



Acts 17:6 'These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also'

## WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

Oasis Church's mission is **transformation**...*personally, in families, our city and across the globe through His manifest Presence*

<sup>2</sup> CORINTHIANS 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. <sup>18</sup> But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

## WHAT IS OUR VISION?

We believe that the church is God's vehicle for *transformation*. We dream of a church where:

- **Every person is *made alive in Christ* and grows in their new identity as a son of God**  
EPHESIANS 2:4 *But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.*
- **Every person finds safety & belonging in the *family* of God and through these connections, lives to change the world**  
EPHESIANS 2:19 *Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*
- **Every person is empowered to live out their God-given purpose and give their lives to bringing the Kingdom of Heaven to Earth**  
EPHESIANS 3:7 (MSG) *This is my life work: helping people understand and respond to this Message. It came as a sheer gift to me, a real surprise, God handling all the details*

**This is so that as a church we fulfils His intent – to declare the manifold wisdom of God to rulers & authorities in heavenly realms**

EPHESIANS 3:10 *His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, <sup>11</sup> according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

# WHO ARE WE?

We are a **faith-filled family** of believers who **love the presence of God** and desire to see His **love, joy and peace** and **creativity** expressed throughout our daily life, in our community and the world at large.

We desire to live **generously, sacrificially** and with **Truth** as our guide; courageously declaring God's message of **grace** and **holiness** in our pursuit of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.

## 1. Faith

- *We choose to partner with what God says and not what fear says*
- *We are inspired by hope and rooted in the promises of God*
- *Every believer is called to live a supernatural lifestyle of signs, wonders and miracles*

## 2. Family

- *We develop covenant relationships in an environment of honour*
- *We seek to value every person for who they are not what they do, giving significance to all generations*
- *We love openly, value transparency and encourage meeting together regularly*

## 3. Presence of God

- *We love to worship extravagantly and passionately*
- *We create time and space to spend in His Presence*
- *We desire to carry His presence into every part of our lives, city and nations of the world*

## 4. Love

- *Love flows from our identity as sons/daughters – receiving the Fathers Love is a priority*
- *Our expression of the Kingdom of Heaven is love*
- *We seek to love each other intentionally, unreservedly and contagiously*

## 5. Joy

- *We choose to partner with laughter instead of despair*
- *We praise when circumstances get us down*
- *Joy fills our attitudes, conversations and expectations*

## 6. Peace

- *Guards our thoughts in the midst of trials*
- *Keeps us focused on the bigness of God and the smallness of the enemy*
- *Releases stability, steadfastness and strength in God's people*

## 7. Creativity

- *Co-labouring with the Creator to release His Kingdom (thoughts, ideas, solutions, inventions, expressions etc.) here on earth*
- *Demonstrating His Ways, Will & Word to the Earth*

## 8. Generosity

- *Attracts the favour of God and abundant resources*
- *Keeps us living in gratitude and humility*
- *Creates a culture of excellence*

## 9. Sacrifice

- *It is a privilege and joy to serve*

- *We remain focused on others and not ourselves*
- *We seek unity, kindness and servant-heartedness*

#### 10. Truth

- *The Word of God underpins all we do, say and think*
- *His truth becomes the standard by which all things are measured in our daily lives*
- *We believe that the Bible is the infallible, and authoritative Word of God providing revelation, wisdom and instruction for life.*

#### 11. Courage

- *We dare to take risks and celebrate the journey not the outcome*
- *We do not fear failure but fear God*
- *We inspire others through testimonies, declarations and big dreams*

#### 12. Grace

- *Jesus has redeemed us and restored us to our destiny*
- *Grace empowers us to live as sons and daughters, free from shame and guilt*
- *Grace gives us permission to be imitators of God – pure, radiant and whole*

#### 13. Holiness

- *Pursuit in discovering the true nature of God*
- *Develop intimacy and maturity*
- *Reflect Him*

