

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

GOOD NEWS

Volume 42, Issue 5

May, 2022



What marvelous and meaningful worship we had during Lent, Holy Week and Easter! I always look forward to these services that focus our prayers on the self-giving love of Christ and the power of the Resurrection. We have gathered in moments of repentance, reflection, renewal and, finally, exuberant celebration. "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" As Easter people, we believe that Christ gives us life and calls us to live lives that continue his work.

In my office I have a plaque with a print of a painting, "Das Mahl," by Sieger Köder. It portrays several people gathered around a table. We see the nail-pierced hands of Christ breaking bread, but his face is visible only as a reflection in the cup of wine. It's a reminder that we encounter the Risen Christ in the bread and cup at the eucharist.

Another plaque depicts an icon of the prophet Jeremiah, who called the people to act with justice and compassion. On another shelf is a plaque given me by an organization recognizing my involvement in community service and justice ministries. Together, these remind me that the Risen Christ calls us to work for justice and embody the compassion and mercy of God.

I also have a finger labyrinth. A labyrinth is an ancient prayer practice that follows a circular path around and back, turning this way and that, until getting to the center. This particular labyrinth is carved on a piece of wood so I can trace the way with my finger. It reminds me that when we follow the way of Jesus, God journeys with us and we are never alone.

Here at Kountze we say that we are called to Worship, Grow, and Serve. We gather in the eucharist. We seek to keep growing in our faith and understanding. We go out into the world to serve. And Jesus meets us along the way.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Steve

Kountze Memorial to Host Seminary Student for Part-time Internship

Positive votes by Personnel Committee and Church Council allowed for an application to be submitted to Wartburg Seminary for sponsoring a part-time Intern Pastor for the coming school year. On April 21, we received word that Kountze Memorial has been accepted as an Internship Site for the coming year. What this means is that the congregation will provide a "teaching and learning experience, where the Intern can learn by doing and become by being." The WTS Internship Handbook goes on to say that, "Interns, ministry sites, and supervisors walk together in the experience of formation through action and reflection."

We give thanks for this new ministry that we will be entering into in the months to come. As we get information, more announcements will be forthcoming.

THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU

Lenten Meal Volunteers:

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped prepare, serve and clean up during our Lenten journey. The organizing efforts by Marlys Duin and Jim Smejkal were superb!

Spring Spruce-Up Volunteers:

Thank you to everyone that gave of their time and talents to spend Saturday morning April 9th helping clean and dust so things looked top notch for the Easter celebration. See photo on page 4.

Usher/Lectors/Communion Assistants/Altar Guild:

Thank you to all our ushers, lectors, communion assistants, and altar guild for all your dedication and hard work throughout the year but especially for Holy Week and Easter.

Easter Breakfast Volunteers:

Thank you for Saturday prep crews, those who gave pastry donations, cooks, servers, and clean-up crew. We are especially thankful to Jim & Sharon West for picking up supplies and organizing it all.

WORSHIP *with us...*

Worship Times

Holy Communion is offered weekly at all three weekend liturgies which use resources from Evangelical Lutheran Worship:

Saturdays at 5:00 PM; Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

The 9:00 AM liturgy is broadcast on Cox Cable Channel 13 and is also live-streamed on our website (www.kmlchurch.org). The Sunday bulletin is available on our website.

A brief, spoken Eucharist is offered on Wednesdays from 12:15 - 12:45 PM in the Rotunda.



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 also livestream the service right from your computer on our church

website. Go to 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, Eternal Candle, TV Broadcast

You can help us beautify the altar at Kountze or sponsor a television broadcast if you wish. This 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.

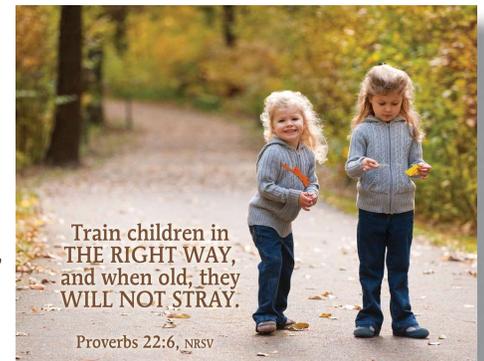
Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and cost \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$210 per week.

