



December 2014

Inside Oasis

Giovanna shares

DANGEROUSLY BUSY

Have you ever been in such stressful circumstances that you just wanted to run into your room and hide your head under a pillow to wait until everything was over? I guess that every person has experienced such a situation at least once in a lifetime.

Mine was just a few weeks ago. My husband attended a leadership conference for a few days and I was home alone with the kids. This is usually not a problem for me. This time, however, due to not marking my husband's absence in my calendar, I arranged various appointments for that week. The schedule with the kids is already quite tough on its own; adding other things on top of it can become overwhelming. I managed miraculously to keep most of the appointments, however, was completely exhausted on Friday when the busiest part of the week was yet to come though.

Pastor Mike McDermott, our recent guest speaker, and his wife Becky stayed with us during that weekend, which meant preparing dinner for a whole team. Initially I had planned to attend the church growth seminar run by him on Saturday, however, due to my busy schedule, it was just not possible to realise it. I had been looking forward to this seminar for months and was absolutely frustrated and upset - not least because I couldn't take part in the seminar, but also because everything was about to get even crazier. On my to-do-list were still things such as the preparations for the Spanish service, making dinner, tidying the house and looking after the kids.

When I was just about to give up and hide myself, a church sister called. She had also been hosting a couple for the weekend, however, had finished her preparations and kindly offered her help. I was overwhelmed and almost fell on my knees to express my thankfulness. Her support helped me "survive" the rest of the evening, but I was admittedly tired when I arrived at church on Sunday morning.

The sermon Pastor Mike chose to speak about that day was on Martha and Mary. Listening to the points he shared, felt at bit like a slap in my face. How was it possible that a passage, which I knew and had read a hundred times suddenly spoke so clearly to me? This passage was a perfect fit to my situation. It helped me realise that I had been so busy being Martha throughout the whole week and consequently missed the blessings of Saturday.

The following days, I reflected on the message over and over again. Then, the following scripture came to my mind: *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you.'" (Matthew 7:21-23).* I asked myself if it was really possible that God would one day refuse us, despite us having worked hard for Him? Could it be true? Many passages in the Bible tell us that God **wants** us to work for Him - I had even preached once about it. Why then would He refuse us? After meditating on it and going through further Bible passages more carefully, I understood that God wants us to be **obedient**. Even if we sacrifice ourselves in working hard for Him, neglecting family, friends in order to "serve" God, it's not worth anything, if it's not what God has asked to do. It is a fallacy to think that we can buy His grace by working hard. *Ephesians 2:8-10 clearly informs us of the truth: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

It's important to consider very carefully if what we are doing is in line with God's plans for us. There are certainly periods where things need to be done. We should, however, stop now and again and take time to pray and ask God if we're still doing His will or if we're so distracted doing Martha's work, that we're missing Mary's blessings.

Be blessed, Pastor Giovanna Colaci

Upcoming events

**Is there more to life than this? What am I doing here?
Does God exist? Yes, No, probably?
Searching for more?**

Explore the meaning of life. Listen. Learn. Discuss. Discover. Ask.

Alpha Course is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith and look at topics, such as "Who is Jesus?", "Why and how do I pray?" No pressure. No follow up. No charge.

Each evening starts with a meal together, followed by a short talk on a particular theme and a discussion in a small group, where you can share your thoughts and ask questions.

Typically Alpha has around ten sessions and really is for anyone who's curious. The talks are designed to

encourage debate and explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, honest and informal environment.

Stop by, bring friends along and discuss, ask and seek answers to your questions.

Please contact Pietro Colaci at pietro@coglux.com for more information or simply to register.

**Start: Monday, 12 January 2015 at 7 pm
with a taster evening**

So what's your question?



Events, info...still in December and in 2015



Colour Conference 2015 London

Hillsong Church London, UK
Thursday, 30 April 2015 at 6:30 PM –
Saturday, 2 May 2015 at 10:00 PM



Hillsong conference Europe 2015 London

The O2 London, UK
22 – 24 July 2015

"Speak, we're listening"



Minehead I 28/03 – 02/04/2015

Minehead II 2 – 6/04/2015

Minehead III 6 – 10/04/2015

Skegness 6 – 10/04/2015

For more information, visit
www.springharvest.org

THANK YOU to

Fernand Gilles stepped down from formal leadership this year entering the role of 'normal church member'. Actually he has never achieved that freedom, since he has agreed to retain responsibility for building issues, especially the Dudelange building, acting as an Associate to the Pastoral Board of Oasis and the National Church Board. In one sense, though, no one is ever set free once they are brought onto a Board - new members beware ☺.

