KOUNTZE
Memorial Lutheran Church

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Nebraska Synod, in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a part of the worldwide Lutheran Church body. We invite you to join us regularly for worship and for a variety of opportunities for growth and service. If you are a new resident in the community and are looking for a church home, we invite you to join this faith community. If you are new here, welcome. If you are "newly returned," we rejoice with you. If you are a member of long-standing, we celebrate your ministry and your faithfulness.

WORSHIP + GROW + SERVE

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Dean W. Bard	Interim Senior Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Paul Moessner	Interim Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation Pastor
Kristin Boe	Interim Christian Education Coordinator
Ian Hartfield	Director of Congregational Life
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Amanda Zasada	Administrative Assistant
Lauri Askew	Staff Treasurer
Sheri Rose	Financial Secretary
John Bogue	Building Superintendent
Tim Walker	Chef
Søren Johnson	Assist. Bldg. Superintendent
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Danny Bos	Handbell Director/Assist. to the Bldg. Superintendent
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Sheri Lynn Tipton	Night Security Manager
Norma Pafford	Nursery Superintendent
Joyce Palmer	Urban Ministries Coordinator

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Tarna Kidder
	Lorie Groenjes
	Liz Pemberton
Lector	Jan Falk
Ushers	Dick Nelson
	Donna Crouse
	Ralph Diggins
	Brad Madison
	Rodney Nord
	Dan Troxel
	Sharon West
	Dean Winther
	Bob Johnson
Greeters	Colleen Lenners
	Carole Meilahan
	Bev Troxel
	Lois Sorensen
Crucifer	Angie Arispe
Acolytes	Kai Johnson
	Rahn Johnson

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Deb Hinrichs
	Kevin Larkowski
Lector	Ashley Sum
Ushers	Norm Sack
	Ken Johnson
	Linda Johnson
	Lee Johnson
	Julie O'Doherty
Greeters	Barb Chrisman
	Jo Kayton
Crucifer	Lily O'Kane
Acolytes	Lydia Baum
	Morgan Gardner

HOLY COMMUNION All who are baptized and trust in Christ's presence in Holy Communion are invited to commune at the Lord's Table today. Children not yet communing will receive a blessing. Ushers will direct you. Communion is by intinction: you will receive the Host in your hand; you may then dip the Host into the chalice. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (especially for health reasons) have communed fully.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Quiet activity bags and children's bibles and bulletins are available. We also provide a Quiet Room, just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a variety of toys, games, and books for young children. Parents may watch the service via the TV screen.

NURSERY is available from 9 AM—noon for children 0—2 years. Please ask an usher if you are unsure as to where our nursery is and would like to use it.

ATTENDANCE CARDS Please fill out the cards found in your bulletin. If you are a guest, please fill out the additional information, so we can meet your needs. Then, put the cards in the offering plates. Thanks.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND LISTENING DEVICES are available. Please speak to an Usher if you would like to have a large print bulletin or to use a listening device.

WELCOME DESK Our Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall has become a center for hospitality with volunteers on hand each Sunday to help with event information, sign-ups, payments, answering questions, etc. Be sure to check out this resource if you have questions and to stay up to date on events and activities happening at Kountze Memorial. If you'd like to volunteer to help at the Welcome Desk, please contact Ian (402-341-7761 or ian@kmlchurch.org). Amanda Zasada and Sheri Tipton are also available if you need help on Sunday mornings in the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS & ETERNAL CANDLE If you would like to provide altar flowers or the eternal candle in honor or memory of someone or some special event, please put your name on the flower chart in the Narthex by the drinking fountain. Altar flowers are $20 and the eternal candle is $7.50.

NEW MEMBER CLASS Are you interested in learning more about Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church? Or do you know someone who has expressed an interest in learning more? If so, please let us know on the registration card in your bulletin and we'll let you know when the next class will take place. The next class will be held on February 12 & 19 from 12—2 PM. Please plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be served. If you have questions, please talk to one of our Pastors. We look forward to hearing from you.

E-NEWS AND E-NEWSLETTER If you would like to receive our weekly e-news and monthly e-newsletter, add your e-mail address to the card in your bulletin or text your e-mail address to 22828.

TODAY AT KOUNTZE

KOUNTZE CAFÉ Join us on Sundays for a hot, breakfast buffet served from 8-11:00 AM prepared by Chef Tim and his volunteers. The suggested donation for breakfast is, $5 adults, $2.50 children 12 and younger.

ADULT FORUM Join us Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **THIS WEEK:** Building Update and focus on Social Ministry **NEXT WEEK:** Urban Ministry Profile with "JP" Joyce Palmer

YOUNG MOTHERS Join us on Sunday mornings for some fresh brewed fun in the Fellowship Lounge between worship services for "Frappy Hour." Come meet other young mothers in the congregation for coffee, conversation, fellowship and fun. For more information, contact Meeghan Hartfield at ma_hartfield@yahoo.com or call 402-212-8145.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God in memory of our dear, departed friends, Louise Vanzago and Joyce Hahn by Pam & Bob Johnson.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL Join us each Sunday for Sunday School on the 2nd floor for children 2 years—8th grade. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9—10 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery). Sunday School (2 yrs—8th grade) is held from 10:10—10:50 AM.

HIGH SCHOOL FORUM Join us each Sunday week in the Youth Center at 10 AM.

CRUCIFER & ACOLYTE TRAINING Sunday, 2/5, 12:00 PM directly following Worship in the Sanctuary. Interested youth, who would like to serve as acolytes and current acolytes interested in serving as crucifer, should plan to attend this training. Crucifers and acolytes are needed for both 9 AM and 11 AM worship services.

