

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

September 10 & 11, 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 in memory of my parents and all ancestors given by Kimberly Grassmeyer

Kountze Café is Open!

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 and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast (this Sunday). Opportunities to serve are still available, so please contact Pr. Shari Duminy if you would like to help with breakfast. Thanks!

Sunday School Rally Day

Join us during the closing hymn of the 9:00 AM service for a procession to the Sunday School classrooms to share in a blessing. We will then play getting to know you games, meet the staff, and enjoy snacks.

Children's Choir

Barb Carlsen, Children Choir Director

Beginning Sunday, September 11

Second Floor Music Room

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

Grades K-5 - Choir

Grades 6-8 - Director's Assistants

All children in grades K-5 are encouraged to sing in our Children's Choir. The choir will rehearse immediately after the children's blessing at the 9:00 AM service (9:15 AM). 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.

Today at Kountze, *continued*

Youth Forum

10:10 AM

7th – 12th graders are invited to gather each Sunday between worship. Today we will join the Rally Sunday Procession to the Sunday School Classroom.

Next week: We will join Adult Forum to hear about a possible trip to Holden Village.

Adult Forum

Fellowship Hall, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This week:** Rally Day **Next week:** Introduction and Possible Congregational Trip to Holden Village.

New Member Class

September 11 & 18

10:15 - 11:30 AM (Note time change)

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.

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 today 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!

Flower "Vases" Needed

If you buy the large cans of juice, we are in need of the empty cans to use when we deliver flowers. The cleaned cans can be put on the counter by the back office door and we'll put them to good use. Thanks!

This Week at Kountze Memorial

September 11 Sunday

Pentecost 14

Rally Day/Installation of Christian Ed Leaders

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

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

9:30—11:00 AM Breakfast

10:00 AM Picnic Planning Meeting

10:10 AM 1st Day of Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12) with Rally Sunday

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Rally Sunday

10:15 AM New Member Class

12:15 PM Book Group

3:00 PM Tri-Faith Walk

September 12 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM Bible Study

September 13 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

3:00 PM KETV Board Meeting

September 14 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

11:00 AM Bible Study

12:15 PM Worship

1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor

6:00 PM Executive Committee

6:00 PM Confirmation Class

September 15 Thursday

Council Reports Due

Good News Deadline

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

6:30 PM Kountze Commons Organizing Committee

September 16 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

September 17 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

September 18 Sunday

Pentecost 15

Installation of Council Members

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

9:30—11:00 AM Breakfast

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12) w/Adult Forum

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Holden Village

10:15 AM New Member Class

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>

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Nursery Coordinator Position Open

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. See Pr. Shari or Kristin Boe for a job description and application.

Be A Sunday School Teacher Assistant!

Experience the joy of watching our children learn the stories of God's people. You can help once a month or however often you'd like. The opportunity to work with Preschool, K—2nd graders, and 3rd—6th graders are available. Contact Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org. Your leadership would be greatly appreciated!

Lift Your Voice in Song!

Kountze Adult Choir

Come and join our amazing group of musicians who sing praise to God and have fun together. Help us to continue making vibrant and beautiful music at Kountze. The choir rehearses every first Wednesday evening of the month and sings at the 9:00 or 11:00 services each Sunday. If you are interested in being a part of this important part of worship, we would be very glad to welcome you. Past singing experience in high school or college is helpful. If you want more information about choir or would like to join our choir, please contact Barb Carlsen in the church office at 402-341-7761.

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 explore I Timothy & II Timothy over the next seven weeks.

September Men's Lunch

Thursday, September 15

11:30 AM

Fellowship Lounge

Cost: \$10.00

This month we will learn more about the Tri Faith Initiative. Our speaker is Erik Servellon, the Vice President of Operations and Development for the Tri Faith Initiative. Please call the church office by Tuesday, September 13 to make your reservation or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays. We hope you'll join us.

Middle School Gathering (grades 6-8)

Saturday, September 17

6:30—9:30 PM

Bellevue Berry Farm

Permission forms are due to Pastor Shari today, September 11. They are located on the Welcome Desk.

