# Weekly Messenger 09-05-2025

### "Acts: The Story That Never Ends"

This Sunday we begin a twelve-week sermon and Bible study series through the Book of Acts.

The Book of Acts, 28 chapters long, is one of the most thrilling stories ever written. Luke, the author of the Gospel that bears his name, continues the story of Jesus by showing us how the risen Christ works through His Spirit in the life of the church. John Stott once wrote, "Acts is the story of the continuing ministry of Jesus, by His Spirit, through His apostles."

As we journey through Acts, five themes rise to the surface—timeless themes that speak as powerfully to us in Las Vegas as they did to the early believers in Jerusalem.

**First, the power of the Holy Spirit.** Pentecost was not a one-time fireworks show; it was the launch of a Spirit-driven movement. The Spirit empowers ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

**Second, bold witness to Jesus Christ.** The apostles could not keep silent. They spoke with courage, even when threatened. Spurgeon said, "Every Christian is either a missionary or an impostor." Acts reminds us that witness is not optional—it is who we are.

**Third, the growth of the church.** From 120 in an upper room to thousands baptized in a day, the church in Acts grew because God's Spirit was moving. Growth was not simply numerical but spiritual—deeper discipleship, sacrificial generosity, courageous faith.

**Fourth, fellowship and community.** The believers broke bread together, shared possessions, and bore one another's burdens. In an age of isolation, Acts calls us to radical togetherness.

**Fifth, God's unstoppable mission to the nations.** The Gospel could not be chained. From Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria, and Rome itself, God's Word advanced. As Martin Luther once said, "The Gospel is like a strong rain that spreads abroad."

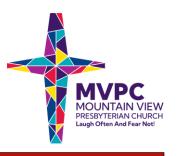
And here's the beautiful truth: the Book of Acts doesn't really end. It stops in Rome, but the story is unfinished because the Spirit is still writing new chapters—through you and me. Acts is not ancient history. It's present reality.

Mountain View Presbyterian Church, let us lean into the same Spirit, the same witness, the same growth, the same fellowship, and the same mission. Who knows what God might write through us?

Welcome to Acts 29.

Grace and peace, Laugh often and Fear not! David!





Sunday Worship Services 8:30 am – Traditional 10:30 am- Contemporary

Email: mvpc@mviewpc.org
Website: mviewpc.org

Office Hours 8a-5p M-Th Phone: 702-341-7800

Pastor Rev. David W. Dendy

Men's/Mission Director Dr. Gary Wall

Director of Family Ministries Chris Kirschman

Director of Music Dr. Mark Wherry

Redeemed Worship Leader Bridgette Foster

Administrative Assistant Shane Jensen

Tech Assistant Tracy Vanderwerf

Church Accountant Mitra McNally

Ministry Coord/Social Media Tami Samek

Facilities Manager Mark Washburn

Women's Ministry Director Allison Gray

Organist
Richard Wilson

Bell Choir Director Gail Berg

Elder Mailbox Session@mviewpc.org

# Family Ministry News

### Youth Group -

Youth Group Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 6:00 p.m..

#### Children -

Child-care provided during services. Sunday School @ 10:30am – Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>

#### U50s/adults.

Next meeting is Sept. 14th at 12:30 p.m.

Happy almost fall!!



Join the MVPC family this Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. for Virtual Church!

Go to the MVPC webpage @ www.mviewpc.org and select Facebook or YouTube

### **CLOSED CAPTION AVAILABLE**

Are you missing out on Pastor David's wonderful virtual sermons because you can't hear what is said? We now know closed caption is available on the YouTube broadcast. Follow the directions below:

On Youtube under the video, where you can start, pause, etc. is a "cc". Click on that to start closed



## **August 2025 Session Meetings Highlights**

The Deacons did not meet in August but are working on projects for the fall and holidays, including the "Decluttering Strategies" event in September 23 and the annual Service of Solace scheduled for December 7.

Pastor David noted that the Nevada Presbytery will have its fall meeting September 9-10 at the Zephyr Point Conference Center, Lake Tahoe. Karla Canfield, Dian Ward, and Larua Martin are MVPC's commissioners to the Nevada Presbytery for 2025. Pledge Sunday will be November 6. The fall sermon series will focus on the Book of Acts, with the Men's and Women's Bible Studies and Sunday School concurrently studying the Book of Acts. Grace Presbyterian Church reported that the construction on its new building appears to be on schedule for completion in November. Grace continues to enjoy using MVPC's facilities for its worship services.

The Magnify Commission (matters relating to worship) reported that training for new and returning ushers and greeters will be held on September 14. Grief Share will begin monthly meetings starting September 16. The choirs from Grace Presbyterian and MVPC will join together to present Handel's "Messiah" in December.

