

## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Olaf Roynesdal	Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation Pastor
Kristin Boe	Christian Ed Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Sarah Jewell	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Kayla Slaight	Housekeeper
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Sheri Lynn Tipton	Night Security Manager
Norma Pafford	Nursery Superintendent
Joyce Palmer	Director of the Weber Clinic
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director
Taylor Brown	Exec. Dir. Kountze Commons



# KOUNTZE

## Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

October 30 & 31, 2021

*Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a vibrant, historic faith community that welcomes all and provides ministries for all ages and walks of life. We are a “City-wide Church with a World-wide Ministry” and have been worshiping, growing, and serving in downtown Omaha for over 160 years. If you are new to Kountze Memorial, we invite you to visit the Welcome Desk in Fellowship Hall for more information about who we are and what we do.*

### **Holy Communion**

All who are baptized and trust in Christ's presence in Holy Communion are invited to commune at the Lord's Table. Children not yet communing will receive a blessing. Instructions will be provided during worship. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (especially for health reasons) have communed fully.

### **Children in Worship**

We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Quiet activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a Quiet Room, just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a TV and a variety of toys, games, and books for young children.

### **Nursery**

Our nursery is available from 9 AM—noon for children 0—2 years. Please ask an usher if you are unsure as to where our nursery is and would like to use it

### **Attendance Cards**

All those attending worship are encouraged to fill out the card included in your bulletin and place in the offering plate.

### **Large Print Bulletins and Listening Devices**

Please speak to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or an assisted listening device.

### **E-news & Social Media**

If you would like to receive our weekly e-news and monthly e-newsletter, add your e-mail address to the card in your bulletin or text your e-mail address to 22828.

## **Today at Kountze**

### **First Communion**

Fifteen of our children will begin receiving Holy Communion today. Please join them in the Fellowship Hall at 10:10 for a reception with cake.

### **Children's Choir**

**9:20 AM**

### **Ages K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Barb Carlsen will be leading the singers during the 9:00 AM sermon. Those interested in participating in choir will attend the first part of the 9:00 service with their families, come forward for the children's blessing, and then go to the upstairs choir room for practice before returning for Communion.

### **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](mailto:jim@kmlchurch.org).

**Today at Kountze, continued on next page**

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

### Sunday School

**Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM**

Join us on Sundays on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for Sunday School. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9:00—10:00 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery).

### Youth Forum

**Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM**

All 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to join us!

**This Sunday**—Youth Gathering Bible Study “God’s Boundless Love for Us”

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### October 31 Sunday

Reformation Sunday

Bible Sunday

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:00 AM First Communion

9:10 AM Children’s Choir (K-6th gr)

10:10 AM Sunday School (2 yr-6thgr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

### November 1 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### November 2 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

6:30 PM Christian Education

### November 3 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation Supper

6:30 PM Confirmation Class

7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

### November 4 Thursday

10:00 AM Patricia Elson Funeral

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### November 5 Friday

Robert Ringo Funeral

5:00 PM Pantry

### November 6 Saturday

Homebound Communion

5:00 PM Worship

### November 7 Sunday

All Saints Sunday

Daylight Savings--fall back 1 hour

Homebound Communion

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

10:10 AM Sunday School (2 yr-6thgr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

### Sunday

### November 7

We “fall back” one hour and return to Standard Time on Sunday, November 7, at 2 AM. Be sure to set your clocks back one hour before bed Saturday night!



## Ongoing and Coming Soon

### 2022 Summer Youth Trip Registrations

**ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN**

**July 24 - July 31, 2022**

**Grades 8 - 12**

We will extend our trip through July 31 to explore and serve in the Twin City area while possibly staying in a cabin on one of their 10,000 lakes. All 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join in the journey. Your cost for the whole trip is \$450.00.

**Registration is due now with a \$150.00 non-refundable deposit.** Please let Pastor Shari know

your intention. Do not let finances keep you from signing up. An extended registration date is January 5 with the cost of the trip increasing by \$50.00.

### Lutheran Youth of Nebraska (LYON) Assembly

The annual Lutheran Youth of Nebraska (LYON) Assembly is a chance for youth in grades 9-12 and their adult leaders to gather from across Nebraska for a weekend of connecting with one another and connecting with God. LYON Assembly will be held 9:00 AM -6:00 PM on Saturday, November 20, at

## Ongoing and Coming Soon *continued*

Carol Joy Holling Camp near Ashland and will feature community-building activities, worship, lunch, learning and serving. The theme this year is "Faith Over Fear," and Psalm 34:4 is a guiding verse. Cost for the day is \$30.00. Transportation will be provided. Registration Forms and Fee must be turned into Pastor Shari by **Thursday, November 4.**

### **SECOND Annual Men's Chili Cookoff**

**Thursday, November 18**

**11:30 AM**

Call the church office or email jim@kmlchurch.org to sign up by Tuesday, November 17. Let us know if you will be entering a pot of chili or just attending. If you're entering a pot of chili, there is no cost; otherwise, suggested donation for the event will be a stuffed animal/ toy to be distributed by the Kountze food pantry as Christmas gifts for our young pantry guests.

