

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Olaf Roynesdal	Senior Pastor
Pr. Paul Moessner	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation Pastor
Kristin Boe	Christian Ed Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Lauri Askew	Staff Treasurer
Sheri Rose	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Søren Johnson	Custodian
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Donna Moessner	Dir. of Children's Music
Danny Bos	Handbell Director/Custodian
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Sheri Lynn Tipton	Night Security Manager
Norma Pafford	Nursery Superintendent
Joyce Palmer	Urban Ministries Coordinator

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

Lector	Kathy Englert
Ushers	Kathy Englert Theresa Gruber

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Tarna Kidder Susann Henry Liz Pemberton
Lector	Pamela Johnson
Ushers	Brad Madison Donna Crouse Ralph Diggins Dick Nelson Rodney Nord Dan Troxel Sharon West Dean Winther Bob Johnson
Greeters	Lois Sorensen Colleen Lenners Carole Meilahn
Crucifer Acolytes	Bailey Gittler Clara Kidder Anna Kidder

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Ashley Sum Lowell Harms
Lector	Deb Hinrichs
Ushers	Linda Hoagland Adam Klinker Julie O'Doherty
Greeters	Barb Chrisman Jo Kayton
Crucifer Acolytes	Torin Edwards Rachel Stouffer Nicole Campbell



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

May 5 & 6, 2018

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a vibrant, historic faith community that welcomes all and provides ministries for all ages and walks of life. We are a "City-wide Church with a World-wide Ministry" and have been worshiping, growing, and serving in downtown Omaha for nearly 160 years. If you are new to Kountze Memorial, we invite you to visit the Welcome Desk in Fellowship Hall for more information about who we are and what we do.

TODAY AT KOUNTZE

KOUNTZE CAFÉ Then join us each Sunday for a hot breakfast buffet served from 8-11 AM prepared by Jim West and the kitchen crew. The suggested donation for the hot breakfast is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger.

PASTOR OLAF'S SERMON TODAY The article referred to in Pastor Olaf's Sermon today is "A Gravestone Made of Wheat" by Will Weaver. It was first published in the **Minneapolis Star Tribune** and later published in a collection of stories by the same name. It was made into a movie entitled **Sweetland**, which is available on DVD.

PR. MOESSNER is away this weekend as he is presiding over his brother-in-law's funeral in Carbondale, Illinois.

ADULT FORUM Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **THIS WEEK:** Yesterday's Youth, WELCA, and Men's Luncheon **NEXT WEEK:** No Forum (Mother's Day)

NEW MEMBER CLASS continues this Sunday, April 22, from 12—2 PM. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL Join us each Sunday on the 2nd floor for Sunday School. 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.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR Grades K—5th grade. We meet at 9 AM in the Joyful Sounds Studio each Sunday. Preschool (and grades K—5th that are not in choir) will continue with Kristin Boe for the Children's Sermon Lesson.

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

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH CHOIR rehearsal in the Adult Choir room each Sunday from 11—11:40 AM. Come and sing!

May 6 Sunday

Homebound Communion
 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)
 9:00 AM Joyful Sounds Children's Choir (gr K-5)
 10:10 AM Adult Forum
 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
 10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
 11:00 AM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal
 8:30 PM LCM Worship @ CU (Halley Chapel)

May 7 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
 6:00 PM Congregational Life Committee

May 8 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

May 9 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
 12:15 PM Worship
 6:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

May 10 Thursday

Ascension of Our Lord
 Council Reports Due
 9:30 AM WELCA Board Meeting
 11:30 AM Property Committee
 4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
 7:00 PM Ascension Liturgy @ Trinity Episcopal

May 12 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

May 13 Sunday

Mother's Day
 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)
 9:00 AM Joyful Sounds Children's Choir (gr K-5)
 10:10 AM Adult Forum
 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
 10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
 10:30 AM Executive Committee
 11:00 AM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal
 8:30 PM LCM Worship @ CU (Halley Chapel)

HOLY COMMUNION All who are baptized and trust in Christ's presence in Holy Communion are invited to commune at the Lord's Table. Children not yet communing will receive a blessing. Instructions will be provided during worship. 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, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a Quiet Room, just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a TV and a variety of toys, games, and books for young children.