The Serve Commission (serving others outside of MVPC) reported that Gary Wall cooked for 25 mission trip volunteers in Alaska July 30-August 9. Much is happening with organizations supported by MVPC. Family Promise will hold the grand opening ceremony for its new \$14 million Navigation Center on September 30, !0:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., with the main ceremony at 11:00 a.m. The Commission is planning a donation drive to support Project 150 in October and Project 150 will host its 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Celebration on October 2. The Men's Ministry monthly Saturday breakfast raised \$960.00 in August to support the Westminster Presbyterian Church food bank. Salvation Army food donations collected on the first Sunday of August were valued at approximately \$2,500.00. MVPC collected 125 backpacks and lots of school supplies for Olive Crest, which Bob and Paula Anderson and Phil and Mari Papanek graciously helped deliver. The Hoving Home annual gala is scheduled for October 16. Club Christ is opening a new learning center at the Lake Mead West Apartments, serving children and teens. Homeless care packs assembly will be scheduled in September. The Commission will be sponsoring an outreach event called "Protecting Our Children" on October 5, focusing on reducing gun violence. Thank you to the congregation for its generous support of so many worthwhile projects.

The Nurture Commission (taking care of our congregation) reported that the Youth Group mission trip to Loveland, Colorado July 26 through August 2 was an amazing experience for the 5 senior youth and 2 counselor volunteers. Sunday School is gearing up for a busy fall with a new study program called "Treasures" followed by studying the Book of Acts. The Young Adults group enjoyed an outing to the Pinball Hall of Fame. MVPC and Grace Presbyterian youth groups continue to enjoy joint programs.

The Gather Commission (taking care of gathering in large and small groups) noted that a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday brunch will be Sunday, August 31, with the last one in 2025 on November 30.

Stewardship Commission (being good managers of time, talents, and treasures). Elder John Meola reported on replacing the reverse osmosis system for the kitchen with a new Culligan system at a cost of approximately \$1,500.00. Elder Al Youmans reported that the solar power system will be inspected and maintenance performed, as necessary. MVPC's landscape contractor will be removing excess plants and water lines to reduce MVPC's outdoor water use.

The next Session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.





RightNow Media is a free service offered to MVPC/Guests/Friends. You will have exclusive access to hundreds of Bible studies and topical videos led by world-class teachers along with a multitude of Christian-based videos for your family to enjoy.

It's easy to sign up, email Tami Samek, Ministry Coordinator at <a href="mailto:Tami@mviewpc.org">Tami@mviewpc.org</a> and she will set you up and you can start accessing great Bible-based studies/videos today!

#### BIBLE BACKROADS™ - The Book of Acts

Dave Stotts, host of *Drive Thru History®*, explores the scripture, history, geography, archaeology, and impact of the Book of Acts in the New Testament. The home base for the series is *Dave's Garage™*, a state-of-the-art, extended reality lair where almost anything is possible. In addition to teaching with a collection of monitors, maps, animations and artifacts, Dave treks outside his garage for special adventures in Israel and the entire Mediterranean region. Designed for all ages, *BIBLE BACKROADS™* is fun, fast-paced, and educational, encouraging families to dig deeper into the Biblical accounts together.

#### Best Bible Meditations for Sleep

Fall asleep in God's word with this special collection of the best Bible sleep meditations from the Abide app.

# Studying God's Word!

# God Speaks: A 30-Day Challenge to Read Your Bible

Join Zach Zehnder for God Speaks, a 30-day journey through the Bible exploring how God's voice still teaches, rebukes, corrects, and trains us to live with purpose. Created in partnership with Lutheran Bible Translators, this series invites you to rediscover the life-changing power of God's Word.

#### The Truth in True Crime

For decades, cold-case homicide detective J. Warner Wallace investigated the causes behind deaths and murders, chasing one lead after another as he attempted to solve the case. These cases exposed the truths of human nature: what's important to us, what threatens our well-being, and what causes us to flourish. This sixteen-session series introduces you to an investigation from Wallace's detective career and teaches guiding principles to help you thrive as a human being created in the image of God.

#### Lead Me, Holy Spirit

One of Stormie Omartian's (bestselling author of Lead Me, Holy Spirit) greatest desires is that we will come to know the Holy Spirit better, love Him more, and grow in that knowledge and love every day. When we follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in our lives, good things happen. Although, life is not perfect when you are led by God's Spirit, but the good news is you will always have the ultimate victory.

