

Acting Lessons

From the Book of Acts



"For three days he was blind, and did not eat
or drink anything." Acts 9:9

Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church

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Phone: 412-331-2863 Website: <https://www.kenmawrchurch.org>

July 21, 2024

*Declaring God's Grace & Demonstrating God's Love,
as Directed by God's Word*

Welcome to Worship!

We're so very glad that you have joined us for worship this morning! After Stephen's death, a Pharisee named Saul went on a rampage of persecution against Christians. When the followers of Jesus left Jerusalem, Saul went after them. He heard there was a large group in Damascus, so he obtained permission to travel there with an armed company to capture believers and bring them back to Jerusalem for trial, imprisonment, and probably death. On the road to Damascus, Saul was ambushed by Jesus. In describing what happened next, Luke writes that, *"For three days he was blind and did not eat or drink anything."* Blind Saul became a clear-eyed Apostle of the Lord named Paul who set the world on fire. Thank you, Lord!

-Pastor Karl

Today at KMUPC

- **Coffee and tea** are available on the lower level at the coffee counter next to the Welcome Room.
- **Restrooms** are on the Sanctuary level, through the front Sanctuary doors, turn right at the office door and follow signs toward the elevator. Additional restrooms are on the first floor at the bottom of the steps and in the lower hallway.
- **Nursery room** is open and available on the lower level, turn right at the bottom of the steps, turn left in the children's department, the nursery room is the last door on the right. There are changing tables, rocking chairs and toys. There is a speaker in this room to hear the service. Please feel free to use this space for you and your child.
- **Children's church** is offered for children Preschool age to Grade 4 after Time with the Children during the 11:00 a.m. service. There is a 3-4 year old room and 5 – grade 4 room. The children will return to the sanctuary during the last hymn.
- **Elders/Deacons of the month** are available to help you with general questions and information. The Elder of the Month is usually in the church office throughout the morning.

Service of Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Preparing for Worship

"Name Above All Other Names"

Welcome

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration

GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

*Hymn of Praise #106

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

**All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!**

**Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all!**

**Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!**

**Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!**

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*Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, we confess that we do not expect and long for the transforming power of your love to work miracles in these hard hearts of ours. Yet we secretly long for a rescue, an escape, a miracle, to relieve us of the challenges you set before us. Healing Spirit, renew our confidence in your power and in the power of love to change our lives, and give us courage to be the faithful and responsible persons Christ calls us to be. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Forgiveness

*Congregational Response

**All ye who are of tender heart, forgiving others take your part.
Sing his praises, Alleluia! Ye, who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care!
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him with humbleness!
O praise him, Alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in One,
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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Dedication and Prayer for Breaker Rock Beach VBS

Time with the Children (Kids spell love T-I-M-E)

*Children PreK – Grade 4 are invited to children's church.
They will rejoin their families during the last hymn.*

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response #115

"Praise the Name of Jesus"

**Praise the name of Jesus, praise the name of Jesus. He's my Rock, he's my
Fortress, he's my Deliverer, in him will I trust. Praise the name of Jesus.
Praise the name of Jesus, praise the name of Jesus. He's my Rock, he's my
Fortress, he's my Deliverer, in him will I trust. Praise the name of Jesus.**

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Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture

Acts 9:3-20

3 As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" 5 "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are

persecuting,” he replied. 6 “Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.” 7 The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. 8 Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. 9 For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything. 10 In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!” “Yes, Lord,” he answered. 11 The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. 12 In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.” 13 “Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. 14 And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.” 15 But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. 16 I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.” 17 Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18 Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, 19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. 20 At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. (NIV)

Sermon

“Blind Saul”

*Our Praise and God’s Blessing – based on Psalm 67

Almighty God, be gracious to us and bless us and make your face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

Empower all the peoples to praise you, O God, that the nations may be glad and sing for joy. For you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

Enable all the peoples to praise you, O God, for the earth has yielded its increase and you, our God, have blessed us. We ask that you will continue to bless us so that all the ends of the earth will revere you. Amen.

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*Sending Hymn #422

“Amazing Grace”

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I’m found; was blind, but now I see.**

**T'was grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fear relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.**

**The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
He will be shield and portion be long as life endures.**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares, we have already come.
T'was grace that brought us safe thus far, and grace will lead us home.**

**When we've been here ten thousand years bright shining as the sun.
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.**

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*Benediction

Thank you for worshipping with us.

TODAY'S BENEVOLENCE: Founded in 1985, the Lighthouse Foundation is a Christian outreach organization offering housing, food, and whole-life ministries to individuals and families in northern Allegheny and Butler Counties. Their mission is to encourage others to find hope in Christ by meeting their immediate needs and encouraging them towards self-reliance/independence. The Lighthouse Foundation's programs and ministries aid in creating a better future for those who are served.

In addition, the Foundation operates the largest food pantry in Butler County and is the sole provider of transitional and interim housing for young adults, single parents, and families in its service area. To achieve their mission, they offer faith-based job training, financial literacy for low-income families, cooking classes, and connections to reliable vehicles. The expected result is to see lives transformed and futures improved through these actions and hope and faith in Jesus Christ.