Last year's winners were:

Dr. Jerry Fisher (1<sup>st</sup> place)

Chet Worm (2<sup>nd</sup> place)

Don Johnson (3<sup>rd</sup> place)

Come vote on your favorite chili. There will be prizes for the top three and a great time of fellowship for all.

### **Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Service**

**Sunday, November 21**

**5:00 PM**

**First Christian Church (6630 Dodge)**

Kountze Memorial will once again be participating in the Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Prayer Service. This has been a nearly 30-year old event and it arose out of the congregations that helped give birth to the ministries of Together, Inc. (Kountze Memorial was a constitutive partner in both the foundation of Together, Inc and the Interfaith Prayer Service). Please join us.

### **Thanksgiving Dinner with St. Peter's**

**Thanksgiving Day, November 25**

**(11:00 AM to 1:30 PM)**

**Co-sponsored with and held at**

**St. Peter's Catholic parish (709 S 28<sup>th</sup> Street)**

Preparations are under way for our annual Thanksgiving luncheon.

Volunteers are needed to:

a) set up the night before;

b) donate pies/desserts; and

c) serve food, greet, and/or clean tables during the meal.

This event brings so many people in our community together in a spirit of Christian love and fellowship. Please join us, either to volunteer or as a guest; all are welcome. Please contact Pr. Hall or the church office to volunteer. There will also be a sign up sheet in your bulletin beginning next week.

### **Kountze Food Pantry**

Our Pantry is participating in the Thrivent's Give Thanks and Give Back Food Shelf Challenge! Our job is to collect at least 500 individual containers of non-perishable foods from November 1-30, 2021. The food drive will be supplemented with a Generosity Multiplier Gift, courtesy of the Thrivent Member Network-Nebraska Region. This means the Kountze Food Pantry will not only benefit from the food, we will receive a matching gift of \$500! If you bring your contributions in a reusable canvas shopping bag, we can pass these on to our walking pantry guests. Thank you to all who brought hygiene products for our holiday gift bags. Your generosity, together with a very generous partnership with St. Michael Lutheran Church, will provide enough kits for 400 people!

Please note: Family Fare receipts must be complete in order to be counted. Partial receipts cannot be submitted.

#### **Pantry Volunteers Needed:**

Mondays: 7:30 - 9 AM; 9 - 11 AM; 11 AM - 1 PM

Fridays: 4 - 7 PM

If you would like to help, please sign up to volunteer at the following link:

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

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday: 27**

**Sunday: 9:00: 119 11:00: 63**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 10 Confirmation: 10**

**Total: 229**

**Streaming: 61**

**Cox Cable: 198**

**Pantry Guests Served: 945** (includes 302 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 23**

**Offering:**

\$11874.82 (Regular)

\$1680.46 (Specials)

\$769.5 (Debt Reduction)

*The grace of God through faith sets us free.*

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

Sunday	John 8:31-36	The truth will set you free
Monday	Revelation 21:1-6a	A new heaven and earth
Tuesday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant
Wednesday	Romans 3:19-28	Righteousness through faith
Thursday	Isaiah 61:1-7	The good news of victory
Friday	Acts 10:34-43	Gentiles hear the good news
Saturday	Psalm 46	God is our protection
Sunday	John 11:32-44	Jesus raises Lazarus



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*“So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”* **John 8:36 (NRSV)**

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

Gracious God, may faith in you give us peace and joy, and move us to love and serve others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, may the gift of this food remind us of the gift of faith that we may be strengthened to love you and our neighbor each and every day. In Jesus' name, amen.

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

May the God who frees you from the power of sin bless you with everlasting joy.

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

- Sin is about broken relationships with others and with God. What does sin mean to you?
- God in Christ only saves and frees sinners. Is this a surprising message for you? Explain.
- How does confessing one's sinfulness bring joy?

*Read:* Romans 3:19-28.

Luther was not the only reformer shaped by Paul's letter to the Romans. Romans became a signature book of the New Testament to reform the church's practice away from a message that suggested that our eternal life with Christ was dependent upon our actions. Through Christ's work—not ours—we are redeemed. John Wesley, founder of the Methodist Church, was “strangely moved” by hearing Luther's commentary on Romans. Wesley saw in this letter that being justified by Christ through faith meant that followers of Jesus were more than people set free from sin. Salvation was the restoration of the human ability to bear God's image in the world. Luther called this being a “little Christ” to one's neighbor. We have all fallen short; redemption is a gift of God received through faith. By the grace of God through faith, we are God's people participating in the work of Christ in the world. We are now the ones reconciling all that is God's back to God. We are made right with God through faith in Christ that we may be the hands, feet, and voice of God's healing work in the world. Where have you witnessed God's healing work in the world?

*Pray:* **Awesome God, help us to believe and give thanks every day that our relationship to you is a gift of your undeserved kindness through faith in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

We have been born anew to a living faith that sends us out into the world on behalf of God's love through Christ. How can you be part of Christ's ongoing work of healing lives today? What might you do this week to extend Christ's love to someone?

Before the Reformation, the Bible was written in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. It was not accessible to the common person. An important part of the Reformation was to translate the word of God in the Bible to a language people understood. Luther translated the Bible into German. Other reformers translated the Bible into other languages. In appreciation for the fact that the Bible can now be read around the world in many different languages, including your own, take time this week to read and highlight some of your favorite Bible passages.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** 1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146  
Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44