



**MEET JODI AND MARK MEYER
VETERANS CHURCH PARTICIPANTS
AND
PRODUCTION PERSONNEL**

This month we want to introduce you to Jodi Meyer and her husband, Mark Meyer. Jodi and Mark diligently assist with broadcasting our weekly broadcasts for Acts Media Group, assist and sometimes lead our Veterans Church, and Jodi's daughter, Jaidyn LaBorde, shares her talents after Veterans Church on the Jam Session.

Jodi was raised in a Christian home and was always in church. She comments that her stepmother was always singing hymns around house, etc., and life was quite peaceful. There was always a joy about Jodi's stepmother. Jodi's siblings always went to summer church camp and Jodi was finally allowed to go herself the year after she attempted first grade. Consequently, when Jodi was 8 years old, she accepted the Lord as her Savior during that first trip to church camp.

She credits Bill Gaither, a Gospel music artist, and his singing to the children during that church camp that opened her heart to accepting Jesus. She relates that she left a lot of stuff behind after her first altar call and learned there was a lot put in front of her in this Christian walk. She remembers specifically Mr. Gaither singing the song "Because He Lives" and the conversations about the Lord. how everyone that He impacted their lives with her acceptance of Jesus.

Life did not get any easier after she was baptized, she was still picked on by two of her siblings and protected by her older siblings. No one at Acts Ministry will tell your life is easier as a Christian, but Jodi will tell you that life with Jesus is so much better! Not easier, but better!

Jodi served 20 years in the Navy as a Corpsman. That included 8 years of active duty and the rest in the Reserves. She was deployed six times over the years in Afghanistan and Iraq during different times of war, the most prominent being at Camp Leatherneck.

Being a Corpsman, she saw a lot during those times of war but held onto her faith during her deployments. Unfortunately, tougher times for her have been out of the service. When she was in the reserves, she was assaulted and left for dead. The man who assaulted her was never prosecuted for his actions because he did take the time to call 9-1-1 to get her assistance. That does not help with the PTSD that Jodi suffers now because of the attack.

Jodi does not talk much about her military service because she feels there is a time and place for discussing it. She's trying to decide if she should talk about it more, but at the moment reserves those conversations for times when she feels her input of that information may help someone else.

Jodi does have a service dog, Cash, that she has had for about seven years that is always with her. Jodi's daughter, Jaidyn, also has had a service dog for approximately six years.

Mark served for 22 years, 8 months and 16 days in the Army, having served in the first Gulf War and a couple of tours in Iraq. Mark was raised in a Lutheran church but did not take it seriously. As he looks back on his life his mother, which he described as a role model for being a heathen, made him attend catechism classes, etc., but Mark never took Jesus or those classes seriously. He knew his Bible, but Jesus was not his personal Savior. He threw up a prayer on occasion, especially as a soldier in a war-torn country, but that was about it. It was not until Mark met Jodi and her daughter, Jaidyn, that Mark started taking church seriously. Jaidyn LaBorde, Jodi's daughter from a previous marriage, wanted to be in church as often as she could. Mark, wanting to be a positive role model and a good father, thought he could clean up and start going to church with them in Kansas.

Mark fully admits that the first church they found to attend was a United Pentecostal Church and it was a shock to his Lutheran-raised mindset. Consequently, Mark and Jodi began looking for other churches around and have settled into a church somewhere between a Methodist and Baptist theology.

When they were in Alabama, if a church door was open, they were there. Mark felt a longing for Christ through this time, and believed he was saved, but even though he kept leaving things on the altar, he tended to take it back up. Luckily for us all, Mark went to a men's encounter in Missouri back in 2015 that Mark finally encountered the Holy Spirit and gave it all to the Lord. He, like Jodi, admit that life has not been easy, but it is so much better with Jesus

Mark's life changed a lot after accepting Christ. Prior to that time his addictions were strong, but he has given up drinking, pornography, chasing women, smoking 2 to 3 packs a day of cigarettes. Mark says he has been delivered and healed in so many ways and it is of Him. When we get out of the Lord's way, He can heal our body, mind, soul, and heart.

As mentioned previously, Jodi was a Corpsman in the Navy, and worked as a paramedic prior to that. After leaving the military she and Mark gave up their medical licensing, but Jodi, Mark and Jaidyn have all been working to reinstate their EMT licenses. She did at one point take a position as the assistant coroner in Webster County, but every time she saw something extremely traumatic or body bags, etc., it was disturbing to her, so God stepped in to say this is not for you, you are here to fix people.

