



ACORN

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.



Seeds For Growth

Random Thoughts

It's the most wonderful time of the year! (Can you remember the Staples commercial from a few years ago?) No, I am not talking about Christmas. I am talking about the start of the school year. For many, this is a good thing. Kids have been getting bored as they have run out of fun things to do in the summer. The biggest challenge may be for parents who will be getting their children up either a little bit earlier or quite a bit earlier if they have grown accustomed to waking at the crack of noon. Our kids may need to be "encouraged" to get back into the discipline of good study habits as well.

For some who work in the school system, there are mixed feelings of excitement in seeing children again in the classroom and, at the same time, bracing themselves for another year of the "challenges" that come with the job. For every one of us who drive to a workplace, it means leaving home a little earlier due to the increase in traffic. Many of us will need to get into new habits of time management in order to get things done.

As we are adapting to the new school year, it is a good time to look at some of the habits we have concerning our relationship with Jesus Christ and adjust as needed. How much time are you spending reading and studying God's Word? There are many great studies available. Call the office if you would like some suggestions. We also have Our Daily Bread in the Information Center in the church lobby. This is a great tool to help get in the discipline of reading daily and being encouraged in your spiritual journey.

How are you doing in your prayer life? Bill Clarke penned two excellent articles in the last two issues of the ACORN. It challenged me to think about the passionate discipline of prayer. I would encourage you to look back at those articles and determine what to adapt into your routine to help you grow more in love with the Savior.

Recently, Pastor Larry has been helping us listen in on some conversations Jesus had with people he encountered along the way. For me, another discipline to adjust and fine tune is to be aware of the opportunities the Lord provides along the way for conversations with people He brings in our path. In fact, that could be something we can pray for specifically. As you cross paths with folks during the day and engage with them, you can add them to your prayer list that Bill recommended in his first article. If you need some help kick starting your prayer experience, the Oakwood Prayer Team

has put together a Prayer Guide for the summer (June-August) that is also available in the Information Center.

So, if you are looking to grow in your relationship with Jesus and develop new disciplines to help, it really is the most wonderful time of the year!

That is all I am saying today.

Dave Dorsey



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Opportunities to *Serve the Church & World*

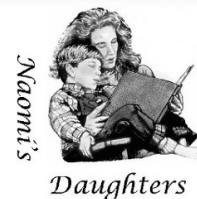
Naomi's Daughters is a ministry for single moms that provides clothing to the moms and their children. The Oakwood family, along with others in the community, provides donations of clothing, food and money to keep this ministry moving forward.



Current needs—Clothing and shoes for infants to adults—**especially need summer/fall clothing for school age children K5—12th Grade**

Pantry needs: cereal, canned goods, rice, pasta, paper goods, personal care items, etc.

Donations can be left on the back porch of the gray house at the front of our property. Tax Deductible receipts are available.



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.

PTSD Support Group

Supportive Arms Support Group meets every Friday from 7-9 PM in the Church Library.



This support group is for Veterans and current service members that suffer from PTSD/Trauma. Open to men and women. The goal is to give support and comfort in a group environment to those that struggle with PTSD/Trauma; to help in their daily lives with insight, support, and spiritual guidance; to show that they are loved and cared for through the Grace of God. While everyone may not have served, chances are we have a family member or friend who has and that is struggling in their everyday life. This is an opportunity for them to receive much needed care and support.

Group facilitators are Terrence Morman and Chris Schmidt.



Blood Pressure checks

Blood pressure checks on August 7 the kitchen following the Worship Service. Don't miss this important health screening.



Fall Festival

We will be hosting a Fall Festival again this year—October 29 from 4:00—7:00 PM. We need lots of help to make this outreach to our community a success.

There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, August 14, following the Worship Service. If you are interested in being a part of the fun, please stay for a few minutes after the service for this important meeting.

Women's Ministry Opportunities



Women's Crock Pot Luncheon

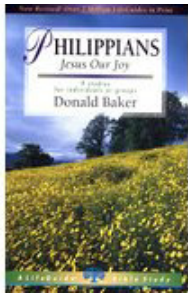
All women are invited to bring a Crock Pot specialty or if you prefer, a salad or dessert to share. We will meet in PowerHouse on Sunday, August 21st following the Worship Service. *Come early to plug in your pot or refrigerate your dish.*



Beth Moore Simulcast

Beth Moore Living Proof Ministries Simulcast

Don't miss this mini retreat on Saturday, Sept 17th 10:30am - 5:15pm! We will plan to carpool and sit together. To register, go to www.idlewild.org and click on "Register for an event." Cost is \$25 and includes lunch.



