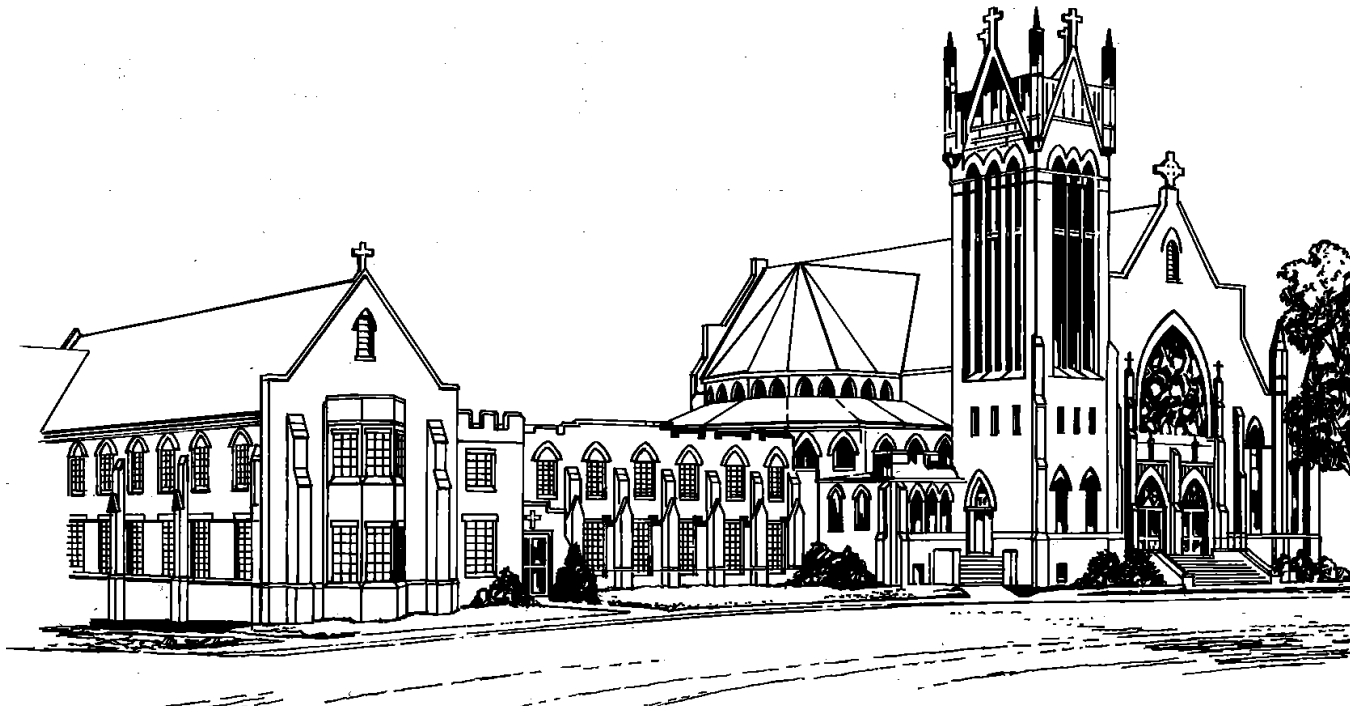


KOUNTZE
Memorial Lutheran Church

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING
KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
FEBRUARY 18, 2024

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AGENDA
FEBRUARY 18, 2024

Call to Order.....	Pastor Wynard
Devotion and Prayer	Pastor Wynard
Establish a Quorum	
Adoption of the Agenda	
Presentation of Reports.....	Pastor Wynard
New Business	
Affirmation of Board Elections	
Presentation of the Proposed Budget for 2024.....	Tim Backora
Adoption of the Proposed Budget.....	Pastor Wynard
Other Business	
General Comments and Questions	
Adjournment	

MINUTES

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting for Elections
August 6, 2023 10:15 AM Fellowship Hall

Meeting was called to order by Transition Senior Pastor Stephen who opened with prayer.

It was determined that a quorum was present.

Report of the Nominating Committee was presented.
Nominating Committee comprised:
Steve Coufal, Scott Henneman, Pam Johnson,
Julie O'Doherty, Melissa Osentowski, Leon Valquier

Nominations:
Congregation Council, term ending 2026:
Tim Backora, Anne Dey, Kate McCoy Jones (all second term)
Lara McCormick (first term)

Kountze Endowment Board, term ending 2027
Lyn Ziegenbein

Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center Board

Term ending 2024	Term ending 2025	Term ending 2026
Pastor Lucy Wynard	Tim Holland	Pastor Ashley Hall
Dale Broekemeier	Deb Hinrichs	Lisa Chinn
Ruth Henneman	Kate McCoy Jones	Jim Smejkal

The above nominees were elected by voice vote.

Pastor Griffith invited comments and questions from the floor.

Pastor Ashley Hall closed the meeting with prayer.



PASTORAL REPORTS

SENIOR PASTOR

PASTOR LUCY WYNARD

What a year 2023 was for my family – the adoption of our two teens, the unexpected death of my sister-in-law, a celebratory family vacation to Alaska, a move from Illinois to Nebraska, new home, new schools, new jobs, new everything! As I reflect, God's faithfulness and abundant goodness to us, to me, is an unmistakable thread. And the call to serve you at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church as your new Senior Pastor is certainly one of the highlights of that. I am so very glad and grateful to be here with you as together we look to **Worship + Grow + Serve** our supremely good God and God's good work for us, here in Omaha in 2024.

While I have only been serving as your pastor since September of last year, we still managed to fill those last 4 months of the year with much activity and planning for the year ahead of us now. Here are some **highlights from 2023:**

I timed my arrival at Kountze very well – just in time to celebrate the return of our two large stained-glass windows and kick off the 2023-24 faith formation year with our **Windows Celebration on Rally Sunday**. It was a wonderful weekend and a perfect way to begin ministry here with you – focused on our deep heritage of faith and looking with renewed light towards an exciting though unknown future. I loved seeing all the generations in worship that weekend and beginning the task of slowly learning names!

October saw **two new staff members** join us: Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center (KCCOC) Executive Director Jill Conway and Administrative Assistant Danielle Barrett. Both Jill and Danielle hit the ground running and have been tremendous additions to our already-excellent Kountze staff team. Danielle staffs our front desk and is often the first voice or face people encounter when they contact Kountze on a weekday. She also works with Debbie Bogue to keep our records updated, produce our weekly bulletins and other print media, and a host of other administrative details that she has learned quickly and cheerfully. Jill is responsible for building our partnerships around community outreach for both Kountze Commons and the wider congregation. She is working on learning about the needs of our neighbors and which organizations are meeting those needs, facilitating the relationships of our existing partners at Kountze Commons, building new relationships with ministry and not-for-profit folk to expand collaborative partnerships, and identifying grant and other funding opportunities.

In early November we had a very productive **Council Retreat** with Mary Lee Brock of Creighton leading us through conversations about goals and next steps. Together we identified 2 areas in particular we felt needed Council and leadership attention in the year ahead: financial structure and communication, and membership engagement and growth. We also spent quite a bit of time working to streamline our committee and board structure, with the goal of enabling better communication, engagement, and growth. Expect to hear a lot more about this in the days, weeks and months to come!

The last two months of the year were filled with many **special worship services**, including Reformation Sunday, All Saints Sunday, Omaha Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, and of course our Advent and Christmas season, including our midweek services and meals, Candlelight Carol Service, Children's Program, and Christmas Eve worship services. Pastor Shari led us in trying something new at our family-friendly 4pm Christmas Eve Service – a more movement-friendly, child-centered extended time of telling the story together. I thought it was wonderful and have heard great things from others who were there! Our worship expression at Kountze – which is distinctly Lutheran, traditional and vibrant, and focused on shaping us to be God's people in this time and place – is a great gift to be stewarded. I am so grateful and amazed at the gifts our musicians, worship volunteers, faith formation leaders, building and administrative staff, and pastors bring.

Looking ahead... there is much good work to do together! This year my priorities will be relational and administrative. To grow in relationship with all of you, and with our broader community, and then to put some of the pieces in place to strengthen our staff and leadership structures. Of course, discerning and hiring someone to fill the office Pastor Shari will vacate is a big part of that. While I am sad to see Pr. Shari go as she offers so many gifts to this congregation, I trust her work of discerning where God is leading her. And I trust that this is an opportunity for us to listen and respond as God leads us towards a new future. So up first – forming the **Associate Pastor Transition Team** and beginning the paperwork with the Synod.

Council and staff have already been working on the **streamlined committee, boards, etc. structure** and honing the ways every group in the church is connected to our overall mission and goals. The hope is fewer meetings just for the sake of meetings, better communication about ways everyone can be involved somewhere according to their gifts and interests, and making sure every group has the resources they need.

I also look forward to **continuing my learning**. This is a new job in a new place amongst a new culture for me – and that requires at least a full year of having my curious learning cap on! So be patient and generous in sharing information with me. Don't assume I know what things mean or how and why we've usually done things. I also invite you to be curious with me, as in so many ways we're all in new territory these days, figuring out what it means to be church in a changing landscape.

Finally, a particular **word of thanks** to my fellow pastors, Pastor Shari Duminy and Pastor Ashley Hall, to the Call Committee who walked with me through all of 2023, to Jim Smejkal and Debbie Bogue, and to all our staff and volunteers who make things run day-in and day-out around here. I could not have asked for better hospitality as I began here at Kountze. I have felt, both personally and professionally, such generosity of people's time and efforts to set me up to succeed. The warmth of your welcome and the genuine joy you take in ministry together have me very excited for the years to come. The best is yet to come – and there is enough for all. Come and see!

