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

Oasis International

Incredible Finish For 2015

It's been an incredibly busy last 2 months of 2015. In November, 300 people came to a great fundraiser in memory of our friend Paul Douthit and raised \$30,000 for our benevolence fund.



Destiny Church connected with Oasis International for "Home For The Holidays" and had 36 families invite 100 refugees to their homes for a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Refugee families need love and relationships as much as furniture and clothes. Gatherings like these are so welcoming to the refugees and helps to build lasting friendships with new friends.



Holiday celebrations at Oasis always includes entertainment, fun and lots of food. This year for **Thanksgiving** we were thrilled by the beautiful music of the Equinox Chamber Players. Khalid, from Iraq, sang some Arabic songs and even got Mark to dance. At our **Christmas celebration**, each class sang a Christmas carol and Rick Thum wowed us playing the dulcimer, which he also made. Christina Lenz joined him on the violin. It was beautiful! Lunch was provided that day by Abiding Savior Church. They served the food and gave Christmas gifts to all of the students. Shady Grove Church in Texas provided Christmas stockings filled with gifts for the refugee children. What a great day!



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Welcome Travis Pierce Our New Administrator

We are excited to announce our new administrator for Oasis International; Travis Pierce. Travis is a real Man of God. He has served on our Oasis Board and he and his wife, Ginger, have been instrumental in befriending many refugee families. He is a leader in his church, First Baptist, Arnold, MO. and has helped organize several work teams to rehab refugee homes, and furniture drives for Oasis. **Most**

importantly, he has the heart of Jesus to love, care for and serve the international community.

Travis will be taking over the administrative duties and will assist, our founder, Mark Akers, as he steps into the roll of envisioning churches/organizations about the mission of Oasis International and ministry development. God bless you Travis, and welcome to our team.

CHRISTMAS MIRACLES

Our desire every year is to give a Christmas present to every child that came to St. Louis from January to December. Many miracles came to St. Louis this year. **100 gifts from Destiny Church, 122 gifts from Abiding Savior Church and 90 Christmas stockings** with \$25 gift cards to Old Navy and stocking-stuffers were donated by the **Kurt Warner Foundation**. Also **100 Christmas books** were donated telling the story of Jesus birth and were given to each family. **Blankets** were also given to elderly refugees with no children by **Life Community Church** in Columbia, Illinois. Over **1,000 home-made cookies** were also baked with lots of love from **Southgate Church** for each family.

But how would we get all of these toys and gifts to every family?

How about More Miracles! After the gifts were delivered to

Oasis, we received a call from Christina from U. S. Bank. She had a team that wanted to come help. They came and sorted all of the presents into each delivery team.

130 people (38 teams) from Calvary Fellowship Church, Southgate Church, Destiny Church, Gateway House of Prayer and U.S. Bank came on December 19th to deliver gifts to 108 families. The teams were equally blessed to deliver the gifts as the people who received them. **WOW, it was a Christmas full of miracles! ALL FOR THE GLORY OF JESUS!** Thank you to all who gave gifts and served in so many ways.



"After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of Him to every town and place where He was about to go." Luke 10:1

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