

KOUNTZE STAFF

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Pr. Olaf Roynesdal | Senior Pastor |
| Pr. Ashley Hall | Associate Pastor |
| Pr. Inba Inbarasu | Visitation Pastor |
| Kristin Boe | Christian Ed Coordinator |
| Debbie Bogue | Office Manager |
| Sarah Jewell | Administrative Assistant |
| Steve Jacobson | Staff Treasurer |
| Judi Boe | 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 | 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

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|--------|----------------------------|
| Lector | Paul Revord |
| Ushers | Paul Revord Jim Smejkal |

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

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|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Comm. Asst. | Lowell Harms Liz Pemberton Kevin Larkowski |
| Lector | Liz Pemberton |
| Ushers | Joe Councill Jim Comfort Janice Falk John Georgeson Jeff Perkins Fred Wachal Dave Forrest |
| Greeters | Darlene Anderson Vickie Wichert Jinette Cswercko |
| Crucifer | Anthony Bonacci |
| Acolytes | Braden Bonacci Kaitlyn Munquia |

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

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|-------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Comm. Asst. | Ashley Sum June Anderson |
| Lector | Steve Hinrichs |
| Ushers | Lee Johnson Linda Hoagland Julie O'Doherty |
| Greeters | Peggy Johnson Myrna Carter |
| Crucifer | Charlie Campbell |
| Acolytes | Abby Rigas Communion Assistant |



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

January 12 & 13, 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 morning for a hot breakfast buffet served from 8:00—11:00 AM prepared by our kitchen crew. The suggested donation for the hot breakfast is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger.

ADULT FORUM Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **THIS WEEK:** Introducing the Godly Play Curriculum (Kristin Boe) **NEXT WEEK:** Creeds: Role and Purpose?

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God in memory of David J. Carlson by the Carlson and Campbell families;

NEW MEMBER CLASS If you are interested in joining our congregation, please join us this Sunday and next, January 13 & 20 from 12:15—2:00 PM. Plan to attend both sessions. 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 9:00—10:00 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery). Sunday School (2 yrs—8th grade) is held from 10:10—10:50 AM.

JOYFUL SOUNDS CHILDREN'S CHOIR Join us each Sunday from 9-9:30 AM. All children (K— 5th grade) who want to praise our Lord by singing, meet in the Joyful Sounds Studio on the 2nd floor.

HIGH SCHOOL FORUM Join us each Sunday in the Youth Center at 10:10 AM. Our Youth Forums this winter and spring will focus on vocations. Kountze Members will speak to you about their profession, the education necessary to attain the profession, and the work involved. They will also speak about how their faith in God impacts their vocation. Most important, there will be time for you to ask questions about the work they do.

January 13th **Sheila Valquier**, Omaha Police Department

January 20th **Dr. Jerry Fischer**, MD

January 27th **Tim Holland**, AIA, Architect

January 13 Sunday

Baptism of Our Lord
 7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
 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
 12:00 PM Book Group
 12:15 PM New Member Class

January 14 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

January 15 Tuesday

Good News Deadline
 9:00 AM Staff Meeting
 11:30 AM Property Committee
 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group
 6:00 PM Congregational Council

January 16 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
 6:00 PM Heritage Series-The Good Life: Ethics and
 the Pursuit of Happiness
 6:00 PM Confirmation Dinner
 6:30 PM Confirmation
 7:40 PM Worship

January 17 Thursday

Council Reports Due
 11:30 AM Men's Luncheon
 4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
 6:00 PM Christian Education Committee
 7:00 PM Circle 5

January 18 Friday

Annual Report Deadline
 7:00 PM Christian Unity Service
 First Central Congregational Church (421 S 36th St)
 (6:00 PM - Soup Supper 7:00 PM - Worship)

January 19 Saturday

Jan 19 - Jan 20 Middle School Gathering - 10 AM Sat -
 2 PM Sun
 9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group
 5:00 PM Worship

January 20 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)
 9:00 AM Joyful Sounds Children's Choir (gr K-5)
 10:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks
 10:10 AM Adult Forum
 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
 10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
 12:15 PM New Member Class

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.

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We are looking for teachers for elementary aged students. If you would like to volunteer once a month to either teach a class, or help supervise, please contact Kristin Boe at Kristin@kmlchurch.org. Thank you!

ATTENTION 8th GRADERS Since it is your Confirmation year, the Order of Saint John sponsors invite you to train to assist in the Sunday church services. Please contact an OSJ Sponsor to arrange a training time: Jeff or Robin Perkins at papioperkins@cox.net or 402-339-5384; Tom Steffen at 4freefalling@gmail.com or 402-321-3666; Jill Gittler at jill@centertrophy.com or 402-689-4521.

HERITAGE SERIES Begins again on Wednesdays, January 16, 23, & 30, 6:00 PM. Our reading of the concluding chapters of Herbert McCabe's, *The Good Life: Ethics and the Pursuit of Happiness*, resumes in January. All are welcome. The book is available for purchase online or copies of the chapter are available from the church office.

MEN'S LUNCHEON Thursday, January 17, 11:30 AM (Please RSVP by January 15) at Kountze Memorial. Please join us for the first men's luncheon of 2019. This month our speaker will be from Youth Emergency Services (our neighbor across the street). Come learn about the important services they provide Omaha's youth. Please RSVP to the Church office or to jim@kmlchurch.org by Tuesday January 15.

CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE First Central Congregational Church (421 S. 36th Street), Friday, January 18, 6:00 PM—complimentary soup supper; 7:00 PM—Worship. This service began a few years ago as a cooperative between Lutheran Campus Ministry at Creighton and St. John's parish (Creighton); this is the first year we are expanding to a city-wide event! All are welcome.

LINCOLN LUTHERAN CHOIR welcomes new and returning members to the Spring Concert Season! Rehearsals begin with a retreat on Sunday, January 20, 2-5 PM at First Lutheran Church, 1551 S 70th St., Lincoln. This spring the choir is pleased to welcome our new conductor and artistic director Ms Julia Marble. Our concert theme is "Christ, Light in the Darkness" and Julia has chosen music that speaks to His grace, peace and hope. Come join us on this musical journey!

BAPTISM SEMINAR Sunday, January 27, 2019 at 12:15 PM (immediately following 11:00 AM service). Meet with Pr. Hall in the Nave immediately after the liturgy, and then he will walk through the baptism liturgy with you. To register, call the church office at 402-341-7761. The next session will be held on March 10.

PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD/CANDLEMAS Sunday, February 3, 9:00 AM. Parents are invited to bring their child's baptismal candles to church for the celebration of the Presentation of Our Lord/ Candlemas. on This feast commemorates when Mary and Joseph (as faithful Jews) came to the Temple to make a sacrifice of praise for the birth of their son, Jesus. While there, Simeon, an elderly prophet, takes the infant Jesus in his arms and declares that Jesus will be "the light to reveal [God] to the nations and the glory of your people, Israel." In celebration, an ancient custom of the Church was to bless candles used to bring light and warmth to the church and home. We will use the occasion to remember our baptisms and the charge to "let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." If you can't find your child's baptismal candle, we'll provide one.

KMLC COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS 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 after the first of the year in the Church Office, or downloaded at www.kmlchurch.org. Applications are due March 1. **Any applications received after this date will not be accepted.** Please note: Scholarships are not automatically renewable, and recipients must re-apply each year. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 402-341-7761.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 3, 2019 10:10 AM
In the Fellowship Hall

The Annual Report will be available on Sunday, January 27, 2019. You can pick it up that Sunday or during the week. It will also be available on our website, www.kmlchurch.org and click on "About Us". All items to be included in the Annual Report should be in to the office by Sunday, January 13, 2019.



ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Saturday Attendance: 56
Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 197 **11:00:** 115
Midweek - Noon: 12 **Evening:** 20
Total: 400
Pantry Guests Served: 378
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 41
Offering:
\$25,412.07 (Regular) \$1,873.45 (Specials)
\$9,152.00 (Phase 2)

In baptism, God calls us by name.

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

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| Sunday | Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 | The baptism of Jesus |
| Monday | Isaiah 43:1-7 | Restoration and protection |
| Tuesday | Acts 8:14-17 | Receiving the Holy Spirit |
| Wednesday | Ezekiel 36:24-28 | God will make you clean |
| Thursday | Romans 6:1-11 | Baptized into Christ's death |
| Friday | Matthew 3:13-17 | Jesus' baptism |
| Saturday | Psalms 29 | The voice of the Lord |
| Sunday | John 2:1-11 | The wedding at Cana |



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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.
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But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. **Isaiah 43:1 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, open our ears to hear your voice and our lips to shout your glory. Amen. (Psalm 29:3-9)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, just as you join us in baptism, grace our table with your presence today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord who has called you by name give strength to you; may the Lord bless you with peace. (Isaiah 43:1 and Psalm 29:11)

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are nicknames you have been given? Who gave them to you?
- What does it mean to you that God has called you by name, that God knows your name?
- In baptism God's name is placed on us with the words, "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." We become people who bear God's name. How does it influence your life that you live each day with God's name placed on you?

Read: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

The Baptism of Jesus Sunday leads us to reflect on our own baptism. Some believe that baptism is something that we do as a commitment to God. It is our decision to accept God. The texts chosen for the Baptism of Jesus points us in another direction: God names and claims us; God's voice is the decisive factor in our faith and in our baptism. If baptism is something we do as an expression of our faith, then our baptism is only as powerful as our commitment to God, something that waxes and wanes as a human and frail commitment. If God is the actor, then one can rely on God's faithfulness, not ours, as the great gift of baptism. Reflect on what it means to you that God calls you by name in baptism.

Pray: **Almighty and living God, thank you for calling us by name in baptism. Help us to trust in you, to believe in your faithfulness to us now and always, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Baptism happens in a community of faith with the support of others, just like Peter and John extended their support to the newly baptized in Acts 8:14-17. Send a card to someone who has been baptized in the past year or to their family and offer your support for their life of faith. Let them know they are valued. Offer them a blessing in the card and promise to keep the baptized and the family in your prayers.

Baptism claims us as a child of God by the power of the Holy Spirit. It involves a lifetime of intimacy with God. In Luke 3:21 it states that Jesus was praying at the time of his baptism. Prayer is an expression of that intimate relationship with God. Take time this week to remember your own baptism by lighting a candle, looking at baptismal pictures, placing water in a bowl and sitting in silent prayer. Give thanks for Jesus' baptism and your own. Begin a tradition of remembering your baptismal anniversary each year and thinking about your baptism daily when bathing, washing hands, or drinking water.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11