

## 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 29 & 30, 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 worshipping, 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.

**Thank you for supporting the ministries of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.**



### Today at Kountze

**This weekend we welcome** Nebraska Synod Bishop, Scott Johnson. Bishop Johnson is preaching during our Saturday and Sunday worship times. Join us in the Fellowship Hall

- **Saturday:** for a potluck.
- **Sunday:** for a cake reception instead of a continental breakfast to welcome Bishop Johnson and to celebrate those taking their First Communion will be part of fellowship time.

### First Communion

Four of our children will begin receiving Holy Communion today. Please join them in the Fellowship Hall at 10:10 for a reception with cake.

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God in honor of Amanda Schneiderman birthday

### 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. Note: Muffin Tins needed for Kountze Cafe mini quiches. If you have a pan or two that you could part with, let us know. It will allow for less baking time on Continental Breakfast Mornings.

### 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.

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

### 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

*Service Project for the Kountze Food Pantry*—We will prepare bags for the Kountze pantry guests to be given out near the holiday.

### Youth Forum

**Sundays, 10:10 AM in Youth Center**

7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to gather each Sunday between worship. **This week:** Ministry Fair and at 10:40 AM, Summer Trip meeting with 8-12<sup>th</sup> grade parents. **Next week:** Reforming Faith: Ponder what the time of Martin Luther brought to our Lutheran Faith

### Reformation Sunday

**October 29 & 30**

This weekend we celebrate our Lutheran Heritage and ponder the important work of theologian Martin Luther and those who continue the work that salvation comes to us in grace through faith in the life, death, resurrection, and

ascension of Jesus Christ.

- **Saturday:** Join us for a potluck after the service.
- **Sunday:** Join us for a cake reception (instead of a continental breakfast) to welcome Bishop Johnson and to celebrate those taking their First Communion will be part of fellowship time.

### Sunday School Serving Project

**Sunday, October 30**

**10:10 AM**

October's service project will be to gather items for the Kountze Food Pantry to make Thanksgiving bags for the guests. We are accepting donations of boxed stuffing, boxed mashed potatoes, cans of cranberry sauce, and cans of vegetables. Please bring these items to the Sunday School office to be packed by the Sunday School students.

### Ministry Fair

**Saturday, October 29, 6:00 PM**

**Sunday, October 30, 10:15 AM**

Look for information and connections after Saturday and between Sunday services. Opportunities to share your passions and skills with Kountze Memorial can be explored. We give thanks for how you are already a part of the ministry in this place.

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### October 30 Sunday

Reformation  
First Communion  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship (Bishop Johnson preaching)  
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 31 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry  
~~6:00 PM Bible Study~~

### November 1 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### November 2 Wednesday

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

### November 3 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### November 4 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal  
5:00 PM Pantry

### November 5 Saturday

Homebound Communion  
3:00 PM Sohn & Keeler Wedding  
5:00 PM Worship

### November 6 Sunday

All Saints Sunday  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30—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  
12:15 PM Exploring Grief

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Celebrating God's  
Generosity



## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### All Saints Sunday – Exploring Grief

**Sunday, November 6**

**10:10 AM and 12:15 PM**

We will have two opportunities to connect with Dr. Don Eisenhauer, a Master Certified Coach on Grief. Through Zoom Sessions, we will explore the grief that is in our midst. The Adult Forum time will be thinking about the communal grief we experienced these past few years. A special session at 12:15 PM will explore the grief experienced through the death of a loved one. A light lunch served. If you are attending the 12:15 session, please let the church office know or sign up at the Welcome Desk.

### Lutheran Women Omaha (LWO)

**Tuesday, November 8, 12:00 Noon**

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church**

**Info & Reservations—Phone Faith, 402 734 4629**

Anyone is welcome.

### Worship Assistant Training

**Sunday, November 13**

**10:15 AM**

Join us for training of Communion Assistants, Lectors, Greeters, and Ushers. All current servers are welcome to attend for a refresher course. If you are interested in learning more about Worship Assistants, please contact the church office to register or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks for considering serving in this way.

## Jewish Muslim Christian Interfaith Thanksgiving

"The Road Home"

**Sunday, November 20, 2022 at 5:00 PM**

Hosted By:

First United Methodist Church  
7020 Cass Street  
Omaha, NE 68132

Coffee, sweets, and reception  
to follow Service

Child Care available

### Thanksgiving Dinner with St. Peter's

**Thanksgiving Day, November 24**

**11:00 AM to 1:30 PM**

Co-sponsored with and held at St. Peter's Catholic parish (709 S 28<sup>th</sup> Street) Preparations are under way for our annual Thanksgiving luncheon. Volunteers are needed to:

- set up the night before;
- donate pies/desserts; and
- serve food, greet, and/or clean tables during the meal.

