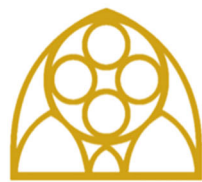


## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Kristin Boe	Christian Ed Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Sarah Jewell	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Kayla Slaughter	Housekeeper
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director



# KOUNTZE

## Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

April 30 & May 1, 2022

*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 over 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.*

### **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. Our form of distribution is Intinction.

### **Sharing of the Peace**

As we return to worship practices, we encourage you to begin again sharing the peace in a way that is comfortable for you. Please be mindful that your way might not be for everyone. Handshakes, elbow or fist bump, a bow, a nod, a wave all work. Take this time to connect with others in a way that allows for the Peace of Christ to flow through and amongst us.

### **Children in Worship**

We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a 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**

Our 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 attendance card in your bulletin or text your e-mail address to 22828.

### **Today at Kountze**

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Lynn and Nancy Meyer praising God for a successful knee surgery on Chris; Robert & Patricia Ranney in celebration of their 44<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

### **Children's Choir**

#### **Ages K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Barb Carlsen will lead the singers during the 9:00 AM sermon. Those interested in participating in choir will come forward for the Children's Blessing and then go to the upstairs choir room for practice before returning for Communion.

### **Sunday School**

#### **Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM**

Join us on Sundays on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Talking Points**

In today's lesson, Jesus forgives Peter. Ask your child what forgiveness looked like in the lesson. Talk about what forgiveness means to them. Have they ever had to forgive someone? Does everybody deserve to be forgiven? Is there anything God will not forgive us for? How can we forgive others?

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

### Youth Forum

**Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM**

All 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to join us!

This Sunday—Exploring a Spiritual Practice

### Adult Forum

**Sunday, 10:10**

**This Sunday**—Update - Council & Call Committee

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### May 1 Sunday

Easter 3

Homebound Communion

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

### May 2 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### May 3 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### May 4 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

### May 5 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### May 6 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### May 7 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### May 8 Sunday

Easter 4

Mother's Day

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

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### May is Blindness Prevention Month

May is Blindness Prevention Month. During May we will be again be collecting used eyeglasses for a community project. Thank you in advance for your participation in this outreach event. Please place the glasses in the drop box by the back office door in May. Thank you in advance for your support.

### Growing Young Book Study/Planning Sessions

#### Adult Forum

#### May 8

#### 10:10 AM

How might we cultivate a community that helps younger generations discover and love being a part of the church? We are finding out it does not happen by not focusing on it. The KMLC Christian Education Committee is inviting you to join in the conversation of Growing Young. This book is written by Kara Powell, Jake Mulder, and Brad Griffin and is a Fuller Youth Institute Resource. Through developing 6 essential strategies, churches are seeing younger more connected people join in the mission of proclaiming Christ through word and service. Join us during Adult Forum on May 8 for an preview. Time between services through June will enable us to study these strategies more fully and think about ways we might embrace them for our future.

### Camp Sunday

#### May 8

#### 10:10 AM

Camp staff from Nebraska Lutheran Outdoors Ministries – Camp Carol Joy Holling and Sullivan Hills, will be here to lead activities in the link and outdoor courtyard. At 10:40 AM, parents of the K -12<sup>th</sup> grade youth, are asked to join the group for an informative session with a Q & A time. Join us as we learn about this important ministry of the ELCA Nebraska Synod and how we can be a part of it.

### Lutheran Women of Omaha

**Tuesday, May 10, 12:00 Noon**

**Christ the King Lutheran**

**7302 South 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Bellevue**

**Bring Your Own Lunch and \$3.00**

Reservations required to Faith 402 734 4629 by **May 6**  
Program: Immanuel Pathways Free Will Offering to Salvation Army

## **Celebrating our Graduates**

**Sunday, May 15**

### **9:00 AM Worship Service**

As in years past, the high school seniors will be blessed and presented with a quilt from the KMLC sewing group. All graduates who wish to be included in the video can submit 5 photos, to Pastor Shari by Monday, May 2 along with your written information for the bulletin. Please contact Pastor Shari with any questions. We want to celebrate all graduates at this time. If you are graduating this spring or have graduated from college or any educational program in the last 6 months, let us know. Submit the following information to [shari@kmlchurch.org](mailto:shari@kmlchurch.org): Name, Parents, Place attended, Degree, and Future Plans by Monday, May 9. Thanks for helping us to compile this information. Congratulations to all!

## **Baptism Seminar**

**Sunday, May 15**

### **10:10 AM**

If you are interested in having your child baptized and have not been through a Baptism Seminar before, be sure to join us. We will meet in the Nave. The purpose of the seminar is to introduce parents to the theology of baptism, walk through the baptismal liturgy, discuss scheduling for the baptism, and address any questions the parents might have. Please call the church office to register at 402-341-7761.

