

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Kristin Boe	Director of Faith Formation
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Anthony Bonacci	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

August 12 & 13 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.

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.



Today at Kountze Memorial

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in memory of Dean Anderson by his wife, Darlene

Television Broadcast is sponsored to the glory of God by Martha Eckman in memory of loved ones.

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:** Farewell to Pr. Steve—Join us as we thank Pr. Steve & Mary Kay for getting us through this transition time at Kountze Memorial **Next week:** Youth Trip Sharing

Assembling School Supplies

Fellowship Lounge

10:10 AM

This Sunday the youth of Kountze Memorial will be stuffing backpacks with school supplies for pantry guests headed back to school. All youth are invited to prepare the backpacks after the 9:00 AM service. Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church supports students and their teachers!

This Week at Kountze Memorial

August 13 Sunday

Pentecost 11

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

August 14 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

August 15 Tuesday

Good News Deadline

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation Council

August 16 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

August 17 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

6:00 PM Worship & Music

August 18 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

August 19 Saturday

2:30 PM Wilma Ann Kruse Wallin

Sagers

5:00 PM Worship

August 20 Sunday

Pentecost 12

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

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Faith Formation Leaders are Needed

If you are interested in supporting the youth of Kountze Memorial by leading a class, please contact Kristin Boe at Kristin@kmlchurch.org. All lessons are scripted and supplies provided. Teachers lead on a rotation schedule, allowing for weeks off. Be the difference in our youngest member's relationship with God and give of your time and talents.

Help Connect Students to Campus Ministry!

It's almost time to head back to school! On college campuses across Nebraska and beyond, you can help connect students to our Lutheran Campus Ministries! Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry has a contact and referral page: <https://nelcm.com/refer-a-student/> Please take a moment to help invite those you know to Christ! Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry locations include: Chadron State College, Creighton, UNK, UNL, SECC/Beatrice, Peru State, UNO, and Wayne State College. For more information or to make a gift of support, go to: www.nelcm.com.

Men's Lunch

Thursday, August 17

11:30 AM

Suggested Donation is \$10.00

Join us for lunch and a brief program entitled "The Return of the American Buffalo." Please RSVP by Tuesday, August 15 to jim@kmlchurch.org or call the church office so we know how many to plan for.

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>

Welcome Back BBQ Party

The Lutheran Center

Saturday, August 19, 2023

5:30-7:30 PM

535 N 16th St Lincoln NE 68508

Celebrate the start of the school year with a FREE BBQ!

There will be free food, free succulents, yard games, music, and time to just hang out with new and old friends. Stop on by anytime!

Blessing of Backpacks

Saturday, August 19

Sunday, August 20

All students, teachers, professors, and support staff are invited to bring their backpack for a special blessing for the upcoming school year along with a token to remind them of God's love and the congregations support throughout the year.

Summer Affirmation of Faith

Sunday, August 27

11:00 AM

Youth affirming their faith are: Marah McDougal, Tye McDougal, and Mia Valquier. They will be introduced during forum that day, along with Faith Sponsors: Darlene Anderson, Thomas Jensen, and Mert Wieble, who attended class and shared their faith. You are encouraged to bring a card to share your congratulations with these youth, as they continue in the faith journey.

Confirmation Orientation and OSJ Training

Grades 7 & 8

Wednesday, August 30

6:00 PM

We will meet in the Fellowship Lounge for a meal and orientation for the Confirmation Learning year. Then we will go to the Nave for OSJ training with Robin and Jeff Perkins. Please let Pastor Shari know that you will be attending.

Adult Choir

Come and join our amazing group of musicians who sing praises to God and have fun together. Help us to continue making vibrant and beautiful music at Kountze. The adult choir will have its First meeting/rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 6 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. The choir will return to the worship services on Sunday, September 10. If you are interested in being a part of this important part of worship, we would be very glad to welcome you. Past singing experience in high school or college is helpful. If you want more information about choir or would like to join our choir, please contact Barb Carlsen in the church office at 402-341-7761.

Rally Sunday

Sunday, September 10

All youth are invited to participate in the celebration of praise for both the rededication of the stained-glass windows (see Stained-Glass Window Rededication and Celebration announcement) and the upcoming year of Faith Formation which begins Sunday, September 17.

