

KOUNTZE 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 Fleming	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Louis Flake	Night Manager
Kayla Slaight	Janitorial Staff
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director
Jill Conway	Director of Kountze Commons



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

June 29 & 30, 2024

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

Holy Communion

All who are baptized and trust in Christ's presence in Holy Communion are invited to commune at the Lord's Table. Children not yet communing will receive a blessing. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (especially for health reasons) have communed fully. Our form of distribution is Intinction. You will receive the wafer in your hand and then dip into the wine.

Children in Worship

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

Nursery

Our nursery is available from 8:45 AM—noon for children 0—2 years. Please ask an usher if you are unsure as to where our nursery is and would like to use it.

Attendance Cards

All those attending worship are encouraged to fill out the card included in your bulletin and place in the offering plate. Offering plates are located by the doors in the Nave.

Large Print Bulletins and Listening Devices

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

E-news & Social Media

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

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



Today at Kountze Memorial

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God given in celebration of Dr. Gary & Judy Westerman's 54th wedding anniversary; in memory of Bill & Marge Sears from their children, Ron, Lois, and Claude

Welcome Jason Gerdes from Camp Carol Joy Holling who will be preaching this weekend and will be at forum on Sunday morning.

Thank you Bruce Nissen for substituting on organ Sunday morning. We appreciate your willingness to share your musical talents with us this weekend.

Kountze Café Lite

9:30—11:00 AM

Free-will Offering

We will be serving a lighter fare for breakfast now through Labor Day weekend. If you would like to help with breakfast, even just for a Sunday or two, please contact Sherri Labeledz.

Adult Forum

Sundays, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall for a lite breakfast and then stay for Adult Forum.

This week: Synod Assembly Report and Camp Carol Joy Holling

Next week: Fellowship

This Week at Kountze Memorial

June 30 Sunday

Pentecost 6

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite

10:10 AM Adult Forum

July 1 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

July 2 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

July 3 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

July 4 Thursday

Independence Day

Office Closed

July 5 Friday

Office Closed

No Pantry

July 6 Saturday

Homebound Communion

5:00 PM Worship

July 7 Sunday

Pentecost 7

Homebound Communion

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite

10:10 AM Adult Forum

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Vacation Bible School

Camp Firelight

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 now 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!

Seeking Singers!

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

113 North 18th Street

Wednesday, July 10

7 PM

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral is inviting anyone wanting to sing for the Annual Pride Mass to arrive at Trinity Episcopal on July 10 at 5:30 PM to rehearse an anthem. If interested, contact the Kountze office for more details. Not into singing? Members of the LGBTQ+ community and allies are invited to Trinity Cathedral's Third Annual Pride Mass!

KMLC Book Group

Sunday, July 14

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

All are welcome

Horse by Geraldine Brooks

Horse is based on a true story of Lexington, America's most famous race horse. Geraldine Brooks is a Pulitzer Prize winning author who skillfully brings the past to life and writes a compelling story of American history. The novel begins in Washington D.C. in 2019 where characters, Theo and Jess are introduced. Theo is a Nigerian American art historian who discovers an old painting of a horse in a box of belongings discarded by his neighbor. Jess is a native Australian scientist at the Smithsonian who is studying the skeleton of a horse that has been found in an attic. These two characters are brought together in their interest in finding the history of this horse. The story then goes to 1850 Lexington, Kentucky, where Jarret, a slave boy, serves as a horse groomsman and bonds with a bay foal. During this period, Thomas J. Scott, an artist, paints paintings of horses, and discovers Lexington and Jarret.

Men's Lunch

Thursday, July 18

11:30 AM

Fellowship Lounge

Cost: \$10.00

There is always good food and a good time. Watch the Announcement Page and e-news for more information.

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 until July 19. Please submit in a plastic bag with donation form that can found at:

www.cjhcenter.org/quilt-auction

Blessing of Backpacks

Saturday, August 3, 5 PM

Sunday, August 4, 9 & 11 AM

All students, teachers, professors, Sunday school volunteers, and support staff are invited to bring their school bags to church and receive a blessing for a year of abundant learning and development.

Table Grace The Musical

August 8-9

This musical is based on a combination of real life stories molded into fictional characters and story-lines. It's a celebration of grace, love, second chances, and acceptance. Don't miss it! The Table Grace newsletter can be found at:

<https://tinyurl.com/4eeubc9>

School Supplies for KMLC Pantry Guests

Over the summer, we will be collecting backpacks of all types, notebooks, folders, pencils, pens, crayons, markers, color pencils, glue, tissues, scissors, hand sanitizer, and anything else you may find useful for our school-aged pantry guests. You will find labeled donation tubs in the Fellowship Hall for your donations.

