

the Oakwood ACORN

A Chronicle Of our News

Seeds for Growth

Random Thoughts

- In TreeHouse the last three months, we have been looking at the issue of spiritual warfare. We went through a 10 week study of the Great Battles in the Bible culminating with the biggest battle of all; Jesus vs. Satan. Two weeks ago we started a new series called “Five for the Fight.” These are five key verses that will help us do battle with the devil. A big part of what we do in TreeHouse is emphasize the importance of Scripture and how memorizing will help us live for the Lord every day. The first verse we learned is John 16:33. Jesus, in talking to the disciples, tells them “Here on earth, you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.” For some of us, this may be a startling statement. The discouraging part is being told of the certainty of heart breaks and testings. That is the bad news. The encouraging part is the overcoming part. Jesus is telling us the same thing. Because He overcame all the junk this life can bring, we can do the same. I John 4:4 says “But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.” If you have the Spirit of God living in you, be encouraged. We win because He won!
- I have been using the Prayer Guide for September and appreciating the opportunity to pray for the Oakwood family. Thanks, again, Terri Johnson, Mary-Lynn Reilly and Adrienne Smith for putting this together each month. If you don’t have one, please pick one up in the lobby at the Information Center.
- I am looking forward to Sunday, Sept. 25. We will be having another WIN Sunday when we will hear from some of the folks who sit with you each Sunday. These people sensed God’s direction to get involved this summer



in a mission or ministry that would impact others in different parts of the world both near and far. We will hear a report from the Philippines, Liberia, Peru, inner city Miami and Angola (the prison, not the country!). I hope you will come to see and hear what God did with and in each of these folks.

That’s all I’m saying today.

Dave Dorsey
Director of Ministries

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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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GroupLink

GroupLink Sunday September 18



This 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!

New Community Groups participating in GroupLink

Sunday

Fucarino/Smith Community Group

Affinity for couples with young children, but all are welcome to join

Location: Carrollwood - TBD

Meets on: Sundays at 4:00 or 5:00 PM
(starting on October 2)

Leaders: Matt Fucarino (786-3564) and
Ben Smith (968-4422)

"A wonderful way to connect with other believers and encourage one another in our faith."

Wednesday

Longing for Him Community Group

Location: Oakwood church library

Meets on: Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
(starting on September 21)

Leaders: Gary and Kathy Long (835-5585)

Young Couples Community Group

Location: Carrollwood

10412 Reclinata Lane, Tampa, FL 33618 (Weyand's home)

3004 Magdalene Woods Dr, Tampa, FL 33618 (Baker's home)

Meets on: Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
(starting on September 28)

Leaders: Rob and Kelsey Weyand (449-3025 or 817-5357)

"Thankful for friendship, deeper relationships, and deeper prayer support."

"We have really enjoyed serving together to meet a few needs in our community"

"A great place to study God's Word in a small group setting and discuss how we can practically apply what we have learned."

Friday

Schneider Community Group

Location: Temple Terrace

11712 Davis Road, Temple Terrace, FL 33637

Meets on: Fridays at 7:00 PM (starting October 7)

Leaders: John and Kerri Schneider (732-5963)

WIN Sunday—September 25



Not only did we send teams from Oakwood to St. Louis (youth) and the Czech Republic (English Camp) for missions exposure, we had several others who have recently experienced missions first-hand.

Join us on September 25 for this special *WIN Sunday* where you will hear what Maria Cariaga, Trisha Emerson, Sofy Noguera, Luke Piazza & Arnie Mejias, and Rick & Brenda Smith experienced in recent mission adventures.

Congregational Meeting—September 25

Everyone is invited to join us right after the morning Worship Service on Sunday, September 25. We anticipate the meeting to be from 11:45 AM—12:30 PM.

During this meeting we will vote on new members (Kyle & Gigi Reed), hear ministry updates and a financial update and spend some time together in prayer.



Childcare will be provided for Nursery – 5th Graders for those who pre-register at the TreeHouse Welcome Station or the Information Center.

