

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

May 7 & 8, 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

Children's Choir

Ages K-6th 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

This Week is 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.

Sunday School Talking Points

It's Camp Carol Joy Holling presentation day! Ask your children what they learned about camp. Share your camp experiences with them. Are they interested in going to camp now or in the future?

Today at Kountze, *continued*

Youth Forum

Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

All 7th – 12th Graders are invited to join us!

This Sunday—Camp Sunday in the Link

Adult Forum

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 a 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.

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.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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

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 Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

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

10:10 AM Congregational Life Committee

Lutheran Women of Omaha

Tuesday, May 10, 12:00 Noon

Christ the King Lutheran

7302 South 42nd 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

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!

Global Mission

Global Mission is collecting good used or new bath towels and shower curtains with rings for refugees in Omaha. There is a great need for these items according to Nancy Meyer when she visited Restoring Dignity, an organization that helps collect for refugees. A box will be in the fellowship hall the weekends of May 14-15 & 21-22. Thank you for thinking of our local refugees.

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 of the baptism, and address any questions the parents might have. Please call the church office to register at 402-341-7761.

Men's Lunch

Thursday, May 19

11:30 AM

Cost: \$10

The men's lunch 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.

May Service Project for the Youth of Kountze
Saturday, May 21, 2022 (Please register by May 12)
8:00 AM - 1:30 PM - Breakfast & Lunch Included
Carol Joy Holling Camp

Follow Signs to Check-in Location

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. **Questions?** Contact Gera at GSchultz@NL0M.org or 402-944-2544.

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 think you 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. New members will be received on Sunday, June 26.

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 Star Church (331 S. 85th 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.

Ordination of Adam Klinker Held at Kountze Memorial

Tuesday, June 14

6:00 PM

More information to follow.

Kountze Food Pantry

This is it! Your Pantry is moving back inside this month on May 16! We are very excited, but we need your help. We are very short handed and desperately in need of volunteers. We have a job for every ability level. 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: 30

Sunday: 9:00: 132 11:00: 64

Wednesday: 12:15: 11

Total: 237

Streaming: 5663

Cox Cable: 158

Pantry Guests Served: 1114 (inc. 373 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 22

**Offering: \$9,335.53 (Regular) \$12,603.16 (Specials)
\$1,042.00 (Debt Reduction)**

Jesus is our shepherd.

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

Sunday	John 10:22-30	Jesus promises life to his sheep
Monday	Acts 9:36-43	Peter brings Dorcas back to life
Tuesday	Revelation 7:9-17	The multitude from every nation
Wednesday	Hebrews 13:20-22	Final prayers
Thursday	Isaiah 40:6-11	Encourage God's people
Friday	1 Peter 5:1-7	Helping Christian leaders
Saturday	Psalms 23	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	John 13:31-35	Love one another



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“My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.” John 10:27 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, give us faith to trust Jesus, our good shepherd, and to faithfully follow him into the world and do your will. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God, we thank you for preparing this table and food before us that we may be strengthened in faith and in service to others through Christ Jesus, our shepherd. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus the Good Shepherd hold you in eternal care.

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

- When you talk with others, who are the voices you trust? Explain.
- Think about or tell a story when you were aware of God's presence in your life.

Read: John 10:22-30.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally the Good Shepherd Sunday. The most recognized of all the psalms, Psalm 23, reminds us that the Lord is our shepherd. In John 10:11, Jesus identified himself as the good shepherd. As the Messiah, Jesus has followers he refers to as *“my sheep.”* His sheep recognize his voice and follow the good shepherd as the Messiah (a translation of Christ). Today, we, too, serve as the voice of Jesus in the world that others may follow the good shepherd and recognize Jesus as the Christ. 1 Peter 5:4 alludes to this when Jesus is named as the *“chief shepherd.”* Not only pastors but everyone, including parents and other trusted voices, shepherd one another in faith and life. As followers of Jesus, as sheep of the good shepherd, we all carry the voice and message of Jesus into the world.

Shepherding is a way of life for disciples that guides, protects, and serves others that they may hear and recognize Jesus.

Discuss: How has someone helped you hear the voice and message of Jesus Christ?

Pray: **Comforting and gracious God, help us to hear and trust the message of Jesus, the good shepherd, that we may care for and shepherd one another in faith, hope, and love. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you shepherd someone who needs to feel the love of Jesus?

Today is Mother's Day. It is a time to be thankful for the women in our lives who have cared for us and others. Reach out to a woman you know with a special thank you card, with a phone call, or a visit. Use this prayer: **Lord God, thank you for (name). May she know how grateful I am to have her in my life. Bless her this day and each day with your love and care. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35