



***COLLEGE  
MINISTRY  
VOLUNTEERS***

**EQUIPPING LEADERS  
WHO LOVE GOD  
AND HIS CHURCH**

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**Thank you for your interest in answering the call to minister to our students. The call to pick up our cross is not an easy one and making time, opening your homes, and opening your hearts to these students is not a cross taken up lightly. So thank you.**

As you know Cloverdale has a vision statement of areas we want our congregation to focus on growing in our walk with Christ. The Campus Ministry seeks to be in sync with that vision and we have four "values" that we center our ministry around to achieve that.

First we seek to **CONNECT**. We want our students to connect to one another and connect with the church family here at Cloverdale. We specifically want to give our students opportunities to form relationships that are intergenerational so they have opportunities to learn from mature Christians and have chances to serve as examples to our children and teens.

Secondly we seek to be a ministry where everyone **LEARNS**. We want students to learn more about God and His special calling on their lives. We also

seek to learn more about our students and their experiences and beliefs. Students represent the future of our congregations all over the world. If we are to connect with them effectively we must learn who they are and where they believe God is leading them.

Third, we seek to **GROW** together. We want to be a ministry that stretches out of our comfort zone. We want to challenge students and give them opportunities to serve in ways that they haven't before. We want to also get out of our comfort zone and allow students to serve and grow in areas that we ourselves usually serve. It may be uncomfortable listening to a young man give a devotional thought for the first time or a young lady try to teach, but ultimately the family grows and matures through these experiences.

Finally, we seek to be a church that helps launch our students out to a hurting world that needs the hope we share. We want to give our students an understanding of what God is doing in this world and we hope they hear the words of Christ which commands us to "Go" by the power of His Name.

**CONNECT**

**LEARN**

**GROW**

**GO**

**THANK YOU**

# LEADERSHIP



## **KEN GRAVES**

### ***OVERSEER OF COLLEGE MINISTRY***

Ken Graves has been the Elder overseeing the College Ministry for almost a decade now. Having served on the mission field in Brazil and now directing the Global Outreach program at Harding University, he is passionate about how this time in a student's life can impact them to reach higher and run further with God's leading.



## **PHILIP BAIRD**

### ***COLLEGE MINISTER***

Born in Searcy and raised at Cloverdale, Philip Baird never imagined that he would still be here years later. Philip openly talks about the struggles he faced while he was a student at Harding and trying to find his place in the church body. This has given him a passion for walking alongside students as they navigate this chapter of their life and their faith.



## **MARNIE WALKER**

### ***VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR***

Marnie Walker is our Volunteer Coordinator and has such a big heart for students and their spiritual and emotional development. She is a Super Mom not only to her own three, but to every student who has the pleasure of getting to know her. Passionate about the difference a loving church community can make in the lives of students, Marnie helps to connect our members to opportunities to serve in our college ministry.



## **WILL AND JEN WALDRON**

### **SENIORS- CLASS OF 2024**

Will and Jen Waldron are the Host Family for the Senior Class this year! Will teaches Physics at Harding University and Jen raises their two boys. They are wonderful examples of young adults who have worked hard to fill needs in the congregations they attend and they pass this mindset on to the students they mentor.



## **KARL AND KATIE TANKERSLEY**

### **JUNIORS- CLASS OF 2025**

Karl and Katie Tankersley are the Host Family for the Junior Class this year! Karl was raised at Cloverdale and works in the Harding Physical Resources Dept and Katie is a licensed social worker who has been an adjunct on campus and worked for the local hospital. They are passionate about helping students feel loved and known as they find their place in a new congregation.



## **JOHN AND KAREN DINEEN**

### **SOPHOMORES- CLASS OF 2026**

John and Karen Dineen are the Host Family for the Sophomore Class! John works in management at the Wal Mart Distribution Center and Karen runs a local daycare. They have both been blessed by members of the church who opened up their homes to young people as they navigate life's ups and downs and they are excited to pass this blessing on in their own home.



## **JAMES AND DONA CLARIN**

### **FRESHMEN- CLASS OF 2027**

James and Dona Clarin have agreed to step into the role of Host Family for the incoming Freshman Class! James is retired and Dona is the Director of the Family Nurse Practitioner program at Harding. They know the joys of large churches and small churches and they have been actively engaged in missions efforts through those church for years.

# **LEADERSHIP**

# OPPORTUNITIES



## **PRAYER AND ENCOURAGEMENT MINISTRY**

We recognize that not everyone can make it to the tailgates or service projects or weekly lunches that we have to meet and connect with students. We also recognize that there are some members who wish to contribute to the ministry but do not feel gifted in the areas of mentoring or hospitality. That is okay!

No ministry is effective without the guidance and encouragement of God's hand- guidance and encouragement that comes through spending time in prayer. If you are someone who has a heart for our students and for prayer we seek to have weekly confidential prayer requests sent out to our volunteers so our students can be brought before the Father.

We also have opportunities for encouraging notes and care packages to be sent by the church if you have a talent or passion for brightening a student's day! If you are interested please contact Marnie!



## **BIBLE CLASS TEACHERS**

We are blessed at Cloverdale to have a number of men and women who are incredibly talented teachers and have had extensive experience in ministry and the mission field. We seek to utilize this blessing to the benefit of our students and help them to learn more of who God is calling them to be as they make decisions about the future.