You can sign up for a date to provide flowers, eternal candle, and/or our television broadcast by signing up in the Narthex, calling the church office, going online to our giving page, or placing a check in the mail or offering plate marked "flowers, candle, or TV ministry. Please let us know if it is in honor/memory/celebration of someone. Thanks.



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. We also have 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.



In this issue...

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GROW with us...



Join us Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall
10:10 - 10:50 AM

- May 1 Update - Council & Call Committee
- May 8 Preview of "Growing Young" Study Guide for Christian Education
- May 15 Graduate Reception
- May 22 Survey of the Gospel of Luke
- May 29 Fellowship

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your kind words and for remembering our dad. It is very gratifying to know that he touched so many lives through his ministry.

His passing was somewhat unexpected and it has been helpful to know that so many people are supporting us with their thoughts and prayers.

Please know that all gifts given in memory of our dad will be given to Kountze memorial as this was his first calling and always held a special place in his heart.

In case you were wondering, our mother is in memory/hospice care and we are visiting her as often as possible. Both of our parents will be interred in their home town of Hastings, Nebraska.

Again, thank you for making this difficult time a little easier. We appreciate it very much.

Sincerely,

Mark Stromer, Angela Blunt and all of our family



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.

150 Years as the Nebraska Synod: Built of Living Stones, A (very) Short History

The very first Lutherans in the Territory of Nebraska were among the waves of homesteaders of the 1840s and 50s who the U.S. government settled here on indigenous land.

But these lay Lutherans preceded the church; no Lutheran churches or pastors were here in Nebraska until the missionary Pastor Henry Kuhns arrived in the late 1850s to organize the Lutheran settlers he found already living here. Preaching points slowly became congregations and the church members eventually constructed their own church buildings.

The Nebraska Synod as a governing body was first established in 1871 as a conference of the larger General Synod...

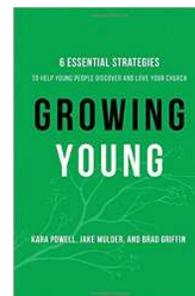
For more information, you can go to <https://nebraskasynod.org/event/150th-anniversary/>



Growing Young Book Study/ Planning Sessions

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.



come grow with us!

SERVE with us...

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!

Volunteers Needed:

Mondays: 7:30 - 9 AM
9 - 11 AM
11 AM - 1 PM
Fridays: 4 - 7 PM

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

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



Spring Spruce-Up Day

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.



Carol Joy Holling Camp Work Day

Saturday, May 21, 2022

8:00 AM - Lunch

Follow Signs to Check-in Location

Carol Joy Holling Camp



Join us at Carol Joy Holling Camp's annual Work Day! We need your help to get our site ready for the more than 1,500 campers that will be arriving during the summer. Bring friends and family for a day of work in God's creation!

Individuals and groups are welcome, and all skill levels are needed. Please bring clothes that can get dirty, close-toed shoes and gloves. Kids are welcome with parent supervision.

For more info and to sign up, go to <https://www.caroljoyholling.org/work-day>



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY...

Look What's Coming Up!

Sunday School Schedule

Please check the bulletin for summaries of the weekly lesson and talking points to have with your student at home.

May

- 1: Jesus and the Miraculous Catch of Fish
- 8: Camp Carol Joy Holling presentation
- 15: Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial
- 22: End of the Year Celebration!

We will end our year of learning with a party to celebrate all your hard work throughout the year. On May 22, all children are invited to join in games, snacks, arts and crafts, and more. We will meet in the green space (weather permitting) after the 9:00 AM service.

Youth Forum

Grades 7 - 12

Sundays, 10:10 AM

Youth Forum Schedule

All 7th - 12th grade youth are invited to join together in the Youth Room from 10:10 to 10:50 AM each Sunday.

- May 1 Exploring a Spiritual Practice
- May 8 Camp Sunday in the Link
- May 15 Graduate Reception in Fellowship Hall
- May 22 Check-in for last gathering of the School Year

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 - 12th 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.

May Service Project for the Youth of Kountze

Join the Camp Work Day on Saturday, May 21 (details on page 4.).

Join us at 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!

You can attend anytime you are free this summer. (First-Time Camper Discounts -\$100.00).

Please inform the church office the week you will be attending so we can uplift you in prayer.

