



ACORN

Seeds For Growth

INTERIM UPDATE

It is a special delight to be working with the Transition Team of Oakwood. They cover the demographic of our church ranging from young to old and from those who have been here a short while to those who have spent nearly thirty years at Oakwood. There are three leaders (including one Elder and two Deacons), three men and three women from the membership. They are Val Brand, David Conner, Andrea Cress, Brad Gordon, Arnie Mejias, Julie Minardi, Luke Piazza, Rob Weyand, and Mike Wyatt. Waiting in the wings and always updated and ready to step in if/when needed are Alternate Transition Team Members: Thomas Adams, Joe Angelo, Katie Frost, and Arlene Williams. They are listed as a reminder to all to be praying for them. It is a team that is marked by **character, competence, and chemistry**, not to mention the sense that each has that he or she is **called** for such a task as this.

They are progressing through the Assessment Phase of the process having completed the *Life Cycle Survey*, the *Natural Church Development Survey*, and the *Journey Wall*. There will be one more to complete during the month of September – the *All-Church Survey*. You as a church will have one final opportunity to speak into the Assessment Phase by completing a more complete questionnaire that evaluates all ministries and aspects of church life. Those assessments already completed have unveiled a key strength of the church that, to no ones surprise, is *Holistic Small Groups*. From the beginning interviews, which Elaine and I had with you, the OCC Family, we have learned that the church celebrates close relationships within the body. The three key areas of concern have been (to use NCD terminology) “*Inspiring Worship, Empowering Leadership, and Effective Structures*”. We will be defining those terms with you in the future and the Transition Team will be facilitating suggestions to strengthen those areas of church life.



The next step in the process is the Facilitating Phase. Truthfully the Transition Team is already moving into discussion of what to do to facilitate wise and godly responses to the things listed above. It is to be noted that each phase of the process helps identify the giftedness and key skills of your next Servant Leader.

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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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Congregational Meeting

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Congregational meeting on Sunday, September 18 following the Worship Service. The leadership team will be communicating where we are financially. Nursery will be available.



All Church Survey

We are asking every person attending Oakwood who is 18 years old or older to complete an All Church Survey . This is the final tool in the IPM assessment process and your participation is very important. If you didn't receive a copy of the survey via email, pick up a copy at the Information Center or contact the Church Office. Please return it to the Church Office via email to Martha@oakwoodfl.org or you can drop it off at the Information Center in the lobby.

Attention PowerHouse Parents

Parents of PowerHouse teens are asked to meet with Cam Whipple this Sunday, September 18, at 5:30 PM in TreeHouse for an important informational meeting regarding the Summer 2017 trip.

Women's Ministry Opportunities

Bible Studies

A New Women's Bible Study is meeting on Wednesdays from 10:00 -11:15 AM at the home of Lorraine Watkins. Lorraine is teaching on the humanity and deity of Jesus Christ. For more information, call or email Sandy Wyatt (960-8168 or slwyatt7@gmail.com).



Just for Joy Women's Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at a new time 7:00-8:30 PM in the Oakwood Library. During this 12 week study we will unwrap the book of Ephesians. Study guides are \$9. For more information, call or email Sandy Wyatt (960-8168 or slwyatt7@gmail.com).

Elder led Prayer

Everyone is invited to join in a time of prayer with the elders the first and third Sunday of the month. We meet from 5:30—6:30 PM in the Library. Childcare will be provided.

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.

Self-Defense Class

FREE Self-Defense Training

11209 Casey Road, Tampa, FL 33629

**KEEP
YOURSELF
SAFE** Tuesdays 7 – 8 pm
 Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27

ATTENTION! Oakwood Cares is sponsoring a FREE community-wide self-defense class during the month of September 2016. Join us each week beginning Tuesday, September 6th from 7 PM to 8 PM.