TRANSITIONAL ASSOCIATE PASTOR

PASTOR SHARI DUMINY

Ronald A. Klug wrote the words to the hymn ***Rise, Shine, You People!*** It is a newer hymn that came to us in the 1900's and has always captured my heart and imagination with great joy. It seems to be a clear image of who God is for us and who we are to be for God. Hear from me that the author of this hymn did incredible, forward-thinking work with expressing the faith. And yet, I have some issues with the words chosen that do not fully embrace the willingness to make all feel welcome and included in today's worship.

I am a firm believer that words and how we use those words, do matter. And yet changing without explanation, is also not helpful. An awareness is also present that this has already put 50% of you, if not more, on high alert. We live in a world where one or two red flagged words can have our walls go up and we firmly stand in our rightness, readying ourselves for a fight. The next course of action has most of us trying to shut down the conversations, to avoid the conflict, and in doing so, we avoid considering what is needed to care for others.

We are the Church, the body of our Lord! The discerning for us does not come from what the world has told us to follow so we can be divided and separated from God's creation. Jesus leads us with the Word to consider how we can be little Christ's for the other. Living out Jesus' life-giving ways so all can walk with showered abundant love, have safe spaces to gather, and live into an ever-present abiding grace.

So, if you are willing to do a little exploration, (emphasis on little), there are three phrases or words that catch my attention. They are: Men and Women, Darkness, the Father

MEN AND WOMEN – These binary norms no longer function in a culture that embraces non-binary norms. Some are embracing both their female and male traits together and these words leave them out of this expression. Brothers and Sisters is a similar phrase.

DARKNESS – We explored this during Advent in 2022. Darkness is needed in our world and is good thing. One example: darkness is needed for a plant to find roots and grow. The word darkness being applied as the meaning of evil, hate and sin is harmful to our BIPOC siblings.

THE FATHER – Understanding that this is what Jesus called God as recorded in the Bible, this is one of the tough ones. I am not opposed to using it, but if we agree that we are created in God's image, can we see God in both/and male and female images? Do we use Mother with equal measure? Perhaps saying God more often for this phrase would be helpful.

Returning to the hymn, this is my attempt to find words that might express a more thoughtful and inclusive way for all:

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered our human story; God in him is centered. He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling; he brings us freedom, light and life and healing. All (beloved humans), who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling, your songs and prayers against the (deep hate) hurling. To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.

Tell how (Loving God) sent the Son to save us. Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us. Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation God's new creation.

Being church together means pondering how we want to show up for others in this space, and beyond the walls. Leading us to set a table for the gathering of the beloved community that will continue for the generations to come. This difficult work matters to the generations younger than our median age group, more than it has before. I hope you will find ways to engage in this important work.

This year, my call among you continued, as the full-time Associate Pastor, minister of Word and Sacrament, with the following duties: *Youth, Young Adults, and Faith Formation* (formerly known as Christian Education). Please see the reports on these areas. Faith Formation Director Kristin Boe did a great job with leading the collaborate VBS with five Lutheran Churches this past summer. She continues to lead the efforts for the year to come. Her work is appreciated by all from Kountze Memorial, Morningstar, St. Timothy's, Luther Memorial, and Lord of Love Lutheran Churches.

My primary responsibility with Faith Formation is the Confirmation program. Following up on a few parental requests, in the spring and summer I explored with other congregations the willingness to come together for a collaborative confirmation program. In the fall, 5 churches (Kountze Memorial, Augustana, St. Timothy's, Luther Memorial and Lord of Love Lutheran Churches) began to gather with 17 youth and five pastors to begin Confirmation each Wednesday evening at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church. Four youth from KMLC are participating in this combined effort.

This year, involvement with committees: Youth, Faith Formation, Global Missions, Outreach, Social Ministry, and Worship and Music have been a part of the call. Other ministry areas responsibilities have included:

Worship Planning and submitting the plans for the bulletins has been a shared responsibility of the pastoral staff this past year. We continue to find ways to engage the congregation in faithful, life-giving worship and give staff the time it needs to get the bulletins ready for distribution.

Visitation and Eucharistic Ministers are about meeting the ongoing needs of members who find changes in their life and need spiritual care as they journey through illnesses and grief. Also, making sure we provide ongoing care when the changes are more permanent.

Breakfast Ministry has had a full year of operation. This is run by volunteers and we are grateful for their service and all who are willing to help when it is needed. In December, three members have decided that their time of service needs to end. We give thanks to Darlene Anderson, Allyson White, and Carole Woodworth for their time, energy, hospitality, and good food.

Bible Studies continued until Lent this past year. Then my focus after Easter turned to Confirmation for High School students who were not able to participate in the regular Confirmation program. Three youth and three adult mentors participated in these five sessions. What a delight it was to share in this ministry!

Internship Supervision through May 2023 with Vicar Gretchen Olson Kopp was a life-giving opportunity. I cannot thank the Internship Committee enough for their dedication and accompanying the Vicar through her time with us. There was paperwork, but it was all worth it to share in ministry with this incredibly gifted and deeply thoughtful pastoral candidate. We hold her in love and prayer as she settles in the Spokane, Washington area and awaits a call while doing Chaplain work at the local hospital. This experience has me hungering for more opportunities to walk with others through the process of their seminary internship experience.

Adult Trip to Holden Village that took place in July of 2023 with 21 members, family and friends of both Kountze Memorial and St. Timothy's Lutheran Churches was indeed another highlight of the year. To welcome the crew to the village and make sure all had what they needed, including a motorized scooter to get around. To hear of the happenings of the day, and just stand with another and be in awe of the mountains was pure joy, even while pulling many, many, many weeds. Great appreciation for colleague Pastor Kathy Gerking and spouse Andy Johnson of St. Timothy's for guidance and presence with the group getting to and from Holden Village.

Limited Support of Refugee Family continues as I hear the news of what is happening with the team on Group Me and assist with requests when available. Jonna Holland and Mary Jane Peterson with the rest of the team are providing the assistance that helps this family continue to settle and have what they need for further independence and caring community.

Help with onboarding Senior Pastor Lucy Wynard was a responsibility acted upon by many. The transition did not take long and I give thanks for the leadership she has brought to the mission we share.

One last item needs to be mentioned, my request with the Congregation's Council for a Change of Call in August. Through a personal, year-long, discernment process starting in the fall of 2022. Clarity arrived that I am to be involved with the church in other ways than I am currently called here. The change to Transitional Associate Pastor was established while I seek a new call within the wider church. Many conversations have taken place with several Synodical staff members. Interviews have been happening since November. There are promises for paperwork within the next few months for openings that might fit me well. It has been exciting and exhausting. I try to remember to trust God's timing.

Dear Church, I am thankful for all the ways, through the years, you have risen and shone forth God's love in the world. Please know my deep appreciation for the ways that we have shared in rising and shining for God in the world together these last three plus years. Gracious people of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, my prayers will surround you for loving boldness as you to continue to rise and shine for God in the years to come, however that calling may happen for you.

In Christ's Love and Service,
Pastor Shari Duminy

ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR ADULT FAITH FORMATION

PASTOR H. ASHLEY HALL, PH.D.

Scope of Responsibilities

The following duties were part of my portfolio:

The Adult Forum, the New Member classes and integration, Worship Training, Good Friday Ecumenical Service, the Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Service, and the combined Thanksgiving Dinner with St. Peter Catholic Parish, and pastoral liaison to the Altar Guild.

In August 2023, I became Chair of the Theology Department at Creighton University. That position comes with greater administrative and mentoring responsibilities. As such, I have had less flexibility of time, as my duties at Creighton often require me to be in my office much more than before and attentive to Department and College events, which sometime occur in the evenings.

After ongoing conversations in the last year and in consultation with Pr. Wynard, I will remain a called pastor of the congregation, serving part time, on the regular roster for preaching, presiding, and Adult Education. Other administrative duties that I currently oversee (that, in the past, I was expected to schedule and run), will be moved to a set of things that need to be accomplished for which the pastoral staff (myself included) will see to it that they are accomplished. For instance, in the past, I used to schedule and run the new member classes. Now, moving forward, the staff sets the dates for the new member classes and I – with the other pastors – will rotate who is teaching/leading each session according to availability.

I offer a special note of gratitude and acknowledgement to Pr. Shari Duminy, who in many cases filled the vacuum when and where my stepping back left a need (especially with the First Communion Classes and New Member classes).

A mutually-agreeable commensurate reduction in pay is reflected in the 2024 budget. I am grateful to our new Senior Pastor, my colleague Pr. Duminy, the Congregational Council, and Personnel Committee for their understanding and support so that I may continue in the call to serve as your part-time Associate Pastor for Adult Faith Formation in the midst of my changing duties at Creighton University.

Adult Forum

Adult Forums continued in 2023, though with continued flexibility as needed during the call process. On average, we leave one Sunday a month for Fellowship time.

Council Retreat

I am grateful that the Congregational Council places value on an intentional integration of its new members and for strategic planning each year. In the Fall of 2023, we welcomed back Mary Lee Brock of Creighton University. This meeting resulted in fruitful discussion about our shared vision and goals for the coming years, which will be shared with you as this vision develops.

