



# ACORN

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



## From Pastor Darin

### The Power of God for Salvation

We are halfway through our sermon series on *The Gospel*, studying the 10 saving acts of Jesus. In Romans 1, Paul wrote:

*“So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”* Romans 1:15-16

The Apostle was eager to proclaim and expound the gospel to *the believers* already gathered in Rome. Why? Because, he reasoned, “it is the power of God for salvation.” We often think of salvation as the single moment in time when a sinner repents and puts his faith in Jesus and is instantly forgiven and set free from the penalty (Rom. 8:1) and power of sin (Rom. 8:2-3). But that moment is better understood as *justification* with *salvation* viewed as the entire process from the first tug of Holy Spirit conviction to the final glorification of the believer before the Lord.

Conviction	Regeneration	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification				
S	A	L	V	A	T	I	O	N

And the gospel “is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.” The message of the good news of Jesus Christ, enlivened by the Holy Spirit, is what enables a non-believer to see their sin and turn from it; it is what opens blind eyes to see a need for Jesus and to take hold of Him by faith; it is what softens a hard heart to receive the Word. But the gospel does not lose its power after repentance and faith unite to provide justification. The gospel goes on to empower the believer for life and godliness, for growth in holiness, for service in ministry and effectiveness in mission.

John Piper has helpfully written that “worship is the fuel and the goal of missions.” I would add that ***the gospel is the fuel of worship***. Do you want to energize your



love for the Lord? Focus your heart and mind on all that God has done for you in Christ! Reflect on the gospel. Meditate on the ten saving acts of Jesus, which truthfully only scratch the surface of the manifold glory of the gospel. Consider the finished work of Christ. The more we let the gospel fill our hearts and minds the more gratitude and joy we will experience and that will overflow in spiritual growth and ministry for the Lord.

Continued on page 5

#### Inside this issue:

Work Day	2
Oakwood Cares	2
Czech Team News	3
Vacation Bible School	4
Summer Schedule	5
35th Celebration	6
PowerHouse News	7
Calendar	8

## Blood Mobile @ Oakwood

The Blood Mobile will be at Oakwood on Sunday, May 6 from 9:00—11:30 AM. 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?

## Work Day

**Saturday, May 19**  
**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 [davidfowle1@gmail.com](mailto:davidfowle1@gmail.com).

## Oakwood Cares

### Another Neighborhood Invitation!

Join us on Saturday, May 19, at 11:00 AM in the Worship Center. We will pray, break into teams of 4-6 and then head back into Plantation to invite families to our upcoming VBS <http://www.oakwoodfl.org/ministries/children/vbs/> in June.

**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.

## 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. This study will conclude on May 15 and we will resume in the Fall.



## 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.



## Move Up Sunday

Move Up Sunday is May 27 for all children of TreeHouse. What is Move Up Sunday? All children will move up to the school grade that they will be in this August.

Graduating 5th Graders will be recognized during the Worship Service on May 27. They are welcome to join us in TreeHouse and PowerHouse throughout the summer.

## Memorial Day



The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 28, in honor of Memorial Day - commemorating the men and women who have given their lives in service to our country.

## Missionaries of the Month



**Jerry and Mildred Petersen** joined Oakwood in 1995 and served over the years in various roles including deacon and elder. They were selected to be part of the task force that launched Candlewood Community Church in 2006-2007.

In 1999 Oakwood commissioned them as missionaries with Bible Basics International (BBI). They have worked at BBI's headquarters early in their career, doing radio production and various office roles. They also served for a total of nine years at Radio HRGS on the island of Roatán, Honduras. Jerry currently announces and produces [Verse by Verse](#), a radio program that can be heard locally on WTNB, 570 AM. Mildred helps with special projects such as the [STAR Team](#) short term ministry and with BBI's newsletter mailings.

