



MINISTRIES

In recent days I have been wrestling with many things. The struggle of the past couple of years has been heavy.

The challenge of trying to hold on to ministry connections and contacts while not being able to travel and lead trips has been a difficult thing to manage. The days have brought many questions about the future and how to move forward. In the midst of it all, I was reminded of the early memory of my call to ministry.

In the spring of 1982, my church hosted "Youth Week." During this time all students were allowed to participate in the leadership roles of the church by joining our staff in leading out in various aspects of ministry. A couple of highlights were teaching Sunday School classes for every age group in the church and being allowed to fill the pulpit to preach the morning sermon. That spring I was given the opportunity to teach our oldest men's Sunday School class and to preach the 11:00 a.m. sermon. That year was my first time to stand before a congregation and preach. I vividly recall the passage was Isaiah 40:28-31.

In this passage the Hebrew word for wait is "kavah." If you have known me for any length of time, you have probably heard me share about this word. Kavah literally means to weave together a rope in order to hold on. This concept has overwhelmed my head and heart lately, reminding me of the simple truth of this Hebrew concept. God has called us to actively pursue Him with all of our being. He has set in motion a course of actions that requires us to rely on Him and His plans completely. Waiting is not to be a passive act of doing nothing until God acts on our behalf.

I needed to be reminded of this reality in my own life. The Lord has called me to serve Him and His Kingdom. That call is not a detailed map of every step of the journey. Rather, it is a call to wait patiently on the Lord, to run after Him, to seek His Kingdom, to remain faithful even when everything around me discourages me.

In the coming days more details and plans will be shared for the future days of ministry. Beginning this fall the journey back to the field begins, and opportunities will open up for trips and work among the nations. During the pandemic many things have changed around the world. The work we once did in some scenarios will change into new opportunities to serve the body and minister in His name. Some locations require new partnerships and different types of work. We are excited to

join our Brother Hassan in Tizimin, Mexico as he faithfully led his family to plant a church in a rural part of the Yucatán. We look forward to returning to Guatemala and partnering with



Patty Ajanel's church in Xela and assisting with outreach and community ministry. We are eager to join the Killingsworth's in Slovenia as they venture into a new city to assist with a church plant and outreach efforts to share and show the Gospel. We will travel into the mountains of Peru to help with ministry in a mountain town called Cachora through ministry at Village of the Children and house church planting. We will return to the high desert of the Navajo Nation to help minister to our largest indigenous people group here in the US through our partnership with Tohatchi Baptist Church and the faithful Jim family.

The doors are opening up for these areas of ministry to be accessible to teams. We are looking for more ways we can reach the world and teach the Word among people groups all over the world. Join us as we prepare to re-engage the efforts around the world and in our back yard! Pray for the hearts of people in all of the locations the Lord leads us. Give to support our work among the nations as we continue to lead ministry and mission. Go with us as we make our way to the field to journey with our brothers and sisters sharing and showing the Gospel. Wait on the Lord with me as we pursue Him daily!





The last three years seem like a confused blur, as I'm sure you all understand. When we made the difficult decision to take all co-op classes virtual, the amount of work that would entail was not even fully grasped. Kaitlyn was still in Orlando working at Disney, and Madison moved home and all UAB classes went online. Jett, Zeke, and Elly had virtual classes all day on Tuesdays and Thursdays while I was teaching math to a screen full of tired faces. On Monday and Wednesday I still taught virtually to other students and managed to

help my kids during the breaks. JT began to pick up renovation jobs to supplement our income.

Speaking to a friend a few weeks ago, she said, "This is NOT how I saw my life going at this age." I wholeheartedly agreed and that idea resonated with me. The pandemic has affected us all in many ways - good and bad.



As I ponder how the last three years have deeply impacted my younger children, I know that they haven't traveled as extensively as the older two. By their teenage years, Kaitlyn and Madison had already been to China, Uganda, South Africa, Eswatini (formerly known as Swaziland), Guatemala, Mexico, and across the United States. So, I wondered if my younger kids were missing out on being exposed to other cultures and working alongside ministry partners for the Gospel. As this wave of Mom guilt washed over me, the Lord, in all of His goodness and mercy, reminded me of what He has done in their lives.

He has allowed them to deliver food boxes to hungry families in Birmingham, help our neighbors with tornado cleanup, go to New Orleans to work with various ministries, serve as a leader for middle school camp, and even to serve in a food pantry here in town. While their travel may not be vast, their ministry experience has been impactful and deep. He orders their steps, not me. He is not taken by surprise at what has happened, and He is still on the throne.



Slovenia Trip 2022

Join us from October 21-29, 2022 in Slovenia as we partner with our Wade and Joan Killingsworth. Help this precious family move to a new city to work alongside very few Christians in the area. The estimated cost of the trip is \$2500. Please send an e-mail to sheryl@1wayministries.org or reserve your spot at www.1wayministries.org today!

