

Kilmurrays Minister to Vets in Music, Caring and Conversation

God and country are more than just slogans for Kevin Kilmurray and his wife, Donna. For both of them, it's a way of life. "My childhood was pretty darn good," Kevin says. "We lived out in the country along a two lane state highway, in an area that is really the start of the Allegheny mountains. So in the summer we had beautiful places to hike and in the winter great places to sled."

In seventh grade, Kevin joined a radio club at school and had the opportunity to work various jobs — including DJ and sports reporting — on weekends. That training would prove to be a godsend in later life. In high school, Kevin's radio experience translated to paper and he worked a sports beat for his hometown newspaper.

After college, Kevin worked for a while as a police officer and, when he joined the Army in his mid-20s, he became a Corrections Specialist. For most of his military career, he was stationed at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas,

After he left the Army, Kevin returned to public service working in prison administration at the Kansas State Penitentiary, as a dispatcher and Reserve Police Sergeant for Leavenworth Police Department and with the City of Overland Park Public Works Department where he retired.

It was about then that internet radio became a possibility and the idea of it rekindled the interest in radio he had had from his middle school days. Also, about the same time, he was introduced to the Branson music scene and right away he wanted to do internet radio based on Branson's musical entertainment industry. He began working on setting up media for that and, in the process, was introduced to Rick Ramsey, who was working to create Acts Radio, the beginnings of Acts Media. Kevin moved to Branson in support of his own project, but when Ramsey had to step away from Acts Radio, Kevin stepped in. He had already added a gospel music station to his own endeavors, so it was a natural



Donna Marie and Kevin Kilmurray

move for him.

Acts Ministry Bishop Jim Wining rented an apartment next door to Kevin and a spare bedroom became Acts Radio and, later, Acts TV studios. When the AMG ministry moved from Branson to Springfield, Kevin stepped away and the current manager, Matt Pearson, assumed the duties.

Kevin met his wife, Donna, while he lived in Branson. She came up from Oklahoma with a group that performed at The Night Light Beacon, a Christian social club. He got involved with her music ministry and eventually they were married. "It only took six years," Kevin says, "to go on our first date."

Donna has strong military ties, too. Her father was a Marine and the family moved around a good deal until

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ANNOUNCING!

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Kilmurrays Minister to Vets

his retirement, when they settled in Oklahoma. It was her father who, along with teacher her to play golf, introduced her to a wide variety of music, from country to rhythm and blues. In middle school, she won several honors as a soloist in choir, but didn't really pursue music until college. At first she had considered a Nashville career as a country singer, but in her junior year in college she felt a calling to pursue gospel music instead.

She has won several prizes for her singing, including placing in the top ten in The Singing News Ultimate Talent Search. Recently, she won the Horizon Female Artist from the International Country Gospel Music Association.

Donna has been a registered orthopedics nurse for 14 years.

Current, Kevin and Donna serve as pastors, along with Steve McAllister, for the Veterans Church. There, the two's military background is helpful in ministering to troubled military veterans.

Veterans, Kevin says, have had to deal with death in ways that most people have not. "I know everybody deals with death at some time," Kevin says, "but for war vets, that's a whole different level. The average citizen doesn't walk into the things these guys do. Sometimes when we're sitting at home and hurting, we pick up the phone and call our best friend. But for the vet, sometimes the best friend they need to talk to died in their arms in some faraway land." They have to deal with "why me" feelings: "Why did I survive?" "Why did I make it home when others didn't?"

A Mighty Counselor

By Donna Moller, Licensed Counselor

Last month's article focused on the battle plan of using scripture against the enemy within. This month I will focus on Jesus being our Counselor. His wisdom is everlasting and forever. Jesus has a number one teaching. It was that we have, right now, the ability to live a whole and holy way of life. His was the only solution for anger, fear, contempt, pride...all of the deadly sins we battle.

Last month, I spoke of using His mighty Word against these sins. This month I focus on the only solution for conquering the sinful behaviors. Jesus presented a vision for placing our kingdom (our personal will) back inside God's kingdom (the realm of God's will) which is pure love. Union with

Suicide and self harm is another big issue. It happens to non-vets as well, but vets are a pretty small demographic, Kevin says, to lose 22 people a day to suicide.

Veterans Church operates pretty informally. "We do a lot more talking than preaching," Kevin says. "We feel that the vets who already know Christ are being fed by their home church; here, we're hoping to reach those who don't know Christ. We want to show them through our stories and our guests the love and friendship of Jesus. We also want to hear their problems and either help them or help them find help."

Kevin and Donna currently live in Ada, Oklahoma, but hope to move to the Springfield area in the near future. They share a household with four Jack Russell terriers and a Great Pyrenees. Kevin has three adult children, Thomas, a Navy vet, Kevin Jr., who is a five-year Army vet, and Sara, who is in management of a candy company in Kansas.

