

A stylized brown outline of a violin, including the body, f-hole, and neck with a scroll. The scroll has two sets of three horizontal lines on either side. Three light gray circles are positioned vertically above the scroll. The violin body is filled with a light gray color.

SANCTUARY ORCHESTRA

2023-2024 HANDBOOK

Table of Contents



WELCOME!

3

IN ONE ACCORD

4

We Are Worship Leaders

Our Mission & Ministry

Orchestra Membership

WHAT, WHEN, WHERE

5

Rehearsals: Wednesday Night

Worship: Sunday Morning

Community: Concerts, Teaching, Mentoring

Discipleship

LEADERSHIP TEAM

6

RESOURCES

6

Remind

Music Stand App & Planning Center

CALENDAR

7

APPAREL GUIDANCE ADDENDUM

9

WELCOME!



Welcome to the Dawson Sanctuary Orchestra! My name is Dan Mullis and I have the privilege of conducting this great group of musicians. Together with my wife Carrie, it is our hope that you will find this orchestra to be one that not only pursues excellence, but also enjoys times of great laughter, prayer and spiritual growth together.

We each bring our unique musical experiences to this group seeking to give our best offering of worship. Some come discovering or re-discovering their instrumental talent while some come having studied and developed their talent deeply. Whichever way you come to this ministry, we want you to know



DAN & CARRIE MULLIS
ASSOC. MUSIC & WORSHIP MINISTER
DMULLIS@DAWSONCHURCH.ORG



you are welcome!

You join with a much larger group of musicians both here and universally that have proclaimed the gospel through music for centuries! Your participation in this ministry is more than musical. Your input and presence will make a spiritual impact on us all and we welcome you to share and receive as we all do. Together we help remind others of God's love for them.

“Listen to the village musicians gathered at the well as they recount the righteous victories of God and of his people, Israel.”
Judges 5:11

Dawson is an exciting place to play, fellowship and grow in your walk with Christ. I am so glad you are here.

IN ONE ACCORD



In music, an individual note brings its unique qualities, tone and timbre to the whole chord. When we join an orchestra, we are joining our unique talents, personalities and experiences. We individually come to be an important part of the whole helping to make one another stronger. Here are some guidelines to help us serve in one accord together.

Our Mission & Ministry

The musicians of the Dawson Sanctuary Orchestra desire through music, to become and help others become faithful servants of Jesus Christ. We live this out by leading in worship, participating in community events and offering musical training and concerts. Annually we present the following special services.

- *Celebration Sunday*: In partnership with the Dawson Music Academy, we invite students and instructors to join the orchestra. This gives many the opportunity to play with an ensemble but also to experience worship leadership.
- *Candlelight at Dawson*: Together with the Sanctuary Choir, we present these special services every third weekend in December.



◦ *Good Friday Tenebrae*: In the Spring we present a Tenebrae styled service that features instrumental music and scriptural meditations to help reflect and emphasize the crucifixion of Christ.

We Are Worship Leaders

It is important to remember that as you play in the orchestra, you are doing so as a worship leader here at Dawson. Worship is more than the music. It is the time when we as one body join together to remember, repent and refresh through fellowship, music, giving and listening. Whatever the case may be, our primary goal every week is to provide an underscore to

worship that helps connect the worshiper to their Savior and reminds them of the victories He has provided.

Orchestra Membership

Orchestra Membership is always open for anyone from high school to adults. There is no formal audition, but instead, we ask that you attend at least two rehearsals and have a brief interview with the director to determine the best part for you to play. Once you have joined us, we ask that you stay connected through faithful at-home practice, group rehearsals, and playing for worship and concerts. We all have those times when we may need to be away. When this comes up, please be sure to communicate in advance. A calendar is always available at www.dawsonchurch.org/sanctuaryorchestra.



WHAT, WHEN, WHERE



Rehearsals: Wednesday Night, 6:00pm

Rehearsals are typically in the Sanctuary and begin promptly at 6:00 pm and will finish by 7:30 pm. We will have a few “Bonus Rehearsals” from time to time as we prepare for special services and events (i.e. Candlelight, Holy Week). Please see the calendar at www.dawsonchurch.org/sanctuaryorchestra for all dates and times.

- We encourage the use of personal tablet music readers (i.e. iPad, Galaxy) by utilizing the free Music Stand app from Planning Center.
- We cover a lot of music within our rehearsal time so we ask that you do whatever you can to be here on time so we will all be best prepared.
- Please be in your seat with instrument tuned and music ready by the downbeat.
- Talking is natural but please respect others around you and the conductor on the podium.
- Be considerate and look for ways to always encourage musical and spiritual growth.

Worship: Sunday Morning Services

On Sunday Mornings that we play in worship, we play for all 3 services. The morning begins at 7:25 with a run through of the service in the Sanctuary.

Dress for worship services should reflect a respect for the position of a worship leader at Dawson. Further explanation can be found in our Apparel Guidance addendum in this book.

