

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

GOOD NEWS

Volume 44, Issue 1

January, 2024



FROM THE PASTOR

I always begin Advent thinking & talking about the difference between the church's calendar and the world's – the church is emphasizing waiting, longing, lament, while the world is loudly celebrating "The Holiday Season". That reality reverse itself in January – the church keeps counting those 12 days of Christmas, but the world on January 2nd seems to turn the page. The decorations are down (well... almost). The celebrations are over, it's time to hit the gym! Back to the "regular grind". Maybe some of the frenetic pace is lifted. But as we look wistfully backwards towards the all-too-quickly-over celebrations (whether this year's, or longed-for ones of yesteryear), and before we let the world push us toward New Year's resolutions – a New Year, a New You... Let's us take one more moment to hold on to what God has done in this particular season. Let's cement in our minds the message of hope and expectation.

"Do Not Fear!" said the angels to Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and to us. Not because the world isn't scary – but because God is with us. Now. Here. God has come – God is here, not just during the highlights of The Holiday Seasons, but especially in the midst of the daily grind, in the middle of our stress-filled, wonder-filled everyday life. Jesus, the Word made Flesh, is Emmanuel, God with us. Right here, today – and tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow. No time or place is more or less sacred, because God is now and forever. God meets us right where we are, right as we are. Human lives – your life, your childrens', beloveds', neighbors', co-workers' lives – are made holy by the incarnation. God looked at our resilient, vulnerable bodies, hearts, and normal everyday lives and said, "This is good – and I'm in it with you!"

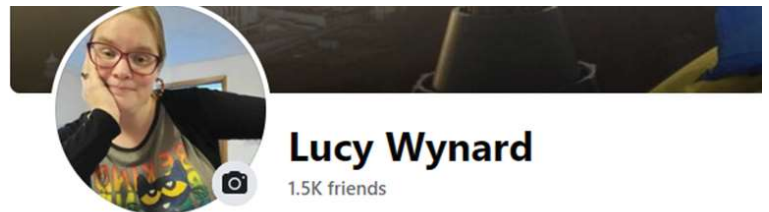
So let this New Year be an opportunity to rejoice in the truth that you are seen, loved and worthy – right now, just as you are – because God has come to you and is with you. God's presence makes your life holy. So be gentle, be courageous, be gracious with yourself and each person you meet. Especially in these cold winter months. After all, we're all recovering from "The Holiday Season"! In 2024 much will change, and much will stay the same. But

one truth will carry us through it all: the God who is Love incarnate is here with us. That's Good News to hold onto! Blessings on a New Year!

Pastor Lucy



Pastor Lucy is on Facebook,



and occasionally Instagram. (She's a Gen X-er... which also explains why she's *not* on TikTok or Snapchat....).

She will not friend you - because she never wants to put someone in the awkward position of having to accept or reject a "friend request" from their pastor. Maybe you don't want your pastor following you on social media! However, she will absolutely welcome and accept friend requests from parishioners. So *if you would like to* - please follow or "friend" her.

WORSHIP *with us...*

Worship Times

Holy Communion is offered weekly at all three weekend liturgies which use resources from Evangelical Lutheran Worship:

Saturdays at 5:00 PM; Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

The 9:00 AM liturgy is broadcast on Cox Cable Channel 13 and is also live-streamed on our website (www.kmlchurch.org). The Sunday bulletin is available on our website.

Nursery care is provided on Sunday mornings from 8:45 AM until 12:00 PM as well as other Occasional Special Church Services.

A brief, spoken Eucharist is offered on Wednesdays from 12:15 - 12:45 PM in the Rotunda.



Photo by Jake Madison

Worship with us on TV or via Internet Livestream



Our 9:00 AM worship service is broadcast live on television every Sunday on Cox Channel 13. You can also livestream the service right from your computer on our church

website. Go to www.kmlchurch.org and click on the Livestreaming link on the Worship Tab. We encourage you to worship with us via television or Internet as you are able.