Mark and Jodi have both worked with Barry Young, a former military man, EMS tech and first responder who also provides chaplaincy classes. He has helped them to deal with situations such as PTSD, death, serious injury, etc., and teaches them to help other people: i.e., what to say, what not to say, etc. Consequently, even though times get hard for this beautiful family now, they still confess that things seem to be all wrapped up in a "big, bouncy ball of Jesus."

On a personal note, this beautiful family is always willing to step up and help where needed. When this writer's church was attacked and had all the windows broken out, Jodi, Mark and Jaidyn all showed up with Dr. James Wining and wife, Pam Wining, to help secure the building. Jodi came with tools and talent, and Mark with muscle and talent, while Ms. Jaidyn vacuumed the floor and serenaded us all during our lunch break.

Jodi was raised with horses and the family has eleven horses at the moment. Mark married into horses, but despite buck offs, vet bills, and the assorted tasks involved with raising horses is quite happy with them. The family also consists of four dogs (two being service dogs) and some cats. They were homeless for a bit, but have managed to find a new location to rent for the horses and found a new home in time for Jodi's birthday. Despite hardships, they stand strong together and know that God will make a way in His time.

Jaidyn, Jodi, and Mark became familiar with Acts Ministry through Pastor Steve McAllister. Pastor Steve works with the CGMA (Country Gospel Music Association) and became familiar with Jaidyn through that work. He had asked her to be on his show a few times and now, two or three years later, they are a wonderful addition to Acts Ministry, Inc. .

The first time Jaidyn came to be on Pastor Steve's show was a week prior to Acts Fest and they immediately joined in with Mark entering a sandwich making contest and Jaidyn singing and playing her guitar for all.

Mark and Jodi help with the Veterans Church, either in front of the camera or behind it. They appreciate having veterans in the pulpit and any organization that helps support disabled veterans and all veterans in general. They would like to see the Veterans Church expanded to more than the once-a-month time slot it is currently in and feel more exposure for Veterans Church is needed, as well as people who can point veterans to safe to sleep programs, warm houses, food pantries and other needed by many. Their desire is to see more outreach for the Veterans Church.

Jodi is an ordained minister and Mark soon will be. Jaidyn has Jaidyn LaBorde Music Ministries and is currently attending college at Evangel University in Springfield. Jaidyn is also working on her third album and is "google-able" for those wishing to see her in action and hear her songs. They have all gone through some tough trials (still) and been put into roles they are not totally comfortable in, but they have grown and learned. Mark says he would never have thought about doing what he does, especially for the Lord, but enjoys it.

This beautiful family has been together for 11 years as of November 25, 2022, and we hope and pray for many, many more. We especially hope and pray for their continued involvement with Acts Ministry. You can see more of this writer's interview with Mark and Jodi Meyer at <https://www.facebook.com/actsmediagroup/videos/1495203624314309>



Managing His Peace in Relationships

Managing peace should be easy, right? After all, we have been believers forever and we have allowed Him to transform us by the renewing of our minds. As a counselor of many years, this is the exception and not the rule unfortunately. Christians and non-Christians exhibit the same lack of peace.

To allow the Lord to transform us, we must first have His Word deeply imbedded in our soul. We must be committed to the fruit of the Spirit and to His love.

One may read this and say, "But I have been and I still do not change!" This was me so many years ago. I was sin-laden, convicted of my sins and did not experience His transformation. Six years into praying and praying for Jesus to change me, I saw Psalm 3:8..."Salvation belongs to the Lord. God changed the word "salvation" to "deliverance" for me. Both words are from the Hebrew word "salvation." The Lord showed me I had been trying to transform (change) myself. He had His way, and I was failing miserably with my way.

His way? Psalm 4:4. "Be angry, do not sin, commune on your own bed and be silent." He began to show me how to use His word to slay the enemy. This is when He taught me my identity in Him. I am holy, blameless, pure, His own. If I knew Jesus, there was nothing that could separate me from Him. I was a delight to Him 100% of the time.

