

the **Oakwood**  
**ACORN**  
*A Chronicle Of our News*

### Seeds for Growth

### Back To School

For many of us, it's back to school for our children. They are re-engaging in a full slate of valuable disciplines in education, arts, sports, and other developmental experiences. As parents we want our children to excel in all these endeavors so they can be successful when they grow to be adults. Today I read some recent studies that reveal just how influential parents' expectations can be upon children's educational achievements, when parents communicate those expectations to their children within a close and warm relationship. Such expectations for our children are very important and valuable for our children's welfare.

I do have a question for you to ponder. What expectation would Jesus say is of the highest value for your children that deserves your greatest focus? There's no question about it. Jesus answers, "... you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these" (Mark 12:30-31 NLT). May you have no higher aspiration than to see your children grow to be adults who love and follow God closely. All other successes they may achieve are a great loss apart from this.

What's our role as parents in helping our children to love God supremely and to love others selflessly? From the text from which Jesus quoted, God continued to say through Moses, "you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up" (Deuteronomy 6:4-8, NLT).

For your faith to be passed on to your children,

- First, you must model to your children an authentic and growing love for God in *your* life.
- Secondly, you will want to teach Biblical commands and principles naturally throughout everyday life experiences.
- Thirdly, you will want to intentionally teach your children through daily praying and reading Scripture with them. Use age appropriate Bible stories and translations. Many of you will want to use



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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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## Fall Schedule



### Beginning September 11

**9:15 AM**—Education Classes—Children’s Ministry,  
Middle & High School, Oakwood Mill  
**10:30 AM**—Worship Service & Full TreeHouse Ministry

See Adult Class descriptions on Page 3

## GroupLink

### GroupLink Sunday September 18



On Sunday, September 18, you are invited to sign-up for a Community Group immediately following the Worship Service -- this is our next step to *Grow in Community!* These new Starter Groups will begin in late September. Groups will initially meet for 8 weeks to begin to taste the benefits of community and to allow each person or couple to determine if this particular group fits them well. After 8 weeks, if the group members gel, they will be invited to make longer-term commitments to grow in faith together. This is your opportunity to experience authentic community and spiritual growth through fellowship, Bible study, and prayer. Don't miss out!

## A Wake-Up Call

**Sunday, September 11, 2011**  
**7:00—9:00 PM**  
**Oakwood Community Church**



Join us for this evening of teaching messages by Anne Graham Lotz and Joel Rosenberg, knit together with authentic worship music led by Selah. We pray this evening will be used by God to wake up His people. Join us as we consider the time in which we live, refocus on Jesus as our Hope for the future, and ask God to re-ignite such an intense longing for His return that we live the rest of our lives with no regrets.

## Seeds for Growth—*cont'd*

the student & family devotional resources that Oakwood’s TreeHouse & PowerHouse Education Classes supplies to you.

- Fourthly, make it your expectation and priority for you and your children to participate every Sunday in both hours on Sunday mornings – our education hour at 9:15 AM and our Worship/TreeHouse hour at 10:30 AM. For your teens, lovingly expect your children to participate in PowerHouse both Sunday mornings and evenings, just as you expect them to participate in school.
- Finally, pray more earnestly for your children to love God and others, than for them to achieve other successes in life.

**3 John 1:4 (NLT)**, I could have *no greater joy* than to hear that my children are following the truth.

Love you all,  
Pastor Paul

## Oakwood Mill



### Fall 2011—Beginning September 11 9:15 – 10:15 AM

The Oakwood Mill is the Adult Education Ministry of Oakwood Community Church. All Classes are held in the Education Center. To help us plan appropriately, please register for the class you plan to attend. The two classes being offered are:

#### *EXODUS 24-40*

Led by Terry Rexroad

Join us as we continue the study in Exodus and look at:

- Moses on the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights - instructions for building of Tabernacle
- Creation of the priesthood (Should Christians have a priesthood?)
- Sin of the golden calf (How could a group of people who had seen so much evidence for God do this?)
- How did Moses see God's back or did he?
- A recreation of the tablets
- Why does God punish the children for the sins of their fathers into the third generation?
- Feasts are established, how do these relate to us?

Click the link below to register for this class on our website:

[https://secure.accessacs.com/access/nonmemberlogin.aspx?ReturnUrl=events%2fwz\\_people.aspx&ChurchID=1809&EventID=24465&sn=103580](https://secure.accessacs.com/access/nonmemberlogin.aspx?ReturnUrl=events%2fwz_people.aspx&ChurchID=1809&EventID=24465&sn=103580)

#### *The Art Of Marriage*

Facilitated by Dave & Martha Dorsey

**The Art of Marriage** brings together some of the most respected and influential pastors and experts on marriage and family all in one setting. It also brings a fresh approach to a video event by weaving together some of the following elements to help couples fully experience God's design for marriage:

- engaging stories
- real-life testimonies
- man-on-the-street interviews
- humorous vignettes

**The Art of Marriage** consists of six video sessions and an accompanying manual that provides couples with projects to help apply the principles taught during each session. The manual is also designed for couples to use after the class by offering articles, date night ideas, and useful tips for continuing to strengthen their marriage. The cost is \$35 per couple for your class manuals.