Formation of the Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center (KCCOC)

In addition to my regular duties, the task that has taken up a great deal of my attention in the last year has been the formation of a new 501(c)(3) of the congregation. I am pleased to report that this task has been accomplished and has now been entrusted to a wonderful Executive Director, Jill Conway, and a new Board for KCCOC (see separate reports). There are too many people to thank for the success of this task, but many hands and voices have contributed to its fulfillment. I am honored to serve on this new board. With the foundation of a new non-profit and inauguration of a new Executive Director, the anonymous \$1.1 million gift has been released, nearly reducing the debt on Kountze Commons by a half. Offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the profound generosity and vision of the anonymous donor to the mission of Kountze Commons!

Healing Gift Free Medical Clinic

I continue to serve as President of the Clinic Board. The excellent work of the Clinic continues due to our volunteers and our coordinator, Joyce Palmer. (See separate report).

Synodical and Church-Wide Service

Churchwide: I continue to serve on the Board of the Lutheran Ecumenical and Interfaith Representatives Network (LEIRN) of the ELCA. I co-presented a webinar for Lutheran identity for the candidacy committee chairs of the ELCA (with the Rev. Dr. Andrea Walker, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Washington, DC).

Synodical: I wrote a series of Lenten reflections for the Synod (posted weekly on the synod website). I was invited to offer two workshops (on Lutheran identity) at the Theological Conference in Kearney. I am currently serving on a task force for the Synod Council to help address how to serve the sacramental (Lord's Supper) needs of congregations without a called pastor.

Thank you for your faithfulness, vision, and dedication, all of which make my call so spiritually enriching and enjoyable! I am delighted to continue to serve the gospel of Jesus Christ with you all and with my colleagues. A special word of gratitude goes to Pr. Stephen Griffith for his leadership in the transition and to Pr. Shari Duminy, who is simply extraordinary. With you, I am delighted to welcome Pr. Lucy Wynard and I look forward to the years ahead.



PROGRAM STAFF REPORTS

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

KRISTIN BOE

The Faith Formation Committee consists of Council representative Anne Dey, Kristin Boe, Kara DiLorenzo, Barb Carlsen, Stu Sedlak, Ashley Sum, Julie O'Doherty, Pastor Ashley Hall, and Pastor Shari Duminy. This committee is formerly known as the Christian Education Committee.

The term Faith Formation was adopted as this is now the expression of the larger church to convey that it is not a school where we get to a certain point and we are done learning. Our faith formation is an ongoing relationship with God, who continues to shape faith over a lifetime.

Ending the school year in 2023, the children were receiving the Godly Play curriculum. The Faith Formation Committee switched to the Rotation Model for the start of the 2023 school year. The students seem to enjoy this curriculum and the teachers have given positive feedback on the children's engagement.

In addition to Sunday School time, the students have the option of going to choir or participating in the children's sermon time. The children's sermon follows the Gospel reading and often has an activity to complete. In addition, the pre-school students receive a lesson revolving around the lectionary. There were also classes for those interested in receiving their First Communion.

There were several service projects completed throughout the year. The students made welcome kits for refugees, collected coins for the World Hunger Organization, collected food for the Humane Society, collected school items to stuff backpacks, and helped in the Pantry.

The Faith Formation Committee hosted a movie night, Blessing of the Backpacks, and the Advent Fair. In addition to our traditional Rally Sunday activities, this year it was combined with the Window Rededication and the church provided coloring books and colored pencils along with a pennant for all the children.

On Bible Sunday, all children ages two and four, and those in Grades 1, 3, 5, and 7 were given age-appropriate Bibles.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES

Purpose: *File and maintain archives of the congregation – documents, records, minutes, history*

Purpose: File and maintain archives of the congregation – documents, records, minutes, and history events. During 2023 the Archive Committee continued to research and provide baptismal, confirmation, and marriage information requests to member families. With the guidance of Pastor Duminy, I researched Kountze records to identify Vicars and Foreign Pastors that have served at Kountze Church. Two plaques, made by Center Trophy that list these individuals are displayed next to Norma's Nursery.

The Kountze Archive received over 500 copies of Lutheran Magazines for years 1994 to 2023. These magazines are contained in the Archive Room next to the Youth Room.

In August of 2019, at the request of Senior Pastor Olaf, until August of this year, I provided History from the Kountze Archives articles for the monthly Good News. I hope that we can get some new committee members interested in continuing these articles.

2023 marks the 165th Anniversary of the founding of Kountze Church on December 5, 1858. Pastor Hall has already given one program during the Sunday Forum in on this founding and the 14 Charter Members that included eight men and six women. More programs will be presented throughout 2024.

Chet Worm
Archive Committee Chairman

CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Neighborhood Gathering – The 2023 Neighborhood Gathering was postponed until 2024. We will be reorganizing with a new band since the jazz band retired. We will also be working with our other community partners through Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center to build upon what we have done in the past.

Lenten and Advent Meals – Lunch and Dinner were both served during the Lenten and Advent seasons. Marlys Duin and all the wonderful volunteers did an exceptional job of preparing and feeding everyone. Thank you everyone that helped serve meals and clean up. The attendance numbers were similar to 2022. Plans are under way to provide Lenten meals for 2024.

Church Picnic – The 2023 Church Picnic was held here at the church Sunday September 24. The weather was beautiful. The kids enjoyed face painting, green space games, and bounce house. The church provided the fried chicken along with mac-n-cheese, and everyone brought side dishes to share. We ended the event with Ann Miller calling Bingo in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks to all the volunteers for their hard work.

Thanksgiving Dinner at St Peter Catholic Church – November 23: This wonderful event means a lot to those less fortunate or who are missing family during this time of year. Kountze provided and cooked 25 turkeys. Also, a special thanks to all the volunteers who provided pies, delivered turkeys, or helped with set-up, clean up, serving, and everything else involved in this great event.

Looking forward 2024: We will be planning a Neighborhood Gathering towards the end of June and the Church Picnic the end of September as well as other fun events.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacob Rump, Church Council Liaison
Jim Smejkal, Director of Congregational Activities and Staff Liaison

FINANCE

Purpose: *Propose budget, oversee financial affairs of the congregation.*

Because of the commitment of the congregation to continue to give so generously, 2023 was a successful year financially for the Church. General Donations were up over 20% compared to 2022 and with the sale of deFreese Manor, KMLC was able to retire the construction loan for the renovation of the stained-glass windows.

2023 Summary

General Donations	\$ 1,035,393.36
Designated Donations	\$ 788,829.65
Other Income	\$ 35,547.13
Total Operation Income	\$ 1,859,770.14
Total Church Expenses	\$ 1,102,641.66
Total Designated Expenses	\$ 108,219.87
Total Expenses	\$ 1,210,861.53
2023 Net Income	\$ 648,908.61

Respectively submitted,
Tim Backora
Church Council Treasurer
Finance Committee Members: Joel Fischer, Steve Jacobson, Marylin Oldaker, Marsha Vance

FOOD PANTRY

“Feeding the Poor, In Christ’s Name”

2023 Statistics:	
Individual Guests	45,407
Households	17,347
Children	15,274 (33.6%)
New Households	848

The Kountze Food Pantry was open 43 Mondays and 49 Fridays in 2023 for a total of 92 service days. Monday service hours are 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, with volunteers arriving at 7:00 AM. Friday service hours are 5:00 - 7:00 PM, with volunteers arriving at 3:30 PM.

The Pantry numbers remained virtually the same as 2022, even though it was anticipated for the number to decrease dramatically with the end of the pandemic. The average household consists of 2.61 people, with 33.6% of those being children. School aged children, seniors, veterans, students, disabled, working adults, and unhoused individuals need not present identification to receive food from Kountze. The Food Bank for the Heartland requires we have our guests sign in, but it is self-reported. In addition to those who physically attend the Pantry, we also provide food to approximately 200 Methodist nursing school students, 160 Beautiful Gate Street Ministry recipients, Lutheran Family Services clients, Methodist Clinic clients, and rotating refugee families.

The Food Bank for the Heartland (FBFH) continued to provide food, free of charge, for 2023. This program is funded through September 1, 2024. Our USDA fresh produce program was distributed through the FBFH. The Pantry received the following every Monday morning at no cost to the congregation:

USDA Produce Boxes	58,344 lbs. (29.17 tons), or 1326 lbs.
FBFH	283161 lbs. (141.5 tons), or 6585 lbs.
Rotella’s	320 lbs.
Hy-Vee	700 lbs. throughout the week

These numbers do not include purchased food and generous donations of food and hygiene products donated by our congregation, partner congregations, service organizations, and businesses. Additional food is purchased using

grant money awarded from various foundations. The volunteers continue to pick-up, purchase, receive, move, and distribute approximately 10,000 lbs. each week.

Methodist Health Systems provide monthly clinics for our pantry guests. They regularly administer flu and Covid vaccines, diabetes and A1C testing, colon cancer screenings, body mass index, breast cancer awareness information, and head and neck screenings. They present a yearly Health Fair at the Pantry. They have also provided us with a Social Worker every Monday and Friday.

We continue an aggressive volunteer grant writing program, which supplements the food and hygiene products not available through our free programs. Kountze Food Pantry is the largest, completely volunteer Food Pantry in the area.

