

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

GOOD NEWS

Volume 44, Issue 4

April, 2024



KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship + Grow + Serve

7 Areas of Ministry:

WORSHIP

Ushers, Altar Guild, Visitation, Choir, Instrumentalists, Lectors, Flowers, Order of St. John

Council Liaisons:
Bruce Nissen & Lara McCormick
worship@kmlchurch.org

FAITH FORMATION

Christian Ed., Youth, WELCA, Book Group, Forums

Council Liaisons:
Anne Dey & Madeline O’Kane
faith.formation@kmlchurch.org

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Social Ministry, Food Pantry, HGFC, Global Mission, KCCOC

Council Liaisons:
Jacob Rump & Steve Hinrichs
community.engagement@kmlchurch.org

MEMBERSHIP

Congregational Activities, Outreach, Media, Archives

Council Liaisons:
Tina Brockemeier & Jerry Fischer
membership@kmlchurch.org

LEADERSHIP

Personnel, Nominating, Leadership Development

Council Liaisons:
Kate McCoy & Ann Miller
leadership@kmlchurch.org

FACILITIES

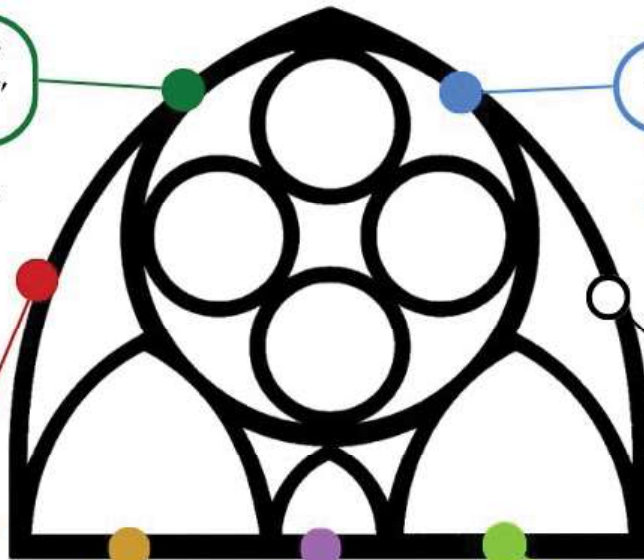
Property, KETV

Council Liaisons:
Mike Jensen & Kate McCoy
facilities@kmlchurch.org

FINANCE

Stewardship, Audit, Scholarship, Endowment

Council Liaisons:
Tim Backora & Mike Jensen
finance@kmlchurch.org



I hope many of you were able to join us in Adult Forum in March when the Council and I shared about the new Areas of Ministry formulation of our activities and mission here at Kountze. The goal of the Areas of Ministry is not to restructure our committees and boards or anything like that – it’s really to make it easier for all those involved here

at Kountze to understand where and how to jump in and offer their time, talent, skill. Because every gift matters in the body of Christ. All of us, in our baptism and through the power of the Holy Spirit, have been given gifts that

WORSHIP *with us...*

Worship Times

Holy Communion is offered weekly at all three weekend liturgies which use resources from Evangelical Lutheran Worship:

Saturdays at 5:00 PM; Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

The 9:00 AM liturgy is broadcast on Cox Cable Channel 13 and is also live-streamed on our website (www.kmlchurch.org). The Sunday bulletin is available on our website.

Nursery care is provided on Sunday mornings from 8:45 AM until 12:00 PM as well as other Occasional Special Church Services.

A brief, spoken Eucharist is offered on Wednesdays from 12:15 - 12:45 PM in the Rotunda. During Advent and Lent these services are in the Sanctuary.



Photo by Jake Madison

Worship with us on TV or via Internet Livestream



Our 9:00 AM worship service is broadcast live on television every Sunday on Cox Channel 13. You can also livestream the service right from your computer on our church

website. Go to www.kmlchurch.org and click on the Livestreaming link on the Worship Tab. We encourage you to worship with us via television or Internet as you are able.

Altar Flowers, Eternal Candle, TV Broadcast

You can help us beautify the altar at Kountze or sponsor a television broadcast if you wish. This is a simple and meaningful way to honor a loved one who has passed away, celebrate a special anniversary or milestone, or can be given in thanksgiving for friends or family. Their names will appear in the church bulletin on the weekend you select.