KMLC "Old Fashioned Church Picnic/Potluck"

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

Everyone is invited to attend the all Church picnic/pot luck. There will be lots of activities for young and old alike. The

Church will provide the fried chicken or macaroni & cheese and drinks. Please consider bringing a side dish or desert to share with everyone. You're also encouraged to "Bring Your Favorite Blanket" to put down in the green space as you enjoy lunch and conversations while enjoying our green space between the Church and Commons building. Of course we will have table seating outside, in the link, and the Fellowship Hall. A buffet style lunch will begin at 11:30 AM, with games starting around 12:30 in the green space and, what would our picnic be without BINGO and prizes?! Join us in the Fellowship Hall starting at 1:00 PM. Please RSVP at the Welcome Desk to let us know how many will be attending and if you can provide either a side or dessert. You can also call the church office or email jim@kmlchurch.org to RSVP.

Meet the Bowari Family

Saturday, October 8

6:00 PM

RSVP by Friday, September 30

You're invited to a celebration to meet the Bowari family and enjoy an Afghan meal with them! 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. We need to know how many are coming in order to buy the groceries. Would you like to help serve or learn to cook an Afghan meal? We'd love for you to join us. Please text or call Jonna Holland 402-669-4575 if you can help that day.

Omaha Campus Ministries Evensong & Chili Cookoff

Sunday, October 16, 2022

5 PM Chili Cookoff and Silent Auction

6:30 PM Holden Evening Prayer Worship Service

Lord of Love Lutheran Church

10405 Fort St, Omaha, NE 68134

Festivities include a chili cookoff with cinnamon rolls, silent auction, Holden Evening Prayer worship, and the presentation of this year's Faithful Steward Award to the faithful members of St. Timothy Lutheran Church. The Chili Cookoff is a fundraiser for Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry in Omaha. If you have a chili that you would like to have represent KMLC in the cookoff, let Pastor Shari know by **September 30** so we can get registered to participate (compete) by bringing a crockpot of chili.

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 37

Sunday: 9:00: 123 11:00: 58

Wednesday: 12:15: 8

Total: 229

Streaming: 47

Cox Cable: 175

Pantry Guests Served: 235 (inc. 96 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 16

Offering:

\$9,103.8 (Regular) \$739.65 (Specials)

\$1,275.9 (Debt Reduction)

God's promises overcome God's righteous judgment.

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

Sunday	Luke 15:1-10	The lost sheep and the lost coin
Monday	Exodus 32:7-14	Moses pleads for the people
Tuesday	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Gratitude for mercy
Wednesday	James 5:13-16	The prayer of faith
Thursday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant
Friday	Ephesians 5:25-32	Rules for the new life
Saturday	Psalms 51:1-10	A prayer for forgiveness
Sunday	Luke 16:1-13	Parable of the shrewd manager



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The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I [the Apostle Paul] am the foremost. 1 Timothy 1:15 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

God of divine justice, we thank you for remembering your promise of mercy and forgiveness and bringing us back to you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, just as we need this gift of food to survive, help us always to remember that we need your love to survive as well. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who remembers you with love bless you with peace and joy.

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

- Some people feel that when something bad happens, it is God's judgment. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to know that God's mercy endures beyond God's judgment?

Read: Exodus 32:7-14.

There is plenty of wrath, divine repentance, even humor in this Old Testament Story. God wants to destroy the people who have turned away to worship a golden calf and won't even acknowledge them as God's people. God refers to them as Moses' people, the people whom Moses led out of Egypt. Moses refutes this and says they are God's people and God led them out of Egypt. Moses stands as a prophet speaking not to the people about God's word, but to God about God's promises that go back to Abraham, Isaac, and Israel (Jacob). Fortunately, Moses wins the debate and God repents, turning from the divine anger planned for the obstinate and unfaithful people. God saves the people by not destroying them. What is at stake? God's passion and mercy for the people does battle (through Moses) and wins the day by not letting God's judgment get the last word. Thanks be to God for promises to us that are from everlasting to everlasting.

Discuss: What do you find surprising about God's actions in this reading?

Pray: **God of justice and mercy, we thank you that you know our weaknesses and failings and yet love us still 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 might you help and encourage others who feel the weight of their regrets?

In Luke 15:1-10 Jesus tells parables about the lost being found. Our sin is a condition of being lost and apart from God. God rejoices when, through faith in Christ, we, as the lost, are found and restored to a relationship with God. Hide chocolate coins or other candies and have others find them. After the treats are found, talk about the joy of finding them and then about God's joy at searching for and finding us. Pray: **Thank you, God, for searching for us when we stray from you. Thank you for finding us and forgiving us. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13