Cookies for Prisoners



Ray Ross has joined Kairos Prison Ministry International and will be going to Polk Correctional Institution September 22-25.

Supplying meals and cookies during the event are part of this program. Donations of store bought, non-fruit filled packaged cookies are requested (Fig Newtons are okay). No home-made or bakery made cookies are allowed.

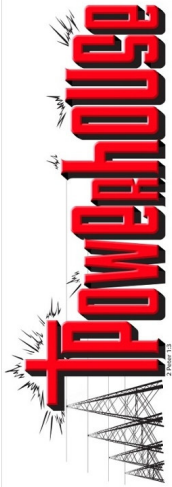
If you are interested in making a donation, there will be a bin located in the lobby through **this Sunday, September 18.**



Pregnancy Care Center—Walk For Life

The Pregnancy Care Center's 18th Annual *Walk for Life* will be held on Saturday, October 22, at Idlewild Baptist Church - Registration begins at 8:30 AM with the walk at 9:00 AM. You can help by volunteering the day of the walk and by getting sponsors and participating in the walk. Call (813) 978-9737 for additional information.

The Pregnancy Care Center is an outreach ministry dedicated to presenting the Gospel both in word and in action to women in unplanned pregnancy situations. We emphasize the need to minister to both the mother toward eternal life and the baby toward a healthy live birth. We are committed to integrity in serving our clients and earning their trust. The Pregnancy Care Center is a non-profit, interdenominational Christian organization and is supported through the Missions giving at Oakwood.



PowerHouse Schedule

Sunday, Sept 18—Monthly Outreach Party—Get ready for *Outdoor Survivor*. Invite your friends. You may want to bring a change of clothes!!

Sunday, Sept 25—Food Bag Fundraiser after the morning Worship Service
Regular Evening Meeting—God The Perfect Creator

Sunday, Oct 2—Regular Evening Meeting—Adam & Eve's Deadly Decision

Sunday, Oct 9—Regular Meeting—Unacceptable Sacrifice

Food Bag Fundraiser—Sunday, September 25—right after the Worship Service. All students who plan to go to Challenge 2012 next summer are invited to participate to help raise funds for the trip.

Student and Parents

Mark your Calendar

Challenge 2012, New Orleans, July 1-6, 2012

<http://www.efca.org/reachnational/reachstudents-/challenge-2012-conference>

Message Series

New Message Series

On October 2, I will begin a new five part message series entitled: *The Art of Effective Parenting*. My first message is: *What Your Family Can Be*. Many families merely function as a Bed & Breakfast. But as parents you can create a family dynamic with your children that is so much more; more than the family you grew up in, and more than your family presently is. Invite a friend and come learn from the Family Owner's Manual (the Bible) three positive qualities you can create for the ones you care about most. ~ Pastor Paul



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.



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.



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 by September 26. 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*.

Boundaries For In-Laws—Part 1

Establishing rules to protect your marriage



Parents can be a blessing to a married couple by offering love, wisdom, and encouragement. The Bible makes note of several supportive in-law relationships, namely Ruth and Naomi, Peter and his mother-in-law, and Jethro, who guided Moses. Yet the abundance of in-law jokes and stories testifies to the fact that parents can also be a heavy burden for a couple to bear. The Bible also has an example of this. David's father-in-law, King Saul, tracked him down to try to kill him. And you thought you had problems. Whether you've had them for months, or it's been many years, in-law conflicts are certainly nothing new. Occurring in many forms, they tend to be ongoing issues that revolve around the couple as a whole. The first step toward finding a solution is to identify the problem. Here are five circumstances to consider.

1. Favoritism.

Parents develop an older and deeper relationship with their adult child, which is to be expected. Even so, healthy parents will welcome their child's spouse into their lives, if that person is loving and kind. However, when a parent's preference for their own child over their child's spouse exists and is expressed, distance and hurt can result. During a visit or phone call, parents may show more interest in their child's goings-on than in a spouse's. Or they may give more lavish gifts to their child, disregarding a spouse. These gestures of favoritism can lead a spouse to feel left out and not valued when around in-laws.