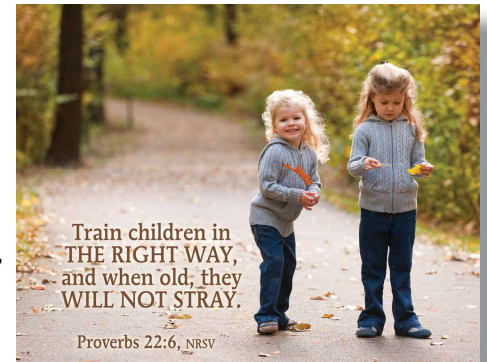
Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and the cost is \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$210 per week.

You can sign up for a date to provide flowers, eternal candle, and/or our television broadcast by signing up in the Narthex, calling the church office, going online to our giving page, or placing a check in the mail or offering plate marked "flowers, candle, or TV ministry. Please let us know if it is in honor/memory/celebration of someone. Thanks.



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. We also have 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.



In this issue...

- 7 Areas of Ministry
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- CJH Explore! Day Retreat
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- Confirmation Sunday
- Congratulations Graduates!
- Dress Up Mystery Dinner
- Easter Book Group
- High School Quilt Blessing
- Men's Lunch
- New Member Classes
- SHAREOmaha Do Good Days
- Summer Youth Trip Special Events
- VBS

GROW with us...



10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| April 7 | Reception for Confirmands |
| April 14 | The Creed: "He Died" and "On the Third Day Rose Again" |
| April 21 | Fellowship |
| April 28 | Reception for New Members |



New Member Classes

April 14 & 21

10:15 AM

Explore the potential of joining Kountze Memorial by attending our upcoming new member classes. Please plan to attend both sessions. We will welcome new members on Sunday,

May 5. Questions or planning to attend? Call the church office – we look forward to connecting with you!

7 Areas of Ministry continued from page 1

are intended to build up the whole body of Christ, so that together we might share the Good News of God's abundant mercy and grace. We need each other and we need you!

I also want to invite your patience, participation and creativity & curiosity as we live into these Ministry Areas and the mission God is calling us to together in the months and years ahead. As I write we're right on the cusp of Holy Week and one of the phrases echoing in my mind is, "together with the whole church...". This is one of those weeks in the liturgical year when we can say with good confidence that "together with the whole church" we enter into a time of pondering the somber and joyful salvation that comes to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Christians around the world, of every denomination and language, are reading the story at the heart of our faith, beholding Christ on the cross, and rejoicing at the empty tomb.

What does that have to do with Ministry Areas and Kountze?? Well, I believe that "together with the whole church" we stand at a crossroads of culture and history. The road ahead for what it means to be church in society is unclear – because it is untrodden. The church of the future will look different. Together with the whole church we – especially your pastors, Council, and staff – are asking questions like:

- How do we engage families, youth & young adults, new comers without Lutheran backgrounds... in their faith?
- What do our neighbors need from us in these days? How do we show God's love, especially to those with deep needs?
- How do we clearly communicate who we are & what we believe – especially when there are so many assumptions and competing voices about what Christians and Christianity is?
- What programs should we be letting go of – and what new things should we be trying?

- What should church look like these days? What changes do we need to make?

None of us has really clear, concrete answers to these questions. And that means that any schema or diagram or list of activities is a working draft. So consider those main Ministry Areas to be fairly set – even if their names or descriptions might shift slightly. But the boxes under them, filled with committees and activities, are anything but set! Together with the whole church we are "experimenting" our way into a new way of being God's people in the world. Our identity as beloved children of God, worshiping, growing and serving, will not change – but our methods and programs almost certainly will. It will take us time and some trial and error to figure out what is the right fit for us, for our gifts, and for our wider community. As we do, the Ministry Areas are a guide to help us experiment well and invite everyone's participation.

I hope that excites and intrigues you – and most of all I hope you will join us on this journey with God into the future God is calling us to, Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. We may not know what lies ahead, but God is with us and intends this journey to lead to blessing for us, and for all. Where would you like to plug in and even experiment with something new in the coming months? I'd love to hear about it!

Grateful for you!

Pastor Leuy

come grow with us!

SERVE with us...

Kountze Food Pantry



Thank-you to everyone who donated toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss for our guests at the Kountze Food Pantry. Our goal is to always have these items available along with soap and razors. In April, we are collecting disposable razors and shaving cream or foam.