Faithfully Submitted,
Susann Frances Henry, Director
Kountze Food Pantry

GLOBAL MISSION

This past year proved to be a year of continued global mission support in the form of prayer, communication, and financial support for our missionaries as well as for people in need in Omaha and around the world. Thanks to the generosity of Kountze members, the Global Missions Committee was able to achieve the following projects in 2023:

- Support of four missionaries.
- An on-going Sister Congregation relationship with, and prayer support for, the American Church in Berlin.
- Financial support for the Wittenberg Center in Germany where Kountze members and pastors have participated in programs. The Moore's have moved on to another assignment and the committee decided to continue support for the new person at the Wittenberg Center, Rev. Bridget Gautieri (at least through the remainder of 2023).
- Alternative gifts for local and worldwide needs were down this year, but still enough to make a difference in people's lives. A total of \$5,610 was raised to help people in Omaha and around the world. \$1,270 was raised for the Kountze Food Pantry, \$700 for the Healing Gift Free Clinic, and \$225 for refugee relief. Since 2004, when the program at Kountze began, Alternative Gifts has raised \$195,603 for our neighbors here and in other parts of the world.

Our overall goal for the coming year is to increase the awareness and participation of the congregation in Kountze's long tradition of being a Worldwide Church. Specifically, we will be working to accomplish the following:

1. Continuing our support for four missionaries around the world.
2. Continuing our relationship with the American Church in Berlin.
3. Continuing the Alternative Gift program.
4. Determining other goals for the committee in 2024.

Submitted by Carol Stoltenberg and Melissa Osentowski, Committee Chairpersons
Lara McCormick, Council Liaison

MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY

The TV/Media was blessed with newer technology equipment this past year. Some of you may have noticed, we have new production cameras in the sanctuary. These new cameras are controlled remotely in the production room. I would like to thank all the TV/Media volunteers for their dedication to this ministry. We continue to look for additional TV ministry volunteers. Anyone interested in becoming part of this important outreach, please contact me or any of the committee members or simply stop by the production room.

Ron Brown, Media and Tech Committee Chair

OUTREACH

Purpose: work with pastors and staff to SHARE the gospel message. INVITE others to visit, be INVOLVED in and JOIN Kountze.

2023 activities:

Pastor Ashley continued to lead the New Member Classes in January, June, and September (class now meets between services with breakfast provided).

We welcomed 10 family units for a total of 22 individuals (17 adults and 5 children) with information packets, acknowledgment at the service, and the forum upon completion of the class. We also assigned a calling contact who emails, calls, or mails cards during the rest of the year. Gloria Erickson led a dedicated calling team that followed through with these communications.

Replaced the traditional live flower boutonnieres with artificial ones and welcome buttons for the children, which eliminates logistics of ordering, delivering, etc. Supplies are now on hand at the church. Colleen Lenners graciously offered to oversee New Member arrangements.

Ads for Christmas and Easter services placed with Omaha World-Herald and Bruce Nissen proposed postcards to the same recipients that received the Windows Celebration info. (parishioners, neighbors, businesses, other churches, etc.) announcing Advent and church services, concerts, etc. We'll evaluate the success of this next year.

With the office and clergy, oversaw the continuation of Dinners for Eight, inviting members to sign up for small group dinners for a three-month period to socialize and meet in a casual setting.

Adopted "Nametag Sunday" on fifth Sunday of the month, to encourage voluntary participation and help with the recognition of visitors and fellow church members.

GOALS for 2024

Embrace the new 'Ministry Structure' that combines committees, streamlines communication and reporting, works to eliminate duplication of effort, empowers the members of the ministries to be leaders and decision-makers, and shares this new organization with the congregation. Explain changes and mergers while inviting and encouraging them to join in areas of interest.

Integrate new members with increased opportunities for volunteer service, learning more about the church, sharing their talents, and planning social gatherings that involve different groups within the church (choir, council, youth, Sat/Sun worshippers.)

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Broekemeier
Council Liaison

PROPERTY

The Property Committee's mission is to maintain and improve the church physical plant and to provide a clean, safe, and comfortable building for all to worship in.

Items that were accomplished include:

- Addressing, repairing, and providing preventative maintenance of church systems.
- Several areas of the parking lot and sidewalk were replaced.
- Stained-glass window frames and restoration complete for larger windows.
- Elevator code compliance issue corrected.
- Continued monitoring of structural repairs in the attic space.
- Upgraded building management system, thanks to a grant from Endowment.

- Installation of new digital sign on the south side of the church which should be complete around Easter, thanks to a grant from Endowment.
- Tuckpointing and caulking of the west and north sides of the facility is complete.
- Slate roof flashing was re-caulked.
- Numerous other projects to maintain and preserve the facility for years to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Jensen – Congregational Council Liaison
Jim Smejkal – Building Superintendent

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church College and Seminary Scholarship Programs Mission statement is as follows:

Mission Statement: To encourage, facilitate and assist student members of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church to obtain a faith-based education.

For the year of 2023, the Committee would like to report the following activity:
Available funds for distribution for the year 2023 was \$6,687.00.

Of the three seminary students, currently only one student applied for assistance which the Committee approved. In addition, two college students from Kountze also received financial support from the Committee. These students are all in a post-secondary undergraduate program.

Committee members:
Mike Jensen - Council Liaison
Colleen Lenners
Jeff Perkins

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Perkins - Committee Chair

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Purpose: *Extend Christian compassion and hopefulness to all in need. Study social conditions and lead the congregation to understand social problems/issues, advocating where and with whom oppression is happening*

These are the ways you have seen this committee in action this past year:

Grief Seminar

A presentation was offered by The Rev. Ruth Tomlinson, trainer of the program, *Walking the Mourner's Path*. We gathered from Noon to 1:30 PM on All Saints Sunday, November 5, 2023, with a light lunch being served. The invitation was extended for those with personal losses to come and express grief and learn ways to create the story of their loved one. It was in listening to each other's stories we became aware that we are not alone in our grief.

Thanksgiving Dinner with St. Peter's Catholic Church

Since at least 2012, we have been coordinating a community dinner on Thanksgiving Day with St. Peter Catholic Church. It is our pleasure to work with Kevin and Cindy Engelkamp, who organize this ministry at St. Peter's. As usual, our many volunteers help make this possible by bringing desserts, set up, take down, ironing, preparing "to-go" sack lunches, kitchen crew, serving line, busing tables, and hospitality. This has been a warm and rich blessing to our two parishes and to the people we serve in the name of our Lord. While St. Peter's hosts the event in their gym (with white table linens and a chandelier), Kountze Memorial commits to purchasing the turkeys. This year, inflation meant that we exceeded our normal budget for this (\$500). Together, we served around 435 people.

Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Prayer Service

Kountze Memorial has continued to participate in this city-wide inter-faith service among Jews, Christians, and Muslims (which has been held for 31 years). This year, the service was held at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on Sunday, November 10, with the theme "Unity in a Time of Conflict." Pastor Wynard was part of the planning committee and both she and Pr. Hall vested for the service; several members and friends of Kountze Memorial were in attendance. The Kripke Center of Creighton University again hosted the cookie reception afterwards. Next year, the service will be held at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church the Sunday before Thanksgiving. All are invited to attend. Proceeds from the collect benefit Together (formerly: Together, Inc.) in their mission to prevent hunger and homelessness in our region.

Omaha Streetcar

The proposed Omaha streetcar plans for operation right outside of our doors. This transportation development has the potential to greatly affect our members, visitors to the congregation, the guests we serve through Kountze Commons, and the visibility of our congregation. The Social Ministry Committee is aware of these opportunities and will seek to keep abreast of developments and communicate these developments with the congregation.

This committee welcomes people with hearts and minds for serving God to join us. Council liaisons Jacob Rump and Steve Hinrichs are working with Pastor Hall to maintain the outward focus of the congregation. We are greatly enhanced by the good work of KCCOC Executive Director, Jill Conway. The great connections that are being made will continue to allow us to serve in the neighborhood.

STEWARDSHIP

Committee Members: Lisa Chinn, Ann Miller, Liz Pemberton, Dannika Rees, and Pastor Lucy Wynard



We thank Kountze Memorial's faith community for your love, prayers, and support which will allow Kountze to begin new endeavors and grow our current Christ-driven missions this coming year.

As of January 29, 2024, 155 intent (pledge) cards were received. The total amount pledged was \$614,745 – which averaged \$3,966.10 per household. (It should be noted that each year between 5 - 10 additional pledges are made after this report is submitted. By way of illustration, last year the reported intent (pledge) card amount was 175, but our year-end figure saw 181 total received intent cards.) Overall, this year was a decrease in both overall intended pledges and amount of overall pledged giving. However, the overall amount pledged by household *increased* from \$3,701.17 last year to \$3,966.10.

By comparison, the numbers from the last three years pledge campaigns are below:

- In 2023, we received 181 intent (pledge) cards with a combined pledge total of \$669,912; our year-end total receipt of pledges was \$686,463.02. An increase of \$16,551.02 in pledged giving.
- In 2022, we received 173 pledge cards with a combined pledge total of \$553,141; our year-end total receipt of pledges was \$563,181.93. An increase of \$10,040.93 in pledged giving.
- In 2021, we received 179 pledge cards with a combined pledge total of \$555,802; our year-end total receipt of pledges was \$549,279.02. A decrease of \$6,552.98 in pledged giving.

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, we want to thank all Kountze Memorial members for their prayerful considerations and generous pledges to help Kountze Memorial continue in its Christ-driven missions both here and across the globe. Our continued success would not have been possible without your assistance, guidance, and loving commitment. The Stewardship Committee extends a personal thanks to Debbie Bogue, Noni Cambridge, and Danielle Barrett for all their time and support this past year.

Sincerely,
Ann C. Miller, Stewardship Chair

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Purpose: “A community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.”

