

## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	Senior 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 Omaha, NE 68131  
402-341-7761 [www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

August 3 & 4, 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 by Tom & Theresa Gruber in celebration of 50 years of blessings;

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God in memory of Randall S. Fike given by Mary Jo Fike and family

**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:** Faith Formation & Community Engagement

**Next week: Ministry Fair:** Katie Larson and Global Mission

**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.

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

**August 4 Sunday**

Pentecost 11

Blessing of Backpacks

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

**August 5 Monday**

10:00 AM Pantry

11:30 AM Endowment Board

**August 6 Tuesday**

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

7:30 PM Youth Committee

**August 7 Wednesday**

12:15 PM Worship

**August 8 Thursday**

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free

Clinic

**August 9 Friday**

5:00 PM Pantry

**August 10 Saturday**

11:00 AM Celebration of Life

Luncheon

5:00 PM Worship

**August 11 Sunday**

Pentecost 12

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

5:30 PM Hotdogs & S'mores

(gr 7-12)

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

**Dinners for Eight**

**Sign up by Monday, August 19.**

- Get to know others in the congregation over 3 dinners for 3 months in groups of eight.
- Meet each month for a meal in September, October, and November
- Consider meeting for lunch instead of dinner!

- Enjoy a meal and conversation with one another.
- Sign up at the Welcome Desk or call the church office by Monday, August 19.
- See you around the table!

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes *continued*

### **Men's Lunch**

**Thursday, August 15**

**11:30 AM**

**Fellowship Lounge**

**Cost: \$10.00**

Have you ever wanted to eat like a king? Join us for the August Men's Lunch, where we will experience what it was like to eat in medieval times. Bring your appetite and you guessed it: no silverware allowed. Sign up at the welcome desk or email jim@kmlchurch.org by Tuesday, August 13 to reserve your seat for this dining experience.

### **Congregational Election Meeting**

**Sunday, August 18, 2024**

**10:15 AM**

**Please plan to join us between services in Fellowship Hall for our Annual**

**Congregational Election Meeting.** We will

- elect new members to the Council,
- hear updates and vote on the administrative structure for KCCOC (Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center),
- and discuss the use of funds from the sale of deFreese Manor.

### **Notice of Special Meeting**

**Kountze Commons**

**Community Outreach Center**

**Sunday, August 18, 2024**

**During the Congregational Meeting at Kountze Memorial**

The purpose of this special meeting is to:

1. consider and vote upon the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation
  2. consider and vote upon the Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Corporation
- Copies of the Amended & Restated Articles of Incorporation and the Amended & Restated Bylaws are at the Welcome Desk.

### **Back to School Gathering**

**Hotdogs & S'mores**

**Grades 7-12**

**Sunday, August 18**

**5:30 PM**

Meet at the Link Door (by the tall orange tower) at 5:30 PM for Hot Dogs, S'mores & Games in the Courtyard. We have invited our friends from Immanuel in Bellevue to join us. Let us know your plans by signing up and tell us what you can bring to the party. See you there as we grow in relationships and faith.

### **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.

### **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, 7/25—Wednesday, 7/31**

**Saturday: 51**

**Sunday: 9:00: 91 11:00: 51**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 10**

**Total: 203**

**Streaming: 50**

**Pantry Guests Served: 1121 (inc. 390 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 26**

**Offering: Not available at time of printing**

Jesus is the bread of life.

#### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 6:24-35	Christ, the bread of life
Monday	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15	Raining bread from heaven
Tuesday	Ephesians 4:1-16	Unity in the body of Christ
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Greetings to the Corinthians
Thursday	Psalms 55:16-19	Betrayed by a friend
Friday	Acts 6:1-7	Seven chosen to serve
Saturday	Psalms 78:23-29	God feeds the people
Sunday	John 6:35, 41-51	Bread from heaven



#### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*"I [the LORD] have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" Exodus 16:12 (NRSV)*

#### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

##### A Prayer for the Week:

Living God, we thank you that even when we complain and do not see your goodness in our midst, you respond to our cries for help through Christ Jesus, our bread of life. Amen.

##### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, as we receive this food, help us to remember with thanksgiving all your good gifts to us through Christ Jesus our Lord and our bread of life. Amen.

##### A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus, the bread of life, fill you with good things.

#### CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What is something that happened recently that you did not understand?
- If you could complain to Jesus about something, what would it be?

#### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* John 6:24-35 and Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15.

In both readings people lack understanding. In John 6, the crowds witness the miracles but do not see the signs as leading them to believe in Jesus as the one God has sent. In Exodus 16, the people do not understand what they have just experienced. They do not remember that God just delivered them out of a harsh life in Egypt. Instead, they incorrectly

recall living the good life in Egypt when they ate their fill of meat and bread. Nor do they initially grasp that God answers their complaining by giving them bread to eat. Exodus 16 gives a biblical understanding of our human condition. We have short memories and forget God's goodness to us. We become fearful because of it, and we end up complaining and being unfaithful to God. Moses and Jesus show God's saving presence that overcomes ignorance, complaining, and fears. In John 6, to trust in God is to believe that Jesus is the one sent by God as the bread of life to respond to our needs (v. 35). *Discuss:* When have you felt that Jesus, the bread of life, has responded to your needs?

*Pray:* **Ever-present God, help us to see and trust that your saving work is in our midst so that we may not fear, complain, or forget your goodness to us through Jesus 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 overcome something that worries them?

#### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Ephesians 4 states that the leaders in the congregation, are *"to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ"* (vv. 11-12). Pastors and staff are not the only ministers. All people are ministers to build up one another in faith by *"speaking the truth in love"* so that all may *"grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ"* (v. 15). Draw the outline of a body on a sheet of paper. Name spiritual gifts (talents) that you or others you know have. Write them inside the body. *Then pray:* **May the Holy Spirit give us the faith and the gifts to grow together in care for one another through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8  
Ephesians 4:25—5:2; John 6:35, 41-51