Youth Summer Trip

Join us on July 16 - 23 as we explore the Lake Superior area in the NW Wisconsin by canoe. It will be a time to build up our outdoor skills and bond as a group of travelers through Camp AMNICON Adventures. Cost will be \$400.00 with half due with the registration form by Sunday, May 15. There will be 2 pre-trip planning sessions, one in June and one in July, that all participants will need to attend. Please do not let finances keep you from attending this trip. For more information, reach out to Pastor Shari.

Vacation Bible School

June 13 - 17

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

Kountze will be joining Morningstar Lutheran Church for VBS. Save the date! We would love to see you there!

New Orleans is the Place for the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering!

KMLC youth in 6th through 10th grade, get jazzed to participate in the New Orleans 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering, MYLE and the tAble! The Big Easy is filled with rich history, friendly locals, amazing food and great music. Mark your calendars for July 16-20, 2024, to join in this transformational faith formation event. MYLE and the tAble will take place immediately before on July 13-16.



Easter Egg Hunt, 2022

NEWS & Notes...



Council Notes

March 15, 2022

The meeting was called order at 6:05 by Pastor Griffith. The agenda was

approved. Devotions were led by Bruce Nissen. February minutes were approved.

Treasurer's reports were received without discussion. Staff reports were accepted as emailed. Committee Reports were accepted as emailed. The following additions were noted: **Global Mission:** Our relationship with the American Church in Berlin was discussed. We don't support them monetarily at this point but options for support by individuals or Endowment Grants were discussed. **Media & Tech:** Becky Frerck is contacting other vendors to see what options for redesigning our website. **Worship & Music:** Compline service will be held at Kountze March 27.

Board Reports: Pastor Steve and Tim Backora will meet with heads of the pertinent boards in early April to discuss audit arrangements. **KETV:** Partial support for the Executive Director position at Kountze Commons is included in the 2022 budget. **Pantry:** The pantry will revert to the model of having patrons enter Kountze Commons to choose their own groceries on Monday, May 9. Bruce noted that there are pantry tasks that occasionally need subs and we might ask for volunteers to help specifically with that. **COVID Task Force:** Ongoing communion will be served by intinction. More communion assistants will be needed ongoing and a sign-up list was circulated. We should continue to state that masks are optional so people are comfortable wearing masks if they want. Shaking hands when passing the peace is up to individuals. **Refugee Resettlement:** Our Afghan family is settled and has welcomed a new baby but they need more help than we were led to expect. They need meals for an additional week. Volunteers can sign up online to pick up meals at an Afghan restaurant and deliver them to the family. **Retreat Followup:** Sunday's table talks were very successful and Jane shared the results with the council. There will be a social dinner Friday, April 8 for the council and staff and their families. A retreat for new and returning council members will be held August 26-27 at Camp Carol Joy Holling.

Old Business: Kountze Commons 501c3 Update: We need a more definite job description of the Kountze Commons Executive Director. It needs to be written before this moves forward.

Pastor Hall is consulting with 2 non-profit directors. **Scholarship Committee:** Tim is reaching out to former

scholarship committee members to see if they would be willing to serve. He will report later.

New Business: deFreese Manor Parking Lot Easement Agreement: The current proposal offered by the buyer was discussed. The council has questions regarding the maintenance of the lot. The buyer has offered to resurface and stripe the entire lot and to pay 25% of ongoing maintenance since they will use 27/115 spaces. The concern is that the church will have to provide more maintenance than is currently done and that there will be billing issues between KETV and the church to be settled. Kate will investigate this more fully and a further meeting (possibly Zoom) will be scheduled to address this as soon as possible.

Strategic Conversation: The council individually listed the skills they hope the new senior pastor will have. They also shared individually and as a group what characteristics describe our congregation. This exercise and discussion is part of the process to create our MSP.

Next meetings: Executive Committee meeting: Wednesday, April 13, 6:00 PM (Zoom). Council Meeting: Tuesday, April 19, 2022, 6:00 PM.

Special Meeting, March 20, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 PM by Pastor Griffith.

Pastor Steve noted that there was a quorum present. He stated that the purpose of the meeting was to address the declaration of parking arrangements involved in the proposed sale of deFreese Manor. Discussion of this matter was tabled at the March 15 council meeting. It was moved, seconded and approved to reopen that discussion.

