

THE CALEB DAUGHERTY BAND

Biography

Bringing together the meaningful lyrics of country music with the traditional musicianship of bluegrass, The Caleb Daugherty Band has emerged as one of the most promising live acts on the acoustic festival scene. Blessed with an expressive and resonant baritone voice, Daugherty carries on the legacy of heroes like Merle Haggard and George Jones as a singer, while the band as a whole

draws inspiration from famed bluegrass groups such as Seldom Scene and Lonesome River Band.

Daugherty says, "I wouldn't consider us a cross between bluegrass and country, and not necessarily modern bluegrass, and not necessarily a traditional band either, but somewhere right down the middle."

With its message of hard work and simple living, every member of the group can easily relate to their newest single, "Daylight's Burning" -- and they believe their listeners will, too. "I was pretty much raised that way, so to me, I can connect with it," Daugherty says. "I was raised on a farm with 40 acres and we always had cows, horses, and chickens, and always had some kind of work to be done. To me, it's a happy song and it makes people think about when times were a little more simple."

Born and raised near Connersville, Indiana, Daugherty still calls it home. Today he lives on an acreage with his wife and family about 10 minutes outside of the small town. The remaining band members, who also live in Indiana, include Zion Napier on mandolin, Kyle Clerkin on banjo, Zach Collier on bass, and Kyle Ramey on fiddle.

Born in 1992, Daugherty grew up surrounded by music. His mother's grandfather, who attended church with the family, played guitar and sang. Meanwhile his father's father, who lived about six hours away, introduced him to classic country during summer visits. Daugherty's father, a longtime musician and rhythm guitarist, brought him into the family band at an early age. After playing bass (while having to stand on top of a milk crate), Daugherty gravitated toward the guitar around age 7. His father showed him a few chords on an Applause model and promised to give him a Martin guitar if he improved.

"Then it was on from there, buddy," Daugherty recalls, laughing. "I was doing everything I could to get better. I spent most every night laying in my bed, a lot of times with the lights out. That way I couldn't really see what I was doing, so I had to feel it and hear it. I'd sit and play that guitar forever -- and finally I got a Martin."

Because he grew up performing in church, Caleb predominantly played gospel songs until he turned 18. During a visit to Nashville in 2012, he attended a concert by Lonesome River Band and Illrd Tyme Out, which set him on a path toward forming his own band. Bluegrass star Rhonda Vincent, who befriended the band after seeing their set at Silver Dollar City in Branson, invited him to play guitar in her band for a Grand Ole Opry performance. He's also taken part in an all-star tribute to Keith Whitley in Nashville.



