



# ACORN

Oakwood Community Church  
11209 Casey Rd  
Tampa FL 33618-5306  
813.969.2303  
[www.oakwoodfl.org](http://www.oakwoodfl.org)

## From Pastor Darin

### Good Friday – Joint Worship Service!

It was a blessing to partner with Bahia Vida on March 17, as we split into teams and visited hundreds of homes in Plantation and right next to church to invite people to church. What we told people that day was, “We are two churches but we have one campus, one message and one mission!”

On Good Friday we will illustrate that unity by coming together to sing the praises of Jesus in both English and Spanish, to read God’s Word and hear a message from Pastor Darin and Pastor Josue and then to gather around the Lord’s table together. Since this is our first joint worship service, we decided to make it a celebration of both Jesus’ death *and* resurrection, so the tone of the evening will be more upbeat than some other Good Friday services you may have attended in the past.

Come to remember Jesus’ death. Come to rejoice in his resurrection. Come to connect with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Bahia Vida. And please invite your friends, neighbors and loved ones to join us for both Good Friday and Easter Sunday! This is the time of year people are most likely to attend a church service – don’t miss the opportunity!

### Our Two Services Experiment

You may have wondered, “Who moved my seat?” We are trying out some different seating configurations to maximize our worship center space for the attendance numbers we expect at each service. There are two principles we are balancing: 1) the chairs should be at least 50% full so the service doesn’t feel empty and 2) the chairs should be 20-25% empty so newcomers can tell there is room for them. This is why we are moving extra chairs into place after the 9:00 service and in preparation for the 10:30 service. Please help the ushers if you are able! And please help us welcome and host the guests who come!

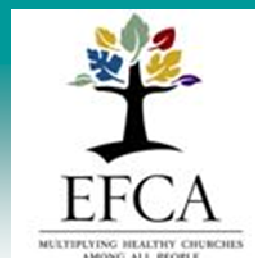
### 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Get your tickets today (only \$5) for our April 22 gathering! They are available on Sunday mornings or on our website (for a small additional fee). The cost will cover a catered meal from La Teresita and childcare for infants through 4 year olds. We will give thanks to the Lord for His faithfulness to Oakwood – spending time in worship and prayer and seeing video testimonies of milestone moments in our journey. Some leaders from our past will help us commemorate this moment, such as founding member Steve Cooke, our first pastor, Richard Parker, and the keynote speaker will be Pastor Paul Phair who served the church for 28 years! By all means, invite your friends to join us for this evening of fellowship and celebration!

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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## Easter @ Oakwood

Join us at 9:00 or 10:30 for our Easter Sunday Worship Services.

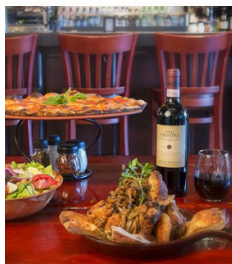
During both services we will have nursery care and Children's Ministry for children two years old through 5th Grade.

There are no Middle School, High School, or Adult Education Classes on Easter, but they will resume on April 8.

See Page 5 for the list of new Adult Elective classes that will begin on April 8.



## PowerHouse Fundraiser



### Join Us...

On Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> to help raise money for Oakwood Church!

PowerHouse Summer Conference



20% of tracked dine-in and carry out sales will be donated.

Tell your server you are dining to support **Oakwood Church!**



Carrollwood Location  
13020 N Dale Mabry (813)265-2625

[WWW.ACFP.COM](http://WWW.ACFP.COM)

Dine at Anthony's anytime on April 9, mention Oakwood and our youth will receive funds towards their summer trip.



## Gal's Social

### Speed Friendshipping

An opportunity for the ladies of Oakwood to have fun getting to know their fellow sisters in Christ.

Bring a snack to share and be ready to do some chatting on Saturday, April 7th at 7:00 PM in the Adult Education Building.

## Women's Bible Study

*Just For Joy* meets on Tuesdays at 10:15 AM in the Education Building. We are doing a study on *The Sermon on the Mount*. Come join us.



