

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH GOOD NEWS

Volume 40, Issue 7

August, 2020

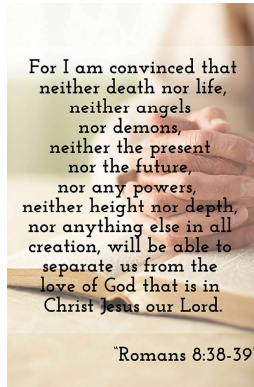


## As we carry on ...

Believe it or not, there are a few positive things that can be said about the pandemic we are experiencing, at least vis-à-vis the church. One is that we're saving money on paper – weekly bulletins and shorter newsletters! Another is that I get to park out in front of the church on Farnam Street – makes for a fast get-a-way! Yet another is the fact that I know everyone who is attending worship services now, which was never true back when we were the “old normal.” Quite frankly, I look forward to the time when I won't. But it has been wonderful to have a few additional faces at worship, even if they're masked faces.

It will undoubtedly be quite some time before we are indeed back to the old normal. Virtually every news cast we watch on TV begins with the Covid-19 score. As you know, things have been heating up in the southern states and also around us. It seems only a matter of time before cases spike significantly in Douglas County. “In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye” (1 Cor 15:52) we might have to shut things down again. The fact that we can, to a limited degree and with limited numbers, be back at worship has been a sign of hope. I hope we can continue.

But this Fall will be very, very different. We are planning, but all those plans are contingent on how this pandemic transpires. There are so many uncertainties. Yet we must keep in mind the words of the Apostle Paul that were heard on July 26<sup>th</sup>: “The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ... If God is for us, who is against us? ... Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword [or the coronavirus]? ... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor



For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

“Romans 8:38-39”

rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” [Romans 8]

**THANK YOU...** I want to express my thanks – and the thanks of your Congregation Council – to all who have been so faithful in financially supporting the overall ministries of Kountze Memorial! Your generosity enables our ministry to continue and it also takes one big thing off the “worry list”! Thank you as well for your prayers, kind notes, phone calls and emails.

*Pastor Olaf Roynesdal*

## Nominating Committee at Work

- The Nominating Committee for 2020 consisting of
- outgoing council members Bob Fonda and Rick Kolkman,
- together with Cindy Edwards, Susie Henry, Deb Hinrichs,
- and Pam Johnson met on July 26th to appoint five people
- to the Congregation Council, one to the Endowment
- Board, and three people to the deFreese Manor Board.
- The Congregation Council at its July 21st meeting
- voted to suspend the rules and have the Nominating
- Committee appoint people to these positions effective
- September 1, 2020. We will not be able to hold our
- normal August Congregational meeting. Those appointed
- by the Nominating Committee will be ratified at the first
- Congregational meeting we are able to conduct (hopefully
- on February 7, 2021).

# WORSHIP *with us...*

## Worship Times

If you plan to attend Worship in person on Sunday at 9:00 AM, please call or e-mail the church office no later than noon on the Thursday before the date you want to attend. After Labor Day, Saturday night worship might resume (5:00 PM). Reservations are required for either. Please note that the plans set forth are subject to immediate change. You may still join us for Worship on Cox channel 13 or live streamed at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/>

**Please Note:** In order to maintain social distance, **no one will be admitted without a confirmed reservation.**



## Worship with us on TV or via Internet Livestream



Our 9:00 AM worship service is broadcast live on television every Sunday on Cox Channel 13. You can now also livestream the service right from your computer on our church

website. Go to [www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org) and click on the Livestreaming link on the Worship Tab. We encourage you to worship with us via television or Internet as you are able.



## Altar Flowers and Eternal Candle

Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and cost \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50.

You can help us beautify the altar at Kountze by donating altar flowers or the eternal candle. Donating altar flowers is a simple and meaningful way to honor a loved one who has passed away, celebrate a special anniversary or milestone, or can be given in thanksgiving for friends or family. Their names will appear in the church bulletin on the weekend you select.

The Altar Flower and Eternal Candle sign-up is located in the Narthex, just before you enter the Sanctuary.



## Church Broadcasts

You can sponsor a broadcast in memory of loved ones, in honor of someone's birthday or anniversary, etc. The cost of sponsoring one broadcast is \$200 for 2020.

