

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
Danielle Barrett	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
Jill Conway	Director of Kountze Commons



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

November 4 & 5, 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.

Today at Kountze Memorial

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. Offering plates are located by the doors in the Nave.

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.



ELCA National Youth Summit

We give thanks for the opportunity of Mia Valquier and Lilly Kassel being the two representatives of the Nebraska Synod to the ELCA National Youth Summit from November 2—5 in Chicago.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Jane Kidder's 18th birthday; in memory of Marvin Andersen by Kay, Erik and Kathe

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 2nd floor in the Sunday School Music Room

Sunday School

10:10 AM

Ages 2 years-6th Grade

Join us in the 2nd 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: Exploring Faith and Current Events

Next Week: Exploring a Spiritual Practices

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

Adult Forum

Join us at 10:10 AM on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall. **This week:** A Lutheran Perspective on All Saints and All Souls **Next week:** What is the "Communion of Saints"?

Grief Seminar

Sunday, November 5

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.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

November 5 Sunday

All Saints Sunday
Daylight Savings—fall back 1 hour
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-5)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
12:15 PM Grief Seminar

November 6 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

November 7 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

November 8 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
12:15 PM Worship
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St. Timothy

November 9 Thursday

9:30 AM WELCA Board
11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
5:00 PM Project Everlast
Thanksgiving Dinner

November 10 Friday

Nov 10 - Nov 12 Middle School Retreat
(gr 6-8) Camp CJH
5:00 PM Pantry

November 11 Saturday

Veterans Day
11:00 AM Tom Holcombe Memorial Service
5:00 PM Worship

November 12 Sunday

Pentecost 24
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
12:15 PM Book Group
5:00 PM Friendsgiving (High School, College, & Young Adults (22-35 yrs))

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Thanksgiving Bags

Help the youth put together Thanksgiving Bags for the Pantry on November 19. Please bring the following and put in Sunday School Thanksgiving Box located in the Narthex **by November 12.** We are collecting the following items:

Stuffing Mix	Mashed Potato Mix
Turkey Gravy	Canned Yams
Cranberry Sauce	Canned Pumpkin

Middle School Retreat

November 10-12, 2023

Grades 6-8

Carol Joy Holling Camp

This retreat will serve as a good reminder to campers who attended camp about the things they learned during their time there and how they can continue to implement those lessons into their lives. For campers who may not have been able to attend camp, this retreat will serve as a way for them to experience camp in a condensed and meaningful way. Along with the lessons we will learn about God's love

and faithfulness, we will also be experiencing some favorite camp activities, God's creation, and of course, fellowship! Cost is \$100.00. Register at <https://www.cjhcenter.org/ms-retreat>

Friendsgiving

Sunday, November 12

5:00 PM

In the KMLC Fellowship Hall

All High School, College Youth, and Young Adults (22-35 year olds)

You are invited to attend a Friendsgiving at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. Bring a favorite dish to share. Invite your friends. Please consider allergies such as peanuts/nuts, gluten, etc. and those who might be vegan and vegetarian. It is our hope that through this time together of meal and conversation we can explore our gratitude for what friendships bring to our life and how God is a very best friend throughout life.

Project Everlast Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 9

5:00 - 7:30 PM

Project Everlast is a dedicated organization that serves the vital needs (housing, education, employment, finances, etc.) of unconnected youth ages 14 -26 that may have experiences in some of the following areas: aging out of foster care, homelessness, human trafficking, juvenile justice. Project Everlast is hosting a Thanksgiving event on November 9 in the Kountze Memorial Fellowship Hall for these youth. The purpose of this event is to provide these deserving young individuals with a warm and meaningful celebration as they transition into independent living. This communal feast is to help foster a sense of family and belonging for participants in this program. They believe relationship building is an essential aspect in these youths' journey to stability in their transition to young adulthood.

Typically, volunteers sign up for food and bring the dishes. If anyone would want to volunteer for a meal donation you can sign up on their SignUp Genius at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E44ADAC2FA1FBC34-44818883-project>

Men's Lunch

Thursday, November 16

11:30 AM

4th Annual Men's Chili Cookoff!