Currently the greatest and most urgent need is for volunteers. A small group of dedicated faithful are receiving, moving and restocking almost 10,000 lbs. of goods every Monday morning. If you or anyone you know can assist us in our mission of "Feeding the Poor, in Christ's Name", please sign up at the link below:

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

Food Pantry Report

(1/1/2023 -2/29/2024)

Income:

Grants	\$	-
Donations:	\$	6,413.46
Memorials	\$	60.00
	\$	6,473.46

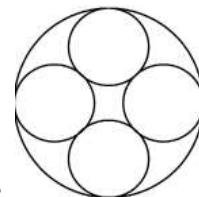
Expenses:

Grant Expense	\$	-
Regular Expenses		
Aldi	\$	-
Costco	\$	167.61
Hidden Valley Ind.	\$	3,469.57
Hy-Vee	\$	-
Dollar Tree	\$	181.25
Family Fare	\$	-
Food Bank	\$	-
Walmart	\$	763.76
Sam's Club	\$	-
Other	\$	144.40
	\$	4,726.59

Balance \$ **1,746.87**

SHAREOmaha Do Good Days

It's time to put the "do" in doing good. Join thousands of volunteers across the greater Omaha metro as we celebrate National Volunteer Week with SHARE Omaha's Do Good Days from April 24-27.



What does it mean to do good? It could mean distributing items, organizing spaces, packing kits, cleaning up parks, planting gardens, and so much more. Do Good Days is a way to discover and contribute to nonprofits that are building the community you want to live in.

Use SHAREomaha.org to connect to volunteering opportunities that fit your passions, schedule, skills, and more. You don't have to wait to do good. Start exploring [volunteer opportunities](#) today so nonprofits know they can count on your support during Do Good Days.

Volunteers have value — approximately \$32/hour. If you can't do good during Do Good Days, give good! [Give \\$32 to your favorite causes](#) here at SHAREomaha.org; it is a one-stop shop for donating to multiple organizations at once.

Let's make 2024's Do Good Days the biggest yet, sharing a few hours of our time or dollars with those who do good every day, all year.

Do good, give good, and celebrate all the nonprofits that spread good in our community. [What will you do?](#)
Above Text Courtesy of SHAREOmaha.

11th Annual Heart of Camp Gala

April 6, 2024

A View West Shores

If you bought tickets to the Gala to help celebrate the work done through Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, your participation and generosity at this year's Gala will enable NLOM to provide opportunities to campers no matter where they are in life.



Attendee Information:

- 5 PM Hors d'oeuvres & Silent Auction*
- 6 PM Wine & Restaurant Pull
- 7 PM Dinner
- 8 PM Awards Presentation & Live Auction

*Online bidding opens April 5 and closes at 7:30 PM on April 6. Use the link below for online bidding.

<https://qtgo.us/qmlink/nlom/register>

NEWS & Notes...



Meeting called to order. Previous minutes approved with amendment. Meeting agenda adopted.

Devotions and snacks provided by Steve Hinrichs

Ministry site profile: looking to form a transition team as we look forward to our future needs as a church and congregation. Looking to build this team to be led by a member of the congregation. This group would be made up of congregation members, a council member, and Pastor Lucy. The work would comprise of evaluating current strengths and opportunities to better identify pastoral needs as Pastor Shari transitions away from Kountze. Working with the Nebraska Synod to clarify the process and next formal steps. Requesting a Synod member comes to a future council meeting to talk through the process. Transition team will gather feedback from current pastors, ask for congregation input, and update the congregation at future forum.

Personnel committee: looking to add members to the personnel committee per the bylaws. Pastor Lucy will be responsible for adding members.

7 areas of ministry: continue working on identifying and naming 7 areas of ministry. Will engage the congregation in these ministries during a few March forums. Each area of ministry will establish a goal of growth and community and work with their communities and areas of influence to establish the specific goals. Each area of ministry will produce their purpose statement, activities, and volunteer opportunities by March 1. Council rep is responsible to ensure the area of ministry document is filled out and submitted to Debbie to include in the council packet. This can be included with minutes submitted and should be a high-level document to show progress and identify areas of opportunity or needs for support from the council.

Website update: we are in the final stages. Gathering pictures for use.

Smokefree campus: we will address and discuss further at March council meeting.

Undesignated funds and deFreese Mannor funds: We feel this needs additional attention and will be setting up a separate meeting to move forward with how we will address these funds.

Synod assembly delegates: we are looking for up to 7 delegates (not including the pastoral staff) for the Synod Assembly in Kearney, NE June 1 and 2. Let Pastor Lucy

know of names you would like to nominate to go.

