

May 2022

# Together

AT DAWSON

2022  
ECUADOR  
MISSION TRIP

ISRAEL

A MOTHER / DAUGHTER  
JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

KidLife Preview

Senior Class of 2022

Not Your Grandma's Bible Drill

meet  
DAWSON'S  
NEWEST  
PRAYER  
WARRIORS

TLC  
Turns  
**5**

# Life's Better Together

There's a Life Group for you!

PRESCHOOL  
KIDS  
STUDENTS  
COLLEGE  
YOUNG ADULTS  
ADULTS  
SENIOR ADULTS

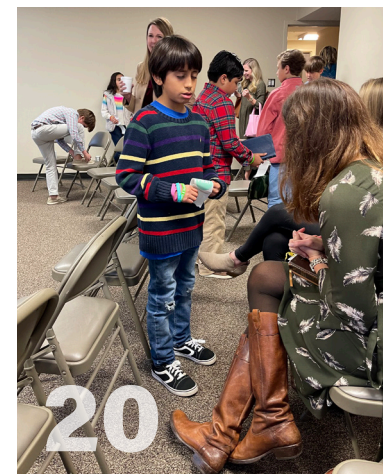
[dawsonchurch.org/lifegroups](http://dawsonchurch.org/lifegroups)

# Together

AT DAWSON

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[dawsonchurch.org/AfterThoughts](http://dawsonchurch.org/AfterThoughts)

WATCH LIVE  
[live.dawsonchurch.org](http://live.dawsonchurch.org)



### JOIN US

Sunday Morning Worship:  
8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Hispanic Worship: 11:00 a.m., Chapel

From



Dr. David Eldridge  
Senior Pastor

Pastor David

By the time you receive this edition of the *Together at Dawson* magazine, the school year will be coming to a close and summer break is right around the corner. This is always an exciting time for many families (mine included). It can also be a hectic time when you begin to realize just how busy these next two months will be with all of those activities you signed up for months ago.

At Dawson, summer is an exciting time of ministry and a great opportunity for all of us to celebrate how God is at work in and through our church. In just a few weeks, our campus will welcome over a thousand preschoolers and children for one of most exciting weeks of the year at Dawson—KidLife Week. Led by our amazing Dawson preschool and children's ministry staff members and a small army of volunteers, the days will be filled with learning about God's love for us through great songs, games, skits, and a whole lot of fun.

KidLife is a perfect opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors to bring their preschoolers and children to join us. Please read the article in this edition to find out more about KidLife and how you can be a part of this great week at Dawson.

While we look ahead to an exciting summer of camps and mission trips for our church, this edition of the *Together at Dawson* will also give us glimpses of God at work all around by highlighting the stories of Life Groups at Dawson, recent Mission Trips, Bible Drill participants, the accomplishments of a new Eagle Scout, and our Senior Class of 2022.

As you read this edition of the *Together at Dawson* magazine may you be both encouraged by God's faithfulness and challenged to join Him in His work to draw all people to His saving love. May God find us faithful.

Blessings,

Pastor David

# Life Groups Stories

By Liz Cuenin

In a church the size of Dawson, it can be easy to get lost in the crowd. God has made us for community, and having a core group to belong to is vitally important. Life Groups at Dawson are the best way to find that core group. There are three Adult Life Groups made up entirely of women.



One of these groups is the Johnson/ Webb Life Group led by Marilyn Johnson and Paula Webb. Upon a casual glance at the class, you would see women of various ages who are married, never married, divorced, or widowed. You would see women who work, women who don't, women with children, and women who love their pets like family. The reasons that these ladies have chosen this Life Group are as varied as are they. But all that variety is circled around and bonded through their faith in Jesus Christ.

Marilyn Johnson remembers meeting the class for the first time last summer: "They had been a group for some time, and one of the first things I noticed was how they truly were a community. While they loved and supported each other well, they also immediately embraced me as if I had been with them for years. Since then, I have watched as they warmly welcome new people into their already established fellowship."

Marilyn loves how these women truly enjoy deep Bible study. She believes that the combination of their different ages and life stages only adds to the richness in application and perspective.

Prayer is also very important to them. Being an all-women group affords the opportunity for sharing some needs that might not be shared in a co-ed group. These ladies enjoy being around each other and consider themselves friends. An added benefit of the fellowship was shared through these words: "It is a joy to have friends who pray sincerely for each other and who rely upon the Holy Spirit's wisdom to mentor and encourage one another."



Stacia Gaines and Lorna Reeves have the privilege of leading the Gaines/Reeves women's Life Group. Lorna explains that if her Life Group had a theme Scripture, it would be 2 Corinthians 1:3-4: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God." Their class is also filled with women of various ages and walks of life (married, divorced, widowed, and never married), and they have seen God's faithfulness in these verses.

Recently, a woman in the throes of a divorce visited their group. It was the first time her ex-husband had their child for a visit, and she knew she needed to be at church instead of at home worrying. Providentially, of the eight class members in attendance that Sunday, six had gone through divorces, and at least two were under circumstances similar to the visitor's. Lorna shared, "It was so beautiful to see how the ladies all rallied around her.

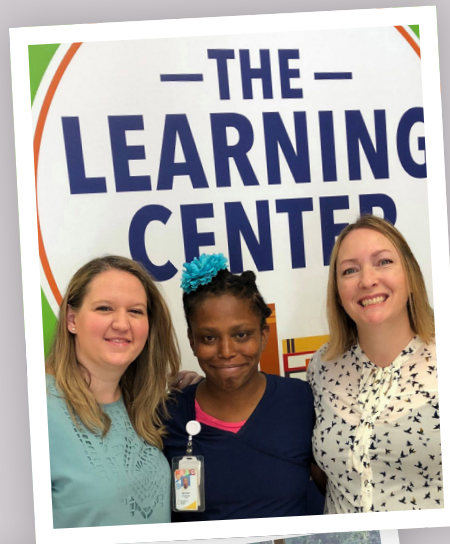
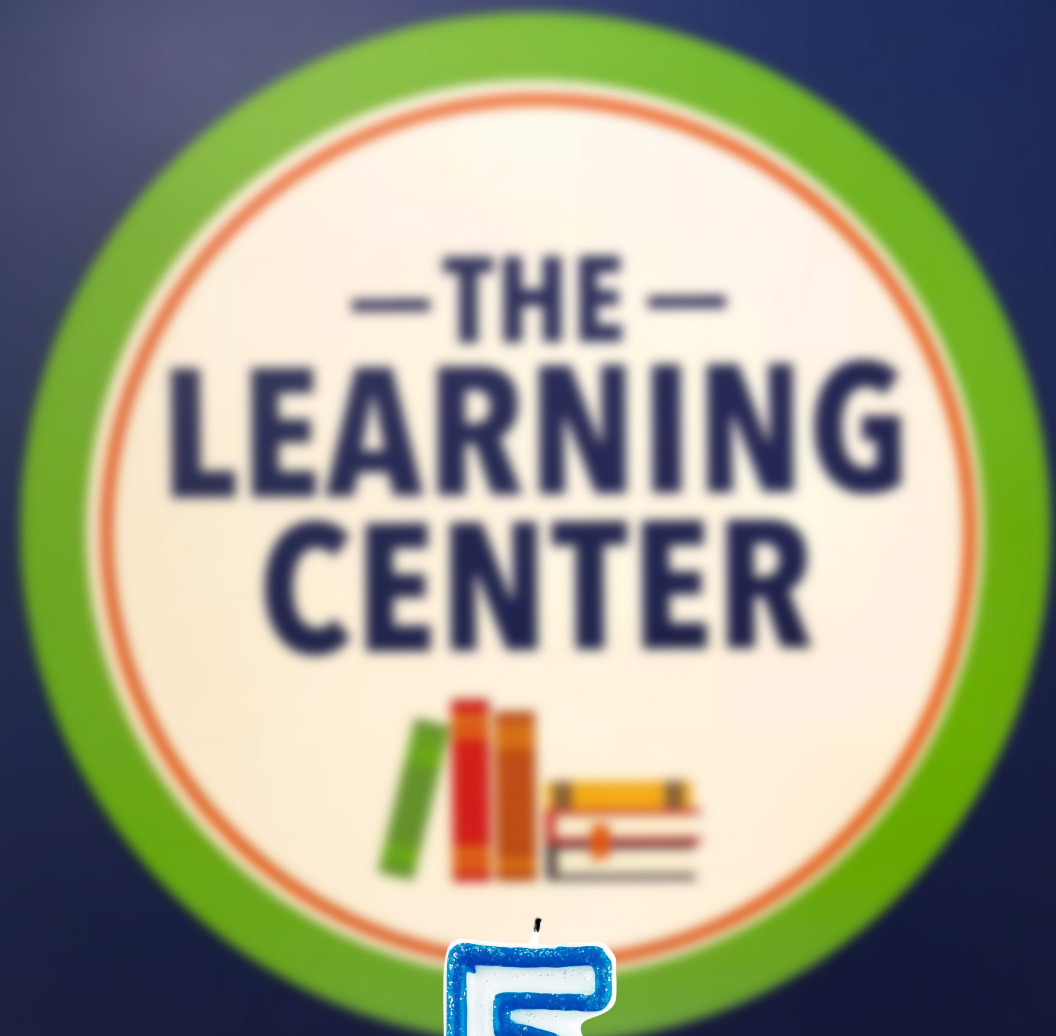
Our class was a safe place where she could share her story and be prayed for, supported, and encouraged." On any given Sunday, the comfort these ladies may share with one another might include the difficulties of aging parents, the death of a loved one, or their own health challenges. And Lorna explains, "Invariably, God reminds us that He is writing our stories so we can be conduits of His comfort."



