



ACORN

Beach Fun Day & Baptism



Everyone is invited to join us for an afternoon and evening of fun at the beach. Bring chairs, and your own picnic meal. This is a relaxed way for us to enjoy fun and fellowship together. It will be **this Sunday, May 12** beginning mid afternoon through evening (“come and go as you please”). The location is at Sand Key Beach, just south of Clearwater. We meet at the south end of the park—out from the

2nd restroom/shower building. Look for the canopy with the banner in the picture below to locate our meeting spot. Maps to Sand Key Park are available at the Information Center in the Oakwood lobby.



At 4:00 PM we will baptize those who have stepped across the line of faith to trust Jesus as their Forgiver and Leader. This is the key ceremony that Jesus prescribed to us to publicly declare and mark the beginning of our trusting Christ and our intention to be one of His fully devoted followers.

You may also be baptized at just about any time of the year in conjunction with your Community Group or a special gathering that we can assemble with you at someone’s pool or lake. (That’s right; you get your choice of salt water, fresh water, or chlorinated water!) Ask your Community Group Leader, Pastor Paul, Dave Dorsey, or one of our elders to arrange this significant event with you.

Oakwood Community Church
11209 Casey Rd
Tampa FL 33618-5306
813.969.2303
www.oakwoodfl.org

The mission of Oakwood is to...

Transform ordinary people into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

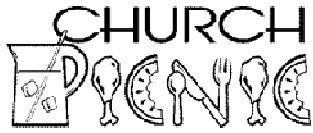
Oakwood is a member of the Evangelical Free Church of America.



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Memorial Day Weekend Picnic



A tradition was started last year with our daughter church, Candlewood Community Church, hosting a combined picnic on Memorial Day weekend. This year Oakwood is hosting the event here on our property following Worship on Sunday, May 26.

We are making this a “Shorts Sunday” – everyone come to church in your patriotic picnic attire and plan to stay after the Worship Service for food, fun and fellowship.

We will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks. **We ask that those with the last name beginning in A-N to bring a picnic type side dish. Those with the last name beginning in O-Z, please bring a dessert.** Donations would be appreciated to help offset the costs.

We will have a Bounce House for the kids and other games will be set up for everyone to enjoy.

Please help us plan appropriately by letting us know if you will be attending. You can RSVP by emailing the office at office@oakwoodfl.org or calling the office at 813-969-2303 with the number attending.



We will begin serving lunch at 12:30 PM.

Pictorial Directory

We are in the process of producing a Pictorial Directory for the Oakwood family. This is being done in-house, so you won't have any pressure to purchase pictures—we just want to have face recognition photos to be included.

We'd love to have a picture of every family attending Oakwood in the upcoming directory, so please help us by setting your appointment soon. You can set your appointment by either contacting the Church Office (813-969-2303) or by signing up in the lobby this Sunday.

Dates with appointments times still available are:

Saturday, May 11 – A few appointment times available

Sunday, May 19 – Several afternoon appointments times available



Worship Schedule Change

As we have done in the past, from June 9—September 1, we will have only one hour on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM—no education classes for Youth or Adults at 9:15 AM. There will be nursery care for children birth—23 months old and a full Tree-House Ministry for children two years old—5th Graders during this service.

Be sure to mark your calendar so you don't miss this change.

Members vote on elder recommendation

We elders have wonderful news! John Schneider has agreed to serve Oakwood by re-joining our elder team. Our deacon team has unanimously affirmed this recommendation. We are now asking you as members to affirm or disaffirm this recommendation too. John has served us all for two terms in recent past years and has done so with Christ-honoring distinction. So we are thrilled. If you affirm our recommendation, John will begin his renewed ministry as elder on July 1, 2013.

The following are necessary qualifications for prospective elders:

- A man of proven godly maturity as prescribed in Scripture (1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4, and elsewhere)
- Philosophical & theological alignment with elders (doctrine, values, vision, & philosophy of ministry)
- Positive relational chemistry with current elders
- Active, local membership at Oakwood for a minimum of two years.



Oakwood members will vote on Sunday, May 19 by ballot. You can pick up your ballot from a teller in the lobby before or after the Worship Service to cast your vote.

If you will not be at Oakwood on May 19, you can email your vote to office@oakwoodfl.org by noon on Friday, May 17, with your name clearly identified in the email.

Nursery help needed



We are looking for folks who love the youngest attendees of Oakwood. If you are interested in helping with this ministry on Sunday mornings, please contact Lilliam Vera or call the Church Office.

Blood Pressure checks

Blood pressure checks Sunday, June 2, 2013 in the kitchen following the Worship Service. Don't miss this important health screening.