Women's Summer Bible Study—*Jesus Our Joy*

It is easy to be happy when things go well. But what would it be like to have a sense of joy that continues even in times of trouble? Such was the deep joy that the apostle Paul experienced - even in prison. His contentment was neither dependent on circumstances nor changed by difficulty. In his brief letter to the *Philippians*, Paul teaches us how to live joyfully in every situation.

This study meets in the Worship Center from 7:00-8:30 pm on Monday evenings. Using a LifeGuide Scripture Study, participants will be encouraged to do their own personal study at home and then come prepared to share what they've learned in a small group discussion. Please contact Andrea Cress at (813-615-0838) or (andrea-cress@outlook.com) if you are interested in this study.



Prayer Focus

Our Prayer Team works each month to provide a guide for specific prayer requests. You will have a weekly Prayer Focus printed on the Announcement Sheet in your Worship Program. There is also a Summer Prayer Guide available at the Information Center.

Elder led Prayer

Everyone is invited to join in a time of prayer with the elders **from 9:00—9:45 AM** the first and third Sunday of the month. We meet in the Library. Childcare will be provided.

Prayer Chain Ministry

The purpose of Oakwood's **E-Prayer Connection** is to communicate prayer requests for our fellow Oakwood members, our families, friends, others personally known to us, and the ministries of our church.

If you would like to partner in prayer for the needs of our church family, send your full name and email address to ekrex@verizon.net with Prayer Chain Ministry in the subject line. You can also send items to be published for prayer at this same email address.



PowerHouse Schedule

Aug 7—Regular Evening Meeting

Aug 14—PowerHouse Food Bag Ministry & Back to School Pool Party @ Bustamante home

Aug 21—Regular Evening Meeting

Aug 28—Regular Evening Meeting

Fall Retreat—December 2-4

Our Fall Retreat for Middle & High School students will be in Orlando, including a day at Disney's Hollywood Studios.

Pick up a brochure in PowerHouse for all the details.

Deposit: \$25.00

Early Registration: \$100 (deadline: Sept 15)

Registration: \$125 (Sept 16 - Nov 20)

Registration Deadline & Balance Due: November 20

Registration includes Lodging at the Red Lion Hotel (near Disney) for Friday and Saturday, Disney Park ticket, 3 meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday.

Each participant is responsible for their meal on Friday night and lunch on the way home on Sunday.

Food Bag Ministry

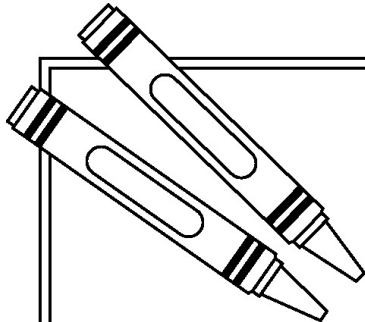
Our PowerHouse students have a monthly fundraiser assembling food bags that are distributed to medical clinics in Tampa, Lakeland, Haines City and Winter Haven. These bags are distributed to indigent patients at the clinic to provide some basic food needs of the patients and their family.

PowerHouse teens can raise money for summer mission/conference trips by participating in our monthly Food Bag Ministry, typically on the second Sunday of each month. Our next Food Bag prep day is **Sunday, August 14** 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, August 12. Meet at Aldi at Bearss & Florida Ave. at 5:00 PM (or contact Cam Whipple—813.265.9895) if you want to help. For more details on deliveries, contact Cindy Giannone at (813) 969-4136.