The Cuenin/Hagen/Orso Life Group is the third women's group at Dawson. This young adult group is led by staff members Liz Cuenin, Kasey Hagen, and Jessica Orso and meets at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays. The group chose the 11:00 a.m. timeslot after the leaders began to notice how many women faithfully served at the 9:45 a.m. hour and yet were not connected to an Adult Life Group. This time change has allowed for greater flexibility for the class members to continue serving with the preschool, kids, and student ministries and also participate in an adult group.

The Cuenin/Hagen/Orso Life Group consists of women in their 20s, 30s, and 40s, some single and some married. The group's goal is to be a welcoming place for women of all life stages. They find community and support together through time in prayer and by being in God's Word each week. One group member commented that it feels so nice to "have a place to belong and a group to call home here at Dawson."

What a blessing it is to have not one but three active and welcoming Adult Women's Life Groups at Dawson!



# TLC TURNS



By Ryann Mitchell  
Program Manager



This year, Dawson celebrated five years of ministry at The Learning Center. That's five years of serving adults who desire to do better in life by furthering their education. Five years of seeing the Lord's hands and feet in action through our volunteers. Five years of teaching academic studies, Bible studies, and life skills. Five years of sharing successes, tears, and more grace and kindness than we deserve.

Since February 14, 2017, we have had 24 students complete their GED and at least 150 sections passed. We have also had countless volunteer hours poured into our students thanks to instructors, front-desk volunteers, meal providers, and others. We have seen relationships formed between our volunteers and students that have superseded the classroom, and, praise God, some of our students have come to know Him personally, and have been baptized.

These kinds of things tend to happen regularly at The Learning Center. Just last week, a student pulled aside his Bible Study teacher and said to him, "I know I've done so many terrible things, but I believe now, for the first time, I'm forgiven for those. I prayed to accept Christ recently and things are different now." Another student in our other Men's Bible Study class asked his teacher the week prior to Easter if he could talk to the class that day. His teacher opened the white board to him and the student spoke and illustrated how he's seen God work in his life. The instructor sat in awe listening and noticed that one of the other students, a known atheist, was also paying close attention to what his peer was sharing.

While our instructors are good, God is better, and He's using moments like these to illustrate His love for all of us—students, volunteers, and staff.

The Learning Center continues to serve students, with approximately 35 currently on our rosters. We encourage them when they are convinced that they will never memorize their multiplication tables. We continue to pray for them as they receive heartbreaking news such as their child has been diagnosed with cancer or that their husband has just passed away. We continue to do our best to make our students feel loved by calling them when they miss class and letting them know their absence is felt. We verbally share the Gospel whenever possible, and we do all that so we can share the love of Jesus through our actions and deeds.

Lives are being changed. Eternities are being changed, and through it all, God remains steadfast, good, and loving. "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 107:1)



**WATER YOU WAITING FOR?**  
**MAKE WAVES AT KIDLIFE 2022!**

**JUNE 6-9**

KidLife Week, our version of VBS, is Dawson's largest Gospel-centered outreach event of the year. Each year, Dawson's Preschool Ministry and the Dawson Kids Ministry partner together to create a fun, relevant, exciting week of Bible teaching, worship, and activities. This year's theme is SPLASH! Preschoolers and children will share this theme, daily mottos, and the key Bible verse from Isaiah 43:1.

**Fear not for I have redeemed you. I've called you by name, you are mine. (Isaiah 43:1)**

Bible lessons and activities during KidLife Week are specifically designed for each age group. As preschoolers explore God's creation found near a pond, they'll dive into four Bible stories that occur around water. They will learn to "Fear Not" because God made them, God loves them, God is mighty, and God is with them always. Because of these Bible truths, our preschoolers will be able to share the good news about God and SPLASH His love on the people around them, just like God's Son, Jesus.

1st-5th graders will make a SPLASH as they also learn to "Fear Not," with a study of creation, Peter walking on water, and Philip and the Ethiopian official. They will learn these main points:

- FEAR NOT:** God created me with a purpose.
- FEAR NOT:** God can be trusted especially when I am afraid.
- FEAR NOT:** God sent Jesus to rescue us from sin and death.
- FEAR NOT:** Jesus helps me love others like he loves me.

**Invite your friends and neighbors!**

Dawson's KidLife is for children who are age 4 by September 1, 2022 through 5th Grade completed.

Participant registration is now open online at [dawsonchurch.org/KidLife](http://dawsonchurch.org/KidLife). Registration will close at noon on May 27 (or before if all classes are full). **All children must be preregistered** to attend KidLife this year.



**THE JOKE'S ON US!**

What did one ocean say the other?  
 Nothing, it just waved.

Why does water never laugh at some jokes?  
 It isn't a fan of dry humor.

What happens when you spill water on a table?  
 It becomes a pool table.

Why is the ocean always on time?  
 It likes to stay current.

Why did the lake date the river?  
 He heard she had a bubbly personality.

Why couldn't the fish watch YouTube?  
 He couldn't stream the video.

What goes up when rain comes down?  
 An umbrella.



# NOT

# YOUR GRANDMA'S BIBLE DRILL

By Danielle Bell  
Minister to Children

Kids eating donuts dangling from strings, relay races with kids suiting up in Roman armor, and clothespins with Books of the Bible on pizza pans are just some of the things you might see if you walk by Bible Buddies and Bible Drill on Sunday evenings.

Missions, says, "In the past, Bible Drill may have seemed more like a strict school class, now we strive to make learning God's Word really fun. Children are actively playing games, making crafts, and are engaged in various ways. While the methods of teaching may have changed, the ultimate goal of children learning, loving, and applying God's Word to their lives has not. Culture changes, but Scripture stays the same!"