Altar Flowers, Eternal Candle, TV Broadcast

You can help us beautify the altar at Kountze or sponsor a television broadcast if you wish. This is a simple and meaningful way to honor a loved one who has passed away, celebrate a special anniversary or milestone, or can be given in thanksgiving for friends or family. Their names will appear in the church bulletin on the weekend you select.

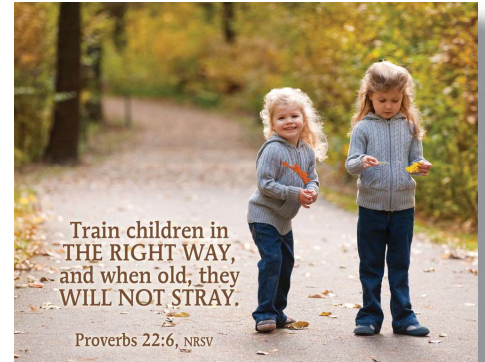
Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and the cost is \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$210 per week.

You can sign up for a date to provide flowers, eternal candle, and/or our television broadcast by signing up in the Narthex, calling the church office, going online to our giving page, or placing a check in the mail or offering plate marked "flowers, candle, or TV ministry. Please let us know if it is in honor/memory/celebration of someone. Thanks.



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. We also have 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.



In this issue...

- 2024 Stewardship/Contribution Notes
- Annual Reports/Annual Meeting
- Confirmation Program/Photos
- Dinners for Eight
- Epiphany Home Blessing
- Go and... Rest
- High School Retreat & Lock-In
- KCCOC – A Year to Serve with Cheer
- Kountze Family Service Project
- Men's Lunch
- Middle School Gathering
- New Member Classes
- Summer Bible Camp at CJH
- Sunday Breakfast Volunteers
- Women's Pre-Lenten Retreat

GROW with us...



10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

- January 7: Lutheranism in America: Muhlenberg and Schmucker
January 14: Fellowship
January 21: Lutheranism in America: Charles Porterfield Krauth
January 28: Reception of New Members

New Member Classes

January 14 & 21
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 (please plan to attend both classes). New members will be received on Sunday, January 28. Please call the church office if you have questions and to let us know if you plan to attend.

Sunday Breakfast

We are so thankful for the good work of members that provide our breakfast each Sunday morning.

If you would be willing to be:

- the point person for this ministry,
- a backup shopper,
- a member of the 3rd Sunday team,
- part of the 5th Sunday team (2 people) or
- clean up group for the 2nd Sunday team (3 people) breakfast (where paper products are used at both),

please let Pastor Shari know. She can also answer any questions. There is a sign up on the Welcome desk. Your consideration for joining this important ministry is appreciated.



ELCA Young Adult Gathering

Young Adults (19–25-year-olds)

July 16-20, 2024, in New Orleans

2024

CREATED
TO BE ELCA
Young Adult
Gathering

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.

Please consider attending. More information can be found at <https://www.elca.church/gathering/attend/young-adult-gathering> Please let one of the Pastors know if you are interested so we can help you make connections for your trip. Madeline O'Kane is the primary leader for those from Kountze Memorial and Immanuel in Bellevue.

Candlelight Carol Service

This service took place on Saturday, December 16. If you weren't able to be here in person, you can watch now from our website at:

<https://www.kmlchurch.org/sermons/candlelight-carol-service-december-16-2023/>



come grow with us!

SERVE with us...

Kountze Food Pantry



Thank-you to everyone who donated to the Food Pantry and made this Christmas special for our guests! St. Michael Church contributed 200 goody bags with laundry soap and many items we don't usually have. Kountze provided

250 bags with a complete hygiene kit. Several groups

collected toys and books for the children and the common room was beautifully decorated! In January the Pantry is collecting gloves and mittens for men, women and children. We get lots of hats donated but never seem to have enough gloves. If you would like to contribute you may leave the items in the donation box in Fellowship Hall. Another option is to order online and have them delivered to Kountze in care of the Pantry.

