

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

GOOD NEWS

Volume 45, Issue 3

March, 2025

FROM THE PASTOR

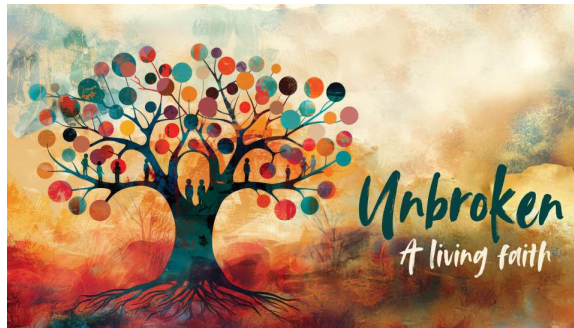
Lent begins on with Ash Wednesday, March 5 this year, and with it a flurry of activities and services here at Kountze Memorial. The theme guiding this Lent will be “Unbroken: A Living Faith”. Between our weekend and midweek services, we will be exploring the things that unite us in faith, not only with Christians across the globe but with the generations who have gone before us. In a time when fewer and fewer people might regularly attend church – and when even the name “Christian” requires some explanation of what each person means by that word, this is a chance to consider our core beliefs about God and how God meets us in our humanity. These are ancient beliefs – but they are also a living faith that moves and grows with us in our changing lives and changing world.

Here are the themes we will explore each week in Lent, together forming a living catechism of our faith:

- God speaks to us through Scripture and Spirit.
- God becomes human for us in Jesus Christ.
- God feels our pain and suffering.
- God compels creation towards mercy.
- God delights in our goodness and judges sin.
- God meet us in bread, wine, and water.
- God loves us eternally.

And now I’m going to ask you to do a couple of things that might be uncomfortable for you. But Lent is a season to stretch ourselves out of our “comfort zone”! First, I want you to consider your Lenten discipline this year in light of our theme – and particularly take on that first statement of faith: God speak to us through Scripture and Spirit. Instead of giving something up for Lent this year, how might you add (or change) something related to engaging God through Scripture and believing the Spirit will meet you

there? Perhaps it’s simply re-reading the weekly lectionary and midweek readings at home and journaling about them, or discussing them with your household. Perhaps you might join the Confirmation students in filling out a weekly Worship Note Report (let me know if you want to know where to find those!) and asking yourself, “What questions did the readings or the sermon raise in me?” Perhaps it’s picking up a devotional book (Augsburg Fortress and Cokesbury have some great options). How might you listen for God in Scripture this Lent?



Second, invite someone to church. Now, Lent may seem like a strange time to evangelize – and truth be told, I know that most of us are uncomfortable or unsure about evangelism in general! Who are we to ask people to come to church – they probably already have a church, or they have a reason they’re not going to church. Inviting someone feels more likely

to offend or, at the very least, get people whispering about you behind your back. But I believe that people are hungry for faith in something beyond themselves, beyond our divided and difficult world. I believe more people than we realize are open to hearing about a faith that truly makes a difference – an ancient but living faith that can help us make meaning of our lives. Who might you invite to join you in hearing about such a faith this Lenten (and Easter) season?

Most of all, I hope that you’ll join us this Lent as we explore what it means to hold both an ancient and living faith – clinging to that which has held the church strong down through the ages, and living out that faith in new and meaningful ways today, in our very everyday lives.

Have a Blessed Lent!

Pastor Lucy

WORSHIP *with us...*

Worship Times

Holy Communion is offered weekly at all three weekend liturgies which use resources from Evangelical Lutheran Worship:

Saturdays at 5:00 PM; Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

The 9:00 AM liturgy is broadcast on Cox Cable Channel 13 and is also live-streamed and archived on our website (www.kmlchurch.org). The Sunday bulletin is available on our website.

Nursery care is provided on Sunday mornings from 8:45 AM until 12:00 PM as well as other Occasional Special Church Services.

A brief, spoken Eucharist is offered on Wednesdays from 12:15 - 12:45 PM in the Rotunda. During Advent and Lent these services are in the Sanctuary.



Photo by Jake Madison

Worship with us on TV or via Internet Livestream



Our 9:00 AM worship service is broadcast live on television every Sunday on Cox Channel 13. You can also livestream the service right from your computer on our church

website. Go to www.kmlchurch.org and click on the Livestreaming link on the Worship Tab. We encourage you to worship with us via television or Internet as you are able.

