

OAKWOOD PRAYER WARRIOR

Thank you for praying for the search for our next Lead Pastor. We have confidence that the LORD will counsel and watch over us during this crucial time in the life of our church family.

Pray that the Elder and Search Teams:

- Will be given wisdom, very great insight and a measureless breadth of understanding
I Kings 4:29
- Will be encouraged and strengthened as they persevere through this final phase of the IPM process
II Thessalonians 2:16-17
- Will seek counsel from each other as they continue to make plans for our church family
Proverbs 12:22
- Will be able to speak the truth in love to each other
Ephesians 4:15
- Will have discerning hearts to distinguish between right and wrong
I Kings 3:9
- Will be filled with joy, peace and hope as they trust in LORD.
Romans 15:13

Pray that the Oakwood Church family:

- Will rely on God to be one in spirit and in purpose
Philippians 2:2
- Will be faithful to pray for our leaders
I Samuel 12:23
- Will be favored by God so we can be used by Him
Psalm 90: 17
- Will have discernment and pray against any schemes of the enemy
Ephesians 6:11,16
- Will trust and submit to our leadership
Hebrews 13:17
- Will be patient to wait on God's perfect plan
Psalm 18:30 and 46:10

Pray for our next Lead Pastor:

- That the relocation process will not be too much stress on him and his family.
Philippians 4:6-7
 - Selling and/or buying a home
 - Packing and unpacking
 - Settling into a new neighborhood and routines

- That God’s peace will calm their hearts as they say goodbye to family, friends, and church family. John 14:27
- That God would lead him quickly to trustworthy, encouraging, and supportive accountability partners who will speak truth in love to him. Ephesians 4:15
- That we as a church family would give them space and time to adjust to a new life and ministry I Thessalonians 5:12
- That our imperfections will not be a discouragement to him, but will be viewed as an opportunity to help us grow. Ephesians 4:11-13

Eder Team:

Mark Beale	Edson Bustamante	Pastor Larry Chute
Dave Dorsey	John Schneider	Rob Weyand

Search Team: Rob Weyand-Chair

Val Brand	Dave Conner	Andrea Cress	Brad Gordon
Arnie Mejias	Julie Minardi	Luke Piazza	Mike Wyatt

Alternates:	Thomas Adams	Joe Angelo	Katie Frost	Arlene Williams
Coach:	Pastor Larry Chute			

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Heavenly Father, As we look ahead to our future here at Oakwood, we want to pray for our next servant leader.

Lord, we pray for his heart, his relationship with you – that seeking your face would be his top priority – We ask that your Spirit strengthen him in his inner being so that Christ may dwell in his heart by faith. Speak to him with clarity through his times of bible study and prayer. Give him a longing to talk with you and to hear Your voice. Help him to be a sensitive to your Spirit’s leading. May he live by your Spirit, keep in step with your Spirit, and exhibit the fruit of your Spirit in his life. Help him to resist the temptation to rely on his own strength, his own understanding, and instead acknowledge you in all he does, trusting you to make his path straight.

Lord, we believe that you have already been at work in his heart and life up until this point, preparing him to serve here. Continue to give him a vision for his future. Help him to know that Your plans for him are plans for good and not for harm – to give him a future and a hope. Enable him to clearly hear your call on his life. Enable him to walk worthy of that calling – putting off the old self, putting on the new – continuing to grow in Christlikeness each day. Give him confidence in the gifts and abilities you have given him. Help him to see that Oakwood and living in the Tampa Bay area would be just the right fit for him and his family.

Assure him that he is your workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which you have prepared in advance for him to do.

Lord, we pray for his relationships – especially those with his immediate family, and also with his extended family, friends, and church. Give him unity with those that he loves. Use them to encourage, guide and comfort him during this time of transition.

Protect our future pastor Lord. Protect his heart, mind, soul, and body. Strike down any discouragement that might threaten to defeat him. Help him to keep his focus on you – taking every thought captive and making it obedient to Christ. Give him wisdom that will help him to walk securely. Be his fortress, his shield, his stronghold. Save him from any plans of the enemy that might hinder your work in his life. Preserve him at all times. May he look to you in faith to overcome any obstacles that he faces. We look forward to meeting him and rejoicing with him over the ways you have cared for him during these months prior to his arrival. Father bless and keep him; make your face shine upon him and be gracious to him; turn your face toward him and give him peace. We agree together as a congregation asking these things in the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

(written by Andrea Cress 02.12.17)