

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

July 6 & 7, 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 by Lynn & Nancy Meyer in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary and the 2-year anniversary of their son, Chris' heart transplant

Kountze Café Lite

9:30—11:00 AM

Free-will Offering

Through Labor Day weekend, we will be serving a lighter fare for breakfast. 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: Fellowship

Next week: TBD

Letter from Pastor Shari Duminy

July 1, 2024

Pastor Shari Duminy has received and accepted a call to serve as Senior Pastor at a congregation in Emmaus, Pennsylvania. She will begin her new ministry on August 1. Her last Sunday at Kountze Memorial will be July 21, with her final day in the office on July 26. If you are on our mailing list, you should have received Pastor Shari's letter to the congregation. If not, you can read her letter by using the link below.

<https://tinyurl.com/3rb3wxzs>

Join us on July 20 & 21 to say farewell and to celebrate Pastor Shari's ministry among us.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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

July 8 Monday

Jul 8 - Jul 11 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Camp Firelight VBS @ St.
Timothy's
10:00 AM Pantry

July 9 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

July 10 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
12:15 PM Worship
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese
Manor
4:00 PM Executive Committee

July 11 Thursday

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

July 12 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

July 13 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

July 14 Sunday

Jul 14 - Jul 21 ELCA Youth
Gathering (gr 8-12 & 19 - 25
yrs) in New Orleans
Pentecost 8
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
12:15 PM Book Group

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 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 be found at:

www.cjhcenter.org/quilt-auction

Blessing of Backpacks

August 3, 5 PM

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

- ☼ Volunteer somewhere new – just once, to check it out. Perhaps it's the Kountze Food Pantry or at our Neighborhood Gathering, or perhaps at the Humane Society, a local senior center, or with refugees new to our city. ShareOmaha.org is a great resource to find a good fit for you.
- ☼ It's tempting when the weather gets nice to skip church. I get it! But keep in mind how vital it is to keep plugged in with God through your connection to God's people. There's lots of exciting mission & ministry that happens in the summer months – make plans to be part of it! (And also... it's okay to skip church once in a while – see #10...)

A Summer of Service

Taken from Jill's June/July Good News Article

- ☼ Volunteer to put the Good News together at the end of each month (except June). We'll be getting the August Good News ready for mailing on Thursday, July 25 beginning at 9 AM. Lunch will be served at noon. Please call the church office if you're able to help so we know how many to plan on for lunch.

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, 6/27/24—Wednesday, 7/3/24

Saturday: 33

Sunday: 9:00: 98 11:00: 63

Wednesday: 12:15: N/A at time of printing

Total: 194

Streaming: 52

Pantry Guests Served: N/A at time of printing

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 21

Offering: N/A at time of printing

God's power is made perfect in weakness.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 6:1-13	Jesus sends the twelve
Monday	Ezekiel 2:1-5	The Lord chooses Ezekiel
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Paul's vision
Wednesday	1 Peter 5:6-11	Tending the flock
Thursday	Isaiah 43:1-3	Restoration promised
Friday	Romans 8:26-27	Spirit intercedes for us
Saturday	Psalm 123	A prayer for mercy
Sunday	Mark 6:14-29	The death of John the Baptist



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as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Therefore I [Paul] am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong. **2 Corinthians 12:10 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, you who conquer all powers from the cross, guide us to a life of faith, hope, and love for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this gift of food, and that you show us mercy and kindness each day. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a humble heart and faith in Christ.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- When have you experienced rejection from friends or family?
- How can God use your weaknesses to bring healing and hope to others?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10.

Christian spirituality is a way of life that is shaped by the gospel. Paul says he could boast about a mystical spirituality, but he refuses (vv. 2-5). Instead, he lifts up his weakness *“for the sake of Christ”* (v. 10). In a world that seeks wisdom, power, and mystical experiences, Paul's message to the Corinthians and to us is a cautionary note. Christian spirituality for Paul is a life lived for the sake of Christ that is grounded in *“weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities”* (v. 10). Humble experiences open us to a strength, a wisdom, and a transformed life. This is a life very different from one that some in the Corinthian church promoted to show their godliness. In Mark 6 Jesus experiences rejection yet sends his disciples out with power and authority. Today, God's mercy, grace and healing power may look fragile, yet it is clothed in a gospel strength that changes lives.

Discuss: When have you experienced a difficult moment that was transformed by God's grace and power?

Pray: **Almighty God, help us to trust in your power that humbles the mighty and lifts up those experiencing insults, hardships, and persecutions for the sake of Christ our Lord. 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 help someone who is experiencing a hardship?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Mark 6, Jesus sends out his disciples with very little to sustain their trip. They are to rely on the hospitality of others. The church was built on the humble act of being dependent on the generosity of others. Set out a cup in your home to remind you that God fills your cup (the “daily bread” you need), often through others. Let the cup remind you to be ready to receive the kindness of others as well as to be kind to others. When you set out the cup, pray the Lord's Prayer.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13
Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29