#### **Topics Covered**

**Session 1: love happens (purpose of marriage)**

**Session 2: love fades (drift to isolation)**

**Session 3: love dances (roles)**

**Session 4: love interrupted (communication)**

**Session 5: love sizzles (romance and sex)**

**Session 6: love always (legacy)**

Click the link below to register for this class on our website:

[https://secure.accessacs.com/access/nonmemberlogin.aspx?ReturnUrl=events%2fwz\\_people.aspx&ChurchID=1809&EventID=24467&sn=103580](https://secure.accessacs.com/access/nonmemberlogin.aspx?ReturnUrl=events%2fwz_people.aspx&ChurchID=1809&EventID=24467&sn=103580)



## PowerHouse Schedule

**Sunday, Sept 4**—Regular Evening Meeting  
Leaders Lock-In

**Sunday, Sept 11**—Fall Schedule Begins—new teen classes @ 9:15  
Regular Evening Meeting

**Sunday, Sept 18**—Monthly Outreach Party

**Sunday, Sept 25**—Regular Evening Meeting

## WIN Sunday—September 25



Join us on September 25 for this special service where you will hear reports from several individuals and groups who experienced missions first-hand this summer.

## Prayer 2011



Oakwood is focusing on prayer in 2011. Did you know that you can **BLESS** others with your prayers? Pick up a copy of our September Prayer Guide from the Information Center or check it out on our website and find out how.

## Recycle Bin at Oakwood—Repeat



Did you know that your newspapers, magazines, junk mail, etc., can earn money for Oakwood? Collect your recyclable items during the week and bring them when you come to church. Look for the blue Mixed Paper Recycling Bin on our property. Thanks for doing your part to help earn extra funds for Oakwood.

### Acceptable items:

Newspaper & inserts, phone books, white paper, colored paper, glossy paper (without food residue), junk mail & envelopes, catalogs & magazines, cereal & cake mix boxes (liners removed), computer & plain fax paper, NCR paper, paper reams wrappers, construction art paper (less than 50% painted), paper egg cartons, non-metallic gift wrap and greeting cards, manila folders, hanging files, shredded paper, paper bags, self-stick notes, paperback books, frozen food boxes/cartons (no food residue), shoe or clothing boxes, store receipts, thermal fax paper or carbon paper, hardback books, tyvek mailing envelopes, padded envelopes.

### Not Acceptable items:

Food contaminated paper, plastic or foil; milk, soy, juice cartons or pouches; film plastic (e.g., plastic bags, bubble wrap); beverage cups, coffee cups, donut boxes, fast food cups, take out containers/wrappers, foam egg cartons, foil, food and candy wrappers, snack or potato chip bags, ice cream cartons, paper covered with paint or pet waste, pizza boxes, tissues, paper towels, paper plates.



## Blood Mobile

The Blood Mobile will be at Oakwood on Sunday, September 18 from 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM. If you are at least 16 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, are in good health and haven't donated in the last eight weeks, you are eligible to donate.

## Blood Pressure checks

Blood pressure checks Sunday, September 4, in the kitchen following the Worship Service. Don't miss this important health screening.

## Child Dedication

On Sunday, October 2, we will be having a Child Dedication Service during our Worship Service. Anyone interested in participating in this service is asked to contact the church office. Information on Child Dedication is available on our website. Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click *Reference Documents* under *Resources*. Scroll down to *Child Dedication Information*.

## Clendinen Update

August 28, 2011—from the blog of Craig & Carlyne Clendinen

We have just started our last week of orientation, here in Dar es Salaam. During the three weeks, we have had all sorts of interesting classes on African culture, Tanzanian history and government, managing transition, and child safety (among many others). We have visited bustling market places, beautiful and secluded beaches, and simple, inviting homes in local villages. We have traveled in adala dala (the local city bus) and bajaji (kind of like a scooter rickshaw, for lack of better description). But honestly, one of the most amazing things has been getting to know the 20 other people that have come to serve in Tanzania.

Each morning we have two people share their stories and tell about how they arrived here in Dar. And each time, I am more and more amazed at how God has orchestrated each life to end up here, now, and serving the mission of Bible translation. Our group consists of families with children, newly married couples, and singles. We come from all around the United States, Canada, Australia, England, and Ireland. Some were missionary kids, some are from Christian homes and some are not. Some are new to the field and others have served all over the world. No one's journey was easy or necessarily clear, but God's hand at work was undeniable. Truthfully, each story is nothing short of a miracle.

