

# OASIS

A Redeemer Church 4-Month Program



# What is the Oasis Program?

The Oasis Program is a 4-month program set on the island of Mauritius. The program operates under Redeemer Church, a local church located in Black River. The Oasis Program seeks to encourage interns to develop a profound and personal relationship with God but equip them with practical life skills, an appreciation for a diverse culture, and a passion for serving the Mauritian community. Our goal is to guide interns toward a life of purpose and impact beyond the confines of the program, preparing them to navigate the complexities of our world with resilience, wisdom, and a heart rooted in faith in Jesus Christ. The trailer for the program is available here: <a href="https://youtu.be/qJlxEeTsBW0">https://youtu.be/qJlxEeTsBW0</a>

# **Our Vision**

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."

1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV)

Our dream is to cultivate a community of young people eager to embark on a journey of spiritual exploration and personal growth. We will do this by investing in their lives through daily devotions, weekly bible study, an entrepreneurship and life skills program, as well as serving the church and the local community. The program is designed to be interactive and gives each intern opportunities to engage with skilled and mature leaders that they may never meet in any other forum.

The Oasis Program aims to prepare each intern for their future, helping them to be ready for the challenges of tertiary education, their first job, and the day-to-day realities of adult life. Our hope is that they will take the skills they have learned and share them with others in future, becoming leaders in their various spheres of influence. We anticipate that the friendships formed on the team, and the network of wise mentors will remain part of their lives as they move on to their next season.

The Oasis Program will give young people an opportunity to play a role in the church today rather than waiting for an opportunity in the future.

## **Church Staff**



# Phil Kendon, Lead Elder

Phil is married to Leigh and they have three adult children (Timothy, Hannah, and Luke). Phil served as a full time elder in Red. Point Church for ten years before moving to Mauritius in 2015 to serve as a pastor in Redeemer Church. Phil has a heart for young adults and students to see them flourish in life and in faith.

# **Chris Burkholder, Bible Study Instructor**

Chris, originally from the USA, is married to Isabelle and has three children - Julia, Chloe and Joseph. Chris and Isabelle completed the CEM (Chrétiens En Mission) program in Marseille, France, and are passionate about studying the Bible and mentoring others in their spiritual growth.





# Jonas Marie Jeanne, Worship Leader / Elder

Jonas, a resident of Mauritius, is happily married to Ketcia and is a proud father to their daughter, Faith. Leading the worship ministry as part of the eldership team, he recently joined Redeemer Church as a full-time staff member and pastor since January 2024.

# Madhvi Ittoo, Administrative Assistant

Madhvi has been a part of the Redeemer Church team since January 2023. She also took part in a church internship program in her teens and went on to pursue theological studies. She is passionate about the "Gen Z" and wants to see them walk in truth, freedom, purity, and in what God has called them to.



## Who Are We?

Redeemer Church is a non denominational Christian church with services in Black River on the West Coast, Petit Raffray in the North, and Blue Bay on the South Coast of Mauritius. It is in the idyllic setting of Tamarin Bay that a small group of ladies met to pray over twenty years ago, hoping that one day a church would be planted in this region. Over the years this small group grew to become a home bible study and eventually a thriving community of faith.

To find out more, visit our website: <a href="https://redeemerchurch.mu">https://redeemerchurch.mu</a>.

# **Oasis Program Focus**

# **Discipleship and Mentoring:**

The interns will commence each day with morning devotionals to guide and lead them spiritually, aiding them in their Christian growth.

# **Ministry Experience:**

The program will provide diverse opportunities for interns to engage in impactful ministry and outreach activities. This includes Teenage Bible studies, youth nights, youth camps, prayer meetings, elderly care, worship sessions, serving the church, contributing to the Mauritian community, baking for church events, and participating in kids' ministry.

# Life Skills Training:

Workshops on essential life skills will be conducted, covering time management, financial literacy, effective communication, and leadership development.

#### **Cultural Immersion:**

Mauritius is very diverse in its culture, cuisines and languages. Regardless of their background, we encourage interns to embrace this variety through activities like enjoying local cuisine, outdoor activities, and building relationships with people from various backgrounds.

# **Serving:**

At the heart of the Oasis Program lies a core value: service. Inspired by the example set by Jesus, we prioritize the act of selflessly laying down our lives to serve others. Within the context of Redeemer Church, interns will be actively involved in serving, including mundane tasks like washing dishes and stacking chairs. Through these humble acts, interns will learn the value of humility, perseverance, and dedication to the mission of the church. Our focus is not on grand gestures, but on the everyday acts of service that build and sustain our community.

#### **Personal Growth and Reflection:**

Opportunities for personal reflection and growth will be created through journaling, group discussions, and individual mentoring. This will be a time for interns to find their identities in Christ.

# **Physical Activity and Recreation:**

Over the duration of the program, a healthy lifestyle will be promoted. The interns will engage in physical activities such as CrossFit, hikes, ocean swimming, surfing, and exploration of the island.

### **Academic Enrichment:**

A theology course will be taught, as well as French and music lessons.

# **Mission Trips:**

Mission trips are an important part of the Oasis Program. We, as a community and church, believe that it is important to connect with and serve other communities in the region.

# **The Duration**

The Oasis Program takes place over 4 months, with two intakes per year.

- First Intake 30 January to 31 May 2026
- Second Intake 31 July to 29 November 2026

## **Accommodation**

The interns can be hosted by the church, if accommodation is required. Each intern will be staying with a trusted family and will move around every month. This will allow the interns to create connections with as many people of the Redeemer Church community. We trust that this will be a time where friendships will be formed and young people will be discipled. The hosts will treat the interns as members of their families during their time with them.

We kindly ask you to let us know whether you have certain allergies or intolerances beforehand. This will help when matching you with a host.



## **Breakdown of the Costs**

Component	Cost	Payment Structure
Program Fee	MUR 10,000 per month	Can be paid monthly or upfront.
Hosting Fee	MUR 8,000 per month	Only applicable to those requiring hosting.
TOTAL	MUR 40,000	

Note: Flights to and from Mauritius (if applicable) are not included.

# Additional Fees (if applicable)

Allowance: While the hosts will provide excellent care, interns are encouraged to have a personal allowance or spare money for purchasing any additional items they may need.

*Insurance:* Prior to arrival in Mauritius, international interns are responsible for obtaining travel medical insurance.

# Who Can Apply?

The Oasis Program, designed for school leavers between the ages of 18 and 24, warmly welcomes participants from all over the world, subject to Mauritius visa rules. For more information, please reach out to us on <a href="mailto:oasis@redeemerchurch.mu">oasis@redeemerchurch.mu</a>.

You can also fill in an expression of interest using this <u>form</u>.

## **Code of Conduct**

If you decide to apply for the Oasis Program, please note that you will have to abide by the code of conduct, which includes guidelines designed to enhance your experience and ensure that your focus remains on personal and spiritual growth throughout the program. Among other things, you will be expected to maintain a good attitude and uphold behaviours that reflect well on yourself and the community, avoid entering into new romantic relationships during the program to stay focused on your goals (we will not ask you to end any existing romantic relationships), and be fully prepared to embrace challenges that foster growth in emotional, spiritual, intellectual, and physical aspects. This commitment to the program's principles is crucial for making the most of your time and achieving a transformative experience at Redeemer Church.