Rarely are the rooms silent, but how could they be when there is so much to learn about God's Word? The Dawson Kids Ministry is thrilled to partner with some of the most creative Bible teachers around to teach our kids about the Bible and how to apply the truths and its history to their lives today. Bible Buddies consists of 1st–2nd graders, and they spend their time learning all about the New Testament. They don't simply learn the books to recite them in order, they are taught rich insight on the writer of each book, where the writer was when they wrote the book, and interesting facts to help the kids recall the book's central theme. These kids are able to grasp these truths even at a young age. Bible Buddies leader Alice Elmore says, "I'm always amazed at how quickly they learn, how eagerly they participate, and how well they absorb the church history information we throw in. They are not too young to learn about the birth of the church or how the apostles

were persecuted. What isn't surprising is how much they love playing games, so our hour together each week is spent almost entirely playing games. They are pretty competitive, but they also help and encourage each other." Bible Buddies also learn tricks to help them remember the New Testament books in order, and these prove to be helpful at any age. "Go Eat Pop Corn" (complete with popcorn served that night) reminds kids of the following: Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians. They are also taught Big T, Middle T, and Little T to remember Thessalonians, Timothy, and Titus. For the 3rd–5th graders in Bible Drill, all of the innovative teaching culminates with the kids learning all 66 books, memorizing 25 verses, and memorizing 10 key passages. Each year these kids get to compete in a church drill, an associational drill, and a regional drill. Belinda Stroud, Dawson Bible Drill Teacher and Children's Specialist at the Alabama Baptist State Board of

Dawson's Bible Drill Director Robyn Oswald shared that, "The goal of Bible Drill is to help children increase their knowledge of the Bible, develop skills in handling the Bible, and begin developing memory skills while laying a foundation for the study of God's Word throughout their lives." Trust me, you will know when you are sitting in the pew with a child involved in our Bible Buddies and Bible Drill programs. These kids will likely turn to the Scriptures faster than those around them and they may also be able to tell you a little more about that book of the Bible. Why are these programs so important in the local church? Belinda answers, "There is nothing more powerful than God's Word. When kids memorize Scripture, it changes them. Bible Drill makes that happen."



Danielle Bell is a well-respected leader and trainer in the area of Children's Ministry and has spoken regionally at local churches and nationally at conferences.

# CONGRATS SENIORS OF



Cole Hartin



Riley Howerton



Mary Claire Magee



Lucy Mantooth



George Martin



Lane Myers



Benjamin Nation



Michael Ngei



Mena Orso



Jack Mitchell Poole



Andrés Arnold



Rachel Bensinger



Bobby Campbell



Pierson Cole



Sam Corley



Alden Sain



Vivian Smith



Christopher Steele



Audey Stein



Emmaline Stewart



JC Daniel



Clay Dorrill



Elisabeth Doss



Sam Dunn



Carter Engle



Veronica Turner



Ryan Wilhelm



Anna Williams



Ella Woods



Stella Young



Samantha Entrekin



Jay Faulkner



Corbett Fowler



Kate Gillum



Maddie Griffin

NOT PICTURED

William David Crittenden  
Olivia Dayhuff  
Joshua Decker

Will Fitzpatrick  
Davis Gray  
Cade Hallman

David Moultry  
Harrison Sims  
Hannah Swearingen

Whitten Teal  
Jake Thompson  
Audrey Williams

# SEE YOU SUNDAY?

## COLLEGE STUDENTS & CHURCH MEMBERSHIP



By **Kara Fincher**  
Associate Minister to College Students

BUT, LET'S TALK ABOUT WHY.

TOO OFTEN I FIND MYSELF  
TAKING A LONG, DEEP BREATH  
WHEN I HEAR A COLLEGE STUDENT  
ASK SOMETHING ALONG  
THE LINES OF:

“I AM A MEMBER AT  
(FILL-IN-THE-BLANK) CHURCH,  
BUT I LOVE THE COMMUNITY HERE.  
SO CAN I STILL SERVE?”

“I LOVE EVERYONE IN THIS  
MINISTRY, BUT EVERY OTHER WEEK  
I GO WITH MY BEST FRIEND TO HER  
CHURCH BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE  
TO DRIVE. IS THAT OK?”

“ON SUNDAY I GO TO  
(FILL-IN-THE-BLANK) CHURCH,  
WEDNESDAYS I GO TO (ANOTHER  
FILL-IN-THE-BLANK) CHURCH, BUT  
I ALSO LOVE MEETING ONE-ON-  
ONE WITH YOU. SO CAN  
WE STILL DO THAT?”

WELL...  
NO.

Although the word “church” isn't used until the New Testament, the gathering of God's people is not a new idea. As part of the creation account in Genesis 2, God says it is not good for man to be alone. He created Eve, and the first community of God's people began. In Exodus 19, God calls a people into existence who are individually and corporately supposed to represent Him. Throughout the Old Testament, God calls His people to gather as a community (Deuteronomy 31:12–13, Psalm 50:5).

In the New Testament, we get an even clearer understanding of God's intention for community. Church is the local gathering and fellowship of two or more believers in the name of Jesus Christ (Matthew 18:20) where the Word of God is taught, the sacraments are administered (Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25), and spiritual gifts are exercised (Romans 1:11–12) with a unified commission to spread the Gospel and further the kingdom of God (Matthew 28:18–20). The church, put simply, is the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). Scripture clearly presents the church as a body, specifies church leadership, calls for particular sacraments to be administered, and connects the church to a life of faith.

Church membership is a formal way to commit and belong to a church, or a local body. Joining a church involves great responsibility but yields great reward. With the Word as our foundation, let's briefly break down these three questions I mentioned above:

*“I am a member at (fill-in-the-blank) church, but I love the community here. So can I still serve?”*

All interns, lead team members, and church volunteers have joined our local church through church membership. They serve our church incredibly well but that began with the pre-qualification of membership. Blake Jenkins, Dawson's College Minister, often teaches that you cannot lead something you aren't a part of. We often use fraternities and sororities as an analogy. If you are a member of Kappa Delta but want to serve on the Executive Council of Alpha Delta Pi, well, it probably isn't going to work out too well.

When you are part of a local body, you share in responsibility. A fellow member is struggling? It's our job to encourage him. A family from the church is in need? It's our job to provide for them. A fellow member is rejoicing? We rejoice with her (1 Corinthians 12:26).

If you are called to another local body, part of that calling is to serve them there (Ephesians 4:11–13; 1 Peter 4:10–11). Identify your gifts and callings and use them! The possibilities and opportunities really can be endless. While we are to cheer on, pray for, and encourage other sister churches, “you cannot lead something you aren't part of.”



*"I love everyone in this ministry, but every other week I go with my best friend to her church because I don't like to drive. Is that OK?"*

Church has never been convenient and never should be. Following Jesus is counter-cultural, and we should choose to belong to a local body daily.

If there hasn't already been, there will be days when we don't feel like going to church. We don't feel like belonging. Those are the days I'd argue we need the other body parts even more. If decisions are based on feelings alone, there would be no contrast from the world. When Jesus commanded us to take up our cross and follow him (Luke 9:23), comfort and convenience were not part of the call.

Find new friends to carpool with, or grab your keys and drive. Strive to be a church member of commitment, not convenience.

*"On Sunday I go to (fill-in-the-blank) church, Wednesdays I go to (another fill-in-the-blank) church, but I also love meeting one-on-one with you, so can we still do that?"*

John Woods, Dawson's Music & Worship Pastor, often uses a "buffet line" as an example when talking about peoples' preferences for "traditional" or "contemporary" music. Our church is intergenerational and full of varying stylistic preferences. (God bless you, John!) We don't get—nor is it healthy—to pick and choose what we want to sing each week. Rather, we are served a full balanced meal: meat, vegetables, fruits, etc. It's for our own good.

Using the idea of blended music as a balanced meal, I'd argue that the same can be said about church membership. Mentorship and one-on-one discipleship are good, but they thrive best in a local body. If we continue the food analogy, we could say that congregational worship at one church, community at another church, and mentorship with

someone from a completely different church is like trying to make spaghetti, french fries, and a glass of orange juice work together as a meal. (If this sounds like your typical dinner, let's talk about nutrition soon!)