However, there are many opportunities (Wednesday nights, holiday weekends, and summers) for others to step in and give these teachers a break. We believe that it is important to set an example to these students that you do not have to have a Bible degree to teach the Word of God. If you are willing to step up and help teach our students please let Philip know!



# OPPORTUNITIES



## HOST FAMILIES

Becoming a Host Family is an incredible way to minister to our students and connect with them on a personal level. It is a bit of a commitment though. Each Host Family signs up to sponsor an incoming Freshmen class and sticks with that class till they graduate.

Host Families are asked to sit in the College Bible Classes on Sunday mornings with their students. Ideally, they can serve as a concerned friend who will text and check in on students periodically throughout the semester. They also will hopefully find times to invite their Freshmen class into their homes for meals, game nights, or cookouts.

Host Families serve as one of the many bridges we have tried to form between the congregation and the huge "blob" of students who come to Cloverdale on Sunday mornings. They are sources of encouragement, personal touch points, and announcements about church-wide events. If this interests you please let Philip know!

## INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES VOLUNTEER

A value that we are committed to at Cloverdale is to be *intergenerational*. In the college ministry we believe in helping students *connect* and *grow* by participating in church activities that involve the entire congregation. Students should both be challenged to set an example and teach the younger members of our congregation, but they should also be taught and mentored by our older members. That cannot happen without opportunities for the different generations to introduce themselves.

If you are willing to help with these kinds of events (tailgates, game nights, prayer nights, worship nights, etc) please let Marnie know how you would like to serve. We would love to have members host intergenerational groups in their homes, members serving alongside students in the community, and any other opportunities we can dream together!

# OPPORTUNITIES



## **FOOD MINISTRY: POTLUCKS AND TAILGATES**

Food brings us together. Jesus sat at many tables during his time on this Earth and it is at the table as we break bread that we are filled both physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Therefore, many of our events in the college ministry involve serving food or refreshments of some sort.

Between tailgates, potlucks, new members lunches, senior luncheons, and many others we are always looking for volunteers who are willing to use their gifts to provide food for our fellowships.

If this is something you feel called to do or something that you are gifted in and see as a way to serve, please contact Marnie and we will be in touch about events that we have coming up!



## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS MINISTRY**

The three areas in campus ministry that you are most likely to meet students who have little exposure to the Gospel are your athletes, your graduate students, and your international students.

International students also have the unique position of being in a new culture, often with a new language, and sometimes with limited resources.

We are still trying to develop a more structured and diverse ministry to the international students on campus. But at the moment we have a number of students who often need rides to church or to the grocery store. If this is an area you can help with please contact Philip or Marnie! If you are passionate about reaching international students and would like to work with us to grow this ministry please let us know!



# STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM



**THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM IS A GROUP OF STUDENTS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO HELPING BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN STUDENTS AND THE CONGREGATION.**

Each semester we have an open meeting for any and all students who want to get involved and help students connect with the congregation and connect members of the congregation to students. This looks like helping with forming the ministry calendar, leading prayer groups in the dorms, helping set up and run the Fall tailgates, and looking out for students who are struggling during the semester. If you know of any students who are looking for a place to lead and serve in the college ministry this team is a great place for students to help out.

# ANNUAL EVENTS

## *FALL SEMESTER*

### AUG

Booth at the Stampede Involvement Fair

Student Leadership Team Retreat



### SEP

Involvement Sign Ups

Men's Retreat

Family Weekend Tailgate

Embraced Conference (Ladies)



### OCT

Fall Break Activities (Fri, Sat, Sun)

Homecoming Tailgate

Fall Fest



### NOV

Senior Luncheon (at Host Families' Homes)

Spring Calendar Meeting

Dead Week Study Nights

### DEC

Finals Week Study Nights

Final Combined Class/Send Off

Graduation

# ANNUAL EVENTS

## *SPRING SEMESTER*

### JAN

College Ministry Retreat

Involvement Sign Ups

Beast Feast (Student-Led Worship)

### FEB

Ladies' Retreat

Bi-Weekly Fellowship Lunches

Midterms Study Nights

### MAR

Spring Break

Fall Calendar Meeting

### APR

Super Saturday Service Project

Senior Luncheon (at the Church Building)

Fall Softball Sign Ups

Dead Week Study Nights

### MAY

Finals Week Study Nights

Final Combined Class/Send Off

Graduation



# ANNUAL EVENTS

## *SEARCY SUMMER*



### MAY

Intersession Meal + Care Packages?

HUT 2 Week Course

### JUNE

Float Trip

YAC Game Nights

VBS

Summer Mission Trip



### JULY

4th of July Cookout

YAC Game Nights

Ice Cream Social

LiftU at Maywood Christian Camp



### AUG

Family Encampment

Volunteer Meeting

Move In Day

LET'S TALK!

*CLOVERDALE C OF C*

3000 E Park Ave, Searcy, AR 72143  
501-268-4553  
[www.cloverdalecofc.org](http://www.cloverdalecofc.org)  
[cloverdale.family@gmail.com](mailto:cloverdale.family@gmail.com)  
[@cdalecofc](https://www.instagram.com/cdalecofc)