

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Olaf Roynesdal	Senior Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation Pastor
Kristin Boe	Christian Ed Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Sarah Jewell	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Søren Johnson	Custodian
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Donna Moessner	Dir. of Children's Music
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Sheri Lynn Tipton	Night Security Manager
Norma Pafford	Nursery Superintendent
Joyce Palmer	Director of the Weber Clinic
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

Lector	Debra Kelly
Ushers	Duane Hovendick Penny Hovendick
Comm. Set-up	Penny Hovendick

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Liz Pemberton Jill Gittler
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Lector	Liz Pemberton
Ushers	Glenn Anderson Dan Collett Ted Kaasch Mark Mahaffey Gary Westerman Bob Woodworth Marcy Madison
Greeters	Karen Wolf Sharon Anderson
Crucifer	Britten Johnson
Acolytes	Rahn Johnson John Groenjes

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Norm Sack
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Lector	Stephen Urlaub
Ushers	Linda Hoagland Julie O'Doherty
Greeters	Julie King
Crucifer	Torin Edwards
Acolytes	Hadley Rief Henry Rief



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

August 31 & September 1, 2019

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 Fellowship Hall for more information about who we are and what we do.

TODAY AT KOUNTZE

KOUNTZE CAFÉ Join us each Sunday for a hot breakfast buffet served from 8:00-11:00 AM prepared by Jim West and the kitchen crew. The suggested donation for the hot breakfast is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger.

ADULT FORUM Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **THIS WEEK:** No Forum (Labor Day) Meeting **NEXT WEEK:** Recap of ELCA Churchwide Assembly

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God in memory of Ellen Pesavento, given by Paul Revord

ETERNAL CANDLE is given to the glory of God in memory of Ellen Pesavento, given by Paul Revord

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

JOYFUL SOUNDS CHILDREN'S CHOIR Join us each Sunday from 9-9:30 AM. All children (K-6th grade) who want to praise our Lord by singing, meet in the Joyful Sounds Studio on the 2nd floor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL No Sunday School this Sunday, but join us again next Sunday on the 2nd floor for Sunday School. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9:00—10:00 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery). Sunday School (2 yrs-8th grade) is held from 10:10—10:50 AM.

Special Congregation Meeting

Sunday, September 15, 2019, 10:10 AM

Pastor Olaf Roynesdal is calling for a special congregation meeting on Sunday, September 15, 2019, 10:10 AM.

The sole purpose of this meeting is to elect/re-elect two people to the congregation council, something Pastor Roynesdal neglected to conduct during the August 25th meeting.

September 1 Sunday

Homebound Communion
 No Sunday School
 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
 9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
 9:00 AM Joyful Sounds Children's Choir (gr K-6)

September 2 Monday

Labor Day
 OFFICE CLOSED

September 3 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
 No Yesterday's Youth

September 4 Wednesday

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

September 5 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

September 7 Saturday

4:30 PM Blood Pressure Checks
 5:00 PM Worship

September 8 Sunday

7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
 9:00 AM & 11 AM Worship
 9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
 9:00 AM Joyful Sounds Children's Choir (gr K-6)
 10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
 11:00 AM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal
 12:00 PM Book Group

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. Instructions will be provided during worship. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (especially for health reasons) have communed fully.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Quiet activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a Quiet 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 is available from 9 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 card in your bulletin or text your e-mail address to 22828.

NEW MEMBER CLASS If you are interested in joining our congregation, the next class will be Sundays, September 29 & October 6 from 12:15—2:00 PM. Please plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided. New members will be received on October 13. Please indicate your attendance plans on your attendance card or call the church office by September 22 and let us know if you will need childcare when you register.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS Trained volunteers provide blood pressure checks free of charge on the 1st Saturday of each month (September 7) in the Bride's Room near the Sanctuary from 4:30—5:00 PM. Blood pressure checks are also done on the 3rd Sunday of each month (Sunday, September 15) from 10:00—11:00 AM in the Fellowship Lounge.

JOIN ADULT CHOIR Come and join our amazing group of musicians who sing praise to God and have fun together. The Adult Choir will have its first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 4 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM. The choir will return to the worship service on Sunday, September 8. Past singing experience in high school or college is recommended. The director, Barb Carlsen, would like to hear you sing before joining the choir just to make sure that this group will blend with your type of voice. If you want more information about choir or would like to reserve a time to sing for Barb Carlsen, please call the church office at 402-341-7761.

KOUNTZE MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR We will sing for: Sunday services (every 5-6 weeks). Rehearsals will be held on Sunday mornings, 11:00-11:30 AM beginning Sunday, September 8 in the Adult Choir room. We hope you will join us as we sing praises to God, help lead the congregation in worship, and have a great time making music and new friendships! For more information please contact Janet Carlsen Campbell at Janet@kmlchurch.org

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS Sunday, September 8. This is a day to reflect on how we can better serve our

community and neighbors. To do so, we will be cleaning a stretch of the Keystone Trail through Keep Omaha Beautiful. Bring a picnic lunch for you and your family to Stinson Park, 67th and Center, between 12:00 and 1:00 PM. We will do trail clean up at 2:00 PM. Bags, gloves, and trash grabbers are provided. Please join us!

CONFIRMATION An orientation for new confirmation students and their parents will be held on Wednesday, September 11 at 6:30 PM. A letter will be sent to those students we know should be beginning class. An RSVP is requested. Regular Confirmation Classes will begin on Wednesday, September 18; supper at 6:00 PM, class from 6:30-7:30 PM, and worship at 7:30 PM. Pastor Olaf Roynesdal will be teaching the class. Sunday Confirmation School meets with Marcia Roynesdal from 10:10-10:50 AM.