Fernand has been involved with our church since 1992, serving as elder for many years through our early growth and moves across the city in 4 locations before our present one. He and Margie have been committed to their home group, making it one of the best fed groups in the church. We have been privileged to have them as servants of the church and role models of faithfulness.

Chris & I have always appreciated his and Margie's amazing loyalty and friendship. *Graham Kettle*

Events coming up... Oasis Kids Corner

Every Saturday at 6 pm Church of God Building 20a, rue de Strasbourg, L-2560 Luxembourg	Iglesia de Dios Luxemburgo Praise, prayer & preaching (in Spanish), plus patisserie Please spread the word about this and invite your Spanish friends. Contact: Pastor Pietro at pietro@coglux.com for more information.
Friday, 12 December 2014 Ice-skating rink on Knuedler place Guillaume Luxembourg	Oasis youth event – Ice-skating Call to all under 18's: Join in the winter fun, grab your skates or simply rent some on site and explore the ice. Want your friends to join the fun? Bring them along! It's available at pietro@coglux.com to answer your questions.
Sunday, 14 December 2014 at 10.30am Christian Hope Center 72, rue Dernier Sol, L-2543 Luxembourg	Oasis Christmas Family Service (All-age Worship) At Christmas, some people like to come to a church service, even if they don't normally. This is another great opportunity to invite friends & family to Oasis.
Saturday 20 December 2014 , 10 am – 1pm	Inter-Church Prayer Meeting for Luxembourg Prayer meeting, followed by optional street evangelism. For details of the exact venue, please email info@oasis.lu or newsletter@oasis.lu Organiser: Murielle Lemvoka-Raskin of La Rencontre church
Saturday, 20 December 2014 at 8pm Centre Culturel Tramshapp 49, rue Ermesinde L- 1469 Luxembourg	Diner concert de Gospel Mona Abel & "Génération Gospel" Generation Gospel is the choir of our sister church El Shaddai. This is a great opportunity to invite friends & family. For more information, visit www.elshaddai.lu
Sunday, 21 December 2014 Luxembourg x-mas market Place de la Constitution Luxembourg-centre	Oasis Youth - Lux. Christmas market All teens from the age of 12+ (SMASH Group), join the Sunday afternoon fun and explore with us Luxembourg x-mas market. Friends are always welcome to join in. Contact: Pietro on: pietro@coglux.com for more information
24-26 April 2015 Venue to be arranged	IMPACT Luxembourg Event PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!!

Oasis kids

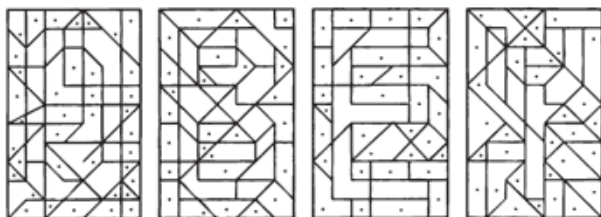
Quiz

What Did Jesus Do?

Jesus went to Jerusalem with His parents when He was 12 years old. On their way home, Mary and Joseph could not find Him. They were very worried. They looked for three days and finally found Jesus back in Jerusalem. He was with the teachers in the temple. What did Jesus do when His parents found Him?

Color all the spaces not containing a dot to make the answer appear.

Jesus chose to



His parents.



Please come dressed up as a shepherd, an angel or a wise man or woman!

Oasis All-age Christmas Celebration Sunday 14 December 2014 At 10.30 am

Followed by a
"Meet & Eat"

Please invite
friends and
family!!



YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

If you are 12+ and looking for other Christian young people that you can worship with and spend time with...

... then come to our Youth Fellowship meetings every second Friday. Next meeting:

Friday 12th December - ice skating on Place Guillaume

Speak to Pastor Pietro or email: pietro@coglux.com

Regular Events, Prayer Items & Final Word

THANK YOU for / to...

