

## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Transitional Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Kristin Boe	Director of Faith Formation
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
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)

**September 30 & October 1, 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 the 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**

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God in memory of Richard Bock given by Janis Dagggerman and family.

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God in memory of my beloved husband, Don Wichert, given by his wife, Vickie

### **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.

### **Faith Formation**

#### **Children's Choir**

**9:15 AM (following 9:00 AM Children's Blessing)**  
**Grades K-6**

Join Barb Carlsen on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in the Sunday School Music Room

#### **Sunday School**

**10:10 AM**

**Ages 2 years-6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Join us in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Sunday School Rooms where the children will see how Jesus taught his followers to live in God's word and spread that message to others through art, games, science, storytelling, cooking, and missions.

## Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

### Youth Forum

#### Lower Level Youth Room

**This week:** Exploring Spiritual Practices **Next Week:**  
Serving Beignet Breakfast

### Adult Forum

#### Fellowship Hall

#### Sundays, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This week:** Preview of Stewardship Program **Next week:** The Gospel of Matthew and Judaism

### New Member Classes

#### October 1 & 8

#### 10:15 AM

If you are interested in learning more about Kountze Memorial and the possibility of becoming a member of our congregation, please join us today, October 1 and next Sunday, October 8 (please plan to attend both classes) in the Fellowship Hall Lounge to learn more. New members will be received on Sunday, October 15.

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### October 1 Sunday

Pentecost 18  
Homebound Communion  
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-6)  
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour  
10:15 AM New Member Class

### October 2 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### October 3 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### October 4 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 Confirmation  
7:00 PM Peace Service @ Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

### October 5 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends  
6:30 PM Women and Gender in Luke-Acts Bible Study

### October 6 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### October 7 Saturday

9:00 AM Explore! Day Retreat (gr. 1-6) Camp CJH  
11:00 AM Blessing of the Animals @ St. Cecilia Cathedral  
5:00 PM Worship

### October 8 Sunday

Pentecost 19  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)  
9:30 AM Beignet Breakfast for National Youth Gathering  
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour  
10:15 AM New Member Class  
12:15 PM Book Group  
6:30 PM Senior High October Outing

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### St. Francis of Assisi's Peacemaker Service

Wednesday, October 4

7:00 PM

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral (113 North 18<sup>th</sup> St.)

We have been invited to participate in this simple service that will focus on St. Francis' inspiration as a peacemaker. Our choir will be participating in the service.

### Cards with Friends

Thursday, October 5

2:00 PM

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

### Women and Gender in Luke/Acts

Led by Dulcinea Boesenberg

Thursdays, October 5 to November 2

6:30-7:30 PM

Thursday, October 5

Male-Female Pairs in the Gospel of Luke—In the Gospel of Luke, unlike in the other Gospels, stories of men are paired with stories of women. We will consider what these pairings suggest about Luke's view of men and women.

## **Blessing of the Animals**

**Saint Cecilia Cathedral**

**701 N 40<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Saturday, October 7**

**Blessing at 11:00 AM**

**Pancake Breakfast, 8:30 (\$8)**

**Music and Socializing at 10:30 AM**

**Blessing at 11:00 AM**

Cathedral will host an outdoor celebration of the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. Bring your pets (dogs on a leash please) to the Cathedral front steps and join in this delightful event for all creatures great and small. Pr. Hall will again be participating the "Blessing of the Animals" that occurs with the clergy of St. Cecilia's and Trinity Episcopal as part of the St. Cecilia's Cathedral Fest. Bring your pet/pets and join in the fun!

## **Explore!**

**Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**9:00 AM - 3:30 PM**

**Grades 1 - 6**

**Carol Joy Holling Camp**

**\$25 per youth—includes meals**

If your child is missing camp or has never been to camp, Explore! gives them the perfect opportunity to experience a day of adventure. Every Explore! Day Retreat is different, so first-time and long-time participants can both join in the fun as we focus on environmental education, fellowship, and faith! Go to <https://www.cjhcenter.org/> explore with questions or for more information. Registration will end on 10/5/2023 at 10:00 AM

## **Beignet Breakfast for**

**National Youth Gathering**

**Sunday, October 8**

The Second Sunday Breakfast will be a little different in October. Instead of pastries, there will be homemade beignets made by the youth along with mini quiches and yogurt. All free will offerings for this breakfast will be going to support the youth attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering next summer in New Orleans.

