

Special Notice

If you plan to attend Worship in person, please call/e-mail the church office no later than noon on the Thursday before the Sunday you want to attend. Please note that the plans set forth are subject to immediate change. You may still join us for Worship on Cox channel 13 or live streamed at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/>



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
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Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

August 30, 2020

Kountze Food Pantry Volunteers

Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00 AM; 9:00 - 11:00 AM;

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Fridays, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

The Kountze Food Pantry is in need of volunteers. We were blessed to have some lovely, enthusiastic and energetic young people join us over the summer. As they have returned to school, we are short staffed. Please consider volunteering on Monday morning from 7:30 AM—9:00 AM, Monday 9:00 AM—11:00 AM, Monday 11:00 AM—1:00 PM, or Friday evening 4:00 PM—7:00 PM. We have a good time, and Barb still makes us cookies! You may sign up for a time slot at the link below:

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

Extra! Extra! Read All About it!

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church to hold annual “modified” Picnic/Tailgate

Sunday September 27

5:30 PM - West Parking Lot

Mark your calendars, call in your reservation, pack the lawn chairs, card table, blanket, wet wipes, and the cooler. This year we will be having the picnic here at the Church in the West parking lot. When you arrive (Douglas Street “North” Entrance) the parking lot attendants will direct you to a parking spot and show you where you can unload and set up, there will be a car width between families/attendees. Giving

everyone plenty of physical distance.

Once you’re settled in, someone will take your order (white or dark meat) and relay it to our servers. A Chicken dinner with scalloped potatoes and green beans along with a cookie for dessert (BYOD - bring your own drinks) will be delivered to your car. Once meals are distributed, we will have a meal blessing (transmitted via F.M. radio to your car stereo). Watch for signs when you arrive announcing the F.M. frequency we will be broadcasting on.

We may have prizes for the best tailgate picnic decorations, most enthusiastic picnickers, best decorated card table, heck who knows; maybe best hat!

Once you’ve had time to enjoy dinner, everyone will be invited to break out the hymns that will be mailed/ emailed and we will engage in a “Parking Lot Hymn Sing.” We’ll picnic for an hour or so and restrooms (in the lower Kountze Commons area) are for emergency use only.

We need an accurate count of those attending for food planning and parking as we have a limited number of parking spots available. **Reservations need to be made no later than Noon on Friday September 18**, call the Church office or e-mail jim@kmlchurch.org to make your reservation, please indicate the number of people coming and general preference of white or dark meat chicken.

Now the big question “Why did the Chicken cross the road?” Guess you’ll have to come to the picnic to find out the real answer!

Attendance and Giving

Online Attendance: 175

9:00 AM Attendance: (Reservation Only) 48

Pantry Guests Served: 574

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 19

Offering:

\$11,506.00 (Regular) \$301.28 (Specials)

\$557.00 (Phase 2)

Today at Kountze

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Ellen Pesavento given by Paul Revord; in honor of Natalie Samson & Mark Hansen’s wedding by Bob & Pam Johnson

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in memory of Ellen Pesavento given by Paul Revord

To follow Jesus is to be open to suffering.



These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday

Sunday	Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow
Monday	Jeremiah 15:15-21	Jeremiah is reassured
Tuesday	Romans 12:9-21	Rules for Christian living
Wednesday	Exodus 3:1-15	Moses at the burning bush
Thursday	Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b	God's faithfulness
Friday	2 Timothy 2:1-13	A good soldier of Christ Jesus
Saturday	Psalms 26:1-8	Prayer of an innocent person
Sunday	Matthew 18:15-20	Seeking reconciliation

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Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." **Matthew 16:24 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to pick up our cross as a way to love others through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, we thank you for the toil and efforts of others that we may have and enjoy this meal today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the cross of Christ give you good courage, hope, and love now and always.

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

- Tell or think about a time when you or someone you know was in pain.
- Reflect on a time you felt someone's pain. What makes you take on someone else's pain?
- How does your faith in Christ help you when you are in pain?

Read: Matthew 16:21-28

In an era where we can do so many things to avoid or stop the pain, it can be surprising that suffering is still part of life. It is part of the Christian life because Jesus shows us that the way of the cross—an excruciatingly painful way to die—gets at the heart of the Christian faith. Peter didn't get it, even if he knew Jesus was the Messiah. Peter had to be humbled and corrected. And we do, too. God shows the depth of love from the cross of Christ. We are invited to join the great movement of divine love by caring, suffering, and celebrating Christ's victory over sin, death, and evil. Part of that celebration is our openness to the pain of the world, the pain of others for the sake of love. It is also the path that allows us to see the kingdom of God at work. Why do you think suffering is an important aspect of the Christian faith?

Pray: **Compassionate God, help us to see in suffering and death the very path of life and love through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Most people have someone in their life who is ill, declining in health, or in hospice care. It can be painful to experience the suffering of a loved one. Those serving in the role of caregiver can often times be exhausted and in need of a break. Do you know of someone for whom a visit, meal, or call may give them the break they need?

In Jesus' time, the cross was about death. It is not easy to understand or talk about Jesus' death on the cross. The cross is a Christian symbol. It reminds us that Jesus is with us through easy and hard times. We see crosses in many places in our lives. As a follower of Jesus, notice the number of crosses you see in your home and in the community this week. Each time you see one, take a moment to pray: **Thank you Jesus for dying on the cross to save us.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40
Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20