

KOUNTZE STAFF

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|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 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 17 & 18, 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 honor of Clara Kidder's 24th birthday given by Mark & Tarna Kidder; in honor of the marriage of Heidi Carlson & Randy Bird (8/17)

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Jensens, Muchmores, and Luczynskis in memory of past family members

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

Next week: Ministry Fair: Worship and Membership

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.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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

5:30 PM Back to School Gathering

August 19 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

August 20 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation Council

August 21 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

August 22 Thursday

1:00 PM Circle 4

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

August 23 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

August 24 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

August 25 Sunday

Pentecost 14

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/Ministry

Fair: Worship and Membership

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!

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.

Rally Day!

Sunday, September 8

We will kick off our Sunday School year with prayers, celebration, games, and fellowship. We are planning a fun and interesting faith-filled Sunday school year. We hope you join us! Classes begin Sunday, September 15

Women's Gathering

Saturday, September 21

11 AM

Jonna Holland will speak about their recent trip to Egypt & Jordan. Watch the bulletin and Good News for more information.

Can You Help?

deFreese Manor is in need of help spreading mulch. No green thumb needed for this project. If you're able to help, please call the church or the office at deFreese. They would appreciate any help you may be able to offer.

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>

Attendance & Giving

Thursday, 8/11—Wednesday, 8/14

Saturday: 43

Sunday: 9:00: 154 11:00: 73

Wednesday: 12:15: 14

Total: 284

Streaming: 72

Pantry Guests Served: 1084 (inc. 377 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 20

Offering:

\$12,004.11 (Regular) \$1,792.49 (Specials)

\$997.00 (Debt Reduction)

Jesus came to give us eternal life.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

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|-----------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sunday | John 6:51-58 | Christ, the true food and drink |
| Monday | Proverbs 9:1-6 | Wisdom's feast |
| Tuesday | Ephesians 5:15-20 | Be filled with the Holy Spirit |
| Wednesday | Matthew 26:26-30 | The Lord's Supper |
| Thursday | Exodus 16:27-36 | Bread from heaven |
| Friday | 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 | The Lord's Supper |
| Saturday | Psalms 34:9-14 | God teaches the fear of the Lord |
| Sunday | John 6:56-69 | Many disciples desert Jesus |



SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.” **John 6:54 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Eternal God, give us wisdom to receive Jesus, the one who comes as the bread of life to fill us with life and love and hope. Amen.

Mealttime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this meal; let it remind us of Jesus, the bread of life, who has come into our lives to give us joy that knows no end. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you be filled with the joy of Jesus dwelling in you.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- ☑ Tell about or reflect on a special meal you had with others. What made that meal special?
- ☑ If Jesus was your guest at a meal, what would you ask him?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Proverbs 9:1-6 and John 6:51-58.

In Proverbs 9, we are invited to enjoy a feast that offers not only food and drink but the pleasure of walking in the ways of God, *“the way of insight”* (v. 6). In John 6, Jesus invites people to feast on the wisdom of God embodied in him, *“the Word made flesh”* (John 1:14). Jesus' words have an obvious connection to the Lord's Supper, the last meal with his disciples before his death. Instead

of retelling the story of the last supper as is done in Luke, Matthew, and 1 Corinthians, this reading in John 6 gives us the meaning of the Lord's Supper. As we feast on Jesus, the bread of life, we live a life that dwells in his presence. We abide in him and he in us. The life God intends for us is eternal life. It is a life that knows no end. When we partake of the Lord's Supper, we receive a way of life filled with divine wisdom, goodness, and mercy. It is what Jesus came to give us.

Discuss: What does the Lord's Supper mean to you?

Pray: **Living God, we thank you for Jesus, the bread of life, who gives us the meal that grants us eternal life through your divine wisdom, goodness, and mercy. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, plan a meal for others to enjoy, especially those in need of encouragement.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The texts this week focus on living wisely and enjoying life that is experienced in the presence of God. In Proverbs 9:6, wisdom is described as walking *“in the way of insight.”* Go for a walk and pay attention to what you can notice through your senses. What do you smell, see, hear, touch, and even taste that fill the space you are in? How does awareness of your senses and what you have experienced enrich your life today as a gift of our gracious God? *Pray:* **Creator God, for all that you give to us, help us to be aware and thankful. In Jesus' name, amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18; Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69