

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

July 8 & 9, 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

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.



Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Jean Johnson's birthday

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:** KCCOC Update **July 23:** Window Celebration Update and Farewell to Sarah Jewell

Summer Youth Trip

Please uplift in prayer the following participants Journeying to Denver with over 130 others from NE Synod Congregations this next week. We are excited for those who have set aside time during their summer to join with others on this trip. Pray for Sofia DiLorenzo, Sheyenne Glasgow, Lilly Kassal, Jane Kidder, Mia Valquier, Pastor Shari Duminy as they encounter God's call and grace through exploring the theme of: Life in the "And". In addition to support from all through the church budget, we also give thanks to those who sponsored our trip this year: Jerry Fischer, Linda Daugherty, Judith Boeltz, Bob and Pam Johnson, Lee and Jean Johnson, Vinn Stephens, and Neal and Ardis Von Seggern graciously answered the opportunity to help send us out into the world. We journey into new connections and service, grateful for your faithful investment in our lives.

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>

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.

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 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 19th 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. For questions, contact Scott Glaser at scott@lutheranservicecorps.org or 720-218-5112.

Camp Carol Joy Holling Quilt Auction

July 29, 2023

The 35th 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>

Lutheran Family Services

Turning Apartments into Homes

We need help setting up homes for newly arriving refugee families this week. If you are available to help, please log into your volunteer hub account here: <http://omamoversandshakers.lfsneb.volunteerhub.com/>.

Full details will be sent to you once you register to help. If you have friends or family who'd like to help, please ask them to "Create an Account" and contact me with their name. Please don't hesitate with questions! Best regards,

Morgan Mattson

Lead Volunteer Coordinator, Refugee Services

Lutheran Family Services

morgan.mattson@onelfs.org

402-578-7224

Applications Open for Administrative Assistant

We are seeking applications for the Administrative Assistant at Kountze Memorial. This is a full-time position. Duties include, answering phones, greeting visitors, prepare worship bulletins, record membership and pastor acts information, help with mailings, and other administrative and clerical support. The position requires confidentiality and high level of trustworthiness, general office experience, writing, word processing skills, and excellent people skills. Must be familiar with Microsoft Office Suite - Word, Excel, Publisher, Power Point - and willing to learn church membership software. Send resume and cover letter to debbie@kmlchurch.org.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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

12:15 PM Book Group

July 10 Monday

Jul 10 - Jul 15 Summer Youth Trip to Denver

10:00 AM Pantry

July 11 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

July 12 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

12:15 PM Worship

1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor

6:00 PM Executive Committee

July 13 Thursday

Council Reports Due

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

July 14 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal

5:00 PM Pantry

July 15 Saturday

Good News Deadline

Hasenkamp & Frederick Wedding

5:00 PM Worship

July 16 Sunday

Pentecost 7

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: 19

Sunday: 9:00: 97 **11:00:** 61

Wednesday: 12:15: 10

Total: 187

Streaming: Not available at time of printing

Pantry Guests Served: Not available at time of printing

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 15

Offering:

\$15,354.00 (Regular) \$2,829.25 (Specials)

\$414.00 (Debt Reduction)

God rescues sinners.

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

Sunday	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Rest for the weary
Monday	Zechariah 9:9-12	The coming ruler
Tuesday	Romans 7:15-25a	The conflict in us
Wednesday	Luke 12:22-31	God knows your needs
Thursday	Psalms 34:1-10	Honor the Lord
Friday	Judges 10:10-16	Israel is unfaithful again
Saturday	Psalms 145:8-14	The Lord is kind and merciful
Sunday	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Parable of the sower



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“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” **Matthew 11:28-30 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, we thank you for your care that rescues us when we are weary and carry heavy burdens. In the name of Christ Jesus our Lord we pray. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear Jesus, we thank you for your humble heart that gives rest for our souls and strengthens us with this gift of food. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you trust in the care of Jesus Christ that rescues you from all your burdens.

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

- When is a time you or someone you know did something you knew was wrong?
- When you feel you are carrying a heavy burden, where or who do you turn to for help?

Read: Romans 7:15-25a.

Paul has a deep understanding of our brokenness. We are not what we want to be. Although we know what is the right thing to do, we do not do it, at least not consistently. Paul calls this inconsistency sin. We like to think we are in control of our thoughts and actions. However, Paul experiences the power of sin within him that does not submit to God's goodness. He states clearly, *“For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do”* (v. 19). He calls this way of life *“wretched”* (v. 24). It seems there is no hope for us, but that is exactly why we need Jesus. Only sinners can be saved or *“rescued”* (v. 24). In the language of Jesus in Matthew 11:28, we are *“weary and are carrying heavy burdens.”* In our brokenness, Jesus brings healing, rescues us from the power of sin, and gives us rest and peace. The response of faith is: *“Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord”* (Romans 7:25a).

Discuss: When have you faced brokenness and become aware of God's forgiveness that heals your heavy burdens?

Pray: **Gracious God, we thank you that your mercy endures forever, and your power over sin and death rules in our lives 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 when they are tired and weary?

A yoke is a wooden piece that joins two animals together, usually oxen, to help pull a plow. The work becomes easier with two pulling. In Matthew 11:29, Jesus says, *“take my yoke upon you, and learn from me.”* There are days when we feel like we are carrying heavy burdens without support from someone else. Jesus reminds us that we are not alone. Think or talk about what it means to be connected with one another through Jesus and how it helps us to *“bear one another's burdens.”*

Pray: **Lord Jesus, help us to share your love with one another and be yoked to you so that our burdens are lifted. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13
Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23