Scott Henneman explained the existing proposal from the buyer. This process was started in January 2020 when the buyer approached deFreese asking to purchase the Manor. After discussion with other entities the deFreese Manor Board decided to proceed with the possible sale. In order to satisfy HUD requirements any operator needs to have 27 additional parking spaces above and beyond the 13 that come with the property. The whole lot contains 115 spaces and the buyer doesn't want to maintain that many when they only need 27. They have offered to resurface and re-stripe the whole parking lot by October 31 of this year and to pay 25% of the ongoing maintenance costs.

Kate McCoy Jones explained that concerns are 1) the billing procedures for maintenance costs (KETV bills the church for all parking lot plowing etc.), 2) the standards that the buyer would use in resurfacing the parking lot, and 3) the term limit of these arrangements. There

continued on page 7

Pastoral Acts (March 16 - April 15)

Funerals:

Merlyn Harvat Ulrich
March 26, 2022

Virginia Jensen
April 2, 2022

Book Group

We will not meet in May but join us again on June 12 at 12:15 PM.



If you are a Eucharistic Minister and have a communion kit at home, please bring it back so it can be restocked. Also, if you are a Eucharistic Minister but don't have anyone to take communion to, please let the church office know. We have several homebound members that would like to have communion brought to them. Thanks.

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was discussion regarding current practices and these options. The point was made that the deFreese Manor and Scott Henneman (their board chair) should not be involved in this negotiation. That it is really between the church council and the buyers.

It was moved, seconded and approved to table the approval of the deFreese Manor purchase agreement and to have Kate Mc Coy Jones as Kountze Church Council representative look at the buyer's proposal regarding the repaving parameters, billing procedures, and term of the agreement. Kate will communicate with the council and approval may be done with an email vote if necessary.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Affirmation of Faith – April 24, 2022

On Wednesday April 20, a Confirmation Meal for Confirming Students and families was hosted by the first year Confirmation families. It was a time to be together and celebrate this time of preparation they have made to affirm their baptismal faith. We are grateful to Dannika Rees, Anne Dey, and Jerry Fischer for sharing their journey of faith as we reflect on our mission to Worship † Grow † Serve.

These persons have been instructed in the Christian faith and made public affirmation of their baptism.

Olivia Lauren Baker

Daughter of Ashley Baker

Baptized on November 21, 2015 at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church

Baptismal Sponsor is Becky McClanathan

Confirmation Verse: Trust the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. - Proverbs 3:5,6

Boe Di Lorenzo

Son of Jesse and Kara Di Lorenzo

Baptized on September 7, 2008 at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church

Baptismal Sponsors: Kelsey Ferry and Jeff Kassal

Confirmation Verse: It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. - Galatians 2:20

Barrett Kelly Hinrichs

Son of Dr. Kelly and Susan Hinrichs

Baptized on Sunday, August 12, 2007 at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church

Godparents are Heidi Steskal and Todd Evans

Confirmation Verse: Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand. - Isaiah 41:10

Collin Wayne Johnston

Son of Robert A. and Michelle Johnston

Baptized on July 13, 2008 at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church

Baptismal Sponsors are Janet Johnston and Dave Wojtkiewicz

Confirmation Verse: Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation: for you I wait all day long. - Psalm 25:5

Drew Braden Rasmussen

Son of Brent E Rasmussen, and Kim M Rasmussen

Baptized on June 28, 2008 at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church

Baptismal Sponsors are Diane D Rasmussen & Kevin Kuta

Confirmation Verse: By contrast, the fruits of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is not law against such things. - Galatians 5:22,23

Kountze History from the



From 1975 to 1983 Kountze Church supported Six Immigrant Families.

September 1975 Kountze Newsletter - "Thanh and Dwig Vu came to us in mid-August from Vietnam to Fort Chaffee in Arkansas and then here through the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. They are our first Indo-China family for sponsorship. Thanh was formerly



in military service and his wife was a school teacher. They live in our church apartment and work with our building maintenance. It has been delightful having them with us as part of our Kountze family. We welcome them to our Country, City and Church."

December 1975 Newsletter -

"Han Van Thanh, the young man from Vietnam, living in our

church apartment and serving as our Church Sexton. He was married to his wife Kui on the afternoon of December 1st. She was living in Blair with her family, who were resettled by one of our sister churches. We are happy for them and wish God's blessings upon their lives."