## Blood Pressure checks

Blood pressure checks on April 8 in the kitchen following the Worship Service. Don't miss this important health screening.



## Child Dedication on Mother's Day

Oakwood has been very blessed with babies recently, so we want to give parents the opportunity to present their children to the Lord. Parents will bring their children in front of the church family during the Worship Service on May 13 to:



- 1) give thanks for them as good gifts from God;
- 2) commit them to the Lord for His purposes;
- 3) commit themselves to raising the children to know, love and follow Jesus and
- 4) pray God's blessing on each child.

There will be a Child Dedication Class from 9:15-10:15 AM in the TreeHouse Room 402 on Sunday, April 22. Please contact us to sign up for that class or arrange another time to meet with Dave or Darin.

Please contact Dave Dorsey if you would like to participate in this child dedication.

## Baptism

We will have a Baptismal Service during the Worship Service on Sunday, April 22. If you are interested in being baptized, please contact the Church Office (813.969.2303).



## Discovering Oakwood

Interested in Membership? Discovering Oakwood, our four week class that is required for membership, is coming up April 29 – May 20, from 9:15-10:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the TreeHouse room 402. This class is a great way to get to know the history, vision, strategy and beliefs of our church while also getting to know others who are newer to Oakwood. Please contact Martha to sign up! If you took the class in December, all you need to do is fill out your membership application.

## Oakwood Cares Event

Oakwood Cares is collecting supplies to support teachers at nearby Cannella Elementary School. Needed supplies are: reams of paper (most needed); cleaning wipes; Expo Markers (Black).

There will be a box in the Worship Center lobby for your donations. Donation deadline is May 12.

## Graduate Recognition

We would like to honor our graduates – whether from High School or College. Please loan us five or so pictures of your graduating student from infancy to graduation, what school they are graduating from, and information on their future plans. These will be part of a Graduation Recognition video presentation on May 20. Pictures are due in to Doug Cress no later than May 13. You may email digital photos to [Doug-cress@outlook.com](mailto:Doug-cress@outlook.com) or put printed photos in the “Church Office” mail slot in the Worship Center kitchen.



## Study of the Book of Mark

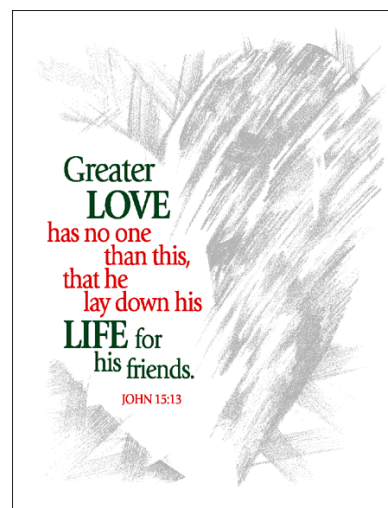
Pastor Darin will begin a new message series

### *The Gospel*

on April 8, taking us through the Gospel of Mark.

There will be a Sunday morning Adult Education class on the Gospel of Mark, led by Dave Hill (9:00 AM on April 8 & 15, 9:15 AM beginning April 22).

There will also be some Community Groups doing this same study—the Schneider Group (Sunday nights), the Dorsey Group (Thursday nights), and potentially others. If you are interested in participating in this study, contact the group leader or the Church Office for other groups that may be going through this study.



## VBS 2018

**AMPED**  
LIVE FULLY ALIVE!

June 4-8

Mark your calendar and watch for details.