As always, we are looking for volunteers. If you would like to donate your time, you may sign up at the following link.

<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

Food Pantry Report (1/1/2023 -11/30/2023)

Income:

Grants	\$	2,775.00
Donations:	\$	50,760.05
Memorials	\$	<u>22,265.61</u>
	\$	75,800.66

Expenses:

Grant Expense	\$	6,170.88
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Regular Expenses

Aldi	\$	-
Costco	\$	2,173.62
Hidden Valley Ind.	\$	-
Hy-Vee	\$	-
Dollar Tree	\$	34.82
Family Fare	\$	16,893.97
Food Bank	\$	-
Walmart	\$	2,484.51
Sam's Club	\$	918.81
Other	\$	<u>2,134.35</u>
	\$	30,810.96

Balance \$ **44,989.70**

A New Year to Serve with Cheer

Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center would again like to thank the community and our partners in their dedication to fulfilling the mission of Feed the Hungry, Heal the Sick, and Tend the Soul this past year and beyond.

In 2024, we are eager to continue the amazing work within KCCOC and to build more partnerships to use every ounce of this space to better serve the community.

We hope to aid and elevate our partners of Lutheran Family Services, Methodist Community Health Center, Healing Gift Free Clinic, and Kountze Food Pantry through awareness, education, collaborations, volunteering, and fundraising. We are meeting with fellow food pantries, homelessness services, youth services, community partners, neighbors, and churches to collaborate together to better serve those in need. We look forward to sharing our achievements throughout the year.

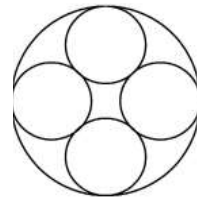
Please come seek us out with your ideas, volunteer time, and dollars as we continue to fulfill and elevate our mission. I remain dedicated to my roles for both KCCOC and the church as we continue to serve our neighbors in the New Year.

With gratitude,

Jill Conway

Executive Director

Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center

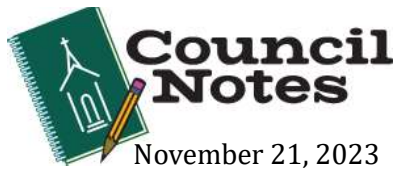


Stewardship/Contribution Notes:

At this time 148 giving intent cards for 2024 have been turned in with a total amount being pledged of \$600,636. If you haven't turned in your intent card yet, it's not too late. Extras can be found at the Welcome Desk.

- If you are making a donation to the Healing Gift Free Clinic, you can do it one of two ways:
 1. Make your check out to Kountze Memorial and note Clinic or HGFC on the envelope or memo line of your check. We will be sure it gets to them.
 2. You may also make your donation directly to the Healing Gift Free Clinic (HGFC). Please make your check out to the Healing Gift Free Clinic. If it says Kountze Clinic, they are unable to deposit that check.
- Thank you for your ongoing dedication and support to all of the ministries at Kountze Memorial, the HGFC, and KCCOC.

NEWS & Notes...



Meeting called to order. Previous minutes approved, with amendment. Meeting agenda adopted.

Financial report: Debt reduction discussion with memorials (Marjorie Bock, Dale & Lu Weber). Better to be referred to as 'mortgage' vs 'debt', enough operating income coming in from Kountze Commons to pay monthly payments. More discussion to be had.

Staff reports given and approved by Council.

Committee reports given and approved by Council. Archives Committee discussed 165th Church Charter signing celebration. Council Retreat Committee recommending to get a new retreat date on the calendar. Finance Committee: have not received budgets yet. Food Pantry Committee: possible new record set on 11/20, need increasing; how can a Girl Scouts troop help? Collections. Media & tech: new cameras. Personnel Committee, hired new assistant. Property Committee: flashing being repaired, discussion of meeting room improvements. Worship & Music: Christmas yard signs, 40 would cost approx. \$300. Youth Committee: youth gathering planning continues.

Board reports given and approved by Council.