January 1976 Newsletter - "The first Vietnamese family we helped settle are now living in California where Thang is continuing his education. Here are excerpts from a recent Letter: Thanh is quite busy. He must work 9 hours a day and learn English 3 hours a day. We have been here about 2 months. We miss all of you. We received some news from Siagon that all of my relatives had a very difficult life - all of the people working with the former government have been sent to labor camps for an indefinite time. I wish, I pray, I could see my parents, brothers and sisters in my life. Say hello to everyone. God bless to you." "Love, Thanh and Dung."

March 1979 Newsletter - "The Laotian refugee family we are sponsoring for resettlement in Omaha arrived on March 24. They were tired after a long trip from a camp in Thailand. Thang Vang is 24 years old, his wife Yeu is 21; they



have two children Bou, a daughter is 18 months and a baby boy Je is 2 months. The church Council and congregation is working on the arrangements. The congregation is asked to help in providing home furnishings, food, clothing, personal items, etc. The response was terrific! They will stay with a brother for a week and then move into an apartment at 825

Turner Blvd. They will be learning English and beginning to work on employment. We will take care of their food, rent, utilities, etc. until they are on their feet. Therefore in addition to all the other ways members have helped, monetary gifts are welcome. They are both in a CETA training program that will take 6-8 months. They worship with us each Sunday."

May 1981 Newsletter - "The congregation helped Edward Asino, the student and his family from Nambia West Africa, with moving into an apartment in South Omaha. A number of the congregation helped with providing furniture and household goods. We helped them for about a year while Ed was learning English. In late December they moved to Greenville, Pa. so he could attend Thiel Lutheran College."



July 1982 Newsletter - "Our next refugee family for resettlement is the Vang family who will be arriving from



Thailand. Their name is the same as the last Laotian family although they are not related. They arrived on Friday and are in temporary housing. The family picture shows the father and mother surrounded by their four children. Many things will be needed to get them started. Housing is the first priority. Language and job training will follow

close behind. Clothing for (two adults, girls ages 3, 6 and 11 and boy, 15), bedding, food, kitchen utensils, etc. and monetary gifts. Please call the church about furniture."

November 3, 1982 Newsletter - "After sponsoring four Indo-China refugees and one from Nambia

West Africa, we have responded to the latest world need and agreed to resettle a Polish family. They arrived last Thursday from Germany. They left Warsaw, Poland because of the current political turmoil and repression. We are working on all aspects of resettlement, housing, furnishings, food and clothing, English language, transportation, employment (in area of welding), etc. If you would like to help with a monetary gift please phone the Church Office. The Nawojzli family picture, from left: son, Robert, age 18; mother, Weronica; daughter, Renata, age 13; and father Henry."



Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 3/1/2022.....	\$2,138,864.76
Principal Payment 4/1/2022	\$6,431.72
Interest Payment 4/1/2022.....	\$7,039.21
Balance 4/1/2022	\$2,132,433.04

Finances: March, 2022

	March	Year-to-Date
Total General Fund		
Income:	\$ 78,631	\$ 248,127
Expenses:		
Mission Support	\$ -	\$ -
Christian Education:	\$ 496	\$ 1,160
Facility Costs:	\$ 19,515	\$ 44,084
Staff Compensation:	\$ 50,710	\$ 152,559
Worship & Music:	\$ 3,532	\$ 8,041
Parish Life:	\$ 3,504	\$ 4,312
Youth:	\$ 33	\$ 195
Office & Administration:	\$ 7,346	\$ 20,843
Total Expenses:	\$ 85,137	\$ 231,193

Food Pantry Report

(3/1/2022 - 3/31/2022)

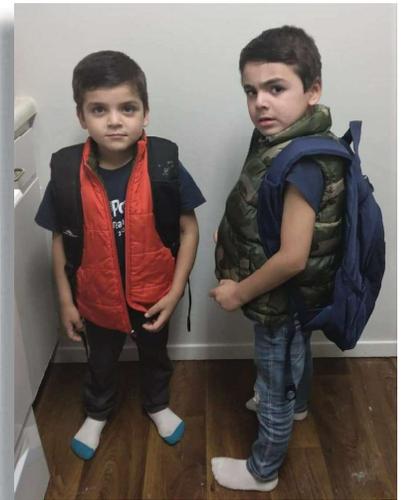
Balance, 1/1/2021	\$ 50,000.00
Income:	
Donations:	\$ 9,126.10
Memorials	\$ 280
	\$ 9,406.10
Expenses:	
Aldi	\$ -
Costco	\$ 8,000.00
Hidden Valley Ind.	\$ 4,074.76
Hy-Vee	\$ 120.00
Family Fare	\$ 6,019.51
Food Bank	\$ -
Other	\$ 210.86
	\$ 18,425.13
Balance	\$ 40,980.97

