

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



ACORN

The mission of Oakwood is to...

Transform ordinary people into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

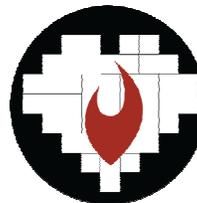
Oakwood is a member of the Evangelical Free Church of America.



Missions Update

The Missions Team has recently endorsed a new ministry—*Love Is Ministry—Tampa*. Many of you will remember Jill (Cariaga) Collins, daughter of Jose and Maria Cariaga. She is heading up this ministry and we encourage you to read about the ministry below and pray about how you can be involved in this local outreach opportunity.

Love Is Ministry Tampa is a non-profit organization that reaches out to the refugee community right here in Tampa. There are many refugee families that live here in Tampa that have left dangerous living situations in their home countries. Most families have spent a good amount of time in refugee camps that are not in good conditions before being approved to move to Tampa. The refugees are here on "refugee status" and are supported by the government for six months. Once the six months are over, they are expected to support themselves. This leaves families struggling to take care of their children, to feed their families, and to hold a job, all while trying to adjust to American culture and society.



Thankfully, God has given us the opportunity to serve this community. By partnering with various churches in Tampa and other ministries, *Love Is Ministry* is able to connect with refugee families on a weekly basis. We have many programs throughout the week, such as: English classes, computer classes, Awana, soccer practices, weekly dinners, food and clothing donations, and tutoring. The families that we serve are 80% Congolese who speak Swahili. The other 20% are a mixture of families from all over the world (Myanmar, Jamaica, Haiti). We reach approximately 100 different refugees throughout the week and would like to reach more.

What a privilege it is to be the hands and feet of Christ right here in our community. Refugee families are in need of help physically, emotionally, and most importantly, spiritually. We believe that God will provide this kind of help through His church to reach all peoples of all nations with the saving knowledge of His son Jesus. Go therefore and make disciples of **all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Matthew 28:19

Please consider supporting this ministry in any way that God leads such as prayer, volunteering your time, financial support, and raising awareness of the refugee population here in Tampa.

Continued on Page 4

Inside this issue:

Easter Services	2
Self-Defense Class	2
Blood Mobile @ Oakwood	3
Work Day	3
PowerHouse News	4
Kids Page	5
Calendar	6

Easter Season Services

As we enter the Easter season, be mindful of those you can invite to our services. Invitation cards will be available for the next two Sundays for inviting your guests to join us.

Palm Sunday—April 9: *“Jesus, the King”*; John 12:12-15

The importance of Palm Sunday is validated by the fact that all four Gospel evangelists recorded the event. Pilate had this inscription placed on the cross, *“Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”* On Palm Sunday people placed their hope in Him, but it was professed rather than genuine faith.

Good Friday– April 14, 7:00 PM: *“Jesus, the Lamb”*; John 1:29-34

John the Baptist knew Who Jesus was, *“The Lamb God...The Son of God!”* The trail left by The Son of God is a bloody one. Why? Because, *“Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin.”*

Easter Sunday– April 16, 10:30 AM: *“Jesus, the Victor”*; John 20:1-9

The women were the first to report that Jesus was alive. The disciples had to see for themselves so two of them ran to the tomb to find it empty. *“When they saw they believed.”* *“More blessed are those who have not seen, but have believed.”*

PLEASE NOTE: There are no Education Classes at 9:15 on Easter Sunday, only the Worship Service at 10:30 AM. Nursery and our full TreeHouse Children’s Ministry will be available during the service.

Oakwood Cares Upcoming Event



Free Self-Defense Classes
Wednesday Nights - April 5, 12, 19, 26
7:00-8:30 pm
PowerHouse Building

Don't be scared. Be aware and get prepared.

Come listen and learn or participate if you'd like to learn some defensive moves in these 4 sessions. No physical requirements or concerns. Feel free to invite neighbors and friends. Those who joined us previously are encouraged to return as Mike will bring a partner to help demonstrate some new moves.

There is no charge for these classes. You will have an opportunity to purchase items or private classes if desired but there is no pressure to do so. [RSVP on our Oakwood Cares Facebook page.](#)
 Note: You do not need to attend all 4 sessions.



Our instructor, Mike Kennedy, has more than 35 years of experience, as a former homeland security officer and US Army Col. (Retired). Mike is a Christian and husband to wife Tammy and father of grown daughters. Learn more about his company and services on Facebook: [Triple T Defense.](#)

Questions can be directed to OakwoodCares@gmail.com.

Blood Pressure checks

Blood pressure checks on April 2 the kitchen following the Worship Service. Don't miss this important health screening.



Blood Mobile @ Oakwood

The Blood Mobile will be at Oakwood on Sunday, April 9 from 10:00 AM – 3:00 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.



Will you roll up your sleeves and help us with this worthy cause?

