

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

August 27 & 28, 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 by Tom Holcombe in memory of his wife, Jean

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Tom Jensen in memory of loved ones

Adult Forum

Fellowship Hall, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This Week:** Fellowship **Next week:** Welcome Vicar Reception

Back to School Celebration

August 28

10:10 AM (following the 9:00 AM service)

The youth of Kountze and their families are invited to a Back-to-School Celebration, hosted by the Christian Education Committee. Join us in the Green Space for games, snacks, fellowship, and fun. We encourage you to bring a friend to this event. The more, the merrier! Let's show others just how great our Kountze Sunday School community is.

Baptism Seminar

Sunday, August 28, 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 you might have.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

August 28 Sunday

Pentecost 12
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Back to School Celebration
10:10 AM Adult Forum
10:10 AM Baptism Seminar
10:10 AM Picnic Planning Meeting

August 29 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
6:00 PM Bible Study

August 30 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
5:30 PM Call Committee Meeting

August 31 Wednesday

11:00 AM Bible Study
12:15 PM Worship

September 1 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

September 2 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

September 3 Saturday

Homebound Communion
5:00 PM Worship
6:00 PM Welcome Vicar Potluck

September 4 Sunday

Pentecost 13
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)
10:10 AM Welcome Vicar Fellowship

September 5 Monday

Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Bible Studies Continue

Mondays, 6:00 PM or

Wednesdays, 11:00 AM

Enter Through the Farnam Office Doors

Join Pastor Shari and others in the Fellowship Lounge. We will gather around the Word and explore how the Bible speaks to our lives today. We will try out a few different ways to approach study of the Bible before deciding as a group how to proceed. Looking forward to a weekly journey with you and your Bibles.

Be a Part of the Breakfast Crew!

Join with others in bringing back this popular ministry for our congregation. We encourage 5 more people who would like to get to know and work with others in the congregation once a month to make and serve breakfast from 6:30 to 11:00 AM. There are just 5 more places for bakers to bring 2 doz. muffins or pastries every other month. And 3 openings for servers from 7:30 to 11:00 AM for Continental Breakfast on the 2nd Sunday of the Month. What a blessing this service will be for you and the congregation!

We Welcome our Part-Time Vicar!

Vicar Gretchen Olson Kopp begins on September 1st. You will find her at Kountze Memorial most Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. She will be installed on Sept. 3rd and 4th. To help celebrate her entering in to ministry with us, we ask that you join us for a celebration potluck on Saturday, Sept. 3rd at 6 pm. Bring a dish to share. Or join in during Fellowship hour on Sunday, Sept. 4th and enjoy a piece of cake and express your words of welcome during Fellowship on Sunday, Sept. 4th.

Be A Sunday School Teacher!

Experience the joy of passing along the stories of God's people to our youth once a month. The opportunity to work with Preschool, K—2nd graders, and 3rd—6th graders are available. The lesson is prepared and scripted with all activities ready to go for that day. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org. Your leadership would be greatly appreciated!

Register for Sunday School

Register online at <https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/SundaySchoolRegistration>. The link can be found on the KMLC Parent and Friends Facebook Group. You can also stop into the Sunday School office to register your child there. All children, ages infant through 12th grade, should register for the 2022/23 Sunday School Year.

Confirmation

Wednesdays, beginning September 7

6:00 PM—7:15 PM Class

The Kountze Confirmation program is for 7th and 8th graders. This is a time to begin to affirm their baptismal faith. During the year we will take a one week break on November 23 and December 28 and will finish our year of study on April 12. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Shari.

Children's Choir

Barb Carlsen, Children Choir Director

Beginning Sunday, September 11

Second Floor Music Room

9:20 AM (after the 9 AM Children's Blessing)

Grades K-5 - Choir

Grades 6-8 - Director's Assistants

Barb Carlsen is excited to work with our Children's Choir again this year. Students in grades 6-8 may participate as Director Assistants. Director Assistants will help lead and assist the younger children in singing the music, working with children on their speaking parts for the Christmas program, and adding instruments to our choral singing. If you have any questions, please contact Barb at 402-341-7761.