Not long ago, I remember hearing someone compare God's plan to a quilt. Where, in our lives, we may only see the knots and the threads, He sees the entire, completed, beautiful quilt. With each story I hear, I can imagine the great Father, stitching away at our individual lives, ultimately bringing each of us together in this place... completing just a small part of the pattern that is to serve in His ultimate plan, His completed quilt. Each day I am reminded of His faithfulness in bringing our family here...guiding each of us here to bring the love story of God to all the people of Tanzania.

## Kids Corner

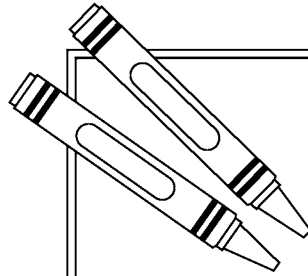
# Make a follower footprint

### You will need:

- shoebox
- coffee can
- foil
- plaster of Paris
- sand
- spoon
- water
- your foot

### What to do:

1. Line the shoebox with aluminum foil.
2. Fill the box half full of sand.
3. Sprinkle some water into the sand until it holds together. Don't make it too wet!
4. Put your bare foot in the sand. Press it down to make a footprint.
5. Put plaster of Paris in the coffee can. Add water slowly to it while stirring. Make it like thin cream.
6. Pour the plaster into your footprint. Don't overflow it!
7. Let it dry for one week.
8. Take the plaster footprint out of the sand. Brush away the sand.
9. Use paint or markers to write a verse to remind you to follow Jesus!



# Just for KIDS

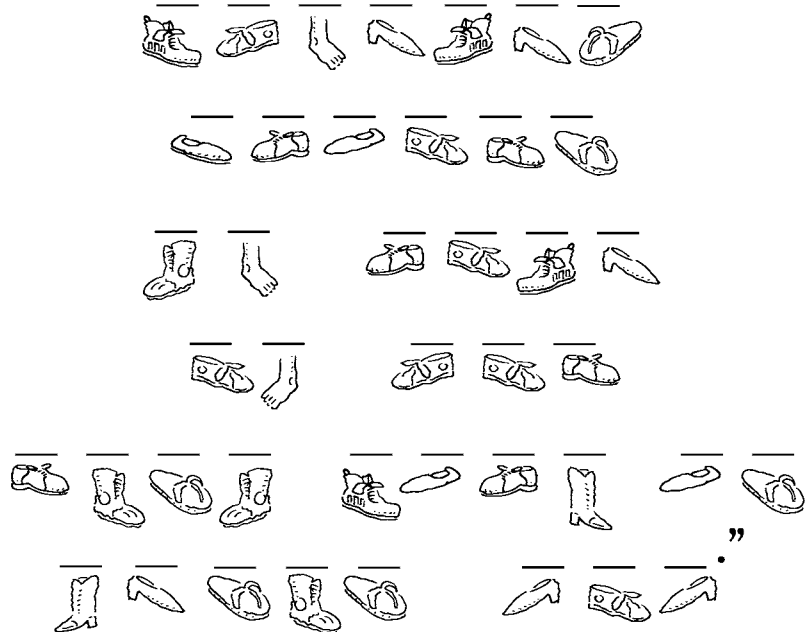
## 1 John 2:6

Find these important words written to Christians everywhere by John, disciple of Jesus.

Code:

|          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>A</b> | <b>H</b> | <b>L</b> | <b>R</b> |          |
| <b>C</b> | <b>I</b> | <b>M</b> | <b>S</b> | <b>V</b> |
| <b>D</b> | <b>J</b> | <b>N</b> | <b>T</b> | <b>W</b> |
| <b>E</b> | <b>K</b> | <b>O</b> | <b>U</b> |          |

“



”

“Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did.”

## Just for Fun

From *Church Laughs*



### Wedding Vows or Miranda's Rights?

I was watching my 5-year-old granddaughter Christy play with her dolls. At one point, she "staged" a wedding, first playing the role of the bride's mother who assigned specific duties, then suddenly becoming the bride with her "teddy bear" groom.

She picked him up and said to the "minister" presiding over the wedding, "Now you can read us our rights." Without missing a beat, Christy became the minister who said, "You have the right to remain silent, anything you say may be held against you, you have the right to have an attorney present. You may kiss the bride."

—Sonja R. Ely, Dallas, Oregon. *Christian Reader* "Rolling Down the Aisle."

### Husband Learns Love Is More Than Words

For the first 15 years of my marriage, I was a terrible husband. Diane held down a full-time job, became my secretary, mothered our daughters, and waited on me hand and foot without ever demanding that I lift a finger to help. I loved my wife very much, but I hadn't yet learned how to show my love. I had a lesson to learn, and God used a vacuum cleaner to teach it.