Endowment: will meet in December for discussions regarding audit. Clinic: Jerry Fischer to step down as Medical Director, Joyce Palmer to step down as Clinic Administrator; movement of funds from First National Savings to Dundee CD. KCCOC, see written minutes.

Old Business. Ministry Site Profile team, see Pastor Lucy's written report. Budgets officially due 11/1. Council Retreat: what are our steps between now and our next meeting? Determining council liaisons for each ministry, determining purpose statements, determining all ways to serve/inviting others.

Change in Communication & Engagement committee council membership to Jerry Fischer instead of Madeline O'Kane, as well as a name change to Membership Committee. Finance Committee will remove Ann Miller as liaison. Personnel Committee will remove Anne Dey as liaison. Social Ministry Committee will be Jacob Rump and Steve Hinrichs as liaisons.

New Business. Servant Keeper access needed for Pastor Lucy Wynard and Jill Conway (previously allowed to senior pastors, software has not always been Servant

ANNUAL Committee REPORTS

Due January 28

If you are responsible for a report in our Annual Report, please have them turned in to Debbie Bogue in the office no later than January 28. Reports are welcome—and preferred—anytime before that date. Thanks.



Keeper). Will be addressed in December. Smoke Free Campus discussion: what does smoke free campus mean? What is our reasoning behind this? Can we move receptacles to west side of building on sidewalks? Motion to put up cigarette receptacles. Mike will take to property, will come up with proposal. A discussion was proposed by Steve Hinrichs to grow and enhance membership, especially in young membership, to be on agenda in December. The Council reviewed the historic committee structure at the meeting and amended the mission statement of the seven ministry clusters: God gave us the gifts of time, talent & treasure. Our KMLC mission calls us to Worship, Grow, Serve. As faithful disciples of Christ this Council has determined to organize around seven ministry clusters. Each of the seven ministry clusters will encompass the related committees and boards which have grown throughout the existence of KMLC. This new arrangement of existing committees will streamline structure & communication, and enhance congregational involvement in these ministries. Each ministry cluster will be overseen by a pastor, a primary & secondary Council liaison, and a staff member. The committees and programs within each ministry cluster will continue to be made up of many diverse members & participants from the congregation at large. We look forward to further refining the details of this new structure in the year ahead.

Motion and approval to adjourn the meeting by a voice vote. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Epiphany New Year Home Blessing

In German and Scandinavian countries, it is an old Christian custom to bless homes on January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany (or Three Kings Day). The family gathers at the front door, where the year and C + M + B is written over the door or on the door. The letters are initials of the Latin phrase, "May Christ bless this house" (Christus Mansionem Benedicat). However, because the blessing occurs on Epiphany (the last day of Christmas marking the visit of the Magi to Jesus), children are given a small gift (usually candy) and told that the three wise men (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar) visited in the night, signed their initials, and left a present. You can celebrate this blessing yourselves on this festival day to mark the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of a new calendar year, whether you live alone or with a large family.

You can make this blessing as simple or as intricate as you like; including the liturgical greeting (e.g. "The Lord be with you..."), a song or carol, Prayer of the Day for Epiphany, sprinkling the door or each room with water,

readings (e.g. Matthew 2:1-12 or the start of John's Gospel, 1:1-14), Lord's Prayer, and/or incense (frankincense, of course!). The core of the house blessing simply involves taking chalk (of any color) and gathering at the main door. You may write on the door or above the door: 20 + C + M + B + 23. As you do so, you or another may say: "The three Wise Men—Caspar, Melchior, Balthazar—followed the star to God's Son who became human two thousand and sixteen years ago. Thanks be to God! May Christ bless this home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen." Indeed, may the light of Christ enrich our homes and all the people who dwell within, giving us and the guests who come the light, warmth and peace of the Holy Trinity, whose love is everlasting!



Evensong - A Grand Choir Experience

Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry

Sunday, January 28

St. Timothy Lutheran Church (510 N 93rd St)

4:00-7:00 PM

We have been invited to come and experience the warmth found when gathered together for worship, music, faith, and food. There are many ways to get involved to support this important ministry for young adults.