Jerry has been especially excited to help plan and build a new radio station in a largely unreached area of Togo, Africa. This past Valentine's Day, [Hope Radio](#) went on the air when Jerry, with the help of local workers, finished installing the equipment and pushed the button initiating Hope Radio's first broadcast.

### Praises:

Successful launch of Hope Radio.

The privilege of helping with a great expository Bible teaching ministry (Verse by Verse).

A new president at BBI, Steve Best, who is bringing renewed energy and vision for all of us.

### Prayer:

Wisdom in managing our time.

Wisdom in our leadership roles at Candlewood.

Wisdom for Jerry in his radio speaking ministry. Scariest job, ever!

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## Czech Team

### Team Tampa XIX

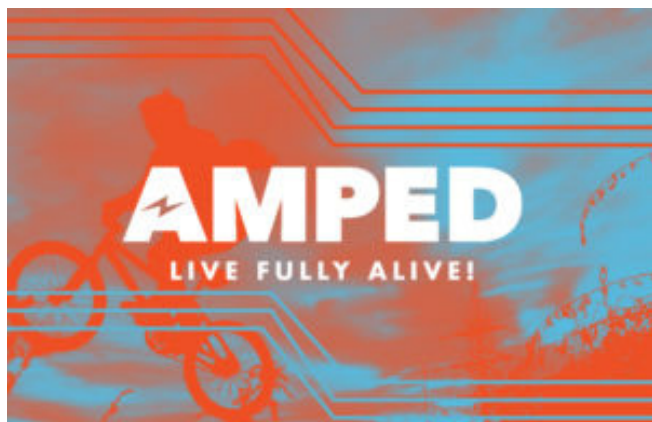
On July 10 La Verne Cluff, Alisa Fowle and Val Brand will be traveling to the Czech Republic to help at the 19<sup>th</sup> English Camp that Oakwood has sponsored in conjunction with our sister church, Brno Evangelical Fellowship. Camp dates are July 15-21. The theme this year is American Culture.

How can you support our team?

1. Pray for the team—Pray for preparations for teaching our classes, for hearts to be ready and for us to make the most of the opportunities God provides.
2. Give a financial gift. On Sunday, May 6, we will collect a special offering during the Worship Service to help the team defray their costs. The trip costs \$2,000 per person. A second offering opportunity will take place in June.



## AMPED—Vacation Bible School 2018



## VBS 2018 is AMPED!

Get your gear on because we are taking life  
to the "xtreme"!

We're not just talking **boards** and **bikes** ...  
we're talking

living like you know God is with you *(The life of Joseph)*

living like God has a plan for you *(The life of Esther)*

living like Jesus is alive *(The life of Jesus)*

living like people matter *(The story of the Early Church)*

living like you're a part of a bigger story *(The life of Paul)*

LIVING FULLY ALIVE!

Entering Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> graders –

Registration is open at the TreeHouse Welcome Desk. You can also call the church  
office (813.969.2303) or signup online through the Oakwood website.

We can't wait for you to join us from 6:30-8:30PM on June 4-8

to learn how God wants us to live FULLY ALIVE

because we can believe that what He says is TRUE!

"I have come so that they may have life.

I want them to have it in the fullest possible way." ~ John 10:10 NIV

Teenagers & adults –

We need your help! If you'd like to volunteer to help with VBS,  
please email Dave Dorsey ([dave@oakwoodfl.org](mailto:dave@oakwoodfl.org)).

## Worship Schedule Change



As we have done in the past, from

**June 3—September 2,**

our Worship Service will be at

**10:00 AM** on Sunday Mornings

No education classes for Children, Youth or Adults at 9:15 AM.

**During June & July**, we will have **Family Worship** with children Kindergarten—5th Grade worshipping with their parents.

There will be nursery care for children birth—23 months old and TreeHouse ministry for two through four year olds during the service.

**In August** we will have our full TreeHouse Ministry available for children two years old—5th Graders during the Worship Service.

Be sure to mark your calendar so you don't miss this change.