Altar Flowers, Eternal Candle, TV Broadcast

You can help us beautify the altar at Kountze or sponsor a television broadcast if you wish. This is a simple and meaningful way to honor a loved one who has passed away, celebrate a special anniversary or milestone, or can be given in thanksgiving for friends or family. Their names will appear in the church bulletin on the weekend you select.

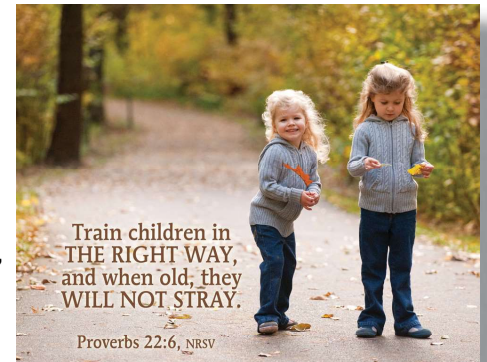
Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and the cost is \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$220 per week.

You can sign up for a date to provide flowers, eternal candle, and/or our television broadcast by signing up in the Narthex, calling the church office, going online to our giving page, or placing a check in the mail or offering plate marked "flowers, candle, or TV ministry. Please let us know if it is in honor/memory/celebration of someone. Thanks.



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. We also have 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.



Train children in
THE RIGHT WAY,
and when old, they
WILL NOT STRAY.

Proverbs 22:6, NRSV

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GROW with us...



10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

During the month of March, we'll start a study of the Council of Nicaea, its content, and the upcoming 1,700th anniversary. Join us.

New Member Classes

April 27 & May 4

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, May 18.

Questions or planning to attend? Contact the church office (402-341-7761 or debbie@kmlchurch.org). We

look forward to connecting with you!

Carol Joy Holling 12th Annual Heart of Camp Gala

Saturday, April 5

5 - 10 PM

A View West Shores

110 S 243rd St

Waterloo, NE

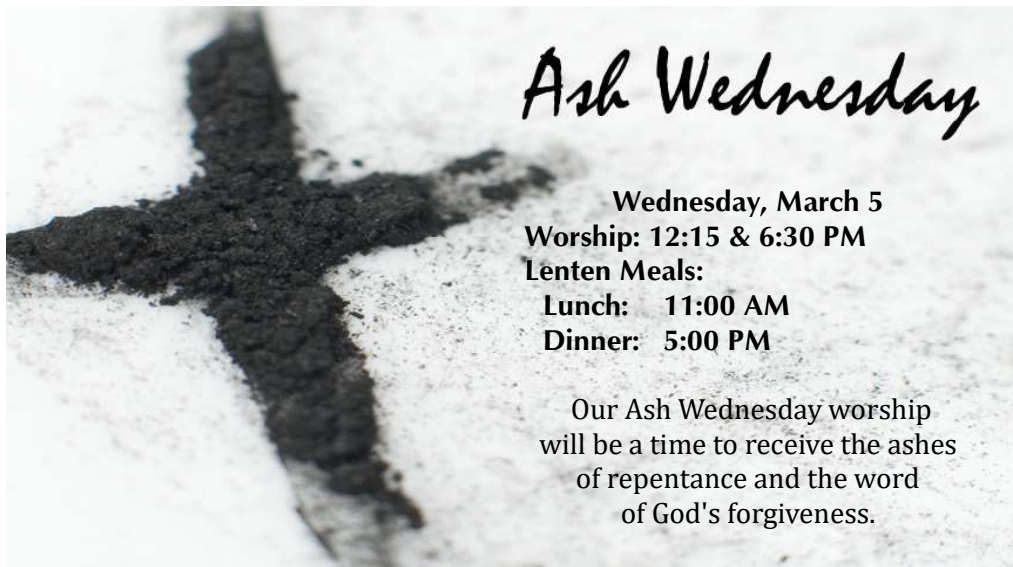


Join the camp to bring Faith: Alive! by celebrating the work done through Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries. Your participation enables NLOM to provide opportunities to campers no matter their ability to pay for camp. All are welcome here, in these spaces where we live out our faith in ways that show everyone they belong and are unconditionally loved by God.

This will be an evening of fun, auction bidding wars, fellowship with friends, and great food. Bring a friend or two or a table's worth. The more the merrier. This year the gala features a fun theme & new ticket option.