1. Volunteer to bring your favorite pot of Chili to represent us in the Chilli Cook-off.
2. Put together a gift basket or give a week at a vacation home for the silent auction.
3. Join with other voices from around Omaha for the Grand Choir Experience.
4. Let the church office know how you can participate.

Everyone is welcome. Childcare is available. Free will offering to Omaha Campus Ministry is encouraged. Come and support this event and join in Holden Evening Prayer Worship!

Kountze Family Service Project

Friday, January 12

5:00 PM



Join us in the Pantry to volunteer and then following the service to our community, we will be serving pizza and watching a movie in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend, your favorite movie, and a snack to share.



Dinners for Eight

Consider signing up to join a dinners for 8 group in February, March and April. It is a time when your group will have a meal together each month. This meal can take place in homes, in restaurants, or at the church. Or you may decide to attend a fish fry or another organizations fundraiser. It is up to your group. Please sign up by January 21 at the Welcome Desk or by calling the church office. You will be informed about the groups, so you can begin to find times and places to meet.



Cards with Friends

Thursday, January 4

2:00 PM

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



If You are Hospitalized...



If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please be sure to let the church office know at 402-341-7761 or e-mail info@kmlchurch.org.

Help Deliver Altar Flowers to the Sick & Homebound



After the 11:00 AM service on Sundays, donated altar flower bouquets can be taken to hospitalized members, nursing homes, or care centers. This is a great way to brighten someone's day and to grow friendships!

If you are at the 11:00 AM service and know of someone who would like to be remembered in this way, please take one of the bouquets to them. If you attended another service but would like to deliver flowers, please call the church office on Monday to see if they are still available.

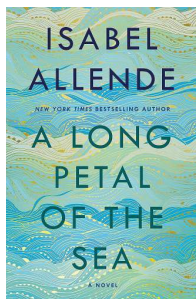
Your help is appreciated!

Children's Christmas Program

The children's Christmas Program was held on Sunday, December 17. The children all worked so hard, and it showed. If you didn't get a chance to see it yet, you can watch it on our website at:

<https://www.kmlchurch.org/sermons/third-sunday-of-advent-december-17-2023/>

KMLC Book Group



Sunday, January 14, 2024 12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

A Long Petal of the Sea by Isabel Allende

A Long Petal of the Sea is one of the best novels written by Isabel Allende, a world-renowned author, who has written 24 best selling novels. This is a historical fiction of the story of Roser and Victor who are refugees from the Spanish Civil War in 1938, and board a ship, "The Winnipeg"; "the long petal of the sea and wine and snow," with two thousand other refugees for Chili. Roser and Victor must become man and wife in order to board the ship. This begins a turbulent life for the couple as they encounter many trials before finally reaching freedom. The novel parallels the world of today focusing on war, exile, refugees, immigrants, love, hope, relationships, and finding a home. Please join us to discuss this powerful novel.

Men's Lunch

Thursday, January 18

11:30 AM

Join us for lunch and a short documentary on Offutt AFB "Startcom 9/11: A Different Doomsday" Please RSVP by Tuesday, January 16.

We hope you'll plan to be here.
(Don't tell anybody, but that's Jim's birthday. Shhhh!)



Women's Pre-Lenten Retreat

Women's
Retreat



We will be gathering again to learn and grow and prepare ourselves to enter Lent with some intentionality. Be on the lookout in early January for information about date, time, the price, and theme.

We do have two presenters lined up to inspire and challenge you on a Saturday from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM with lunch served. Friends are welcome and we plan to invite other women from area congregations.



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY...

Look What's Coming Up!



Sunday School

Ages 2 yr-6th grade

Sundays, 10:10 AM

Sunday School will not be held on January 7., but will resume on January 14.

We will continue with the rotation model.

Children's Choir

Sundays, 9:10 AM

(following 9:00 AM Children's Blessing)

2nd Floor Sunday School Music Room

Grades K-6

Choir will not be held on January 7, but will resume on January 14. Join Barb Carlsen on the 2nd floor in the Sunday School Music Room.