Learn practical techniques to enhance your personal awareness and safety. This class will be taught by a former special agent for U.S. Customs and Homeland Security and is designed for adults and mature teens. Invite your friends and sign up on the [Oakwood Cares Facebook page](#).



Call **813.969-2303** for details.
www.oakwoodfl.org/cares
fb.me/OakwoodCares



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.

Fall Festival

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- We are looking for individuals and families to donate candy for the Trunk or Treat. There will be a bin in the Church Lobby through October 23 to collect your donations.
- We still need more volunteers. There will be a sign up sheet at the Information Center in the lobby. Please sign up no later than August 28.
- We are still looking for small groups/families to help make games for the festival. Please sign underneath the games on the poster boards in the Worship Center. Deadline to sign up is August 28.
- We welcome all help in spreading the word to neighbors and friends. Flyers will be available at the Information Center. An electronic copy of the flyer is available by contacting Melanie Hoglevina in the Church Office and she will email it to you.



Opportunities to Serve the Church & World

Baby Bottles Of Love for Assure Women's Center



We have baby bottles available in the lobby for you to pick up, fill with your loose change, and return them to Oakwood by October 9. Your change can make a difference for a mom and a child. All proceeds will directly benefit women visiting Assure Women's Center.

Assure Women's Center is supported through the Missions giving at Oakwood and ministers to women who are pregnant and in difficult life situations.



Oakwood Mill



The Oakwood Mill is the Adult Education ministry of Oakwood Community Church. Four adult education classes are being offered this fall on Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM.

Classes began on September 11, but it isn't too late to join one.

You can get full descriptions of the classes being offered on our website (www.oakwoodfl.org) under the Ministries tab or pick up a green brochure from the Information Center in the Oakwood lobby.

Classes offered are:

Grasping God's Word—Women's Adult Education Class—Leader: Andrea Cress

The People of Proverbs—Leader: David Turner

The Silent Years—Leader: Guy Sas

CONNECTION—The Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians—Leaders: Bill and David Clarke

Financial Update



Oakwood 2016 Financial Update through August		
	Actual	Budget
YTD Offerings Received	263,253	
YTD Expenses	338,688	353,314
Offerings Over/(Under) Exp	(75,435)	(90,061)

Online Giving

Did you know that you can make financial contributions to Oakwood through our website? You can give one time or set up for recurring donations. Visit www.oakwoodfl.org and click "Give Online" on the right side of the menu on the home page.

Seeds For Growth—continued

To date the TT has identified the following: he must be gifted at Biblical teaching in a way that calls for transformation of lives; he must be a visionary individual who knows how to motivate OCC to be on mission reaching the far from God; he must be gifted at developing relationships in a way that identifies and builds future leaders; etc. These qualities will be continually honed and refined to help us identify the next Servant Leader.

Please remember the Open Door Policy. If you have questions, walk-ins are welcomed.

Enjoying the journey with you!

Larry



PowerHouse Schedule

Sept 18—Regular Evening Meeting & Parents Meeting

Sept 25—Regular Evening Meeting

October 2—Regular Evening Meeting

October 9—Food Bag Ministry (AM) and Food Fight outreach party (PM)

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.

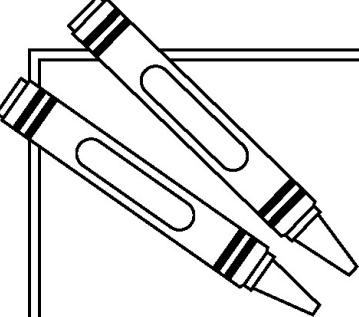
Food Bag Ministry

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, October 9** 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, October 7. 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.

