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E.G. White Research Center
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Oakwood College Offering August 11

Oakwood College, five miles northwest of Huntsville, Alabama, is one of three institutions that has as its constituency the entire membership of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the United States. (Loma Linda University and Andrews University are the other two in some of their schools.) Oakwood is an accredited institution of the Southern Association of Colleges and is approved by the Seventh-day Adventist Board of Regents.

The college is authorized by the State of Alabama to confer appropriate degrees and honors upon its graduates. It grants degrees of Bachelor of Arts or Science and diplomas as Associates in Arts or Science in some terminal courses. There are approximately 63 full-time faculty members, 21 of whom have doctoral degrees, and nine of whom are in advance study toward doctoral degrees. There are 29 with Master's degrees and four with Bachelor's degrees. Of the school's 29 part-time faculty members, three have doctoral degrees.

The Oakwood College property consists of 1,185 acres. The main campus comprises 105 acres. During the 1978-1979 school year the student enrollment was approximately 1,250.

Oakwood's steadily increasing enrollment requires increased budgets to accommodate new construction, expansion, renovation, and continuing qualitative academic growth. The needs at this expanding, growing college are a tremendous challenge.

Ground has been broken for the first science building to be erected on the campus. Because of inflationary times it will cost more than \$2 million. This new facility will provide for general science, physics, biology, nursing services, home economics, and other related sciences.

Because of the staggering cost of building, the administration of Oakwood has sought aid from philanthropic organizations. I am happy to report that the college has received from the Kresge Foundation a challenge grant of \$200,000. The receipt of this money is based upon Oakwood's receiving from its constituency, its alumni, and its friends an equal amount. The faculty, student body, alumni association, Regional conferences, and friends of Oakwood have pledged more than \$100,000 of this amount. We appeal to our constituency to aid us in raising the balance of this matching grant and also to continue liberal support for operation and expansion at the college.

On behalf of Oakwood College, let me express to you our appreciation for your loyalty and support over the years. I am positive that 1979 will be no exception and that this year's offering, to be taken August 11 in the churches in North America, will be larger than in any previous year, because our needs are greater this year than ever before.

The science building must also be equipped with laboratory materials, instruments, and other items, which will cost several hundred thousand dollars more. To meet the frightening, staggering cost of growth and expansion, the administration of Oakwood is also contacting other philanthropic organizations, and we are hopeful that we will receive positive responses from our requests. We believe that other organizations besides the Kresge Foundation will come to the aid of our college. If this help is forthcoming it will enable us to build a much needed women's dormitory and additional industrial facilities, to upgrade our library, provide recreational facilities, and alleviate the long lines and crowded conditions in the cafeteria.



Oakwood College's J. L. Moran Hall now is used for classes but is familiar to alumni as the former administration building.

While we mention these needs we are not unmindful of, and are very grateful for, what our constituency and church have done in making possible our church-religion-education complex, the new library, and the new industrial building utilized by Harris Pine Mills. Our campus is beautiful, and we urge church members to take time while traveling to visit the college.

As the August 11 offering approaches, the college appeals to its constituency to help meet the school's expanding needs for buildings and operation during these critical days of tremendously accelerating costs. Let us never forget that the students who attend Oakwood College come from homes whose income averages only about \$8,000 per year. Thank you for what you have done, and Thank you for what you will do in the offering August 11.

"The workers in the school at Huntsville are to have our tender sympathy and our practical aid. Do not let them suffer for lack of facilities, for they are trying to educate our colored people. This school is in positive need of our care and our donations. . . .

"The Lord has instructed me that those who are now carrying on work among the colored people can not remain in the field in a bare-handed condition, and do the work that is required. It will be necessary for them to receive help. The Lord has been calling upon His people in the stronger conferences of the North, the East, and the West to sustain the Huntsville school by liberal gifts. We pray that He will put it into their hearts to respond nobly."—Ellen G. White, *The Huntsville School*, pp. 14-16.

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