Kountze Women of the ELCA activities included:

- 13 funeral meals (1,127 guests) were served. Many members provided salads and cakes.
- One wedding reception was served.
- Assisted with Lenten and Advent meals.
- 60% of our general offering was given to the Nebraska Synodical Women’s Organization (\$1,430.40)
- Special offerings were collected for Table Grace, Bethlehem House, Bowari family reserve account, Access Period, Lutheran World Relief Shipping Fund, Kountze Pantry, and Thank Offering (\$2,143).
- Tangible offerings included shoes for “A Day Without Shoes” project, peanut butter and soup project, and children’s book project for the Kountze Pantry.
- An offering was collected, a grant was requested and received from the Kountze Endowment Fund, and umbrellas and stands were purchased for the green space tables.
- Offerings were collected and arrangements were made to have the kitchen ovens professionally cleaned.
- The Kountze sewing group shipped 164 quilts and 27 personal care kits to Lutheran World Relief. They also made quilts for graduating seniors and donated quilts to the Camp Carol Joy Holling auction.
- The Kountze Prayer Shawl Group made several shawls that were given to members and friends.
- Members sent cards and/or visited our Kountze Family Friends (homebound members) and others dealing with health issues.
- Helped with the Pre-Lenten Women’s Retreat in February and a “Pumpkins and Piano” Women’s Gathering was held in October.
- Some Kountze members belong to Lutheran Women of Omaha and participated in the Nebraska Synodical Women’s Organization’s Metro East Spring Gathering and Saved to Serve activities.

There are three Circles that meet on various days and times for Bible study, hospitality, and service. All women of KMLC are invited to participate. For more information, please call Pat Studts (402-592-3093) or the church office.

Pat Studts, Coordinator
Chris Kendall, Treasurer

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Committee Members: Deb Hinrichs, Interim Senior Pastor Stephen Griffith until August, Associate Pastor Shari Duminy until October, Senior Pastor Lucy Wynard from October going forward, Director of Music and Fine Arts and Director of Children’s Music Barb Carlsen, Director of Youth Choir and Children’s Choir accompanist, Janet Campbell, and members at large, Jon Natvig, Bruce Nissen, Jeff and Robin Perkins, Dotty Sum, and Pam Johnson.

The 2023 Worship and Music Committee (the Committee), under the leadership of Interim Senior Pastor Stephen Griffith and Associate Pastor Shari Duminy, and Senior Pastor Lucy Wynard, focused on their goal to provide spiritual and meaningful worship to the congregation and guests of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. Primary efforts included the scheduling and planning of weekly worship services.

Each service requires the combined commitment and participation of the Altar Guild, Order of St. John, Ushers, Greeters, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Bell Choir members, Children’s Choir members, and Kountze Adult Choir members. The Committee would like to thank the members of each of these groups for their time and commitment, special gifts, and the contributions they make to the Kountze Memorial worship.

In addition to the traditional Saturday evening and Sunday morning services, the Committee is tasked with planning and implementing mid-week services during Lent and Advent seasons, Holy Week services, as well as special services for Easter, Reformation, All Saints, Candlelight Carol Service, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and other church holidays.

The Adult Choir has been singing at both Sunday Services except for the summer break. The employment of several paid vocalists at each service has strengthened the number of voices and has enhanced the sound of each Sunday's offertory presentation. The Bell Choir, under the direction of Barb Carlsen, will continue to look for opportunities to share their musical talents. The Children's Choir sings for Sunday worship periodically. This year's Lenten theme focused on passages from Jonah entitled "Unfinished." The Holden Evening Prayer liturgy was used at the evening mid-week services. Sanctus Bells were used to signal the start of each Lenten and Advent mid-week service. Confirmands served as Ushers and Acolytes at both the Lenten and Advent mid-week evening services. Kountze Memorial Adult Choir joined the Trinity Episcopal Choir for the Ascension Day service on May 18. On May 21, First Plymouth Church from Lincoln presented a beautiful and contemplative Compline service at Kountze. The Worship and Music Committee, with the leadership of Bruce Nissen, assisted with the planning of a special service and reception to dedicate the newly refurbished and installed stained-glass windows. That special celebration service was celebrated on Rally Sunday. Kountze Adult Choir joined the Trinity Episcopal Choir on October 4 for the St. Francis of Assisi Service for Peace. Pastor Lucy Wynard was installed as the Senior Pastor on October 22 with Greg Berger, Assistant to the Bishop officiating. The theme for Advent was "Why Wait?" and Holden Evening Prayer Liturgy was used for the evening mid-week services. The Gonzales Advent Liturgy was used for Sunday worship services. On December 16 we enjoyed a beautiful Candlelight Carol Service. A cheese and dessert reception followed that very special and inspirational blend of readings, instrumental, choral, and congregational music. On December 17, Kountze hosted Tuba Christmas with 76 tubas performing in the sanctuary. Postcard mailings, use of yard signs, and social media posting efforts had a positive effect on attendance for some of these events.

Barb Carlsen has been the Director of Children's Music for this past year.

There is no Youth Choir at the present time, but Janet Campbell will remain as Director should that situation change. Janet continues to plan the Candlelight Carol Service along with Director of Music Barb Carlsen. Janet also accompanies the Children's Choir when they sing for Sunday worship.

Dotty Sum and Pam Johnson remain as leaders of the Altar Guild with volunteers assisting with flowers, candle oil, preparation of the Eucharist, and changing of the paraments as needed. Dotty and Pam continue to train any new members. Eucharistic ministers have continued to volunteer to assist with serving communion for all services. We continue to support three stations for 9:00 AM worship and two stations for 11:00 AM worship.

Reading of the Lessons continues on a volunteer basis. Kountze Youth are reading the Lessons at the 9:00 AM service on the 3rd Sunday of every month. Lectors may use Signup Genius to indicate their availability to read. We continue to look for ways to provide opportunities for new Lectors to participate.

The OSJ has some challenges with having enough participants to have a Crucifer and two torch bearers at each service. When that is the case, the Communion Assistant(s) will act as a torch bearer(s) for any service that is in need. All Confirmation members are being trained for OSJ. A special appreciation lunch was held in the spring for OSJ members and their families. Members of OSJ have been trained by Jeff and Robin Perkins as needed. They, along with Jill Gittler, continue to coordinate the OSJ for the 9:00 AM service. James Holzer has become the OSJ leader for 11:00 AM worship.

There has been training for ushers this past year as needed. Long-time Ushers, Fred Wachal and Joe Council, have retired after many years of faithful service. There is a continued need for more Ushers for each service. At the present time we are not using Greeters at any service due to lack of volunteers.

The Committee continues to endorse the printing of the Liturgy and Lessons in each week's bulletin to provide smooth and meaningful worship guidelines for members and guests. We believe this format continues to provide the clearest transition through all the essential components of worship. Hymnals are available in the pews should anyone prefer to use them during the service.

The Committee would like to recognize the many and outstanding contributions of Barb Carlsen, Mark Jones, David Gerard, Anita Morse, and Janet Campbell, for the ongoing talent they share with our church community. We are especially grateful for the faithful continuous service provided by Mark Jones, Barb Carlsen, and David Gerard.

We remain committed to providing a traditional-style worship service. Exploring ways to offer a more extensive and vibrant worship life will continue to be our primary goal as we continue to provide a worship atmosphere at each service that is spiritual, liturgical, and meaningful for all who attend.

Deb Hinrichs, Worship and Music Committee Member

YOUTH MINISTRY

Living out our faith, we provide spiritual, social, and service interactions in our world for KMLC youth and friends

Council Liaison, Madeline O’Kane and members, Ashley Sum, Mia Valquier, Brooks Hinrichs, and Dannika Rees have provided leadership for this area of ministry this year.

Youth Forum meets regularly during the school months between worship times in the Youth Room. We share our highs and lows while engaging in Bible studies, discussions of current events, learning spiritual practices, and enjoying growing in relationships through playing games. We give thanks for the youth who have signed up to help with the breakfast prep and clean up.

Service opportunities were offered in conjunction with the Faith Formation.

Summer Trip Five youth joined with others around the NE Synod for a service trip to Denver. We spent the days learning about ministries around the Denver area and doing projects that would assist them with their mission. There was also time for building relationship, worship, Bible study and some fun activities. Our home for the week was Regis University and we are grateful for these days set apart to learn more about one another and God who grants us many opportunities to worship, grow, and serve in the world. Thank you to the members who financially supported our trip through sponsorships. Thank you to parents of the youth who provided transportation and encouragement.

The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering has four youth and two adult leaders registered. Attending the Young Adult Gathering at the same time will be two members with others still considering attending this opportunity. NOLA awareness events to meet our budget concerns have begun and will continue into this next year.

Activities for youth are difficult to plan as often just a few will participate. Other churches are feeling this as well. Five Metro churches have come together to provide opportunities for youth. I am grateful for the staff at Morningstar, St. Timothy, Holy Cross, and Lord of Love for joining together in providing activities for youth this past fall and into the spring. We also are incorporating the Camp and Synod offerings as well into our planning.

The following are ways we have participated together: Nebraska Synod Middle School Gathering, Middle School Pumpkin Patch Outing for Confirmation Youth, and High School Synod LYON Assembly.

This collaborative group provided a 4th – 6th grade Bowling Down Barriers in the spring and a bus trip in the fall. Due to low numbers, the group is focusing on our collaborative Confirmation Program that began this fall.

The committee planned events for this fall with participation happening with an Outing to a Haunted House and Hollywood Candy Store, a Friendsgiving Potluck, and a Progressive Christmas Dinner with Gift Exchange that was hosted by three families in our congregation.