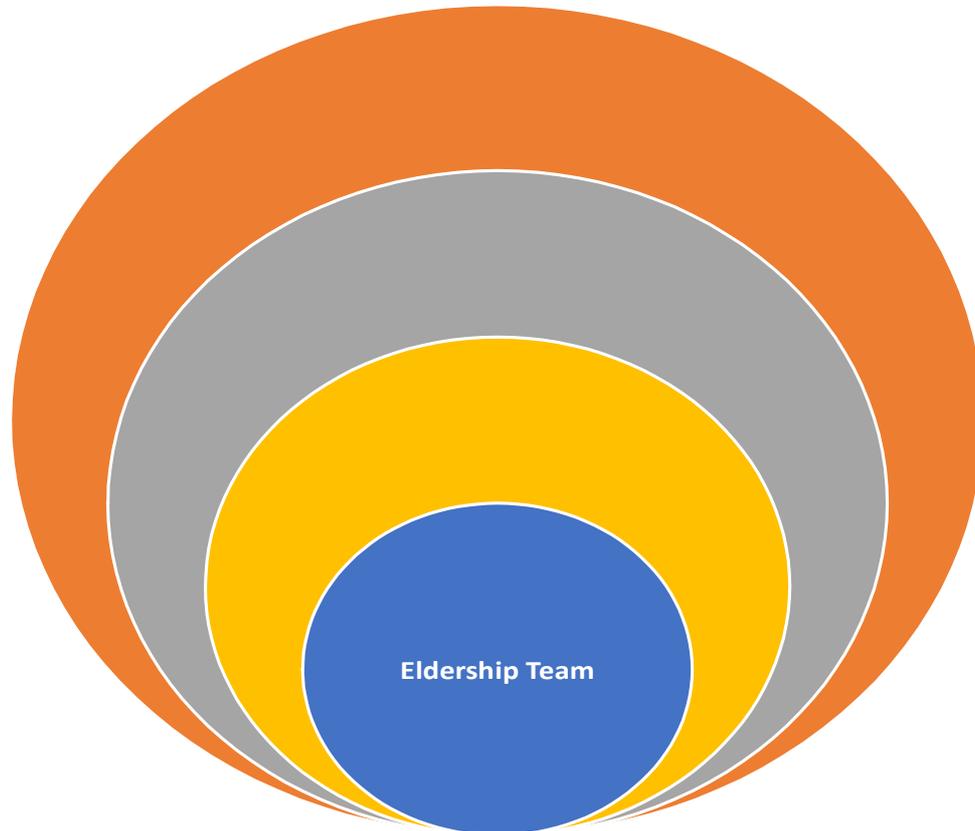
## WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

- There is only one true God who is the eternal King, Creator and Redeemer of all that is.
- He is perfectly holy, just, loving and truthful.
- He has revealed Himself to be eternally self-existent - one being in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- The Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God.
- The Lord Jesus Christ, the one and only Son of God, was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin, Mary, and is God's Anointed One, empowered by the Holy Spirit to inaugurate God's Kingdom on earth. He was crucified for our sins, died, was buried, resurrected and ascended into heaven, and is now alive today, in the presence of God the Father and in His people. He is "true God" and "true man."
- We are saved by God's grace, through faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ.
- Anyone can be restored to fellowship with God through repenting, believing and receiving Jesus as their Saviour and Lord.
- The Holy Spirit, convicts, regenerates, justifies, and adopts us as we enter the Kingdom of God as His sons and daughters. In the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live holy and minister super-naturally. The baptism of the Holy Spirit according to Acts 1:4-8 and 2:4 is poured out on believers that they might have power to be witnesses.
- The victorious redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides freedom from the power of the enemy - sin, lies, sickness and torment.
- The Church consists of all who put their faith in Jesus Christ. He gave His church the ordinances of Baptism and Communion.
- The Church exists to carry on the ministry of Jesus Christ and further advance His kingdom by undoing the works of the enemy, preaching and living the good news of God's love, disciple the nations, baptizing and teaching them to love and obey God. In the ever increasing government of

God and in the Blessed Hope, which is the glorious visible return of our Lord Jesus Christ for His overcoming bride - His church. Heaven and hell are real places.