So, college student, why do I discourage you from having one foot in and another out? Because church isn't about you or your preferences. Because you are meant to fully belong to one body. Because vegetables are good for you, even if they aren't your preferred taste.

I took an internship position at a local church when I was in college. Because this church didn't have a college or young adult ministry at the time, my supervisors didn't require membership for me to fulfill the position. I served on Sunday

mornings and Wednesday nights, but found myself at other church's college gatherings around the city for the first year of college. By the time my sophomore year arrived, I was lonely and exhausted. I couldn't articulate my feelings from a theological or biblical perspective at the time, but I knew I was being called to be fully part of the local body in which God had called me to serve.

I remember experiencing deep loss as I transferred my membership to this new congregation from my home church in another state. But I also recall a new and different sense of belonging that next Sunday morning as I walked the front steps. This showed me two things. First, I realized that my home church was a beautiful example of a biblical church. I was baptized there. I belonged. I was known. I was taught and challenged, and I had served. Second, I realized that church membership isn't just a formality. The Spirit really used the formal part of the belonging process for me to have a sense of security and commitment to that local body.

*"Well, Kara, I'm only in the city for a couple of years while I finish my undergraduate degree. Then I plan to (fill-in-the-blank)."*

I hear you. I really do. But a limited amount of time doesn't make you less than any other child of God. Some churches like Dawson have **Watchcare** membership. You need the church in every season, even if it's a shorter one. Not only do you need the church, the church needs you (1 Corinthians 12:21-26). I pray that you don't feel a sense of shame if you haven't yet taken that step in church commitment. Rather, I hope you are simply inspired to take that next step. It's never too late. Not even for you, college seniors.

So, here is my encouragement to anyone caught in the "in between." Join a church. Become a member. Fully commit to a local body and take the calling to belong seriously. I assure you that you will experience a greater sense of purpose and belonging

in your college years and even after that. If the Lord is leading you to be part of this local body for your college years, Dawson's **Watchcare** membership is a great option for you. You will walk through the same membership process, but you will be a **Watchcare** member.

For more information on **Watchcare**, please contact **Blake Jenkins** (bjenkins@dawsonchurch.org) or **Kara Fincher** (kfincher@dawsonchurch.org).



**Kara Fincher** is the Associate Minister to College Students at Dawson. She and her husband, Caleb, were married in 2020 and are passionate about worship, music, and discipleship.

NOT ONLY DO YOU  
NEED THE CHURCH, THE  
CHURCH NEEDS YOU.

(1 CORINTHIANS 12:21-26)

# SUMMER SCHEDULE

## CHURCH-WIDE EVENTS

June 15 Adult Summer Bible Study (June 15, 22, 29; July 6, 13, 20, 27)  
June 26 Chapel Choir Mission Tour Home Concert  
August 14 Kickoff Sunday

## PRESCHOOL

June 6-9 KidLife Week (age 4 by September 1, 2021 through K)\*  
June 13-16 Dawson Day School Summer Camp (Age 18 months through 4K)\*  
June 20-24 Ballet Camp (Age 4 by September 1, 2022 through K)\*  
July 11-14 Preschool Music Camp (Age 4 by September 1, 2022 through K)\*

## KIDS

June 6-9 KidLife Week (Grades 1-5)\*  
June 13-17 Day Camp 1 (Grades 1-5)\*  
June 20-23 Basketball Camp 1 (Grades K-6)\*  
June 20-24 Ballet Camp (Grades K-6)\*  
June 27-July 1 Day Camp 2 (Grades 1-5)\*  
July 11-15 Kids Music Camp (Grades K-5)\*  
July 18-21 BIG Art Camp (Grades 1-5)\*  
July 25-28 Basketball Camp 2 (Grades K-6)\*  
July 25-28 Hispanic VBS  
July 25-29 CentriKid Overnight Camp (Grades 3-5)\*

## STUDENTS

June 15 DSM Summer Nights (June 15, 29; July 27)  
June 17-26 Chapel Choir Mission Tour (New Orleans, LA)  
July 13 DSM Barons Night  
July 18-22 Breakaway  
August 19-21 Back to School Retreat

## COLLEGE

June 1 Summer Village (June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; July 6, 13, 20, 27)

## MISSIONS

May 20-30 Sanctuary Orchestra (Frankfurt, Germany)  
June 4-11 Eurasia Prayer & Evangelism Trip  
July 9-16 Grandview Church Sports Camp (Mead, Colorado)

\*All grades denoted are the school grades completed by this summer.



# MISSION TO ECUADOR



By Maggie Stoffregen

OUR FAMILY HAS BEEN HOPING TO GO ON A MISSION TRIP FOR A FEW YEARS, AND THIS SEEMED LIKE THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY.

My husband, Adam, and I, along with our girls, Macy and Wynn, had the opportunity to serve alongside several other Dawson families and students on a spring break mission trip to Ecuador, South America. International mission trips can be unnerving because there are many unknowns. From the conversations while traveling, and serving the Ecuadorian people, to seeing some of the amazing tourist sites, this was the perfect trip for someone new to international mission work. We knew we would be in good hands since Boyd Kaiser would be leading this trip. Boyd has actually led mission trips to Ecuador for thirteen years, so we trusted his guidance to lead us outside of the country. Every detail was covered from the packing list to what medicines we should bring with us. Our devotionals were even emailed to us to look over before our trip.

On Saturday morning, we flew from Atlanta to Quito, the capital of Ecuador. We spent the night in a hotel and then traveled about four hours to Camp Chacauc. Steve and Carol Thompson, two of Dawson's mission partners, established Camp Chacauc in the mountain region of Ecuador many years ago. Steve and Carol have the most amazing stories of how God has blessed their time in Ecuador with the ability to reach so many Ecuadorian people. They have been leading groups like ours week after week for the last thirty years. Steve and Carol are inspiring to be around and, their desire to spread the Gospel is contagious. It was truly a blessing to meet them both and to hear about their hearts for sharing God's love in Ecuador.





## "We led devotionals, helped facilitate fun activities, and washed dishes, a lot!"

During the first part of the week, at Camp Chacaucu, our mission team led a three-day camp for 14- to 21-year-old students. This camp is so desirable that many students missed school just to attend the camp, and several had traveled over 12 hours to be there. The camp structure is similar to what a summer camp would be like in Alabama, complete with cabins, a dining hall, and an abundance of recreation space. We led devotionals, helped facilitate fun activities, and washed dishes, a lot!

There were volunteers who were already at Camp Chacaucu who led worship and shared the Gospel. Our Dawson group helped lead the small groups (with the help of a translator), and we got to know the students personally. One of the most rewarding parts of the trip was getting to know the Chacaucu staff and the translators who devote their time each week to loving the Ecuadorian students.

During the three days we were at Camp Chacaucu, our Dawson students did an amazing job of engaging with the Ecuadorian students. They played a lot of games together. One of their favorites was like the "Organized Mass Chaos" game our kids have played at Centrikid. Dawson's students were willing to crawl through the mud and get soaking wet just so they could relate to their new Ecuadorian friends. One night, we had a bonfire where several of our own students shared their personal testimonies, which deeply touched many people.

On a different night, we all dressed up and hosted a fancy banquet for the Ecuadorian students. This gave us a new opportunity to serve them and to make them feel special. After dinner, we held a talent show that provided lots of laughs. The camp did a wonderful job of sharing the

Gospel and teaching the Bible all while creating a fun, inviting atmosphere for the kids to develop relationships with each other.