Council Leadership retreat: planning annual council leadership retreat on September 14 with a dinner the night before. The planning committee will meet to discuss agenda.

Staff reports given and approved by council.

Committee reports given and approved by council.

Motion to accept final report moved and approved.

Motion and approval to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was closed by the Lord's Prayer.

March 12, 2024

The Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church Council meeting was called to order at 6 PM on March 12, 2024, by Pastor Lucy Wynard.

Pastor Wynard started the meeting by asking if there were any items other than the deFreese Manor sale proceeds and undesignated memorial funds to be discussed during the meeting. The Council members agreed that no other items needed to be discussed.

The Council members reviewed the document provided and prepared by Mike Jensen regarding the deFreese Manor sale proceeds. This document provided information related to the total amount of the deFreese Manor sale and the resulting disbursement of these funds.

The Council members discussed the potential use of the remaining funds. Some of these funds are in six-month CDs at Dundee Bank (\$500,000) earning 5.4%. The are additional funds of \$255,858.45 that are not invested for a total of \$755,858.45.

Tim Backora reported that the church had received more than \$600,000 in undesignated memorial funds and that \$300,000 of these funds had been put in a three-month CD. The remainder of these funds are in the checking account. The total potential funds available for planning purposes is close to \$1.4 million.

Numerous suggestions on how these funds could be used to grow the mission of the church were discussed. There were discussions related to the potential for new programs for the church that would add new direction(s) for Kountze.

Pastor Lucy encouraged the Council not to look at the Mission of Kountze through the lens of fear but to be bold.

Pastor Hall suggested that any plans take into consideration Kountze's community partners.

It was suggested that conversations be held with the Kountze Endowment regarding cooperative funding efforts

continued on page 6

between the two entities (Kountze Council and Kountze Endowment). Cooperation between the Council and Endowment is critical given the upcoming needs of the Church building. Jim Smejkal is preparing a list of Church upkeep needs that will be provided to the Council.

It was suggested that seed money of \$350,000 be directed to programs that would enhance the vision and the programs of the church and also be available to jump-start new programs.

Pastor Lucy reported that changes in the Church's insurance coverage require that we have a deductible of \$350,000 for each wind or hail event the building claims. This is equivalent to one percent of the total evaluation of the church and property.

The Cathedral model of a church was raised. Pastor Hall pointed out that Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is presently functioning as a Cathedral model. People in the neighborhood love this church, whether members formally or not.

Jacob moved that the total funds of \$1.46 million be allocated as follows: \$800,000 be placed in an investment fund that can be drawn from the \$400,000 be placed in a new mission seed monies fund, and approximately \$246,000 be available for immediate use. After considerable discussion, Mike moved to table the motion until the Council meeting on March 19, 2024, to allow additional time for input on the use of these funds. The motion to table the proposal was seconded and passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Summer Youth Trip Special Events

Be sure to mark your calendars for NOLA awareness events to support our youth and young adults attending the ELCA Gathering in New Orleans this July. Everyone is welcome!

May 5, 4:30 to 6:30 PM

Cinco de Mayo Taco Bar (with Cajun flair) and Bingo. Free-will donation

June 9, 10:10 AM (Fellowship Hour)

Join us for Beignets. Free-will donation



Pastoral Acts

(February 16 - March 15, 2024)

Funerals:

Vaunceil Catherine Lang, February 23, 2024

Do You Hear a Call?

At Easter service 2019 I walked through the doors of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church for service. The warm greeting I received from members of the congregation was immediate. I still remember looking around in awe of the beauty of the church from the balcony. It didn't take long, and I could feel the Holy Spirit working through me and releasing pains I had felt for so long from being away from a church service. It didn't take long for me to feel at home and by my third service I was asking how I may serve the church. Through the years from being on the deFreese Manor Council, Choir, Usher, Altar Guild, Lector, Communion Assistant, Kountze Café, Christmas Deco Committee, and OSJ leader, I have found that the call was deeper, and I needed to listen to what the Lord wanted. One of my favorite verses is from Proverbs 16:9 "Though a man's heart plans his course the Lord determines his steps." In 2022 I had a call and a voice I'm thankful to have finally listened to. I spoke to Pastor Duminy and Pastor Hall as to what the steps were to become a pastor, she suggested I contact our Nebraska Synod. Through discussions with the bishop, it was decided that Wartburg Seminary would be the course to take, so that one day I would be ordained and become the pastor I always longed to be but hadn't listened to the call. Last year I started my courses, and all is going fantastic, the theology of the Lutheran faith is growing every moment of my life. I asked our Senior Pastor Lucy Wynard if I may say a few words in our newsletter to express my gratitude to everyone. It has been through everyone's support and love and faith that I have followed my path. I give special thanks to my mentor, Pastor Paul Moessner, who has been and will continue to be my mentor throughout this journey. For all the pastors of this church and for the knowledge and support you have shown, I want to express a huge Thank You. As I leave Kountze to now serve as the Shepherd and Vicar of Bethel Lutheran, I will take all the love and friendship you have shown through the years and carry on the good Stewardship.