2. Intrusiveness.

Linda and Roy had been married for five years. Caring for a two-year old, planning for a baby on the way, building a business, and buying their first home, life was busy but rewarding. That is, unless Linda's parents came over. Since they lived nearby, Linda's parents loved to visit—invited or not. They were helpful with the baby and even ran errands. But inviting themselves to come along on family outings was too much. Feeling trapped in a corner, Linda and Roy were torn about what to do. Some parents cross over the line of responsibility and respect. Becoming too involved with the couple, they may meddle unintentionally, leav-

ing the couple feeling smothered or controlled. Although they think they are acting lovingly, they are not allowing the couple enough breathing room.

3. Parenting.

Linda grew up in a traditional-style home. After she and Roy moved into their new home, they enjoyed expressing their own, more modern style. When Linda's parents were invited to visit, they questioned, "Is this some sort of phase you're going through?" Their opinions seemed disapproving and hurtful to the young couple.

Along the same lines as intrusiveness, some in-laws have difficulty letting go of their roles as parents. Instead of transitioning into a mutual adult relationship, they may offer unasked-for advice, criticisms, or even withhold approval if they disagree with the younger couple's preferences.

4. Emotional Distance.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, some parents maintain cold, disconnected relationships. They seem emotionally unavailable, self-absorbed, aloof, or unfriendly. Although the couple desires a warmer relationship, they find themselves rebuffed or ignored. Sometimes, unresolved issues or hurts may account for this problem between couples. But other times, it has to do with the character of the in-laws as people. They may simply be distant folks. Regardless of the cause, it is a painful situation.

5. Dependency.

Although we are told to care for our parents (1 Timothy 5:4), there are times when couples should not become involved in the problems of their in-laws. For example, parents may impose on the younger couple to referee their arguments, or try to get them to take sides. They may want the couple to rescue a drug-addicted child that they can't fix. Or they may be financially irresponsible, and ask the couple to bail them out. Taking responsibility for issues like these can be inappropriate for the young couple.

John Townsend, Ph.D., is the coauthor, with Henry Cloud, of Boundaries and Boundaries for Marriage (Zondervan).

Oakwood Mill—Repeat



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

It isn't too late to join a class

The Oakwood Mill is the Adult Education Ministry of Oakwood Community Church. All Classes are held in the Education Center. 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

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)

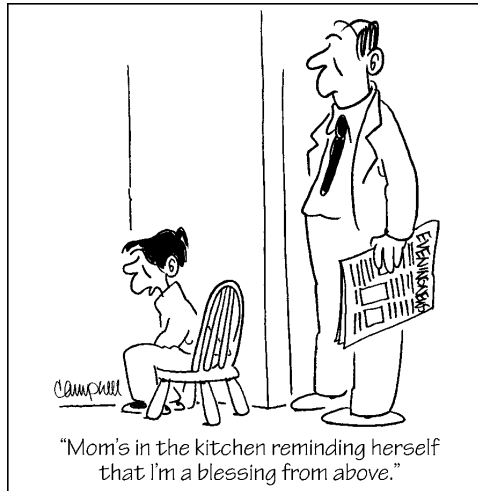
Session 6: love always (legacy)

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



Oakwood Community Church
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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 - 10:30 AM

Calendar at a Glance



Sept 18—Blood Mobile @ Oakwood
 Compassion Offering
 GroupLink following Worship
 Sept 25—WIN Sunday
 Congregational Meeting following Worship
 Food Bag Fundraiser for PowerHouse teens
 Sept 27—Women of the Word Bible Study begins



Oct 2—Child Dedication in Worship Service
 Blood Pressure checks following Worship
 Oct 9—Board Meeting
 Oct 11—MISCOM Meeting
 Oct 22—Pregnancy Care Center's *Walk For Life*

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...
Sept 23	Sept 28	Oct 1—Oct 14
Oct 7	Oct 12	Oct 15—Oct 28

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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