

## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Gretchen Olson Kopp	Vicar
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 Slight	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](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

October 1 & 2, 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 honor of the wedding of Tiffany Rocz & Jeff Dietz; in memory of Elaine Drickey; in honor of Evelyn Drickey's birthday; in honor of Richard Bock's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday given by Patti Darren and family

### Kountze Café

#### Sundays from 9:30—11:00 AM

Join us each Sunday for breakfast. The suggested donation is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger for the hot breakfast (this Sunday) and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast. Opportunities to serve are still available, so please contact Pr. Shari Duminy if you would like to help with breakfast. Thanks!

### Children's Choir

#### Second Floor Music Room

#### 9:15 AM (after the 9 AM Children's Blessing)

#### Grades K-5 - Choir

#### Grades 6-8 - Director's Assistants

The choir will rehearse immediately after the children's blessing at the 9:00 AM service (9:15 AM). If you have any questions, please contact Barb at 402-341-7761.

### Sunday School

#### Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us on Sundays on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for Sunday School. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9:00—10:00 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery).

### Sunday School Focus This Week

*The Flood and the Ark*—\*We will now move to the recreation after learning about creation in the previous week. In this lesson, we will learn about God's promise to Noah and to us.

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

### Youth Forum

#### Sundays, 10:10 AM

7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to gather each Sunday between worship. **This week:** Bring Stories from the news that capture your attention. **Next week:** Sunday School Assistance: Join Pastor Shari and Ashley Sum in serving during Sunday School

### Adult Forum

#### Fellowship Hall, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This week:** Organizing Committee for Kountze Commons **Next week:** Fellowship

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### October 2 Sunday

Pentecost 17  
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)  
9:30—11:00 AM Breakfast  
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6<sup>th</sup> gr)  
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### October 3 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry  
6:00 PM Bible Study

### October 4 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### October 5 Wednesday

11:00 AM Bible Study  
12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 PM Confirmation Class  
7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

### October 6 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### October 7 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### October 8 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship  
6:00 PM Meet the Bowari Family Dinner

### October 9 Sunday

Pentecost 18  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30—11:00 AM Breakfast  
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6<sup>th</sup> gr)  
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)  
10:10 AM Adult Forum  
10:10 AM Baptism Seminar  
12:15 PM Book Group  
1:00—5:00 PM Pumpkin Patch

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### Nursery Coordinator

Join the staff at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church by becoming the Nursery Coordinator. Sunday morning and some evening hours are required. Childcare skills are required with a joy for being with newborns to 2-year-olds. The Job Description and Application can be viewed at:  
<https://files.constantcontact.com/8c919081201/5694d574-321a-414c-bdd1-78153e280ad7.png?rdr=true>

You can also contact Kristin Boe or Pastor Shari for more information.

### Meet the Bowari Family

#### Dinner and Welcome Celebration

Saturday, October 8

6:00 PM

#### RSVP by Friday, September 30

Last chance to sign up for the celebration to meet the Bowari Family and enjoy an Afghan meal in the Kountze Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by calling the church office by Friday, September 30 at the latest. This is an opportunity for you to meet the family we sponsored and two other Afghan families who have been assisting us as translators when needed. The dinner will be a true taste of delicious

Afghan food (which is not spicy). We need to know how many are coming in order to buy the groceries. We hope you can join us and allow the Bowari family to thank the congregation for all you donated and have done to welcome them. If you would like to help serve or learn to cook an Afghan meal, please text or call Jonna Holland 402-669-4575.

### Baptism Seminar

Sunday, October 9

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. Please call the church office to register.

### Lutheran Women Omaha

Tuesday, October 11

12:00 Noon

#### Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Visitors Welcome. For reservations & info, call Faith 402-734-4629

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### **Pumpkin Patch Sunday, October 9 1:00 - 5:00 PM**

All members of Kountze are invited to the Bellevue Berry Farm for fun and fellowship. We will have a fire pit, hot dogs, chips, and s'mores provided. Admission to the farm is \$15 per person with children ages 2 and under are free. Please RSVP to the church office by Friday, October 7.

### **Explore! Day Retreat Camp Carol Joy Holling Saturday, October 15, 2022 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM Grades 1-6**

If your child is missing camp or has never been to camp, Explore! gives them the perfect opportunity to experience a day of adventure and faith-building. In addition to Bible study and worship, many favorite camp activities will be explored as we share in fun and fellowship. For more information or to register, go to <https://www.cjhcenter.org/explore>

### **Omaha Campus Ministries Evensong & Chili Cookoff**

**Sunday, October 16, 2022**

**Lord of Love Lutheran Church**

**10405 Fort St**

**5:00 PM Chili Cookoff and Silent Auction**

**6:30 PM Holden Evening Prayer Worship Service**

This is a fundraiser for Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry in Omaha.

Festivities include a chili cookoff with cinnamon rolls, silent auction, Holden Evening Prayer worship. We're grateful to Jerry Fischer who will represent us in the chili cook-off.