- **Oasis Church family** - supporting, nurturing & encouraging
- **All the ministries** enriching church life & building up faith
- **Pastors Chris & Graham Kettle and Pietro & Giovanna Colaci**
- **Freedom of assembly in Luxembourg**

What are you thankful for? Would you like to share it with everyone? Write to newsletter@oasis.lu

Worship Service

Sunday: 10.30 am Worship Service

72 rue Dernier Sol, Bonnevoie,
With a time for fellowship over tea & coffee, before and after the service

Oasis Kids

Sundays during the service

- Morning Stars (under 3s)
- Kindergarten (3-5s)
- Sparklers (6-8s)
- N:Counter (9-11s)
- S.M.A.S.H. (12-16+)

For information, please
email: kids@oasis.lu

Worship Practice

Tuesday: 7.00 pm Worship practice

20a rue de Strasbourg
L-2560 Luxembourg

Just Be

Every 2nd Wednesday at 8.00 pm

A group for young adults
Location – Luxembourg city
Contact: young.adults@oasis.lu

Ladies' Group

Friday: 9.15 - 11.30 am

20a rue de Strasbourg
L-2560 Luxembourg

Youth Fellowship

Friday: 6.30 - 8.30 pm

Under 18s - twice per month
See Events' Diary or contact
pietro@coglux.com for more
details of dates and events.

Tithing and Offerings

Bank account: Church of God
Luxembourg (BGL BNP Paribas)
IBAN: LU45 0030 6819 5781 0000
BIC: BGLLULL

Prayer Meetings

Sundays from 9.45 am

Intercessory Prayer for church needs,
prayer requests & listening to God (2nd
floor of Hope Centre)

Home Groups

Every 2nd Monday at 7.30 pm

In Kayl – "Care"
Contact: Fernand Gilles

Every 2nd Wednesday at 7.30 pm

In Itzig – "Connect".
Contact: John and Jessica Mills

Thursdays at 7.30 pm

In Strassen – "Excel & PowerPoint"
Contacts: Lena Martensson
and Emmanuel Kabamba

**For information about all of the
home groups, please contact
info@oasis.lu**

Leadership

Senior Pastors: **Rev Dr Graham & Chris
Kettle**, 691 863 848,

Email: church@coglux.com

Pastors: **Pietro & Giovanna Colaci**,

Tel: 2656 8663 or 691 694 504

Emails: pietro@coglux.com,
giovanna@coglux.com

Pastoral Board: **Torugbene Adekolu**,
Mauricio Fulco, **Justin Griffiths**,
Emmanuel Kabamba
Email: info@oasis.lu



Listen again....to recent
sermons at: [www.oasis.lu/
welcome/messages/](http://www.oasis.lu/welcome/messages/)

Newsletter

Please send items for the *Events' Diary*, Prayer Needs, news/articles - **or requests to receive this newsletter by email** – for the next monthly newsletter by **Tuesday, 23 December 2014** to newsletter@oasis.lu

Please pray for ...

- **Oasis Church** God's vision & for future direction
- **Graham Kettle** – complete healing of his hand
- **Alpha Course**, starting in January. Please pray for the team, for people to attend and for people to come to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour.
- **Esperanza House** (Teen Challenge) Please pray for more volunteers to be involved in this vital outreach to the homeless and substance-addicted people on our doorstep.
- **Horizon of Hope** (H o H, Romania) for financial provision and workers to complete the training centre and fund the first trainees. Now that the centre is officially opened, the work is just beginning and our support is needed now more than ever.

Opportunities to serve

- **Singers, instrumentalists** in the worship team. Practice sessions on Tuesdays at 7 pm.
- **Newsletter editors** – Interested? Write to newsletter@oasis.lu to let us know your interest.
- **Volunteers in the Oasis Kid's ministry**. If you have a heart for kids, please write to kids@oasis.lu to find out how you can support them.
- **Volunteers to help with coffee & tea before & after Church**. Please contact Brian or Grace at: info@oasis.lu

*Oasis church wishes
you a blessed
Christmas time and
God's abundant
blessings and
guidance in 2015!*