

## 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
Kayla Slight	Housekeeper
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	Paul Revord
Ushers	Paul Revord Mary Jo Fike
Comm. Set-up	Mary Jo Fike

### SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Jill Gittler Mike Jensen
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Lector	Kevin Larkowski
Ushers	Bob Woodworth Glenn Anderson Dan Collett Marcy Madison Mark Mahaffey Gary Westerman
Greeters	Ted Kaasch Sharon Anderson Karen Wolf
Crucifer	Anna Kidder
Acolytes	Jane Kidder Brooks Hinrichs

### SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Deb Hinrichs Lowell Harms Jennifer Bunge
Lector	Judith Poffenbarger
Ushers	Linda Hoagland Ken Johnson Lee Johnson Norm Sack
Greeters	Julie King
Crucifer	Torin Edwards
Acolytes	Neely Edwards Communion Assistant



# KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761

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

**November 30 & December 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** Because of the Advent Fair, this morning we will be serving a continental breakfast. Thanks to those who brought Christmas goodies to share. Join us again next Sunday for a hot breakfast buffet served from 8-11 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:** Advent Gathering **NEXT WEEK:** Pastor Chandran Paul Martin, ELCA Missionary (India)

**ALTERNATE GIFTS** Check out the Alternate Gift insert that is in your bulletins beginning this weekend. Find a cause or organization that would be the best gift for your friends and family.

**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

**ADVENT FAIR** No Sunday School, Children's Choir, or High School Forum today, but join us in the Fellowship Hall between 10:00 AM and 12:30 PM. Make a variety of Christmas crafts. Fun for the entire family! We'll be back to our regular schedule next week:

**JOYFUL SOUNDS CHILDREN'S CHOIR** Join us each Sunday from 9-9:30 AM. All children (K-6th grade)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** Join us on Sundays on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**HIGH SCHOOL FORUM** Join us each Sunday in the Youth Center at 10:10 AM.

**December 1 Sunday**

Homebound Communion

No Sunday School - join us for our Advent Fair in the Fellowship Hall

7:45 AM &amp; 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM &amp; 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

**December 2 Monday**

10:00 AM Pantry

**December 3 Tuesday**

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

11:00 AM Devotions @ deFreese Manor

12:00 PM Yesterday's Youth

**December 4 Wednesday**

11:00 AM Advent Lunch

12:15 PM Worship

5:00 PM Advent Dinner

6:30 PM Worship

7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

**December 5 Thursday**

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

**December 7 Saturday**

4:30 PM Blood Pressure Checks

5:00 PM Worship

**December 8 Sunday**

7:45 AM &amp; 10:00 AM Adult Choir

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast

9:00 AM &amp; 11:00 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) - Christmas Program Rehearsal

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

**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, January 19 & 26, 2020, 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 February 2. Please indicate your attendance plans on your attendance card or call the church office by January 12 and let us know if you will need childcare when you register.

**YESTERDAY'S YOUTH** Please join us on Tuesday, December 3, for a festive afternoon! We will be gathering together to celebrate the season, with an ornament/small gift exchange game. Please bring a new wrapped item, approx. \$5.00 in cost, if you wish to participate. Lunch will be served at noon. The cost is \$4.00. Please RSVP to the church office 402-346-7761. All ages are welcome! If you have any questions, please call Sheri Tipton at 402-415-6033. We hope to see you there! We will be continuing to collect items to donate to our Food Pantry. We greatly appreciate all of those who donated last month.

**ADVENT MEALS AND WORSHIP** Wednesdays, December 4, 11 & 18. Dinner will be served from 5:00-6:15 PM. Worship is at 6:30 PM.

**KOUNTZE FOOD PANTRY** The Kountze Food Pantry could really use donations of toilet paper. We would love to have this vital item available for our guests, but the expense is significant and we have not had the funds available. Any contribution you can make would be greatly appreciated. The Family Fare receipts have been pouring in. Let's keep up the good work! The Food Pantry will qualify for \$1,000 before we know it!

**HOLIDAY MEAL BAGS FOR KOUNTZE PANTRY** Our Food Pantry holiday meal bags will be distributed in December; 300 in total. This year's holiday food items include:

fully cooked ham (3 lb)	cranberries jellied/whole (14 oz)
corn (15 oz)	stuffing (13 oz)
green beans (15 oz)	mashed potatoes (13 oz)
pineapple tidbits/chunks (20 oz)	cream mushroom/cream chicken (10 oz)
fruit cocktail/mixed fruit (14 oz)	quart shelf sustainable milk.

