



# ACORN

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

## From Pastor Darin

### What's Your Bullseye?

*"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10*

As we process our Missions Conference and consider how the Lord wants to use us both locally and globally, let's believe the truth of Ephesians 2:10. God has created each of us with a unique calling. If you think of God's will for your life as a bullseye, the center of the target involves PEOPLE and the next ring involves PRO-JECTS.

***Our primary purpose in life is to make a difference in the lives of people.*** If you are married, your top priority is your spouse. If you have children, they are the center of your target. Jesus clearly commissioned all of his followers to "make disciples of all nations," (Matt. 28:19-20) so this is our first calling – to reach people with the gospel and help them become fully devoted followers of Jesus.



*"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 NIV*

Each of us has been positioned by God so that specific people will have the opportunity to hear the gospel. ***Are we hitting the bullseye by reaching those closest to us with the good news of Jesus?***

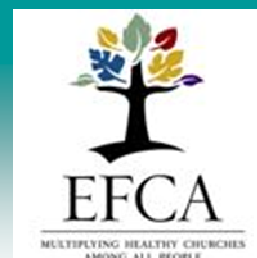
The next ring involves projects – specific work God has designed us and called us to do. We are to be both salt and light – not just speaking the truth of the gospel but bringing the love of Jesus into the world in practical ways. This ring involves ***your vocation*** – the line of work God lined up for you in a career path. And it also involves ***your volunteering*** – the extra tasks and programs you are gifted and equipped to engage in.

To say it another way, the center of the bullseye involves sharing the ***Good News*** and the next ring involves performing ***Good Deeds***. These two callings will often go hand in hand as "good deeds create good will so people can hear the good news" (Eric Swanson).

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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## 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 19. Pictures are due in to Doug Cress no later than May 5. 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 26 for all children of Tree-House. 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 26.

## Blood Mobile @ Oakwood



The Blood Mobile will be at Oakwood on Sunday, May 5 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM. 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.

## Financial Update

Oakwood 2018-19 Financial Update through March		
	Actual	Budget
YTD Offerings Received	407,177	
YTD Expenses	400,495	393,561
Offerings Over/(Under) Exp	6,682	13,616

## Women’s Studies

**Just for Joy** Bible Study meets on Tuesdays, 10:15—11:45 AM in the Oakwood Library. Our study is *OPEN—a one-year journey through the Bible*—which coincides with Pastor Darin’s message series. The last day for this study is May 14. They will resume in the fall.

**The Wednesday evening women’s Bible Study group** meets from 5:30—7:00 PM in the Oakwood Library. Our study is *OPEN—a one-year journey through the Bible*—which coincides with Pastor Darin’s message series.

## Oasis Pregnancy Center

### Baby Bottles of Love



During April/May, we will be supporting Oasis Pregnancy Center by filling baby bottles with loose change. Pick up your bottle in the lobby. Please return them to Oakwood by May 12 (Mother’s Day).

Your change can make a difference for a mom and a child. All proceeds will directly benefit women visiting Oasis Pregnancy Center.

Oasis is supported through the Missions giving at Oakwood and ministers to women who are pregnant and in difficult life situations.

## Memorial Day



The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 27, in honor of Memorial Day - commemorating the men and women who have given their lives in service to our country.

## Oakwood Mill



In addition to our ongoing Adult Education classes at 9:00 & 10:30 AM, Oakwood Mill is offering the following two additional classes for the month of May.

## Discovering Oakwood

If you are new to Oakwood and want to learn more about our history, vision and strategy, please email [office@oakwoodfl.org](mailto:office@oakwoodfl.org) to sign up for our upcoming membership class! This four session interactive class will be offered on Sunday mornings starting May 5 at 9:00 AM in the Education Building. It is a great opportunity to connect with others who are new to Oakwood while hearing from our elders about our gospel-centered approach to life transformation and our vision to reach Tampa for the glory of Jesus.

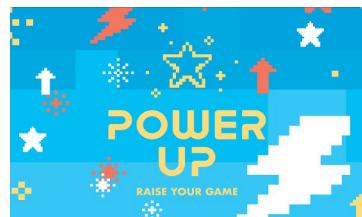
## Every Day Matters

Every Day Matters is a 4-week series designed to help us have purposeful conversations, encourage us with real life stories, and challenge us to take action steps each day to enable God to grow us and use us to advance His kingdom.

This class will meet at 10:30 AM and will be led by Andrew Hasebrook.

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## Vacation Bible School



We can't wait for you to join us from 6:30—8:30 PM on June 3-7 to learn how God wants us to POWER UP because what God is doing in you to change the world around you is GREAT!

Register at the TreeHouse Welcome Desk or by [clicking here](#).

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## Worship Schedule Change



As we have done in the past, from

**June 2—September 1,**

**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 five 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.

## 2019 Message Series—*Open*

# OPEN

a one-year *journey* through the Bible

As Pastor Darin continues his message series and our journey through the Bible in 2019, remember that there are a number of resources available to enhance your journey. To take advantage of the resources that The Orchard has provided, go to [www.openthebible.org](http://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 March.

### **Week 17**

**Sin**—God calls us to godliness and righteousness. We are to love God with our whole heart and we are to love our neighbors as ourselves. Morality cannot be sustained when we lose the knowledge of God. But when we come to Jesus Christ, He will reconcile us to the Father and lead us in paths of righteousness.

### **Week 18**

**Righteousness**—Righteousness cannot be imposed by parents, churches, or governments because it must flow from the heart. Of course, good laws are better than bad ones, and they have great value in restraining evil. Good laws backed up by appropriate penalties will usually bring some modification of behavior. But the law cannot bring a change of heart, and that is why attempts to impose religion always fail.

