



ACORN

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

From Pastor Darin

Community Group-Led Outreach

Our fourth annual **Fall Festival** was a tremendous success with hundreds of kids and families enjoying one of the most beautiful October days ever! We praise God for the amazing team effort from the whole Oakwood family to make this event happen. And what an added blessing to partner with Bahia Vida and also with friends from New Life Church! *Thank you so much for your service, candy donations, prayer and invitation!*

The Fall Festival is a perfect example of an outreach initiative that grew out of a Community Group. Our young adults, led by Luke and Stephanie Piazza, felt led to do something to engage our community in a fun and evangelistic way. So they stepped out in faith to launch this new tradition three years ago. You can watch a powerful testimony of four lives that were changed from that at www.oakwoodfl.org/stories.

We grow in our personal faith when we respond to the Holy Spirit's leading in a specific area of our lives – whether resisting sin or reaching out to someone in love. The same is true in our small groups. We grow as a community when we step out in faith together. This is why short term missions trips can be so catalytic for our growth in Christ. They stretch us beyond our comfort zone and force us to trust God more and move us to serve Him more actively than we typically do.

This is our new strategy for outreach at Oakwood. We are very thankful for the Oakwood Cares team and their vision to help us lovingly engage our community. *Now we have now shifted to decentralize our outreach approach*, seeking to embed an outreach leader into every Community Group. Does your group have a champion for outreach? Is someone consistently raising the question of how your group can step out in faith together? Are you regularly praying for people you know who are far from God?

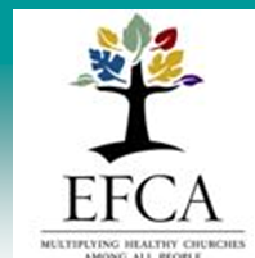
The Bustamante Community Group is leading the charge for **Operation Christmas Child**, with the packing party coming up on November 17. This is open to the whole church (and other friends) but is being led by the Hasebroocks and supported by their Community Group. That is the sort of thing we want to challenge all of our Community Groups to pursue – some kind of outreach approach you can work on together.

- A couple of years ago Arnie and Rebeca's Community Group started leading a worship service once a month at a local nursing home.
- The Dorsey Group includes Nancy Ward who serves on the Board for **Oasis Pregnancy Centers** – so their group is frequently involved with Oasis.

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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Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, November 4. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.



Blood Mobile @ Oakwood

The Blood Mobile will be at Oakwood on Sunday, November 4 from 8:30—11:30AM. 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.



Women's Event

TINKLE AND TWINKLE

Diaper Drive and Ornament Exchange

Saturday, December 1, 7-9 PM TreeHouse Bldg

Bring diapers for the Oasis Pregnancy Care Center AND a wrapped Christmas ornament or decor to exchange.



Naomi's Daughters

The ministry of Naomi's Daughters to single moms will come to a close mid-November. The ladies who have been heading up this ministry are retiring. Many of the children have aged out of the program, leaving only a few families.

We will shift our focus to Oasis Pregnancy Center as they help moms/families with needed items. We will collect new and gently used baby clothing up to size 2, maternity clothing, diapers and baby wipes. These items can be brought to the Church Office and we will get them to the center.

Thanksgiving Holiday

The Church Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 22 & 23 for the Thanksgiving holiday.



Missionary of the Month



Roy and Deborah Garren

We continue to be full-time staff with Navigators Military ROTC Ministry at the University of Florida. I am the Ministry Developer for Florida and Georgia with 35 ROTC Detachments on 25 campuses. I am also on the ROTC National Leadership Team and the Conference Director for an upcoming ROTC Conference. In addition to ministering with me, Deborah has a counseling practice which primarily serves students and Navigator Staff.

Prayer Requests

- For the 6 ongoing studies using "Every Man a Warrior" and "A Woman's Journey of Discipleship"
- For the Navy/Marine Band of Brothers Series...for good and fruitful connections
- For our end of semester ROTC BBQ and Skeet Shoot in mid-December
- For at least 3 new Every Man a Warrior Studies for freshmen and sophomores in January
- For a new women's study beginning in January.
- For IMPACT 2019, an ROTC Conference 15-17 Mar 2019 at Camp Keystone near Stark, FL For great participation and impact; for me as the Conference Director
- For the Navigators ROTC Ministry's growing partnership with CRU Valor ROTC Ministry and Officers' Christian Fellowship ROTC Ministry

Operation Christmas Child

Oakwood is sponsoring Operation Christmas Child (OCC), a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, and we would like you to participate.