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 All those attending worship are encouraged to fill out the card included in your bulletin and place in the offering plate.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND LISTENING DEVICES Please speak to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or an assisted listening device.

E-NEWS & SOCIAL MEDIA 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.

NEW MEMBER CLASS If you are interested in joining our congregation, the next class will be held September 16 & 23 from 12—2 PM. Plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided. Please indicate your attendance plans on your attendance card or call the church office and let us know if you will need childcare when you register.

NURSERY HELP IS NEEDED If you would like to work with the youngest members of our congregation, please contact Kristin

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY Spring and Summer 2018

Spring Sunday School concludes
 May 20

Summer Sunday School
 June 17 – July 15

LYSO – Lutheran Youth Serving Omaha
 June 11 – 15 (for children/youth who have finished kindergarten)

Outdoor Movie Night
 Friday, June 22

Vacation Bible School "Camp"
 Friday evening, July 21,
 Saturday morning, July 22
 For ALL AGES!

August 12 – Blessing of Backpacks
 (as a new school year begins)
 and our School Teachers/Workers

at kristin@kmlchurch.org or by calling the church office at 402-341-7761.

PR. HALL'S LEAVE OF ABSENCE Pr. Hall is away for a ten-week fellowship as a Visiting Professor of the Divinity Faculty of the University of Cambridge. He will return to Omaha July 1 and will afterwards resume his normal duties. He wishes to express his gratitude to the congregation for its generous support and encouragement.

BLINDNESS PREVENTION MONTH May is Blindness Prevention Month. During May we will be collecting used eyeglasses. They will be cleaned, checked by professionals, and used at a health fair for the homeless later this summer. Thank you in advance for your participation in this outreach event. There will be a collection box at the Welcome Desk in May.

JOINT ASCENSION DAY WITH TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL (held at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 113 N 18th St), Thursday, May 10, 7:00 PM. Kountze Memorial will continue its tradition of celebrating the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord with Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. This year, Trinity will be hosting the liturgy. Bishop Brian Maas will preach and Bishop Scott Barker will preside, with other clergy from Kountze Memorial and Trinity. Please mark your calendars and invite a friend!

KMLC MEN'S LUNCHEON Thursday, May 17, 11:30 AM at Kountze Memorial – Cost \$10. Ashley Sum will tell of her work with Sunshine Kids, an organization that provides a good environment for kids dealing with cancer. For example, this year Sunshine Kids sponsored a ski trip to Colorado. Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 15, to the church office (402-341-7761) or Pastor Paul (paul@kmlchurch.org) so we know how many to plan on for lunch.

CAMP CAROL JOY HOLLING WORK DAY! Saturday, May 19, 2018, 8:00 AM – Lunch. The camp needs your help to get the site ready for the over 1,500 campers that will be arriving during the summer. Bring friends and family for a day of work in God's creation! Sign up online on their website (<https://www.caroljoyholling.org/work-day>).

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP 9:30 AM on the 3rd Saturday of the month (May 19) in the Fellowship Lounge. What does it mean to be a woman that God's spirit can guide? Join us at the Women's Prayer Group as we examine the lives of Dorcas, Lydia, Phoebe, and other women in the New Testament with "A Woman God's Spirit Can Guide" by Alice Mathews. Join us as we reflect on what God has called us to do as we dig deep into the lives of these women who committed their gifts and talents to the Lord. If you have questions or are interested in joining the Women's Prayer Group, please contact Karen Bonneau at 402-676-5419.

LYSO – LUTHERAN YOUTH SERVE OMAHA Mark your calendars for LYSO the week of June 11 – 15. If you are an adult willing to help, please contact Pastor Paul or Kristin Boe. You can sign your child/children up online at <https://form.jotform.com/80997618224164>. Thanks.