I learned many things about vacuuming one day. First, I learned that our cat was terrified of vacuum cleaners. That kept me entertained for about an hour.

As I vacuumed in one direction, a stripe would appear. Going the opposite direction would create a stripe of a different shade. Entranced, I striped the whole room. Then I went crossways, creating a checkerboard pattern. I got so carried away that I dusted the furniture and straightened the entire house.

I was once again embedded in the easy chair, working on my crossword puzzle, when Diane came home. She struggled through the door with a bag of groceries under each arm, kicked the door shut with one foot, and then took in the house with an expert glance. Her mouth dropped open. Slowly the bags slipped from her grasp and dropped to the floor. "Who did this?" she asked.

"I did," I said. Without warning, she attacked. Diving on me before I could get out of the chair, she smothered me with kisses and hugs,

showering gratitude on me for helping her. The kisses grew more passionate. We broke the chair. It was wonderful!

The vacuum cleaner taught me an important lesson that day. Love is expressed with more than just words.

—Ken Davis, *Lighten Up! Great Stories from One of America's Favorite Storytellers* (Zondervan, 2000), pp. 123-124

### Who's Marrying Whom?

My husband was performing his first wedding. Our children knew the bride well, and so for several weeks they heard comments about Daddy marrying Amie.

As the wedding approached, our 5-year-old daughter became depressed. One day I took her on my lap and asked why she wasn't happy. In a burst of tears she said, "I love Daddy, and I don't want him to marry Amie!"

—"Rolling Down the Aisle." *Christian Reader*

### A Wedding Fire

At the beginning of my daughter's wedding ceremony, I was to light one of the candles. Not realizing the potential hazard, I got too close and set my acrylic nail on fire.

Trying not to ruin my daughter's big day, I calmly lit the candle from my flaming nail and then, like a gunslinger with his six-shooter, I blew it out. Needless to say, my blackened nail was the talk of the reception.

—Linda Huckins, "Rolling Down the Aisle," *Christian Reader*

### Humor: Holy Math-rimony?

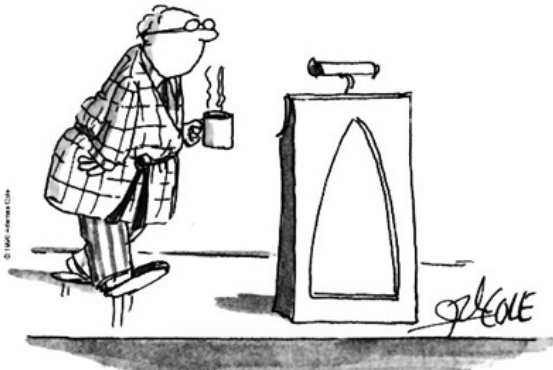
My six-year-old nephew, David, was recently the ringbearer at a wedding. Following the rehearsal the night before the wedding, the minister asked if anyone had any questions. David raised his hand and very seriously asked the minister the answer to ten times ten.

—Darlene S. Lord, *New Jersey*. "Small Talk," *Today's Christian Woman*.

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Pastor Potts had never been late to church in 32 years, but when they began the early service, it was a bit of an adjustment.

**Our Staff**

- Lead Pastor - Dr. Paul B. Phair
- Director of Ministries - Dave Dorsey
- Coordinator of Youth Ministry - Dr. Paul B. Phair
- Coordinator of Children’s Ministry - Dave Dorsey
- Office Manager - Martha Dorsey
- Secretary - Mary-Lynn Reilly

**Office hours:**

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

**Worship:**

Sundays - 10:00 AM

**Beginning September 11—10:30 AM**

**Calendar at a Glance**



- Sept 4—Blood Pressure checks following Worship
- Sept 5—Labor Day—Church Office closed
- Sept 11—**Fall Schedule begins**  
**Education classes @ 9:15 AM**  
**Worship @ 10:30 AM**  
 Board Meeting  
 A Wake Up Call—Evening service 7PM
- Sept 13—MISCOM Meeting

- Sept 18—Blood Mobile @ Oakwood  
 Compassion Offering  
 GroupLink following Worship
- Sept 25—WIN Sunday  
 Congregational Meeting following Worship
- Sept 27—Women of the Word Bible Study begins

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](mailto:Office@oakwoodfl.org). Article deadlines and publication schedule is:

| Deadline | Publication date | News for dates including... |
|----------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sept 9   | Sept 14          | Sept 17—Sept 30             |
| Sept 23  | Sept 28          | Oct 1—Oct 14                |

Do you know someone at Oakwood with a noteworthy achievement? Send the information to [Office@OakwoodFL.org](mailto:Office@OakwoodFL.org) and we'll include it in a future article.

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