The Kilmurrays enjoy golfing and sports. Being from upstate New York, Kevin is a die-hard Buffalo Bills fan. About a year and a half ago, he introduced Donna to target shooting. It wasn't too long before she came home with a Glock of her own.

Veterans Church meets at 2 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month at Acts Ministry headquarters, 4166 W Kearney St., Springfield Missouri. If you have any questions, comments, concerns or even have a favorite song you want Donna to sing, you can reach them Veterans-Church@actsmediagroup.com.

the Lord is learning to live in love. Love is patient and kind; it is not envious, boastful or proud, not easily angered. Love is an action and not just a feeling.

This sounds impossible — and it is! But all things are possible with the God. How? This is only made possible by Christ being in us. As counselors to broken people (and counselors are broken, too), we must lead the way by living in Christ and He in us. It is the pathway to forgiveness and loving others. Think of the words the Apostle Paul writes in Col. 3:1-17. Taking off anger, greed, lying and contempt and wrapping yourself in goodness, pa-

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Real News Review Article of the Month

“Trial of Christ,” the Calling and the Play

By Dr. James R. Wining

Those of us who follow the vision of Acts Ministry, “Unity, in Christ, through the Holy Spirit,” are aware of the last prayer of Jesus in John 17 and thereby, understand “The Calling.” The betrayal, the illegal trials and the eventual crucifixion detailed in John 18 illuminate His return. This is the affirming revelation of the fulfillment of Jesus’ last prayer to God. It is also a charge to those of us who follow the convictions of John 17.

It is apparent why Acts Ministry chose to do “The Trial of Christ.” Acts Ministry’s vision is composed of believers who understand the “Gathering of Followers,” and the selection of Acts Ministry with its vision to do this play as a precursor to John 17. The time how Jesus will be with us and his glory upon us was set forth clearly in John 17, but proclaimed by Him during his trial in John 18. Moreover, this trial establishes the weaknesses of mankind, the love of Jesus and the forgiveness he has for our mistakes.

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A Mighty Counselor

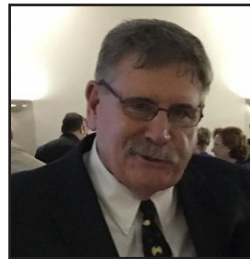
tience, listening. Can you imagine this happening in our precious people we counsel as well as us? Pick up the sword of the word, the shield of faith, gird your loins with truth, walk in peace, knowing you wear the helmet of salvation and are the wearing the breastplate of righteousness.

This past week, a client of mine presented me with a horrible childhood issue of hers which God revealed to her. The memories came flooding back. She was enraged at God for letting such a thing happen to her. I had no answers. I prayed God would minister the answers since I could not. I listened and prayed with her. In a matter of days, her angst was relieved, her walk with God restored by His grace and mercy. His Word rescued her. Counseling seemed all for naught except God entered into her despair.

He loves with an everlasting love. He enters into pain, fear and sorrow. He heals, even if we see things all wrong. He helps us see things from His

The time is now to start in motion the “Gathering of Believers,” to alert all that believe that mankind is not the answer of justice, love or forgiveness. We see by this play the failures of two justice systems and a verdict of public opinion irrespective of fair selection or due process. John 17 calls the believers to come now “In Unity,” in the words of “In Christ,” through listening to “The Holy Spirit”.

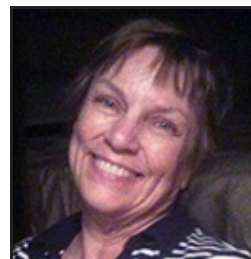
We need actors and leaders to put this play in timely motion before April 2022. Please, email me at 4321acts@gmail.com if you, after prayer and supplication, can offer a small amount of time and your gifts of talent to start the trumpet of “Gathering.” NOW!



Dr. James Wining
President
Acts Ministry

view. Praise Him! Our job as helpers is to listen to the pain, listen for the Lord, and pray. Jesus is the ultimate counselor, not you nor me.

Donna Moller, Licensed Counselor



Donna Moller
Licensed Professional
Counselor

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Wednesdays

• SILVER LININGS •

9 am with Steve McAllister

• CHANGING TIMES •

10 am with Lynn Morris & Dawn Blackard

• TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS •

11 am with Ladena Bough

Every Second Sunday

• THE VETERANS CHURCH •

2 pm Host: Pastors Kevin and Donna Kilmurray

Every First & Third Sunday

• FIRST ACTS CHURCH •

2-4 pm Host: Dr. Paul Collins

On Demand

• PAINTING OUTSIDE THE LINES •

New Discoveries in Autism

With author Joyce Jones and her husband, Tom

Education and Autism

With Elizabeth Obrey, vice-president of STARS for Autism

Living the Life with Autism

With Keith Allyman, Branson performer with personal experience with autism

The Little Boy That Could

With author Joyce Jones and her husband, Tom