Children's Choir

From: Barb Carlsen, Children Choir Director
Beginning Sunday, September 10
9:15 AM (following 9 AM Children's Blessing)
2nd Floor Sunday School Music Room
Grades K-5 - Choir
Grades 6-8 - Director Assistants

Barb Carlsen is excited to have another opportunity to work with your talented children this year. She has 35 years of experience as a music teacher and enjoys working with young people. All children in grades K-5 are encouraged to sing in our Children's Choir. Students in grades 6-8 who would like to be involved may participate as Director Assistants. Director Assistants will help the director lead and assist the younger children in singing the music, working with children on their speaking parts for the Christmas program, and adding instruments to our choral singing. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Barb in the church office at 402-341-7761.

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>

Stained-Glass Window

Rededication Celebration

Sunday, September 10

We hope you'll join the celebration of the rededication of our stained-glass windows. There will be lots of activities that day including organ, brass, and choir during both Sunday Worship services. Be sure to invite your family and friends to this special service!

If you would like to donate toward the cost of the celebration, please put "Window Celebration" on the memo line of your check, online giving, or on the pew envelope. Thanks.

Before September 10

- Watch your mailbox for a postcard with information on events of the day as well as some other events happening this fall.
- Pick up a yard sign to let your neighbors know about our celebration. The signs are available at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall.
- Order your KMLC T-shirts so you'll have them to wear on September 10 (order by August 20) The T-shirts will need to be prepaid and you can order them at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings. The cost of the T-shirts is:
 - Children (all sizes), Adult S, M, L, & X-Large - \$6
 - 2X-Large - \$7
 - 3X-Large - \$9

Pick up:

- A yard sign to place in your yard
- Your window decal
- KMLC stained-glass window perpetual calendar—\$10

On September 10:

- Events for children during the Faith Formation Hour
- Coloring books for the children
- Cake
- Special KMLC ice cream from eCreamery. all at no cost
- Stained-glass window walk

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 23

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

Wednesday: 12:15: 13

Total: 248

Streaming: 40

Pantry Guests Served: 899 (inc. 303 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 21

Offering: Not available at time of printing

Even a little faith is enough.

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

Sunday	Matthew 14:22-33	Jesus walks on water
Monday	1 Kings 19:9-18	The Lord appears to Elijah
Tuesday	Romans 10:5-15	Anyone can be saved
Wednesday	Luke 17:1-6	Sayings of Jesus
Thursday	Acts 15:6-21	The council at Jerusalem
Friday	Romans 12:1-8	The new life in Christ
Saturday	Psalms 85:8-13	Restoration of God's favor
Sunday	Matthew 15:10-28	A woman's faith



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*Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He [Jesus] said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. **Matthew 14:28-29 (NRSV)***

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to trust in you during the difficult and scary times of life that we may still sing your praises through Jesus Christ, the one who calms our fears. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Nurturing God, you give what is good and bless our land with abundant food; for your goodness and mercy we thank you for this meal. Amen. (Psalm 85:12)

A Blessing to Give:

May God calm you when you are afraid and bless you with steadfast love.

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

- Think or talk about a difficult time in your life.
- Who or what has helped you make it through a difficult time in your life?

Read: Matthew 14:22-33.

Once again, Jesus is on the sea with his disciples. And, again, Jesus points out the disciples' fears and little faith as he did when he stilled a storm (Matthew 8:23-27). Just the night before, Jesus fed the 5,000 men plus more women and children. Don't they understand how powerful and caring Jesus is? How many of us would have the faith and courage of Peter to step out of a boat during a storm and onto dangerous and deep waters? Yes, Jesus calls it "little faith," but that little faith is still quite remarkable. When we are in the midst of a storm, a painful period in our lives that scares us, our lives are very fragile, needy, and weak. We often do not respond with great confidence and faith. No matter how little our faith is, it is enough because of Jesus who is Emmanuel, God with us. When life gets calm following a difficult time in our lives, at least then we are relieved—even joyful—and can say of Jesus, "*Truly you are the Son of God*" (Matthew 14:33).

Discuss: How does your faith help you when you face difficult situations?

Pray: **Merciful God, when we experience moments that scare us and make us long for stable ground to stand on, give us even a little faith to hope in you through Christ 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 who are anxious or worried?

Jesus came to the disciples in the middle of the night and calmed their fears. Bedtime is a special opportunity to think, talk, listen, and pray for yourself and others. Take time to think or talk about your highs and lows at bedtime this week. Give thanks to God for your highs. For your lows, pray that Jesus will come and remain with you during the night and calm any "storms." Then pray the Lord's Prayer.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28