

## 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  
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

September 7 & 8, 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 worshipping, 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.

### 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.

### Large Print Bulletins and Listening Devices

Please speak to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or an assisted listening device.

### Thank you

for supporting the ministries of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.



### Connect with Pr. Lucy

Schedule a time to meet with Pastor Lucy by following the link or QR Code. <https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min>



### Today at Kountze Memorial

**Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God** in loving memory of Albert Grage by his family; given by Paul & Carol Carlson in celebration of their 57<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### Kountze Café

9:30—11:00 AM

Join us each Sunday for breakfast. The schedule for September is slightly changed. This morning is Pastry Day. Next week will be biscuits & gravy, potatoes, and fruit. Join us! Hot breakfast will begin in October.

### Rally Sunday!

Sunday, September 8

### Celebrating Worship, Grow, Serve

**Worship** – please join us for Rally Sunday services at 9 AM and 11 AM on September 8. Worshipping together is at the heart of our congregational life!

**Grow** – please join our youth as we kick off our program year. On Rally Sunday our children will parade inside and outside the church and Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center following 9 a.m. services. Students and volunteers will receive a blessing for a year of growth in faith and discipleship.

**Serve** – please join us as we highlight God's Work, Our Hands and the *Love Thy Neighbor* Food Pantry. We will honor our volunteers as well as Wayne Simmonds and the generosity of Sherri Labeledz and Terri Gogetap, who named the pantry *Love Thy Neighbor* to honor their father. Everyone is encouraged to bring donations of toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo and conditioner. Tours of KCCOC and the Pantry will be available.

### 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:** Rally Sunday

**Next week:** 165<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Presentation

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### September 8 Sunday

Pentecost 16  
Rally Sunday  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
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  
10:00 AM Pantry  
5:00 PM KCCOC Board  
9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
7:30 PM Youth Committee

9:00 AM Sewing Group  
12:15 PM Worship  
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor  
4:00 PM Executive Committee  
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St. Timothy  
Council Reports Due  
9:30 AM WELCA Board  
11:30 AM Property Committee  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
4:30 PM Transition Team  
5:00 PM Pantry  
6:00 PM Council/Staff Dinner

8 AM - 3:00 PM Council Leadership Retreat  
5:00 PM Worship  
Pentecost 17  
Good News Deadline  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)  
9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite  
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour  
10:15 AM New Member Class  
12:00 PM Baptism Reunion

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Adult Choir

Do you love singing and want to be part of a joyful, dedicated community? Join our Kountze Memorial Adult Choir, where we sing praises to God and enjoy fellowship together. Whether you're a seasoned singer or just love to lift your voice, we'd love to have you with us as we make vibrant and beautiful music. If you're interested in becoming a vital part of our worship through music, we'd be thrilled to welcome you to the choir. Previous singing experience in high school or college is a plus, but not required. For more information or to join, please reach out to Barb Carlsen at 402-341-7761. Come be a part of something special!

### Confirmation Classes Begin

**St. Timothy's Lutheran Church (93<sup>rd</sup> & Dodge)**  
**Grades 7 & 8**  
**Wednesday, September 11**  
**6 - 7:15 PM**

### Children's Choir

**Beginning Sunday, September 15**  
**9:15 AM (following 9:00 AM Children's Blessing)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Sunday School Music Room**

### Grades K-6

Barb Carlsen is excited to have another opportunity to work with your talented children this year. She has over 35 years of experience as a music teacher and enjoys working with young people. All children in grades K-6 are encouraged to sing in our Children's Choir. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Barb in the church office at 402-341-7761.

### New Member Classes

**September 15 & 29**  
**10:15 AM**

Explore the potential of joining Kountze Memorial by attending our upcoming new member classes. Please plan to attend both sessions. We will welcome new members on Sunday, October 6. Questions or planning to attend? Call the church office – we look forward to connecting with you!

### Baptism Reunion

**Sunday, September 15**  
**12 PM (following 11 AM Worship)**

If you have a child that has been baptized in the last two years (January, 2023—August, 2024), mark your calendars to attend this event. This event will help you to meet other parents in the church with babies and toddlers, learn about available opportunities the church offers for your children, and also ponder ways that you can share the faith daily in your home as you live out the baptismal promises made on behalf of your child.

### Free Community Health Fair

**Monday, September 16**  
**9 AM - Noon**

Methodist Community Health Clinic and the Kountze Memorial Food Pantry are hosting this free health fair inside Kountze Commons outside of the Pantry as well as near the west parking lot of Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center. Available screenings and services include flu vaccines, head and neck cancer screenings, skin cancer screenings, vital signs and glucose checks, healthy eating tips from registered dietitians, smoking cessation tips, and spotting the signs of a stroke or heart attack. You do not need to be a patient of Methodist Community Health Clinic or a Food Pantry guest to participate. ALL ARE WELCOME.

## **A Spantember Men's Lunch**

**Thursday, September 19**

**11:30 AM**

**Suggested Donation: \$10.00**

"Beef might be for dinner" but "Spam is what's for lunch". We will sample a few spam recipes and learn more about the history of Spam. This is sure to put Jim's culinary skills to the test but rest assured everyone is promised a great time of food and fellowship. Please RSVP at the welcome desk, call the church office or email: jim@kmlchurch.org to reserve your spot at the spamtacular event.

## **Family Campout**

**September 20-22**

### **Carol Joy Holling Camp**

Grab your camping gear and join us for Family Campout at Carol Joy Holling Camp. Family Campout is designed to get family units of all kinds outside and exploring for a fun weekend of camping. Camp staff will host a variety of favorite activities throughout the weekend including; high ropes, archery, boating, big group games, worship, and more! Come and enjoy God's wonderful creation alongside a community of camp families. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Adult Programs Specialist, Jessica, at JWeltz@NL0M.org or the Youth Programs Specialist, Laura, at LStalder@NL0M.org or by phone at 402-944-2544. For more information or to register, go to:

<https://www.cjhcenter.org/campout>

## **Women's Fall Gathering & Soup Luncheon**

**Saturday, September 21**

**11 AM**

All women are invited to join us...