To find out how to donate items for the silent auction, how to become a sponsor, to buy tickets, or any other information about the Gala, go to:

<https://www.nlom.org/gala/>



Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 5

Worship: 12:15 & 6:30 PM

Lenten Meals:

Lunch: 11:00 AM

Dinner: 5:00 PM

Our Ash Wednesday worship will be a time to receive the ashes of repentance and the word of God's forgiveness.

Wednesdays in Lent Unbroken: A Living Faith

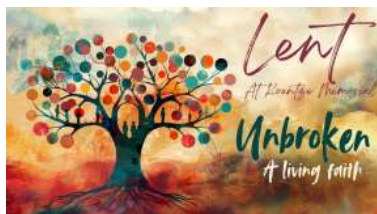
Wednesdays, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9

Thursday, April 17

Worship: 12:15 & 6:30 PM

• **Lunch:** 11:00 AM - Noon (free-will offering)

• **Supper:** 5:00 - 6:30 PM (free-will offering)



Parking Reminders

Please Remember

- There is no Kountze Memorial parking in the lot on the South side of Farnam. That is apartment parking only.
- No parking Monday - Friday 8 AM - 4:30 PM in the Methodist Clinic parking lot.

You may park in the deFreese Manor parking lot, at the meters* (must pay), or in the West parking lot.

*If the meters are bagged for streetcar work, do not park there. You will possibly be ticketed or even towed.

SERVE with us...

Kountze Food Pantry



At this time, the Kountze Pantry has coats but gloves are in short supply. We need gloves for men, women, and children. Men's large and extra large gloves are especially in short supply.

You may leave your donation in the box marked "Food Pantry", located in Fellowship Hall.

Tax deductible slips are located on the box.

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>

Food Pantry Report

1/1/2025 - 12/31/2024

Income:

Grants	\$	-0-
Donations:	\$	7,777.36
Memorials	\$	
	\$	<u>7,777.36</u>

Expenses:

Grant Expense	\$	-0-
Regular Expenses		
Aldi	\$	-0-
Costco	\$	451.29
Hidden Valley Ind.	\$	
Hy-Vee	\$	-0-
Dollar Tree	\$	
Family Fare	\$	
Food Bank	\$	-0-
Walmart	\$	212.72
Sam's Club	\$	
Other	\$	<u>53.74</u>
Balance	\$	7,059.61

Del & Lou Ann Weber Healing Gift Free Clinic

Clinic Administrator Update
New Clinic Administrator: Ryan Mahr



The Board of the Healing Gift Free Clinic is pleased to announce its new Clinic Administrator: Ryan Mahr. Ryan brings many years of professional leadership and experience, most recently as director for Sarpy County Corrections. His first official day of service was February 20.

Ryan replaces Joyce Palmer, who resigned from the Clinic after eight years of faithful, dedicated service. The Board appreciates the prayers you offered during this process.

Good News "Collating Party"

Wednesday, March 26

9:00 AM

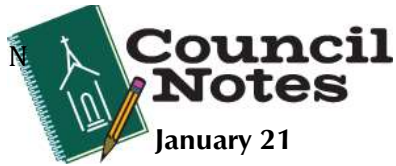
As we gear up for another edition of the Good News, we're reaching out to you for a little extra support in the collating department. And, we serve lunch! This month, Jim and his Lenten Meal Crew will be serving lunch! So, if you're up for a bit of teamwork and a whole lot of fun, join us in this delightful adventure of collating camaraderie. If you're able to lend a hand in this behind-the-scenes task, please call the church office to let us know. Please feel free to attend the 12:15 Lenten Worship service at 12:15.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve our church community in such a meaningful way.

Omaha Bridges

Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center will host an Omaha Bridges Out of Poverty class beginning April 2 for nine weeks. Omaha Bridges offers the Getting Ahead curriculum. These classes teach the development of soft skills, time management, problem solving, formal register of language, personal financial management, negotiation, mediation, controlling emotion, resilience, abstract thinking, and goal setting. KCCOC wishes to thank the Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church congregation for helping to support this partnership through Alternative Gifts. In addition, funds were also raised through GivingTuesday. KCCOC is looking forward to collaborating with Omaha Bridges to help serve the Omaha community!

NEWS & Notes...



