

## 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](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

September 16 & 17, 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 loving memory of my husband, Gary Rodene; in loving memory of my father, Russ Van Horn given by Kimberly Grassmeyer

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God in loving memory of my husband, Gary Rodene;

**Television Broadcast** is sponsored to the glory of God in loving memory of my husband, Gary Rodene

### 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. **Note:** No breakfast will be served on September 24 due to the church picnic. We will be serving home baked cookies that morning.

## 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**

**Grades K-6**

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:** We will be getting to know each other and the space that we gather in. **Next Week:** we will be doing Group Building activities with a camp representative (aka Snoozy).

### 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:** Welcome Reception for Pr. Wynard and Family **Next week:** 2024 Stewardship Information

---

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### 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

### September 18 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### September 19 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
12:00 PM KETV Management Board  
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group  
6:00 PM Congregation Council

### September 20 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St. Timothy

### September 21 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
6:00 PM Circle 5

### September 22 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### September 23 Saturday

Orbit Bus Trip (gr 4-6)  
5:00 PM Worship

### September 24 Sunday

Pentecost 17  
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~~  
Home Baked Cookies this AM  
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour  
11:30 AM Church Picnic

---

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### 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 102<sup>nd</sup> 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/rzPPPG EauKZkT15c7>

### 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 48<sup>th</sup> 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 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM, please sign up at the link below or contact Susie Henry at [susannfrances@kmlchurch.org](mailto:susannfrances@kmlchurch.org)  
<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

### **Stained Glass Window Rededication Celebration**

The celebration held last Sunday, September 10, was a great day with the sun shining in the windows and a lot of people in the pews. We want to thank Bruce Nissen, Window Celebration Task Force Chairman and the Task Force itself for their work planning the event that made it a such a fun day. Bruce and the Task Force would like to thank the congregation and local businesses for their part in making the day a success. Names of those they especially want to thank will be listed in the October Good News.

### **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 Fundraiser for National Youth Gathering
- Oct. 8 Scary Acres or Hollywood Candy's Dungeon of the Damned
- Nov. 12 Friendsgiving
- Nov. 17-19 NE Synod LYON Assembly at Carol Joy Holling Camp

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday:** 34

**Sunday: 9:00:** 271 **11:00:** 116

**Wednesday: 12:15:** 16 **Conf:** 4

**Total:** 447

**Streaming:** 70

**Pantry Guests Served:** 1017 (inc. 381 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 18

**Offering:**

\$29,572.95 (Regular)

\$20,618.04 (Specials)

\$868.36 (Debt Reduction)

*God is merciful and gracious, full of love.*

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

Sunday	Matthew 18:21-35	A parable about forgiveness
Monday	Genesis 50:15-21	Joseph forgives his brothers
Tuesday	Romans 14:1-12	Do not judge one another
Wednesday	2 John 1:1-6	Truth and love
Thursday	Lamentations 3:18-24	There is still hope
Friday	2 Peter 1:1-11	Do all you can to show God's love
Saturday	Psalms 103:1-13	Thanksgiving for God's goodness
Sunday	Matthew 20:1-16	Parable of the vineyard workers



© 2018 Vibrant Faith Ministries. All rights reserved.  
Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.  
Go to [www.vibrantfaithathome.org](http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org) for more faith-forming activities.

*The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.* **Psalm 103:8 (NRSV)**

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

God of mercy and grace, give us hearts full of compassion, ready to forgive others as you have forgiven us through Christ Jesus, who died that we may live. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

God of abundant love, we thank you for this food that you give to us and to all. Help us to share your goodness and mercy with others through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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

May the God of mercy and grace who sustains you, give you joy.

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

How do you respond when you are in conflict with a particular person or group?

Jesus sets us free to love others. What does this mean to you?

*Read:* Romans 14:1-12.

The world is divided in many ways. Countries are divided into parties and loyalties. Families can be divided by strong and diverse views. Even congregations can be divided by different viewpoints. Paul gives us a word that we need to hear today. We are to keep the main thing the main thing, and that is this: Christ died to be the Lord of all. Therefore, why pass judgment and despise those for whom Christ died? As the saying goes, "When you look into the eyes of another, you are looking at someone God loves." Be careful not to judge and condemn. As Psalm 103:8 reminds us, "*The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*" Our God who is slow to anger should be a strong caution to us not to be quick to judge. Whether it is over diet, piety, political or economic convictions, our judgments will all pass away, but God's judgment is eternal, and that judgment is most clearly seen from the cross of Christ. Jesus died for us that we may be set free to love others, in spite of our differences.

*Discuss:* What relationship do you have with someone where you could use a kinder word to reconcile that relationship through Christ our Lord?

*Pray:* **Almighty and living God, help us to see beyond our self-righteous judgments of others and to receive your forgiveness with joy and gladness through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, who in your life can you reach out to with a word or action that expresses forgiveness?

Genesis 50:15-21 is the story of Joseph forgiving his brothers for throwing him in a pit and selling him into slavery. Forgiving someone who has hurt you is not easy. Think or talk about a time when you forgave someone or someone forgave you and how it may have changed your relationship. *Pray:* **Dear Lord, help me to open my heart and mind to know when to forgive and when to ask for forgiveness for my words or actions towards another. In Jesus' name, amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Jonah 3:10--4:11; Psalm 145:1-8  
Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16