## In this issue...

- Possible return to in-person Worship on Saturdays after Labor Day
- Rally Day
- Archives - The Spanish Flu Epidemic and deFreese Family
- Thoughts from Deacon Jean Johnson

## Pastoral Acts (May16 – July15)

Funerals:

Rosemarie Schmidt, June 5, 2020

# NEWS & Notes...



Pastor Hall has been in consultation with Ron Brown and Chad Picha from the Tech Committee, and it seems that we could possibly resume a version of the Adult Forum in August.

Watch the e-news and Announcement Page for more information.

## Confirmation

Confirmation Class will resume in September but class will be conducted via Zoom technology.

Confirmation Class is for those beginning the Seventh Grade or older. Registration materials will soon be sent out to those we know of confirmation age. To be sure your son/daughter receives the information you may email Pastor Olaf: [Olaf@kmlchurch.org](mailto:Olaf@kmlchurch.org)

## If You are Hospitalized...

If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please



be sure to let the church office know at 402-341-7761 or e-mail [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org).

## Congratulations!



Happy anniversary to Dean & Darlene Anderson on their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 4.



## August 23<sup>rd</sup> is Rally Day and the First Day of Sunday School!

With new social distancing protocols in place, we will begin the 2020/2021 Sunday school year online. Lessons will be videotaped and posted on the KMLC Parents Facebook page as well as the Kountze Memorial Facebook Page. In addition, there will be pintables and activity suggestions that complement the lesson. If you would prefer to receive the lessons by email, please contact me at [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org).

This Sunday School year we will be focusing on the Liturgical Action of the church using the Godly Play curriculum. This includes lessons on Baptism and Holy Eucharist, as well as lessons about the liturgical seasons.

Register by completing the online registration. Link below:

<https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/Registration>

If you are interested in volunteering your time to present a lesson, please contact [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org). All the lessons are scripted and materials are provided. Thank you!





# SERVE with us...

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## Thoughts from Deacon Jean Johnson

As we mentioned in June's Good News, Kountze member **Jean Johnson** celebrated her 20th Anniversary as a Deacon of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We hope to honor her publicly when we are together again. Here are some thoughts from **Deacon Jean Johnson**:

*Back when things were normal.....*

Remember those days? We went to church to worship, maybe worked at pantry, went to choir or a meeting. We had our jobs, families, relaxing time. Our routines were set - life was pretty good. Then came March and the word Pandemic. All of a sudden everything stopped, or gradually went silent. Life was scary, it was hard - and that has not ended. We had been able to worship, praise God, thank God for our blessings, pray for others' needs alongside our fellow Christians at Kountze. Now....

Words from Micah 6 make us think.

*"And what does the LORD require of you?"*

Now, for me, going to church means working at the Kountze pantry, picking up bread and working at Project Hope (the Lutheran pantry at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church). In March it meant calling members of Kountze to check on them. It means sending cards just to say "hi" or pray for folks who are ill or in financial difficulty. It means picking up groceries for someone so they don't have to go to the store. Jesus said over and over to love your neighbor as yourself. That part about "love yourself" now includes masks, distancing, staying in or not going as far. We do all these things because we try to be good people, but as Christians we have Jesus who has taught us how to live and it is with a different love in our hearts.

*"To act justly and to love mercy..."*

Then came the protests. We realize the hate, the unfairness, the bitterness. It brings a tear, because this time we are forced to take a look at ourselves - our hearts, thoughts and actions. Jesus would want justice, as he demonstrated again and again. Advocating for those who need safety, a chance at a good life, understanding and love. How can we act justly and love mercy in this hard time? But - it is time.

*...and to walk humbly with your God."*

As much as we miss worship and being together, we are called to be like Jesus as we live our lives in this time. Pray, do something for others, encourage someone, love as God loves you.

Gracious God,

As we thank you for our blessings, we see our families,

## Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry will continue to operate out of the garage door. We believe the open air environment is better to protect volunteers and guests from the virus. The Kountze Food Pantry more than doubled in attendance in June over May. July is looking to keep pace with that increase. The volunteers are doing a wonderful job keeping up with higher numbers! If you wish to volunteer, please sign up at the link below. If you can't volunteer, but wish to help, we can always use toilet paper, ramen noodles, coffee, and canned fruit. When volunteering, please sign up for available slots at the link below. Thank-you!

<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>



## Giving to the Clinic

The Board of the Del and Lou Ann Weber Healing Gift Free Clinic would like to thank the members and friends of Kountze Memorial who have sustained their giving to the Clinic during the pandemic. Our doors have remained open (though we have limited the number of in-person examinations) and we have continued to provide health care and medication free of charge to those in need. We are grateful for your support of this ministry.