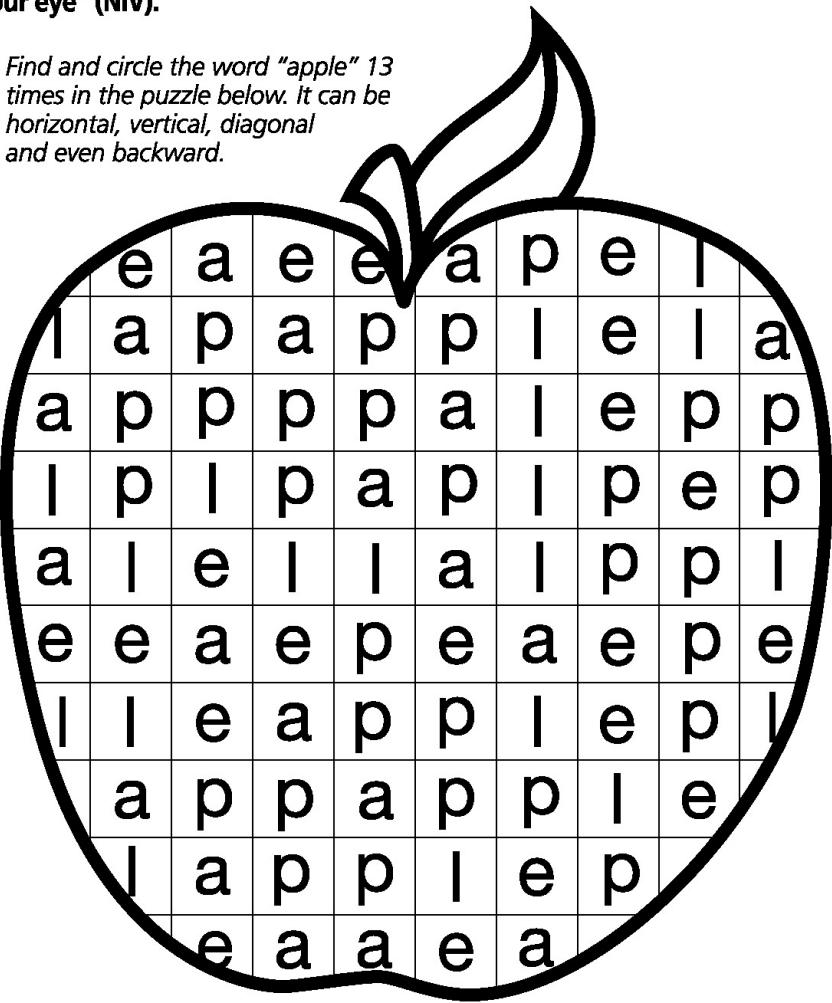
Kids Corner

Just for **KIDS**

apple of Your Eye

When something is said to be the “apple of your eye,” it means it’s precious to you and you would protect it as you would your own eye. With school starting up again, we should remember God’s instructions in Proverbs 7:2: “Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye” (NIV).

Find and circle the word “apple” 13 times in the puzzle below. It can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal and even backward.



e	a	e	e	a	p	e
a	p	a	p	p	i	e
a	p	p	p	p	a	l
i	p	i	p	a	p	e
a	l	e	l	l	a	p
e	e	a	e	p	e	a
i	l	e	a	p	p	i
a	p	p	a	p	p	l
i	a	p	p	l	e	p
e	a	a	a	e	a	a



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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 Hoglevina

Office hours:

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

Education Classes :

Sundays - 9:15 AM

Worship:

Sundays—10:30 AM

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

Calendar at a Glance



Sept 18—Compassion Offering
Congregational Meeting following Worship
Elder led Prayer—5:30 PM
PowerHouse Parents Meeting—5:30 PM
Sept 19—Elder/Deacon Meeting
Sept 21—Transition Team Meeting
Sept 25—Oakwood Cares Meeting



Oct 2—Blood Pressure checks following Worship
Elder led Prayer—5:30 PM
Oct 5—Transition Team Meeting
Oct 9—Deacon Meeting
Oakwood Cares Meeting
PowerHouse Food Bag Ministry
Oct 11—Missions Team 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...
Sept 23	Sept 28	Oct 1—Oct 14
Oct 7	Oct 12	Oct 15—Oct 28

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