

## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
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
Louis Flake	Night Manager
Kayla Slaight	Janitorial Staff
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director
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)

July 1 & 2, 2023

*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.*

### Today at Kountze Memorial

#### Kountze Café

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.

#### 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:** Fellowship

#### A Note from Sarah Jewell

It is with a heavy heart that I announce my resignation from the office staff of Kountze Memorial. As many of you may know, these last few years I have been pursuing my degree. After completion and graduation this May, I have decided to set out and start working within my career field of Interior Design. My last day here at Kountze will be Friday, July 28. It is not always easy to welcome such change, but it is a necessary part of life. I trust that you all will continue to support the Office Staff and Pastors during this time of many transitions, as they will do their best to support you all. These past five years here at Kountze have been full of many friendships, laughter, and memories dear to my heart. I thank you all for welcoming me into your space, and allowing me to be a part of the wonderful community and family, found here at Kountze. This is not a definite "goodbye", as I know our paths will cross again. For now, I will say "So long!"

#### 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. 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. You will receive the wafer in your hand and then dip into the wine.

#### 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 8:45 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.

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



## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Kountze Food Pantry

The Pantry is always short of canned soup and peanut butter. If you want to donate these items, please leave them in the box in Fellowship Hall. We are also very short of volunteers on Friday evenings. The service is from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Volunteers should arrive by 4:30. If you, or someone you know would like to volunteer, please sign up at the link below:

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

### Cards with Friends

#### Thursday, July 6, 2:00 PM

Meet in the Fellowship Hall for a time together playing cards. Bring a snack to share. All are welcome.

### Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) Program

YAGM invites young adults (ages 21—35) into a transformative year of service and fellowship. Through YAGM young adults learn what it means to serve in a spirit of accompaniment as they walk alongside global church companions. They become immersed in new communities and form deep relationships. And they confront issues of poverty, racial privilege, gender privilege, economic disparity, and globalization, all through the lens of faith. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, year-round. The timeline for decisions follows:

- January 15—Priority deadline for the upcoming service year.
- February 1—Final deadline for the upcoming service year.
- August—YAGM participants depart for service.

If you have questions about these updates or would like to chat about anything YAGM-related, please reach out to Mae, Interim Program Director, at [MaeHelen.Jackson@ELCA.org](mailto:MaeHelen.Jackson@ELCA.org).

### St. Croix Hospice

St. Croix Hospice is looking for hospice volunteers who are willing to share their time and talents to provide emotional and practical support for patients and their families. St. Croix Hospice volunteers are provided training, support, and flexible scheduling. Call 24/7 at 855-278-2764 or visit [stcroixhospice.com/volunteer](http://stcroixhospice.com/volunteer) to learn more.

### July—Go and...

#### Listen

How do we listen with our full selves? In reality, all of our senses are used when we listen – with our ears, our eyes, our mouths, and our bodies. As disciples, we

listen to ourselves, our neighbors, and God. When we listen, we find new perspectives, shared history, and common ground.

#### Questions to consider:

- What is something you learned from listening to your heart?
- What is something you learned from listening to a stranger?
- In a year of *GOING*, how will you listen to those around you?

**Prayer:** Listening God, help me stay open to the surprises you provide while on the road this summer. Amen.

**Suggested Song:** Listen, God is Calling (ELW 513)

### The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutheran Service Corps Golf Tournament

Sunday, August 6, 2023

Eagle Hills Golf Course, Papillion.

Check in and lunch begins at noon

Golf will start at 1:30 PM

Individual golfers are \$100; foursome is \$400

There are many sponsorship opportunities ranging from hole sponsorships at \$250 up to our presenting sponsor at \$5,000. To find out more about sponsorship opportunities and to register your team, go to our golf website at [www.charitygolftoday.com/lutheranservice](http://www.charitygolftoday.com/lutheranservice). For questions, contact Scott Glaser at [scott@lutheranservicecorps.org](mailto:scott@lutheranservicecorps.org) or 720-218-5112.