- There will be a resurrection of the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting death.

## ORGANISED FOR VICTORY



**Built on Foundations of Apostles & Prophets with Jesus as Chief Cornerstone**

**Eldership Team/Senior Leadership Team - carrying a mantle of government to**

- **GUIDE** – according to the Word and sound doctrine, prayerfully, with prophetic vision  
2 Tim 4:2;
- **GUARD** – mantle to protect, steward the vision, resources, destinies of church  
Tit 1:9; Acts 20:28-31
- **GOVERN** – shepherd, care, spiritually parent, lead  
1 Tim 5:17; 1 Peter 5:1-2

**Core Team** – carrying a responsibility for ministry to assist with equipping God's people for life & ministry, carrying out the oversight of core functions within the church, communicating vision/values within their sphere of influence, and building community within their areas of ministry.

**Ministry Team** – carrying a responsibility for ministry to assist with practical needs of ministry, building of various teams to see the work of the ministry happen with ease and to see lives transformed, cities reached and nations disciple. These include Volunteer Team Leaders, Comm Group Leaders and Staff

This is all designed not to make us look good, but organize us more effectively to release the **Army of Sons/Daughters** into their freedom and their unique assignments in God that will bring heaven to earth.

<b>Core Functions</b>	<b>Core Team</b>	<b>Ministries</b>	<b>Ministry Team</b>
<b>Pastoral</b>	Helene Merton Matt & Doni Hogarty (Elders)	Counselling Hospital Visits/Meals New People Home Visits Encouragement On Call	Doni Hogarty Lee Ann Jones Jenny Nefdt Tony & Beryl Leavesley Judy Ferns Matt Hogarty
<b>Comm Groups</b>	Helene Merton	Amberfield Men's Group Ladies Group Family Home Group Moms Group Evening Soaking Morning Soaking Transformer Hiking Group Coffee Club Great Trek The Well  Foundations Group Young Adults Worship Collective	Sally Griffiths Sean O'Sullivan Marian Evans Ray & Eunice Gumbo Lauren Hogarty & Stacey Armstrong Lesley Helfer & Betty Bowes Ann Morphew Matt & Doni Hogarty John & Vicky De Pinna Gus & Shanelle Van Niekerk Helene Merton Michelle O'Sullivan, Judy Ferns, Jenny Nefdt, Rashieda Naidoo Jenny Isherwood Craig & Kristi Smith, Kirsten Hansen Ryan & Lauren Hogarty
<b>Finance</b>	Sean & Michelle O'Sullivan (Elders)		Russell Merton Angus Van Niekerk Karin Palk Matt Hogarty
<b>Training &amp; Discipleship</b>	Russell & Helene Merton		
<b>Worship &amp; Creative</b>	Ryan & Lauren Hogarty	Production Team Media Team	Team Team
<b>Kids</b>	Gus & Shanelle Van Niekerk		Rashieda Naidoo Jenny Isherwood
<b>Young Adults</b>	Craig & Kristi Smith	Kirsten Hansen	
<b>Operations (Volunteer Culture)</b>	Karl & Lucille Shaw	Hosting & Welcome Building Team Catering Team Café Team Resource Centre Events & Décor Team	Karl & Lucille Shaw Sean Jones Michelle O'Sullivan Natasha Dell Karin Palk Doni Hogarty
<b>Missions</b>	Matt Hogarty	LOVE Howick Local Outreach Team – Street, Hospital, Store, Shias, Police International Missions	Matt Hogarty Ray & Eunice Gumbo  Allan Dell
<b>Intercession</b>	Doni Hogarty	Prayer Team Moms Who Care	Rory & Meryl Casey Rashieda Naidoo
<b>Schools</b>	Matt Hogarty	Oasis Prep School Home Education Oasis FET College	Matt Hogarty Shanelle Van Niekerk Angus Van Niekerk