Hawa Family Update

Our Afghan friends are doing well! Bibi Hawa (the mom) and Guldin (the dad) are so appreciative of all the support from our congregation. They express their sincere gratitude every time I visit. The baby, Murad, is growing, and the other boys are already making some progress in English. In the photo Ningalai, the first grader and Khalil, the kindergartener are showing off some of the clothes that have been generously donated. Although school ends May 26, Mary Jane Petersen is working with the English Language Learning teachers at Holling Heights Elementary (MPS) trying to get them into summer school. Jalil, 3 and Suraj, 2 also practice a few words of English each time we come.



Jalil



Ningalai and Khalil

Bibi Hawa is overwhelmed by the quantity of diapers that have been donated – again, thank you so much for your amazing response. At this point we'll pause the diaper drive because she has no place to store them all! We'll let you know when the family has additional needs in the future.

Guldin has been applying for jobs that don't require any English - primarily factory and meat packing work. We're hoping to hear good news soon. He is very anxious to learn enough English to pass his drivers exam. I have asked a Pashto speaker to help translate the Nebraska Drivers manual so that Guldin can begin studying. We'll keep you posted on his progress.

Please keep this family in your prayers!

Men's Lunch
Thursday, May 19
11:30 AM
Cost: \$10



The men's lunch for meets the third Thursday of every month @ 11:30 AM. We enjoy lunch, usually a

short presentation, and time for fellowship. We try to keep the lunch and presentation short so that even if you're working, you can still join us. Our May lunch will have a brief taped interview of Pastor Wick talking about the 135th Kountze anniversary. Please call the church office or email your reservation to jim@kmlchurch.org the Tuesday prior to the meeting.

Calendar...



May 1 Sunday

Easter 3
Homebound Communion
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
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
12:15 PM Call Committee

May 2 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

May 3 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

May 4 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
2:30 PM Methodist in Classroom
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
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 9 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

May 10 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

May 11 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
11:00 AM Devotions @ deFreese Manor
12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Executive Committee

May 12 Thursday

Council Reports Due
9:30 AM WELCA Board
11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift
Free Clinic

May 13 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

May 14 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

May 15 Sunday

Easter 5
Good News Deadline
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
10:10 AM Baptism Seminar
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)
10:10 AM Adult Forum

May 16 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board
A & B Rooms

May 17 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group
6:00 PM Congregation Council

May 18 Wednesday

12:00 PM Methodist in Classroom
12:15 PM Worship

May 19 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
5:00 PM LFS in Kountze Commons
7:00 PM Circle 5

May 20 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

May 21 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

May 22 Sunday

Easter 6
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)
10:10 AM Adult Forum

May 23 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

May 24 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
7:00 PM Circle 3

May 25 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

May 26 Thursday

Ascension of Our Lord
1:00 PM Circle 4
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:30 PM Ascension Day Liturgy



**Ascension Day
Festive Eucharist
with Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Thursday, May 26, 6:30 PM**

KMLC will host the joint Eucharist
with
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
on the Feast of the Ascension

ELCA Nebraska Synod
Bishop Brian Maas will
preach and preside.
All are welcome!