Blessings Always,
Vicar James Holzer



If You are Hospitalized...



If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please be sure to let the church office know at 402-341-7761 or e-mail info@kmlchurch.org.

Help Deliver Altar Flowers to the Sick & Homebound



After the 11:00 AM service on Sundays, donated altar flower bouquets can be taken to hospitalized members, nursing homes, or care centers. This is a great way to brighten someone's day and to grow friendships!

If you are at the 11:00 AM service and know of someone who would like to be remembered in this way, please take one of the bouquets to them. If you attended another service but would like to deliver flowers, please call the church office on Monday to see if they are still available.

Your help is appreciated!

36th Annual Quilt Auction

Saturday, July 27, 2024

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Carol Joy Holling Camp

The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends and families!

Quilt donations can be delivered to Carol Joy Holling Camp between June 1 and July 19. (Please submit in a plastic bag with donation form that can found on www.cjhcenter.org/quilt-auction)

Cards with Friends

Thursday, April 4

2:00 PM

Meet in the Fellowship Hall for a time together playing cards. All are welcome. Bring a snack to share.



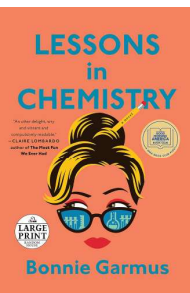
KMLC Book Group

Sunday, April 14

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

Lessons In Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus



This is a bestselling debut novel by Bonnie Garmus which is witty and well written. Garmus has created a brilliant character, Elizabeth Zott, who is a feminist in a man's world. Elizabeth graduated from UCLA in 1961 with a major in chemistry, which was not a frequent choice for women in the 1960's. She found that working in an all-male 1950's sexist lab at Hastings Research she was not treated with equality by her peers, except for one, Calvin Evans, who advised her to "not work smart, but outsmart the system".

When Elizabeth finds herself as a single Mom with a daughter and a brilliant dog, she demonstrates how an intelligent woman can succeed in a man's world.

She becomes the host of a cooking show, *Supper at Six*, and teaches women the chemistry of cooking as well as how to change women's role in society. The novel has been adapted to a T.V. mini series starring Brie Larson.

This is a thought-provoking novel to encourage readers to think of how to change our society to open up opportunities for women and remove the 1950's stigma of the "housewife woman". Readers will find this a laugh-out loud story with a great cast of supportive characters.

Following a short book discussion at the meeting, the group will adjourn to The Bookworm to select books for our next year's reading list.

Note: There will be no May meeting in observance of Mother's Day. Anyone is welcome to join the KMLC Book Group.

Men's Lunch

Thursday, April 18

11:30 AM

Fellowship Lounge

Cost: \$10.00

There isn't a program or menu planned at this time, but Jim never let's us down! Plan to join the guys for lunch and RSVP by Tuesday, April 16.



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY...



Sunday School

Ages 2 yr-6th grade
Sundays, 10:10 AM

The Sunday School just completed learning about the time of Lent, focusing on Holy Week, in lessons titled "Journey to the Cross". We continue with rotation lessons in April.

Children's Choir

Sundays, 9:10 AM

(following 9 AM Children's Blessing)

2nd Floor Sunday School Music Room

Grades K-6

Join Barb Carlsen on the 2nd floor in the Sunday School Music Room.

Saturday, April 20, 2024



9 AM - 3:30 PM

Grades 1-6

Trailhead at Carol Joy Holling Camp

Our Explore! Day Retreats for elementary students are a chance for young campers to get out and enjoy camp in one compact and fun day. If your child is missing camp or has never been to camp, Explore! gives them the perfect opportunity to experience a day of adventure and faith-building out at CJH Camp. In addition to Bible study and worship, we will be experiencing many favorite camp activities together as we share in fun and fellowship.