BAPTISM SEMINAR If you are interested in having your child baptized and have not been through a Baptism Seminar before, a Baptism Seminar will be held at 10:10 AM, September 22 (please note date change). We will meet in the Nave. The purpose of the seminar is to introduce parents to the theology of baptism, walk through the baptismal liturgy, discuss scheduling for the baptism, and address any questions the parents might have. Please call the church office to register at 402-341-7761.

KMLC CHURCH PICNIC We're having a picnic and we hope you'll be there! Sunday September 22, 12:00 to 3:00 PM in the KMLC green space. A fun time will be had by all!

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY NETWORK "If you know of someone attending college this fall please go to this link to find out if there is a Lutheran Campus Ministry outreach at their campus. If there is, please refer the student's name to us so we can reach out and invite them into our community (www.luminelca.org). If you have students attending any colleges or universities in the Omaha metro area, please contact Pastor Jim Holthus at lootr@hotmail.com or text him at 218-760-2028. Thank you for helping us minister to your young adults!"



KOUNTZE FOOD PANTRY The Food Pantry is experiencing record numbers; so much so that the faithful volunteers are exhausted. Please consider helping on Monday mornings. We can really use people to set up before the pantry opens at 10:00 AM, and we have great need of door monitors from 11:00 AM—1:00 PM. These volunteers control the flow of traffic and assist guests with carrying their bags to their cars. Please contact Susie Henry at 402-596-9397 if you would like to get involved. We would love to have you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! The children of Kountze are in need of your leadership, enthusiasm, and time. We are looking for volunteers in the pre-school room on the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of the month, between 9:00 and 10:50 AM.

Sunday School leaders are also needed. We are looking for a commitment of one

Sunday each month for the school year. The lessons are scripted and all the materials are provided ahead of time. Sunday School is from 10:10 to 10:50 AM. Thank you for considering giving your time to the children of Kountze. No matter what your experience or expertise, we have a spot for you! To join our program, please contact Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org.

USHERS NEEDED Ushers are ministers of hospitality who embody God's welcome and remind all of us to see God in one another. Matthew's gospel reminds us that God is present especially in the stranger who is welcomed: "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for . . . I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Matt. 25:34-35). Ushers get to be

among the first to welcome God's people to worship every week and they serve an important role in every worship service. By warmly and joyfully greeting and seating those in attendance, passing out bulletins, collecting the offering, and assisting with communion, or simply welcoming others, we are blessed to welcome God's very self. We are in need of Ushers at both Sunday services. If you'd like more information or would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact Jim Smejkal at 402-341-7761 or jim@kmlchurch.org.

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Saturday Attendance: 50

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 208 11:00: 124

Midweek - Noon: 10

Total: 392

Pantry Guests Served: 413

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 20

Offering:

\$9,046.50 (Regular) \$1,668.00 (Specials)

\$1,465.00 (Phase 2)

Jesus reverses social standards.

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday

Sunday	Luke 14:1, 7-14	Humility and hospitality
Monday	Proverbs 25:6-7	Wise sayings of Solomon
Tuesday	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Service that pleases God
Wednesday	James 2:1-13	Show mercy
Thursday	Exodus 2:16-25	Moses flees to Midian
Friday	Luke 1:46-55	Mary's song
Saturday	Psalm 112	Blessings of the righteous
Sunday	Luke 14:25-33	The cost of being a disciple



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“But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.” **Luke 14:13-14 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

God of undeserved kindness, help us to rejoice in a humble life and not to seek the praise of others, through Christ who humbled himself to give glory and honor to you. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, you who fill our open mouths with good things, give us hearts to receive this gift of food with thanksgiving. Amen. (Psalm 81:10)

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who lifts up the lowly fill your life with grace and mercy.

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

- What does it mean to you to be treated fairly?
- What are some expected social standards of behavior you don't like?
- In Luke 14 Jesus was willing to challenge social standards of behavior. Why do you think he did that?

Read: Luke 14:1, 7-14.

Jesus uses current social norms to make a point on how to “be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you” (v. 10b). Place yourself in a humble location in the seating chart and then be invited to a higher place. Why? Because “all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted” (v. 11). But then Jesus makes a direct assault on the social standards of his day. In a world where people “know their place” and “stick with their own kind,” Jesus says that those who can afford a banquet are not to invite people who can do the same for them, but they are to “invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind” (v. 13). The standard of the kingdom of God praises kindness that will not be repaid. It is reminiscent of Mary's song that comes at the beginning of the Gospel of Luke: “He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty” (Luke 1:52-53). How are the words of Jesus and his mother good news for you and for others?

Pray: **Merciful God, give us faith to trust that our worth is found in your care and honor of us and not the rewards given by earthly powers, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

In Hebrews 13:1-8, we are given some practical advice on showing hospitality to strangers. Hospitality is being kind and welcoming especially guests into our homes, even when we do not know them. Think of someone in your congregation or at work or school you do not know very well. Invite them to your home for a meal and get to know them through caring conversations in a relaxed setting where it is not the food and way you dress that matters as much as the genuine welcome.

Jesus uses a parable about a wedding to show how God's protocol for good manners is a different way to look at the world. At God's table everyone is welcome. Gather five paper plates. Write a word to describe four people who you see but do not know on the different plates. Write your name on the extra plate. Place the plates at seats around a table. Take turns sitting in each place and think about how you could make each guest feel welcome at God's table.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1
Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33