

## 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**

**November 12 & 13, 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**

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God given by Eric & Toby Rees in honor of daughter, Dannika's 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### **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 Ten Best Ways*—God was present to Moses at Sinai three times. First, God was present in the burning bush when God revealed to Moses the name of God. Second, God was present when giving the Ten Commandments to the people through Moses. Finally, after breaking the tablets in anger, Moses climbed up Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments a second time. On the last occasion, Moses bargained with God three times to see God's face. But God did not allow this. No one could see God's face and live, so God put Moses in an opening in the rock and covered him until the dazzling light of God's presence had passed by.

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

### 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:** Sunday School Assistance—Join Pastor Shari and Ashley Sum in serving during Sunday School **Next week:** Bible Study: Learn about the Early Church as we study the Book of Acts this year

### 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:** Updates—Call Process, Stewardship, etc

### Worship Assistant Training

#### Sunday, November 13

##### 10:15 AM

Join us for training of Communion Assistants, Lectors, 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.

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### November 13 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 (K-5)  
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  
10:15 AM Worship Assistant Training  
12:15 PM Book Group

### November 14 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry  
6:00 PM Bible Study

### November 15 Tuesday

#### Good News Deadline

9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
12:30 PM Circle 3  
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group  
6:00 PM Congregation Council  
7:00 PM Theology Matters - @ St. Pius X (6905 Blondo)

### November 16 Wednesday

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

### November 17 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch  
1:00 PM Circle 4  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
6:00 PM Circle 5

### November 18 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### November 19 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### November 20 Sunday

Christ the King  
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 (K-5)  
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

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Bible Study

#### Mondays, 6:00 PM or Wednesdays, 11:00 AM

We are exploring Gratitude. Enter through the Farnam Office door to join with others and Pastor Shari for time of learning and sharing.

### Theology Matters

#### Ecumenism: Explorations of 'We are the Body of Christ'

**Presenter: Rev. H. Ashley Hall, Ph.D.,  
Associate Professor, Historical Theology  
at Creighton University**

#### Tuesday, November 15

##### 7:00 PM

#### St. Pius X Parish Center

#### 6905 Blondo St.

Our very own Pastor Ashley Hall is the presenter at this event. Invite your family members and friends of all

denominations! He will speak about biblical foundations for the modern ecumenical movement, important documents and moments in ecumenism among Christian denominations, and concrete practical & local opportunities for ecumenical discussion & common witness. Sponsored by Creighton University's Amelia and Emil Graff Chair of Catholic Theology and St. Pius X Catholic Church.



**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:

- a) cook &/or carve turkeys on Tuesday,
- b) set up the night before,
- c) donate pies/desserts, and
- d) 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, the church office to volunteer. You can also sign up on SignUp Genius - use the QR code on this page.



**Note:** when signing up for pies, please put your name by the number of pies you intend to bring. Thanks.

**Celebrating God's Generosity  
Stewardship Intent Day  
Saturday, November 19  
Sunday, November 20**

As we continue to ponder the ways that we can respond to God's generosity, we prepare our hearts and minds for Stewardship Intent day.

Intent cards were mailed to you on Friday, November 11. Thank you for the many ways you respond to what God is doing in our midst.



**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 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 & WOWT Stuff the Bus Food Drive**

We are honored to have been chosen as one of two pantries to be recipients of the WOWT Stuff the Bus Food Drive! While this is very exciting news, and we are grateful, it will require a good deal of work and many hands. The receiving event will take place on Thursday, December 1, from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM. We need volunteers to sort and store canned goods at Kountze beginning at 9:00 AM in two-hour shifts. We also need two kind souls at a time to man the drop-off site at the NP Dodge building at 87<sup>th</sup> and Dodge St. beginning at 7:00 AM. We also need competent forklift drivers. If you are willing to help us fulfill our mission to "Feed the Poor, in Christ's Name," please sign up at the following link:

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

**Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday: 29**  
**Sunday: 9:00: 152 11:00: 76**  
**Wednesday: 12:15: 11 Confirmation:**  
**Total: 268**  
**Streaming: 44**  
**Cox Cable: 181**  
**Pantry Guests Served: 1088 (inc. 402 children)**  
**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 15**  
**Offering:**  
 \$16,685.49 (Regular)                      \$3,139.23 (Specials)  
 \$2,653.56 (Debt Reduction)

## *We are witnesses of God's faithfulness.*

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

Sunday	Luke 21:5-19	Suffering for Jesus' sake
Monday	Malachi 4:1-2a	The great day of the Lord
Tuesday	2 Thess. 3:6-13	Warning against idleness
Wednesday	Acts 10:34-43	Gentiles hear the good news
Thursday	Psalms 33:1-9	The greatness of God
Friday	Hebrews 3:1-6	Jesus is greater than Moses
Saturday	Psalms 98	Make a joyful noise
Sunday	Luke 23:33-43	Christ the crucified king



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*O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. Psalm 98:1 (NRSV)*

### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Come Lord Jesus; come Holy Spirit, give us courage to bear witness to your love and faithfulness with songs of joy during the good times and the bad times. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, we thank you for this food, a sign of your faithfulness that gives us strength to endure all things through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God give you peace during the good times and the bad times.

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

- What are some scary or troubled times you have experienced?
- When bad things happen, who do you turn to? What do you do?

*Read:* Luke 21:5-19.

Luke's Gospel is written after Roman soldiers demolished the Jerusalem temple in 70 A.D. Jesus' followers were not to pin their hopes on the glory of the temple or on anything in life that seems to promise security and stability. Jesus warns that there will not be an end to daily struggles. There will continue to be wars, earthquakes, plagues and famines. Jesus could have added hurricanes, floods, droughts, and more examples of instability. Truth itself has always been under assault, making life even more unstable. In the meantime, what do we do? We announce the truth of Jesus and God's promises that will not be conquered. We live as witnesses to the truth of God's final conquest in Christ and faithfully endure life-threatening occasions. Troubled times—whether in the first or twenty-first century—are an opportunity to speak the truth of God's love and faithfulness in Christ.

*Discuss:* In what ways have you experienced God's love and faithfulness in difficult times?

*Pray:* **Almighty God, as we experience scary times, give us faith to trust in your promise of victory over sin and death and the confidence to speak the truth in love through Christ. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you encourage those who experience difficulties in daily life?

Psalm 98 calls on all the earth to *make a joyful noise*. This week take a walk outside and look at God's creation around you. When you return home, draw a picture or write a list of things you saw. Then make up your own tune to use as you sing these words: O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things (v. 1a).

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46  
Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43