

## 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](http://www.kmlchurch.org)**

**April 17 & 18, 2021**

## **Kountze Food Pantry Volunteers and Clothing Needed**

**Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00 AM  
9:00 - 11:00 AM  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Fridays, 4:00 - 7:00 PM**

Have you ever bought what you needed at Kohl's or JC Penney, received either Kohl's Cash or a Penney's Reward, and then wondered "What should I use this for?" Use it to buy underwear, socks, hats and gloves! If you wait until the end of a season and buy on clearance, you can get a lot for your money. There is a need for everything in our community! Please put your donations in the Food Pantry Box in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you very much! If you are able to volunteer, please sign up by using the link below:  
<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

## **Camp Carol Joy Holling and Sullivan Hills Summer positions available**

Do you want to make a difference this summer? Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries is inviting you to consider working at Camp Carol Joy Holling and Sullivan Hills. There are a variety of positions for 12 graders - College Age Adults looking for a summer job. Go to [nlom.org/smt](http://nlom.org/smt) to get started.

### **Attendance and Giving**

**Saturday Attendance:** 29  
**Sunday Attendance:** 9:00: 114  
**Total:** 143  
**Streaming Attendance:** 103  
**Cox Cable Attendance:** 363 (Easter Sunday)  
**Pantry Guests Served:** 753  
**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 30  
**Offering:**  
\$19,212.14 (Regular)      \$6,610.70 (Specials)  
\$1,529.50 (Debt Reduction)

## **Home Devotion on Generosity for the 7 Weeks of Easter**

During the Easter Season, the Live it Out resource from the Nebraska Synod and the ELCA Generosity Project, have provided a faith formation at home resource for you to use. It is provided to help in Growing God's Generous Generations. For seven weeks, a resource for you to work through on your own or with others in your home, will be provided. It centers our attention on God's generosity to us and our response to God's graciousness. Go to <https://www.elca.org/generosityproject> for more information.

## **Today at Kountze**

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God in honor of Jim Smejkal for helping everyone all the time and with a smile given in gratitude by everyone he has assisted

### **Youth Forum**

**In-Person & Zoom on Sundays, 10:15 - 11:00 AM**

All 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to join us!

We will meet in person in the Youth Room and on Zoom each week

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: Bible Ponderings
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: High School Hang Out
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Serving in the World
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Host Middle School Hangout
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Adventures (if on Zoom, we will carry you along with us.)

Contact Pastor Shari (402-341-7761 or [shari@kmlchurch.org](mailto:shari@kmlchurch.org) if you need the Zoom Link info. We will continue to be masked and physically distanced for all meetings in person at the church.

*Jesus opens our minds to understand the scriptures.*

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

Sunday	Luke 24:36b-48	Jesus appears to the disciples
Monday	Acts 3:12-19	Peter speaks in the temple
Tuesday	1 John 3:1-7	Children of God
Wednesday	Joshua 1:1-9	God's commission to Joshua
Thursday	2 Timothy 3:14-17	Paul's last instructions to Timothy
Friday	Nehemiah 8:1-8	Ezra summons the people
Saturday	Psalms 4	An evening prayer
Sunday	John 10:11-18	The Good Shepherd



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*Then [Jesus] opened [the disciples] minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name." Luke 24:45-47a (NRSV)*

### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty and merciful God, help us to be aware of your grace that we may daily repent of our sins and turn to you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, we give you thanks for the food that nourishes the body and for your word that nourishes the soul. Amen.

### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lord keep you safe and grant that you lie down in peace. (Psalm 4:8)

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

- What is something you want to learn more about?
- What questions do you have about Jesus and the Christian faith?
- Who or where do you turn to when you want to know more about the Christian faith?

*Read:* Luke 24:36b-48.

It is clear that the first followers of Jesus were drawn to the Hebrew Scriptures to understand what happened to Jesus and what that meant for them as his followers. Jesus himself opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, that is, the Old Testament, since the New Testament had not yet been written. There is a continuity between the Old and New Testaments that Christians can easily overlook. Easter is a good time to commit to reading the Bible—Old and New Testaments—to seek a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and what his reign means for the world and the church of today. How can reading the Bible strengthen your faith and encourage you to share the message of Jesus in word and deed?

*Pray:* **Dear resurrected Savior and Lord, give us the desire to read the Bible, learn more about you, and share your message of forgiveness with those we meet. Amen.**

April 22 is observed as Earth Day around the world. Psalm 4 uses the image of an abundance of grain and wine to show the joy of knowing God. As we acknowledge that God is the creator of all things, it is good for us to care for what God has made. It is a source of joy. In what way can you experience the joy of God's creation this week through caring for the earth?

The end of the day is a good time to slow down, reflect on the day, and focus on God's place at the center of our lives. Take time before going to bed each day this week to think or talk about mountain highs and valley lows for the day and then read and reflect on this verse from Psalm 4:8, *"I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety."*

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23  
1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18