ELCA Church-wide Youth Summit was attended in November by high school youth, Mia Valquier and Lilly Kassel. This is an experience for two youth and one adult leader from each Synod every year. Usually located at outdoor ministry sites, this year the gathering happened in Chicago at the Church-wide offices. What an incredible experience for the KLMLC youth!

We look forward to our continued work. Your prayers and considerations for how you might support this ministry are always appreciated.



BOARD REPORTS
ENDOWMENT FUND

Endowment’s purpose is “to extend and enhance the mission outreach of the Church.”¹

Representing KLMLC in our Community, our Synod, and Globally,
Endowment provided these grants in 2023:

\$261,095	Total Funds authorized for grants in 2023 ²
(66,209)	KLMLC Pantry – Annual Support of rent
(23,433)	Healing Gift Free Clinic – Annual Support of rent
(40,000)	KLMLC Tuckpointing of the brick on the west and north sides of KLMLC church building
(10,500)	KLMLC Property Committee – replace building management system (BMS) controller
(46,435)	KLMLC – special request for a new digital building sign
(10,000)	KLMLC Call Committee – special request for expenses of calling a new Senior Pastor
(10,000)	KLMLC Global Missions – Annual Support
(3,900)	KLMLC Global Missions – Special Support of Am Church in Berlin for its Ukrainian refugee ministry
(25,971)	KLMLC Media Ministry – Annual Support
(3,635)	KLMLC Media Ministry – special request for new video cameras
(2,000)	KLMLC WELCA Quilters – special request for support with the cost of quilting materials
(1,500)	KLMLC WELCA – special request for support of WELCA’s purchase of umbrellas for Kountze Commons
(10,000)	NLOM Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries
(2,500)	NLCM Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry, Inc.
(5,000)	Table Grace
\$ 12	Remaining

2023 Funds went to: KLMLC Missions 56% -- KLMLC Capital Expenditures 37% -- Outside Missions 7%

As of December 31, 2023, Endowment had a total of \$7,850,346 in its investment and bank accounts. This is an increase of \$936,818 over Endowment’s value on December 31, 2022 of \$6,913,528.

In 2023, Endowment received \$179,234 from the Bonfante estate. This was in addition to the \$1,465,841 it received in 2022 from this estate. Additional funds from this estate are expected.

¹ KLMLC organized its first Endowment Fund around 1985 as a trust fund. Its primary purpose was to support the KLMLC Media Ministry. The current Endowment Fund was organized in 2014 as an independent 501(c)(3) corporation.
² Each calendar year, Endowment has a certain amount of funds it may grant for strictly limited purposes. This amount is calculated in January based on a formula in its Bylaws.

In 2023, Endowment received a number of memorial gifts. Many were given in memory of Marvin Anderson who was instrumental in establishing the original KMLC Endowment Fund in the mid-1980s, and in particular, the strong framework of operations under which the current Endowment Fund continues to operate.

Endowment’s target investment allocation is 60% equity and 40% fixed income. As it invests Endowment funds, the Board continues to utilize a broadly diversified portfolio, which is implemented using low-cost exchange traded funds (ETFs). The portfolio is allocated to US stocks, non-US stocks, US bonds, non-US bonds, real estate via KETV, and cash. Endowment’s target allocation for ETFs is: 48% Total US Stock Market, 12% Total International Stock Market, and 40% Total Bond Market. All investment strategies are passively managed. The weighted average annual investment management fee for the portfolio, excluding real estate, is approximately 0.05%.

In addition to the funds in the investment and bank accounts, the Endowment Fund is also the sole owner of Kountze Endowment True Vision, LLC, a limited liability company commonly referred to as “KETV.” (This KETV should not be confused with the TV station). KETV was organized for the sole purpose of owning and financing the property we commonly call Kountze Commons. In other words, KETV is a real estate management company. It rents the Kountze Commons facilities to various groups, including the Kountze Pantry, the Healing Gift Free Clinic, the Methodist Community Health Clinic, and Lutheran Family Services. KETV is the primary entity liable for the debt on Kountze Commons. Its loan from MIF was guaranteed by KMLC. Endowment provided the initial \$2.2 million of funds to KETV to purchase the Kountze Commons property as part of its real estate investment portfolio. In calculating the Endowment Fund value for purposes of determining the amount of funds available for annual grants, the value of KETV has not been taken into consideration.

- The current Endowment Board includes:
- Sarah Penn, Chairman and Secretary
 - Gary Clatterbuck, Vice Chairman and Endowment Representative to the KETV Board
 - Mike Edris, Treasurer
 - Mike Jensen, Congregational Council Representative
 - Lyn Ziegenbein, Board Member
 - Pastor Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor

DEL & LOU ANN WEBER HEALING GIFT FREE CLINIC

Healing Gift Free Clinic (HGFC) 2023 Board of Directors: Larry Camenzind, Kiara Gallagher (Med Student September - December), Rev. H. Ashley Hall, Ph.D. (Corporation President), Bryan Handlos (Legal Counsel), Steve Hinrichs (KMLC Congregation Counsel Representative), Linda Hoven (Chair), Sarah Ives (Med Student), Chris Morrow (Secretary), Elle Nuttall (Med Student January-August), Becca Sedlak (October-December), Tyler Willson (resigned August), Jenna Woster (Treasurer) and Joyce Palmer (Administrative Director).

Dedicated weekly Clinic volunteers provided health care guidance for the appropriate operation of the Clinic under the organizational leadership of the above individuals.

Patient Visits	782	<u>Language of Patients</u>	
Weeks of Clinic	48	English	143
Rxs Filled	4,845	Karan	7
Average Cost of Rxs	\$ 7.22	Spanish	6
Average Cost/Patient/Visit	\$ 43.91	Vietnamese	2
		Arabic/French	4

The Clinic provides general and mental health care through these licensed and credentialed providers: general practitioners, nephrologist, orthopedist, rheumatologist, occupational therapist, behavioral health counselor, dietitians, social worker, and cardiologist. The Clinic is also fortunate to have medical students, nursing students, pharmacy students, occupational therapy students, pre-med students, and religious interns (vicars).

Various foundation grants made it possible to purchase insulin, A1C test kits, and blood pressure home monitor units. The Pharmacy works to secure patient assistance medications and free medications from pharmaceutical companies.

2023 HGFC Financial Income and Expenses

Income		
Congregations/ Organizations/		
Individuals/Memorials/Honorariums	\$	37,334.00
Foundation Grants		30,844.99
Interest		4,893.45
	Income Total	\$ 73,072.44
Expenses		
Medications	\$	37,322.23
Rent		23,343.00
Office & Administration		<u>30,935.18</u>
	Total Expenses	\$ 91,600.42

Anticipated changes in 2024: Dr. Jerry L. Fischer stepping down as Medical Director, Cardiology Clinic start, purchase & implement pharmacy computer equipment and software (possible grant and use of estate gift), and BP Home Monitoring Program.

HGFC is grateful to Methodist Community Health Clinic for providing essential lab work results.

In Christ's Service,
Joyce C. Palmer, Administrative Director

KOUNTZE ENDOWMENT TRUE VISION (KETV), LLC

KETV Board of directors in 2023: Marilyn Oldaker (stepped down in August), Deb Hinrichs, Dale Broekemeier, Gary Clatterbuck, Steve O'Connor (joined the board in August), Jim Smejkal.

The board of directors meets quarterly to review overall condition of the building and surrounding grounds, CBRE accomplishments and repairs, accounting and financials as well as authorizing additional principal payments as funds are available to do so, thus reducing MIF construction loan.

KETV has continued to receive monetary support in continuing to reduce the MIF construction loan amount.

It is an exciting time for the board of directors as well as the Kountze Congregation, the anonymous donor gift has been received and will be applied to the principal on the MIF loan (possibly by the time you're reading this). This will bring our remaining loan balance below a million dollars.

Once again, this year we would like acknowledge the support received from the Congregation. It truly is a blessing. With continued support, the mission of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church through Kountze Commons will continue for many years to come.

A special note of thanks are the grants that the Kountze Endowment provides the Del & Lou Ann Weber Healing Gift Free Clinic and the Kountze Food Pantry to pay for rent of the two entities rental areas which in turn allows the Kountze commons to operate on a positive financial basis.