Vice President Tina Broeckemeier chaired the meeting, which was called to order at 6:03 PM.

Devotions, Trusting God with Tomorrow, were led by Mattie O'Kane.

The agenda was approved as revised by adding the Scholarship Committee's revised mission statement.

The minutes from the December 17, 2024, Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church Council meeting were reviewed and approved.

Tim Backora gave the financial report for December 2024 and the 2024 calendar year. The total donations/income for December 2024 was \$124,000 with total expenditures being \$90,000; giving a net income for the month of \$34,000. Overall the finances were positive by \$24,889 even though operating income was -\$77,279. The church's finances were overall positive because non-operational income (designated giving, undesignated memorials, interest on accounts, and rent) was more than adequate to cover the non-operational expenses. It was noted that the General Fund donations in 2024 were \$93,989 less than the General Fund donations in 2023. The Council discussed where some of the undesignated funds might be allotted. A motion to approve the financial report was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Tim Backora presented the budget for 2025, which is subject to change as he did not have all of the financial information for next year before the Council meeting. With the new Realm software, multiple new accounting categories have been or are being created, making it difficult to compare previous years with the new budget. The budget will be updated as more information becomes available and will be forwarded to the Council for approval. The proposed General Fund Budget for 2025 is estimated at \$890,000. Total expenses are budgeted at \$1,050,757 which includes an estimate for hiring a new associate pastor. The Council reviewed and discussed the proposed budget line items comparing them to the 2024 budget, 2024 actual expenditures, and the proposed 2025 budget line items.

A discussion regarding presenting an unbalanced budget versus a balanced budget took place. Everyone agreed a balanced budget is preferable.

The Realm Church Management software training for church employees is ongoing. It is hoped that when completed some committee members will be trained.

There was no report from the Call Committee or

Stewardship Committee.

Pastor Hall reported that the Council Retreat will again be held in September, 2025 but the date has not been confirmed.

Tina Broeckemeier reported the first session of the new member class went well with five new members attending.

Tim Bockora reported that Pastor Holcombe and his wife left \$50,000 to Kountze Memorial. \$25,000 is designated for the Kountze Food Pantry, Love Thy Neighbor, and \$25,000 is undesignated. The Council will determine what to do with the undesignated \$25,000. The Council will discuss how to use these funds at the February meeting.

Tim Backora provided information regarding the Scholarship Committee and its funding. Historically the Scholarship Committee only funded Seminary students from Kountze. The funds were to be distributed, but not to exceed 5% of the fund per year. However, in years where no Seminary students were matriculated, the funds were then awarded to college-bound high school seniors. At some point, the Church Council overruled the Scholarship Committee and awarded funds that exceeded the five percent guideline seriously depleting the fund.

The Scholarship Committee is proposing that if there is a need to increase the spending from the fund for Seminary students up to 10% of the fund may be allotted with a consensus of both the Council and the Scholarship Committee. This proposal would amend the current guidelines.

It was moved and seconded that the Scholarship Fund Guidelines be amended to read that in a year when there are numerous Seminary students, up to 10% of the designated scholarship funds could be expended to support Seminary students with the consensus of the Council and Scholarship Committee. The motion carried.

Tina reported that she has been working with Jill Conway to establish job descriptions and annual reviews for church employees.

Susie Henry has stepped down as the director of the Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry. The Pantry Board is very appreciative of Susie's contributions to the Pantry and is in the process of seeking her replacement as Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry Director.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:01 PM.

Call Committee Update

We are solidly into the 2nd half of the process to call a new ordained leader to serve at Kountze Memorial. The Call Committee has received their first name from the Synod of a potential candidate and is reviewing their information. Here is how the process will work:

The NE Synod gives the Kountze Memorial Ministry Site Profile (MSP - our congregational profile and "job description") to potential candidates they think might be a good match. Leaders may choose to have their Rostered Minister's Profile (RMP) sent to Kountze Memorial or not.

RMP's are sent to our Senior Pastor Lucy Wynard for initial consideration. Pr. Lucy will pre-screen candidates, along with Pr. Hall, and those they think should be interviewed will be sent to the Call Committee.

The Call Committee will review and compare to the MSP, making an initial decision quickly whether to move forward. Advancing candidates will then be contacted for a video interview with the Call Committee.

