

"Our mission is to love and care for those seeking refuge from war torn countries with the heart of Jesus "



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A Letter from our Board President

Some of my favorite passages of the Bible contain two simple words: **"But God"**. Those texts usually contain scenes and stories of impossibilities and dead ends...and then those words appear. **"But God"**. And this ministry to refugees from all over the world who find themselves in St. Louis is no exception:

The Oasis International Board of Directors is one of the most unique gathering of individuals with whom I have ever been associated. We attend seven different denominational churches. We have vast expertise and varied experiences. Our backgrounds and ethnicities are different. **But God** has brought us together to help share the love of Jesus Christ with people from many different countries – right in our backyard!

The Board is currently praying, discussing and planning for Oasis International and is formulating our goals for the future:

- ◆ We desire to see the love of Jesus given freely to every single person we come in contact with through the activities of Oasis International. This means every volunteer, every teacher, every Board Member, every staff person, every donor gives of themselves as Jesus has given to us.
- ◆ We desire to be "Gospel-centered", not just "faith-based". That means we weave our love of Jesus and of people into every conversation, every visit, every class and everything that we do at Oasis International.
- ◆ We desire to see every refugee be connected with at least one Christian American individual or family.
- ◆ We desire that Oasis International be financially secure today, tomorrow and for many years to come.

The Board of Oasis International is working hard and praying for these desires to become realities. God has richly blessed us over many years and today we enjoy a corporate stability.

Will you join us?

- ◆ If you are a volunteer, would you expand that time to include visiting a refugee in their home?
- ◆ If you are a donor, would you increase your giving by \$10 per month?
- ◆ If you have furniture, would you consider giving it away so a refugee can begin a new life in St. Louis?
- ◆ If you attend a church, would you ask your church leaders if you can organize a furniture drive?
- ◆ If you are a church leader, would you invite Mark and Joani to speak at your church?
- ◆ If you are not a donor, would you commit to \$1 per day for an entire year?
- ◆ If you are not involved, would you call Oasis International today and ask how you can help?



If you don't think you can do any of those, would you read over the list again and ask yourself this question:

"Which of those areas do I want to tell as my story by adding 'But God'?"

Andy Bundesen is the Chair for the Oasis International Board of Directors. He has been involved with the organization for 5 years, ever since God stirred his heart during a monthly Oasis International barbeque outreach. Andy is the Manager of Foundation Gifts at the Saint Louis Zoo, and has been a fundraiser for nearly 20 years. Andy attends Hope Vineyard Church and is passionate about following Jesus.

Mark & Joani Akers Founders/Directors

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Please check out our new video at <https://vimeo.com/121524862>

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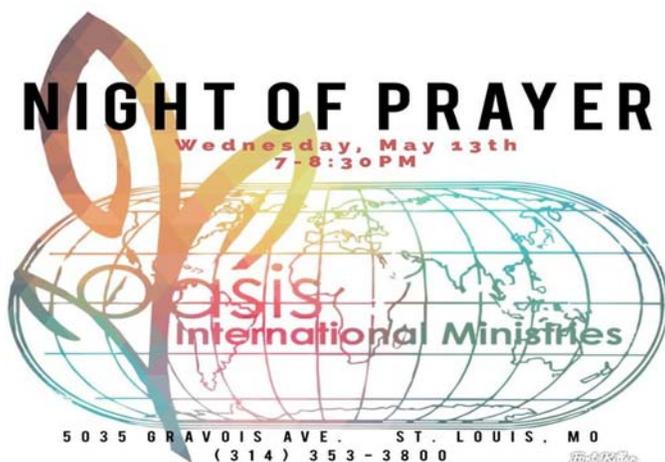
“This is what the LORD Almighty said: Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor.

Do not plot evil against each other.” Zechariah 7:9

“Compassion” A feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is stricken by misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering.

Oasis In The City: “Stories from the heart”

“oasis” a pleasant or peaceful area in the midst of a difficult place: calm in the city



Come pray at Oasis International for our city and for the refugee families who are in St. Louis starting a new life. We will also pray for our country and the millions of refugees living in refugee camps.

Wednesday, May 13th 7—8:30 PM

May 16 Our first BBQ of 2015



Once again we will enjoy our BBQ Outreaches every third Saturday of the month from May—October. This month Midtown Church will be our sponsor. Come join us for free BBQ, games, worship music and a bicycle raffle .