Every Explore! Day Retreat is different, so first-time and long-time participants can both join in the fun as we focus on environmental education, fellowship, and faith! Cost: \$25 per camper. This cost includes meals and programming on Saturday.

A tentative schedule and registration can be found at:

<https://www.cjhcenter.org/explore>

Camp Firelight VBS

St. Timothy's Church (510 N 93rd St)

July 8-11

5:15 PM: Family Dinner

6-8 PM: Class

Have an adventure with God this summer! Make plans now to attend VBS. Registration is open to register for VBS youth and volunteers. Sign up with the following link:



<https://kountze.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

Volunteer opportunities include kitchen clean up, teachers, assistants, and more. We would love to see you there!

Youth Forum



Grades 7 - 12

10:10 AM

Grab your breakfast and meet each Sunday at 10:10 AM in the Youth Room. Join us for time to grow our relationships with God and each other with the following

activities:

- April 7 Current Events
- April 14 Spiritual Practices
- April 21 "Created to Be" Bible Study
- April 28 Graduation Celebration

Confirmation Classes

The final month of Confirmation Classes for this school year will take place at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, starting at 6 PM.

- Wed. April 3 Communion
- Wed. April 10 Confessing Faith
- Wed. April 17 Confirming Faith
- Wed. April 24 Confirmation Year End Party



Confirmation Sunday

April 7

9 AM

Affirmation of Baptism will be a part of the liturgy that day. We celebrate those affirming their baptism, 8th grader, Bentley Baker and Adult, Jennifer Hellwig.

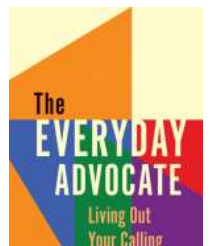
Easter Book Group

Sundays, April 7, 14, 21, & 28

1 PM

Place TBD

Pastor Lucy & Mia Valquier, together with the youth and young adults of Kountze, would like to invite you to an Easter Book Group. We will be reading & discussing the book *The Everyday Advocate: Living Out Your Calling to Social Justice* by Ross Murray. The group will meet on Sunday afternoons in April (possibly at a coffee/brunch spot!). Please find a copy of the book for



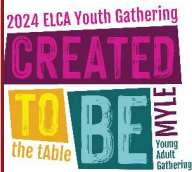
yourself or let Pastor Lucy know if you need help finding/purchasing a copy. The church has a couple of copies that can be borrowed. Ross Murray was the featured speaker at the annual Lutheran Youth of Nebraska (LYON) Assembly last fall. He is an ordained deacon in the ELCA, vice president at the GLAAD Media Institute, and the founding director of the Naming Project, a faith-based youth ministry and summer camp for LGBTQ youth and their allies. You may sign up at the Welcome Desk, email or call the church office, or online at:

<https://form.jotform.com/232355457100044>

ELCA Youth Gathering/Young Adult Gathering Meeting/Lock-In

7:00 PM, Friday, April 12 -

7:00 AM, Saturday, April 13



All participants attending the gathering this summer will join with the group from Immanuel in Bellevue at their church (104 Galvin Rd. N). Please know that our prayers surround you in this time of preparation.

Dress Up Mystery Dinner

All 9th Graders – Young Adults

Sunday, April 14

5 PM

You are invited to put on your best dress clothes and arrive at the church to guess what might be on the menu. As you order, your meal might arrive with no food at all or all food with no utensils. Eventually, all will enjoy a great meal while learning from a speaker that will explore how we might have healthy relationships in our lives. Don't miss out! Bring your friends! Sign up to attend by Wed. April 10.



Honoring High School and all other Graduates

Sunday, April 28

9 or 11 AM

Reception: 10:10 - 10:50 AM

If you have graduated in the past year or will graduate this spring, please let us know. On April 28 we will uplift the names of all who are celebrating a graduation during the year. Call the church office by April 15 at 402-341-

7761 or email shari@kmlchurch.org, so we can celebrate with you.

A Quilt Blessing for high school graduates will take place on that date. There will also be a reception of Congratulations and Celebration in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10 - 10:50 AM. Along with breakfast, cake will be served.

Cards of Congratulations can be brought by the congregation on this day. If you forget, we have some that you can write on at the Welcome Desk.

A listing of all graduates will be in the May Good News and the Sunday bulletin on April 21 and 28.