Confirmation Program



Begins Again on Wednesday, January 10
6:00 PM

We will resume our classes on Wednesday evenings in January at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church. We will be focusing on learning more about Worship

and the Sacraments.

Jan 10	Worship Intro
Jan. 17	Baptism
Jan. 24	Lord's Supper
Jan. 31	Confession

Confirmation Photos

If you have any group photos from 2017 - 2021 and you would be willing to share with the church office, we would be most grateful. We want to make sure we have a photo of each of the Confirmation Classes of KMLC.



Middle School Gathering 2024

Go and... Rest!

6 - 8th Graders and Adult Leaders

January 13-14, 2024



Leaning into Nebraska Synod's Go and... theme, the Middle School Gathering (MSG) will focus on Go and... Rest. MSG 2024 invites youth in grades 6-8 to wrestle with what it means to rest despite

the busyness of everyday life. MSG allows middle school youth and adult leaders an opportunity to join with youth from other congregations to serve, learn, worship, and make new friends. We will explore practices that can help us ground ourselves as unique beloved children of God.

- Times: Saturday 9:00-10:00 AM check in, program starts at 10:00 AM. Departure after Sunday worship - 11:30-12:30 depending on the worship time
- Cost will be covered by Kountze Memorial
- **Registration Deadline: January 5, 2024.** Registration forms are in the Fellowship Hall

Youth Forum

Grades 7 - 12

10:10 AM

We meet each Sunday at 10:10 am in the Youth Room. Join us for time to grow our relationships with God and each other with the following activities.

Jan. 14	Current Events
Jan. 21	Bible Study "Created to Be"
Jan. 28	Games



High School Retreat

RECHARGE

Carol Joy Holling Camp

January 19-21

Theme: (Un)Equal

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

—Revelation 22:31

All 9th - 12 graders, are invited to join together as we dive into this past summer's theme, "UnEqual." Along with the lessons we will learn about God's love, we will also be experiencing some favorite camp activities, God's creation, and of course, fellowship!

The cost of the retreat is \$100 per camper and includes lodging, meals, and programming on Friday through Sunday. Register by January 17 at

<https://www.cjhcenter.org/hs-retreat>



High School Lock-In

Immanuel Lutheran, Bellevue

Friday, January 26

7:00 PM - 7:00 AM

All in High School are invited to join in the fun at a Lock-In taking place at



Immanuel in Bellevue. It will provide a time for those going to the Youth Gathering to build relationships. All attending will share in bible study, games, and a time to get to know each other.

Bring your sleeping bag, as sleep will be part of the agenda, to make sure we get what we need to stay healthy. Don't miss this opportunity to learn and grow! RSVP to Pastor Shari by Wednesday, January 24.

Summer Bible Camp at Carol Joy Holling! Register by January 31 for Early Bird Pricing

**Summer
camp**

Kountze Memorial will cover the cost if you register by January 31. If you register after this date, you will need to pay the additional cost. Kountze Camp

Week is June 16-21, but you can attend camp whenever it is convenient for you. Check out the schedule for the different camp opportunities for grades K-12 as well as day camps and leadership training for high school-age youth and Special Needs camps at <https://www.caroljoyholling.org/register>

In order for the church to pay the fee, choose

- to mail your payment,
- select "Pay items in Full"
- then "Pay by Check/Money Order"
- Email a copy of the receipt to shari@kmlchurch.org

and we will submit payment on behalf of your youth. If you have any questions, please reach out to church staff. To register go to

<https://www.caroljoyholling.org/register>

Thank You!

The Youth Progressive Supper and White Elephant Gift exchange was a great event. We give thanks to Kyra Peterson for driving. Pam & Bob Johnson, Tarna & Mark Kidder, and Donna & Pastor Paul Moessner for their beautifully decorated homes and tables with wonderfully delicious food. The best part was the conversations and growing of our relationships. You all have blessed our lives and this holy season.

