

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 Saturday or 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
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

October 17 & 18, 2020

Q & A with Pastor Shari Duminy

Thursday, October 22 from 7:00-8:30 PM

We will hold a Question and Answer session with Pastor Shari Duminy on Thursday, October 22 from 7:00-8:30 PM.

It will take place in person in the sanctuary (and the Fellowship Hall if necessary) and will also be live-streamed. Tim Backora, Chair of the Call Committee, will lead the session. Those present will have the opportunity to ask Pastor Duminy questions.

- Those live-streaming can email their questions to the Chair of the Call Committee, Tim Backora (tbackora@cox.net) by Tuesday, October 20.
- Those planning to be in attendance must register by Noon on Tuesday, October 20.

As has been the custom, you will enter through the Kountze Commons Link (west side) and exit through the Farnam Street doors.

Special Congregation Meeting

A special congregational meeting for the sole purpose of voting on calling The Reverend Shari Duminy as Associate Pastor will be held Sunday, November 1, 2020 at 10:30 AM in the sanctuary. Attendance at the meeting will also be permitted through Zoom.

Today at Kountze

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of the 2nd wedding anniversary of Joel & Cindy Lavelle given by Cindy Featherly-Lavell; in memory of Bob & Chris Crouse given by Donna Crouse

Confirmation Sunday

Seven of our youth will affirm their baptism this Sunday. Their names are listed in the bulletin. We keep these youth and their families in our prayers.

Attendance and Giving

Saturday Attendance: 23

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 50

Total: 73

Pantry Guests Served: 800

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 23

Offering:

\$17,158.04 (Regular) \$7,612.52 (Specials)

\$1,392.00 (Debt Reduction)

Lutheran World Relief Quilts

The quilts that are to be sent on Lutheran World Relief are displayed and will be blessed this weekend. The women have been working at home since we last met in March and we have about 150 ready to be shipped. We are always in the need of sheets, nice ones for backing and worn ones work for liners. Cotton remnants are also welcome to make the colorful tops. We are able to track our shipment by attaching a special label. Last year our quilts went to Montenegro in S E Europe and school kits went to Mali in West Africa. Our personal care kits from last year have not tracked yet. Hopefully, they were not in the Lebanon explosion, but the last word on that was they may have been salvageable.

Online Sunday School

Lessons are videotaped and posted on the KMLC Parents Facebook page as well as the Kountze Memorial Facebook Page. In addition, there will be pintables and activity suggestions that complement the lesson. If you would prefer to receive the lessons by email, please contact Kristin Boe at -kristin@kmlchurch.org.

Youth Forum

Sundays at 10:10 AM

IN-PERSON: The youth group will meet in-person in the green space on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. The 1st Sunday of the month will be current event Sunday. Please bring an article or current event to share (must be non-COVID related).

ZOOM: The youth group will meet via Zoom on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month.

Adult Forum

Starting October 18 (please note date change), members and friends of the congregation will have the opportunity to study Martin Luther's "Freedom of a Christian" (1520). The ELCA is encouraging study of this monumental text on its 500th anniversary. Pr. Hall will post videos for this multi-week study on a Kountze Memorial designated channel on YouTube. The YouTube link to the videos is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChtalSdEjyMBKlZjbGGlyfA/> The text of "Freedom of a Christian" and the study guide are available for free on the ELCA's Reformation homepage: www.elca500.org.

God does great things through people.

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

Sunday	Matthew 22:15-22	The question of paying taxes
Monday	Isaiah 45:1-7	Cyrus serves the Lord
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	The example of faith
Wednesday	Exodus 33:12-23	Moses' intercession
Thursday	Psalms 99	Our Lord is king
Friday	Isaiah 42:1-9	The Lord's servant
Saturday	Psalms 96:1-13	Sing a new song
Sunday	Matthew 22:34-46	Loving God and neighbor



We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. **1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, use our gifts, our faith, our hope in you, to do labors of love for the sake of Jesus Christ and his reign on earth. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for how you provide for us and for the hands that have brought this food to us today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who has chosen you in love, give you grace and peace. (1 Thessalonians 1:1, 4)

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

- ☑ What is something you have accomplished and are proud of?
- ☑ How can God use your efforts—your deeds—for others?
- ☑ Is it a surprise that God can use your efforts to accomplish God's will on earth? Explain.

Read: Isaiah 45:1-7.

Cyrus is a Persian king. He is not part of God's chosen people through Abraham, Isaac or Jacob. Cyrus doesn't even know the God of Israel, and yet Cyrus does God's will by setting God's people free to return home from exile in Babylon. Isaiah lifts up the supreme power and authority of God's rule throughout the world. Besides the LORD, there is no god (v. 5). All that is, is God's. It is easy for us to forget that God can use others outside of the body of Christ to do God's will on earth. No wonder Psalm 96 commands all the earth to sing to the LORD (v. 1). In the midst of the tragedies that happen all too often around us, it is important to remember that we are a people of hope and trust in the God who holds all things together. The Apostle Paul wrote with thanksgiving for the Thessalonians' faith, love, and hope (1 Thessalonians 1:3). As a chosen people, Paul gladly affirms that they do God's work of love on earth through their "work of faith" and "steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 3). How does God's rule on earth give you hope and encourage you to act with love and faith?

Pray: God of power and might, we thank you for your glory that breathes hope and love into all corners of the earth through Christ our Lord. Amen.

God is the ruler of all of creation and we, God's servants, have responsibility to care for all that God has created. One of the greatest concerns for our world today is to care for the earth that is suffering under the weight of carbon emissions, overflowing landfills and polluted air and water. What can you do to reduce the waste that harms the earth?

Psalm 96 is a song of praise to God. It tells of the sea roaring, the creatures and fields rejoicing, and the trees singing. In what ways do you praise God through sounds and music? Sing a favorite Christian hymn. Think about what the words say about God. Then say: **Sing a new song to the Lord! Everyone on this earth, sing praises to the Lord, sing and praise his name.** (vv.1-2a)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46