roads.

Contact Us

Church Office 719.481.3600

(WM-Woodmoor, NG-Northgate, CS-Central Support)

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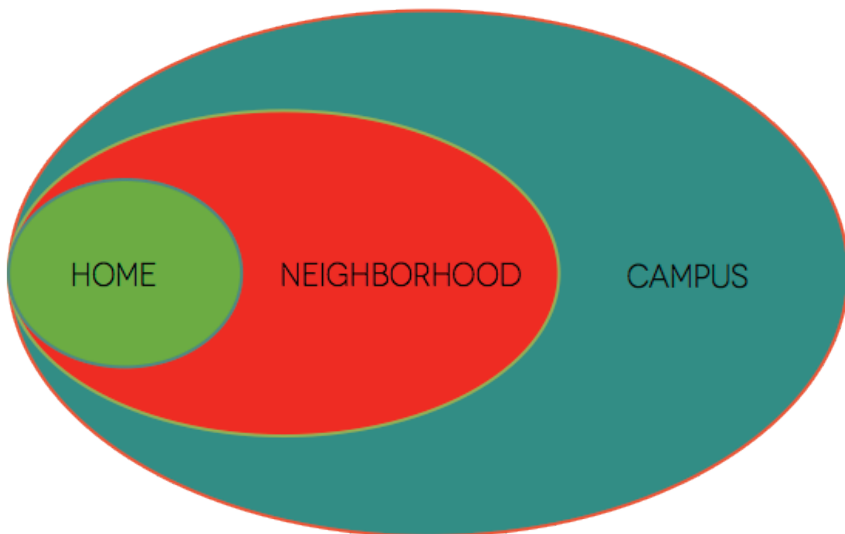
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Mission and Vision

The mission of THE ASCENT CHURCH is to help people connect: *Intimately* with God, *Intentionally* with God's family, and *Influentially* with God's world. Our vision is to develop genuine Biblical communities on every street in our region.

Our community lives out its vision and mission within three environments:

- Home - The best place for formation and nurture.
- Neighborhood - The best place for application and outreach.
- Campus - The best place for equipping, inspiration and celebration.



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Special thanks to all who contributed to The Compass.
If you have questions or comments, email:
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