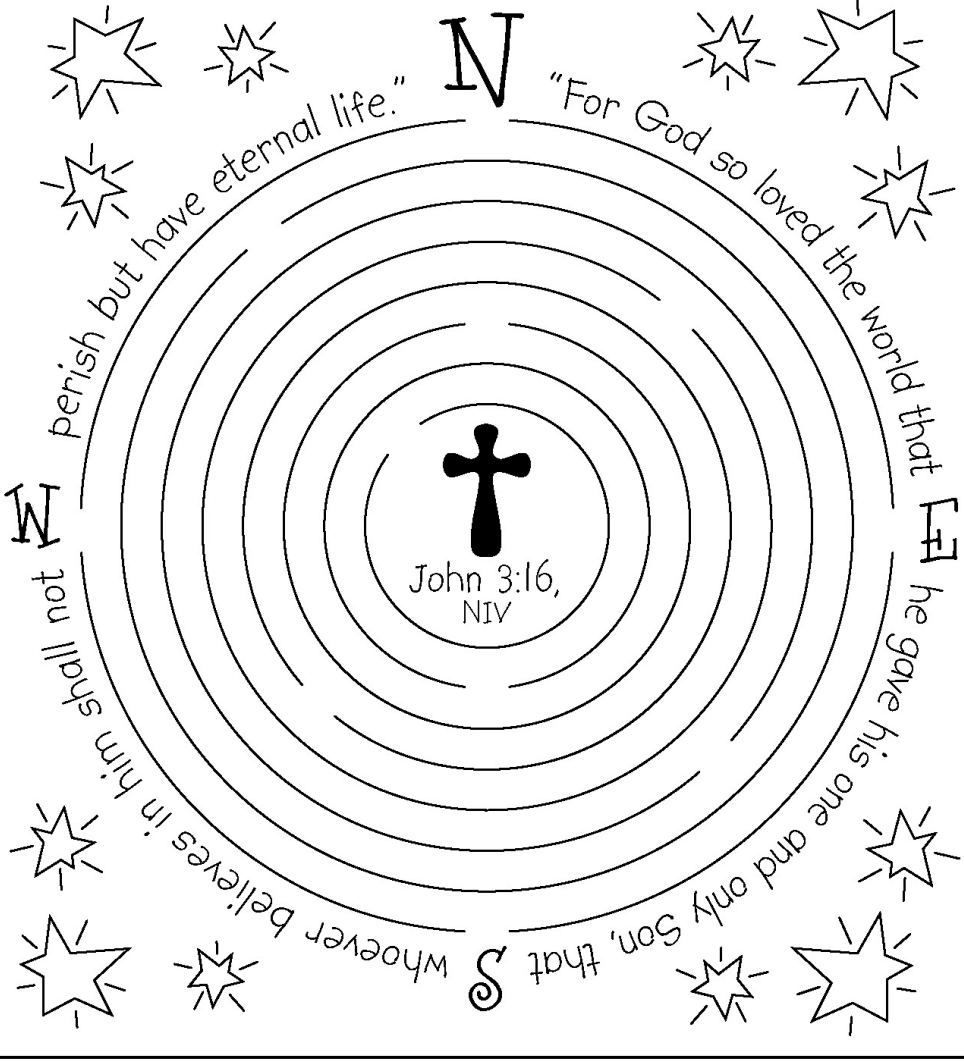
Kids Corner



Just for **KIDS**

For everyone

Every day we should be thankful for God's love and for the gift of his Son, Jesus. Complete the maze below to help people from all directions hear about this good news. Then, starting at the N (north) and going clockwise, read the words to John 3:16, NIV.



Whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16, NIV



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Our Vocation & Volunteer Staff

Interim Pastor—Larry Chute
Director of Ministries & Coordinator of Children’s
Ministry—Dave Dorsey
Director of PowerHouse Ministry—Doug Cress
Associate Director of PowerHouse Ministry—Cam
Whipple
Office Manager—Martha Dorsey
Secretary—Melanie Hoglievina

Our Elder Team

Mark Beale
Edson Bustamante
Larry Chute
John Schneider
Rob Weyand

Our Deacon Team

David Conner
Dave DePagter
David Fowle
Larry Giannone
Brian Johnson
Mike Wyatt

Office hours:

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

Worship:

Sundays—10:00 AM

Calendar at a Glance



Aug 7—Elder led Prayer Time (9:00 AM)
Blood Pressure checks following Worship
Aug 9—Missions Team Meeting
Aug 14—PowerHouse Food Bags
Board Meeting
Fall Festival Information Meeting

Aug 17—Transition Team Meeting
Aug 21—Compassion Offering
Women’s Crock Pot Luncheon

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...
Aug 12	Aug 17	Aug 20—Sept 2
Aug 26	Aug 31	Sept 3—Sept 16

Missed a Sunday message? Listen online @ www.oakwoodfl.org/messages/