Since the Clinic is a 501(c)3 organization, you may make a donation directly to the Healing Gift Free Clinic and receive a tax deduction. If you send your offering to the Clinic through the congregation, please write the check payable to "Healing Gift Free Clinic" (please note: this is more preferable and efficient than a check made out to the "Kountze Clinic"). For those who make a general donation to the congregation from which a portioned amount is applied to designated areas (such as the Clinic), you do not need to make any changes to your normal pattern of giving. Again, we thank you for your consideration and continued support!



our country, and the world hurting in many ways. We ask for your guidance in our lives, to live as your loving children. Be with us in new ways and keep us in your care. Help us to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

**May 19, 2020**

The meeting was held in person with proper social distancing and safety precautions in place.

Previous minutes approved.

Presentation was given by Sara Penn and Micah Fannin on behalf of the Endowment Board regarding the Debt Reduction Task Force (DRTF), Kountze Endowment True Vision, LLC (KETV, LLC), and "Kountze Commons." A wide-ranging discussion was had including defining "Kountze Commons;" the Endowment 501(c)3 status; managing the KETV, LLC debt; the church organizational and employment structure; and the continuing mission of the church. The council thanked Sara and Micah and the Endowment Board for their time and efforts regarding the DRTF; KETV, LLC; and "Kountze Commons." A motion was made and approved to register "Kountze Commons" as a trademark with the State of Nebraska.

Financial report given by Rick Kolkman and approved by Council. During the COVID19 pandemic people are supporting the church and its mission, thus financially we are still on firm ground.

Staff reports given and approved by Council. Discussions were had regarding opening services again and the efforts that will be needed to accomplish safe services due to COVID-19. Pastoral staff and council agreed to continue with only the 9:00 AM broadcast during the month of June. The issue will be revisited during the June council meeting.

Committee reports given and approved by Council. Pantry is in need of additional volunteers this summer. Property committee reported the bell has been removed from the bell tower and is on its way to Ohio for repairs.

Board reports given and approved by Council. Endowment Board minutes to be corrected to reflect additional members of the DRTF. deFreese Manor Board working on a 5-10-year plan and kitchen updates have gone well. Clinic is operating at a reduced level at this time with 10+ patients seeing an actual doctor and 20+ patients receiving medications.

The council motioned and approved the establishment of a task force to define "Kountze Commons" and review the mission organization of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. "Kountze Commons" Task Force will have five members: Pastor Olaf, Mike Jensen (Council), Paul Sum (KETV, LLC), Gary Clatterbuck (Endowment), Bob Siffring.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

**June 16, 2020**

A presentation was given by Ruth Henneman, Paul Sum, and Taylor Brown on behalf of Kountze Endowment True Vision, LLC (KETV, LLC) and the Debt Reduction Task Force (DRTF). Ruth presented the goals and needs of the DRTF, and introduced Taylor Brown. Taylor summarized her experience, goals, and needs as "Executive Director, Kountze Commons." Paul provided a background and history regarding costs and funding of the Kountze Commons project. Approximately \$2,800,000 is owed to the Mission Investment Fund (MIF). KETV, LCC has been making payments but will not be able to sustain the required monthly payments amounts of \$28,000 to MIF. There is a mutual interest and desire among the Council, the Endowment Board, KETV, LLC, and the DRTF to retire the remaining debt.

Previous minutes approved.

Financial report given by Rick Kolkman and approved by Council. During the COVID19 pandemic people are supporting the church and its mission, thus financially we are still on firm ground. The federal stimulus money has been helpful. The construction loan from MIF for roof repairs and stained-glass window repairs is currently \$640,000. Stained-glass window repairs have been delayed for numerous reasons. If MIF does not grant an extension of the construction loan due to the stained-glass repair delays, it will trigger repayment terms. Council has not budgeted for the repayment of the MIF construction loan.

Motion and approval to authorize and open a checking account for the Pastor's discretionary fund.

Motion and approval to authorize electronic (pre-printed) signatures on checks and modified bill paying procedures. Modified bill paying procedures as follows: Invoice for \$500 or less, Noni may send a check; Invoice for greater than \$500 to \$5,000, one signature required; and Invoice for greater \$5,000, two signatures required. All other procedures remain the same.

