

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

November 13 & 14, 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

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in memory of Kyle Daberkow given by his aunts, Karen & Shirley Bonneau

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Tom Holcombe in memory of his wife, Jean

Children's Choir

9:20 AM

Ages K-6th 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

10:15—11 AM

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.

Adult Forum

Sundays, 10:10

This Sunday—Introduction to the Call Committee

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 2nd 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 7th – 12th Graders are invited to join us!

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

This Week at Kountze Memorial

November 14 Sunday

Pentecost 25

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:20 AM Children’s Choir (K-6th gr)

10:10 AM Sunday School (2 yr-6th gr)

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

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Introduction of the Call Committee

12:15 PM Book Group

November 15 Monday

[Good News Deadline](#)

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board

6:00 PM Exit Interview with Synod

November 16 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation Council

7:00 PM Circle 3

November 17 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation Supper

6:30 PM Confirmation Class

November 18 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

1:30 PM Circle 4

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

7:00 PM Circle 5

November 19 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

Wedding Rehearsal

November 20 Saturday

2:00 PM Havekost & Sauer Wedding

5:00 PM Worship

November 21 Sunday

Christ the King

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:10 AM Children’s Choir (K-6th gr)

9:40 AM Breakfast to Celebrate Pr. Olaf

10:10 AM Sunday School (2 yr-6th gr)

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

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Farewell to Pr. Olaf

10:30 AM Executive Committee

5:00 PM Inter-faith Thanksgiving Service (First Christian Church 6630 Dodge)

Ongoing and Coming Soon

Celebration Breakfast

Sunday, November 21

Next Sunday will be Pr. Olaf’s last Sunday with our congregation. Join us for a celebration to honor him during worship and the Adult Forum time. Breakfast will be served from 9:30 to 11:00 AM (November 21 only). A short program to acknowledge this milestone in his life, with time for conversation, will make up our time together between worship hours.

Kountze Commons Donor Window

In recognition of the supporters of the Kountze Commons project, a beautiful graphic was approved by the Kountze Commons Donor Wall Committee and has been installed in the link area of Kountze Commons. A translucent Dove representing the Holy Spirit and

emitting rays of light have been placed on the window wall to the courtyard. Donors’ names are printed on the rays of light coming from the dove. If you haven’t been out to the link area between the church and Kountze Commons since it was installed, you’ll want to take some time go and see our new donor window. The names will be updated periodically as donations continue to be received for the Kountze Pantry, the Del & Lou Ann Weber Healing Gift Clinic, and debt reduction for Kountze Commons. Thank you for your continued support to this vital ministry to our community.

2022 Summer Youth Trip Registrations
ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN
July 24 – July 31, 2022

Ongoing and Coming Soon *continued*

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 8th - 12th 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.

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 16. 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 (1st place)

Chet Worm (2nd place)

Don Johnson (3rd 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 28th 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.

Advent Meal Volunteers Needed

We will need some volunteers to help prepare, serve, and clean up. We can always use volunteers to help put out placemats, pour drinks, run the dishwasher, etc. so no culinary experience is necessary. If you love to cook, we would be most happy to have you help us with one or all four meals. Please consider taking an hour or two this Advent season to volunteer before, during, or after one of the meals.

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: 34

Sunday: 9:00: 151 **11:00:** 66

Wednesday: 12:15: 8 **Confirmation:** 8

Total: 267

Streaming: 52

Cox Cable: 208

Pantry Guests Served: 746 (includes 229 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 19

Offering:

\$19,507.00 (Regular)

\$48,568.13 (Specials)

\$3,017.00 (Debt Reduction)

Day and night, God is our protection.

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

Sunday	Mark 13:1-10	The signs of the end of the age
Monday	Daniel 12:1-3	The resurrection of the dead
Tuesday	Hebrews 10:11-25	A call to perseverance
Wednesday	Psalms 91	Assurance of God's protection
Thursday	Philippians 4:10-14	Paul gives thanks
Friday	2 Samuel 22:1-4	David's song of thanksgiving
Saturday	Psalms 16	A life centered on the Lord
Sunday	John 18:33-37	Jesus, the king of truth



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Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

Psalm 16:1-2 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

God of peace, when we experience scary times, help us to trust in you and remain dedicated to your word through Christ Jesus, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of the harvest, we thank you for the fruit of the earth that feeds us and reminds us of your constant care during our mountain top highs and valley lows. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God guide your path into joy forevermore. (Psalm 16:11)

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

- Think or tell about a time when you or someone you know needed protection.
- What do you do and who do you turn to when you feel you need to be protected?
- Psalm 16 gives praise to God for being our great protector. What does that mean to you?

Read: Mark 13:1-10.

The Gospel of Mark was written shortly after the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem by Roman soldiers in 70 A.D. It is easy to imagine that the people wondered if all hope was gone following that jarring event. Had God forsaken the people once and for all? Was this the end of time? Was Christ coming back soon? During times of national or spiritual crisis, it is easy to wonder about such questions, follow after some conspiracy theory, or follow another voice that sounds like the second coming of Christ. Jesus says, in essence, do not be misled, do not make your own predictions about the end. Our task is simple: know in your highs and lows that you are loved and protected by God; give thanks for your neighbors and serve them with joy. Trust God and Christ's reign. During difficult times, how can you show your trust in God?

Pray: God of the universe, when we experience personal or social disasters, help us to keep our eyes on you and speak with confidence the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.

With the advent of social media, many false messages and hopes are offered as true. Such messaging and propaganda can raise fears and sow divisions among people. Serve your neighbor by resisting extreme messages and social anxiety. Speak words of trust in God that calm one's soul and offer hope and peace to others.

Psalm 16:7 says, *"I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me."* When we read or listen to God's Word at the end of the day, our hearts and minds are filled with thoughts that carry us through the night. Even as we sleep God's Spirit is at work, ministering to us and leading us. This week, take time to read or listen to God's Word before you go to sleep. For children, use a storybook Bible. After reading, say this blessing:
May the Lord make you lie down in safety and may you sleep in peace. (Psalm 4:8)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93
Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37