

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 24 & 25, 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

Thank You to Mr. Stephen Bartelt for being our substitute organist this Sunday while Mark Jones is away.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Eric & Toby Rees' 20th wedding anniversary; in honor of Erica Freeman's birthday from her parents; in loving memory of Don Wichert given by wife, Vickie Wichert; in honor of Ken & Linda Johnson's 53rd wedding anniversary

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in memory of Verna Villella given by Janice Dagerman & Richard Bock

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! **This Sunday, due to the Congregational Picnic, coffee & cookies will be served.**

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.

Welcome New Members

This Sunday, we receive new members. Please be sure to introduce yourselves and help them to feel welcome. There will be a reception and fellowship time between services. (10:10 AM). Thank you to florist, John Fox Design,

Today at Kountze, *continued*

for donating the corsages/boutonnieres for new members.

Sunday School

Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us on Sundays on the 2nd 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

Creation—In this Sunday School Year, we are focusing on the stories of the Old Testament. We will be starting at the beginning with a discussion of the Creation story.

Youth Forum

Sundays, 10:10 AM

7th – 12th graders are invited to gather each Sunday between worship. **This week:** Group Building with Games **Next week:** Bring Stories from the news that capture your attention.

Adult Forum

Fellowship Hall, 10:10 AM

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

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/potluck. There will be lots of activities for young and old alike. The Church will provide the fried chicken or macaroni & cheese and drinks. 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.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

September 25 Sunday

Pentecost 16
Receive New 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)
10:10 AM Adult Forum
11:30 PM KMLC Church Picnic

September 26 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
6:00 PM Bible Study

September 27 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:30 PM Circle 3

September 28 Wednesday

11:00 AM Bible Study
12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation Class

September 29 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

September 30 Friday

11:00AM Kountze Commons Organizational Meeting
5:00 PM Pantry
5:30 PM Wedding Rehearsal

October 1 Saturday

Homebound Communion
11:00 AM (10:30 AM) Blessing of the Animals
2:30 PM Rocz & Drietz Wedding
5:00 PM Worship

October 2 Sunday

Pentecost 17
Homebound Communion
Receive New Members
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30—11:00 AM Breakfast
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)
10:10 AM Adult Forum

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.

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Annual Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 1

Saint Cecilia Cathedral

701 N 40th Street

Music and Socializing, 10:30 AM

Blessing at 11:00 AM

All pets are welcome. Come for the blessing of the animals and stay for the Cathedral Festival! Sponsored by Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, Saint Cecilia Cathedral, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Saint Barnabas Church

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.

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, we will be experiencing many favorite camp activities together as we share in fun and fellowship. Every Explore! Day Retreat is different, so first-time and long-time participants can both join in the fun as we focus on environmental education, fellowship, and faith! 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, and the presentation of this year's Faithful Steward Award to the faithful members of St. Timothy Lutheran Church. 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 can't attend but would like to make a donation, you can do that at www.nelcm.com

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

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! **ATTENTION! The Kountze Food Pantry will be short of volunteers on September 26. If you are able, please consider signing up at the link below:**

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

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 31

Sunday: 9:00: 148 11:00: 60

Wednesday: 12:15: 9

Total: 254

Streaming: 54

Cox Cable: 183

Pantry Guests Served: 1299 (inc. 432 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 18

Offering:

\$6,802.42 (Regular)

\$1,555.95 (Specials)

\$467.40 (Debt Reduction)

Real life is filled with faith and generosity.



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

Sunday	Luke 16:19-31	Poor Lazarus and the rich man
Monday	Amos 6:1a, 4-7	Judgment for a self-indulgent life
Tuesday	1 Timothy 6:6-19	The good fight of faith
Wednesday	Proverbs 11:24-25	Be generous
Thursday	Luke 21:1-4	The widow's offering
Friday	Acts 20:32-35	Paul says goodbye to the church
Saturday	Psalms 146	Praise for God's help
Sunday	Luke 17:5-10	Faith the size of a mustard seed

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They [the rich] are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life. 1 Timothy 6:18-19 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to be sensitive to the hurts and pains of others that we may lead content lives, generous with what we have for the sake of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Bless, O Lord, this food to our use and us to your service. And keep us ever mindful of the needs of others. In Jesus name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who watches over the needy, watch over you with generosity. (Psalm 146:9)

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

- When have you helped a stranger in need? What did you do?
- What gets in the way of reaching out to others with compassion and generosity?

Read: Luke 16:19-31.

Why could the rich man not see and respond to the poor and diseased Lazarus who lies at the rich man's gate? What is it about consumption and wealth (v. 19) that can lead to complacency and a lack of concern at the demise of others? Amos calls it out and judges the people of Judah who were not grieved by the destruction of the northern kingdom of Israel (Amos 6:6). Like the rich man, the people of Judah did not seem to care about the destruction of Israel. The people were content with their life of leisure. The rich man in Luke could not see—or at least care about—the needs of Lazarus nor, it appears, to “listen to Moses and the prophets” (v. 31). The good news is that what is needed for life and faith is not wealth but the word of God that is already in front of us. A living faith receives and responds to God's message of compassion and care for the needy. Jesus embodies and lifts up a life that is able to show the love that the rich man was unable to provide Lazarus. The rich man's insensitivity created a loss for him as well as for Lazarus.

Discuss: How does God open your eyes to see the needs of others?

Pray: **Loving God, give us eyes of faith to see the needs of our neighbor and the desire to care for others as you care for us each and every day through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what can you do to help and care for someone in need?

Giving is a response to God's generosity. Walk around your house and look in closets and drawers. Make a list of things you no longer use or need. Think or talk about who may appreciate and need them and consider taking them to organizations who can give them to those in need. Conclude your time reflecting on the theme for this week, and then pray: **Lord, fill me with faith and generosity. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10