

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	Janitorial Staff
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

June 25 & 26 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.

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 Kelcey Renae Fike and Randall S. Fike given by Mary Jo Fike & family; given by Mark & Tarna Kidder in honor of their 26th wedding anniversary; in memory of Bill & Marie Sears from their children, Ron, Lois & Claude

New Members

Today we receive New Members into our community of faith—see insert. Please be sure to welcome them. Thank you to John Fox for providing corsages/boutonnieres for our new members.

Holy Play Through August 28 10:00 - 11:00 AM

All youth are invited to join in Summer Holy Play from 10 to 11 AM each Sunday morning through 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. **This Sunday** we'll meet upstairs in the Sunday School rooms so they can set up for the Neighborhood Gathering at 11:00 AM. Be sure to join in the fun of both Holy Play and the Neighborhood Gathering!

Adult Forum Fellowship Hall 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This Sunday**—Fellowship or join in on the Growing Young Book Study Planning Session in the Fellowship Lounge.

Today at Kountze, *continued*

**Growing Young Book Study/Planning Sessions
Fellowship Lounge**

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. This week, Chapters 7 & 8.



KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERING

SUNDAY, JUNE 26
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
IN THE COURTYARD NEXT TO KOUNTZE COMMONS

This Week at Kountze Memorial

June 26 Sunday

Pentecost 3
Receive New Members
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Holy Play
10:10 AM Adult Forum—Fellowship
10:10 AM Growing Young Book Study
11:30 Neighborhood Gathering

June 27 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

June 28 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:30 PM Circle 3
6:00 PM Call Committee

June 29 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

June 30 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

July 1 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

July 2 Saturday

Homebound Communion
5:00 PM Worship

July 3 Sunday

Pentecost 4
Homebound Communion
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Adult Forum—Fellowship
No Holy Play Today

July 4 Monday

Independence Day
OFFICE CLOSED—No Pantry

Eucharistic Ministers Needed

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.

Jazz on the Green

Turner Park—Midtown Crossing

Thursdays, July 7 - August 11

Park Opens for Seating at 5 PM

Pre-Show Starts at 6:30 PM

Music Starts at 7:30 PM

Free & Open to the Public

Please call the church office or talk to Jim Smejkal if you're interested in attending as a group.

Women's Luau

Saturday, July 9

11:30 AM

Children Welcome

Please RSVP on the insert sheet by July 5 so we know how many to plan for.

Thank You for Eye Glass Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated the used eyeglasses in May. We collected over 175 pairs of glasses. You have helped those in need to see their world more clearly. God Bless You.

Update on our Refugee Family

The Bowari family is making great progress adapting to life in Omaha. The biggest need right now is for Guldin to find a job and transportation to that job. Two companies are hiring refugees who don't speak English, Nebraska Beef and Airlite Plastics - neither one is reachable by public transportation. Neither can offer transportation to Guldin. The Bowari family lives at 137th & Harrison, Airlite Plastics is near the airport, and Nebraska Beef is in South Omaha near 36th & L. Your help is needed! If you know of any companies who might hire Guldin (he's willing to do any type of work), or if you know of anyone willing to help with transportation 5 or 6 days a week, please let us know. We have some funds available to reimburse for gas costs. Call Jonna Holland at 402-669-4575. And please keep this family in your prayers!

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is requesting donations of hygiene products for our guests. We are in need of toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner, razors and shave cream, bar soap and/or body wash and deodorant. Toilet tissue is another high-demand item. Please leave your donations in the box in Fellowship Hall. Thank you to all the willing hands doing God's work at the Food Pantry! Please continue to sign up in the Meeting Room A in Fellowship Hall, or at the following link:

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

Thank You!

LeClare Steffen would like to thank everyone who sent cards and birthday greetings for her 99th birthday. You helped to make her day very special.

Carol Joy Holling 34th Annual Quilt Auction

Saturday, July 30, 2022

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Carol Joy Holling Camp

Kountze always donates several quilts to the auction. Quilts in the past have auctioned for anywhere between \$25 and \$20,000. The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends and families!

Kountze Community Garden

Our pantry garden has been planted and soon we'll need volunteers to help pick, sort, and transport produce from our Community Garden to Kountze Memorial. If you love to garden and think this would be something you would be interested in, please contact the Church Office.

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 34

Sunday: 9:00: 75 11:00: 48

Wednesday: 12:15: 12

Total: 169

Streaming: 54

Cox Cable: 138

Pantry Guests Served: 974 (inc. 312 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 19

Offering:

\$11,456.12 (Regular) \$1,230.61 (Specials)

\$1,212.50 (Debt Reduction)

We are set free to love our neighbor.

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

Sunday	Luke 9:51-62	The cost of following Jesus
Monday	1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21	Elijah meets God at Horeb
Tuesday	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Fruit of the Spirit
Wednesday	Philippians 2:1-11	Christ shows us true humility
Thursday	Deuteronomy 15:7-11	How to treat the poor
Friday	1 John 3:11-24	Love one another
Saturday	Psalms 16	Trust and security in God
Sunday	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	Jesus sends out the seventy



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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.
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For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, thank you for setting us free to love all of creation, our neighbors, and those we have not yet met, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may this food remind us that you give us joy and that you hold in your hand true pleasures for us, now and always. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of true joy and peace free you to love.

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

- When have you used your free will in a way that did not help you or others?
- Give an example or think about how you used your freedom to help or be kind to someone.

Read: Galatians 5:1, 13-25.

We like the idea of personal freedom; we are just not sure what to do with it. Should we take art classes to become an accomplished artist? Should we use our freedom to explore the world and delight in all of God's creation? Freedom gives us options that can make us dizzy. Paul has been telling the Galatians what it means to be justified (made right with God) by grace through faith. Here's the answer: it is to be set free. Contrary to many cultural and whimsical ideas of freedom, Christian freedom is quite simple: love your neighbor. You can't do that by feeding your own desires while being insensitive to others. You love your neighbor with the fruit of the Spirit that is "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." That is what being made right with God looks like. It is the freedom to be a slave of—to be captive to—love, and only to love.

Discuss: How does self-indulgence get in the way of loving one another?

Pray: **Liberating God, fill our lives with the fruit of the Spirit, that we may love others with joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who is someone to whom you could show kindness and generosity?

Make a tree shape out of cardboard or colored paper and cut-out nine fruit shapes. Write one of the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 on each of the cut-out fruit. Take time each day this week to talk about and pray for one or two fruit in your life. As you do, place the fruit shapes on your tree. Display it in a visible place in your home as a reminder of the fruits of the Spirit.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 66:10-14; Psalm 66:1-9
Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20