

## 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
Jill Conway	Director of Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center



# KOUNTZE

## Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

October 7 & 8, 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 by Myrna Esluer in honor of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday; in honor of Joan Jacobson Trotter for her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday given by her family.

### 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

#### Beignet Breakfast for National Youth Gathering Sunday, October 8

This week's 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.

#### 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.

#### Youth Forum

#### Lower Level Youth Room

**This week:** Serving Beignet Breakfast **Next Week:** Bible Study

## Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

### 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:** The Gospel of Matthew and Judaism  
**Next week:** Introducing the New Director of Kountze Commons

### New Member Class Continues October 8 10:15 AM

New members will be received on Sunday, October 15.

### 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. We hope you'll join us!

### 2024 Summer Youth Trip ELCA Youth Gathering Grades 8-12

#### New Orleans

**July 16 – 20, 2024 (with travel days on each end.)**

Registration forms with a \$150.00 deposit will need to be returned by October 10. The total cost will be \$500.00 per individual, scholarships are available. The rest of the cost will be covered by the congregation and through our NOLA awareness efforts.

### Senior High October Outing Grades 9-12

Sunday, October 8

6:30 PM

Cost is \$18.

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

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### October 8 Sunday

Pentecost 19

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 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

### October 9 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### October 10 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### October 11 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

12:15 PM Worship

1:00 PM Devotions at deFreese Manor

6:00 Confirmation

7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal (note date change)

### October 12 Thursday

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:30 PM Women & Gender Bible Study

### October 13 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### October 14 Saturday

11:00 AM Women's Fall Gathering—

Pumpkins & Piano

5:00 PM Worship

### October 15 Sunday

Pentecost 20

Receive New Members

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

12:15 PM First Communion Class

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Women and Gender in Luke/Acts

Led by Dulcinea Boesenberg

Thursdays through November 2

6:30-7:30 PM

Thursday, October 12

#### Women's Speech in Luke vs. Acts

In the Gospel of Luke, men speak more often than women, but women do speak. In the Acts of the Apostles, women's speech is almost nonexistent. We will consider why this might be the case and the effect of this shift.

### Women's Fall Gathering

Pumpkins and Piano!

Saturday, October 14

11:00 AM

Musical Entertainment by Ray Williams. A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP by October 9. Bring a Friend!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fuerst Fall Festival**  
**St. Timothy Lutheran Church (510 N 93<sup>rd</sup> Street)**  
**Saturday, October 14**  
**1:00-4:00 PM**

**\$5 for a Meal! Kids 10 & under are Free**

- Brats & German potato salad
- Craft brew & other beverages available
- Outdoor games & activities

The Fall Festival is being held to remember and celebrate the life of Pastor Jeremy Fuerst with some of the proceeds going to Camp Carol Joy Holling. Before seminary Jeremy was the youth leader at Kountze Memorial.

**First Communion Classes**

**Sundays, October 15 & 22**

**12:15 PM (following the 11:00 AM service)**

Has your child expressed curiosity about Communion? We will be holding First Communion classes on October 15 and 22, following the second service. Children in second grade are encouraged to attend these sessions.

A light lunch will be served for parents and student. First communion will be on October 29 at the 9:00 AM service. To register, email Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org.

**Grief Seminar**

**Sunday, November 7**

**12:15—1:30 PM**

**Fellowship Lounge**

We will join with The Rev. Ruth Tomlinson, a trained facilitator of Walking The Mourner's Path. She will assist us in claiming the story of the ones who have died. A light meal will be served. Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend by November 1 so we know how many to plan on for lunch.

**The Lutheran Youth of Nebraska (LYON) Assembly**

**November 17-19, 2023**

**Carol Joy Holling Camp near Ashland, NE!**

**Grades 9-12 and Their Adult Leaders**

What does it mean to Go and... Be Honest? How does honesty impact our understanding of history, scripture, relationships, values and our work as advocates? Deacon Ross Murray will be our guide as we explore what it means

to live into our individual call to serve as advocates. Workshops will help you hone your skills as an advocate for others and for issues that are important to you. And with Bishop Scott Johnson we will learn how we the church Go and... be honest mindful of and honoring the diversity of church and the communities where we dwell. Esther and Nicodemus will be our Biblical role models for the weekend. **Register by October 27** at <https://nebraskasynod.org/event/lyon-2023/>

**Bible Sunday**

**Sunday, October 29**

Children ages 2 and 4, and in grades 1, 3, 5, and 7 will receive age appropriate Bibles at the 9:00 AM service.

