

## Special Notice

Reservations not required  
Vaccinated—Masks optional  
Not vaccinated—Masks required  
Please maintain a minimum of 3 feet  
between non-family members

You may still join us for Worship on Cox  
channel 13 or live streamed at [https://  
www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/](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)

**July 24 & 25, 2021**

## Kountze Food Pantry

### Volunteers Needed:

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

**Fridays, 4 - 7 PM**

If you are able to volunteer, please sign up by using the  
link below:

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

The Kountze Food Pantry is pleased to announce we have  
received our second \$1,000.00 from Family Fare receipts!  
Please keep them coming! The toilet paper donations from  
the congregation have been very generous. Our guests are  
extremely grateful for all the full-sized hygiene items and  
the tissue. With rising prices, your continued  
contributions will be all the more important and  
appreciated.

## CJH Quilt Auction

**Saturday, July 31**

**9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of  
beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. The auction  
and lunch will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends  
and families! If you have questions, contact Heather  
at HAbbott@NLOM.org or 402-944-2544. Check out  
CJHCenter.org/quilt-auction to see the quilts, including the

quilts our Kountze sewing group has donated.

### The 11:00 AM service will return in August!

We will still be broadcasting our 9:00 AM Worship Service  
on Cox Cable Channel 13 and live streaming on our  
website.

## Volunteer at the ELCA Youth Gathering

**July 24-28, 2022**

**Minneapolis, Minnesota**

Volunteer opportunities for the ELCA Youth Gathering are  
available for individuals age 19 and older at the time of the  
Gathering. For more information, go to [elca.org/  
gathering/volunteer](http://elca.org/gathering/volunteer)

## Today at Kountze

### Coffee Hour

Please feel free to stop for coffee in the Fellowship Hall  
following service today. We need volunteers to help serve  
coffee and cookies. If you can help, please contact Jim  
Smejkal (402-341-7761 or [jim@kmlchurch.org](mailto:jim@kmlchurch.org)).

### Holy Play

**Ages 3 yrs - 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Sundays through August 29**

**10:15 - 11:00 AM**

Children from 3 years to 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join  
Pastor Shari and the Middle and High School Youth in the  
Kountze Green Space each Sunday (June 20 – August 29).  
We will be playing games, singing songs, sharing a snack,  
and getting to know each other better. Parents are  
encouraged to share coffee time with others or join in the  
fun!

### Volunteers Needed

As we prepare to return to “normal,” we are in need of  
volunteers. There are several volunteer opportunities here  
at Kountze from Sunday breakfast help to Worship  
Assistants, Choir members, Sunday School teachers, or  
many others. If you would like to serve in this way, please  
call the church office and we’ll get you to the right people  
to answer any questions you might have.

## Attendance and Giving

**Saturday Attendance:** 47

**Sunday Attendance: 9:00:** 137

**Wednesday Attendance:** 16

**Total:** 200

**Streaming Attendance:** 54

**Cox Cable Attendance:** 261

**Pantry Guests Served:** 733 (includes 298 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 22

**Offering 7/12:**

\$14,088.00 (Regular)      \$12,436.53 (Specials)

\$1,322.00 (Debt Reduction)

**Offering 7/18:**

\$10,542.00 (Regular)      \$4,213.53 (Specials)

\$1,092.00 (Debt Reduction)

*Jesus has a power people long to follow.*

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

Sunday	John 6:1-21	Jesus feeds the five thousand
Monday	2 Kings 4:42-44	Elisha feeds one hundred
Tuesday	Ephesians 3:14-21	Christ's love for us
Wednesday	Titus 3:1-11	Maintain good deeds
Thursday	1 Peter 1:8-17	Suffering for doing right
Friday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Saturday	Psalms 145:10-18	The Lord is kind and merciful
Sunday	John 6:24-35	Christ, the bread of life



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*A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick.* **John 6:2 (NRSV)**

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

Almighty and living God, we thank you for the way you feed us, heal us, and care for us through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Just as you fed the five thousand on a hillside, we thank you for feeding us and caring for us today. Amen.

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

May the God of abundance bless you with more than you can imagine. (Ephesians 3:20)

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

- Tell or think about a time you have been glad to be part of a crowd.
- Have you ever been afraid when you were part of a large crowd? Explain.
- What are some reasons you like being part of the crowd that follows Jesus?

*Read:* John 6:1-21.

By the beginning of John 6, Jesus had taught, turned water into wine, healed, and challenged Jewish authorities. The throngs are growing and five thousand have followed him to a hillside. Jesus looks at them, sits them down on a large grassy area, and feeds them like a shepherd tending his flock. His actions remind people of what Elisha (2 Kings 4:42-44) did when he fed large crowds. Jesus being on a mountain side and having powers over the waters of the Sea of Galilee (v.19) reminds others of a role like Moses. It is clear that people are attracted to Jesus and he cares for them with a power that people long to see, long to touch, long to be with. That is the power that has been given to the church to speak and work for people today in Christ's name. Christ's power continues to be present today so that others may follow in the footsteps of the one who brings us healing, hope, and salvation. What have you experienced that makes you want to be a follower of Jesus?

*Pray:* **Dear Jesus, we thank you for coming into our world and our lives to care for us and to feed us with your love. Amen.**

Jesus fed the five thousand from just five small loaves and two fish. We know that today in the world many people live with limited food and constant hunger. Give money or volunteer time at your local food bank or other organizations that help those in need of food. Make a list of ways you can support people who do not have enough food.

Paul prays for the people, "*I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name*" (Ephesians 3:14-15). Prayer is a way to practice our faith. Think or talk about different ways to pray (standing, sitting, folded hands, kneeling). This week practice kneeling for prayer. *Pray:* **Dear God, I ask to be filled with your presence and to know the love of Christ that he may dwell in my heart forever and ever. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15; Psalm 78:23-29  
Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35**