On that Wednesday, we said goodbye to Camp Chacaucu and traveled to a camp in the jungle that was also built by Carol and Steve Thompson. We were fortunate to serve in both the mountain camp and jungle camp because each offered unique experiences and reached different groups of Ecuadorian people. Along the way to the jungle camp, we were able to stop and do some fun "touristy" activities. We rode in a swinging basket between two mountain tops. (It was absolutely beautiful and scary all at the same time!) Next, we hiked to a waterfall. Some of the group crawled under the falls, while the rest of us enjoyed the breathtaking view from a swinging bridge. Steve had planned our stops at these specific tourist attractions to support the workers because they were people with whom he had shared his faith and helped lead to Christ. Knowing that made the adventures even more memorable for all of us.

We arrived at the jungle camp late in the afternoon, and we started getting ready to lead the women's conference. Women from all over the jungle and coast traveled many hours to be a part of this three-day camp. Dawson's women, with the help of a translator, led several sessions for the attendees. The Ecuadorian women soaked up everything we said and were so invested the whole time. An added bonus for us was taking care of the babies and playing with the toddlers while their moms listened and took notes during the sessions. It was so rewarding to see how excited these women were to learn about God's faithfulness and plans for their lives.

## "We left with the joy that comes from serving others and spreading the love of Jesus."

While the women were leading the conference, Dawson's students, and the rest of the team, led a VBS-style camp in a nearby community. Everyone loved teaching Bible stories, playing with the kids, and doing crafts. At both camps, every person in my family was so grateful for how well the trip utilized each one of us.

During some free time in the jungle, Steve took everyone on a canoe trip down the Napo River (a river that leads to the Amazon River). We saw many of the villages from which the women had traveled for the conference. We learned that the houses cost \$400 each to build, and we also saw women beside the river washing their clothes. It made us each very thankful for our washing machines! We went through a little village on the way back to the jungle camp and saw monkeys everywhere. The trip down the river allowed us to be immersed in a different culture and understand a little more about how the women we had had ministered to lived their lives. Despite the language barrier, we were able to form deep connections with the women, and we were sad to say good bye. It seems so odd, but even after spending such a short time, we really felt so connected.

The women at the conference left with more knowledge about being godly women, and they took home arts and crafts that will probably be cherished forever. Similarly, my family left with something totally different but just as special. We left with the joy that comes from serving others and spreading the love of Jesus. I can attest that the Stoffregen family made amazing memories in Ecuador, and we hope to go back again soon. It was truly a special week getting to know other Dawson families and having the common goal of serving others. Even the travel time was special as we developed relationships with the others on the trip.

We will be forever grateful for Dawson for providing the opportunity to go and serve together as a family alongside other Dawson families. We had many take-aways from this spring break trip but getting close to the others on the trip was definitely one of the highlights.

Our family's experience on this mission trip to Ecuador was life-changing for all of us. Dawson provides so many opportunities for our children to serve through choir tours, DNOW weekends, and the DSM program, but it was really special to serve together as a family. Now that Macy and Wynn are both in high school, we feel the urgency to make the most of each opportunity we have as a family. We will soon begin a new chapter in our lives in which we will not have as much time to travel together. Going on this mission trip helped us to grow in our faith and as a family. Both of our girls enjoyed different aspects of the trip, and it was rewarding to see them adapt to being out of their comfort zones.

To put it simply, we came back a changed family—one that grew closer and was renewed and strengthened by God's love and grace. We are grateful to be a part of a church that emphasizes missions and provides opportunities to go and serve the Lord together.



**Maggie Stoffregen** is married to Adam and they have two daughters, Macy and Wynn. Maggie graduated with a masters in Math Education from Auburn University where she met Adam. She taught math at Homewood High School for 21 years. Maggie and Adam have been members at Dawson since early in their marriage. They enjoy teaching 12th Grade Life Groups and being a part of the DSM team.



I DON'T KNOW IF YOU KNOW THIS, BUT DAWSON HAS BEEN GIVEN A GREAT GIFT FROM THE LORD. THIS GIFT IS MOST UNUSUAL, AND SO UNHEARD OF THAT IT MIGHT COME AS A SURPRISE.

**What is it, you ask?**

Dawson has been given a *Special Task Force* of powerful defenders. These defenders are armed with superior "know how," and they go to battle every Sunday for the hearts and lives of the people at Dawson. This elite group of Fierce Warriors visit Life Groups each Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. to pray individually for each person in every class on campus. Also known as Super-Heroes in Training, these warriors are full of HOPE and FAITH because they TRUST and BELIEVE the Lord wholeheartedly, and they are eager to go about their Father's business. Chances are you have probably come across this elite group of soldiers but perhaps have not noticed their armor at first sight. Who are these champions of the Lord?

**Who are they, you ask?**

They are the children. Yes, it is true! Many of the children at Dawson have responded to the call to pray for the needs of God's people. Since the beginning, what has amazed me the most is how they pray with such enthusiasm and count it as such a privilege to be able to serve the Lord in this way. I have been so encouraged and my faith has increased as I have watched and learned from these young ones. With their prayers, they are battling on our behalf demonstrating the "child-like faith" that Jesus speaks of in the Bible.

## He has chosen them for such a time as this.

Throughout the Bible, God frequently chose people with little or no rank in society in order to accomplish His will. Many of them started out as people with zero influence or importance but God used these people to display His own mighty power.

Week after week, innocence and love are demonstrated through the prayers of the boys and girls on the Children's Prayer Team. They are considered weak by the world's standards, and though largely unnoticed, these powerhouses are willing to change the world for Christ.

Then Jesus said, "Leave the children alone, and don't try to keep them from coming to Me, because the kingdom of heaven is made up of people like this." Matthew 19:14, CSB

## Why the children?

Many of us grown-ups have forgotten how to trust and believe what the Lord has promised. Even in these difficult days, many of us have even struggled to have hope and to exercise our faith. God has sent us the children to lead the way and wield the spiritual weapons of love, hope, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Through their influence, we grown-ups are being taught how to speak to the Father with a new openness and humility—like that of a child.

Yes, they indeed are some of God's most mighty warriors. These children may look small and defenseless, but when they approach the Father, they fight the enemy on our behalf and petition the Lord for salvation, healing, peace, joy, faith, thankfulness, and much, much more.

## What kind of response?

Adults of all ages are talking about the boldness and courage of these children, wondering what they would have been like today if they had themselves learned to pray out loud with such confidence and frequency. The warm response from both the English and Spanish speaking congregations has been amazing.

"But how did she know to pray that for me?" asked Melissa Gunnells. "Surely, she doesn't pray that same prayer for every person." Our reply to this frequent comment is always the same, "Those words were meant for you. It is the Holy Spirit who gave her those words to pray for you."

Melissa shared that God was clearly preparing her heart through the prayers of a child for what was to come that very next week. She was so grateful that the Lord sent that first grader to pray for her.

After being prayed for by a 5th grader, Life Group Leader Jim Rives commented, "That was one of the most mature prayers I have ever heard."

## Who is on the Children's Prayer Team?

The Children's Prayer Team is made up of boys and girls in the 1st through 5th grades from both the English and Spanish speaking congregations. Older children have also joined the ranks. Youth of all ages are welcome to join us at 9:30 a.m. in Room 242 East. They attend Life Group immediately after.

The team is growing and there are opportunities to get involved.

Q: How can my class set up a visit from the Dawson's Children's Prayer Team?