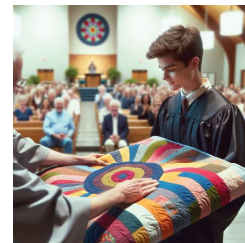
High School Graduate Quilt Blessing

Sunday, April 28

9 or 11 AM

A reception of Congratulations and Celebration will take place on April 28 from 10:10 - 10:50 AM. Along with breakfast, cake will be served.

High School Seniors, please submit 5 to 7 photos to include in the video presentation that will be shown during this time to shari@kmlchurch.org.



Summer camp

Summer Bible Camp at Carol Joy Holling!

If you didn't get a chance to register for camp by the Early Bird pricing deadline (January 31), Kountze Memorial will still cover the cost of the Early Bird pricing, but you will need to pay the additional cost. Kountze Camp Week is June 16-21, but you can attend camp whenever it is convenient for you. Check out the schedule for the different camp opportunities for grades K-12 as well as day camps and leadership training for high school-age youth and Special Needs camps at <https://www.caroljoyholling.org/register>

- In order for the church to pay the fee, choose
- to mail your payment,
- select "Pay items in Full"
- then "Pay by Check/Money Order"
- Email a copy of the receipt to shari@kmlchurch.org

We will then submit the Early Bird portion of the payment on behalf of your youth. You'll need to mail in your portion. If you have any questions, please reach out to church staff. To register go to

<https://www.caroljoyholling.org/register>

CALENDAR



April 1 Monday

OFFICE CLOSED
No Pantry

April 2 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

April 3 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.
Timothy's
No Adult Choir Rehearsal

April 4 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:00 PM Worship & Music
Committee

April 5 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

April 6 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

April 7 Sunday

Easter 2
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
1:00 PM Easter Book Group

April 8 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
5:00 PM KCCOC Board

April 9 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
10:00 AM Lutheran Women of
Omaha Lunch

April 10 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
12:15 PM Worship
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese
Manor
4:00 PM Executive Committee
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.
Timothy's

April 11 Thursday

Council Reports Due
9:30 AM WELCA Board
11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

April 12 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

April 13 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

April 14 Sunday

Easter 3
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
10:15 AM New Member Class
12:15 PM Book Group
1:00 PM Easter Book Group
5:00 PM Dress Up Mystery Dinner
(grades 9 - Young Adult)

April 15 Monday

Good News Deadline
10:00 AM Pantry

April 16 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group
6:00 PM Congregation Council

April 17 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.
Timothy's

April 18 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:00 PM Circle 5

April 19 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

April 20 Saturday

Barrett & Flemming Wedding
9:00 AM Explore! Day Retreat (gr.
1-6) Camp CJH
5:00 PM Worship

April 21 Sunday

Easter 4
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
10:15 AM New Member Class
12:15 PM OSJ Appreciation Lunch
1:00 PM Easter Book Group

April 22 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

April 23 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:30 PM Circle 3

April 24 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.
Timothy's

April 25 Thursday

1:00 PM Circle 4
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

April 26 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

April 27 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

April 28 Sunday

Easter 5
Quilt Blessing & Recognition of
Graduates
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
1:00 PM Easter Book Group

April 29 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
11:30 AM Endowment Board

