

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

October 12 & 13, 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 165 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.

Scan to Give Online



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 by Lesley Akers in gratitude for healing

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Amanda Plantz in memory of David Penning.

Children's Choir

9:15 AM

K-6th Grades

Following the 9 AM Children's Blessing, children are invited to join the Children's Choir with Barb Carlsen or join Kristin Boe for a Children's Sermon. Children will return to their seats in time to receive communion.

Children's Sermon

9:15 AM

Grades K-4

Following the 9 AM Children's Blessing, children not wanting to participate in Choir, may join Kristin Boe for a children's sermon in the Upper rooms. The children will return to their seats in time to receive communion.

Kountze Café

9:30—11:00 AM

Join us each Sunday for breakfast. The suggested donation is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger for the hot breakfast and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast.

Sunday School

10:10 AM

Ages 2 years-6th Grade

Join us in the 2nd Floor Sunday School Rooms where the children will see how Jesus taught his followers to live in God's word and spread that message to others through art, games, science, storytelling, cooking, and missions.

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

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: Fellowship

Next week: Review of ELCA Draft Statement, "Civic Life & Faith"

Worship Assistant Training

Sunday, October 13, 10:10 AM

- Join us for a training of Lectors, Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants, Altar Guild
- **All current servers** are asked to attend for a refresher course
- If you are interested in learning more about Worship Assistants, please contact the church office to register or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall

KMLC Book Group

Sunday, October 13

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

The book for this month is *Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone* by Benjamin Stevenson. This is a hilarious not-to-be-missed murder mystery which is soon to be adapted into an HBO series. Everyone is welcome.

First Communion Classes

Sunday, October 13 or Sunday, October 20

12:15 – 2:00 PM

A light lunch will be served.

Meet with Kristin Boe and Pastor Hall in the Nave. The curriculum will be "Fed & Forgiven". All ages are welcome; the course is geared toward 2nd graders. Please call the church office, email kristin@kmlchurch.org or sign up at the Welcome Desk. Children will receive their First Communion on Reformation Sunday, October 27.

Haunted House & Fellowship Night

High School & Young Adults

Sunday, October 13

5–6:30 PM – Kountze Memorial (food & fellowship)

7 PM – Dungeon of the Damned

(basement of Hollywood Candy - 1209 Jackson St.)

Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or let Mia Valquier know if you plan to attend! We want everyone who can make it to come, so if cost is a concern, please reach out to Pastor Lucy! Buy tickets online for \$20 at:

www.dungeonofthedamned.com

This Week at Kountze Memorial

October 13 Sunday

Pentecost 21

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 Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

10:10 AM Worship Assistant

Training

12:15 PM Book Group

12:15 PM First Communion Class

5:00 PM Youth/Young Adult

Haunted House & Fellowship

Night!

October 14 Monday

Columbus Day (Observed)

10:00 AM Pantry

October 15 Tuesday

Good News Deadline

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation Council

October 16 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.

Timothy

October 17 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch -

Octoberfest

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

October 18 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

October 19 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

October 20 Sunday

Pentecost 22

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 Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

12:15 PM First Communion Class

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Men's Lunch - Octoberfest!

Thursday, October 17

11:30 AM

Suggested Donation: \$10.00

Join us in the Link for food, fun, and fellowship. Who knows what Jim will have on the menu (rumor has it that there could possibly be brats and homemade sauerkraut...) but it's sure to be good!

Please sign up by Tuesday, October 15 by calling the church office or emailing jim@kmlchurch.org. You can also sign up at the Welcome Desk. Bring a friend. Lederhosen not required.

Bible Sunday

October 27

9:00 AM

On Bible Sunday, we will be celebrating with children of various ages and grades - listed below - as they receive their own age-appropriate Bibles. Those receiving Bibles this year are:

Children aged 2 and 4

Children in 1st, 3rd, or 5th grades

Youth beginning Confirmation (7th and 8th grades)

Join us as we parade into the church with new Bibles and celebrate this exciting part of our Faith Formation.

Friendsgiving

Grades 7-12, College Youth, and Young Adults

Sunday, November 10

5:00 PM

Please join us for our Friendsgiving Progressive Dinner! Invite your friends to join as well! We will depart from the church at 5 PM and plan to return by 8 PM. Please **RSVP to the church office by Sunday, November 3**. You can also sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall. We hope to see you there!!