Respectfully submitted:
Jim Smejkal, KETV Board President

KETV LLC Balance Sheet 2023

ASSETS

Unrestricted Cash	
Dundee Checking - 0044	\$ 16,456.28
CBRE - Trust Account	\$ 69,914.63
Dundee Savings - 5756	\$ 217,691.52
Total Unrestricted Cash	\$ 304,062.43
Restricted Cash	
MIF - Building Reserve - 7295	\$ 106,871.32
Total Restricted Cash	\$ 106,871.32
Total Checking/Savings	\$ 410,933.75
Other Current Assets	
Tenant Receivable	\$ (17,941.90)
KMLC Receivable - Phase 2	\$ 18,397.65
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 455.75
Total Current Assets	\$ 411,389.50
Fixed Assets	
Leasehold Improvements	\$ 12,859.00
Property, Plant & Equipment	
Building	\$ 5,527,126.03
Accum Depreciation - Building	\$ (1,089,395.08)
Land	\$ 3,587,173.83
Land Improvements	\$ 219,876.80
Accum Depreciation - Land Impr	\$ (12,392.30)
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	\$ 8,232,389.28
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 8,245,248.28
Other Assets	
Design Costs	\$ 34,425.00
Accum Allowance - Design Costs	\$ (34,425.00)
Loan Costs	\$ 12,035.00
Accum Amortization - Loan Costs	\$ (2,808.17)
Total Other Assets	\$ 9,226.83
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 8,665,864.61
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Long Term Liabilities	
MIF Building Loan - 3991	\$ 1,815,625.11
Total Long Term Liabilities	\$ 1,815,625.11
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<i>\$ 1,815,625.11</i>
Equity	
Retained Earnings	\$ 6,858,300.02
Net Income	\$ (8,060.52)
Total Equity	\$ 6,850,239.50
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 8,665,864.61

KETV KKC Treasurer's Report for 2023

CONTRIBUTION INCOME

Capital Campaign	\$ 150.00	
Commons Phase 2	\$ 210,657.97	
Total Contribution Income		\$ 210,807.97
Earned Income		
Rental Income	\$ 163,212.60	
Common Area Maintenance	\$ 36,705.00	
Interest Income	\$ 11,779.53	
Total Earned Income		\$ 211,697.13
Total Income		\$ 422,505.10
Gross Profit		\$ 422,505.10

EXPENSE

Operations		
Custodial Fees	\$ 29,728.09	
Exterminating	\$ 860.28	
Fire/Safety Prevention	\$ 6,763.07	
Graphics & Displays	\$ 705.97	
Lock and Hardware Supplies	\$ -	
Office Expense	\$ 755.45	
Property Management Fees	\$ 9,535.00	
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 45,816.78	
Restroom Supplies	\$ 1,577.40	
Security Contract Services	\$ 10,069.15	
Snow Removal/Lawn Care	\$ 13,730.72	
Utilities		
Electricity	\$ 17,960.04	
Gas & Water	\$ 14,936.00	
Telephone	\$ 6,862.92	
Trash Removal	\$ 4,254.33	
Total Utilities		\$ 44,013.29
Total Operations		\$ 163,555.20
Administration		
Depreciation Expense	\$ 178,584.00	
Insurance Expense	\$ 14,233.00	
Interest Expense	\$ 73,973.56	
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 219.86	
Total Administration		\$ 267,010.42
Total Expense		\$ 430,565.62
Net Ordinary Income		\$ (8,060.52)
Net Income		\$ (8,060.52)

KOUNTZE COMMONS COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER

Mission: Feed the Hungry, Heal the Sick, Tend the Soul.

The members of the Board are:

Tim Holland, Chair
Lisa Chinn, Vice Chair
Dale Broekemeier, Treasurer
Deborah Hinrichs, Secretary
Kate McCoy Jones, Council Representative
Rev. Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor
Rev. H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Jill Conway, Executive Director
Jim Smejkal, KETV Representative
Ruth Henneman, Member
Christy Ross, Member

KCCOC is officially its own 501(c)(3). This tax-exempt status allows significantly more opportunities for grants to fulfill our mission. An anonymous donor made a very generous grant in light of our 501(3)(c) status: \$892,000 for KETV/Kountze Commons debt relief and \$208,000 to KCCOC for general operating funds. We are very grateful for this donation. The funds were received in January 2024. The Board is working on finalizing the Bylaws and budget, as well as forming an advisory committee to ensure we are meeting the needs of the community we serve. We hired Kristina Blatchford as an independent bookkeeper. KCCOC renewed its NAM (Nonprofit Association of the Midlands) membership.

There are quarterly partnership meetings between the Kountze Food Pantry, Healing Gift Free Clinic, Methodist Community Health Clinic, and Lutheran Family Services. KCCOC is working with these partners in grant writing and expanded services and partnerships. We provided more bilingual (English and Spanish) materials regarding social services. Possible future projects include improving interpretation services throughout the building as well as access to Metro Area Transit. We will hold a spring food drive during Lent for the Pantry.

We met and continue to meet with various community and religious partners who run pantries and/or serve the homeless, as well as other non-profits in our surrounding neighborhood. Food insecurity and unsheltered homelessness is a growing problem; thus, we are looking for opportunities to serve these needs. We will partner with the City of Omaha Homeless Services Coordinator for education on homelessness for our partners and volunteers. We are building collaborative partnerships as well, including relationships with Project Everlast, Together, and MACCH (Metro Area Continuum of Care for the Homeless).

With gratitude,

Jill Conway
Executive Director

BALANCE SHEET

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet, Dec 31, 2023

Current Assets

Unrestricted	
Checking - Dundee Bank	
Elaine Bonfante Fund	\$ 113,975.50
deFreese Manor Fund	\$ 755,858.25
MIF Children's Baptism Gift	\$ 2,000.00
General Fund	\$ 636.40
Bible Fund	\$ 2,975.27
Domed Roof Fund	\$ -8,846.33
Kountze Food Pantry Fund	\$ 244,865.26
Music Fund	\$ 295.00
Pastors Discretionary	\$ 2,107.57
Special Instrumental Music	\$ 3,652.10
TV/Media Ministry Fund	\$ 82,835.85
Stained Glass Windows Fund	\$ 1,130.68
Undesignated Memorials Fund	\$ 691,506.01
Youth Trip	\$ 4,542.82
Total Checking - Dundee Bank	\$1,897,534.38
MIF - CD 7498	\$ 99,836.91
Total Unrestricted	\$1,997,371.29

Restricted	
Kountze Pantry CD	\$ 100,000.00
Dundee Pastor Checking Account	\$ 799.68
Schwab Bank Sweep - Scholarship	\$ 1,833.68
Swab Bank Sweep 0774 - Lundeen	\$ 1,074.40
Savings - Dundee Bank	
Undesignated Memorials Savings	\$ 22,384.33
Pantry Designated Savings	\$ 87,327.73
M Smith Grant - Instr. Music	\$ 4,224.94
Stained Glass Window Funding	\$ 386.56
Total Savings - Dundee Bank	\$ 114,323.56
MIF Demand 7156	\$ 201.62
Total Restricted	\$ 218,232.94
Total Checking and Savings	\$2,215,604.23

Designated Funds Income

Call Process	\$ 10,000.00
Kountze Pantry Grant	\$ 2,775.00
Kountze Pantry	\$ 62,179.66
Memorials - Pantry	\$ 23,955.61
Memorial - Undesignated	\$ 645,563.10
Music	\$ 102.65
Memorials - Music	\$ 300.00
Pastors' Discretionary	\$ 3,493.00
Stained Glass Windows	\$ 1,643.33
TV & Media Ministry	\$ 33,528.80
Youth Trip	\$ 5,280.50
Total Designated Income	\$ 788,821.65

Designated Expenses

Bibles	\$ 224.57
Kountze Pantry	\$ 24,849.90
Pastors' Discretionary	\$ 6,087.10
Special Instrumental Music	\$ 13,000.00
TV & Media Ministry	\$ 28,478.65
Undesignated Memorials	\$ 7,807.62
Youth Trip	\$ 8,990.00
Total Designated Expenses	\$ 108,219.87

PROPOSED BUDGET 2024

Kountze Memorial

		Budget 2023	Actual thru December 2023	Proposed Budget 2024
<u>Receipts</u>				
General Offering	\$	887,000	\$ 970,992	\$ 998,500
<u>Special Services</u>				
Ash Wednesday	\$	1,000	\$ 785	\$ 1,000
Lenten	\$	3,000	\$ 2,834	\$ 3,300
Easter	\$	7,500	\$ 5,715	\$ 6,500
Ascension	\$	100	\$ 10	\$ 100
Thanksgiving	\$	1,200	\$ 877	\$ 1,200
Advent	\$	2,100	\$ 1,837	\$ 2,100
Christmas	\$	10,000	\$ 6,180	\$ 7,200
Loose Offering	\$	5,000	\$ 4,198	\$ 5,500
Initial Offering	\$	500	\$ 644	\$ 865
Candles	\$	400	\$ 155	\$ 350
Building Repair/Maintenance	\$	2,600	\$ 1,231	\$ 1,750
Sunday School Offering	\$	2,000	\$ 2,921	\$ 3,350
Congregational Life	\$	500	\$ 3,765	\$ 4,300
Youth Programs	\$	3,000	\$ 748	\$ 1,500
Flowers	\$	4,000	\$ 3,795	\$ 4,250
Breakfast Freewill	\$	4,500	\$ 10,595	\$ 12,500
Advent/Lenten Meals	\$	2,000	\$ 2,194	\$ 2,600
Men's Luncheon	\$	1,200	\$ 820	\$ 1,200
Coffee & Cookies	\$	2,500	\$ 1,413	\$ 1,800
Stained Glass/Construction Donations	\$	8,500	\$ 1,643	\$ 1,800
Funeral Lunch	\$	2,100	\$ 2,080	\$ 2,600
In Kind	\$	700	\$ 998	\$ 1,300
<u>Total Unrestricted Receipts</u>	\$	953,400	\$ 1,026,430	\$ 1,065,565
<u>Other Income</u>				
Organ Maintenance				
KETV LLC	\$	35,000		\$ 38,700
Building Use	\$	7,000	\$ 8,400	\$ 12,000
Dividend Income	\$	22,000	\$ 19,069	\$ 21,000
Gain on Sale of Investment	\$	50,500	\$ 5,711	\$ 7,500
Interest Income	\$	4,200	\$ 8,115	\$ 8,500
Music	\$	1,250	\$ 103	\$ 200
Memorials - Music	\$	500	\$ 300	\$ 500
Other Income	\$	2,700	\$ 2,461	\$ 2,750
Scholarship			\$ 6,687	\$ 6,400
<u>Total Other Income</u>	\$	123,150	\$ 50,846	\$ 97,550
<u>Total Receipts</u>	\$	1,076,550	\$ 1,077,276	\$ 1,163,115