SPECIAL VESPERS FOR ALZHEIMER AWARENESS AND ALL CARETAKERS Wednesday, June 21, 7:00 PM, held at Kountze Memorial. Kountze Memorial will host a spoken Vespers in commemoration of the Longest Day to help raise awareness for those living with Alzheimer's and their care givers. That day, other events will be offered throughout the city: The Lutheran Church of the Master (2617 S. 114th Street) will offer a day-long prayer vigil from 8:15 AM – 8:00 PM; St. Andrew's Methodist Chapel (15050 West Maple Road) will likewise be open from 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM for individuals or groups to come in and pray; Parsons House (14425 Eagle Run Drive) will hold a service at 2:30 PM. Denise McCown and Linda Nord have worked to spearhead this effort in honor of their father, Don Vanzago. Please join us!



Lutheran
YOUTH
Serve Omaha

June 11 – 15

Watch the bulletin & Good News for more information.

Online Registration:
<https://form.jotform.com/80997618224164>

ATTENDANCE & GIVING	
Saturday Attendance:	47
Sunday Attendance:	9:00: 228 11:00: 96
Midweek - Noon:	5
Total:	376
Pantry Guests Served:	403
Medical Clinic Guests Served:	43
Offering:	
	\$12,732.09 (Regular) \$6,775.00 (Specials)
	\$12,317.50 (In the City for Good)

The Holy Spirit expands the vision of Jesus' followers.

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 15:9-17	Love one another
Monday	Acts 10:44-48	Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit
Tuesday	1 John 5:1-6	Faith conquers the world
Wednesday	Isaiah 61:1-11	Good news of deliverance
Thursday	Romans 12:9-21	Love with sincerity
Friday	1 Thessalonians 1:2-10	The church's faith and example
Saturday	Psalms 98	Make a joyful noise
Sunday	John 17:6-19	Christ's prayer for his disciples



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“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. **Acts 10:47-48a (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, just as the Holy Spirit surprised Peter and his friends by including Gentiles in the church, open our hearts and minds to new ways to accept and love others. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God at our table, giver of bread, bless us to love, just as you've said. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who has done marvelous things, bless you with joy and God's steadfast love and faithfulness. (Psalm 98)

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell of a story when you were greatly surprised by something.
- Talk about an event that changed or influenced your life.
- The church's identity changed to include Gentiles for the first time (Acts 10:44-48). How has your understanding of the church grown over the years to be more inclusive?

Read: John 15:9-17.

Jesus' command to love one another describes the life of his followers, people who were chosen by Jesus to be his disciples and enabled to bear fruit (v. 16). That opens up the lives of Jesus' followers to love and befriend others. Similarly, in Acts 10:44-48 the Holy Spirit amazed Peter and his fellow disciples and expanded their vision to include the uncircumcised to be accepted as part of the church. God's ways surprise and empower us through the word of God and the Spirit of God. Reflect on how God's word (Jesus' commandment to love) and the Holy Spirit have opened your life to love others and see the call to discipleship in ways that connect you to a larger world of care. Conclude by praying:

Pray: **Dear God, thank you for choosing me and all whom you call friends. Grant me and all believers your power to bear fruit and to love and accept others for Jesus' sake and in his name. Amen.**

Cornelius welcomed Peter and others into his home. It was in the home that Cornelius received Peter's message and where his household was baptized. Peter and his friends were asked to stay in Cornelius' home for several days, obviously giving the new converts more time and experience with the message of Jesus. In the New Testament the home is church, too. Invite others to your home and use portions of this *Taking Faith Home* bulletin to share God's word and empower lives in the Christian faith.

Throughout the Bible and the history of the church, singing has been a faithful way of worshipping God and expressing one's faith in God (Psalm 98). Sing and/or pray the words of *Spirit of the Living God* and add other songs as well. Begin your singing and praying by saying the words of Psalm 98:4: **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19