April 30 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting



1. Pat Studts, Donald Zinnecker, Bryce Griger
2. Barb Chrisman, Dale Enger, Genelle Girthoffer, Jo Anne Whitmyre
3. David Pafford
4. Kurt Arends, Mary Martens, Mark Panning, Judy Sealer, Rebecca Zellmar
5. Julie Bratcher, Cassandra Morgan
6. John Fonda, William Fonda, Laurie Houseworth, Vicki Meyer
7. Luke Olson, Serenadey Schmidt, Leon Valquier, Zachary Zellmar
8. Karl Niehaus
9. Lauri Askew, Donald Bass, Jennifer Holm, Lauren Holm, Kay Mayberry, Vickie Wichert, Bob Woodworth, Connor Cameron
10. Ron Brown, Abby Rigas
11. Marci Luczynski, Ryan Pemberton, Ralph Ross, Rachel Stouffer, Leonard Swanger
12. anet Darst, Mike Jensen, Jennifer Johnson, Robert Johnson, Ted Kaasch, Adam Kotula, Mark Maser, Bruce Peterson, Margaret Reinholz, Jenna Woster
13. Thomas Brumfield, Jeffrey Hiatt, Rodger Price, Braiden Dragon
14. Rachael Bruechert, Sandy Fonda
15. Darlene Anderson, Leonard Falk, Emma Gardner
16. Edward Chand, Jack Smock
17. Wanda Frykberg, Brittany West, Claire Furjanic
18. Elijah Salmon, Keith Kotera
19. Rodney Brown, Neely Edwards, Bradley Morrow, Dessire Waller
20. Jessica Carlson, Amy Fischer, Brenda Myers, Gina Samland, Jeff Clarke
21. Susan Malesa, Madison Titus, Matthew Woster, Cameron Miller
22. Gwen Berney, Dan Collett, Mattie O'Kane, Brent Rasmussen, Anola Wheeler
23. Michelle Jensen, Melissa Musick, Shelley Smisek-O'Connor, Jim West, Dan Wolf, Rae Ray
24. Linda Daugherty, Britten Johnson, Deborah Oshlo, Becca Sedlak, James Holzer
25. Henry Rief, Hadley Rief
26. Ruth Hashberger
27. Cindy Edwards, Sydney Morrow, Ward
28. Bennett Eckhorn, Chloe Johnson, Michelle Kuehn, June Van Bibber
29. Stevie Duffield, Gregory Fonda
30. Robert Kreiser, Susan Rasmussen, Roberta Vanbuskirk, Todd Weiland, Laura Pribyl, Isaac Gardner



I don't have enough words to express my thanks and appreciation for the many, many cards, flowers, prayers, visits and phone calls received during and after the numerous broken

bones, surgeries, and rehab from February, 2023 to the present. I often re-read the cards and feel the prayers and love received from each one.

Thank you again and God's blessings.

Ellie Carlson

Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 2/1/2024.....	\$916,129.58
Principal Payment, 2/29/2024.....	\$7,517.82
Interest Payment, 2/1/2024.....	\$5,953.11
Balance, 3/1/2024.....	\$908,611.76

Finances: February, 2024

	<i>February</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
Total General Fund		
Income:	\$ 96,467.27	\$ 99,685.09
Expenses:		
Mission Support:	\$ 13,333.34	\$ 196,152.36
Christian Education:	\$ 414.26	\$ 460.68
Facility Costs:	\$ 30,192.28	\$ 41,219.00
Staff Compensation:	\$ 58,944.91	\$ 123,287.12
Worship & Music:	\$ 3,280.70	\$ 6,856.09
Parish Life:	\$ 1,468.03	\$ 3,213.86
Youth:	\$ -	\$ 150.00
Office & Administration:	<u>\$ 4,068.73</u>	<u>\$ 12,145.01</u>
Total Expenses:	\$ 111,702.25	\$ 200,665.10

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
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Fax: 402-341-4841
E-mail: info@kmlchurch.org
Web: www.kmlchurch.org

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Rev. Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor
Rev. Shari Duminy, Transitional Associate
Pastor
Rev. H. Ashley Hall, Ph.D., Associate Pastor

Worship Times

Saturday at 5:00 PM

Sunday at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Wednesday at 12:15 PM

The 9:00 AM Sunday service is
televised live on Cox channel 13 and live
streamed on our website at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/> (you may
watch the live-stream any time)

A bulletin is available on our website
at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/bulletin-announcements/>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



GO AND...TELL THE STORY

Jesus isn't in the tomb anymore - God is on the loose! God is active and up to something!
The story of Easter is an ongoing one, similar to the story of our own faith. Our response as
disciples is to Go and.... to go out, go share, go proclaim, and to go tell the story.

Questions to Consider:

- What is one of your favorite Bible stories?
- Is there a prop or tangible item you might use to help you tell the story?
- How will you GO and tell the story?

Prayer: Master Storyteller, your stories seem almost unbelievable. Open us to recognize
your patience, deep love, and grace. Help me be a storyteller. Amen.

Suggested Song: I Love to Tell the Story (ELW 661)

Learn More at nebraskasynod.org/go-and/

Ready, Set, Go! In the Great Commission, Jesus calls us to GO. We are taking those words to heart.

In June the Nebraska Synod embarked on a year-long focus to "Go and...". We invite you to be part of this call to GO!
and lean in as God's people called, gathered, and sent to "Go and...".

Together, all 90,000 members of the ELCA Nebraska Synod will be focused on responding to Christ's sending in the
Great Commission, to Go and..., and to really live out the joy and hope.