The amazing journey of a shoebox gift begins with **you** and results in evangelism, discipleship, and multiplication. Reach people for Jesus all over the world with a simple gift.



- You can join us by picking up a box (or 2) and brochure, filling it with toys, hygiene items and school supplies and bringing it back to Oakwood on or before November 17th.
- Or you can join us for a pizza packing party on **November 17 @ 12:00 PM in the Education Building!** We'll pack boxes for children around the world as we listen to the sounds of Christmas. Invite a friend to this event!
- Make donations of teddy bears, dolls, stuffed animals, soccer balls w/pumps. These items must be no larger than 10 inches long and 3 inches wide to fit into the box!
- Cash donations will be accepted. \$20 sponsors the shipping and items in one box.

- Need more info? Check out the display in the worship center or visit <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Invite a friend, coworker or neighbor to this event!



From Pastor Darin—*continued from Page 1*

- The Johnson Group has a heart for prayer and is helping coordinate a season of prayer for the persecuted church in November.
- The Raynor Group provided breakfast for over 150 evangelists one morning during the Revive Florida campaign.
- The Anderson Community Group includes many people who are handy with tools, so we did some painting and yard work for a local widow last month through Somebody Cares Tampa Bay's Annual **CareFest**.

How is the Lord leading you to reach out? How is He calling you to step out in faith this week?

*"From one man he made all the people of the world. Now they live all over the earth. He decided **exactly when** they should live. And he decided **exactly where** they should live. **God did this so that people would seek him.**" Acts 17:26-27 (NirV)*



God has determined our times and places so the people around us would seek after Him. **You have been positioned on purpose to be salt and light for Jesus.** We are ambassadors for Christ and God is making His appeal through us. Let's "stir up one another to love and good deeds" (Heb. 10:24-25). Let's celebrate the work God is doing as we follow the Spirit's leading. And let's pray for a season of harvest as we boldly sow the seed of the Gospel!

Pastor Darin



PowerHouse Schedule

Nov 4—PowerHouse Fall Festival
Nov 9—Food Bag shopping & PH Fun Night
Nov 11—Food Bags & Regular Evening Meeting
Nov 18—Regular Evening Meeting
Nov 25—Thanksgiving weekend—No Youth Group

PowerHouse Fall Festival



**Get ready for a fun evening on
November 4
as we once again host the
PowerHouse Fall Festival.**



Winter Retreat

November 30-December 2—Winter Retreat. Pick up your registration form in PowerHouse. Registration deadline is November 4

Food Bag Ministry

Our PowerHouse students have a monthly fundraiser assembling food bags that are distributed to medical clinics in Tampa, New Port Richey 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, November 11** 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, November 9. **Meet at Save-A-Lot at Waters Ave & Hanley 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](#)
Worship Ministry Intern—[Marcos Lopez](#)
Director of PowerHouse Ministry—Cam Whipple
Office Manager—[Martha Dorsey](#)
Secretary—[Kailey Treadway](#)
Facility Manager—[Sam Tison](#)

Our Elder Team

Darin Anderson
Mark Beale
Edson Bustamante
John Schneider
Rob Weyand

Our Deacon Team

David Conner
Dave DePachter
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

Worship

Sundays—9:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Education Classes both hours

Calendar at a Glance



Nov 4—Daylight Saving Time Begins
Blood Mobile @ Oakwood
Communion during Worship
PH Fall Festival
Nov 9—PH Food Shopping & Fun Night
Nov 11—Deacon Team Meeting
PH Food Bag Ministry
Nov 12—Elder Team Meeting

Nov 17—Operation Christmas Child packing party
Nov 18—Compassion Offering
Missions Team Meeting
Nov 19—Elder & Deacon Teams meet
Nov 22—Thanksgiving Day
Nov 22-23—Church Office closed
Nov 25—No PowerHouse Meeting
Nov 26—Elder Team Meeting
Nov 30—Dec 2—PowerHouse Winter Retreat

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. Article deadlines and publication schedule is:

Deadline

November 20
December 15

For events during...

December 2018
January 2019

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