This event brings so many people in our community together in a spirit of Christian love and fellowship. Please join us, either to volunteer or as a guest; all are welcome. Contact Pr. Hall, Jacob Rump, Anne Dey or the church office to volunteer.

### Advent Fair

**Sunday, November 27**

**10:00 AM—Noon**

Join us in making a variety of Christmas decorations including an Advent wreath, Christmas cards, an Advent prayer placemat, an ornament, and more. There will be activities for the children and a photo booth for all. This year we will be doing a Diaper Drive during the Advent Fair. **Please bring** diapers, wipes, formula, or other infant related items that we will donate to the local women's shelters.

### Advent Meals

**Lunch 11:00 AM – Noon**

**Supper from 5:00 – 6:30 PM.**

We are once again making preparations to provide lunch and dinner meals again this year. This is where we you come in, we will need some volunteers to help prepare, serve and clean up. We can always use volunteers to help put out placemats, pour drinks, run the dishwasher etc. so no culinary experience is necessary. If you love to cook or just want to join in the fun we would be most happy to have you help us with one or all four meals. Please consider taking an hour or two this Advent season to volunteer before, during or after one of the meals. Please call the Church office or email: jim@kmlchurch.org with any questions or to volunteer.

### 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. We also continue to collect hygiene products. We are especially in need of bar soap or body wash. 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 Fellowship Hall, or at the following link:

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

### Attendance & Giving

**Saturday: 53**

**Sunday: 9:00: 116 11:00: 61**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 7 Confirmation: 4**

**Total: 241**

**Streaming: 52**

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

**Pantry Guests Served: 1,117 (inc. 303 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 17**

**Offering:**

\$11,101.00 (Regular)      \$2635.48 (Specials)

\$747.50 (Debt Reduction)

*Word alone, faith alone, and grace alone.*

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

Sunday	John 8:31-36	Jesus sets us free
Monday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant
Tuesday	Romans 3:19-28	Righteousness through faith
Wednesday	John 14:1-7	Jesus is the way to the Father
Thursday	Galatians 2:15-21	Saved by faith
Friday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Saturday	Psalms 46	God is our strength
Sunday	Luke 6:20-31	Blessed are you who weep



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*"If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."*

**John 8:31b-32 (NRSV)**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty God, you renew your church in every age. Come Holy Spirit, renew us now with faith in Christ that we may rest in peace and serve all people in love. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, you who are our fortress and strength, we thank you for this meal and for keeping us safe and secure through faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May the grace and power of God grant you faith in Jesus now and always.

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

- Talk or think about a relationship you have with someone that makes you smile.
- God's righteousness is God's loving power to have a relationship to you. How is that relationship with God strengthened for you day after day?

*Read:* John 8:31-36.

The Gospel of John offers a relational understanding of faith, freedom, and truth. Jesus gives us a living relationship to God daily. Jesus is God in the world with us, the Word made flesh (John 1:14). Jesus says, *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life"* (John 14:6). Truth is not simply information; it is having a relationship to Jesus who is the truth. Jesus' truth sets people free to forgive sins (John 20:22-23). Those who have a relationship to Jesus grounded in trust are freed to receive grace upon grace (John 1:16), to see Jesus as Savior, to wash feet, to live in a community of faith, to see others as Jesus sees them, and much more. Word alone, faith alone, and grace alone are central themes to the Reformation. They are central to a life in Christ that sets us free from captivity to sin and sets us free to trust God in Christ and to love all people.

*Discuss:* What is it about the Reformation themes of God's Word, faith in Christ, and God's grace (undeserved kindness), that is pleasing to you and sets you free from being a slave to sin?

*Pray:* **Mighty God, we thank you for your undeserved kindness that gives us an eternal relationship to you that we receive through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help others to experience the mercy and love of Christ?

If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults who practice the faith with them. Talk about what you have learned about your faith, when you learned it, and from whom. Martin Luther wrote the Small Catechism for the head of the household to teach the Christian faith to the members of the household. If you do not have a copy of the Small Catechism, consider ordering one and then take time to look through it. Conclude by reciting the Apostle's Creed and praying the Lord's Prayer.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Job 19:23-27a; Psalm 17:1-9  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38