Staff reports given and approved by Council. Discussions were had regarding opening services again and the efforts that will be needed to accomplish safe services due to COVID-19. A lengthy discussion was had by Council. A vote was taken regarding opening services. By a simple-majority council vote, services will remain closed to the general public. A reopening task force was approved to establish a plan for opening church to the general public in the near future.

*continued on page 5*

Committee reports given and approved by Council. Property committee reported the bell is in Ohio for repairs.

Board reports given and approved by Council. Endowment Board grant requests have been capped for the rest of the year. deFreese Manor Board approved an appraisal bid of the building. Clinic is operating and seeing patients. Those COVID-19 likely patients are being sent to UNMC. Pantry is serving more than 200 on Mondays and between 200-300 on Fridays. 24 boxes are being delivered to refugees and COVID-19 patients.

The Kountze Common Task Force is finalizing its letter of recommendation and will be distributed to all interested parties upon completion.

New Business. Motion to allow Taylor Brown access to the church's Servant Keeper computer program. A

lengthy discussion was had by Council. The Servant Keeper program has two components: 1. Membership, including names, address, phone numbers, emails, family members, and attendance; and 2. Contributions, giving by members. Currently, all Pastors, four staff members, and five volunteers have access to "Servant Keeper - Membership", and only three staff members and no Pastors have access to "Servant Keeper - Contributions". A wide variety of issues were raised by numerous council members. A motion to call the question was made and seconded. By a simple-majority vote, the question was called and debate ceased. The motion to allow Taylor Brown access to the church's Servant Keeper program failed by simple-majority council vote.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:45 PM.

### Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 5/1/2020.....	\$2,950,982.02
Principal Payment 6/1/2020 .....	\$50,000.00*
Principal Payment 6/4 & 7/4/2020 .....	\$38,414.94
Interest Payment 6/4 & 7/4/2020.....	\$18,891.06
Balance, 7/4/2020 .....	\$2,862,567.08
*Private Donation	

### Finances: thru June, 2020

	<i>May &amp; June</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
Total General Fund		
<b>Income:</b>	<b>\$ 146,273</b>	<b>\$ 492,689</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Benevolence	\$ 22,500	\$ 32,500
Christian Education:	\$ 707	\$ 1677
Facility Costs:	\$ 20,053	\$ 73,215
Staff Compensation:	\$ 94,309	\$ 285,038
Worship & Music:	\$ 61	\$ 3647
Youth:	\$	\$ 151
Parish Life:	\$ 205	\$ 5,892
Office & Administration:	\$ 8,674	\$ 30,176
Total Expenses:	\$ 65,231	\$ 432,296

### Food Pantry Report

(1/1/20 - 6/30/20)

**Balance, 1/1/20**      \$      51,520.26

**Income:**

Donations:	\$	53,064.62
Memorials	\$	<u>39,457.94</u>
	\$	92,522.56

**Expenses:**

Costco	\$	198.70
Hidden Valley Ind.	\$	3,455.66
Family Fare	\$	5,389.55
Food Bank	\$	10,320.80
Other	\$	<u>424.04</u>
	\$	19,788.75

**Balance**                      \$      124,254.07

The Food Pantry relies on your financial donations! Please be alert to the weekly needs of this important ministry!



**Our thanks** to DiAnn Kolkman who has secured a \$50,000 grant for the Kountze Food Pantry from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Resources.

DiAnn also secured a \$12,000

grant from a Community CARES grant program to help cover operating expenses to enable us to continue serving Nebraska's children, families, and communities.

Well done DiAnn!