- You do not need to be a member of a Circle to attend. Bring a friend or two.
- There is no cost for the lunch.
- Please RSVP by Monday, September 16 so we know how many to plan for.

After lunch, Jonna Holland will present highlights from her recent trip to Egypt and Jordan. She'll share what they learned about the religious roots of Egypt through the Pyramids and Temples along the Nile. She'll also show the influences of the "People of the Book" in Egypt: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. She'll share photos of what Moses saw on Mt. Nebo in Jordan, and where the Holy Family stayed in Cairo. She'll conclude with some interesting photos of Petra and the breathtaking Wadi Rum desert in Jordan, which served as the backdrop in several recent movies.

## **Everyone is Invited to Our Annual Church Picnic!**

**Sunday, September 22**

**11:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

Get ready for a day of food, fun, and fellowship at our Annual Church Picnic! Mark your calendars now because this is one event you won't want to miss. Join us at the church for a delicious meal (with a vegetarian option, of course) and bring your favorite side dish to share. The day

will be filled with outdoor entertainment for the kids, and we'll wrap up with everyone's favorite—BINGO! Please sign up as you are able on the insert in today's bulletin to let us know if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there!

## **Volunteers Needed**

We need your help making this a fun and educational school year for the students of Kountze Memorial to help our children in developing a deep connection with the Word of God, fellowship with each other, and service to our community. We need your help as teachers, teaching assistants, preschool & Nursery assistants, bringing snacks, choir assistant or bringing "materials needed." We appreciate your support! Email Kristin@kmlchurch.org to volunteer your time or ask any questions.

## **Kountze Food Pantry**

The Kountze Food Pantry is collecting toothbrushes and toothpaste for our Pantry guests. These items are always available along with bar soap, razors, feminine hygiene products and toilet tissue. We offer deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, shave cream, body wash and lotion on the first Monday of the month. Any donation of toothbrushes and toothpaste (or any of these hygiene products) would be greatly appreciated. You may place your contribution in the donation box in the Fellowship Hall or, if ordering online, sent directly to the Church. As always, we are in need of volunteers. We have jobs for most ages and abilities. We especially need volunteers on Friday evenings and on Monday morning September 16, when Methodist is hosting a health fair at the Kountze Pantry. If you are interested in helping out, please sign up at the link below.

<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

## **Donate to the Healing Gift Free Clinic**

### **Pharmacy Software Update**

A generous foundation has offered to match your donation dollar-for-dollar up to \$5,000.00 to support this critical update. This is an incredible opportunity to double your impact and make a substantial difference in the lives of countless individuals in need. To take advantage of this matching opportunity, please mark your check or online donation as 'matching funds.' Thank you.

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Thursday, 8/29—Wednesday, 9/4**

**Saturday: 23**

**Sunday: 9:00: 112 11:00: 55**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 8**

**Total: 198**

**Streaming: 38**

**Pantry Guests Served: 348 (inc. 125 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 11**

**Offering:**

\$8,257.20 (Regular) \$6,475.16 (Specials)

\$337.00 (Debt Reduction)

*We praise God through acts of kindness.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 7:24-37	Jesus heals the Gentiles
Monday	Isaiah 35:4-7a	Return of the exiled
Tuesday	James 2:1-17	Faith without works is dead
Wednesday	Ephesians 1:3-14	Spiritual blessings in Christ
Thursday	Daniel 2:17-23	Nebuchadnezzar's dream
Friday	2 Samuel 22:47-51	God is the living Lord
Saturday	Psalms 146	Praise for God's help
Sunday	Mark 8:27-38	Taking up the cross



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In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.* **Psalm 146:1-2 (NRSV)**

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, we praise you for your loving kindness that restores us, carries out justice, and fills our lives with your goodness and mercy through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for restoring us with strength today with this gift of food. Help us to praise you with acts of kindness that help feed others, too. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May you see the goodness of God each and every day.

## CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- When is a time you or someone you know was praised for an act of kindness? Explain.
- What actions lead you to praise God?

## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Psalm 146.

This is the first in a series of five psalms of praise. It introduces many reasons to give God praise. We are to praise and trust God, not human leaders who are mortal and limited in their abilities. Mortal leaders are not necessarily bad, but in contrast to God, they can disappoint. The one worthy of praise is described as the one who creates all things, who gives justice for those who are oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets prisoners free, and who heals the body and spirit of those in need. God cares for those who live at the margins: the strangers, the orphan, and the widow. Knowing the kind of God we have, our praise to God is not only in words and song but shown in the way we live our lives. We praise God with deeds of compassion: our search for fair treatment of those who are hungry, those who are seen as without value, and those living with infirmities. In the reading from Mark 7:24-37, we see in Jesus the one who does all these things as he heals a foreign woman's daughter and a man who wanted to hear and speak clearly.

*Discuss:* How have you praised God through a deed of compassion?

*Pray:* **God of justice and mercy, we praise you for your goodness that leads us to care for all people through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how can you show care for someone who is not being treated well in your community?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

September 8th is National Grandparent's Day in the United States. During this week, plan a special way to show appreciation for those who are or have treated you as a grandchild. Give thanks to God for them with prayer: **Loving God, thank you for the gift of grandparents and other older caregivers in our lives. Your kindness is shown in their love and care for us. Thank you for their wise minds, listening ears, and loving hearts. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9  
James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38