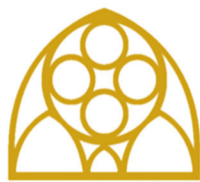


KOUNTZE STAFF

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 28 & 29, 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 in memory of Edward & Marie Lamprecht given by Richard Bock

Adult Forum

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This Sunday**—Fellowship

May is Blindness Prevention Month

During May we are 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 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

6:00 PM Call Committee

June 1 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

June 2 Thursday

Synod Assembly

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

June 3 Friday

Synod Assembly

5:00 PM Pantry

June 4 Saturday

Homebound Communion

Synod Assembly

5:00 PM Worship

June 5 Sunday

Day of Pentecost—Wear Red

Homebound Communion

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

10:10 AM Holy Play

10:10 AM Adult Forum/Growing Young Book Study

12:15 PM New Member Class

Nebraska Synod Assembly

The 2022 Nebraska Synod Assembly will gather in person this year! Voting members from congregations across the state will gather to elect the next Nebraska Synod Bishop, engage in conversation, vote on resolutions, elect synod council and committee representatives, and vote on any other assembly business. All participants will have opportunities for continued learning, fellowship, and learn more about the ministries of the Nebraska Synod.

Delegates from Kountze Memorial are:

Kate McCoy Jones

Madeline O'Kane

Jeff & Robin Perkins

Steve Urlaub

Don Zinnecker & Susie Henry

Pastor Stephen Griffith

Pastor Shari Duminy

Pastor Ashley Hall

Rev. Robert Johnson will be recognized on his fifty-fifth anniversary of ordination

Growing Young Book Study/Planning Sessions

Fellowship Lounge

Beginning Sunday, June 5

10:10 AM

How might we cultivate a community that helps younger generations discover and love being a part of the church? The KMLC Christian Education Committee is inviting you to join in the conversation of Growing Young. All are welcome to join in the book study through the month of June. We will meet in the Fellowship Lounge and encourage you to join as you are available.

Holy Play

All youth are invited to join in Summer Holy Play from 10 to 11 AM each Sunday morning starting on June 5 - August 28. (July 3, no activities provided) We will meet in the Link/Green Space unless otherwise noted. Different activities will be offered each Sunday with treats.

New Member Class

June 5

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.

deFreese Manor

40th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, June 12

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Presentation @ 12:15 PM

Everyone is welcome!

deFreese Manor has served the last 40 years fulfilling Kountze's mission of providing safe, secure, affordable housing for Seniors with the help of HUD subsidy for those with low income. We opened our doors June 2, 1982 to a waitlist with many of our members included. We are please to celebrate this anniversary with an Ice Cream Social on June 12 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Please join us at our open house where several of our residence would love to show you their beautiful apartments, have some ice

cream, and attend a small presentation at 12:15 PM. We welcome all the members of Kountze as well as our neighbors and those involved in the founding of the deFreese Manor. Rev. David deFreese will be with us as we celebrate this wonderful milestone.

Be a Part of Vacation Bible School This Year!

We are in need of supplies, assistants, and VBS Leaders. You will find a poster with what is needed on the welcome desk in the Fellowship Hall. Take the post-it note that you can be a part of and sign your name on the sign up sheet next to the item you plan to contribute. Please return the items to the box marked VBS next to the Pantry Box, by Sunday, June 12th as they will be needed on that Monday. If you are willing to be a leader or assistant, Kristin Boe will be in contact with you. Thanks for your help!

Service Project for the Youth of Kountze Sunday, June 12

11:30 AM

Morning Star Lutheran Church 331 S. 85th St.

The volunteer activity for June will be assisting in making decorations for the VBS at Morningstar.

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, Dinner Reception to Follow

By the grace of God and the call of the Church, Adam John Klinker is to be ordained into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Bishop Brian Maas of the Nebraska Synod, presiding and The Rev. Dr. H. Ashley Hall, preaching. Color of the day is red. After three years as vicar at Augustana Lutheran in Genoa, Nebraska, Adam has been called to serve at First Lutheran, Avoca, Nebraska.