These items will be placed in a reusable tote with a Christmas card and a prayer square. The approximate cost of the 2019 holiday meal bag is \$25. The food items have been changed from previous years to help maintain the cost yet provide additional food items. This project is accomplished by the generous support of Kountze Memorial and Saint Michael Lutheran members and friends. You are invited to make a financial contribution for this annual holiday give away. Your gift can be given through the offering, please designate to the holiday meal bags or through the on-line giving page (<https://www.kmlchurch.org>). Should you have any questions or want to discuss ways to support the pantry, please contact Susann Henry, director of the Food Pantry. You can contact Susie at 402-341-7761 or [susannfrances@gmail.com](mailto:susannfrances@gmail.com)

**FAMILY FARE RECEIPTS** The Kountze Food Pantry is collecting register receipts from Family Fare stores. For every \$100,000 in receipts returned, Kountze Food Pantry will receive \$1,000. Many people are unaware that the Pantry food is, for the most part, purchased, not donated. One of our vendors is Family Fare, so your receipts will be added to the Pantry purchases and we can reach \$100,000 in a short time. Please bring receipts to the office or place in receptacle at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall.

**CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE** Saturday, December 14 at 5:00 PM (prelude begins at 4:40 PM) Reception following. Nursery care will be provided. Please join us as we celebrate the seasons of Advent and Christmas! The annual Candlelight Carol Service has become a beloved tradition at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. We hope that you, your family, and friends can join us for this special service of Sacred Scripture, Communion, Carols, Choral Anthems, Handbell Music, Brass and String Quartets, Organ, Piano, Flute, and more. The beautiful Christmas tree and candlelight will help illuminate the words of the angels, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." May this be the song in our hearts! A cheese and dessert reception will follow the service. Join us for this special evening of hope, joy, and fellowship!

**CJH CAMP EARLY BIRD SAVINGS!** Register for CJH Camp before January 31, 2019 and get \$50 off a full-week session and a drawstring bag! You can register online at <https://www.caroljoyholling.org/register>.

### **ATTENDANCE & GIVING**

Saturday Attendance: 35  
Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 233 11:00: 122  
Total: 390  
Pantry Guests Served: 439  
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 34  
Offering:  
\$14,562.54 (Regular) \$4,127.06 (Specials)  
\$2,420.00 (Phase 2)

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY LOCK-IN GRADES 7-12**

**When:** Saturday, 12/7  
6:00 PM—Midnight  
\*You may bring a friend\*

**Where:** Starting at the Kountze Youth Room

**Dinner:** PIZZA, chips, ice cream, etc.

**FUN FUN FUN**

Special visitor, gifts? Games, making cookies for the food pantry, etc.

More FUN for you!

**RSVP:** Church office and/or Marcia Roynesdal  
**(by 12/4)** Via e-mail at [maroynesdal@gmail.com](mailto:maroynesdal@gmail.com)

*Advent is the season of hope.*

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 24:36-44</b>	<b>The coming of salvation</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Isaiah 2:1-5</b>	<b>Peace that lasts forever</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Romans 13:11-14</b>	<b>The day when Christ returns</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Hebrews 11:1-7</b>	<b>The great faith of God's people</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Psalms 125</b>	<b>A song of trust in God</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>1 John 1:5-10</b>	<b>God is light</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 122</b>	<b>A song of praise</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 3:1-12</b>	<b>Prepare the way of the Lord</b>



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O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! **Isaiah 2:5 (NRSV)**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Lord Jesus Christ, you who are the light of the world, guide our steps to walk in your light. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, may we eat and drink with thankful hearts this day, for all that you provide every day and in every way. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May all go well with you and may peace be within you, through Christ our light and our salvation.

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

- Talk or think about a time you were waiting for someone or something with excitement.
- Advent means *arrival* or *coming*. How do you get ready for the coming of Jesus?
- In dark times Jesus brings light and hope. How do you experience hope?

*Read:* Isaiah 2:1-5.

Advent is a season of hope and anticipation of God's action to redeem and save the world. That is Isaiah's message, too. Isaiah sees what others do not. Isaiah sees Jerusalem as the highest mountain, but Psalm 125:2 sees other peaks as higher. Isaiah sees the people walking in the paths of the LORD's teaching, but before and after Isaiah 2, judgment is announced for the people's disobedience. Isaiah sees weapons of violence and destruction that are turned into farming tools, but the nations of Israel and Judah were utterly destroyed by its neighbors. The message of Isaiah is a message of hope that the Christian faith holds to while brokenness and sin are still seen every day of our lives. What hope do you cling to as a follower of Jesus?

*Pray:* **Come Lord Jesus, come and bring peace between nations. May we see the light of your glory in all the world. Amen.**

In Psalm 122:8 it says: For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you." During this season of hope, list ways you can give hope to those who are sad or anxious and help them to feel "the peace within." How will you choose to let your light shine through acts of service to others during the four weeks of Advent?

Set up or make an Advent wreath for your home. There are four candles in a circle on the wreath and one in the center. The circle represents the eternity of God. The four candles are often blue to signify the hope of the Advent season. The center candle is white. It represents Christ and is lit on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. This first week you will light one candle.

*Say:* This is the first week of Advent. Advent means "coming." We are waiting and watching for the coming of Christ. Let us light the first Advent candle, the candle of Hope. [Light one candle]

*Read:* O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! (Isaiah 2:5)

*Respond:* Let us walk in the light of Christ that gives us hope.

*Pray:* **Lord Jesus Christ, we await your coming with hope. May we walk in the light of the Lord and live in peace with all that you have made. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19  
Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12