



Colorado Springs, CO  
**CHURCH PROFILE**



## HISTORY |

Waypoint Church launched in August of 2021, when Pastor Steve Stanton, along with a launch team of about 30 people developed a plan to start a new church community in northeast Colorado Springs. In the first year, Waypoint quickly grew to about 120 committed attenders. We are members of the Presbyterian Church in America and part of the Rocky Mountain Presbytery and the Western Church Planting Network. We are also network partners with Acts 29, and the Gospel Coalition.



## OUR NAME | Waypoint Church

"A reference point that serves as an intermediate stop to reorient along a journey"

**A REFERENCE POINT** | A place that points us back to God's goodness and love for us.

**AN INTERMEDIATE STOP** | To belong while we pass through this city and this world toward eternity with God.

**A STOP TO REORIENT** | To slow down, rest up, and reorient our hearts and lives around the gospel.

**ALONG A JOURNEY** | A reminder that we haven't arrived and are trusting God as our stories unfold.



## CONTEXT |

Colorado Springs sits at the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, where you're never more than 30 minutes from outdoor adventure. Our city was founded by retired frontiersmen looking to settle down and still carries the same culture of individualistic grit and determination.

While the city is host to the headquarters of 86 Christian nonprofits, it's only 16% evangelical protestant, and 66% of the city claims no religious affiliation. There's a great



division between the community of believers who are highly involved in church and ministry, and the large majority of unbelievers in our city. Our particular suburban cultural context is defined by the “elder brother” from the parable of the prodigal son.

This area is filled with highly achievement-oriented individuals, and the most common answer to “How are you doing?” is “Busy!” Everyone is maxed out, and operating on low-margins of time, relationships, and money, leading to high levels of anxiety, isolation and escapism. That isolation leads people to find community in ideological tribes, and individualism leads to a high value in consumerism. Our area is restless, and desperate to fill a void.



## OUR VISION |

Our Vision is to bring Gospel Reorientation to the Suburbs. As such, our work is to bring rest to the overachiever, bring renewal to the overly-busy & burnt out, bring community to the lonely, and refreshed purpose to the wanderer. We bring that rest and renewal so that we can send out the church into the world to be on God's mission to bring restoration to all things. We believe the gospel not only brings transformation and renewal for us as believers, but is also the answer to our fellow broken neighbors.

## OUR VALUES |

Our values name the specific ways we think the gospel would transform our community

**Rest in Christ:** Rest in our identity as God's beloved children, united in Christ.  
*vs. Restlessness that come from needing to prove your worth through achievement*



**Eliminate Hurry:** Seek to slow down to make space in our lives to love God and others.  
*vs. Busyness and low-margin stemming from the need to climb the ladder*

**Open and Honest:** Be open and honest about our brokenness, dependent on God for change.  
*vs. A cultivated image on display because of an internal need to appear competent to others*

**Engage with Love:** Engage our neighbors with gentleness and humility of heart.  
*vs. belonging that comes from looking down on others and always being right*

**Cultivate Community:** Cultivate communities encouraging one another in Christ  
*vs. viewing independence from others as a sign of success and lack of weakness*

**Bring Renewal:** Embrace our calling to bring renewal to the places where God has us.  
*vs. a lack of purpose, striving to be free from the constraints of work*



## OUR MISSION |

Waypoint church exists to help people find rest in God's love, restore wholeness to our lives through Christ, and work toward the flourishing of our neighborhoods, our city, and the nations.

## MINISTRY EXPRESSION |

We accomplish that mission through our ministry structures.





### **Support teams (find rest in God's love)**

A huge part of helping people find rest in God's love takes place on Sunday mornings. The Sabbath day is about coming together as a church family to worship, encouraging one another, and being reminded of God's love as the gospel is preached. Our Support Teams enable much of what we do on Sunday mornings, from leading us in worship, to caring for the children in our children's ministry, to setting up the chairs - and lots more!

### **Discipleship Cohorts (restore wholeness)**

As believers we're all called to grow in our faith. We are to invite Christ to bring restoration and wholeness to our hearts and lives. As our dependence on Jesus grows, we begin to look more and more like him. The main way we do this is by meeting in Discipleship Cohorts. These are short-term small groups centered on encouraging and equipping one another as we learn how to be disciples of Christ. Discipleship cohorts are offered on a semester basis - 12 weeks in the Fall and Spring, and 8 weeks in the Summer.

We've had groups study: How People Grow, Hebrews Bible Study, Emotionally Healthy Spirituality, Praying Together, The Pursuit of God, etc.



### **Flourishing Groups (work toward flourishing)**

The third aspect of Waypoint's mission might be the most important part! A healthy church will have a cycle of gathering people to be renewed by the gospel, and then sending those renewed people back out into the world to bring restoration. We're all



called to bring glimpses of God's kingdom into this world and share the hope we've found in the gospel to those around us. We do that through Flourishing Groups. Each group focuses on serving a particular space, place, or group of people.

Currently we have a great partnership with the local school we meet in and have been able to care for the teachers, students and school grounds in multiple ways. We also have a group that has helped with resettling refugees in our town.





## Waypoint Kids |

- a. **In Service** | Feel free to keep your kids with you for part or all of the service. We have family tables for kids to draw and wiggle at, along with activity bags and sermon note pages for kids available to help keep them occupied and engaged.
- b. **Nursery** | Nursery is available on Sunday mornings, for ages 0-4, during the entire worship service. If your older children would feel more comfortable in nursery due to developmental disabilities, etc, they are welcome to come too! All of our childcare workers are trained and background checked to provide quality and safe care so parents and caregivers can attend worship undistracted.
- c. **Children's Church** | Children ages 4-7 are invited forward to hear a Kids' Sermon mid-way through the worship service and are then dismissed for Kids' Church. In Kids' Church, children have the opportunity to learn more about the Bible through interactive lessons and activities tailored for them.
- d. **Sunday School & Youth Group** | For ages 8-12 we are starting a before church Sunday School class that goes through the New City Catechism. And for ages 13-18 we have a youth group that meets once a week to study through the scriptures together. These two areas of ministry are new and growing.



## *Our Trajectory & Some Future Strategic Planning*

We're currently a "mission church" and a work of our presbytery. We have a temporary session with other Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders who live and minister in Colorado Springs alongside us. Our goal is to raise up our own Elders and Deacons at some point in late 2023 or early 2024.

We have one full-time church planter leading the work, and two part-time staff: a part-time music director, and a ministry intern learning about church planting and attending Denver Seminary. We also typically host a church planting summer intern for about 10 weeks in June and July.

We have healthy structures and systems in place, including using a company, Auxilio, to manage our finances and business administration. We're about 60-65% internally funded, and have enough external support in order to bring in more money than we spend and have healthy reserves in the bank.

We hope to grow in diversity to match our surrounding community and work toward increasing diversity of future church plants in our city. Two key focus areas for us are: 1st Gospel transformation. Many of the concepts contained in "the gospel centered life" and the ministry of Serge & Parakaleo undergird our discipleship work. The 2nd is Community Engagement. We believe the mission of the church includes caring for justice and mercy for our neighborhoods, city and the world.

