

## 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)

May 1 & 2, 2021

## Kountze Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

**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 collecting the following items: reusable shopping bags, toilet paper, cereal, and full-sized hygiene products. Please place your donated items in the shopping cart as you enter for church, in the donation box in the Fellowship Hall, or in the church office. Your contributions are greatly appreciated! If you are able to volunteer, please sign up by using the link below:  
<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

## Faith is Inspired at Camp!

Summer Camp is an awesome faith-inspiring and confidence-building experience! Your child will explore God's call to live FEARLESS through Joshua 1:9. COVID-19 safety precautions will be followed. All campers and staff will be required to wear a mask, and physical distancing will be practiced whenever possible. For the schedule and to register for camp, go to <https://www.caroljoyholling.org/schedule>

## Attendance and Giving

**Saturday Attendance:** 27

**Sunday Attendance: 9:00:** 83

**Total:** 110

**Streaming Attendance:** 133

**Cox Cable Attendance:** 241

**Pantry Guests Served:** 685

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 24

### Offering:

\$5,488.00 (Regular)      \$1,803.01 (Specials)

\$474.50 (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. Go to: <https://files.constantcontact.com/8c919081201/ab1234e3-011f-440f-b15a-5c7c8652d598.pdf> for week 4.

## Today at Kountze

**Thank You** to Bruce Nissen for being our substitute organist this Sunday.

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God in honor of Marsha Conroy, given by Melissa Conroy

## 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.

## Perfect love casts out fear.

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

Sunday	John 15:1-8	Jesus the true vine
Monday	Acts 8:26-40	Phillip and the eunuch
Tuesday	1 John 4:7-21	God is love
Wednesday	Isaiah 41:8-10	The Lord's chosen servant
Thursday	1 Peter 5:6-11	Tending the flock of God
Friday	Deuteronomy 31:6-8	Joshua becomes Moses' successor
Saturday	Psalms 22:25-31	A vow of thanksgiving
Sunday	John 15:9-17	Love one another



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Go to [www.vibrantfaithathome.org](http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org) for more faith-forming activities.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 1 John 4:18 (NRSV)

### A Prayer for the Week:

God of love, free us from fear so that we may love others as you have loved us through Christ Jesus. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this gift of food. Help us to show care for others and remember that we love because you first loved us through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen. (1 John 4:19)

### A Blessing to Give:

May God who loves you dearly, free you from your fears so that you may love others.

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

- Talk or think about a time you were afraid.
- How is fear and feeling judged closely related?
- How does God's love for you free you from fear so that you can love others?

Read: 1 John 4:7-21.

It is so tempting to protect and defend one's own life by judging others. Christ's model of life and love is to defend the cause, the needs of others, not oneself or one's own group. The love of God in Christ is sacrificial, it gives itself for others. The God of love casts out fear so that we can truly see others and care for them, knowing that we have already been cared for and loved by God. This love is totally freeing, without fear, without anxiety. The God of the day of judgment has already judged us with love. This is love perfected and the love we are now free to bestow on others—all others. Love is our way to see and experience God in the world. Hating others and loving God does not go together. Where in your life and in the world do you see that this great love needs to be known and experienced?

Pray: Loving God, help us to see with the eyes of faith and love that we may witness to your power and glory through our risen Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Jesus' model for us is to care for others, especially the helpless. There are many who are in need of food, clothing, housing, and medical supplies. Can you think of ways you can help those in need?

In John 15:5, Jesus says, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." It is by being joined to Jesus, the true vine, that we bear the fruit of Jesus. Draw a vine and branches. Add leaves and fruit to the end of each branch. In what ways do you show God's love and kindness to others? Write those ways on the fruit. Look at your drawing this week and pray that you will produce fruit and show God's love to others.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31  
1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8**