Kountze Food Pantry

Do you or anyone you know need service hours? Volunteering at the Kountze Food Pantry is a perfect opportunity to boost your resume and have some fun at the same time! We are in need of strong, young people to help us unload deliveries at 8 AM Monday morning, and to carry out groceries for our guests from 10 AM-12:45 PM. You can work all or part of that time. We also need people on Friday evenings from 5 PM-6:45 PM. There are other positions for people of all ages and abilities. Please consider joining us by signing up at the following link:

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

Simple Ideas for a Spiritually Rich Summer

Taken from Pr. Lucy's June/July Good News Article

- ☼ Dust off the Bible on your night stand. Read a psalm everyday for the next month. You will find plenty of encouragement there. And since this is the lectionary year for Mark (the shortest gospel), read through that book – it's a great, quick beach read!
- ☼ Every new season is a new beginning – in a broken relationship choose to forgive and start anew. (Perhaps the person you most need to forgive is yourself?)
- ☼ Ask your kids, grandkids, or neighbor kids how they've seen or experienced God lately. All too often we only tell kids what to believe rather than listening to them about their faith firsthand. But kids have such wonderful faith of their own to share with us!

A Summer of Service

Taken from Jill's June/July Good News Article

- ☼ Volunteer at the Healing Gift Free if you a medical professional. The Clinic could benefit from your talents and skills to help heal the sick.
- ☼ Volunteer during Saturday and Sunday worship services. We have plenty of room for more ushers and greeters to welcome members and guests to worship as well as Lectors and Communion Assistants.
- ☼ Volunteer during Sunday breakfast. We are always in need of an additional hand, particularly over the summer, when regular volunteers may be enjoying a vacation. Also, working in the kitchen is a great way to get to know others in our community.

Cards With Friends

We won't be meeting in July or August. Watch the Good News to see about starting up again in the fall.

Attendance & Giving

Thursday, 6/20/24—Wednesday, 6/26/24

Saturday: 42

Sunday: 9:00: 114 11:00: 56

Wednesday: 12:15: 10

Total: 222

Streaming: 46

Pantry Guests Served: 1,052 (inc. 335 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 17

Offering:

\$10,865.36 (Regular) \$835.00 (Specials)

\$487.00 (Debt Reduction)

Our faith remembers that joy will come.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 5:21-43	Jesus heals and raises to life
Monday	Lamentations 3:22-33	There is still hope
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 8:7-15	Generous giving
Wednesday	Nehemiah 8:9-12	Ezra reads God's law to the people
Thursday	Galatians 5:1, 13-26	Fruit of the Spirit and freedom
Friday	Proverbs 15:21-23	Helping others brings joy
Saturday	Psalms 30	God turns mourning into dancing
Sunday	Mark 6:1-13	Jesus sends the twelve



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In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

For his [the LORD's] anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. Psalm 30:5 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of unending grace, we pray for your healing touch that brings peace and joy to our lives and a thankful heart that gives you praise through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, during the good times and the bad, may this gift of food remind us that you are here to give us faith, hope, and love through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the never-ending love of God give you faith and hope in Christ.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Have you ever experienced a time of joy after an illness or death happened? Explain.
- How does faith help you in tough times as well as in times of joy?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Psalm 30 and Mark 5:21-43.

This psalm gives real understanding and emotional depth to the lives described in Mark 5. It tells of the agony of a woman's 12-year illness and a father's losing and regaining a beloved daughter. Faith experiences major ups and downs with a need for persistence and hope, even in the midst of desperation. The psalmist knows this well and can speak for the characters in Mark 5 and for us. When life is good there is a blind confidence that cannot fathom future pain, and we say, "I shall never be moved" (Psalm 30:6). But, then we experience unbelievable anguish and grief. It catches us unprepared and we say, "O Lord, be my helper!" (v. 10). Faith accepts that we go from unimaginable abandonment to joy, but not just once. In the midst of the good times and the hard times we are urged to sing and pray the words of Psalm 30:5b. This verse has been described as a summary of the entire Book of Psalms. Faith, even in desperate times, believes joy eventually comes to stay forever.

Discuss: When have you gone through a tough time and looked back with a glad heart for God's goodness to you?

Pray: **God of steadfast love, help us to be humble of heart during times of joy and people of hope during times of pain and loss through Jesus Christ, our great Healer and Savior. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you care for someone experiencing loss and grief?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In 2 Corinthians 8, Paul wrote about financial giving. Christians are encouraged to give financially to the work of God's kingdom and for the wider needs of the world. Think or talk about giving to others through an offering collected in your home. Place a bowl or a basket in a visible place in your home to collect loose coins and dollars regularly. *Pray:* **Dear Lord Jesus, help us to remember that you treated us with undeserved kindness by giving up all your riches so that we could become rich through you. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123
2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13