- When we leave a service, please go as quietly as possible, taking instrument and music.
- When you are finished securing your instrument, we ask that you proceed back to the sanctuary for the remainder of the service or join a LifeGroup for Bible study.
- Fragrances should be worn with discretion.

Discipleship

Discipleship is the intentional ongoing spiritual growth of each believer. We utilize rehearsal devotions and our fall retreat to aid in spiritual growth. Additionally, we encourage everyone to engage with a LifeGroup on Sunday mornings. Dawson has many options available for you to find one to invest in and deepen your walk with Christ. Discover your LifeGroup at www.dawsonchurch.org/lifegroups.



Community: Concerts, Teaching, Mentoring

We are engaged as musicians throughout our community. We do this through presenting seasonal concerts, teaching, and providing mentor and scholarship opportunities to students in music ministry. Learn more at www.dawsonchurch.org/instrumentalscholarship

LEADERSHIP TEAM



Tina Lindsey
Ministry Assistant



Ed Gibson
Brass Section Leader



Robin Harrison
Librarian



Mary Elizabeth Curl
Woodwind Section Leader



Nan Smith
Social Events Coordinator



Andrew Bennett
Percussion Section Leader



Amy Owen
Care Leader



Justin Wallace
Rhythm Section Leader



Julianne Steele, Concert Master
Strings Section Leader

RESOURCES



REMIND

The Dawson Sanctuary Orchestra utilizes Remind as a group text service to notify musicians of any changes, reminders, or updates. This is a key way that we are able to communicate with everyone quickly. You do not need the actual Remind app as these messages will come into your device Messages app. We do not give out your number and you will not receive junk messages. Please register by sending the following:

Text Message: @dawsonorch

To Number: 81010



MUSIC STAND APP & PLANNING CENTER ONLINE

After joining the orchestra, you will be entered into our database called Planning Center Online. You will receive a confirmation email once registered and you can then set your own password. All rehearsal music, mp3's and service music will be made available to you through their Music Stand App so you can practice at home. This app is free at all app stores allowing you to access these files through your computer, phone or tablet. Furthermore, you are encouraged to use your own tablet for rehearsals and services.



Rehearsals Every Wednesday — 6:00 to 7:30pm
Worship Select Sundays — 8:30am, 9:45am, 11:00am

Fall

Fall Kickoff — Aug 9
Lead Worship — Aug 13
Lead Worship — Aug 27 - Prelude
Leadership Meeting — Aug 27

Lead Worship — Sept 10 - Prelude
Lead Worship — Sept 17
Candlelight Premiere — Sept 17 - 4:30pm

Lead Worship — Oct 8 - Prelude
Leadership Meeting — Oct 8
Sectionals — Oct 11
Fall Retreat (Camp Dawson) — Oct 20 & 21
Lead Worship — Oct 22
Lead Worship — Oct 29 - Prelude

Lead Worship — Nov 5
DMA Celebration Sunday — Nov 12 - Prelude
No Rehearsal (Thanksgiving) — Nov 22
Lead Worship — Nov 26
Leadership Meeting — Nov 26
Candlelight Bonus Rehearsal — Nov 28 - 6:00pm
Sectionals — Nov 29

Lead Worship — Dec 3
Candlelight Bonus Rehearsal — Dec 12 - 6:00pm
Choir & Orchestra Candlelight Dress Rehearsal — Dec 13
- 6:00 to 8:00pm
Candlelight at Dawson — Dec 15 - 6:30pm
Candlelight at Dawson — Dec 16 - 5:00pm
Candlelight at Dawson — Dec 17 - 5:00pm
Lead Worship — Dec 17 - Prelude
No Rehearsals — Dec 20 & 27

Spring

Spring Kickoff — Jan 3
Lead Worship — Jan 7
Lead Worship — Jan 21
Lead Worship — Jan 28
Leadership Meeting — Jan 28

Lead Worship — Feb 4
Chocolate Party — Feb 14
Lead Worship — Feb 18
Holy Week Bonus Rehearsal — Feb 20 - 6:00pm
Sectionals — Feb 21

Lead Worship — Mar 10
Leadership Meeting — Mar 10
Lead Worship — Mar 17
Holy Week Bonus Rehearsal — Mar 19 - 6:00pm
Good Friday/Easter Rehearsal — Mar 27
Good Friday Service — Mar 29 - 6:00pm
Lead Worship (Easter) — Mar 31

Lead Worship — Apr 14
Leadership Meeting — Apr 14
Lead Worship — Apr 21
Lead Worship — Apr 28

Lead Worship — May 5
End of Year Celebration — May 8
Lead Worship — May 12

Orchestra Lab — Jun 26

Rehearsals Resume — Aug 7, 2024

For most up-to-date calendar please visit <https://dawsonchurch.org/sanctuaryorchestra>

Stay up-to-date by texting the message @dawsonorch to the number 81010.

Apparel Guidance

FOR WORSHIP LEADERS



Servant Leaders In Worship



WE ARE ONE

Worship leaders serve by preaching, singing or playing music, reading scripture or leading a prayer, giving the welcome or sharing announcements. We serve as a part of the congregation we lead, so we dress like them.



