



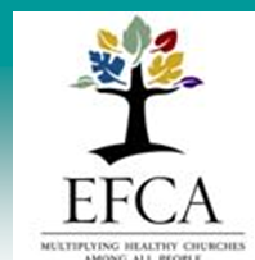
ACORN

Oakwood Community Church
11209 Casey Rd
Tampa FL 33618-5306
813.969.2303
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

Open the Bible!

We have started a one year journey through the whole Bible. “The Bible is one story. It begins in a garden and ends in a city and all the way through it is about Jesus Christ.” Pastor Colin Smith of the Orchard Church in Chicago will be our guide on this journey. Please take advantage of the resources his church has provided at www.openthebible.org. You’ll find the 50 words that summarize the most prominent themes in Scripture, along with key Scripture passages and teaching for each. Plus you can find five questions every week for discussion in your small group, your home or with a friend.

If you visit www.oakwoodfl.org/open you’ll see a personal challenge from Pastor Colin to open the Bible *with someone* this year. It might be a family member, a friend, a co-worker or neighbor. You could invite them to church to experience the series or just start a conversation about the most published book of all time.

The best way to experience Open will be in a **Community Group**. There are lots of groups meeting at various times and places. Just visit the church website and click Ministries, then Community Groups and you’ll find a current list of options. Contact one of the leaders and they will happily give you information on their next group meeting with a warm invitation to visit. As an optional supplement you could read through the whole Bible in 2019. Many of us are using the Taylor University One Year Bible plan available in the YouVersion Bible App. Find the link to our group at www.oakwoodfl.org/open.



The Bible is a rich composition of 66 books written by 40 authors over 1,500 years – yet the stories and themes fit together like a beautiful tapestry. Come with us on this journey to more fully appreciate the unified storyline of Scripture and how Jesus is the main character and central theme from beginning to end!

Pastor Darin

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Work Day

Saturday, January 12
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 or plan to attend, please contact Dave Fowle at davidfowle1@gmail.com.

Women's News

Just for Joy Bible Study resumes on Wednesday, January 9, 10:15—11:45 AM in the Oakwood Library. Our study will *OPEN—a one-year journey through the Bible*—which will coincide with Pastor Darin's message series.

The Wednesday evening women's Bible Study group will resume on January 16, 5:30—7:00 PM in the Oakwood Library. Our study will *OPEN—a one-year journey through the Bible*—which will coincide with Pastor Darin's message series.

Chicken Salad Chick—January 26

Women's Ministry invites all chicks to Chicken Salad Chick (2790 E. Fowler Ave) on Saturday, January 26 at 5:30pm for dinner and fellowship. Bring a chick friend along for extra fun!



Thanks...

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

Thank you to all who helped with decorating (and undecorating) our Worship Center for the Advent/Christmas season.



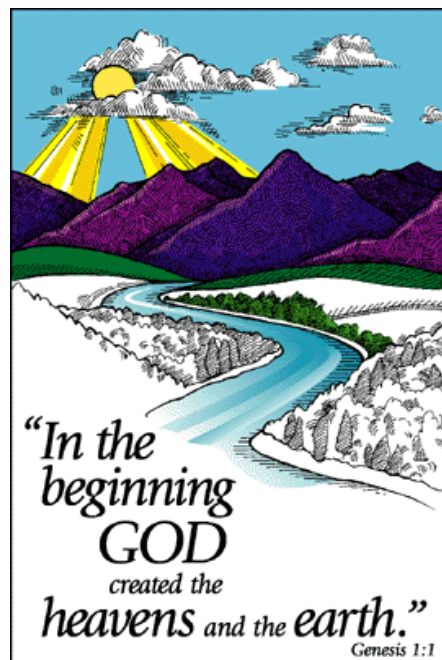
Oasis Pregnancy Center

Oasis Pregnancy Center is having their annual *Clay Shoot For Life* fundraiser on Saturday, January 19 at Tampa Bay Sporting Clays in Land O Lakes. [Register here](#) to join the fun and support life.



Also...

We are collecting items for 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.



2019 Message Series—*Open*

OPEN

a one-year *journey* through the Bible

As Pastor Darin indicated in his article, there are a number of resources available during this series to enhance our journey through the Bible. To take advantage of the resources that The Orchard has provided, go to www.openthebible.org. You can also hear a short audio lesson from Pastor Colin Smith and some additional insights under the “Teaching” tab each week on this site.

