

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Kristin Boe	Director of Faith Formation
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Anthony Bonacci	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Louis Flake	Night Manager
Kayla Slaight	Janitorial Staff
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

August 26 & 27 2023

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. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (especially for health reasons) have communed fully. Our form of distribution is Intinction. You will receive the wafer in your hand and then dip into the wine.

Children in Worship

We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a 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 8:45 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 attendance card in your bulletin.

Thank you for supporting the ministries of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.



Today at Kountze Memorial

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of our son, Evan Michael Hardy, given by Mom & Dad (Alex & Karen); given by Albert & Ilsa Grage in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary; given by Dan & Karen Wolf in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary

Television Broadcast is sponsored to the glory of God in gratitude of Pastor Shari Duminy and Pastor Kathy Gerking (Saint Timothy's) for arranging and managing the travels and stay at Holden Village in July

Kountze Café

Sundays, 9:30—11:00 AM

Join us each Sunday for breakfast. The suggested donation is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger for the hot breakfast and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast.

Adult Forum

Fellowship Hall

Sundays, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This week:** Confirmation Reception & Holden Trip Sharing. On the cake table there will be bags for those being confirmed if you'd like to bring cards for them. If you forget, cards to write on will be available on the Welcome Desk. **Next week:** History and Images of Our Windows, Bruce Nissen and Judy Boltz

Summer Affirmation of Faith

Sunday, August 27

11:00 AM

Youth affirming their faith are: Marah McDougal, Tye McDougal, and Mia Valquier. They will be introduced during forum that day, along with Faith Sponsors: Darlene

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

Anderson, Tom Jensen , and Mert Wieble, who attended class and shared their faith. You are encouraged to bring a card to share your congratulations with these youth, as they continue in the faith journey.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

August 27 Sunday

Pentecost 13
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
10:10 AM Adult Forum
11:00 AM Affirmation of Faith

August 28 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

August 29 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

August 30 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

August 31 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

September 1 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

September 2 Saturday

Homebound Communion

5:00 PM Worship

September 3 Sunday

Pentecost 14
Senior Pastor Lucy Wynard's first
Sunday at KMLC
Homebound Communion
10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Share Your Gifts During Faith Formation Hour

If you are interested in supporting the youth of Kountze Memorial by leading a class, please contact Kristin Boe at Kristin@kmlchurch.org. All lessons are scripted and supplies provided. Teachers lead on a rotation schedule, allowing for weeks off. Be the difference in our youngest member's relationship with God and give of your time and talents.

Help Connect Students to Campus Ministry!

On college campuses across Nebraska and beyond, you can help connect students to our Lutheran Campus Ministries! Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry has a contact and referral page: <https://nelcm.com/refer-a-student/> Please take a moment to help invite those you know to Christ! Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry locations include: Chadron State College, Creighton, UNK, UNL, SECC/Beatrice, Peru State, UNO, and Wayne State College. For more information or to make a gift of support, go to: www.nelcm.com.

Confirmation Orientation and OSJ Training Grades 7 & 8

Wednesday, August 30

6:00 PM

We will meet in the Fellowship Lounge for a meal and orientation for the Confirmation Learning year. Then we will go to the Nave for OSJ training with Robin and Jeff Perkins. Please let Pastor Shari know that you will be attending.

Adult Choir

Come and join our amazing group of musicians who sing praises to God and have fun together. Help us to continue making vibrant and beautiful music at Kountze. The adult choir will have its First meeting/rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 6 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. The choir will return to the worship services on Sunday, September 10. If you are interested in being a part of this important part of worship, we would be very glad to welcome you. Past singing experience in high school or college is helpful. If you want more information about choir or would like to join our choir, please contact Barb Carlsen in the church office at 402-341-7761.

Dinners for 8

Sign-up by Sunday, September 3

If you would like to get to know more church members, this is a great opportunity. You will meet for a meal one time each month in September, October, and November. The dinner can be hosted in homes or church, potluck style or out at a restaurant. You get to decide. Please sign up by September 3. We will inform you of your groups by September 6.

Rally Sunday

Sunday, September 10

All youth are invited to participate in the celebration of praise for both the rededication of the stained-glass windows (see Stained-Glass Window Rededication and Celebration announcement) and the upcoming year of Faith Formation which begins Sunday, September 17.

You are Invited to Register Today to Attend

Tri-Faith 2nd Annual United We Walk

Sunday, September 10

3:00—6:00 PM

Alongside the walk, they will host inclusive-centric programming to make everyone feel welcome, activities to build a sense of belonging, a community fair, an immersive youth art project, entertainment, food trucks, and open houses of the four Tri-Faith buildings. (The Tri-Faith Commons and the 3 faith partners: Temple Israel, Countryside Community Church, and the American Muslim Institute). Join your pastors for this day of learning and celebration. For more information, please visit: <https://www.trifaith.org/www-2023>. If you'd like to help, sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4da4a622a2f9c25-united1#/>

Children's Choir

From: Barb Carlsen, Children Choir Director

Beginning Sunday, September 17

9:15 AM (following 9 AM Children's Blessing)

2nd Floor Music Room

Grades K-6 - Choir

Grades 7-8 - Director Assistants

Barb Carlsen is excited to have another opportunity to work with your talented children this year. She has 35 years of experience as a music teacher and enjoys working with young people. All children in grades K-5 are encouraged to sing in our Children's Choir. Students in grades 6-8 who would like to be involved may participate as Director Assistants. Director Assistants will help the director lead and assist the younger children in singing the music, working with children on their speaking parts for the Christmas program, and adding instruments to our choral singing. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Barb in the church office at 402-341-7761.

Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)

Begins Sunday, September 17

Sundays, 10:10 AM

We will be learning about Jesus calling the disciples to follow him and do God's work. Through six rotation lessons in art, games, science, storytelling, cooking, and missions, the students will see how Jesus taught his followers to live in God's word and spread that message to others. Jesus' choice of followers surprised some people, but Jesus was showing that anyone could follow him and do God's work. That includes the youngest members of Kountze!

Register online using the link below.

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

The Camp Classic Tournament

Friday, September 22

Ashland Golf Club

Four-person scramble, noon: shotgun start, teams & individuals welcome. Info and registration form can be found at <https://www.nlom.org/golf>

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is collecting toilet tissue for our guests. Even though we only give out 1 roll per person, on request only, we go through a great deal. We appreciate any contributions you can make. We are desperately in need of Monday morning volunteers to carry groceries to the vehicles of our guests. There are only a few people who are able to do this vital service and they could really use a break! If you could help all or any part of the hours between 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM, please sign up at the link below or contact Susie Henry at susannfrances@kmlchurch.org
<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

Stained-Glass Window

Rededication Celebration

Sunday, September 10

We hope you'll join the celebration of the rededication of our stained-glass windows. There will be lots of activities that day including organ, brass, and choir during both Sunday Worship services. Be sure to invite your family and friends to this special service!

If you would like to donate toward the cost of the celebration, please put "Window Celebration" on the memo line of your check, online giving, or on the pew envelope. Thanks.

Before September 10

- Watch your mailbox for a postcard with information on events of the day as well as some other events happening this fall.
- Pick up a yard sign to let your neighbors know about our celebration. The signs are available at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall.

Pick up:

- A yard sign to place in your yard
- Pre-ordered T-shirts
- Your window decal
- KMLC stained-glass window perpetual calendar—\$10

On September 10:

- Events for children during the Faith Formation Hour
- Coloring books for the children
- Cake
- Special KMLC ice cream from eCreamery. all at no cost
- Stained-glass window walk

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 35

Sunday: 9:00: 148 **11:00:** 63

Wednesday: 12:15: 8

Total: 254

Streaming: 36

Pantry Guests Served: 1,161 (inc. 369 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 19

Offering:

\$16,982.65 (Regular) \$2,581.41 (Specials)

\$1,937.50 (Debt Reduction)

Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

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

Sunday	Matthew 16:13-20	Peter's confession of Christ
Monday	Isaiah 51:1-6	Blessings for God's people
Tuesday	Romans 12:1-8	Christ brings new life
Wednesday	1 Peter 1:13-25	A call to holy living
Thursday	Exodus 20:1-6	You shall have no other gods
Friday	Genesis 35:1-15	Jacob returns to Bethel
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise God with all your heart
Sunday	Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow



© 2018 Vibrant Faith Ministries. All rights reserved.
Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.
Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

*Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven." **Matthew 16:16-17***
(NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, we thank you for being our sure foundation, our rock on which we stand secure through Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Almighty and Living God, we thank you for this food that gives us strength to shout out our praise to you for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give you joy and gladness now and always.

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

- A false god is anything that we put our trust in instead of putting our trust in Jesus Christ. What are some false gods that people turn to today?
- How is putting our trust in Jesus Christ different from following false gods?

Read: Matthew 16:13-20.

Caesarea Philippi was a place for the ancient people to gather and worship many gods. Those gods were understood to have powers that controlled people's lives, often arbitrarily. Instead of such instability, the disciples were there to witness to Jesus' life that heals, forgives, and teaches us of the God of steadfast love and faithfulness (Psalm 138:2). Peter confesses what only God can reveal: Jesus is the Messiah (another word for Christ) and the Son of a living—therefore real—God! In Romans 12:2 the Apostle Paul tells us not to be conformed to the world that is filled with false gods (powers), destructive passions, and self-love instead of love for others. This non-conformity that Jesus brings is a challenge to our everyday thinking. No wonder Jesus told his disciples not to tell anyone about him. It will take time for them—and us—to wrap heads and hearts around worshiping Jesus as Lord instead of worshiping a nation, ethnicity, bank account or any other false god.

Discuss: What is it in your life that gets in the way of confessing Jesus as the Messiah?

Pray: **Almighty God, your ways are not our ways; give us hearts and minds to grasp that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God for the sake of the world you love. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others instead of serving your own interests this week?

Peter confessed his faith by stating that Jesus is the Son of the living God. Because of this confession, Jesus called him the "rock" upon which he would build his church (Matthew 16:18). Place a rock in your living space or in a garden to remember the confession of Peter and the church throughout the centuries. Write or paint the words "Jesus is the Son of God" on the rock.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8
Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28