## 3 AREAS OF FOCUS

<b>GROW</b>		
<b>DWELL (Wed Nights)</b> <i>Supper 17:30</i> <i>Worship/Prayer 18:30</i> <i>Courses 19:00-20:00</i>	R30/meal Engine Room of Church Termly Equipping	Relational Time Prayer is vital for growth! Coming Up: Hope & Joy – Steve Backlund Keep Your Love On – Danny Silk
<b>Foundations Day</b>	Understanding Heaven, Being Born Again, Identity, Holy Spirit etc.	Sat 17 September (08:30-15:30)
<b>SUNDAY CELEBRATION TIME</b> <i>Prayer 08:30</i> <i>Service 09:00</i>	Various Teaching Series	Courage – September Your Kingdom Come – October to 2017
<b>CONNECT</b>		
<b>Community Groups</b>	Weekly/Bi-monthly small groups	<i>See Comm Group Guide</i>
<b>Men's Conference</b>	Champions Men's Day	Sat 15 October
<b>Ladies Conference</b>	Radiant Ladies Conference	Fri 14 – Sat 15 November
<b>Family Days/Camps/Kids Camps</b>	As advertised	
<b>Homefires</b>	Termly gathering in Homes	Wed 28 September
<b>GIVE</b>		
<b>Volunteer Teams</b>	Termly Connect/Training	First Wed
<b>Missions</b>	International (Lesotho/Moz) Local Outreaches	November 5-9 Greendale House – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sun/month Police – every Thurs Sunfield – every 2 months Hospitals – every 2 weeks Street Store – first Sat/month The Well – every Wed 9am
<b>Financial Involvement</b>	Partner with what God is doing in our midst through Tithes, Offerings	Giving Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Sun/month

### **Why do we SERVE?**

Participation & serving is a big part of who we are at Oasis. We believe that the best way we can influence our world is through serving, taking our cue from Jesus who displayed the greatest example of humility. Here is why serving is such a big deal:

- **IT REFLECTS THE ESSENCE OF THE GOSPEL (Philippians 2:5-7)**
- **IT COMMUNICATES LOVE (John 3:16)**
- **INFLUENCE GROWS FROM FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP (Luke 19:11-27)**
- **JESUS REDEFINES GREATNESS AS SERVING (Mark 10:35-45)**

*Pick up a VOLUNTEER GUIDE at the Info Desk and sign up to join one of our amazing Volunteer Team.*

### **Why do we CONNECT?**

There is a rapidly growing tendency within society towards individualism. Relationships break up, neighbors stay indoors, we go weeks with little or no social interaction, the virtual world is absorbing more of our time than the human world and even in churches people are adopting the attitude 'What's in it for me?'. The core of community is about 'we' and this is slowly being replaced by the goal of serving 'me', thus leading to loneliness, isolation and indifference/detachment. The statistics indicate that 40% of people are lonely with comments like, "there are precious few times and spaces left in our society in which people quietly speak to one another in a sustained, intimate conversation."

### **But God had a better plan... one that we at Oasis are fighting for...**

God has not just called us to be an individual who believes but a community that belongs (Genesis 2:18, Psalm 133:1). We are wired for community and so have developed COMMUNITY GROUPS as a vehicle to develop deep connections, authentic relationships and spaces for people to be fully themselves.