Suggested Donation: Pot of Chili or Stuffed Animal/ Toy for the Pantry

Come vote on your favorite chili, there will be prizes for the top three and a great time of fellowship. Call the church office or email jim@kmlchurch.org to sign up. Let us know if you will be entering a pot of chili or just attending. If you're entering a pot of chili the cost is free otherwise suggested donation for the event will be a new stuffed animal/ toy to be distributed by the Kountze food pantry as Christmas gifts for our young pantry guests.

54th Annual Performance of Handel's Messiah

Sunday, November 19, 2023

3:00 PM

Holland Performing Arts Center

Voices of Omaha presents an annual performance of Handel's Messiah without admission charge as a gift to the community. All are Welcome to Sing in the Chorus Chorus membership is open to all members of the community. No audition is required to participate. Early registration opens every August with rehearsals starting in October. Registration is now open!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

113 N 18th St (corner of N 18th & Capitol)

Sunday, November 19

6:00 PM

Trinity Cathedral is excited to host this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Let's join our interfaith siblings and give thanks to God! Theme: Unity in a Time of Conflict Speaker: Mike Hornacek, Together, Inc. The offering goes to Together, Inc.

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>

Kountze Food Pantry

This month the Kountze Food Pantry is collecting toothpaste, toothbrushes and floss, or flossing picks. Please place donated items in the marked box in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to everyone for donating soup in October! We can always use more grocery bags. We use both plastic and paper. Please sign up with the link below if you would like to serve at the Kountze Food Pantry.

[kwsvz2irup 1rwrup ifrp 2533;67;;:34488](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E44ADAC2FA1FBC34-44818883-project)

GO AND BE



Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 24

Sunday: 9:00: 152 11:00: 77

Wednesday: 12:15: 10 Conf: 5

Total: 278

Streaming: 59

Pantry Guests Served: 1,241 (inc. 364 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 23

Offering:

\$14,323.11 (Regular)

\$3,933.04 (Specials)

\$427.66 (Debt Reduction)

We are blessed by the saints we have known.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	The Beatitudes
Monday	Revelation 7:9-17	God will wipe away tears
Tuesday	1 John 3:1-3	Our hope in God
Wednesday	Romans 1:1-15	Prayer of thanksgiving
Thursday	Psalm 16	Psalm of trust
Friday	Colossians 1:24-2:5	Paul's interest in the Colossians
Saturday	Psalm 34:1-10, 22	Honor the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 25:1-13	A parable of the ten bridesmaids



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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.
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SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. **Matthew 5:4 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of grace and glory, you promise us a future filled with peace and joy; we thank you for giving us saints to bless us along our life's way through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this food we taste and see that you are good. We give you thanks for this meal and all our blessings through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Psalm 34:8)

A Blessing to Give:

May the mercy of God and the power of the Holy Spirit save you from every trouble through Christ our Lord. (Psalm 34:6)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- In what ways do you feel you have been blessed?
- Is there someone you feel God has placed in your life to bless you? Explain.

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 5:1-12.

The Beatitudes (meaning blessedness) listed in this reading are a series of blessings announced by Jesus. A blessing is defined as a gift or favor bestowed by God. Society often misinterprets a blessing as a possession of the wealthy, the healthy, and the assertive, but Jesus blesses the poor, the sick, and the meek and promises a reversal of fortune. The source of that reversal is God. This includes the work of saints called by God. The saints are the children of God sent to us to heal, to forgive, and to renew life in Jesus' name. As we remember those saints who have come before us, we give thanks that they have been the source of blessings to enrich us, comfort us, and be merciful to us. Their actions reflect the kingdom of God. We take time to give thanks for all the saints, especially those who have personally touched our lives with God's love in Christ. This divine love promises to reverse the way things are to make them consistent with the ways of God.

Discuss: Who are some of the saints who have touched your life?

Pray: **Eternal God, we thank you for your many blessings, especially those that have come to us through saints we have known and loved through Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others to bring comfort and hope?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

All Saints Day is a time to remember all the saints in our lives, both the living and the dead. Think or talk about memories you have of someone who has blessed your life. Light a candle and pray: **Dear God, thank you for the life of [name]. I am grateful for all the blessings that came to my life through them. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13