Below is a glimpse of our journey through the month of January.

Week 1—Life

God wants you to know that He is the Owner of all things, including you. God also wants you to know that He has made you in His image and that for this reason you have unique dignity and worth.

At the beginning of human history, God made it possible for our first parents to know Him and enjoy Him. He brought the man and his wife together. He led them to their home and gave them their work. He provided all that they needed and shared in their life. What God did for them, He continues to do for all His people. The only difference is that we don’t see Him do it. We walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7).

Week 2—Curse

We can only begin to make sense of our world when we understand that we live with the knowledge of evil and are excluded from the presence of God. But God has not abandoned us. He sent His Son into our ongoing battle with evil. Through His death on the cross, He broke the power of the enemy and opened a new and living way into the presence and blessing of God.

Week 3—Salvation

Imagine yourself at a theater for the first performance of a new play. The curtain goes up, but the stage is empty. Then the author walks out and introduces himself to the audience, telling you who he is, why he wrote the play, and what it is about. The author does not present an argument for his own existence, he simply introduces himself and begins to speak about his work.

Week 4—Judgement

God divided mankind into different linguistic groups in order to put a brake on man’s growing rebellion. The brake has been remarkably effective. Throughout human history there have been multiple attempts to bring the nations together, but any success has always been limited and short-lived.

But God is bringing people from all nations together through Jesus Christ. In heaven all the barriers that have divided people throughout history—race, class, and language—will be completely removed, and God calls His people to begin expressing that unity now in His church.

Oakwood Mill Classes



The Oakwood Mill is the Adult Education ministry of Oakwood Community Church. Two classes will be held during the 9:00 AM Worship Service and two classes will be held during the 10:30 AM Worship Service.

Following is information on what classes will be offered. [Click here](#) for more detailed class information or pick up an Oakwood Mill flier at the Information Desk in the Worship Center lobby.

9:00 classes

Unlocking The Bible—Oakwood Elders will rotate leading this class
This class will meet in Room 102/104 (Library)

Bible Journaling—led by Katie Frost
This class will meet in Room 106

Full TreeHouse Ministry

10:30 classes

Reason for God—taught by Andrew Hasebroock
This class will meet in Room 102/104 (Library)

Unlocking the Bible—taught by Guy Sas
This class will meet in Room 106

Full TreeHouse Ministry

Middle School class meets in the Education Building Room 103

A *Discovering Oakwood* membership exploration class will be held in the spring. Watch for details.

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

Jan 6—Regular Evening Meeting
Jan 11—Food Bag Shopping & Hang Out Night
Jan 13—Food Bags & Regular Evening Meeting
Jan 20—Regular Evening Meeting
Jan 27—Regular Evening Meeting

Youth Missions Trip

Where: Haiti
When: July 6-13, 2019
Who: 6th—12th Grade students
Why: We will work with Greg & Maria Shepherd of RTS Missions to lead a VBS and serve the children in Lascahobas and surrounding villages. We will learn about missions and consider God's work through us for His mission.
Cost: \$1,100

Registration Form & First Deposit due January 6

Questions: Contact Cam Whipple at 813.265.9895



Maria, Caleb & Greg Shepherd

An informational brochure/registration form is available in PowerHouse with more details on the trip. We are raising funds for this trip through the monthly Food Bag Ministry (see details below). **The time to register is now!**

For info on RTS Missions visit their website at: www.rtsmissions.com

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, January 13** 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, January 11. **Meet at Save-A-Lot at Waters Ave & Hanley Rd** 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 Wyatt](#)
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



Jan 6—Two Services resume
New Oakwood Mill classes begin
Blood Pressure check following Worship
Jan 7—Elder Team Meeting
Jan 8—Just For Joy Bible Study resumes
Jan 11—PowerHouse Food Shopping & Fun Night
Jan 12—Work Day
Jan 13—PH Food Bag Ministry
TH Parent's Lunch/Meeting

Jan 14—Deacon Team Meeting
Jan 15—College Discipleship class resumes
Jan 16—Women's afternoon Bible Study resumes
Jan 20—Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
Compassion Offering
Missions Team Meeting
Jan 21—Elder/Deacon Teams meet
Jan 26—Women's Social @ Chicken Salad Chick

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

January 20
February 20

For events during...

February 2019
March 2019

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