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)

Congregational Life Volunteers Needed

If you enjoy cooking and serving meals, the Congregational Life Committee would like to share the good times in the kitchen with you! If you would like to serve in this way, please contact the church office or Jim Smejkal (402-341-7761 or jim@kmlchurch.org).

Eucharistic Ministers

We have several people that aren't able to come to church on a regular basis. so we need to take communion to them. However, we don't have enough Eucharistic Ministers to take communion to them. If you might be willing to serve in this way or would like more information on what Eucharistic Ministers do, please contact the church office or talk to one of the Pastors. Thanks.

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry has moved back inside! It is wonderful to once again welcome our guests into our beautiful facility. This also means there are many volunteer opportunities for every desired level of participation. You can serve for 1 hour, for the whole pantry service which goes from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM, or any combination that best fits your schedule. We also need people at 8:00 AM to unload the delivery trucks. Volunteers can even serve by picking up donated bread and pastries from Rotella and Hy-Vee. You will find a sign up notebook outside the kitchen in Meeting Room A of Fellowship Hall, or you may sign up at the following link:

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

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 35

Sunday: 9:00: 135 **11:00:** 89

Wednesday: 12:15: 13

Total: 272

Streaming: 60

Cox Cable: 147

Pantry Guests Served: 881 (inc. 306 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 11

Offering:

\$7,301.12 (Regular)

\$1,675.53 (Specials)

\$732.00 (Debt Reduction)

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus prays for us.

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

Sunday	John 17:20-26	Jesus prays for his disciples
Monday	Acts 16:16-34	Paul and Silas in prison
Tuesday	Revelation 22:12-21	Christ is coming soon
Wednesday	Romans 8:26-30	A wonderful future for God's people
Thursday	Romans 8:31-39	God's love in Christ Jesus
Friday	Hebrews 7:22-28	Our Lord is a priest
Saturday	Psalms 97	The Lord brings justice
Sunday	John 14:8-17, 25-27	Jesus promises the Holy Spirit



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"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." **John 17:20-21 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, just as you and Jesus are one, give us the grace and mercy to be one with you and with all believers so that the world may see and believe. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of abundance, we thank you for this gift of food, a sign of your love for us and all the world through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus, the Holy One of God, be with you. (Revelation 22:21)

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

- What words would you use to describe someone with whom you have a close relationship?
- How do your relationships with friends compare with the kind of relationship you would like to have with God?

Read: John 17:20-26.

The Gospel of John is a favorite book of the Bible for Christian mystics, those who focus on the indwelling of God's presence in the life of the believer. In John 17, Jesus begins his prayer by praying for himself, then for the disciples with him. Jesus also prays for us, the future generations of believers. It is a powerful prayer that extends to us the intimacy Jesus has with the heavenly Father. It is parental language that is itself filled with closeness. The relationship is extended to us all so that we may be as close to God as Jesus is. The original Greek language used in John 13:23 about the loved disciple suggests being close to the heart of Jesus. It is the imagery used by the mystics that announces the dramatically intimate relationship we have with God through Jesus. This is an intimacy that knows the suffering, love and glory of God. It is also a closeness that opens us to love the world like God loves the world through Jesus.

Discuss: How do you experience closeness to God through prayer?

Pray: **God of love and glory, give us hearts to love you and to love the world that you love through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how do you pray and show care for the world that God loves?

Jesus prays for us to have a close relationship with other believers and with God. Take time this week to sit in silence and imagine God's presence in and all around you through Christ, the Alpha and the Omega (Revelation 22:13), the beginning and the end. Conclude by praying: **God, you search my heart and know the mind of the Spirit. May the Spirit pray for all the saints according to your will. Amen.** (Romans 8:27)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17, John 14:8-17 [25-27]