## **KMLC Book Group**

**Fellowship Lounge**

**Sunday, October 8**

**12:15 PM**

**New Members are Welcome!**

This month we will be reading *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post*. This is the ninth novel written by best selling author, Allison Pataki. It is historical fiction about Marjorie Merriwether Post, a woman of American Royalty, becoming the wealthiest woman in the United States before she was thirty years old. She was the daughter of C. W. Post, founder of the Post Cereal Company that grew into the General Foods empire of which Marjorie became it's leader through inheritance. Marjorie has led an intriguing life from gluing labels on post cereal boxes as a child in Battle Creek, Illinois, a cycle

of four marriages and divorces, mother of three daughters. She outran Nazi's in London, served soup to hungry people during The Great Depression, and greeted and hosted U. S. Presidents and their wives. This is a novel of a strong woman in American History.

## **Senior High October Outing**

**Grades 9-12**

**Sunday, October 8**

**6:30 PM**

Join us for a haunted house at Hollywood Candy. We will meet at the church and make our way downtown. Cost is \$18.

## **Kountze Food Pantry**

Thank-you to everyone who donated toilet tissue to the Kountze Food Pantry. It really helps our guests to have hygiene products. This month we are having a soup drive! Please consider picking up a can or two when you shop and place them in Pantry donation box in the Fellowship Hall. As always, we are in need of volunteers, especially on Friday evenings. You can sign up at the following link or contact Susie Henry at [susannfrances@kmlchurch.org](mailto:susannfrances@kmlchurch.org) <https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

## **Upcoming Youth Events**

### **Grades 1-6:**

- Oct. 7 Explore Day Retreat for grades 1-6 at Carol Joy Holling Camp
- Nov. 19 Thanksgiving Pantry Bags

### **Grades 7 & 8:**

- Nov. 10-12 Middle School Retreat at Carol Joy Holling Camp

### **Grades 9-12**

- Oct. 8 Beignet Breakfast for National Youth Gathering
- Oct. 8 Senior High October Outing
- Nov. 12 Friendsgiving
- Nov. 17-19 NE Synod LYON Assembly at Carol Joy Holling Camp

## **Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday: 37**

**Sunday: 9:00: 127 11:00: 89**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 8 Conf: 4**

**Total: 273**

**Streaming: 39**

**Pantry Guests Served: 1,220 (inc. 349 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 13**

**Offering:**

\$8,017.33 (Regular) \$10,798.74 (Specials)

\$1,278.16 (Debt Reduction)

*Jesus' humble obedience brings hope for all people.*

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

Sunday	Matthew 21:23-32	Parable of the two sons
Monday	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32	God's ways are fair
Tuesday	Philippians 2:1-13	Christ shows us humility
Wednesday	Hebrews 13:1-8	Service well-pleasing to God
Thursday	Exodus 18:13-27	Jethro's advice
Friday	John 13:12-20	Jesus washes the disciples' feet
Saturday	Psalms 25:1-9	Prayer for guidance and help
Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants



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*[Jesus] humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name. **Philippians 2:8-9 (NRSV)***

**A Prayer for the Week:**

God of the nations, you rule with steadfast love and mercy; help us to recognize our need for you and to worship you alone through Christ Jesus. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, may this food strengthen us in body and soul that we may desire your good pleasure and act in ways that serve others in love. Amen. (Philippians 2:13)

**A Blessing to Give:**

May the humility of our Lord Jesus Christ give you strength and courage.

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

- When is a time you questioned someone's actions in government, school, or other organization?
- How does Jesus' leadership differ from other leaders?

*Read:* Matthew 21:23-32.

The chief priests and elders are intended to be leaders of the Jewish people. Jesus challenges their authority and leadership by wanting them to make a commitment—pro or con—regarding John the Baptist. They are not able to do that because they do not truly represent the people who supported John. These leaders are actually servants of Rome, the occupation force in Judea. Their wealth and power are at the pleasure of Rome, not the people of Judea. The leaders have a difficult task to balance between worshiping God and an allegiance to Rome. It is reminiscent of Jesus saying that one cannot serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). The authority Jesus serves is only God's kingdom. In words and actions, Jesus is the obedient Son who triumphs over all other authorities on earth. It is an obedience that will lead to Jesus' death at the hands of those loyal to Rome but will bring hope for all people burdened by powers of fear and death.

*Discuss:* How does Jesus' authority and obedience to serve only God's kingdom make a difference for all people?

*Pray:* **Almighty God, we thank you for Jesus' obedience to your power of grace and mercy so that sinners and tax collectors enter into your kingdom through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how can you help someone who feels weighed down by the burdens of life?

Philippians 2:3 says, *"Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves."* Name this "Humility Week" in your household. Secretly decide on one act of service you (and others) can perform that will show concern for the interests of others. If you live alone, find someone outside your home to do this with. At the end of the week, think or talk about your acts of "secret service" and what it felt like to show concern for others.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15  
Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46