A Night of Songs and Laughter

Life Connections Counseling Center (supported by Oakwood Community Church), is having a Family Night of Christian Entertainment on Friday, June 7, 7:00 PM at First Baptist Church of Lutz.



You'll enjoy the music of our own Mark Beale and Lauren Fucarino as well as comedy from Christian comedian Chris Elrod. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$25 per family and are available at the door or online at www.lifeconnectionsonline.org/events.html.



For more information contact David Conn at 813-996-5126.



TreeHouse Volunteers needed

We have a number of TreeHouse volunteers who give of their time every week to minister to our wonderful children. We like to give this team of workers a break for the summer. Will you give us a hand and teach for a week, a month, or the summer? Please contact Dave Dorsey at 813-969-2303 or dave@oakwoodfl.org if you are interested in volunteering your time.

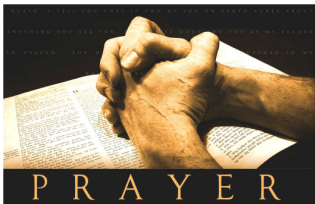


Move Up Sunday

Move Up Sunday is June 9 for all children of the TreeHouse. What is *Move Up Sunday*? All children will move up to the school grade that they will be in this August. This allows them to develop relationships with children that they will be worshipping with through High School.

Graduating 5th Graders will be recognized during the Worship Services on June 10. They are welcome to join us in TreeHouse and PowerHouse throughout the summer.

Prayer Guide



Oakwood Community Church is fueling the **love ~ grow ~ serve** vision with prayer in 2013. Our continued focus on prayer is leading us to include two memory verses along with the prayer guide. The **first memory verse is designed to pair with the prayer focus of the month**. The **second memory verse is the same verse the TreeHouse children are learning in their curriculum**. Our hope is to continue to grow in the context of the vision as family members as well as Oakwood family in the body of Christ, further seeking His will.

Your May Prayer Guide is available at the Information Center and on our website.

Opportunity to *Serve The Church & World*

Naomi's Daughters is a ministry for single moms that provides clothing to the moms as well as the children. The Oakwood family, along with others in the community, provides donations of clothing, food and money to keep this ministry moving forward.



Your continued donations of **new or gently worn clothes and non-perishable foods** are greatly appreciated. Donations can be left on the screened area in the back of the gray house on our property. There are bins provided along with tax deductible forms. **Pantry needs:** cereal, canned goods, rice, pasta, paper goods, personal care items.

Please pray that we can continue to reach people in this ministry and show the hands and feet of the Lord to those who come through our doors.



PowerHouse Schedule

May 12—Beach Party & Baptism—NO YOUTH GROUP

May 19—Food Bag Ministry

BUMP Training

Regular Evening Meeting

May 26—Grad Party—*Minute To Win It!*

June 2—Regular Evening Meeting

Food Bag Ministry

Our PowerHouse students have a monthly fundraiser assembling food bags that are distributed to medical clinics in Tampa, Lakeland, Haines City and Winter Haven? These bags are distributed to indigent patients at the clinic to provide some basic food needs of the patients and their family.

PowerHouse teens can raise money for summer mission/conference trips by participating in our monthly Food Bag Ministry, typically on the third Sunday of each month. Our next Food Bag Prep day is **Sunday, May 19** right after the Worship Service.

Teens can raise extra funds by helping shop for the food and/or helping with delivery of the food bags to the medical clinics. Shopping for the next fundraiser will be Friday, May 17. Meet at Aldi at Bearss & Florida Ave. at 5:00 PM (or contact Cam Whipple) if you want to help. For more details contact Cindy Giannone at (813) 969-4136.

We are in need of people who can help with delivery of these food bags, especially to Lakeland, Haines City, and Winter Haven. The food bags are usually assembled on the third Sunday of each month, and need to be delivered on the Monday or Tuesday following assembly. If you can help with delivery or would like more information, please contact Cindy Giannone at (813) 969-4136.

Grad Party

Grad Party
PowerHouse
May 26

Minute To Win It!

Graduate Recognition

We would like to honor our graduates – whether from High School or College. Please loan us five or so pictures of your graduating student from infancy to graduation and a short bio of their future plans. These will be part of a graduation recognition video presentation on June 2. Pictures are due in to the Church Office no later than May 12. If you prefer, you may email digital photos to Doug-cress@outlook.com or put printed photos in the “Church Office” mail slot in the Worship Center kitchen. Please include what school they are graduating from and their future plans.





Couple Time—Pt 2

With a little planning, you can make your own moments together

Tammy Darling

Part 1 of this article was in the last issue of the *ACORN*. You can read it on our website.

