

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

August 28 & 29, 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>

We are still in need of volunteers to sign up for carry
out duty on Mondays from 11:00 am—1:00 pm. It is
good to share the load, and give others a chance to
serve. We are still collecting school supplies for our
school aged guests. We are the only source for these
items for some of the children.

We CAN accept unfolded, paper bags, in new
condition. We CANNOT reuse plastic shopping bags!
Reusable tote bags are very welcome for our walking
population. Thank-you for your contributions to the
Kountze Food Pantry!

Yesterday's Youth Tuesday, September 7th

Yesterday's youth will be resuming Tuesday,
September 7th @ 11:30 a.m. Please call the Church
office no later than Friday, September 3rd to make
your reservation, September's program: "From the
Amazon to Machu Picchu" presented by Dick Sieling.

Attendance and Giving

Saturday Attendance: 42

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 131 1100: 57

Wednesday Attendance: 10

Total: 240

Streaming Attendance: 65

Cox Cable Attendance: 168

Pantry Guests Served: 860 (includes 245 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 19

Offering:

\$9,021.00 (Regular) \$392.68 (Specials)

\$597.00 (Debt Reduction)

The suggested donation is \$5.00. The main entrée will
be Peruvian Chicken with Peruvian Green Sauce
served on the side (don't worry it's not spicy). Come
enjoy the flavors of South America and learn more
about this interesting region.

Rally Sunday

Sunday, September 12 10:10 AM

Register for Sunday School at:

<https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/Registration>

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

Baptism Seminar

August 29, 10:10 AM

If you are interested in having your child baptized
and have not been through a Baptism Seminar before,
please join us. We will meet in the Nave. The purpose
of the seminar is to introduce parents to the theology
of baptism, walk through the baptismal liturgy,
discuss scheduling for the baptism, and address any
questions the parents might have. Please call the
church office to register at 402-341-7761.

Holy Play

Ages 3 yrs - 6th grade

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!

Maintaining the heart of our Christian faith.

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

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday | Mark 7:1-23 | Authentic faith |
| Monday | Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 | God commands obedience |
| Tuesday | James 1:17-27 | Hearing and doing the word |
| Wednesday | 2 Timothy 3:6-16 | A good minister of Jesus Christ |
| Thursday | Galatians 5:22-26 | The fruit of the Spirit |
| Friday | Romans 1:8-15 | Prayer for thanksgiving |
| Saturday | Psalms 15 | Who shall abide with God? |
| Sunday | Mark 7:24-37 | Jesus heals the Gentiles |



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Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. **James 1:27 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to act in ways that show your love for us and our love for you and all people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, we thank you for this food and pray that all may have food to eat, a roof over their heads, and security for their daily lives. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's justice and mercy set you free to love and serve others through Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

- Think or talk about a time when you or someone you know said you would do one thing but then did the total opposite.
- How do you feel about someone who tells you something about themselves that is not true?
- What does it mean to you that Peter said that Jesus is the Holy One of God?

Read: Mark 7:1-23.

We may be more like the Pharisees and scribes than we would like to admit. They wanted to protect God's teachings and honor God's word with their whole life. They set up all kinds of pious actions like hand washing to represent this singular attention. Jesus called them hypocrites for some of these practices. In the process of valuing and protecting God's importance in our lives, it is possible for us to miss the heart of it all. The Book of James reminds us to keep it simple: care for those in need and keep oneself "*unstained by the world*" (James 1:27). Even our best efforts at keeping pure will fall short. Jesus reminds us all of our hypocrisy that needs cleansing and forgiveness. The heart of the Christian faith is Christ's grace that places us all in the same need of forgiveness. That, in turn, sets us free to care for others instead of condemning them. In your heart of hearts, what is something that you do that is inconsistent with what you think is right or best?

Pray: **Almighty God, help us to repent of anything that turns our hearts from loving you and caring for our neighbor. In Christ Jesus we pray, amen.**

James tells us to be doers of God's word. In Jesus' time that included caring for orphans and widows. Who are the people that need your help today? School has either started or will start soon. Be aware of those who feel alone and may need a friend. How can you be a doer and not just a hearer of God's word?

Sometimes our doing gets in the way of our being. We can miss the joy of daily life while working to save up time and money to enjoy life. It is true of our faith life as well. We can faithfully attend Christian worship and forget to daily pay attention to Christ's love that sets us free. Take time this week to sit in silence and imagine your loving Savior standing in front of you. End by praying: **Thank you, God, for _____.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17; Mark 7:24-37**