

When, What, How?

Currently we are meeting on Saturday nights from 5-8pm. Starting in January 2009 we will move to a traditional time slot on Sunday mornings at 10am. 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. 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. In January 2009, Care Groups will continue 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), Men's Tribe (accountability group) and a Women's Tribe (accountability) group.
3. Pre-school and Grade School children will be experiencing God's Story (gospel centered curriculum for the entire family) on Sunday mornings starting in January 2009.

Finally,

We don't have it all figured out, and we are still a church plant, 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, 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

Fall 2008 Worship Schedule

Equipping others to be more faithful disciples through serving them in discipleship-evangelism, exhortation and restoration, to a full relationship with God, in all of life.



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

In his book, [You Can Double Your Class in Two Years or Less \(1997\)](#), (and our study) Josh Hunt invites teachers and leaders "to embrace the vision of a better world made possible by a church that is making a difference in the world...to become part of an army of believers who are using their gifts to grow their groups and double their classes every two years or less" (Hunt 1997, 7). 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 constructed 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