# Calendar...



## August 2 Sunday

9:00 AM Worship Online or  
Reservation Only

## August 3 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

## August 6 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

## August 10 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

## August 9 Sunday

9:00 AM Worship Online or  
Reservation Only

## August 10 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

## August 13 Thursday

Council Reports Due  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

## August 15 Saturday

Good News Deadline

## August 16 Sunday

9:00 AM Worship Online or  
Reservation Only

## August 17 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

## August 18 Tuesday

6:00 PM Congregation Council

## August 20 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

## August 21 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal

## August 22 Saturday

Carlberg & Adams Wedding

## August 23 Sunday

9:00 AM Worship Online or  
Reservation Only

## August 24 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

## August 27 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

## August 28 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal

## August 29 Saturday

Kubat Wedding



## Birthday Blessings

1. Joseph Councill
2. Kimberly Brunk, James Hansen, Scott Henneman, Susan Hinrichs, Ruth Pera, Diane Nickeson-Ray
3. Michele Bang, Matthew Martens, Lillian O'Kane, Gail Marcum
4. Donna Nimerichter, Shawn Peterson, Zachary Phillips, Terri Rohmeyer
5. Carrie Albers, Jason Brunk, Linda Comfort, Janice Gleason, Gary Moller, Laci Mulick, Peggy Ricks
6. Ellen Day, Candace Edris, Laura Klein
7. Robert Grinnell, Sara Harvey, Joan Nelson, Harrison Weddell, Kay Wise
8. Stanley Bladt, Betty Callies, Beverly Falk, Sonya Hamaker, Jared Jensen, Tarna Kidder, Ron Muchmore, Nancy Tunzer
9. Jared Clanton, Martha Eckmann, Emily Hagge, Sally Linquist, David Nelson
10. John Askew, Jinette Cswercko, Deborah Hinrichs, Jessica Holland, JoDee Horacek, Bobbie Powell, Darlene Tuite, Maria Watts, Franklin Yates
11. Riley Heimes, Molly Hosch-Hill, Noelle Phelps, Dale Spier, Amy Studts
12. Susan Darr, William McKeeman
13. Vonn Milks, Kimberly Nelson, Victoria Soukup
14. Jennifer Bunge, Gretchen Engelkamp, Rachel Thokala, Sheri Tipton, William Tunzer, Olaf Roynesdal
15. Emily Kirkvold
16. Jill Bruckner, Alexa Geiger, George Hansen
17. Charles Darr, Paul Morrow, Angelia Reimers, Jillian Setterburg, Jody Stier
18. Sherri Hannon, Kyle Nelson, Richard Nelson
19. Ainsley Christensen, Jessica Fajen, Brian Hadfield, Tara Whitley
20. Kenneth Cooper, Mark Hansen, Douglas Holoubek, Gordon Jensen, Emma Maaske, Linda Nord, Rosemarie Smith, Sheila Valquier
21. Melinda Kant, Steve Kirkvold, Lex Lotz
22. Lindsay Sadlemyer, Traci Stephens
23. Marjean Gillaspie, Steven Hansen, Clara Kidder, Ann Miller
24. Brenda Kocourek, Dudley Syre
25. Kelly Hinrichs, Anthony Bonacci
26. Stephanie Christensen, Margaret Grabow, Loren Johnsen, Chris Link, Susan Toelle,
27. Laura Gardner
28. Katherine Allyn, James Anderson, Maisy Fletcher, Gloria Ruesch
29. Lydia Baum, Taylor Dixon, Janice Falk, Diane Jones, Jodi Winther
30. Larry Allison, Helen Taylor
31. Colleen Lenner, William Poulsen, Kenneth Wise



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Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor  
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor

## Worship Times

You may worship in person by confirmed reservation only (call/e-mail no later than noon on Thursday before the Sunday you want to attend). Please note that the plans set forth are subject to immediate change. Tune in on Sundays at 9:00 AM on Cox channel 13 or watch our live streamed service any time at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/>

A bulletin is available on our website at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/bulletin-announcements/>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**HOW CAN WE  
PRAY FOR YOU?**

Message us your request.



## Kountze History from the



### The Spanish Flu Epidemic and deFreese Family

#### **October 6, 1918 - The Omaha Bee Newspaper Order Casket of "Flu" Victims Be Sealed at Funeral.**

Orders were given by City Health Commissioner Manning that the casket containing the body of Rev.

Siefke deFreese, pastor at St. Mark's Lutheran Church who was the first Omaha victim of the Spanish Influenza be sealed and remain closed. This order applies to all cases that result from Spanish influenza. Funeral services for Rev. deFreese will be held in St. Mark's on Saturday. Rev. deFreese left behind his widow, Martha, and 4 young sons ranging in age from 5 months to seven years. (The 5-month-old son was Paul Matthew who would later become the second longest serving senior pastor at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.)(St. Mark's Lutheran Church was founded on December 12, 1886 at 21<sup>st</sup> and Burdette Streets, by members of Kountze Memorial Church who wanted to be able to worship in a church closer to their homes.)



Ref. Siefke deFreese  
Pastor St. Mark's

#### **October 1918 - The Kountze Memorial Lutheran Newsletter**

The Rev. Dr. Baltzly and his wife have been among our members who have suffering from severe attacks of the common epidemic. We are pleased to know that they are slowly recovering.