WELCOMING NEW LEADERS

Leading for the first time can be challenging enough without having to worry about what to wear. Here we share what we have learned from our experience in leading the Dawson Family of Faith in worship.



HOSPITALITY MATTERS

We choose clothing that reflects personal style and personality, while remembering that these choices are an act of hospitality and humility. Personal expression is secondary to effectiveness in our leadership.



SERVING IS WORSHIP

We are servants of the congregation. Our goal in worship is to encourage their voice.

Apparel Guidance

MEN

Shirts

Yes: Long or short sleeved shirts with a folded collar; shirt tail tucked in.
Jacket, tie, and/or sweater optional.

No: T-shirts; shirts with logos or distracting patterns.

Bottoms

Yes: Solid slacks.

No: Jeans; brightly colored or distracting pants; distressing or holes.

Shoes

Yes: Dress shoes or boots in neutral colors.

No: Athletic shoes, sneakers of any kind, flip flops, sandals, or distinctly casual boots.

Special Apparel

For some special services, the worship or event leader will choose all black clothing. Please do not wear "All Black Clothing" performance apparel for worship or event leadership unless requested.

For some special services, the worship or event leader will choose an event-specific t-shirt. For these events, either all of us or none of us will wear them when we lead. No communication means we will not be wearing the event t-shirt. Please do not wear event t-shirts for worship or event leadership unless requested.



Apparel Guidance

WOMEN

Shirts

- Yes: Loose-fitting and longer, flowing shirts; shirts tucked in, or the bottom of shirt resting at low hip with arms fully raised; both shirts and tops need sleeves.
- No: Sleeveless shirts or tops, t-shirts; white or sheer fabrics, logos or distracting patterns, cap sleeves, shoulder cutouts, busy prints, short or cropped shirts.

Bottoms

- Yes: Tailored dress pants in a modest cut and dark colors.
- No: Jeans; brightly colored or distracting pants; distressing or holes.

Dresses & Skirts

- Yes: Hem at top of knee or lower; worn with or without solid, dark or neutral colored tights or leggings; sleeves required.
- No: Hemlines above the knee, sleeveless dresses, sheer fabrics, distracting prints or colors; tights or leggings made of lace or other patterns.

Shoes

- Yes: Dress shoes in styles including flats, wedges, boots, or heels.
- No: Athletic shoes, sneakers of any kind, flip flops, sandals, or distinctly casual boots and wedges.

Special Apparel

For some special services, the worship or event leader will choose all black clothing. Please do not wear "All Black Clothing" performance apparel for worship or event leadership unless requested.

For some special services, the worship or event leader will choose an event-specific t-shirt. For these events, either all of us or none of us will wear them when we lead. No communication means we will not be wearing the event t-shirt. Please do not wear event t-shirts for worship or event leadership unless requested.



Apparel Guidance

ALL BLACK CLOTHING

For some special services, the worship or event leader will choose all black clothing. Please do not wear "All Black Clothing" performance apparel for worship or event leadership unless requested.

Men

- Yes: Solid, dark-black, long-sleeved shirt with folded collar and black buttons.
Shirt tail tucked in and cuffs buttoned.
Solid, dark-black pants that touch top of shoes .
Solid, dark-black dress shoes and socks.
Solid, dark-black belt.
Solid, dark-black jacket, optional.
Black clothing only. No visible colored garments under black clothing.
- No: No tie; no white or colored buttons on shirt or pants; no cologne.

Women

- Yes: Solid, dark-black top and pants.
Solid, dark-black dress with sleeves and hem to the knee.
Stud earrings, optional.
Black clothing only. No visible colored garments under black clothing.
- No: No velvet, sheer fabric, or excessive texture; no necklaces or perfume.



Helpful Tips

FOR ALL EVENTS

While looking in a mirror, exaggerate the movements you may be doing in worship to ensure you remain modestly covered.

Remember that the platform is elevated, so those on the floor are seeing you from below. Hemlines will appear shorter from the congregation.

Choose shoes and clothing that allow you to enter and exit the platform confidently and quietly.

Solid colors look best. Bold and busy patterns can be distracting on camera.

Questions?

PLEASE REACH OUT

As servants of the congregation, our goal is to lead worship services that are free from distraction.

As always, please contact the Music & Worship office or your event leader if needed. We are happy to answer questions or clarify details at any time. You can reach John Woods at 205-871-7324 or jwoods@dawsonchurch.org.

If you have any questions regarding the Sanctuary Orchestra or if you are interested in joining us, please Contact Dan Mullis, Associate Music & Worship Minister, at the information below.

Office: 205.871.7324 x.731 **Mobile:** 205.441.8712 **Email:** dmullis@dawsonchurch.org
www.dawsonchurch.org/sanctuaryorchestra



Dawson Memorial Baptist Church
1114 Oxmoor Road • Birmingham, AL 35209
(205) 871-7324 • Prayer Line: (205) 795-PRAY
dawsonchurch.org