

## 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 2 & 3, 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**

#### **Welcome Pastor Lucy Wynard**

We extend a warm welcome to Pr. Wynard. May our shared commitment to worship, grow, and serve bring us closer as we move forward as one church family

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God in celebration of Carol & Paul Carlson on their 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God in loving memory of our son, Evan Michael Hardy given by Mom & Dad (Alex & Karen).

#### **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:** History and Images of Our Windows, Bruce Nissen and Judy Boltz **Next week:** Rally Day and Window Celebration

#### **Dinners for 8**

##### **Sign-up by Today, September 3**

If you would like to get to know more church members, this is a great opportunity. You will meet for a meal one time each month in September, October, and November. The dinner can be hosted in homes or church, potluck style or out at a restaurant. You get to decide. We will inform you of your groups by September 6.

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### September 3 Sunday

Pentecost 14

Senior Pastor Lucy Wynard's first  
Sunday at KMLC

Homebound Communion

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

### September 4 Monday

Labor Day

OFFICE CLOSED

### September 5 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### September 6 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

### September 7 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### September 8 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### September 9 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### 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

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## 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](mailto: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 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.

### Cards with Friends

Thursday, September 7

2:00 PM

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

### 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.

### Register Today to Attend

Tri-Faith 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. (The Tri-Faith Commons and the 3 faith partners: Temple Israel, Countryside Community Church, and the American Muslim Institute). Join your pastors for this day of learning and celebration. For more information, please visit: <https://www.trifaith.org/www-2023>. If you'd like to help, sign up at: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4da4a622a2f9c25-united1#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4da4a622a2f9c25-united1#/)

### Children's Choir

From: Barb Carlsen, Children Choir Director

Beginning Sunday, September 17

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

2<sup>nd</sup> 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-6<sup>th</sup> 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>

**The Camp Classic Tournament  
Friday, September 22  
Ashland Golf Club**

Four-person scramble, noon: shotgun start, teams & individuals welcome. Info and registration form can be found at <https://www.nlom.org/golf>

**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](mailto:jim@kmlchurch.org)), call the church office (402-341-7761), or sign up at the Welcome Desk. We hope to see you all there!

**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  
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**

Pick up...

- a yard sign to place in your yard
- pre-ordered T-shirts
- window decal
- KMLC stained-glass window perpetual calendar—\$10

**On 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. all at no cost

**Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday:** 40

**Sunday: 9:00:** 136 **11:00:** 83

**Wednesday: 12:15:** 9

**Total:** 268

**Streaming:** 40

**Pantry Guests Served:** 1180 (inc. 398 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 20

**Offering:**

\$13,728.33 (Regular)      \$3,860.84 (Specials)

\$587.66 (Debt Reduction)

*Following Jesus is not an easy path.*

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

Sunday	Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow
Monday	Jeremiah 15:15-21	Jeremiah is reassured
Tuesday	Romans 12:9-21	Rules for Christian living
Wednesday	2 Timothy 4:1-5	Paul's instructions to Timothy
Thursday	Philippians 1:27-30	Live your life in a worthy manner
Friday	1 Corinthians 12:12-26	One body with many members
Saturday	Psalms 26:1-8	Prayer of an innocent person
Sunday	Matthew 18:15-20	Seeking reconciliation



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*Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Matthew 16:24 (NRSV)*

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God, help us to pick up our crosses, suffer, and follow Jesus for what is right, just, and loving. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed. Let there be a goodly share on every table, everywhere. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May the cross of Christ free you to care for all.

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

- When is a time you experienced pain or suffering?
- How does your faith in Christ help you when you are in pain or suffering?

*Read:* Matthew 16:21-28.

In general, we do our best to avoid pain and suffering. Peter wanted Jesus—and himself—to avoid suffering, and so he rebuked Jesus. However, some suffering is necessary in life. There are times when the path in life is not easy. Fighting for justice on behalf of others and God's creation and defending God's mercy and forgiveness when hatred and vengeance is pursued by others are examples of times when suffering is warranted. Peter failed to understand this. Jesus called him out as one who was following the path of evil. The path Jesus chose picks up a cross. Jesus picked up his cross for the salvation of all that God has created. It was a very costly cross for Jesus. It led to torment, false accusations, suffering and death. It is what is referred to as the "theology of the cross," that is, out of suffering God brings healing, new life, and salvation.

*Discuss:* When is a time in your life you avoided the harder path? What happened?

*Pray:* **Compassionate God, give us courage and strength to follow you where truth and justice are needed, to paths that bring healing and hope 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 by risking your own comfort for the sake of others?

The cross is a Christian symbol. It reminds us that Jesus is with us through hard times. We see crosses in many places in our lives. As a follower of Jesus, notice the number of crosses you see in your home and in the community this week. Each time you see one, take a moment to pray: **Thank you Jesus for dying on the cross to save us. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40  
Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20