Celebrate a monthly anniversary. Each month on the same date you were married, get a babysitter for the kids and go out on the town. Dinner, a concert, or even simple inexpensive or free dates—such as miniature golf, a picnic in the park, or ice skating—can do a lot to keep the flame burning. You're not likely to forget the reason you got married when you're both celebrating it monthly.

Read to one another. After the kids are in bed, light some candles and spend some time reading to one another. If one spouse doesn't like to read, the other can be the designated reader. Take time to discuss the readings—how they make you feel, what you would like to change, and so on. Book discussions have ignited many new adventures for us as well as constructive changes in our marriage that we are so thankful for.

Take advantage of small moments. Don't overlook those small blocks of time that you can spend with your spouse. I purposefully schedule my monthly chiropractor appointments (which are a few minutes away from my husband's workplace) just before noon so when I'm done I can pick up my husband from work and we can have lunch together. These small snatches of time really do add up to a closer, more intimate relationship.

Share memories. If possible, return to your childhood towns—if not physically, then mentally. Talk about the streets you walked, the homes you lived in, the schools you attended, the playgrounds you played at, the friends you had, and so on. Our family lives in my husband's childhood home, so childhood memories are a frequent topic of discussion. Knowing about my husband's childhood has helped me to know him better.

Create a romantic space. Make your bedroom "off limits" to kids' stuff. Instead, fill the room with pictures of you and your partner, pre-kids, to help remind you of how you fell in love. Keep the room clutter-free, as

having toys underfoot just isn't conducive to romance. Place scented candles and flowers throughout the room, and leave each other love notes under the pillows or sheets.

Plan a sunrise picnic. When the kids are away at a sleepover, pack a breakfast picnic and watch the sunrise together. My husband and I did this one April morning at a dam overlooking a large lake, and it was breathtaking. And the bald eagle God had soaring overhead was a pretty nice touch too!

Arrange a midweek dinner for two. Once a week, feed the kids an early, simple, but fun dinner. Then send them off to another room to watch an approved movie of their choice. Along with your spouse, prepare a romantic dinner for the two of you. Listen to classical music, dim the lights, and light the candles. It's so relaxing to have a quiet, uninterrupted meal—especially in the middle of a hectic workweek.

Pre-plan dates. Buy season tickets to your spouse's favorite sporting event, symphony, or theatre. This ensures many pre-packaged dates where the two of you are together, and since neither will want the tickets to go to waste, these dates aren't easily cancelled. Set the dates well in advance so you can work your schedules around them with little effort. My husband and I love attending Christian music concerts and often buy tickets for just the two of us.

How often we let life pass by without really living. Twenty years from now, I don't want to be disappointed by the things I didn't do with my husband. I want to live life with him to the fullest now.

Since your spouse is the person you'll spend the rest of your life with, it makes sense to invest in your marriage now. Commit today to spend more one-on-one time with your spouse—you won't regret it!

Tammy Darling is a freelance writer living in Three Springs, Pennsylvania.

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Oakwood Community Church
 11209 Casey Rd
 Tampa FL 33618-5306
 813.969.2303
 www.oakwoodfl.org

Our Staff

Lead Pastor - Dr. Paul B. Phair
 Director of Ministries - Dave Dorsey
 Director of Worship Arts - Andrew Reilly
 Coordinator of Youth Ministry - Dr. Paul B. Phair
 Coordinator of Children’s Ministry - Dave Dorsey
 Office Manager - Martha Dorsey
 Secretary—Melanie Hoglievina

Office hours:

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Worship:

Sundays - 10:30 AM

Our Elder Team

Edson Bustamante
 Pete Kluck
 Paul Phair
 Eric Pratt

Our Deacon Team

Nan Duncan
 Matt Fucarino
 Bob Mendenhall
 Ray Ross
 Ben Smith
 Dave Young

Calendar at a Glance



May 11—Photos for the Pictorial Directory
 May 12—*Mother’s Day*
 Beach Party & Baptism
 May 19—Photos for the Pictorial Directory
 Members vote on Elder Recommendation
 Compassion Offering
 Board Meeting
 PH Food Bag Ministry & BUMP training
 May 26—Shorts Sunday
 Memorial weekend picnic w/Candlewood



June 2—Graduate Recognition
 Blood Pressure checks
 June 9—Summer Schedule begins
 TH Movin Up Sunday
 Board Meeting

The Oakwood *ACORN* is a bi-weekly E-newsletter from Oakwood Community Church, published to keep our church family and friends informed about events and people at Oakwood. Articles may be submitted via e-mail to Office@oakwoodfl.org. Article deadlines and publication schedule is:

Deadline	Publication date	News for dates including...
May 17	May 22	May 25—June 7
May 31	June 5	June 8—June 21

Do you know someone at Oakwood with a noteworthy achievement? Send the information to Office@OakwoodFL.org and we’ll include it in a future article.

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