

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	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

September 9 & 10, 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 Lois Andresen given by her family.

Kountze Café

Sundays, 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

Sundays, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This week:** Rally Day and Window Celebration **Next week:** Welcome Reception for Pr. Wynard and Family

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 and the upcoming year of Faith Formation which begins Sunday, September 17.

Stained-Glass Window

Rededication Celebration

Sunday, September 10

- Events for children during the Faith Formation Hour
- Stained-glass window walk
- Coloring books for the children, cake, special KMLC ice cream from eCreamery.
- Purchase a perpetual calendar

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

Tri-Faith 2nd Annual United We Walk Sunday, September 10 3:00—6:00 PM

Alongside the walk, they will host inclusive-centric programming to make everyone feel welcome, activities to

build a sense of belonging, a community fair, an immersive youth art project, entertainment, food trucks, and open houses of the four Tri-Faith buildings. Join your pastors for this day of learning and celebration. For more information, please visit: <https://www.trifaith.org/www-2023>.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

September 10 Sunday

Pentecost 15
Rally Sunday
Stained Glass Window Rededication
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
12:15 PM Book Group
3:00 PM Tri-Faith 2nd Annual United
We Walk

September 11 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

September 12 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

September 13 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
12:15 PM Worship
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese
Manor
6:00 PM Executive Committee

September 14 Thursday

Council Reports Due
9:30 AM WELCA Board
11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

September 15 Friday

Good News Deadline
5:00 PM Pantry

September 16 Saturday

10:00 AM Robert Chrisman Funeral
5:00 PM Worship

September 17 Sunday

Pentecost 16
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 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Share Your Gifts During Faith Formation Hour

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.

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 rehearsals are on the first Wednesday of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. 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.

Children's Choir

From: Barb Carlsen, Children Choir Director

Beginning Sunday, September 17

9:15 AM (following 9:00 AM Children's Blessing)

2nd Floor 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.

Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)

Begins Sunday, September 17

Sundays, 10:10 AM

We will be learning about Jesus calling the disciples to follow him and do God's work. Through six rotation lessons in art, games, science, storytelling, cooking, and missions,

the students will see how Jesus taught his followers to live in God's word and spread that message to others. Jesus' choice of followers surprised some people, but Jesus was showing that anyone could follow him and do God's work. That includes the youngest members of Kountze! Register online using the link below.

<https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/FaithFormation>

Men's Lunch

Thursday, September 21

11:30 AM

Suggested Donation is \$10.00

We will have a meet and eat with Pr. Lucy. Where everyone can spend a few minutes sharing with Pr. Lucy a short biography of their history with Kountze, family, and background. Please sign up Tuesday, September 19 by calling the church office or emailing jim@kmlchurch.org. Who knows what Jim will have on the menu but it's sure to be good!

Orbit Bus Trip

Grades 4-6

Saturday, September 23

Register by September 15

9:45 AM to around 1:30 PM

Cost: \$5 (bring with you that day)

Upper Elementary students are invited for a bus-riding adventure through Omaha and the New Testament apostles' travels. Apostles are "the ones sent off," so come see where we are being sent as followers of Jesus! Bus stops include the Gene Leahy Mall and lunch at Kountze Memorial Drop off and pick up at Westroads Transit Center at the corner of 102nd and Nicholas Streets at the Westroads Mall. **We plan to board the ORBT 9:55 AM bus, so don't be late!** Please fill out registration form found at the link below by **September 15** and inform Pastor Shari that you will be there. <https://forms.gle/rzPPPEauKZkT15c7>

Kountze Memorial "Old Fashioned Church Picnic"

Sunday September 24

11:30 AM - 2:30 PM Here at the Church

Everyone is invited to attend the annual church picnic pot luck. There will be lots of activities for the young and old alike. The church will provide the entrées including a vegetarian option and drinks. Please consider bringing a side dish or dessert to share with everyone if attending. You are also encouraged to "bring your favorite blanket" to put down in the green space as you enjoy lunch and conversations in our green space between the church and commons building. Of course we will have table seating outside, in the link, and the Fellowship Hall for those who prefer not sitting on a blanket. A buffet style lunch will begin at noon, with games starting around 12:30 in the green space. Bring a blanket and spread out on the grass or you can sit at tables outside, in the Link, or the Fellowship Hall. And what would our picnic be without BINGO and prizes?! Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00

PM to play. Please fill out the form found in your bulletin and drop it in the offering plate, email (jim@kmlchurch.org), call the church office (402-341-7761), or sign up at the Welcome Desk. We hope to see you all there!