God's Work, Our Hands Day of Service

Sunday, September 11, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Tri-Faith Center (13136 Faith Plaza)

Join us at the Tri-Faith Campus. There will be a time for walking, Food Trucks, live performances, and family-friendly exhibits. Our day of service will focus on learning about our siblings of the Abrahamic Faith. Please register at walk@trifaith.org. If you are able to give a donation, please do so. Get on your walking shoes to learn and connect with our larger faith community!

New Member Class

September 11 & 18, 10:15 - 11:30 AM

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. Childcare is provided. Please call the church office to register and let us know if you need childcare.

NE Synod Bishop Installation

First Lutheran Church in Kearney, NE

(3315 Avenue G, Kearney, NE)

Saturday, September 24, 1:00 PM

The Nebraska Synod invites you to a Service of Holy Communion and the Installation of The Reverend Scott Alan Johnson as Bishop of the Nebraska Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. A reception will immediately follow the service. **RSVP** at <https://nebraskasynod.org/event/bishop-installation/> before August 30, 2022

Mark Your Calendars for the Kountze Memorial "Old Fashioned Church Picnic/Potluck"

Sunday September 25, 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Held at Kountze Memorial

Details to follow in the E-news, Good News, and future Announcement Pages.

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is asking you to clean your home pantries! Yes, we are collecting any and all odd (not expired) food items. We have an "extras" section of the pantry, where guests get to choose from an assortment. This allows our guests the chance to get a few things they normally wouldn't have access to. Good items to donate are: jelly, ketchup, mustard, salad dressings, mayonnaise, seasonings, cooking oil, flour etc. We also continue to collect hygiene products. We are especially in need of bar soap or body wash.

Remember, we can once again reuse dry, clean plastic grocery bags. Thank you for all you do to support the mission of Kountze Food Pantry! Please continue to sign up in the Meeting Room A in the Fellowship Hall, or at the following link:

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

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 39

Sunday: 9:00: 145 11:00: 75

Wednesday: 12:15: 9

Total: 268

Streaming: 47

Cox Cable: 169

Pantry Guests Served: 1327 (inc. 497 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 17

Offering: Not available at time of printing

Our faith needs community support.

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

Sunday	Luke 14:1, 7-14	Humility and hospitality
Monday	Proverbs 25:6-7	Wise sayings of Solomon
Tuesday	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Service that pleases God
Wednesday	1 Peter 4:7-11	Love wipes away many sins
Thursday	Acts 2:43-47	Life among believers
Friday	Leviticus 19:32-34	Living a holy life
Saturday	Psalms 112	Blessings of the righteous
Sunday	Luke 14:25-33	The cost of being a disciple



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Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:2 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Holy God, help us during difficult times to trust in you and love our neighbor, whoever that neighbor may be, through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food. May we give generously to others as you have given this food to us through Jesus who brings us to your heavenly feast. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with abundant joy as you honor others in love.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- When have you felt insecure and in need of support from others?
- Give an example of how the faith community has cared for you or someone you know.

DEVOTIONS

Read: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16.

The church was experiencing internal and external challenges. The faith community itself was facing the challenge of not meeting together (Hebrews 10:25). During unsettling times, we need one another for comfort and guidance. Just as Jesus is an example (Hebrews 12:1-4) to strengthen our faith, so are those around us who have spoken the word of faith to us, including loved ones like family, friends, and other elders. With the consistency of Jesus who is the same *“yesterday and today and forever,”* we show our faith within the community by sharing affection, welcoming strangers, and seeking purity of life for the sake of love and mutual well-being. All of this demonstrates an empathy, an acceptance, and an understanding of others that seeks oneness with those in need. This pleases God and shows our praise to God.

Discuss: How has someone in your faith community shown the love of God and love for others?

Pray: **God of yesterday, today, and forever, give us models of faith through other disciples that we may be encouraged in our faith and faithful in our love through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and the theme for this week, how can you help and contribute to the well-being of your faith community?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In the biblical world, showing hospitality was a matter of life and death. There were not the reliable and safe hotels and highways to travel in the ancient world. The Christians needed to rely on each other in their travels. It is still true today. Welcoming one another is as vital to our spiritual well-being as it is to our physical health. Through it we experience God's holy presence. Reach out and have a meal and caring conversation with someone, especially someone with whom you have not exchanged hospitality before.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1
Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33