After the video interview, candidates the Call Committee votes to advance will be contacted for an in-person interview, ideally including Pr. Lucy and Pr. Hall. After this second interview, the Call Committee will vote on whether or not to recommend the candidate to Council.

Once the Call Committee decides on a single candidate to recommend to Council, and the candidate agrees, they will then coordinate with Council to determine the process for additional interviewing, guest preaching, etc.

The Council will vote on and present a final candidate to the congregation for a call vote.

The Synod has promised to forward the names of potential leaders as they come, and are willing to send us multiple names at a time if and as they have viable candidates. We have indicated our openness to both rosters of the ELCA: Word and Sacrament (Pastors) and Word and Service (Deacons). (A Deacon can preach, lead worship, teach bible study, take communion to the homebound, and do most things that a Pastor does except preside at the Holy Sacraments of Baptism and Communion.)

The Call Committee is tasked with keeping confidential the names and any details about candidates in order to respect and protect rostered leaders, their families, and other congregations. Please do NOT press them for details. Please DO keep the Call Committee, candidates in consideration, our staff and pastors, and the Synod leadership in your prayers though this whole process! We look forward to welcoming a new Associate Pastor or Deacon in the coming months.

Call Committee Members: Tarna Kidder (Chairperson), Lara McCormick (Council liaison), Dulcinea Boesenberg, Ann Hadfield, Doug Heim, Jeff Perkins, and Mia Valquier.



Women's Spring Gathering

Saturday, March 15

11 AM

Pastors Lucy and Dan Wynard will be our guest speakers, sharing about their time living as missionaries in Belarus and Russia.



Belarus, officially the Republic of Belarus, is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe. It is bordered by Russia to the east and northeast, Ukraine to the south, Poland to the west, and Lithuania and Latvia to the northwest. Belarus spans an area of 207,600 square kilometers (80,155 square miles) with a population of 9.4 million.

Come and enjoy a delicious soup lunch and hear about faith shared across cultures!



Saturday, April 26

9 AM - 3:30 PM

Grades 1 - 6

Cost: \$25

Camp Carol Joy Holling

Explore! Day Retreats for elementary students is a chance for young campers to get out and enjoy camp in one compact and fun day. If your camper is missing camp or if they didn't get to come out this summer, Explore! gives them the perfect opportunity to experience a day of adventure and faith building out at CJH Camp. We will be reviewing this past summer's theme, "Created to Be." This will be a wonderful reminder to those who were out at camp this summer of what lessons they had learned or an excellent opportunity to dive into the meaningful teachings from this summer to those who weren't able to come. In addition to Bible study and worship, we will be experiencing many favorite camp activities together as we share in fund and fellowship.

Every Explore! Day Retreat is different, so first-time and long-time participants can both join in the fun as we focus on environmental education, fellowship, and fun!

For more information or to register, go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/ec4789ua>

If You are Hospitalized...



If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please be sure to let the church office know at 402-341-7761 or e-mail info@kmlchurch.org.

Help Deliver Altar Flowers to the Sick & Homebound



After the 11:00 AM service on Sundays, donated altar flower bouquets can be taken to hospitalized members, nursing homes, or care centers. This is a great way to brighten someone's day and to grow friendships!

If you are at the 11:00 AM service and know of someone who would like to be remembered in this way, please take one of the bouquets to them. If you attended another service but would like to deliver flowers, please call the church office on Monday to see if they are still available.

Your help is appreciated!

Pastoral Acts

January 16, 2025 - February 15, 2025

Funerals

Dwight Kurbis, February 8

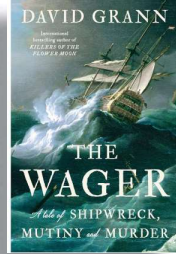
Patricia "Patti" Muller, February 11

Cards with Friends

Thursday, March 6

2:00 PM

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on the first Thursday of each month for a fun and relaxed time playing cards and enjoying great company. Feel free to bring a snack to share, but most importantly, just bring yourself! Everyone is welcome—come be part of the fun!