HERITAGE SERIES The Luther Reading Challenge continues Wednesday, 2/8 at 6 PM. Texts will be provided; many will come from the new Annotated Luther Series by Augsburg Fortress press (which our parish library owns). Please consider making a modest donation to the church to offset printing costs.

BAPTISM SEMINAR will be held on Sunday, 2/26 at 12:00 PM. We'll meet in the church office conference room and then Pr. Hall will lead

You are the light of the world for others.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Matthew 5:13-20	Salt and light
Monday	Isaiah 58:1-12	God desires kindness and justice
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 2:1-16	Spiritual wisdom
Wednesday	Colossians 4:2-6	Conversation seasoned with salt
Thursday	Ephesians 5:3-14	You are light in the Lord
Friday	1 Thessalonians 5:4-11	You are children of the light
Saturday	Psalm 112	Blessings of the righteous
Sunday	Matthew 5:21-37	Teachings of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Make your light shine, so that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in heaven." **Matthew 5:16 (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, be our light when darkness surrounds us. Shine over us, in us, and through us. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Jesus our Savior, thank you for this food, so full of flavor. Jesus our Light, may we shine for you, with love so bright. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Spirit of Christ give light to your life and shine before others, so that others may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Reflect on a time you were in a dark place and needed light to help you.
- In Matthew 5:13-20, Jesus points out that his disciples make a positive difference in the world. How is Christian behavior based on wisdom that is not like the wisdom of the world (1 Corinthians 2:1-12)?
- Tell about someone whose life has helped you see God in the world?

DEVOTIONS

Read Matthew 5:13-20 using a simple form of *lectio divina* (divine reading). Read the text two times slowly, pausing after each reading. Choose a word or phrase from the text that gets your attention. Focus on that word or phrase for awhile. Then read the text again and wonder how the message connects with your life today. Read the passage a fourth time and spend some time reflecting on how this passage might direct your life to some action in the next few days. Conclude with a prayer giving thanks for the words of Jesus to be light and salt to the world.

SERVICE

Read Isaiah 58:6-8. The prophet describes the people of God as light shining in the world through human activity that focuses on the care of others. The examples include feeding the hungry, caring for the homeless, treating others with kindness, and showing hospitality. Commit to some specific act of kindness during the week or financially support an organization that offers help to those in need.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

With your household or a small group, use the following lighting service at the beginning of a meal, Bible study, or prayer group. [Light one or more candles and say the following]

Leader: **We give thanks that Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**
All: **The light no darkness can overcome.**

Leader: **Let our lights shine before others.**
All: **That others may see our good works and give glory to God.**

Conclude by singing *This Little Light of Mine*.

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Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

THIS WEEK AT KOUNTZE

February 5 Sunday
Homebound Communion
Mission Trip Payment Due ($150)
7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
8:00 AM MS/HS Choir Warm-up
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Adult Forum
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
10:10 AM Young Mothers "Frappy Hour"
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
12:00 PM Acolyte/Crucifer Training
9:00 PM LCM Worship @ CU (Halley Chapel)

February 6 Monday
10:00 AM Pantry

February 7 Tuesday
9:00 AM Staff Meeting
5:00 PM Building Committee

February 8 Wednesday
9:00 AM Sewing Group
12:15 PM Worship
5:30 PM KETV Management Board
5:45 PM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal
6:00 PM Heritage Series
6:00 PM Dinner
6:45 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 PM Closing Worship

February 9 Thursday
9:30 AM WELCA Board Meeting
11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

February 11 Saturday
5:00 PM Worship

February 12 Sunday
7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Adult Forum
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
10:10 AM Young Mothers "Frappy Hour"
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
12:00 PM Book Group
12:00 PM New Member Class
7:00 PM MS & HS Girl's Bible Study
9:00 PM LCM Worship @ CU (Halley Chapel)

Next Weekend's Lessons	
	Deuteronomy 30:15-20
	Psalm 119:1-8
	1 Corinthians 3:1-9
	Matthew 5:21-37

Saturday Attendance: 45
Sunday Attendance: **9:00**: 255 **11:00**: 117
Midweek - Noon: 12 **Evening**: 16
Total: 445
Pantry Guests Served: 453
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 46
Offering:
$17,178.34 (Regular) $1,080.00 (Specials)
$4,077.00 (In the City for Good)

(Continued from page 1)

the participants to the Nave to walk through the liturgy. To register, please call the church office (402-341-7761).

KMLC COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE Deadline to apply is March 1. Applications received after this date will not be accepted. The KMLC Scholarship Program makes scholarship funds available to any eligible college-bound student member. Active members of Kountze Memorial planning or continuing to attend ANY college, university or seminary may submit an application. Additional eligibility requirements are noted on the application. Applications can be picked up in the Youth Center, Church Office, or downloaded at www.kmlchurch.org. Please note: Scholarships are not automatically renewable, and recipients must re-apply each year. Funds are sent directly to respective institutions. Submit your applications, along with supporting documentation, by mail to: KMLC, Attn. Scholarship Committee, 2650 Farnam St., Omaha NE 68131, deliver in person to the church office, or by fax at 402-341-4841, or e-mail to ian@kmlchurch.org. If you have any questions, contact Ian Hartfield in the church office at 402-341-7761.

ADULT BAPTISM SEMINAR If you are an adult who has not been baptized and would like to receive Holy Communion as a regular member of the Church, you are welcome to a small and brief seminar with Pr. Hall in the office conference room. This will be an opportunity to discuss the meaning of baptism and its place in the communal life of the Church. To register, please call the church office (402-341-7761) or contact Pr. Hall at pastorhall@kmlchurch.org.