*We encourage you to pick up a COMM GROUP GUIDE at the Info Desk and find a 'family' that you can 'do life' with – the best decision you will ever make.*

### **Why do we GIVE?**

God is a generous God, giving His very best so that we could live in the very best – eternal life & freedom. At Oasis, we are a generous people because:

- **GOD gave first... "For God so loved the world that he GAVE..." (John 3:16)**
- **The Bible gives us so many clear instructions on living a sacrificial, generous life... "Bring the whole tithe into the store house..." (Micah 3:10)**
- **Giving is part of our worship... with 15% of the Bible referencing this subject. Giving is mentioned 2350 times and is the core message of 17 of 38 parables**
- **Simply put, "GOD loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7)**

*Every Sunday there is an opportunity to give our tithes & offerings as God instructs us. We also celebrate all that God is doing in our finances on the last Sunday each month during GIVING SUNDAY. Here you will receive feedback from our Finance Team on how your generosity is impacting lives and advancing the Kingdom.*

#### **GIVING SUNDAY**

Last Sunday of every month is GIVING SUNDAY where we make space to sow (over and above Tithes & Offerings) into various aspects of the Kingdom of God. These include:

1. Missions – international and local
2. Building Fund – developing facilities & assets
3. Legacy Fund – this is to ensure long-term sustainability of the ministry. Investing in this fund will ensure that the next generation goes far further than we ever dreamed.
4. School Bursaries – invest in education to change lives
5. Care Vouchers – help those in need with a love gift that will see them through difficult times
6. Love Howick – partner with Kingdom-hearted people to transform our local community. By giving to this NGO you will assist us in forming partnerships across our city for positive change
7. General Offering – directed by the Finance Team to urgent projects & Kingdom initiatives

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **What denomination is Oasis Church?**

We're a non-denominational church who hold strongly to the authority of the Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit. We have strong relational ties to men & women who lead local churches in South Africa as a means of ensuring we have accountability, direction and input as a church. We are also part of the Global Legacy, an apostolic relational network of churches based out of Bethel Church (USA) committed to seeing revival across the globe.

### **What is available for my child?**

We believe that families should worship together and so children are part of the main worship time each Sunday. During this time we encourage individual, free expression of worship through song, dance, and praise – in fact anyway you feel led to celebrate and encounter our living God. At the end of the worship time children aged 3 – 12 years are encouraged to attend the OK (Oasis Kids) ministry time that happens in our Kids Ministry classrooms outside the Main Auditorium. These times are supervised by a team of trained adults who desire to teach the Bible in a fun, relevant, age-appropriate way, and in so doing inspire a generation to live passionately for God.

If you are new to our environment please be aware that we are a child-friendly church, with grace & understanding for the journey of raising young children. We would rather you do this in church than outside, and so we go out of our way to make your time at church as easy as possible. Here's how:

- *Pick up a suitcase of toys & creative equipment to keep your toddler busy during the service. We advise you to bring your own mat for your child to sit on and healthy snacks to sustain them while at church.*
- *There is a Nursery located at the back of the Auditorium for nursing mothers or mothers with children younger than 3yrs. This room is set up with an audio feed and glass window so that the worship & message can still be seen & heard.*
- *There are various lounges setup around the Auditorium for parents with small children, to give ample space for children to play quietly. Please ensure that your children remain under your care at all times during their time at church.*
- *There is a special 'Kids Refreshments Table' in the foyer with juice and the occasional treat for children after the service.*
- *Why not join the weekly Moms Group (every Thursday 9.30am) to build meaningful connections and be inspired on your journey as a parent?*

## **GET CONNECTED IN 3 EASY STEPS**

### **#1 WELCOME DINNER**

*Meet our Leaders and hear all about our Mission, Vision, Culture, Core Beliefs, Three Focuses & Ministries. This evening will answer all your questions and help you to feel at home at Oasis Church.*



### **#2 FOUNDATIONS DAY**

*Discover the foundations of the Christian Faith – including Heaven, Being Born Again, Baptism, Holy Spirit, Spiritual Gifts, Connecting with God and How to Live in Victory. Join this one day seminar – it is the best investment in your spiritual walk.*



### **#3 COMM GROUP & VOLUNTEER TEAM**

*Two of the best ways to become a part of FAMILY is joining a COMM GROUP, where you can build deeper connections, and a VOLUNTEER TEAM where you can contribute meaningfully to the Family.*