Confirmation Night Out!

Grades 7 & 8

Bellevue Berry Farm

11001 S 48th St. in Papillion

Saturday, September 30

6:30-9:00 PM

Campfire #3

Cost is \$30 per person

Come kick off the fall season with some spooky fun! (Hot dogs, chips and S'mores will be provided.) Cost includes Haunted Hayrack Ride, and entry to House of Terror, plus a bonfire and food! Meet at church at 6:00 PM, and we will head to Bellevue Berry Farm together with Pastor Shari or meet us there by 6:30 PM. Registration forms can be found in the Fellowship Hall or go to <https://rb.gy/6e10r> and return payment and form to Pastor Shari by **Sunday September 24.**

New Member Classes

October 1 & 8

10:15 AM

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Kountze Memorial and the possibility of becoming a member of our congregation, please consider joining our new member classes on October 1 and 8 (please plan to attend both classes). New members will be received on Sunday, October 15. Please call the church office if you have questions and to let us know you plan to attend.

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is collecting toilet tissue for our guests. Even though we only give out 1 roll per person, on request only, we go through a great deal. We appreciate any contributions you can make. We are desperately in need of Monday morning volunteers to carry groceries to the vehicles of our guests. There are only a few people who are able to do this vital service and they could really use a break! If you could help all or any part of the hours between

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 47

Sunday: 9:00: 112 11:00: 68

Wednesday: 12:15: 9

Total: 236

Streaming: 49

Pantry Guests Served: 218 (inc. 78 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 13

Offering:

\$15,960.31 (Regular) \$2,369.18 (Specials)

\$522.50 (Debt Reduction)

Love your neighbor as yourself.

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

Sunday	Matthew 18:15-20	Seeking reconciliation
Monday	Ezekiel 33:7-11	God's judgment seeks repentance
Tuesday	Romans 13:8-14	Love for one another
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 4:5-14	Israel is favored by God
Thursday	Galatians 5:13-15	Christ gives freedom
Friday	Leviticus 19:9-18	Living a holy life
Saturday	Psalms 119:33-40	A prayer for understanding
Sunday	Matthew 18:21-35	A parable about forgiveness



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*The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." **Romans 13:9 (NRSV)***

A Prayer for the Week:

God of goodness and mercy, give us hearts to love and to care for others as you care for us through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this gift of food strengthen us to delight in your law of love for the sake of all you have created through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you long for the ways of God that teach love and mercy through Jesus Christ.

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

- What news have you seen or heard recently where laws have been broken?
- Jesus said, "love your neighbor as yourself." What makes it hard to love others as you love yourself?

Read: Romans 13:8-14.

The law of God was—and is—intended as a gift from God that we may live in peace with one another. The commandments are plain and simple: we should not commit adultery, murder, steal, or covet what others have. The law mirrors the love of God that intends goodness and mercy for people. As Deuteronomy 4:8 states, "[W]hat other great nation has statutes and ordinances, as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?" The law demands right action toward people that is merciful, especially for the less powerful who cannot otherwise protect themselves. Mercy is well summarized by saying, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Romans 13:9), a reference to Leviticus 19:18 that was quoted by Jesus, Paul, and others in the Bible. The gospel life offers mercy and acts of love for the sake of the health of individuals and communities alike.

Discuss: What do you think it means to show mercy through the love and care of others?

Pray: **Loving God, we thank you for the gift of your law and for freeing us to love others as you have loved us through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how can you care for the daily needs of others?

Bible studies, Sunday school, and youth groups are wonderful opportunities to gather to read the Bible, have caring conversations, and learn together. Think or talk about where and how you learn God's word. Psalm 119 is a lovely text that promotes learning God's will and word. *Pray: Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart. Amen.* (Psalm 119:33-34)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13
Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35