God’s purpose is not to impose an outward conformity to His law. It is to cultivate an inward desire for righteousness. This is the promise of the new covenant and the work of the Holy Spirit. It involves changing our hearts to give us a new hunger for righteousness, and a new ability to pursue a life that is pleasing to God.

### **Week 19**

**Joy**—Scripture has the power to change a human life and reshape an entire community. When God’s Word is taught, God’s voice is heard. The Bible read and applied will expose our sins and reveal God’s grace. When this leads to repentance and obedience, you will experience great joy.

### **Week 20**

**Holiness**—God is holy, holy, holy. His holiness is foundational to His character. In Isaiah’s day thousands of people crowded into the temple, but they had no experience of the God they claimed to worship. Eventually this kind of worship becomes boring. But if you think God is boring, you have never encountered the God of the Bible.

Sin is an offense against a holy God, and an atonement is needed, because without it sinners would be ruined in His presence. The good news of the gospel is that Jesus, God’s Son, satisfied the judgment of a holy God, by becoming the sacrifice that atoned for all our sins.

Christians desperately need to rediscover the awesome holiness of God. Then, like Isaiah, we will begin to appreciate the wonder of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ, and we will feel that our greatest privilege in life is to serve this awesome, glorious, holy God.



## PowerHouse Schedule

May 5—Regular Evening Meeting  
May 12—No Meeting—*Mother's Day*  
May 17—Food Bag Shopping & PowerHouse Fun Night  
May 19—Food Bag Ministry & Outreach Party—Senior Choice  
May 26—Regular Evening Meeting

## 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, May 19** 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 17. **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.

## Student Summer Trip

Our Middle and High School students will head to New Orleans this July for a Missions Ministry trip with NOLA:Fusion, sponsored by Urban Impact Ministries. Below is information on what they will be doing during their week of ministry:

### **NOLA:Fusion**

**Defined: merging of diverse, distinct, or separate elements into a unified whole**

Fusion is our mission ministry that hosts teams every June and July.

One of the largest aspects of **NOLA:Fusion** is the Relational Ministry students will do in our neighborhood. After training, it's hands on time. Through service at Day Camp, Recreation Outreach and Challenge Circle, we concentrate on teaching you how to communicate your faith. You are given opportunity after opportunity to share your faith as we minister alongside local missionaries, pastors, church member, and indigenous leaders.





## Praise & Prayer Event



The Church family is invited to a *Praise & Prayer* event

Friday, May 31—7:00—8:30 PM

Watch for more details

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## From Pastor Darin—continued

***How can you hit the bullseye this year?*** Pray about this in your small group and you may be surprised to find that others have a similar calling and you can multiply your impact by serving and reaching out ***together!***

At the center of your bullseye are your ***family relationships***. Start with your immediate family and then consider the members of your extended family. That is the inner circle of your target.

The next ring includes your ***neighbors and the nations***. All of us are called to love and reach out to the people closest to us in terms of where we live, work and play. And we have been sent to make disciples of all nations – so all Christians share the responsibility to support the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth. For some this means relocating to a place that needs a greater gospel witness. ***For all of us it means intentional prayer, sacrificial giving and compassionate outreach where we are.***

“Whatever you do, do it well for the glory of God, and do it some place strategic for the kingdom.” J.D. Greear, *Gaining by Losing*

Increasingly it is not traditional missionaries that are most needed to bring the gospel to the remaining unreached people groups, as these areas tend to be closed to overt religious influence. So the most useful gospel workers who can enter these otherwise closed countries are business people who can ply their trade in places like the Middle East or southeast Asia, seeking to share Christ with their new associates, neighbors and friends.

People should be our top priority. Projects will often supplement our relational outreach. ***Good deeds can pave the way for the good news.*** The work God has prepared for each of us to do involves both our vocational path and our volunteer efforts. If God has gifted you in business, make as much money as you can to give away as much as you can. If God has made you a “people person,” leverage your relationships for kingdom impact. If God has given you a sharp mind, use it to share your knowledge with others. If God designed you to work with your hands, devote yourself to works of service to touch the lives of people.

“Now go find your team. Get to work. Whatever that work is that you find worth doing. Do it, and find some people to love who’ll do it with you.” Leslie Knope, *Parks and Rec*

Leslie is on to something, only missing that key piece of divine design and direction. Find the work God has uniquely created you to accomplish and link arms with some brothers and sisters in the church so you can serve and reach out together! ***God has always used ordinary people to ignite the most extraordinary movements.*** What is He calling you to do?



***How can you hit the bullseye this year?*** Pray about this in your small group and you may be surprised to find that others have a similar calling and you can multiply your impact by serving and reaching out ***together!***

At the center of your bullseye are your ***family relationships***. Start with your immediate family and then consider the members of your extended family. That is the inner circle of your target.

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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



## MAY

May 5—Blood Mobile @ Oakwood  
    *Discovering Oakwood* class begins  
    *Every Day Matters* class begins  
May 6—Elder Team Meeting  
May 12—*Mother's Day*  
May 13—Deacon Team Meeting  
May 17—PowerHouse Food Shopping & Fun Night

May 19—Graduate Recognition  
    Compassion Offering  
    Missions Team Meeting  
    PH Food Bag Ministry  
May 20—Elder/Deacon Teams meet  
May 26—TreeHouse Move UP Sunday  
May 27—Memorial Day—Office closed  
May 31—Praise & Prayer Event

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	For events during...
May 20	June 2019
June 20	July 2019

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