



Melissa Maimone

Melissa Maimone teaches women that an authentic life in Christ can be messy and magnificent at the exact same time. With her unique blend of theology, humor, and insight, Melissa provides down-to-earth lessons, practical applications, and life-changing perspectives to real women who are living real lives in the midst of real problems.

Her latest book, “The Radiant Midnight: Depression, Grace, and the Gifts of a Dark Place” offers wisdom, insight, unexpected humor, and stories from her own journey with depression to those in the hard places of the faith journey.

Her first book, “Gathering Dandelions: Meditations and Musings on Faith, Fracture, and Beauty Mistaken for a Weed”, won “Devotional of the Year” by Interviews and Reviews.

She and her husband Danny have been married for 30 years and have two children, one of whom has a special needs diagnosis. They are recent transplants to North Carolina (and loving it!) She loves Jesus, her family, and her friends. Her hobbies include reading, walking, watching weird documentaries, and eating tacos. [Visit Melissa’s website](#)

Sandi Anderson

Sandi Anderson and her husband Jeff have lived in Fallbrook for the past 22 years. Sandi created “Arts in Motion,” an adult day program sourced and provided through the San Diego Regional Center to teach life, social, academic, and business skills to her son, Joel. Together they have established a micro enterprise supporting Joel’s painting, animation and speaking schedule called “Joel’s Vision Arts”. As an international public speaker, Sandi is best known as an encourager of other parents with special needs children. For the past 15 years, she has also been a key volunteer with Autism Tree Project Foundation, coordinating their Football Mentor Program with the University of San Diego. It is her greatest joy to share hope to other families all over the world.

Andreina Leal Carrillo

Andreina Leal Carrillo is the owner of the San Diego based company, The Repair Tech, and has always been passionate about helping her community. After her son's diagnosis with Sotos syndrome, ADHD, and ASD, she became even more committed to making a difference. That's why she is proud to be involved with Hope on the Hard Road, Inc, a nonprofit organization that provides resources and support to families of children with special needs in the community. She and her husband, Emmanuel started The Repair Tech as a way to support their family and their community while also thinking about their son's future.

Cheri Monis

Cheri Monis is the mom of Stephanie, a 33 years old, who resides in Supported Living and has started a exciting micro business this past year. Cheri often shares that she learns daily from her daughter about what it takes to live your best life. Whether it is learning to pace yourself, surprise yourself, or even stopping to rest yourself; her daughter is a consummate teacher!

Stacy Shradar

Stacy Shradar is the mother of 3 (13, 10 and 8 years old). Their youngest daughter joined the family through adoption as a toddler with a diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy and Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. She and her husband lead a church in Escondido, called Reservoir Church, that intentionally serves families with disabilities.

Terri Stashak

Terri Stashak is a wife and mom of twin adult daughters. Having both a typical child along with a daughter diagnosed with Down Syndrome from birth provided her and her husband the awareness that their daughter's disability did not need to hold her back from activities and sports even in the very early years. Upon retirement from the Navy, Terri was active as a parent representative for Special Education in the district and NCCSE and is now continuing as a Special Olympics coach and/or manager in swimming, basketball and soccer.