Please make sure you have your students registered so that they receive their Bibles. Sign them up on line with the following link:

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

**ELCA Young Adult Gathering**

**Young Adults (19-25-year-olds)**

**July 16-20, 2024, in New Orleans**

An ELCA Young Adult Gathering will take place at the same time as the ELCA National Youth Gathering. Each group will have separate daytime offerings followed by a joint Evening Program. As this is a new event, plans are still being made.

We hope you will consider attending this event. Please contact Pr. Shari or the church office if you are interested in attending.. For more info or to register, go to <https://www.elca.church/gathering/attend/young-adult-gathering>

**Upcoming Youth Events**

**Grades 1-6:**

Nov. 19 Thanksgiving Pantry Bags

**Grades 7 & 8:**

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

**Grades 9-12**

Nov. 12 Friendsgiving  
 Nov. 17-19 NE Synod LYON Assembly at Carol Joy Holling Camp



**GO AND BE ....**



**Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday:** 34  
**Sunday: 9:00:** 136 **11:00:** 65  
**Wednesday: 12:15:** 9 **Conf:** 5  
**Total:** 258  
**Streaming:** 48  
**Pantry Guests Served:** 1,001 (inc. 406 children)  
**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 27  
**Offering:**  
 \$22,325.20 (Regular)      \$3,018.30 (Specials)  
 \$5,3520 (Debt Reduction)

*God's love leads us to bear the fruits of the kingdom.*

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

Sunday	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants
Monday	Isaiah 5:1-7	A song about a vineyard
Tuesday	Philippians 3:4b-14	To know Christ
Wednesday	Psalms 19	The wonders of God
Thursday	Haggai 2:10-19	A rebuke and a promise
Friday	John 15:1-17	Jesus the true vine
Saturday	Psalms 80:7-15	Prayer for Israel's deliverance
Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast



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*"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom."* **Matthew 22:1-14 (NRSV)**

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

Almighty God, may your passion for justice and mercy lead us to display your compassion for others for the sake of your Son, our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, may the fruit of the earth that we enjoy in this meal give us strength to care for others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

May you know Christ's love and the power of his resurrection to love others. (Philippians 3:10)

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

- How can correcting someone's mistakes in thoughts and actions be an act of love?
- What does it mean to you to live out the fruits of the kingdom?

*Read:* Matthew 21:33-46.

Jesus continues his debate with religious leaders in the Jerusalem temple. He addresses chief priests, elders, Pharisees, Sadducees, and scribes. These leaders represent the religious life and the institutions of Judaism, a community of faith with very diverse views. Their commonality is that they all misrepresent the kingdom of God. Instead of "bearing the fruits of the kingdom," they display a power and influence that does not work for God. For Jesus the fruits of the kingdom are identified in his first public message, the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12). That message speaks of humility, meekness, a desire for God's righteousness, mercy, purity, peacemaking, and more. It's a message in opposition to the religious leaders of his day, that is, the wicked tenants of the parable that steal, covet, and murder to possess what is not theirs. The good news is that Jesus' parable names the coming of the son, the Son of God who bears the very fruits announced by Jesus.

*Discuss:* What would upset Jesus in today's religious life?

*Pray:* **God of power and might, cleanse us of all that does not bear the fruits of your kingdom that our lives may be a witness to your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others with compassion for those in need?

In Psalm 80, Isaiah 5, and Matthew 21, the image of a vineyard and vines are used to describe God's people planted by God to produce the fruit of faith and justice. Use a potted plant or draw a picture of a plant with vines. Make a sign to place in the plant or write on the paper: "God's vineyard is full of faith, justice, love, and mercy." Place the plant or drawing in a visible place and when you pass by it each time, give thanks to God for the fruits of the kingdom.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14