## **New Member Class**

**June 5 & 12 (please plan to attend both sessions)**

### **12:15 - 2:00 PM**

If you are interested in finding out more about Kountze Memorial or would like to join our congregation, please consider attending our next New Member class. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided. Please call the church office to register and let us know if you need childcare. If you have questions, please talk to one of our Pastors.

## **Vacation Bible School**

**June 13 - 17**

### **5:30 - 8:00 PM - Dinner at 5:30 PM**

Save the date! Kountze will be partnering with Morning Star Lutheran Church for Vacation Bible School! Dinner will be served at the start, with learning through activities to follow. VBS will be held at Morning Start church (331 S. 85<sup>th</sup> St.). We will be looking for volunteers to help serve food, teach, and assist. If you are interested, please contact Kristin Boe at [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org).

## **Ordination of Adam Klinker**

**Held at Kountze Memorial**

**Tuesday, June 14**

More information to follow.

## **Camp Carol Joy Holling**

You can still register for Camp this summer. Go to <https://www.caroljoyholling.org>. Kountze camp week will take place June 19 – 24, 2022. Get to know your friends from Kountze while having a great time at bible camp. A pastor might even stop by to see what fun activities you are participating in during the week. We hope you will join in this great opportunity! (If that week will not work, we encourage you to attend anytime you are free this summer. There are First-Time Camper Discounts of \$100.00)

## **Kountze Food Pantry**

Thank-you to Methodist Health Systems and the Women of the ELCA for their large donations of food and personal care items! We have exciting news at the Kountze Food Pantry! Beginning May 16 we will be returning to a guest choice, indoor service! This means a lot less heavy lifting and more fun for the volunteers. If you choose to join us, you will be expected to stand or sit at a station and offer our guests a choice in your category. There are 12 different stations at each shift. The first shift is from 10-11 and the second shift is from 11-1. In addition we will need greeters and carry out volunteers. You are welcome to sign up for both shifts. We all look forward to returning to normal!

## **Pantry Volunteers Needed:**

Mondays: 10—11 AM; 11 AM - 1 PM

Fridays: 4 - 7 PM

If you would like to help, please sign up to volunteer using the following link:

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

## **Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday: 26**

**Sunday: 9:00: 205 11:00: 64**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 11**

**Total: 306**

**Streaming: 56**

**Cox Cable: 192**

**Pantry Guests Served: 1077 (inc. 352 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 24**

**Offering:**

\$15,509.66 (Regular)      \$3,922.62 (Specials)

\$1,787.50 (Debt Reduction)

*In Jesus the Lamb, we praise what the world rejected.*

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

Sunday	John 21:1-19	Jesus appears to the disciples
Monday	Acts 9:1-20	Conversion of Saul
Tuesday	Revelation 5:11-14	Heavenly vision
Wednesday	John 1:29-34	Lamb of God
Thursday	Revelation 4:6b-11	Song of praise to the Creator
Friday	Isaiah 53:1-12	What God's servant did for us
Saturday	Psalms 30	God turns mourning into dancing
Sunday	John 10:22-30	Jesus promises life to his sheep



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*Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,  
"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"*

### **Revelation 5:13 (NRSV)**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God, like the disciples by the Sea of Galilee, give us courage and faith to be sent out to follow you and tell the good news of Jesus and his resurrection. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

God of all things, bless us and strengthen us with this food to go out and shepherd others in love through Christ our Lord, the Lamb who was slain. Alleluia. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lamb who was slain and begins his reign bless you with joy.

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

- Why is being popular so appealing?
- What influences people to seek riches and power and why do they want it?

*Read:* Revelation 5:11-14.

The Revelation of John the Seer engages in active resistance to current powers. In John's day, it would have been the Roman Empire that saw itself as godlike and worthy of immortal praise. John upends that view and the powers that are still around us. When we think of words like power, wealth, wisdom, and honor, it is hard not to think in terms of what we see on social media, hear on the radio, and watch on screens. We are regularly given visions of "success" in terms of personal and national victories, not a crucified God. Revelation announces that our only real loyalty is to the cross of Christ and his resurrection. This final New Testament book acknowledges the truth of God's power revealed in Jesus, who is slain like a sacrificed lamb and yet reigns supreme. In this scripture reading we are encouraged to sing and give praise for the eternal blessings, honor, glory, and might of *"the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb"* (v. 13).

*Discuss:* Glory and power reside in the Lamb, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In what ways are you reminded of this in your daily life?

*Pray:* **God of glory and might, refresh our memories with vivid sights and sounds of your eternal love for us and for all creation through Christ, the Lamb who was slain. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you pray for God's power and strength to help someone you know?

Jesus appeared to the disciples while they were fishing. The fish has been used as a Christian symbol from the earliest days of the church. The Greek word for fish is *ichthus*. In Greek, the letters making up the word form an acrostic for Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior. Early Christians practiced their faith and worshiped secretly in their homes. A fish painted on the door of a house let Christians know that they would be safe and welcome inside. Draw an *ichthus* symbol to display at the entrance to your home as a sign of your faith in Jesus as your Savior.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23  
Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30