

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 Slight	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 Omaha, NE 68131
402-341-7761 www.kmlchurch.org

July 13 & 14, 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



Today at Kountze Memorial

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in celebration of Bruce & Barb Nissen's wedding anniversary; given in honor of Jean Johnson's birthday; given by Dick & Carolyn Sieling in memory of their sons, Marcus and Jason

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 Labedz.

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: Who was John the Baptist?

Next week: Farewell to Pr. Shari Duminy

KMLC Book Group

Sunday, July 14

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

All are welcome

***Horse* by Geraldine Brooks**

ELCA Youth Gathering

Join with our 5 youth, 3 young adults, and 2 adult leaders as they experience it live this week. You are invited to watch the Mass Gatherings at the Youth Gathering, Use the link below. The Gathering will not be recorded so you will need to watch it live.

Mass Gathering times are:

- Tuesday - Friday from 7 - 9:15 PM
- Saturday from 9:30 - 11:30 AM

www.elca.church/gathering

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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

July 15 Monday

Good News Deadline

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board

5:00 PM KCCOC Board

July 16 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation

Council

July 17 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

4:45 PM Transition Team

July 18 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free

Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

6:00 PM Worship & Music

Committee

July 19 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

July 20 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

6:00 PM Farewell Potluck for Pr. Shari Duminy

July 21 Sunday

Pentecost 9

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Special Breakfast &

Cake in Honor of Pr. Shari

Duminy

10:10 AM Adult Forum

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Men's Lunch

Thursday, July 18

11:30 AM

Fellowship Lounge

Cost: \$10.00

There is always good food and a good time. Stay tuned 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

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/4eebubc9>

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>

Cards With Friends

We won't be meeting in August. Watch the bulletin, e-news, and Good News to see about starting up again in the fall.

Attendance & Giving

Thursday, 7/4—Wednesday, 7/10

Saturday: 42

Sunday: 9:00: 90 **11:00:** 48

Wednesday: 12:15: 13

Total: 193

Streaming: 53

Pantry Guests Served: 891 (inc. 265 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: Closed

Offering:

\$14,802.4 (Regular) \$4,233.13 (Specials)

\$911.00 (Debt Reduction)

God's goodness is worthy of praise and thanksgiving.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 6:14-29	The death of John the Baptist
Monday	Amos 7:7-15	Vision of setting a plumb line
Tuesday	Ephesians 1:3-14	Thanksgiving for blessings
Wednesday	Psalms 150	Praise for God's greatness
Thursday	1 Chronicles 16:23-27	David's psalm of thanksgiving
Friday	Romans 2:1-11	God's judgment is fair
Saturday	Psalms 85:8-13	God speaks peace to the people
Sunday	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	Jesus teaches and heals



SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. **Ephesians 1:3 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of glory, we praise you for your mercy that embraces us with hope through the work of Christ and for our adoption as your children through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for this food that reminds us of your abundant goodness and your eternal care for us, we give you thanks through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the love and faithfulness of God embrace you with peace. (Psalm 85:10)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What is something that inspires you and fills you with joy?
- How does God's love for you in Christ fill you with peace and joy?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Ephesians 1:3-14.

Ephesians 1 is filled with praise and thanksgiving for Jesus Christ's saving work within the mystery of the will of God. God's wisdom goes far beyond our human ability to grasp. Therefore, what we can do is simply acknowledge that we are the recipients of a great inheritance for a reality that goes beyond human history. As an act of God's glory and grace, our God takes us back, despite our bro-

ken lives and forgives us—receives us back—through Christ. We who believe this message have received and trusted this good news as those who have been chosen and adopted. We are destined, marked, and sealed by the Holy Spirit. This text overflows with praise for the glory of God's ways meant for us and for all that God has created. The words fill us with awe and joy for who God is and who Christ is for us. Sometimes it is good to simply fill our thoughts with the glory and praise due to our God in Christ.

Discuss: What words describe your feelings when you imagine God's goodness to you and to all that God has created?

Pray: **God of power and glory, we thank you for this opportunity to contemplate your goodness that reaches out to us with mercy and grace through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 show praise to God through Christ as an act of kindness?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Shalom is a Hebrew word that means peace and was used as a greeting or a blessing. Psalm 85:8 speaks of peace, *"Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts."* Draw a heart and write the word peace inside. Think or talk about what God may be saying to you in this verse. *Pray:* **Lord God, you promise peace to those who are faithful. Help us to turn our hearts to you. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23

Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56