He taught me this so deeply. Whenever I stumbled over my sinful behavior, He taught me not to beat myself up but to beat the devil up with Scripture, like Jesus did in Matthew 4! I was never to condemn me! I was to let the enemy know that I would use God's word against him. And I did with a vengeance! The first scripture I began to use was Ps 6:10..."my enemies would be ashamed and greatly troubled; they would be put to shame in a moment. No longer would I beat myself up! I pictured those sins of mine crawling away...sorry they ever messed with me! I found verse after verse to memorize. Like Psalm 7:6, "Arise oh Lord in your anger; lift yourself against the fury of my enemies." My enemies were anything that did not line up with Jesus and His truth and love. Victory began to be mine. Today I am more than a conqueror in so many aspects of my soul. The Lord has caused me to be victorious over those enemies. The enemy never completely goes away...but I have mighty weapons the enemy hates; thanks to His word.

An illustration: I sinned in front of my sister-in-law. I had just been sharing how I was holy, blameless and above reproach. When she saw me sin, she asked, "Uh, you call that holy?" I responded with, "No, that action was sin but I am holy. I will be back in a minute." I went to my bedroom, did battle against the enemy. Then I came back, asked forgiveness for my sin, the person forgave me, and I enjoyed the rest of my day.

My forever goal is see my old man creeping up on me; go to the Lord and His word and whup the devil up. If I forget, Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit, gently reminds me to do so. I get to ask forgiveness from the Lord and others (if necessary), repent and allow Jesus to guide me in paths of righteousness.

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!!!

Donna Moller
Moller Counseling
Denver, Colorado

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

I, Ladena Bough, wanted to take a moment of your time to apologize for not getting the Real News-Review out for the month of December 2022. I have to admit that I got very behind following the suicide of my husband and simply never found enough hours in the day during that period of time. I hope and pray everyone had a pleasant holiday season, and ask the Lord to keep you all safe during these challenging times.

"Letter Number 1-The New Year," by Dr. James R. Wining, Bishop/President Acts Ministry

An Independent voter in America has zero input on candidates for office, political platforms for social or judicial issues or referendums for changes. A Democrat voter purposely votes for illogical issues if not ridiculous such as electric cars in a country without electric charging stations or abortions and homosexuality reducing populace in the most advanced society while societies impoverished and educationally illiterate double in populace!

Now with all this ignorance and stupidity here comes the Republican Party. Supposedly the party protecting Christians, yet their votes supported the so-called "Marriage Act." This support might just be the threat to constitutional rights for ministers, churches and most importantly believers. Once again the Republicans seem to walk with "Two Left Feet," focused on "jobs," and not people like teachers, retired seniors, autistic persons, preachers, BELIEVERS and hard working skilled and unskilled American labor!!

Miraculously, Christian's hide behind "Church Walls," advocate different interpretations of The Bible, seek joyous entertainment and "collective churching" with coffee shops, social interaction and limited education or correction. Sadly neither the church system nor the Republican Party's appeasement will protect and serve Christians, Christianity or prepare us for "Christ's Return." So if you live today in fear in your home and pray for spiritual guidance then what follows is the response Jesus' prayed for in John 17. His last prayer.

First, we must as a body of Christ seek "Unity." When we do this all will know exactly what we stand for both believers and enemies of Christianity. Second, we must as a body of Christ seek "Jesus Christ," he has the words to guide us as Christians. Third, and finally we must be patient and attentive to The Holy Spirit. He is the comforter and clarifier of our daily life choices. God is three parts: God The Father, God in Jesus Christ and God as The Holy Spirit. Acts Ministry is the visionary ministry purposefully summarized as "Unity, in Christ, through The Holy Spirit." Seek "The Word," by "Gatherings," not connected to religion, Denominations, Doctrine's or affiliations NOW in Jesus' name. Contact Acts Ministry, Inc.

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WEDNESDAY PROGRAMMING

CHANGING TIMES

9:00 a.m. with Lynn Morris and Dawn Blackard

HIGH OCTANE

10:00 a.m. with Pastor Steve McAllister and Dr. Cyndi Flowers

TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS

11:00 a.m. with Pastor Ladena Bough

EVERY SECOND SUNDAY

2:00 p.m. The Veterans Church with Pastor Steve McAllister and Pastors Kevin and Donna Kilmurray

THE CHAPEL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (Formerly First Acts Church)

Home Church with Dr. Paul Collins by Invitation Only

Other Services Will Be Announced by Dr. Paul Collins

ON DEMAND

PAINTING OUTSIDE THE LINES

NEW DISCOVERIES IN AUTISM

With Author Joyce Jones and husband, Tom Jones

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 husband, Tom Jones