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is sad to announce the retirement of our Friday night Pantry manager, Mary Jo Fike. Her service is greatly appreciated and she will be missed. A new opportunity of service is available for an applicant with managerial skills and a desire to facilitate the distribution of food and goods to those in need. Please contact, Susie Henry, your Kountze Food Pantry Director, at susannfrances@kmlchurch.org As always, we are in need of volunteers. We have jobs for most ages and abilities. 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

The Healing Gift Free Clinic is committed to providing essential medical care and prescriptions to our community's most vulnerable populations. To ensure they can continue offering high-quality healthcare, they need to upgrade their pharmacy software. The current pharmacy data management system was designed by a pharmacy volunteer over a decade ago using donated equipment and is outdated.

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.

Blood Drive

Sunday, December 8

9 AM—1 PM

Kountze Memorial will host a Blood Drive this Advent. We need 30 to sign up in advance but there will also be room for "walk ins."

- If you normally give blood, please consider giving here and sign up as soon as possible
- If you haven't given blood before or aren't on a regular schedule, this is a great time for you to consider giving at our Blood Drive and sign up as soon as possible.

By giving blood, you can save up to three lives in only one hour every time you donate.

Attendance & Giving

Thursday, 10/3—Wednesday, 10/9

Saturday: 22

Sunday: 9:00: 161 11:00: 72

Wednesday: 12:15: 17

Total: 272

Streaming: 55

Pantry Guests Served: 976 (inc. 304 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 20

Offering:

\$11,860.2 (Regular) \$2,675.13 (Specials)

\$572.00 (Debt Reduction)

Following Jesus trusts the goodness of God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 10:17-31	A rich man goes away sad
Monday	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15	Seek good and not evil
Tuesday	Hebrews 4:12-16	Jesus is the great high priest
Wednesday	Matthew 6:24-34	Do not worry
Thursday	Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	Everything has its time
Friday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust and honor God
Saturday	Psalms 90:12-17	Teach us wisdom
Sunday	Mark 10:35-45	The Son of Man came to save



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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

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Jesus looked at them [his disciples] and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." Mark 10:27 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Wise and compassionate God, may we see in Jesus the way of life that trusts your goodness and serves others with compassion and generosity. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may the gift of this food and the kingdom you bring us in Jesus, give us wise hearts and the strength to care for others. Amen. (Psalm 90:12, 17)

A Blessing to Give:

May the love of Christ free you to love others.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Could you easily give away all your possessions? Why or why not?
- Does knowing that for God all things are possible make life easy or difficult? Explain.

DEVOTIONS

Read: Mark 10:17-31.

This passage can make our heads spin with good news, then bad, and then good again. Jesus is addressed as a "good teacher" (v. 17) by a rich man. But that leads to Jesus telling him, "No one is good but God alone" (v. 18). Jesus then lists the commandments as how to live, and the rich man says he has kept them all. But then Jesus asks for more of the rich man: sell all his possessions and give the money to the poor, then follow Jesus. Jesus says that it is hard for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of God. In fact, it is hard for anyone! When all hope seems to be lost, Jesus says, "for God all things are possible" (v. 27). In frustration Peter points out how the disciples have already given up so much. Jesus counters that the losses will be made up with huge benefits of dwellings and families, yet persecutions will remain. Standards for achievement and the good life are all challenged because "many who are first will be last, and the last will be first" (v. 31). Following Jesus is a letting go of our own standards to trust in God.

Discuss: What have you had to let go of to follow Jesus?

Pray: **Almighty God, help us to let go of any contentment with ourselves to be open to the work of your kingdom for the sake of humility and love in Jesus' name. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what possessions can you donate for others to use?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Hebrews 4:12 says that the word of God is "living and active." Gather various translations of the Bible or find them online. Biblegateway.com is a good online resource. During devotion time, choose one of the *Daily Bible Readings* and look them up in different Bible translations. Make notes of what is similar and what is different. (The CEV, ICB, and NIV are good translations when reading with children and youth.) Then think or talk about how the scripture is living and active in your life. Place a Bible in a visible place in your home as a reminder of the central place of God's word in your life.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 53:4-12; Psalm 91:9-16
Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45