

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

July 31 & August 1, 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.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Saturday, August 14 & Sunday, August 15

We are sending our teachers and students back to
school with prayers and blessings. We welcome
students and teachers of all ages to bring their
backpacks, book bags, or briefcases to church on
Saturday, August 14 or Sunday, August 15. Let's begin
the new school year in prayer to celebrate God's gift
of learning and bless those in their academic
endeavors.

Attendance and Giving

Saturday Attendance: 42

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 138

Wednesday Attendance: 12

Total: 192

Streaming Attendance: 67

Cox Cable Attendance: 204

Pantry Guests Served: 837 (includes 201 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 22

Offering:

\$12,494.00 (Regular) \$1,604.43 (Specials)

\$672.00 (Debt Reduction)

Today at Kountze

The 11:00 AM service has returned!

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

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Dean
& Darlene Anderson in honor of their 66th wedding
anniversary

Television Broadcast is sponsored by given by Robert
& Sarah Penn in celebration of their 50th wedding
anniversary

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
see Jim Smejkal (402-341-7761 or
jim@kmlchurch.org).

Holy Play

Ages 3 yrs - 6th grade

Sundays through August 29

10:15 - 11:00 AM

Children from 3 years to 6th 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 Pr. Olaf said in the August Good News, "we are, in a
sense, back to normal..." That means we're in need of
you as a volunteer. 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.

It can be difficult for us to trust God.

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

Sunday	John 6:24-35	Christ, the bread of life
Monday	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15	Bread from heaven
Tuesday	Ephesians 4:1-16	Unity in the body of Christ
Wednesday	Psalms 37:3-9	Trust the Lord
Thursday	Matthew 6:25-34	Do not worry
Friday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust God
Saturday	Psalms 78:23-29	God feeds the people
Sunday	John 6:35, 41-51	Bread from heaven



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Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" Exodus 16:9 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to trust that through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, you give us the bread of life that feeds us and cares for us now and always. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear Jesus, our Bread of Life, give us thankful hearts for this gift of food and for all you do to care for us. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who feeds you bless you with a thankful heart.

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

- What is something you like to complain about?
- Have you ever gotten what you wanted and then regretted it or known someone who got what they wanted and were not grateful? Explain.
- How does trust in God lead to contentment?

Read: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15.

The story of the Israelites in the Old Testament is unique to the ancient world. No other people were willing to be so self-critiquing. Other religious writings from other people were much more willing to be self-glorifying. Not the Israelites. They knew they were hard to please and not as trusting as they could be. Instead of thanking God for their freedom they acted as though God took them from the comforts of Egypt. They forgot that they were actually starving and dying at the hands of the Pharaoh. In this account, they don't even ask for help; they just complain. However, God hears the complaints of the people and steps in to care for them and feeds them morning and night. How has God blessed and fed you during your mornings and nights?

Pray: **Living God, help us to be aware of your care that sustains us day after day, morning and night through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Ephesians 4 talks about the gifts we are given to equip us to serve our neighbor. We serve our neighbor and speak the truth in love with one another. This is the way our congregations and families are strengthened and we grow together in the ups and downs of life. We care for each other. How can you serve your family, community, and congregation using your gifts?

The *Daily Bible Readings* this week from John, Exodus, and Psalm 78 all share a theme about bread and being fed. Gather a selection of different breads to serve this week with your meals. Use a different bread every day for each meal. Say the *Mealtime Prayer* for this week and while eating the bread think or talk about a way in which God has provided for you.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25--5:2; John 6:35, 41-51**