## From Pastor Darin—*continued*

### Update on our Search Process

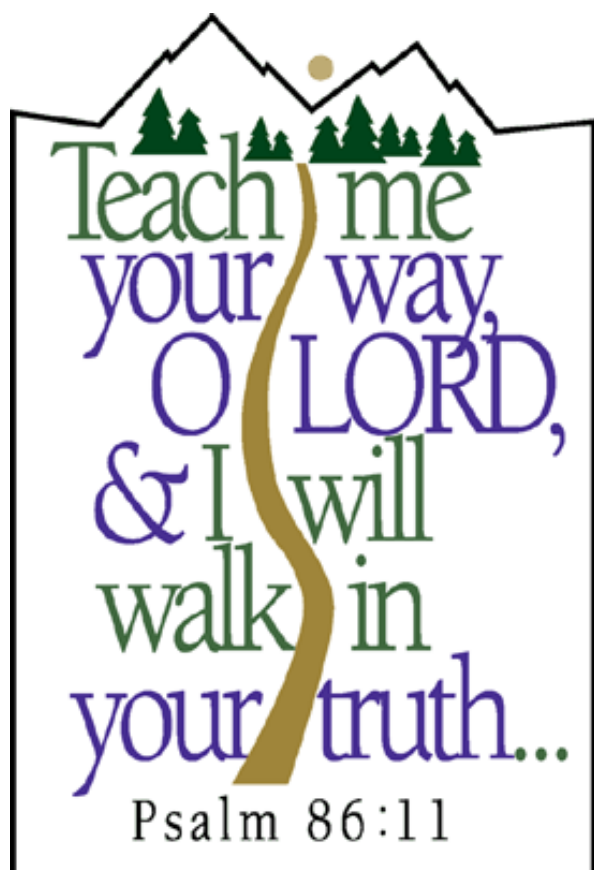
We continue to interview strong candidates for our Director of Worship and Student Ministries position. Our search team (Darin Anderson, Mark Beale, Donna Bustamante, Bill Campbell, Megan Hasebroock and Cam Whipple) is meeting regularly and filtering dozens of resumes to identify applicants that best fit the profile for which we are looking. Godly character and sincere love for Jesus are our primary qualifications. Next we are looking for special musical gifting to give leadership to our worship ministry. Then we want to see a passion for teenagers and a commitment to at least 4-5 years of student ministry.

We are not seeking to fill this role because of a weakness in our worship or student ministries. We are very blessed by and thankful for the wonderful volunteers we have in both areas. We are moving this direction not out of need but as a strategic effort to build on our strengths and position us to keep growing and even accelerate the growth God is



giving us by investing in these top priority ministries! This hire represents a step of faith for us as we will be asking for a 13-14% budget increase to fund this position and make some other financial adjustments in our fiscal year starting July 1. Please join us in praying for clear direction and generous provision from the Lord so that we can be as effective as possible at *transforming ordinary people into fully devoted followers of Christ!*

Pastor Darin



## Missionaries of the Month

Oakwood's first "sent out" missionaries in 1989, Pete and Mary Ellen Kluck love being part of Wycliffe Bible Translators, helping bring God's Word to the millions of people still without the Bible in their heart language. Serving for nearly 15 years in Cameroon, Africa, they're now based in Tampa as they serve around the world. They love sharing about the transformational power of God's Word.



### Praise:

We praise God for the wonderful open doors of ministry that God's given us around the world and here in Tampa. Pete: I find great joy in equipping the next generation of missionaries through Leadership Coaching & Partnership Development.

Mary Ellen: I love investing in the USF International Women's Outreach through English conversation classes and Bible studies.

### Prayer:

- 1) Wisdom in discerning how to best invest our time and energy in Kingdom work
- 2) Family challenges – healing and restoration.



## Oakwood Mill



The Oakwood Mill is the Adult Education ministry of Oakwood Community Church. Two new adult education classes and one resuming class are being offered this spring beginning April 8. Please note that during our 2 Service Sundays two of these classes will be held at 9:00 AM and one at 10:30 AM. Beginning April 22, all education classes will be held at 9:15 AM. Registration forms will be available in your Worship Program soon.

### ***The Gospel of Mark—9:00 AM***

Leader: Dave Hill

What's the best news you've ever heard? Was it surprising? Did it change the way you think? Or was it something you wanted to be true but didn't dare hope? In this study of Mark's Gospel, you will find out more about the life of the person at the heart of the Christian faith – Jesus Christ. Workbooks will be available for \$4.00.

### ***Bible Art Journaling—9:00 AM***

Leader: Katie Frost

Would you like to dig deeper into the Word? Have you seen Bible art journaling and loved it but thought to yourself, "I could never do that!" or "I'm not that artistic!" Then this is the class for you! Our Bible art journaling class is about the process of connecting to Scripture, not the page you produce. Focus on God and His Word and the skill will come with time.