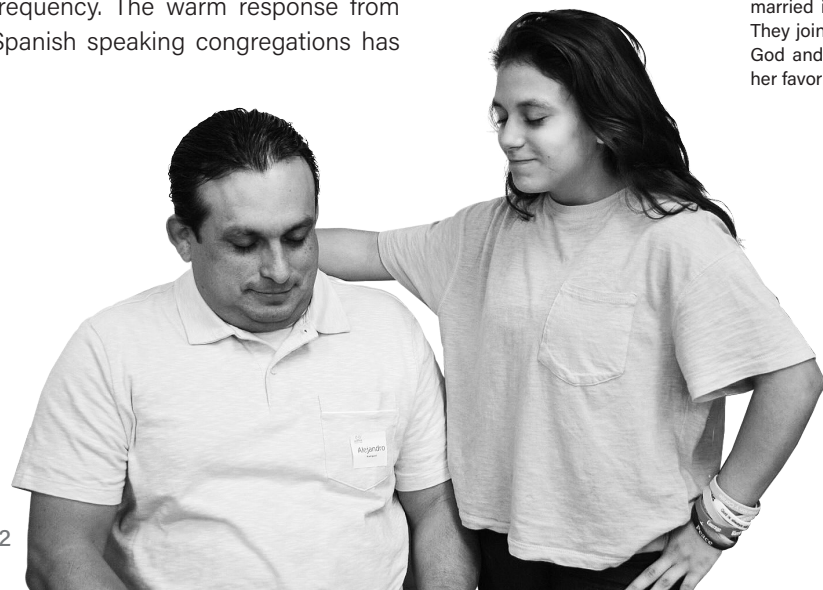
A: Simply email **Jim Averett** ([jwaverett@mindspring.com](mailto:jwaverett@mindspring.com)) or **Mónica Poe** ([mikoseay@gmail.com](mailto:mikoseay@gmail.com)) to schedule a visit.

Q: Can I join Dawson's Children's Prayer Team and help in some way?

A: Yes! We would love to ask you to pray and ask the Lord if this growing ministry is where He wants you. If so, please contact Jim Averett or Mónica Poe.



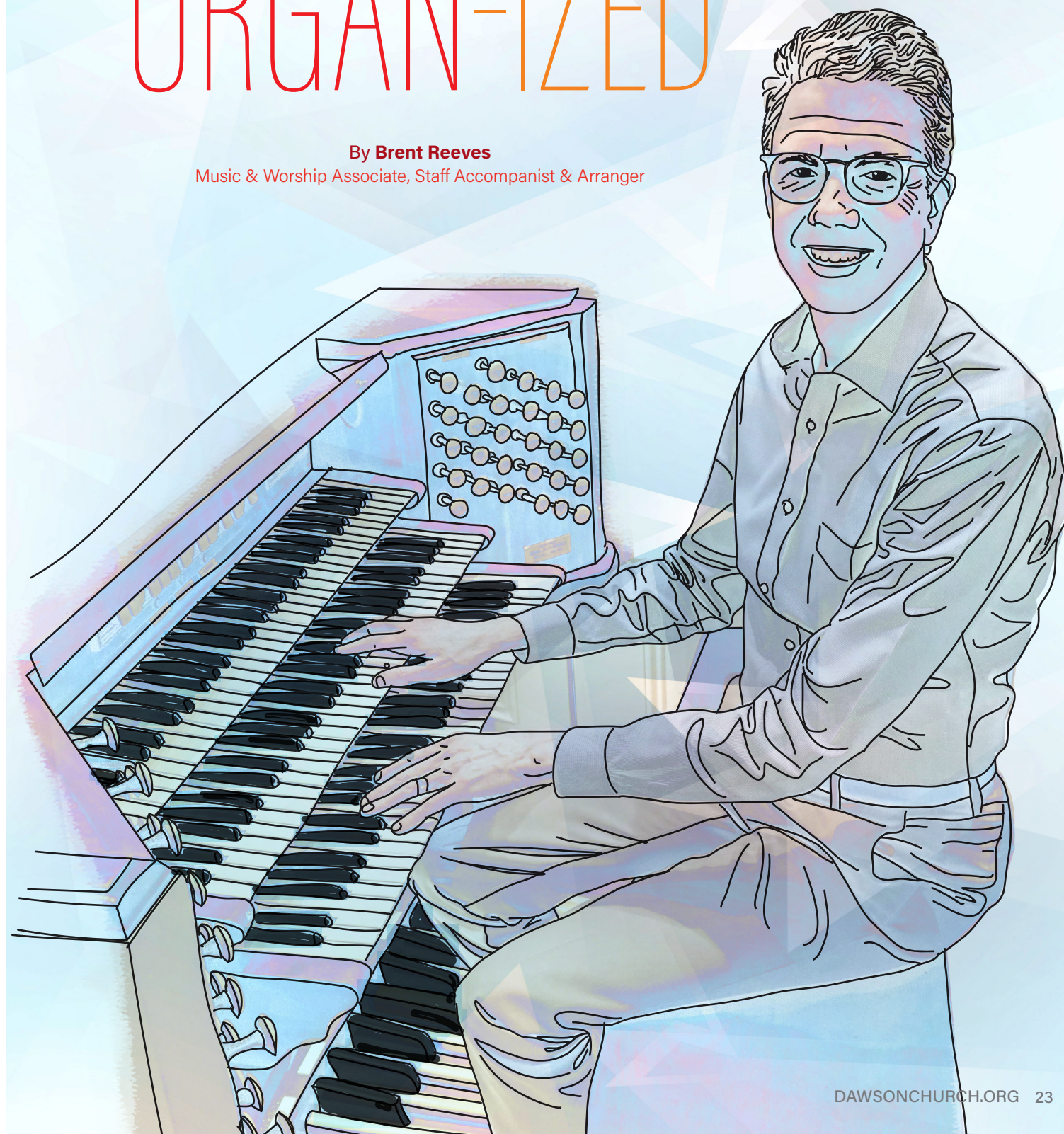
**Mónica Poe** was born in Charlotte, NC, and was raised overseas in Colombia, South America, and Jakarta, Indonesia. She met her husband, Randy at Samford University and they were married in 2001 and have 5 great kids. They joined Dawson in 2003. Talking to God and talking about God are two of her favorite activities.



# AUXANO WORSHIP "ORGAN-IZED"

By Brent Reeves

Music & Worship Associate, Staff Accompanist & Arranger



"FOR QUITE SOME TIME, I HAD ADMIRING THE WAY IN WHICH BLAKE JENKINS AND KARA FINCHER CARE FOR AND GUIDE THE COLLEGE MINISTRY."



It was a typical Tuesday evening. I was at the church to practice in preparation for the upcoming Sunday services. As I was getting ready to practice, the college ministry folks were cleaning up from AUXANO, their weekly worship service for college students and young adults. For quite some time, I had admired the way in which Blake Jenkins and Kara Fincher care for and guide the College Ministry. Previous conversations during their clean-up time and my set-up time were always delightful and a beautiful reminder of my flourishing admiration for them.

But on this Tuesday, the conversation took an anything-but-typical turn when Kara asked me, "Brent, what would it take for you to come play the organ at AUXANO?" That was a question I would never have anticipated, but my reply required no thinking time. "Just ask," I said. While my response was immediate, the basis for it had been nurtured over a longer period of time.

Relationships are important, and ours had developed gradually over many months as Blake, Kara, and I join other members of the worship planning team to design Sunday morning worship services. This planning time is of great importance to Dawson's worship, but it is also the perfect opportunity to get a special glimpse into the hearts of those involved in the process. Each time this team meets, the goal is the same—to construct a time of worship that leads all of us to a specific worship destination each Sunday.

The process begins with reading and discussing the Scripture passage for the Sunday being planned. We then proceed to offer suggestions for music and spoken elements that would best support the worship destination. It is here that my quick reply to Kara had its origin, and it is here that my respect for Blake and Kara found its start. I had previously heard Blake compellingly describe in other contexts the process they use for designing AUXANO specifically for college students. But now, I was getting to see them assist a different team plan worship in a broader context. The care and guidance I had come to admire from afar were now becoming personal.

Reasons they gave as to why a particular element should or shouldn't be included in a worship service were allowing me now to see hearts that are focused on all of us, not just the college students. And their words of affirmation about playing the organ in worship hadn't been expressed timidly in these meetings but rather with great enthusiasm.

"I WAS ENCOURAGED BY THEIR PURSUIT OF A VIBRANT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD."

