

Special Notice

If you plan to attend Worship in person, please call/e-mail the church office no later than noon on the Thursday before the Saturday or Sunday you want to attend.

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/>



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

January 30 & 31, 2021

Kountze Food Pantry

Volunteers Needed

Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00 AM;

9:00 - 11:00 AM;

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Fridays, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

The Food Pantry is greatly in need of volunteers that can work 7:00 AM - 9:30 AM. This is when we get our deliveries and the heavy lifting is done. We are moving approximately 10,000 pounds of food every week. That is a lot for 1-3 people. Many hands make light work!

Please consider yourself, or anyone you can send to help. In addition, no one has stepped forward to volunteer to carry out food to the cars of our guests. The more people we have, the shorter time each person has to work in the cold. We have shopping carts to assist the volunteers, so you only have to lift into and out of the cart. You will be paid handsomely with coffee and Barb's cookies! Please consider helping them out by volunteering at the link below:

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

Official Notice

Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 14

10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

(& the Fellowship Hall if needed)

The meeting will be in-person and will also be live-streamed and zoomed.

A Question and Answer Session on the 2021 Budget (included in this February Good News) will be held on **Sunday, February 7 at 10:30 AM**. This will also be live-streamed. If you have questions regarding the budget



Attendance and Giving

Saturday Attendance: 14

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 51

Total: 65

Online Attendance:

Pantry Guests Served: 291

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 27

Offering:

\$9,021.00 (Regular) \$1,162.26 (Specials)

\$1,012.00 (Debt Reduction)

please email them to our treasurer, Tim Backora (tbackora@cox.net) or to Pastor Olaf (olaf@kmlchurch.org).

Youth Summer Trip

Summer Trip Planning is in the beginning stages. A Zoom Meeting with youth and parents will be scheduled in February. A mailing will be sent out to all youth in the congregation telling of the date and options. If you are interested and did not get this letter, please inform the church office so one can be sent to you.

Register for Summer Camp!

All summer camp registrations are done on a secure online registration site called UltraCamp. You will need to create an account through UltraCamp in order to register. View the instructions document on the registration page and click the UltraCamp button to start the registration process. You will be transferred to our secure online registration site called UltraCamp. There, you'll set up an account to register your child. Go to <https://www.caroljoyholling.org/schedule> to schedule. Note: For the 2021 summer camp season, all deposits are fully refundable.

Today at Kountze

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in appreciation of Robin & Jeff Perkins given by Richard Bock

Online Sunday School

Lessons are videotaped and posted on the KMLC Parents Facebook page as well as our Kountze Facebook Page.

Youth Forum

Sundays, 10:20 - 11 AM

All youth in grades 9-12 are invited.

In-Person: 1st and 3rd Sundays at the church in Kountze Commons Link/Greenspace.

Zoom: 2nd and 4th Sundays (email Pastor Shari if you would like the link)

Adventures: 5th Sunday of the Month

Jesus casts out unclean spirits.

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

Sunday	Mark 1:21-28	Jesus teaches in the synagogue
Monday	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	A new prophet like Moses
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Love builds up others
Wednesday	Acts 16:16-40	Paul and Silas in prison
Thursday	Exodus 15:22-27	Bitter water made sweet
Friday	1 John 4:1-6	Testing the spirits
Saturday	Psalms 111	Praise for God's wonderful works
Sunday	Mark 1:29-39	Jesus heals many people

© 2020 Vibrant Faith Ministries. All rights reserved.
Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

taking
faith
home

They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." Mark 1:27 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, lead us to trust in your reign of justice and mercy that heals the wounded and lifts up the lowly through Jesus Christ, the Holy One of God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, help us to be mindful of your goodness, including this gift of food. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Holy One of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, give you faith, hope, and love.

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

- Think or tell about a time you were jealous.
- How is the feeling of jealousy harmful to you and others?
- What difference does it make that Jesus has power over unclean spirits (like jealousy) in our lives?

Read: Mark 1:21-28.

In the Gospel of Mark, this is Jesus' first recorded act in public ministry. It sets the direction and tone for Mark, and it is a doozy. In our modern world where data and verifiable research is relied on more than speaking about spirits—unclean or not—the narrative can lead to many understandable questions. However, the conclusion is clear: Jesus speaks and acts with an authority not experienced by the people in the Capernaum synagogue. All the people were amazed. The unclean spirits know who Jesus is, the Holy One of God. In Jesus' kingdom, such knowledge is not enough. He silences the unclean spirits. Jesus will be gathering followers like Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John (vv. 14-20) who will worship, serve, and place their trust in Jesus. He comes with the message and authority of God. Jesus presents the reign of God that breaks down barriers. He brings God's purity and holiness to people and places not reached before. It's the ministry and the message that will not be silenced. Jesus brought life-changing experiences to the people. What life-changing experience have you had?

Pray: Almighty God, help us to witness to and be followers of your reign of love, reconciliation, and healing through Christ our Lord. Amen.

In 1 Corinthians 8, it was not good enough that people had the right information, even the right understanding of the Christian faith. They needed to act out of love because "Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up." Think of someone with whom you have differing opinions. Pray that you may be able to see beyond your differences and reach out to the other person with a spirit of love and a listening ear.

February 2 is the Church festival day for the "Presentation of the Lord." The festival recalls that forty days after his birth, Jesus was presented at the temple in Jerusalem. This festival is also known as "Candlemas" because of the tradition of blessing candles for use throughout the coming year. This is associated with Simeon's words about Jesus being "a light to reveal God to the nations." Choose a new candle to light and use this year as part of your devotions.

Then end with this prayer: **Lord God, thank you for giving us Jesus as a bright light in our lives. Bless us as we gather around this candle this year. May it remind us that Jesus is with us. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39