A Note of Thanks

I thank my God every time I remember you. Phil 1:3

For many years, Cam Whipple and Doug Cress have been faithfully leading the Powerhouse team; helping our youth to become more fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ and having fun while doing so!



Work Day

Saturday, April 22—8:30 AM—Noon



We are looking for Small Groups, families and friends to have a great time of fellowship and work together on projects inside and out at Oakwood.

We appreciate your help—whether you can come for an hour or for the morning. If you have questions, please contact Dave Fowle at david-fowle1@gmail.com.

Attention Women

Women's Salad Luncheon



Sunday April 23 (after the Worship Service)
In the Children's Ministry Building
Bring a salad to share!

Drop it off at the info desk in the morning if it needs refrigeration.

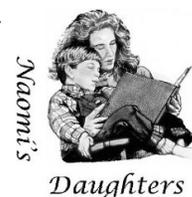
Just for Joy women's Bible study meets on **Tuesday mornings from 10:00—11:30 AM** in Room 106 of the Education Building.

We are currently studying the book of Malachi. Study guides are \$7.

Contact Sandy Wyatt at slwyatt7@gmail.com or call 813-960-8168 for more details.

Opportunity to Serve the World

Naomi's Daughters is a ministry for single moms that provides clothing and food 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; school supplies

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.



PowerHouse Schedule

Apr 2—Regular Evening Meeting
 Apr 9—Food Bag Ministry & Regular Evening Meeting
 Apr 16—No Meeting—Easter
 Apr 24—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 second Sunday of each month. Our next Food Bag prep day is **Sunday, April 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, April 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 Gianone at (813) 969-4136.



Missions Update—continued

Love Is Ministry Tampa is having a ministry fundraiser to raise money for supplies and equipment for all of our classes and programs on April 22. We would love it for any soccer players from Oakwood to form a team to represent Oakwood at the tournament.

Please visit our website www.loveisministry.org/tampa for details on the tournament and to register a team.

Also, if anyone would like to volunteer at this event, we would love the help. You can contact me at jillc@loveisministry.org



Visit our Facebook page— www.facebook.com/loveisministrytampa- for more information on our ministry.

Jill Collins
 Love Is Ministry Tampa

GOALS FOR THE GLOBE Soccer Tournament Fundraiser

hosted by Love Is Ministry Tampa

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

Temple Terrace Rec • 6700 Whiteway Drive • Tampa, FL 33617

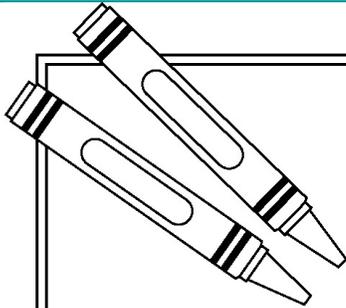


- 18 & older
- concessions
- 8 v. 8
- raffle
- grand prize for champions

Come play to support your local non-profit refugee organization

For more details and registration, visit
www.loveisministry.org/tampa

Kids Corner

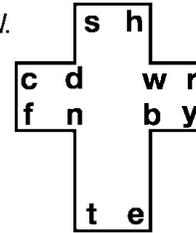


Just for KIDS

SYMBOL OF SACRIFICE

At this time of the year, we see many crosses draped in purple, black or white cloth. They remind us of the loving sacrifice Jesus made for us – and that he rose again.

Use the code in the big cross to complete 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, NIV.



“
 _____ i _____
 + + + + +
 _____ i _____ o _____ ou _____
 + + + + +
 _____ i _____ ... _____ a _____
 + + + + +
 _____ u _____ i _____ ... _____
 + + + + +
 _____ a _____ a i _____
 + + + + +
 _____ o _____
 + + + + +
 _____ i _____ a _____”

Answer: Christ died for our sins ... he was buried ... he was raised on the third day.



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

Our Vocation & Volunteer Staff

Interim Pastor—Larry Chute
 Director of Ministries & Coordinator of Children’s
 Ministry—Dave Dorsey
 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: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Education Classes:

Sundays—9:15 AM

Worship:

Sundays—10:30 AM

Calendar at a Glance



Apr 2—Communion During Worship
 Blood Pressure checks following Worship
 Apr 5—P
Self-Defense Class begins
 Apr 9—Deacon Team Meeting
 Oakwood Cares Team meeting
 Compassion Offering
 Blood Mobile @ Oakwood
 PowerHouse Food Bag Ministry
 Apr 10—Elder Team Meeting
 Apr 11—Missions Team Meeting

Apr 12—Pastoral Search Team Meeting
 Self-Defense Class
 Apr 14—Good Friday Service
 April 16—*Easter*
 Apr 17—Elder/Deacon Teams meet
 Apr 19—Self-Defense Class
 April 22—Work Day
 Apr 23—Oakwood Cares Team Meeting
 Women’s Salad 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...
Apr 7	Apr 12	Apr 15—Apr 28
Apr 21	Apr 26	Apr 29—May 12

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