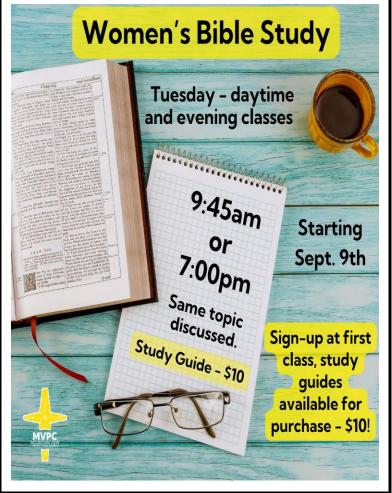
When we receive Jesus, He gives us the Holy Spirit of God to dwell in us. Obviously, we don't have Jesus living with us in the flesh, Jesus is at the right hand of His Father God, but we do have His Spirit in us now.

Each new day there is more that God wants us to pray about then we can even think of in our minds. That's why He gave us His Spirit to not only lead us to pray, but also to help us pray.















Meeting the 2nd Wednesday of each month 10:30am

Mountain View Presbyterian Church 8601 Del Webb Blvd. Las Vegas, NV

Alzheimer's Association support groups, conducted by trained facilitators, are a safe place for caregivers of people living with dementia to:

- · Develop a support system.
- · Exchange practical information on challenges and possible solutions.
- · Talk through issues and ways of coping.
- Share feelings, needs and concerns.
- Learn about community resources.

Call 1.800.272.3900 to register.

ALZHEIMER'S ? ASSOCIATION







MVPC Deacon's Present:
"Decluttering Tips & Tactics"
Learn how to purge and simplify your space
Sept. 23, 2025 @ 4:00 pm

Open to all church - sign up in the Narthex



Women's Group-Tues (9/9) @ 9:45am or 7pm

Men's Group - Tues (9/16) @ 7pm

Pastor's Bible Study - Wed (9/17) @ 10am

LAUGH OFTEN FEAR NOT!

### **Our Vision**

LOVE God

**LOVE** People

KNOW God

KNOW

People SERVE

God

**SERVE** People

It's what we do!





Carolyn Allen – Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>
Elaine Irwin – Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>
Joanne Reason – Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>
Maryanne Klingenberg – Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>
Patricia Strong – Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>
Jean Fandrich – Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>
Stella McCloskey – Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>
Thuy-Linh Mondene – Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>



Jim and Cam Camburn – Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>
Gary and Barbara Mickelson – Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>
John and Susan Bull – Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>

# This Week's Events

Sun., Sept. 7

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship, SC
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship, SC
1:00 p.m. Grace Presbyterian Church, SC

4:00 p.m. Youth Group, FH 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, CH

Mon., Sept. 8

9:00 a.m. Quilters, FH Staff Meeting, CH

3:00 p.m. Just Us Team Meeting, CH 4:30 p.m. Women's Ministry Meeting, CH

6:00 p.m. **Divorce Care,** Esther 7:00 p.m. **Gamblers Anon.,** CH

Tues., Sept. 9

9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study, CH
11:30 a.m. Divine Dealing, FH
5:30 p.m. Narcotics Anon., CH
7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study, FH

Wed., Sept. 10

10:30 a.m. **Dementia Support Group,** CH

5:00 p.m. Bell Choir, CH
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FH
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, SC

Thurs., Sept. 11

4:30 p.m. **Stephen Ministry,** Mark

5:00 p.m. Redeemed Worship Rehearsal, SC

6:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting, Esther
7:00 p.m. Grace Choir Rehearsal, SC
7:00 p.m. Al Anon Meeting, FH

Fri., Sept. 12

2:00 p.m. Knitting, FH

5:30 p.m. **Super Summer Theater** 

Sat., Sept. 13

5:00 p.m. **AA Meeting,** FH





Messenger articles and Sunday announcement requests are due in the Church office by **Wednesday** at **noon** each week! Thank you for your cooperation!

# LET THE PEOPLE PRAY

**Pray without Ceasing. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)** 

### **Our Members**

- The Vanderwerf Family
- LaValle Vita
- The Vorhies Family
- The Waggoner Family
- Gary Wall
- Kathy Walsh
- The Walther Family
- Dian Ward

## **Our City**

- DMV reopening
- Pedestrian safety
- The Animal Foundation Food Pantry

## **Our Churches**

- 1. Desert Spring United Methodist
- 2. New Community Church
- 3. Mount Olive Lutheran Church

Other Prayer Concerns...

Sympathy to the family of Karla Philippus Sympathy to the family of Carole Paramor Abigail Radabaugh

## **Our World**

- People of Venezuela
- Ukraine war
- Gaza Peace Talks

## **Our Nation**

- Fentanyl crisis
- California Wild fires
- Annunciation Church Shooting

# **Our Congregation**

Rae Narcisse-Bryant, Jerry Heiss, Ralph Pendleton, Sarah Pierson, Jerry Takier

- Elders: Dave Matawitz

- Deacons: Goldie Asmo,

Melody Edwards-Becker