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## From Pastor Darin—*continued*

The gospel connects us with the power of God. This is why Paul resolved “to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified” (1 Cor. 2:2). This is why he was not ashamed of the gospel. It shows us the justice of God in allowing forgiven sinners into heaven and the righteousness of God to accomplish this salvation for us in Christ. God presented Jesus as a sacrifice of atonement, “to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus” (Rom. 3:26).

Not only during this sermon series, but for the rest of your life resolve “to know nothing... except Jesus Christ and him crucified.” Center your heart and life on this single glorious truth: “while we were still sinners Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8). This may sound like a narrow definition of ministry but it is the main thing. In fact, it is the only thing. As Tony Stark said to Pepper when he changed his entire business from weapons manufacturing to develop the Iron Man initiative, “***There is nothing except this.*** There’s no art opening, no charity, nothing to sign. There’s the next mission and nothing else... I finally know what I have to do. And I know in my heart that it’s right.”

As much as I enjoy the Avengers, I can’t give a fictitious character the last word in an article about the gospel. The gospel is the central truth of Christianity and is summed up in the person and work of Jesus. This message not only tells us how to get into a right relationship with God, it gives us the power to take the first step into that relationship and every step through this life and right into eternity. Tim Keller sums it up this way in *King’s Cross*:

“Jesus declares not that he has come to reform religion but that he’s here to *end* religion and replace it with himself... Religion.. is fundamentally *advice*... The gospel... begins and ends with *news*... Religions are based on the principle that you relate to God by being good... If I perform, if I obey, I’m accepted. The gospel of Jesus is not only different from that but diametrically opposed to it: I’m fully accepted in Jesus Christ, and therefore I obey” (pp. 37 & 39).



## 35th Anniversary Celebration

What a joy to gather on April 22 to celebrate God's Faithfulness to Oakwood for the past 35 years. Below are some pictures from the event.



Thanks to each person who volunteered to be on one of the many teams preparing for the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration or who stepped in at a moment's notice to help with all of the tasks. Also, thanks for all who attended the event – it was because the Lord has connected you with Oakwood that we had this anniversary to celebrate! As diligently as we prepared for this event may we also be diligently laboring at our ongoing mission to see people transformed by the gospel of Jesus Christ, for the glory of God! As it was well said on Sunday, "To God be the glory, great things he has done!" If you missed the event, you can watch all of the segments at <http://www.oakwoodfl.org/35th-anniversary-celebration/>





## PowerHouse Schedule

May 6—Senior Night

May 13—No Evening Meeting—*Mother's Day*

May 18—Aldi shopping & PowerHouse Fun Night

May 20—Food Bags & Regular Evening Meeting

May 27—Regular Evening Meeting

## Pool Party & Baptism

**Sunday, June 3, 5:00 PM**

**Invite your friends and join us for lots of fun as we celebrate the end of the school year with a Pool Party @ the Bustamante home 9827 Tree Tops Lake Rd, Tampa**



**We will also celebrate with some of our students who will be baptized.**



## 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 & Baptism**

**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, May 20** 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, May 18. Meet at Aldi at **Linebaugh & Sheldon Rd** (note location change) 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 - 9:15 AM

#### Worship:

Sundays—10:30 AM

### Calendar at a Glance



May 6—Blood Mobile @ Oakwood  
Czech Team Offering  
Communion during Worship

May 13—*Mother's Day*  
Deacon Team Meeting  
Oakwood Cares Team Meeting  
Child Dedication during Worship

May 14—Elder Team Meeting  
May 18—PowerHouse Hang Out Night  
May 19—Work Day  
Neighborhood Invitation

May 20—Senior Recognition  
Compassion Offering  
VBS Workers Meeting  
Missions Team Meeting  
PowerHouse Food Bags  
May 21—Elder/Deacon Teams meet  
May 27—Move Up Sunday  
May 28—*Memorial Day* (church office closed)

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

May 20  
June 20

#### For events during...

June 2018  
July 2018

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