

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

August 10 & 11, 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 loving memory of Don & Jean Nippert given by Marvin & Kris Olson; given by Steve & Diane O'Connor in memory of Steve's mother, Loretta O'Connor

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Steve & Diane O'Connor in memory of Steve's mother, Loretta O'Connor

Kountze Café Lite

9:30—11 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: Katie Larson and Global Mission

Next week: Congregational Election Meeting; Leadership, Finance, & Property Ministry Areas.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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/Katie Larson and Global Mission
12:15 PM Book Group
5:30 PM S'mores & Hotdogs

August 12 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
4:00 PM KCCOC Board

August 13 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

August 14 Wednesday

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

August 15 Thursday

Council Reports Due
Good News Deadline
11:30 AM Men's Lunch
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:00 PM Circle 5

August 16 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal
5:00 PM Pantry

August 17 Saturday

Carlson/Bird Wedding
5:00 PM Worship

August 18 Sunday

Pentecost 13
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/
Congregational Meeting and
Ministry Fair: Leadership,
Finance, Property

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

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.

For Your Calendar/News & Notes *continued*

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, Smores & 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.

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!

You are Invited!

John Waterman's 90th Birthday Party

Sunday, August 25

1-4 PM

DAV Hall, 4515 F Street, Omaha

Please RSVP—and get the address of the party - by August 15 via call or text to Shari at 402-830-5769.

Confirmation Orientation

August 28

6 PM

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church (93rd & Dodge)

Do you have a student who will be in 7th or 8th grade this fall? Our Confirmation programming kicks off with an Orientation Meeting & Meal for both students and their adults at St. Timothy's on August 28 at 6 PM **AND**... a lock-in and service night here at Kountze, September 6-7. Look for more information in your email and mailbox soon. Let the church office or Pastor Lucy know if you have a student who should be included, or if you have any questions.

Attendance & Giving

Thursday, 8/4—Wednesday, 8/7

Saturday: 37

Sunday: 9:00: 106 11:00: 49

Wednesday: 12:15: 8

Total: 200

Streaming:

Pantry Guests Served: 896 (inc. 290 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 13

Offering:

\$19,837.51 (Regular) \$3,058.68 (Specials)

\$605.92 (Debt Reduction)

As beloved children, be imitators of God.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 6:35, 41-51	Bread from heaven
Monday	1 Kings 19:4-8	Elijah flees from Jezebel
Tuesday	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	Rules for the new life
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1	Do all to the glory of God
Thursday	1 John 2:1-6	Christ our advocate
Friday	Philippians 2:1-11	Imitating Christ's humility
Saturday	Psalms 34:1-8	Taste and see
Sunday	John 6:51-58	Christ, the true food and drink

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice of God. **Ephesians 5:1-2 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, we thank you for your saving grace and ask that your love guide our actions for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior, and the Bread of Life. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear Jesus, we give you thanks that you are the bread of life that gives us hope, just as this meal today gives us daily strength. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus, the bread of life, guide you as a beloved child of God.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Talk about or reflect on a time someone did something kind and unexpected for you.
- You are a beloved child of God. What does this mean to you?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Ephesians 4:25-5:2.

Since the time of the New Testament, the message that all our hope in Christ is based on God's undeserved kindness led some to think they could live however they wanted. It made human efforts seem unimportant. Yet, this passage clearly speaks with words that command action: *"speak the truth," "do not grieve the Holy Spirit,"*

and "be kind." These and many more statements set an expectation for compliance. However, the motivation is not to earn God's love. It is because of God's love that our only real response is to *"be imitators of God, as beloved children"* (5:1). We will never fully grasp the clear statement of God's saving grace and our response of love and joy. The point is that because we are beloved children of God, our life is not to desire selfish acts of evil but to love one another as a *"fragrant offering"* that expresses our thanksgiving and love for God in Christ. *Discuss:* How do you show thanks for God's love and undeserved kindness for you?

Pray: **Loving God, your goodness comes to us anew each day; help us to respond to your goodness and mercy with love for others and a thankful heart through 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, consider ways to help feed people who live with hunger?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus as the bread of life is the theme throughout John 6. Bread is a symbol of the food that gives us strength and keeps us alive. Make or buy a loaf of bread to share during a meal with family or friends. Begin the meal with the Mealtime Prayer in this Taking Faith Home. During the meal invite each person to take a turn to tell of a personal mountain high or valley low for the week. After the meal, bless one another: **May Jesus, the Bread of Life, guide you as a beloved child of God.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Proverbs 9:1-6; Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58