Come and join us for a fun evening with worship and good food! If you are willing to donate special items, a theme basket, or a stay at a vacation home for the silent auction, let Pastor Shari know your intention by Monday, October 10. If you can't attend but would like to make a donation, you can do that at [www.nelcm.com](http://www.nelcm.com)

Facebook Event link: <https://fb.me/e/3z0lyuYYS>

### **Men's Lunch Thursday, October 20 11:30 AM**

**Fellowship Lounge**

**Suggested Donation is \$10.00**

Our October speaker is Ron A. Simkins, Ph.D. Ron is a Professor of Theology and Classical and Near Eastern Studies at Creighton University. Ron has led many Archeological digs to the Holy Land. He will share with us information on some of his work in this field.

Please call the church office by Tuesday, October 18 to make your reservation or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays. We hope you'll join us.

### **Women's "Lutherfest" Luncheon Saturday, October 22 11:30 AM Presented by Kountze WELCA**

All women are welcome. Bring a friend. Please call the church office by Monday, October 17, to make your reservation or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays.

### **First Communion Classes Sundays, October 16 & 23 12:15 PM (after 11 AM worship)**

If your child has shown curiosity in learning about Holy Communion, then you are invited to participate in this class. A light lunch will be served. First Communion will be held on Reformation Sunday, October 30, at the 9:00 AM service. There will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall following the service. Please let Kristin Boe know if you plan to attend, or have any questions, by emailing her at [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org).

### **Bible Sunday Sunday, October 23 9:00 AM**

Each year, through generous donations, we are able to provide an age appropriate Bible for children ages 2 and 4, and those in grades 1, 3, 5, and 7. The Bibles will be distributed in the Bride's Room off the Narthex before the 9:00 AM service. The children will then process into the church at the beginning of the service, holding their Bibles. Those who do not receive a Bible this year, are welcome to join the procession and have a small treat to collect as well.

### **LYON Assembly**

July 20-25, 2022

Qryhp eh# ; #53#

**First Lutheran Church, Kearney, Nebraska**

Frw# ; 8#xh# | #R fwreh#

Registration for this event is October 5. Join with youth from around the state to consider ways to lead. Please let Pr. Shari know if you would like to attend.

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday: 36**

**Sunday: 9:00: 138 11:00: 69**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 7**

**Total: 256**

**Streaming: 40**

**Cox Cable: Not available at time of printing**

**Pantry Guests Served: 1,020 (inc. 413 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 23**

**Offering:**

\$7,724.00 (Regular)      \$2,985.34 (Specials)

\$1,237.00 (Debt Reduction)

## The righteous live by faith.

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

Sunday	Luke 17:5-10	Faith the size of a mustard seed
Monday	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4	The righteous live by faith
Tuesday	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Thanksgiving and encouragement
Wednesday	Romans 1:16-17	The power of the gospel
Thursday	Galatians 3:10-14	Faith is the only way
Friday	Hebrews 10:32-39	A call to persevere
Saturday	Psalms 37:1-9	Trust the Lord
Sunday	Luke 17:11-19	One leper gives thanks to God



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*Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.* **Habakkuk 2:4 (NRSV)**

### A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, give us the confidence to trust in your justice and loving presence now and always through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

God of our future, we thank you for this food that gives us the strength we need to serve others in love as we place our trust in you through Jesus Christ. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 1:13)

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

- What have you seen, read, or heard about that seems unfair and unjust?
- When something bad happens, where do you feel God is in that moment?

*Read:* Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4.

The prophet, Habakkuk is complaining and wondering: why do the wicked prosper? This is an age-old question. Life is just not fair. Violence and destruction continue and the righteous look doomed. God's answer is "*the righteous live by their faith*" (Habakkuk 2:4b). This text is also quoted in Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, and Hebrews 10:38. These few words hit an important chord for New Testament faith. Faith in God involves the "long game," not routine experiences of victory after victory. History is full of moments where God's law and justice are overshadowed by the din of evil. God's answer to Habakkuk is now our answer received through faith in Christ. Hang in there with faith in God. God's way will win the day, even if it doesn't appear so now. The apostles in Luke 17:5 say to the Lord, "*Increase our faith!*" It's not about the quantity of faith we have. It's about the qualities of the God in whom we place our trust.

*Discuss:* When life seems unfair, how do you rely on your faith in God?

*Pray:* **God of the ages, when our confidence is low, when we see wickedness, remind us again and again that in Christ we can rely on your faithfulness now and always. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you support someone who feels they have been treated unfairly?

Jesus told a parable about the kingdom of God by comparing faith to a small mustard seed. (Luke 17:5-10). Cut an apple in half and count the seeds. Talk about what would happen if each seed became a tree and produced countless apples. Now compare your faith to a seed and name the ways you can bear fruit for the kingdom of God. Conclude by praying: **Lord God, help us to trust in you and bear fruit that gives glory to you and serves the work of your kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111  
2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19