May 27 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

May 28 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

May 29 Sunday

Easter 7
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Adult Forum

May 30 Monday

Memorial Day (Observed)
OFFICE CLOSED

May 31 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting



1. Edward Bass, Harold Gilliam, Carole Meilahn, Susan Peterson, Mark Phillips, Richard Ray
2. Anita Morse, Shannon Picha, Jeffery Senn, David Tollefson
3. Ethan Eggen, Linda Johnson, Karrie Lyles, Beth Naylor, Allyson White
4. Linda Knutson, Lacey Bodnar, Lindsey Bodnar
5. Mark Jones
6. Aubri Meldrum, Caden Vermule, Maxwell Szymczak
7. Diane Davis, Schyler Hopkins, Heidi LeClair, Helen Lowderman, Debra Putnam, Lynn Sherlund
8. Shirley Bonneau, Dean Herzberg, Jennifer Kropp, Giselle Loucks, Autumn Loucks, Richard Sieling, Christopher Miley
9. Charles Bressman, Richard Portrey
10. Rahn Johnson, Lucas Pestel
11. Natalie Backora, Sandra Kucera, Jennifer McCarthy
12. Dane Kucera, Jane Setterburg, Carol Storer
13. Elaine Adams, Harold Gillaspie, Pamela Johnson, Elizabeth Luczynski, Frederick Wachal
14. Noah Curtis
15. Donald Berney, Shannon Fonda, Scott Fonda, Kay Jones, Lisa Montag
16. Jean Bowman, Jane Lynam, Brooke Reinert, Spencer Link
17. Tracy Fletcher, Nicholas Kanning, Dirk Petersen
18. Linda Ackerson, Frank Ferguson, Kate Jones, Elizabeth Larkowski, Courtney Senn
19. Georgia LeClair, Melissa Titus
20. Krista Edwards
21. Elizabeth Moldenhauer, Peter Smock, Lyn Ziegenbein
22. Susan Clark, Melody Diggins
23. Nicholas Barrett, Samuel Comfort, Stephen Pera, Lorna Swingen, Karen Wolf
24. Jackson Barrett, Justin Edwards, Steven Thomas, Stephen Urlaub, Patricia Ranney, Clayton Damme, Brittany Edwards
25. David Swift, Susann Henry
26. Idonna Meyer, Denise Lewis
27. H. Hyland, Ashley Ingram, Emma Mirch, Jeremy Sarich
28. Laura Hansen, Stephanie Martens, Tracey Sweet, Owen Thornton, Dean Vancaster
29. Joy Borchman, Brandt John, Jackson Martis, Jeffrey Martis
30. Lawrence Battaglia, Melissa Hardersen, Brooks Hinrichs, Greta Rohrberg, Michaela Ruma, Amanda Sneckenberg, Noah Storer
31. Elnora Carlson, Marie Dixon, Kelly Rudie, Dan Shelby, Morgan Stouffer

Celebrating Our Graduates

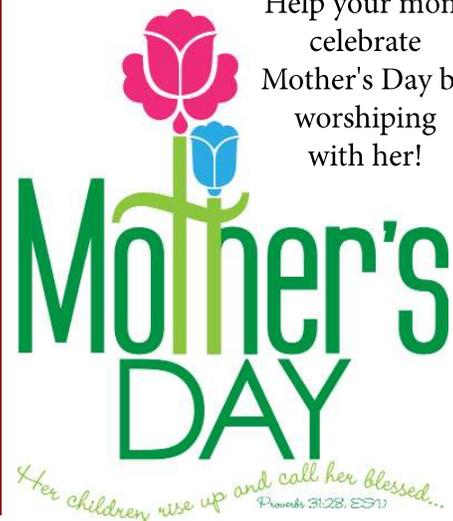
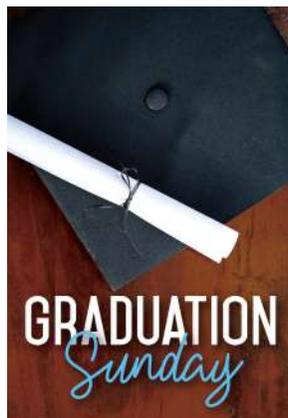
Sunday, May 15

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: Name, Parents, Place attended, Degree, and Future Plans by Monday, May 9.

Thanks for helping us to compile this information. Congratulations to all!



Help your mom
celebrate
Mother's Day by
worshiping
with her!

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Fax: 402-341-4841
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Web: www.kmlchurch.org

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Stephen Griffith, Transition Sr. Pastor
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

Worship Times

Saturday at 5:00 PM

Sunday at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Wednesday at 12:15 PM

The 9:00 AM Sunday service is televised live on Cox channel 13 and live streamed on our website at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/> (you may watch the live-stream at anytime)

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Take Me Out to the



Ball Game!

Faith and Family Night Saturday, July 23

The Omaha Storm Chasers are hosting a Faith and Family Night. There will be a post-game concert by Cory Asbury (American Christian Musician). Gates open at 4:00 PM and the first pitch is at 5:05 P.M.

They are offering \$15 tickets for groups of 10 or more. If you're interested in a Kountze group outing, please call the church office or email jim@kmlchurch.org. In order to reserve seats together, we ask that you try and respond by May 27. Watch for more details on the event, possibly a pre-game tailgate with hotdogs and chips.