Kountze Memorial

		<i>Actual thru</i>	Proposed
	Budget 2023	December 2023	Budget 2024
<u>Expenses</u>			
Benevolence			
Nebraska Synod	\$ 77,500	\$ 77,500	\$ 80,000
Total	\$ 77,500	\$ 77,500	\$ 80,000
Christian Education			
Children's Ministries	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,444	\$ 2,100
Nursery Supplies		\$ 52	\$ 100
Adult Education	\$ 200	\$ 250	\$ 500
Seasonal Gatherings	\$ 500	\$ 84	\$ 300
Other Christian Education	\$ 200	\$ 1,681	\$ 1,500
Seminary Scholarship	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,687	\$ 6,400
Devotional Literature	\$ 1,070	\$ 2,181	\$ 1,200
Total	\$ 10,720	\$ 14,379	\$ 12,100
Facility Costs			
Organ	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,426	\$ 3,500
Piano	\$ 440	\$ 360	\$ 340
Insurance	\$ 32,000	\$ 36,525	\$ 40,707
Custodial Supplies	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,941	\$ 4,000
Snow Removal	\$ 18,000	\$ 24,390	\$ 21,000
Trash Removal	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,041	\$ 2,000
Permits/Fees	\$ 500	\$ 542	\$ 500
Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 50,000	\$ 86,398	\$ 60,000
Lawn Care	\$ 14,000	\$ 9,909	\$ 14,000
Utilities	\$ 63,500	\$ 63,697	\$ 67,000
Property/Equipment	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,958	\$ 4,000
Church Van	\$ 1,000	\$ 207	\$ 300
Security Services	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,381	\$ 4,500
Total	\$ 194,840	\$ 241,775	\$ 221,847
Compensation			
Clergy Housing	\$ 83,098	\$ 79,793	\$ 78,074
Continuing Ed/Resources	\$ 1,000	\$ 194	\$ 1,000
Group Insurance	\$ 60,300	\$ 63,497	\$ 65,529
Meetings/Conf/Seminars	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,780	\$ 3,000
Retirement	\$ 31,015	\$ 30,228	\$ 31,196
Vehicle Allowance	\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000
Christian Ed Wages	\$ 19,976	\$ 19,976	\$ 16,448
Clergy Salaries	\$ 128,410	\$ 124,133	\$ 125,238
Cong Life Salaries	\$ 36,046	\$ 36,046	\$ 37,200
Custodial	\$ 48,007	\$ 47,100	\$ 52,800
Music	\$ 66,126	\$ 67,351	\$ 68,244
Office	\$ 169,560	\$ 147,055	\$ 190,208
Payroll Taxes	\$ 25,067	\$ 24,208	\$ 27,916
Payroll Provider	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,673	\$ 2,800
Total	\$ 675,405	\$ 644,034	\$ 700,653

Kountze Memorial

		<i>Actual thru</i>	Proposed
	Budget 2023	December 2023	Budget 2024
Worship & Music			
Adult Choir	\$ 1,500	\$ 928	\$ 1,650
Handbell Choir	\$ 225		\$ 100
Children's Choir	\$ 100		\$ 225
Instrumentalists	\$ -		\$ 3,900
Vocalist	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,842	\$ 33,840
Organ/Piano Substitute Pay	\$ -		\$ 3,000
Copyright Fees	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,637	\$ 3,600
Speakers/Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,750	\$ 1,950	\$ 1,750
Altar Guild/Worship Supplies	\$ 3,250	\$ 2,647	\$ 3,250
Candlelight Carol Service	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,410	\$ 3,500
Other Worship	\$ 1,000	\$ 807	\$ 1,000
Order of St John	\$ 100	\$ 295	\$ 300
Flowers & Candles	\$ 2,850	\$ 3,007	\$ 2,850
Total	\$ 37,575	\$ 39,523	\$ 58,965
Youth			
Youth Programs	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,636	\$ 6,000
Confirmation	\$ 1,000	\$ 638	\$ 300
Total	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,274	\$ 6,300
Parish Life			
Stewardship	\$ 2,200		\$ 2,000
Outreach/TV Ministry	\$ 2,500		\$ 3,300
Other Outreach	\$ 4,000	\$ 272	\$ 400
Neighborhood Gathering	\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000
Summer Picnic	\$ 750	\$ 825	\$ 1,200
Advent/Lenten Meals	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,917	\$ 2,000
Sunday Breakfasts	\$ 3,500	\$ 6,821	\$ 7,000
Coffee & Cookies	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,218	\$ 2,400
Committee Mtgs	\$ 190	\$ 357	\$ 350
Family & Friends	\$ 750		\$ 500
Funeral Lunch Food	\$ 1,000	\$ 930	\$ 1,000
Men's Luncheon	\$ 1,200	\$ 598	\$ 1,000
Other Food	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,264	\$ 2,600
Special Events/Activities	\$ 500	\$ 6,954	\$ 500
Volunteer Appreciation	\$ 480	\$ 64	\$ 400
Yesterday's Youth	\$ 100		\$ 150
Synod Assembly	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,050	\$ 1,500
Kitchen Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,402	\$ 2,750
Conferences	\$ 3,000		\$ 500
Archives	\$ 300	\$ 338	\$ 300
Total	\$ 31,270	\$ 26,010	\$ 31,850

Kountze Memorial

		<i>Actual thru</i>	Proposed
	Budget 2023	December 2023	Budget 2024
Office & Administration			
Postage	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,953	\$ 7,100
Office Supplies	\$ 5,700	\$ 8,524	\$ 9,000
Off Envelopes	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,683	\$ 5,000
Telephone	\$ 6,500	\$ 3,285	\$ 4,500
Bank Charges	\$ 150	\$ 170	\$ 200
Vanco Charges	\$ 2,300	\$ 3,119	\$ 3,500
Computer Stuff / License Support	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,820	\$ 1,000
Office Equip/Maint	\$ 7,500	\$ 9,316	\$ 9,500
Investment Fees	\$ 2,400	\$ 1,965	\$ 2,400
Membership Fees	\$ 120		\$ 200
Professional Fees	\$ 200	\$ 4,639	\$ 8,000
Loan Interest	\$ 4,870	\$ 9,892	\$ -
Other Office	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,383	\$ 1,000
Total	\$ 45,240	\$ 54,749	\$ 51,400
TOTAL	\$ 1,076,550	\$ 1,101,244	\$ 1,163,115
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 1,076,550	\$ 1,077,276	\$ 1,163,115
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED EXPENSES	\$ 1,076,550	\$ 1,101,244	\$ 1,163,115

MEMORIAL FUND

Undesignated memorial gifts are utilized at the direction of the Church Council for unbudgeted needs such as office and computer equipment.

Year	2022	2023
Music	\$ 250	\$ 300
Pantry	\$ 7,101	\$ 23,956
Other (Undesignated)	\$ 33,519	\$ 645,563
Total	\$ 40,870	\$ 669,819
Expenditures (As Designated)	\$ 3,884	\$ 0
Beginning Balance	\$ 123,696	\$ 160,683
Ending Balance	\$ 160,683	\$ 691,506
Increase in Memorial Fund	\$ 36,987	\$ 530,823

CONGREGATIONAL TREND REPORT

- Baptized Membership at end of 2022**
- Baptized Members received during 2023**
- a. By Baptism: children (15 yrs. and younger)
 - b. By Baptism: adults (15 yrs. and older)
 - c. By affirmation of faith
 - d. By transfer
 - e. From other sources and statistical adjustments
 - f. Total members received this year

Baptized Members removed during 2023

- a. By death
- b. By transfer
- c. For other reasons and statistical adjustment
- d. Total members removed this year

Baptized Membership, end of 2023

Total Confirmed Membership, end of 202.

Number of baptized youth who were confirmed in 2023

Average weekly worship attendance in 2023*

	1929
13	
0	
4	
0	
14	
=	31
19	
24	
13	
-	56
=	1904

1449

3

759

*In Person and Livestream



KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2650 FARNAM STREET
OMAHA, NE 68131
Phone: 402-341-7761
Fax: 402-341-4841
Email: info@kmlchurch.org
Web Page: http://www.kmlchurch.org

A City-wide Church with a World-wide Ministry

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

TERMS EXPIRING AUGUST 31, 2024

Steve Hinrichs
Michael Jensen
Ann Miller
Bruce Nissen

TERMS EXPIRING AUGUST 31, 2025

Tina Broekemeier
Jerry Fischer
Madeline O’Kane
Jacob Rump

TERMS EXPIRING AUGUST 31, 2026

Tim Backora
Anne Dey
Kate Jones
Lara McCormick

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Transitional Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Kristin Boe	Director of Faith Formation
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Danielle Barrett	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	Director of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director
Jill Conway	Director of Kountze Commons

CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS

The Parish Register

Baptisms..... 13
Marriages 5
Funerals 26

Membership

Children (Not Confirmed)..... 284
Confirmed..... 1443
Baptized 1903
Average Weekly Attendance
In-Person 304
Streaming/Television 448

Finances

Total Receipts\$ 1,859,770
Total Expenditures\$ 1,210,862
ELCA/Synod Mission Support\$ 77,500
Missionary Support\$ 10,000
Total Assets\$ 18,303,022