

## When, What, How?

Currently we are meeting on Sunday mornings for Celebration and Wednesday's for Care Group. We will be randomly (1 week advance notice) cancelling Sunday mornings so that we as a community can engage our friends, neighbors and family with the gospel – we call these Missional Sunday's. All groups are open all the time.

1. Currently we partake of communion or the Lord's Table 1x per month with a full meal together in Care Group.
2. Care Groups are our primary place of care on Wednesday nights 6:30pm-8:30pm in homes and all groups will start with "How to Grow in Christ" then moving onto SGM 's "Pursuit of Godliness" series and transition to sermon groups (based upon Sunday message topics). Leader's Tribe (discipleship for elders and deacons), on the last Saturday of the month Connie hosts a Missional Craft day 12-6.
3. Pre-school and Grade School children will be experiencing God's Story (gospel centered curriculum for the entire family) on Sunday mornings.

## Finally,

We don't have it all figured out, and we are what some call an Organic, or Simple church, so on that note, ministry takes prayer, finances, and volunteers to make it succeed, and we will let God handle that. At no time will Oasis manipulate, nor intimidate its attendees nor bash churches or steal 'sheep.' We invest time and resources in people who are active participants in our community. However, observers and consumers are always welcome.

## Oasis

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## Oasis

...where relationships are a mess worth making

## Community Schedule

We seek to build gospel-centered communities to reach people for Jesus Christ and invest in messy relationships



## What is organic worship?

In the dusty lands of Judea, the creator God of the universe asked a woman for a drink. At a place where the thirsty would come to draw water to sustain their lives, Jesus crossed racial, cultural, and religious boundaries to invade someone's life with grace. In the same way, Oasis is where people meet the presence of God. He comes into our stories and invites us to come and drink water which will quench the deepest longings of our souls.

Oasis is a place where the grace of good news is extended to a weary sinner. Not a place to "come and see" but to "come and go." The very essence of God's people has been one of a sent people on mission following Jesus in His continuing work on the earth. The church from its early days has been a living body, expanding, preaching discipling, teaching and presenting the living Lord to the cultures in which it lives. Our vision is to get creative, get spiritual, get radical, get real, get truthful, get multi and

get connected. We are convinced that relationships are a mess worth making.

### Four Goals of Care Groups

#### 1. Progressive Sanctification

Sanctification refers to our practice before God. It is the ongoing process of battling sin and becoming more like Jesus.

#### 2. Mutual Care

God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.

If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. (1Cor 12:24-26)

#### 3. Fellowship

Fellowship means to participate together, or to communicate things we hold in common.

#### 4. Ministry of the Holy Spirit

In this smaller and more personal context, each person can serve according to the gifting of the Holy Spirit. This is the fourth and final reason why care groups exist.

### Our Current Study and Format

On Sunday's we are working through the book of Genesis and in Care Group (on Wednesday nights – where we also participate in communion) we are working through the book of John. The basic purpose of the church is to love God with one's entire being (heart, soul, and mind), to love other people, and to serve others through missions and ministry. The goal of "loving people" is embodied and expressed through the ministry and task of creating disciples, "Go therefore and make disciples" (Matthew 28:19). Creating disciples is not done in a vacuum. There is no disciple-making without small groups. God's plan for

forming spiritually mature disciples involves getting them in groups (John 13:34-35; Hebrews 10:23-35). People do not reach spiritual maturity alone. But in groups, among friends they can reach maturity and have fun while they do it.

Our format is organic rather than linear. Covenantal versus segregated (families worshipping together versus 'singles groups, youth ministries, etc). That means we pray, we sing, we watch videos, we go on 'bunny trails', we get messy and author Frank Viola describes it this way,

By "organic church," I mean a non-traditional church that is born out of spiritual life instead of being constructing by human institutions and held together by religious programs. Organic church life is a grass roots experience that is marked by face-to-face community, every-member functioning, open-participatory meetings (opposed to pastor-to-pew services), ....., and the centrality and supremacy of Jesus Christ as the functional Leader and Head of the gathering. Put another way, organic church life is the experience of the Body of Christ. In its purest form, it's the fellowship of the Triune God brought to earth and experienced by human beings.

**We should not think of our fellowship with other Christians as a spiritual luxury, an optional addition to the exercises of private devotions. Fellowship is one of the great words of the New Testament: it denotes something that is vital to a Christian's spiritual health, and central to the Church's true life...The church will flourish and Christians will be strong only when there is fellowship.**

- J.I. Packer