Each week we will learn new art techniques and meditate on the Word. The basic supplies you will need are a journal and/or Bible (journaling bibles are useful, but not necessary) and a Sigma Micron 01 pen in black. As we learn new techniques, we will introduce new supplies.

Join us as we draw closer to God and to each other through bible art journaling!

### ***Prodigal God—10:30 AM***

Leader: Andrew Hasebroock

In his book, *The Prodigal God*, Timothy Keller takes his trademark intellectual approach to understanding Christianity and uses the parable of the Prodigal Son to reveal an unexpected message of hope and salvation. Within that parable, Jesus reveals God's prodigal grace toward both the irreligious and the moralistic. This study will challenge both the devout and skeptics to see Christianity in a whole new way. We will view *The Prodigal God* videos and use Henri Nouwen's *Return of the Prodigal Son* as our text. Copies of the book will be available for \$13.00

Classes for **Middle School and High School** students will be held during the 10:30 AM service on April 8 & 15, then back to 9:15 AM on April 22.

## **Childcare & Children's classes**

In consideration of our volunteer staff, we will be happy to provide childcare for nursery age, a class for the 2 Year Olds-4 Year Olds and a class for Kindergarten-5th Grade if we have three or more committed weekly for each age group. This commitment will be for at least three out of four Sundays each month. Please be sure to register early so that we can plan accordingly.



## PowerHouse Schedule

April 1—Easter—No Youth Group  
April 6—Aldi shopping and PowerHouse Fun Night  
April 8—Food Bags and Regular Evening Meeting  
April 13-15—Spring Retreat @ Camp Gilead—No Sunday Evening Meeting  
April 22—No Evening Meeting—35th Anniversary Celebration  
April 29—5th Sunday and Regular Evening Meeting

## Spring Retreat



APRIL 13-15  
CAMP GILEAD  
POLK CITY, FL

PICK UP AN INFORMATIONAL BROCHURE  
AND REGISTRATION FORM IN POWER-  
HOUSE FOR OUR SPRING RETREAT.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 1.



## Mark your Calendar...

MAY 6—SENIOR NIGHT. GET READY FOR  
SOME FUN!

MAY 20—GRADUATE RECOGNITION IN THE  
WORSHIP SERVICE

JUNE 3—SCHOOLS OUT PARTY

JULY 2-7—CHALLENGE—KANSAS CITY

## 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 and Jacksonville. 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 8** 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 6. 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.





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#### Our Vocation & Volunteer Staff

Lead Pastor—Darin Anderson  
Director of Ministries & Coordinator of Children's  
Ministry—Dave Dorsey  
Director of PowerHouse Ministry—Cam Whipple  
Office Manager—Martha Dorsey  
Secretary—Kailey Treadway

#### Our Elder Team

Darin Anderson  
Mark Beale  
Edson Bustamante  
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 - 9:00 & 10:30 AM

#### Worship:

Sundays—9:00 & 10:30 AM

### Calendar at a Glance



Apr 1—*Easter*  
Apr 6—PowerHouse Food Shopping & Hang Out  
Apr 8—Communion during Worship  
Deacon Team Meeting  
Oakwood Cares Team Meeting  
New Oakwood Mill Classes begin  
PowerHouse Food Bag Ministry  
Apr 9—PowerHouse Fundraiser night @ Anthonys  
Elder Team Meeting

Apr 13-15—PowerHouse Spring Retreat  
Apr 15—Compassion Offering  
Missions Team Meeting  
Apr 16—Elder/Deacon Teams Meet  
Apr 22—Baptism during Worship  
35th Anniversary Celebration  
Apr 23—Elder Team Meeting

The Oakwood *ACORN* is a monthly 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

April 20  
May 20

#### For events during...

May 2018  
June 2018

Missed a Sunday message? Listen online @ [www.oakwoodfl.org/messages/](http://www.oakwoodfl.org/messages/)