#### **November 1918 - The Kountze Memorial Lutheran Newsletter A Heart to Heart Message**

We have just experienced here in America a most distressing situation: Our churches have been closed from one end of our country to the other. The "House of God" has been silent; with us it has been silent for a month. We wonder seriously, and not without fear, how the Lord God has regarded it. We believe the authorities were entirely sincere in their methods and efforts to combat this dreadful pestilence that has swept over our country. We commend them for their diligence; the heroic service of physicians and nurses during this period will have distinguished recognition in our national history. But that the Church of the Lord God should be closed startles us. If there was ever a time that has called for confession, humiliation, genuine contrite prayer, it has been these last weeks. We wish the people had been called for special prayer and recognition of God.

#### **Nov. 18, 1918 - The Omaha Bee Newspaper Spanish "Flu" More Deadly than War.**

The recent epidemic of influenza in the United States caused more deaths than occurred among the American Expeditionary forces. The census bureau announced today that reports from 46 cities having a combined population of 23,000,000 showed 82,306 deaths from the influenza from September 9 to November 9. To date it is estimated that about 45,000 Expeditionary battlefield deaths have occurred.

#### **October 1961- The Kountze Memorial Lutheran Newsletter**

On October 6, 1961, the Kountze congregation unanimously called the Rev. Paul Matthew deFreese, D.D. to become Pastor. The Rev. Dr. deFreese graduated from Midland College in 1940, the Central Theological Seminary, Fremont, in 1943 and was ordained that year. He served at Grace Lutheran in Hooper from 1943 to 1949 and First St. Paul, Hastings 1950 to date. His family members include wife, Mina, a Midland graduate of 1940, and four children, Deanne, Paul Jr., Jewel, and David.

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**May 10, 1980 - Midland College Magazine  
de Freese's Selected as 1980 Distinguished Midland  
Family.**



**Mrs. Martha deFreese**  
1967 Nebraska  
Mother of the Year  
director of the YMCA in Fremont and Kansas City.

Four brothers and their families received special recognition at Midland College as the family of the late Rev. Seifke and Martha deFreese were named the Distinguished Midland Family of 1980. The Rev. Louis '33, Luther '35, Rev. S. Kenneth '39 and the Rev. Paul '40. The men not only received their education at Midland, they found their wives there as well. Luther the only son not to become a minister, was a high school principal and

**September 4, 1985 - Pastor deFreese Retires  
September 15.**

Pastor deFreese retires from fulltime ministry on September 15 after nearly 24 years at Kountze Memorial. On Friday evening, September 13, we will have a retirement dinner at the Holiday Inn Convention Center. Over one thousand reservations have been made.



**Rev. Dr. Paul deFreese and Mina  
at Retirement in September, 1985**

**Just a reminder:**

Now that we have begun in-person Worship at 9:00 AM on Sundays, here are a few reminders:



- We will promote maintaining appropriate physical distancing between parties. A "party" should be understood to include members of a household or family and therefore may be seated together in the sanctuary, but should maintain six (6) feet of social distance from all other parties.
- You will need to pre-register by **Noon** on the **Thursday** prior to the service you wish to attend. Registration can be done via email (info@kmlchurch.org) or by telephone (402-341-7761). Depending on the numbers, you may not be able to attend every service. A confirmation email/call will confirm your registration.
- You will enter the church through the Kountze Commons Link Doors on the west side of our facility.
- You will be required to wear a face mask upon entering the facility.
- Hand-sanitizer will be available as you enter as well as in the sanctuary. You will then walk through the Fellowship Hall to the Sanctuary.
- You will pick up a bulletin;
- If you are giving an offering, you will place it in the plates provided;
- An usher will seat you.
- You will not have the option of choosing where you sit. You and your family will be seated at a safe distance from others.

**During the service:**

- A family must sit together; children must remain with their parents/guardians.
- Face masks must be worn.
- All the worship materials will be in the bulletin. The hymnbooks will be removed from the pews.
- There will be no physical contact between attendees. The peace will be shared but no physical contact made. No one is to shake anyone's hand.

**The following people are asked to stay at home:**

- Those who are sick
- It is suggested that those 65 and over not attend
- People with underlying medical conditions
- Family members who live with elderly people or those who are at risk
- People who have access to those at risk in nursing institutions
- People who have upper respiratory or flu-like symptoms
- People who live with someone with upper respiratory or flu-like symptoms
- People with COVID-19 or live with someone with COVID-19
- People who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19

**Please note that the plans set forth are subject to immediate change, depending on all the forces that are beyond our control.**