

## CHURCH PROFILE

CHURCH OF REFERENCE: OPEN BIBLE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTH  
MIAMI, INC. (OBCC)

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## **CHURCH AND COMMUNITY**

The Open Bible Community Church of North Miami, Inc. (OBCC), was pioneered by Rev. Albert Guthrie, starting in his home in late 1979.

The property at the present location was purchased in 1983 with a small 3000 sq. ft. building, but this soon became inadequate, therefore in 1998 a larger sanctuary was constructed on the immediate site to facilitate the growing congregation.

Shortly thereafter additional contiguous properties including two residential homes and two vacant lots became available and were purchased.

The property consists of four buildings: two residential homes; the main sanctuary with a seating capacity of 250-350, including an overflow to the rear of the sanctuary; plus the original 3,000 sq. ft. building. Total square footage of the present sanctuary is approximately 7,000 sq. ft. The smaller building is currently used as a multi-purpose facility for the children's ministry, youth services, social and community activities.

The majority of the parking spaces are to the west of the buildings, plus plenty of off street parking.

The church also owns additional properties in Lehigh Acres, which is about 2 hours drive from Miami, where a daughter church was established in 2006; Word of Life Open Bible Church, Inc.

OBCC is located in the northern area of Miami, in Miami-Dade County, in the small community of Westview. It is bounded by Miami Beach to the east, Hialeah on the west, Opa Locka on the north and Liberty City on the south. The church is about 20 minutes drive to downtown Miami and also the Miami International Airport.

There is easy access from the church to Interstates 75, 95, 826, 836 and the Florida Turnpike.

The church is organized and affiliated with our parent body, Open Bible Churches, Inc., an International Organization with established churches and missionary outreaches in forty five countries.

The immediate community is a mixture of businesses, apartment buildings, housing mostly elderly residents and some residential homes.

## **DEMOGRAPHICS**

The larger Miami population is 417,650. The population of Miami-Dade County is 2,496,435.

The population of the Westview community where the church is located is estimated at 18,609. The median age of the community is 35 and the median income is \$33,619.

The community has approximately 29% Hispanic, 66% African American, and 2% Caucasian, about 3% other. However, the demographics are changing at a fairly aggressive rate.

## **CONGREGATION**

The Church is currently being pastored by its founder, Rev. Albert Guthrie, who is retiring and is seeking a replacement for himself, having been the pastor from its inception.

The present congregation is multi-cultural, having a mixture of several cultures; the largest of these are Jamaican or of Jamaican descent.

Miami is a very diverse city resulting in about 10 cultures represented in our congregation.

To celebrate these cultures, we have an annual cultural event where the various cultures are highlighted, along with their flags, costumes and national dishes. This is quite an enjoyable event.

Our worship style is contemporary and up tempo. The people enjoy a good worship service, therefore our worship on Sunday mornings is 20 - 30 minutes. The congregation also enjoys a Spirit filled delivery of the Word.

Attendance on Sunday mornings is between 120-130. However due to the work environment, several of our adherents are unable to attend on a regular basis.

**PASTOR**

The median age of the demographics in the community where the church is located is thirty five. We are therefore trusting the Lord for a Spirit filled senior pastor that can assimilate with the demographics; someone that is community oriented, with a heart for the lost, who has a tried and proven record as a good administrator, a good planner, a visionary, with the ability to work with the governing board, able to delegate and hold individuals accountable, to teach and preach the word of God and to build up a spiritual congregation.

Ideally, the candidate chosen for this position should have been a Senior Pastor or an Assistant Pastor for at least five years. The church board is prepared to consider a full time pastor or a semi-vocational pastor.

**PREFERABLE GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF APPLICANTS**

We are seeking qualified applicants that currently reside in the domestic United States. Additionally all applicants must have legal residency status to work in the United States.

Candidates will be initially interviewed by the Church board and the outgoing pastor. The candidate that most closely meet our requirements and approved, will be required to minister to the congregation during a Sunday morning service and will be presented to the congregation for their vote of approval thereafter. Individuals not currently credentialed by the Open Bible Churches, Inc., will be required to undergo several levels of approval.

**FINANCIAL PACKAGE**

The compensation package will be negotiable, however, since the church is located in a low income area, the package will be moderate. The church has experienced quite a decline in income since the economic downturn in 2008-2009 and the migration of people to other communities.

The compensation package will naturally be revised over time by the governing board, based upon growth in membership and income.

**EDUCATION**

The applicants must meet the educational requirements of Open Bible Churches, Inc. Open Bible Churches, Inc., is a Full Gospel, Pentecostal Organization that believes the entire Bible, to include all the gifts of the Spirit.

**RESPONDENTS**

All respondent candidates should include with their applications (resume') a sample DVD copy of their preaching and worship style along with at least five references and an optional family photograph. All applicants will be required to have access to Skype for preliminary interviews.

Applications are to be sent to the following persons:

Rev. Karl Francis Southeast District Director Open Bible Churches, Southeast 8900 Stirling Road Cooper City, Fl. 33024	Copy to: Dr. Jim Beaird Regional Executive Director Open Bible Churches, Inc. 1432 Bloomingdale Ave. Valrico, Fl. 33594
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