The invitation to play organ at AUXANO might have initially seemed like an odd combination, but the gracious spirit with which it was extended easily overcame any oddity. To be sure, there were things to talk through to make this unlikely pairing work. What music would be used, and how could this music be adapted so that the organ would make a meaningful contribution to the worship service? Where would the organ need to be quiet, and where could it be louder, yet without covering up the voices? Do I really get to play a postlude just like on Sunday mornings?

When Kara and I met to discuss the service, it came as no surprise to me that she had already anticipated many of my logistical questions and had given careful thought regarding how to address them. To provide compelling worship for college students regardless of the instruments being used was always the focal point of the planning process.

When the day arrived for me to participate in AUXANO, a new adventure had finally begun. I felt welcome from the moment I arrived for rehearsal, shared a meal with the others leading in worship, and took part in the service itself. All of the preparation for this unique evening was brought together in a smooth and organized way that allowed God's presence to be real. As I worshipped with these college students, I was encouraged by their pursuit of a vibrant relationship with God. Reflecting on that evening has only increased my gratitude for the invitation to join them.



Brent Reeves is Dawson's Accompanist & Arranger. He is a member of several professional organizations. He and his wife, Lorna, have two college-age children, Emma and Phillip.

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DAWSON WOMEN'S MINISTRY <sup>13</sup>

# The Gift of the Promised Land

Israel, here we come!

THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT ISRAEL IS A "BUCKET LIST" KIND OF TRIP. MY IN-LAWS HAD SUGGESTED A TOUR OF THE PROMISED LAND AS A SENIOR TRIP FOR MY OLDEST DAUGHTER, MENA. WE BOTH AGREED THAT THIS WOULD BE THE PERFECT CHOICE.

In the months leading up to our 10-day Spring Break trip, Mena and I made all of the preparations with passports and COVID cards. We acquired power converters and Googled "Israel weather in the springtime" as one does. We even tried to prepare for all the things that were possible, but there's just no way that we could have ever been fully "prepared" for our experience.

The population of our tour boasted 650 people who represented all 50 states. We met so many people so fast that we were initially just calling people by their locations, with Mr. Tennessee and his sister, Boston, being among our early favorites. But those relationships that formed quickly, especially on our specific bus, stayed together throughout the entire tour.

The Israeli tour guide for our bus, Ronny, was pretty proud of himself when he used the Americanism, "drinking from a firehose" as he started to introduce our tour. Ronny implored us to not take notes. We could never take it all down, and then we'd miss the next thing. He suggested that we try and take something from every day. So we took his advice and tried to soak in as much as we could.

While our first hotel was in Tiberius on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, our tour started further north at the beginning of the Jordan River at the foot of Mount Hermon. Next we went to the ancient ruins at Dan, where we could see the signs of entry gates that were the center of commerce in the area. This was the first place we learned about most structures in Israel. A structure is built, war or conflict destroys it, and then rather than repairing it, they would build anew, covering the ruins with dirt and rebuilding on top.

New gates lined up on top of old gates so that the road and the water sources that sustained the people were easily accessed. Layers and layers. Everything in Israel is layers. What you see looks old and it's real. But there's more. There's older underneath.

This would also be the point when I would begin to tell you that "topography" was one of my favorite parts of the trip. I wasn't prepared for the topography. My imagination, even with the assistance of curriculum videos, and Bible studies, was not prepared for the topography. The acres and acres of farm land where people grew bananas, avocados, apricots, and dates would be on the side of the highway, in valleys, and on mountain slopes. My wide angle feature on my iPhone could never get wide enough to catch it all!

We drove past goats, sheep, and cattle who were grazing on the sides of mountains. Never once did we see an open field. The animals were always weaving in between rocks, taming the grasses that grew in-between the boulders and always with their shepherds close by, often on a ridge, but clearly checking their smartphones.

And there was so much chaotic spring weather! We experienced a rainbow that painted itself on the Sea of Galilee where we were able to take a boat out onto the water. We saw snow in the Golan Heights overlooking the Syrian boarder, and rain and hail that drove about 60 of us into the tiny church on top of Mount Carmel. We carefully gauged our muddy steps in Nazareth, and also green grass with wild mustard blooms everywhere. (These apparently only show off for two weeks of the year.) And later we would be scorched by the desert sun in Jericho.

By **Jessica Orso**  
Discipleship Ministry Assistant



Ronny would always be speaking to us, whether on the microphone on the bus or through his headsets aptly branded as “whispers,” when we were walking around. He would point out the things we could see clearly in front of us, and then he would remind us of the vast history underneath that was still yet to be exposed. He would not only quote the Bible, but he would also use its lengthy passages of borders and land divisions to paint pictures in front of us of a people and culture that lived in the margins of those simple lines.

Ronny spoke passionately about the generations of the heartbreaking dance between conflict and resolution. He spoke about how he had been forced to jump on the technology bandwagon and create online virtual tours during the two-year COVID tourism drought, and he celebrated the fact that we were his first in-person tour since lockdown. Despite the fact that there is still palpable tensions between Israel and Palestine, you can feel, especially in places like the Palestinian-run cities of Jericho and Bethlehem, everyone in the nation agrees that they are glad to have tourists back. And they're ready with smiles, jokes, and a haggle for their best deal.

My daughter, Mena, will never forget her camel ride at the Mount of Olives with the Temple Mount of Jerusalem in the background, right before we walked down the Palm Sunday Road. I dare say that she'll never forget about floating in the Salt Sea (fun fact: locals don't like it when you call it the Dead Sea). She will also forever be a food snob about Israeli bananas and good hummus.

Both of us took pictures of everything while quickly running past it, hoping that our iPhones would automatically anticipate the target without the blur. And an endless number of selfies were made in planes, on hilltops and valleys,

in churches, on buses, at sunrise and sunset, on the Southern Steps of the Temple, with the trees in the Garden of Gethsemane, and the caves of Qumran.

Neither of us were prepared for the breathtaking submersion into the ice cold waters of the River Jordan, or what it felt like to be together in the presence of the Isaiah Dead Sea Scroll. Who could've prepared us for the rush of emotions felt viewing the artifacts in the Holocaust Museum, or running up the mountain at Beit She'an, fist bumping the statue of Peter in Capernaum?

Or even taking a late-night tour under the Western Wall, squeezing into a gondola at Masada, seeing Alabama and Auburn gear along the Via Delarosa, stepping into the Garden Tomb, singing *Amazing Grace* in the Upper Room, and having a local guide pray the Lord's Prayer in Aramaic, in Bethlehem, the city where Jesus was born. We were prepared least of all for Jerusalem itself to hit us like a musical crescendo as we entered the city, causing us both to be overcome with emotion. You can't prepare.

Most of the time, travel and new cultural experiences tend to stretch and move me in leaps and bounds. I am so glad that Mena and I had a guide who has been blessed with gift of teaching, and that both of us already had a deep working knowledge of the Bible. Most of all, I am grateful that we both have a relationship with the Author and Creator of it all.

In the short time since we have been back, I have noticed a dramatic change in how I read the Bible. There are now words in this sacred text that bring back the sense of smooth stone walls under my fingertips, slick muddy stones under my feet, dusty wind in my hair, and the smell of spice or incense. We are different now, but we weren't prepared for how different we would become.

“Growing up at Dawson taught me lots of things about the Bible, which allowed me to use and grow my imagination. Thinking and creating stories in my head was the best part of Sunday School. But getting to go to the actual places where everything happened was so much cooler than I expected. Seeing places and physically being in areas where Jesus walked was much more than my imagination could handle. Now, I will always have a new vision of the Bible when I read and listen.”

Mena Orso



Jessica Orso and her husband, John, have three children, Mena, Jake, and Evelyn. Jessica began volunteering with Dawson's Preschool Ministry in 2007. Since then, she has enjoyed working with the Day School, Dawson Kids, and the FRC. She now hopes to use her love of connecting family ministries as the Discipleship Team's Administrative Assistant.