July 28 - Allegheny County Christian Literacy Council
August 4 – Medical Benevolence Foundation
August 11 - Theology Matters
August 18 - New Wilmington Missionary Conference
August 25 - Presbyterian World Mission

VBS Lessons This Week

BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND.

Romans 12:2

Sunday –

Bible Story Title: Satan Tricked Adam and Eve

Bible Story Reference: Genesis 2–3

Bonus Verse: Psalm 119:160

Some People Say: Truth can be different for different people.

God Says: Truth comes from Me.

Today's Point: Truth comes from God.

Monday –

Bible Story Title: Daniel Chose God's Way

Bible Story Reference: Daniel 1

Bonus Verse: Proverbs 3:5-6

Some People Say: Do what makes you happy.

God Says: My plan for you is even better.

Today's Point: God's plan is best.

Tuesday –

Bible Story Title: The Rich Young Ruler

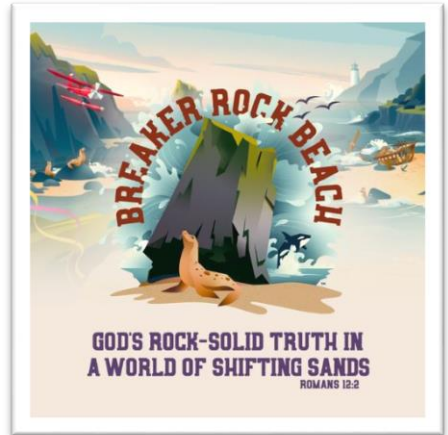
Bible Story Reference: Mark 10:17-27

Bonus Verse: Romans 3:23-24

Some People Say: Being a good person gets you into heaven.

God Says: Everyone sins and needs a Savior.

Today's Point: Everyone needs Jesus.



Wednesday –

Bible Story Title: John Wrote about Jesus

Bible Story Reference: John 14:1-6; 18–20; Acts 1:9-12

Bonus Verse: Acts 4:12

Some People Say: There are many ways to get to heaven. (Preschool: Is the Bible really true?)

God Says: Jesus is the only way to get to heaven. (Preschool: The Bible is true!)

Today's Point: Jesus is the only way. (Preschool: The Bible is true!)

Thursday –

Bible Story Title: Paul Encouraged the Ephesians

Bible Story Reference: Acts 9:1-6; 19:1-10,21-31; 20:1; Ephesians 3:14–4:16

Bonus Verse: Ephesians 4:15

Some People Say: If you don't agree with me, you don't love me.

God Says: Speak the truth in love.

Today's Point: Speak the truth in love.

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR Rev. Dr. Karl McDonald
COMMISSIONED PASTOR Louise Schoppe
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Tiffany Kelly
TREASURER Sandy Vesci
ASSISTANT TREASURER Lori Ryan
LIVE STREAM TECHNICIAN Cameron Brown
AUDIO/PERCUSSION Adam Kantz
J.A.M. DIRECTOR Chrissy Cannella
HS PROGRAM DIRECTOR Katie Herman
CUSTODIAN P.J. O'Reilly

VOLUNTEERS IN MINISTRY

CLERK OF SESSION Diane Kuffner
MODERATOR OF DEACONS Cheryl Simchak
MUSIC DIRECTOR Jayne McDonald
NURSERY COORDINATOR Tina Ernst
ELDER OF THE MONTH Bucky Savatt
DEACONS OF THE MONTH Melody Coholic
Nick Coholic

~THANK YOU~

Children's Church:

Louise Schoppe

Counters: Tim Chimera/Tom
and Cheryl Simchak

Van Driver: Tom McCullough

Flower Delivery: Dona Adamski
and Tina Ernst

TODAY AT KMUPC

July 21, 2024

Worship services 8:30 and 11:00
Sermon Chat in the Welcome Room 9:31
Children's Church 11:00
VBS..... 6:00 - 8:00

THIS WEEK AT KMUPC

Monday VBS..... 6:00 - 8:00
Tuesday VBS..... 6:00 - 8:00
Wednesday VBS..... 6:00 - 8:00
Thursday Food Pantry 9:00 - 11:00
Staff Meeting..... 11:00
VBS..... 6:00 - 8:00
Sunday Worship Services 8:30 and 11:00
Brunch 9:45
Sermon Chat (Sharpe Hall)..... 9:45
Children's Church 11:00

LOOKING AHEAD

August 4 - Communion
August 6 - Shape the Sky - for Parents and Professionals
August 8 - Food Pantry
August 10 - Men's Breakfast
August 18 - Deacons Summer Brunch at 9:45 a.m.
August 19 - Finance Meeting
August 20 - Session Meeting
August 22 - Food Pantry

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Bob Joseck from
Ann Joseck and family.



SAVE THE DATE! SHAPE THE SKY - Creating Responsible Kids on Smartphones is coming to Ken Mawr Church on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. No registration is needed, and this event is FREE. It is designed **for parents and professionals**. Their mission is to help parents and professionals create responsible children online. Invite your adult family members and friends.