### Camp Carol Joy Holling Quilt Auction July 29, 2023

The 35<sup>th</sup> annual Quilt Auction is coming soon! The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. Quilts can be viewed online starting this weekend. Quilts can be donated and delivered to Carol Joy Holling Camp until July 22. They should be placed in a plastic bag with a completed copy of the donation form found on the camp website. This year our kitchen will be serving pulled pork sandwiches and a selection of favorite salads. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and costs \$8 for adults, \$4 for kids (4-12), and free for children 3 and under. Vegetarian and gluten-free options are available upon request. Concessions will be offered before and after lunch. Bring your friends and families!

## The Camp Classic Tournaments

August 18, 2023 | September 22, 2023

Meadowlark Hills Golf Course | Ashland Golf Club

Do a 2 Fore 2 deal or pick one tournament, but the camp would love to see you out on the course supporting camp! Four person scramble, noon: shotgun start, teams & individuals welcome. Info and registration form can be found at <https://www.nlom.org/golf>

## KMLC Camp Week

### Carol Joy Holling Camp

Camp week was June 18 – 23. A good time was had by all! If your child/ren didn't get a chance to go to camp this year, we'll have information on early bird registration for next year in the bulletin and Good News. Below is a photo from camp week.



## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### July 2 Sunday

Pentecost 5  
Homebound Communion  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### July 3 Monday

NO PANTRY

### July 4 Tuesday

Independence Day  
OFFICE CLOSED

### July 5 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

### July 6 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### July 7 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### July 8 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### July 9 Sunday

Pentecost 6  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

## Attendance & Giving

**Saturday:** 29

**Sunday: 9:00:** 146 **11:00:** 65

**Wednesday: 12:15:** 14

**Total:** 254

**Streaming:** 47

**Pantry Guests Served:** 1,029 (inc. 334 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 26

**Offering:**

**5/18:**

\$12,836.31 (Regular)    \$3,363.32 (Specials)

\$1,292.00 (Debt Reduction)

**5/25:**

\$10,181.16 (Regular)    \$3,318.77 (Specials)

\$588.16 (Debt Reduction)



*Freed by God's undeserved kindness.*

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

Sunday	Matthew 10:40-42	Receiving and serving others
Monday	Jeremiah 28:5-9	Hananiah opposes Jeremiah
Tuesday	Romans 6:12-23	Slaves of righteousness
Wednesday	2 Timothy 1:8-14	Relying on the power of God
Thursday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Friday	2 Corinthians 12:1-10	Paul's visions
Saturday	Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18	God's covenant with



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*For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.* **Romans 6:14 (NRSV)**

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

Gracious God, your loving commitment to us goes far beyond what we can imagine; give us faith to trust your never-failing love through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, help us to give thanks for this food so that we can receive this meal with a humble heart through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

May the God of love and faithfulness give you joy.

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

- When is a time you received something that you felt you did not deserve?
- When is a time you recognized God's unconditional love in your life?

*Read:* Romans 6:12-23.

In this reading, God's grace—God's undeserved kindness—is under attack. Paul is responding to those who think his message encourages us to sin. He knows God's goodness does not lead us to sin and writes, "*Sin will have no dominion*" (v. 14) meaning sin will not be your master. For those who think God's grace leads to sinfulness, Paul's response is simple: "No way!" Earlier in chapter 6 he uses the image of life and death to reject such thinking. We have died to sin so we cannot continue to live in sin. Paul then uses the imagery of slavery, either a slave of sin or of God's righteousness. We are freed from being slaves of sin. Our lives are controlled by all that is right and good through Christ, our true Lord (v. 23). Paul acknowledges the difficulty to grasp all this and moves on to the real point for our lives in Christ. It is to be set free by a relationship to God for sanctification, that is, a holy life set apart for God that leads to eternal life.

*Discuss:* How does God's undeserved kindness set you free to love God and others?

*Pray:* **Dear God, your constant love is more than we can imagine. Set us free to enjoy your goodness with love for you and for all you have created through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others with hospitality?

Hospitality is the practice of treating guests in a friendly and generous way. It includes the spirit in which it is given. Jesus said that anyone who welcomed one of his followers and gave them something even small, such as cup of cool water, would be rewarded (Matthew 10:42). Put an empty water jug or pitcher on the table. Think or talk about ways you can serve and help others. For each way you name, pour a cup of water into the jug. Finish with this prayer: **Lord Jesus, thank you for serving us. Make us ready to serve others, in big and small ways. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14  
Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30