– KMLC 7th - 12th graders



CALENDAR



January 1 Monday

New Year's Day
OFFICE CLOSED



January 2 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
9:00 AM HGFC Board

January 3 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

January 4 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

January 5 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

January 6 Saturday

Epiphany of Our Lord
Homebound Communion
5:00 PM Worship

January 7 Sunday

Baptism of Our Lord
Homebound Communion
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Adult Forum

January 8 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
5:00 PM KCCOC Board

January 9 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

January 10 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
12:15 PM Worship
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor
4:00 PM Executive Committee
6:00 PM Confirmation

January 11 Thursday

Council Reports Due
9:30 AM WELCA Board
11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:00 PM Worship & Music

January 12 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry
5:00 PM KMLC Family Service Event
- Pantry/Meal/Movie

January 13 Saturday

Jan 13 - Jan 14 NE Synod Middle
School Gathering (gr 6-8)
5:00 PM Worship

January 14 Sunday

Epiphany 2
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
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 Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
10:15 AM New Member Class
12:15 PM Book Group

January 15 Monday

Martin Luther King, Jr.
OFFICE CLOSED
Good News Deadline
6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board

January 16 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group
6:00 PM Congregation Council

January 17 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation

January 18 Thursday

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

January 19 Friday

Jan. 19 - Jan. 21 High School Retreat
(9-12) @ Camp CJH
5:00 PM Pantry

January 20 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

January 21 Sunday

Epiphany 3
Dinners for Eight Sign-up Deadline
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
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 Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
10:15 AM New Member Class

January 22 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

January 23 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
11:30 AM Endowment Board
12:30 PM Circle 3

January 24 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation

January 25 Thursday

1:00 PM Circle 4
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

January 26 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry
7:00 PM High School Lock-In @
Immanuel Lutheran, Bellevue (gr
9-12) (7:00 PM-7:00 AM)

January 27 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

January 28 Sunday

Epiphany 4
Receive New Members
Annual Report Deadline
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
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 Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
4:00 PM NeLCM - Evensong

January 29 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

January 30 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

January 31 Wednesday

CJH Summer Camp Deadline
12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation



1. Ruth Henneman
2. Kailee Harbin, Georgia Severson, Richard Stawniak
3. Nakoma Baker, Barb Donelson, Tyler Hiatt, Barbara Rassfeld, Marlys Thomas, Morgan Gardner
4. David Eckstrom, Ilse Grage, Bo Hiatt, Kraig Schjodt, William Putnam, Laura Strazdas, Donald Strazdas, Shawn Wheeler
5. Andrea Brown, Jeannie Sommer, Jessica Starkel
6. Lowell Holland, Dena Jacobsen, Breanne John, Judy Westerman, Alicia Coles
7. Edward Camenzind, Alex Chand, Audrey Nelson, Michael Sommer, Brooke Tipton
8. Chris Kendall, Vinn Stephens
9. Kay Andersen, Karen Bonneau, Julie Knapp, Jean Raber, Jon Taylor, Matt Munderloh
10. Tate Horacek, Taylor Horacek, Scott Jones, Judith Poffenbarger, Michelle Wulf,
11. Boyd Ervin, Makayla Gugliotti, Brendan Gugliotti, Michael Pfeilsticker, Walker Porter, Jacob Headley
12. Bruce Anderson, Deanna Edwards, Dante Jones, Alexandria Olson, Aaron Studts, Linda Beckman
13. Lola Baum, Jane Bodnar, Tana Clanton, Wayne Hahn, Donald Hirsh, Tina Larsen, Jeffrey Nelson, Justin Perkins, Chet Worm
14. John Albers, Ryan Albright, Ken Freudenburg, Joslyn Barnes, Dick Mayberry, Marilyn VanBibber
15. Marsha Vance, Dorothy Yeshnowski
16. Paul Moessner, Mary Syre
17. William Christensen, Wilson Munstermann, Robert Penn
18. Jonna Holland, Thure Johnson, Jim Smejkal
19. Donald Darst, Christine Forslund, Mackenzie Jones, Randall Woster, Paula Henneman
20. Lori Cameron, Faith Klein, Terri Nesselrotte, Tiffany Horan
21. Lois Ernce, Paul Lux, Marvin Olson, Tricia Ryder, Michael Pribyl
22. Chad Brown, Debra Davidson, Peggy Duncan, Sarah Maaske
23. Steve Hinrichs, Katherine Moldenhauer, Melanie Szymczak, Christian Wulf
24. Caleb Bjerke, Mark Mahaffey
25. Sunshine Fonda, Kenyon Martis, Alex Worley
26. Sharon West
27. Mark Hawkins, Karl Kjeldgaard, Michelle Shields
28. Dottie Brown, Debi Clatterbuck, Miranda Johnson, Shane Kuenning, Courtney Bailes
29. Carly Horacek, Tanner Horacek, Samantha Schueler, Siany Edwards
30. John Rayno
31. Mark Coles, Valery Copeland, Rob Hopkins, Aidan Muller

Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 11/1/2023	\$1,830,736.41
Principal Payment, 12/1/2023	\$7,447.42
Interest Payment, 12/1/2023	\$6,023.51
Balance, 12/1/2023	\$1,823,288.99

Finances: November, 2023

	<i>November</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
Total General Fund		
Income:	\$ 61,536.38	\$ 940,586.20
Expenses:		
Mission Support:	\$ -	\$ 60,277.00
Christian Education:	\$ 205.10	\$ 7,156.74
Facility Costs:	\$ 64,012.00	\$ 213,170.92
Staff Compensation:	\$ 57,480.75	\$ 584,587.74
Worship & Music:	\$ 5,491.04	\$ 36,355.71
Parish Life:	\$ 5,714.87	\$ 25,446.58
Youth:	\$ 1,273.87	\$ 10,250.96
Office & Administration:	\$ 2,714.75	\$ 51,455.98
Total Expenses	\$ 136,892.14	\$ 988,701.63

Pastoral Acts

(November 16 - December 15, 2023)

Baptisms:

Cal Joseph Hardy, December 10, 2023

Marriges:

Dave Drickey & Janet Diggins
December 2, 2023

Funerals:

Alice Fitzgerald, November 22, 2023
Marilyn Larkowski, December 1, 2023
Rosemary Tessin, December 11, 2023

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
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Omaha, NE 68131-3616
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Fax: 402-341-4841
E-mail: info@kmlchurch.org
Web: www.kmlchurch.org

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Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor
Shari Duminy, Transitional Associate
Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

Worship Times

Saturday at 5:00 PM

Sunday at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Wednesday at 12:15 PM

The 9:00 AM Sunday service is
televised live on Cox channel 13
and live streamed on our website at
<https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/> (you may watch the live-stream any time)

A bulletin is available on our
website at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/bulletin-announcements/>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



GO AND...REST

At the start of the new year, we are pushed to get organized, exercise more, and make New Year's resolutions. How do we take rest among all this? What does it mean to be like Jesus? It means taking time to pause, rest, and embrace the day. That might mean taking a nap, getting together with old friends, reading a good book, or enjoying the arts as we recognize God makes all things new.

Questions to Consider:

- What brings you rest?
- What does Sabbath mean for you? What does it look like in your life?
- Let GO, what are you going to give up this year so that you can rest?

Prayer: O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils and joys unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Suggested Song: In the Lord, I'll be Ever Thankful (Taize hymn)

Learn More at nebraskasynod.org/go-and/

Ready, Set, Go! In the Great Commission, Jesus calls us to GO. We are taking those words to heart.

In June the Nebraska Synod embarked on a year-long focus to "Go and...". We invite you to be part of this call to GO! and lean in as God's people called, gathered, and sent to "Go and..."

Together, all 90,000 members of the ELCA Nebraska Synod will be focused on responding to Christ's sending in the Great Commission, to Go and..., and to really live out the joy and hope.