## WILSON RILEY

Wilson Riley achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on February 10, 2022. He began his scouting career in 2017 with Dawson Memorial Baptist Church Troop 83. Since that time, he has earned 24 merit badges. He attended a weeklong Boy Scout camp at Camp Comer three times and participated in numerous troop activities and weekend campouts. Among his leadership roles were chaplain, quartermaster, and librarian.

Wilson made great friendships and memories through his scouting experience in Troop 83. The campouts that he enjoyed the most were those that included hiking, kayaking, and biking. His fondest camping experience was a weeklong high-adventure canoe trip in the Minnesota Boundary Waters known as Northern Tier.

Wilson completed his Eagle project in January of 2022. His project was to design, assemble, and install a 6-foot-tall aluminum fence, measuring 48 feet by 50 feet, around a garden at King's Home. King's Home is an organization that provides a home to abused and abandoned children. The fence was needed to help keep deer out of the garden. The garden is used by King's Home to provide a source of food for those living at King's Home and to teach gardening skills to the children who live there.

Wilson is a sophomore at Homewood High School where he is a member of the golf team. He is also active in Dawson's Student Ministry and Homewood High School's Young Life. His parents are Leslie and Rob Riley.



## HOSPITALITY @ HOME

By **Amy Turnbow**  
Director of Hospitality

Summer is around the corner and the perfect time to enjoy the outdoors with friends and family. The concept of using food to minister to others or to show hospitality is nothing new and something that everyone can do. Showing hospitality is when you welcome or extend friendly treatment to guests or strangers in a warm and generous way. This word is actually derived from the Latin "hospes," meaning visitor or stranger.

Why not choose one night each week and make a meal with enough to feed your family and some extra to share with a new neighbor? Or share your dinner, or even just dessert, with friends sitting around the backyard (or front yard) picnic table. Below is a homemade ice cream recipe to get you started.

If you don't already have Dawson's cookbook, *Seasons of Grace*, let me encourage you to come by the Church Office and pick up a copy to keep for yourself or to give away. There are many fun and great recipes in it. So, start that ice cream maker on the front or back porch and see how many neighbors ease over to see what you are doing. Share a bowl of ice cream and give them a copy of the cookbook. Who knows, they may be inspired to make the Spicy Honey Chicken recipe on page 71 and invite you over for dinner!

### AMY'S FAVORITE CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM\*

- ½ gallon chocolate milk
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk
- 16 oz. cool whip whipped topping
- Plain milk as needed

In the cylinder of your ice cream maker, add the first 3 ingredients.  
Pour in plain milk to the fill line if needed.  
Freeze per machine instructions.

\*I have used this recipe for 30+ years!



# TEN MINUTE TALK

A Series of Rapid-Fire Questions With Dawson Staff Members



Liz Cuenin, Dawson's Minister of Outreach & Assimilation, loves to travel and has visited more than 25 countries—some of them more than once! Liz is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Christian Education. She also loves classic literature and pop culture. Who knew?\*

\* Liz may or may not have had a hard time choosing her "favorites" of anything.

**Where did you grow up?**

I grew up in the suburbs of Atlanta in Norcross, Georgia.

**What's your next travel destination?**

I'm going to Prague before Christmas.

**Strangest place you've stayed on your travels?**

An outdoor hut in Africa on a safari. The lions are very far away, but you could hear the wildlife all night. There are no walls or doors, and you're far from the other huts. Everything around you is pitch black. It was a lot of fun!

**Do you have a favorite souvenir?**

Yes! It's a didgeridoo that I learned how to make in the Australian outback.

**Huh? Tell us more.**

It's a long musical wind instrument made out of a hollow tree trunk that I shaved, sanded, and painted.

**Do you play it at home?**

Ha! No, not at all. But it looks cool.

**What's your favorite Broadway show?**

Ooh, *Les Misérables*, 100%

**TV show can you watch over and over?**

Gilmore Girls.

**Favorite actor?**

Maybe Tom Hanks? One of my favorite movies is *You've Got Mail*.

**Last movie you saw in theaters?**

*The Batman*. I loved it!

**Most recent book you read?**

I've read so many books for school lately. But my Bible study just finished *Ten Words to Live By*, by Jen Wilkin.

**Favorite book?**

Probably *Persuasion* by Jane Austen.

**What would your novel be about?**

Something with a happy ending, set on the coast of England.

**Are you an early bird or a night owl?**

By nature, a night owl. By habit, an early bird. I work out in the morning, so I get up early.

**Favorite animal?**

Giraffes. They're so cute!

**Do you have a nickname?**

Being named Elizabeth forces you to have lots of nicknames. Liz is a nickname. My family sometimes calls me Lizzy. Then there's Lizard, Lizzo, Lizzabubba... the list goes on and on.

**What's your middle name?**

Ann.

**Coffee or tea?**

Both—but coffee daily.

**Fries or tots?**

Both. If it's Hero Doughnuts, tots. But probably more sweet potato fries.

**Least favorite food?**

Seafood. I don't like anything that lives in the sea. And milk, I hate milk.

**What's your order at Chick-fil-A?**

Cobb salad. Avocado ranch. It's the best!

**Board games or card games?**

I love a game night! Head's Up is probably my favorite one to play.

**Favorite song?**

I love music, so it's hard to pick a favorite!

**Favorite boy band?**

I was very loyal to both NSYNC and Backstreet Boys growing up. But NSYNC definitely was the favorite. JC forever!

**Have you ever kept a New Year's Resolution for the whole year?**

Probably not!

**Best childhood memory?**

We spent a lot of time on the lake so I would say learning to wakeboard.

**Most memorable Halloween costume?**

I was a rabbit in a hat one year. The top portion was a rabbit costume and the bottom half was all black with a hula hoop to make the brim of the hat.

**Do you have a hidden talent?**

My friends call me "Sure-foot Cuenin" because I'm always tripping when we go hiking. I actually have better balance on water than on land so my friends would say that's my hidden talent.

**Did you play sports in school?**

I did. I was a varsity tennis player.

**Someone you admire from the Bible?**

Ruth. I admire her loyalty, her hard work, her perseverance, and that she trusted God even when she couldn't quite see what He was doing.

**What do you do on a day off?**

A great day would be breakfast with friends and spending time with my family and my three nieces.

**If you could bring back one thing from your childhood, what would it be?**

I had a secret treasure bike that I really loved. It was bright pink and had compartments built into all parts of the bike. You could hide all your treasures!

**If you had a warning label, what would it say?**

Needs to travel. :)



# JUNE 6-9, 2022

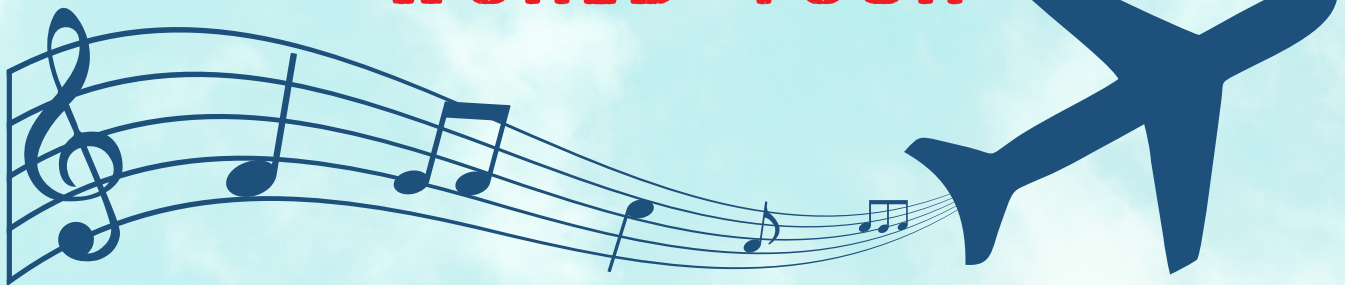
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