KMLC Book Group

Sunday, March 9

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

The Wager: A tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny, and Murder

by David Grann

David Grann is a well-known award-winning author of nonfiction. In *THE WAGER*, he tells the tale of the behavior of a group of shipwrecked sailors on a British warship. *THE WAGER* left England in 1740 in a secret mission during a war with Spain. On January 28, 1742, the ship washed up on the coast of Brazil on an island near Patagonia. The castaways named the island WAGER Island. The sailors served in horrific conditions of understaffed ships that were in disrepair, managed by lawless naval officers, and struggled for survival and encountered savages and epidemics of typhus and scurvy. After five months on the island, thirty survivors sailed back to England in *The SPEEDWELL*, a boat they constructed from the shipwreck vessel, via Brazil. Six months later three castaways returned to England in a barge they constructed via Chili. When the two groups meet, they have varied stories of what they encountered after the Shipwreck. A court martial was held and Grann attempts to reveal the true meaning of the events that led to the trial and what it revealed.

Please join fellow book lovers for discussion and fellowship.

Men's Lunch

Our usual Men's Lunch gatherings will take a brief pause during Lent, as Jim will be busy coordinating meals for our church's Lenten lunches and dinners. Instead of our regular meeting, we encourage you to join us for a meal and stay for Worship—it's a wonderful way to connect during this season.

We'll pick back up in May and look forward to good food and great fellowship then. See you at the Lenten meals!



Thrivent Direct Choice Dollars®

Did you know that if you are a Thrivent member, you can direct some of Thrivent's charitable funds to a favorite nonprofit organization or cause?

For more information, go to:

<https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice>

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY...

Sunday School

10:10 - 10:50 AM

Ages 2 Years-6th Grade

The Sunday School children, combined with Kara DiLorenzo's 3rd grade class raised a total of \$599.25 for ELCA Good Gifts! This money provides support to ministries such as various farm animals and supplies for small farms, supplies for health care clinics, and ingredients for soup kitchens. Thank you to all who contributed.

Reminder! The Sunday School students are now receiving breakfast upstairs before beginning their lessons. Thank you to the kitchen volunteers and the Jensen family for providing the meal and service to the Sunday School kids.



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.

Children's Choir

Sundays, 9:15 AM

(following 9:00 AM Children's Blessing)

2nd Floor Sunday School Music Room

Grades K-6

Beginning January 12, 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.



Confirmation

Grades 7 & 8

During Lent, our Confirmation students participate in our Wednesday Lenten meals and worship. Please sign up for service jobs via SignUp Genius.



Youth Forum

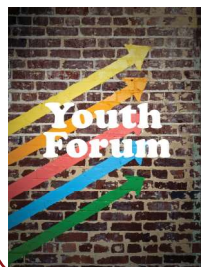
Sundays

10:15 AM

Youth Center

Grades 7-12

Youth are invited to join us each week in the Youth Center during the Sunday



Forum hour (10:15 AM). This month's Youth Forum schedule:

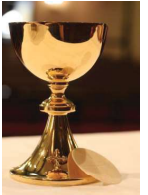
- 3/2 Youth table in Adult Forum
- 3/9 Getting to Know You Games
- 3/16 Bible Study with Tarna Kidder
- 3/23 Special Speaker - KMLC History & Involvement

First Communion Classes

Sundays, April 6 or 13 (attend one)

12:00 PM (after 11:00 AM Worship)

Students that have shown an interest in receiving Communion are welcome to join. Around 2nd grade is encouraged. Please see Kristin Boe or email Kristin@kmlchurch.org to sign your child up for this class. First Communion will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 17.



KMLC Camp Week Camp Carol Joy Holling June 15-20

Join your Kountze friends at Camp Carol Joy Holling. Spend the week making new friends, spending time in nature, and growing in faith through song, lessons, and testimonies.

If you didn't register by the Early Bird registration date, you will need to pay the additional cost and Kountze Memorial will cover the rest of the registration for any Kountze Memorial child/youth.

Kountze Camp Week is June 15—20, but you can attend camp whenever it is convenient for you. Check out the schedule for the different camp opportunities for grades K-12 as well as day camps and leadership training for high school-age youth and Special Needs camps. In order for the church to pay the fee, choose:

- to mail your payment,
- select "Pay items in Full"
- then "Pay by Check/Money Order"
- email a copy of the receipt to info@kmlchurch.org and we will submit the Early Bird payment on behalf of your youth.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the church office. To register, use the link below and follow the directions above:

<http://NLOM.org/caroljoyholling/register>

Vacation Bible School
Held at Luther Memorial Church
1031 Sunset Trail
July 20-23
Ages 2 Years to Grade 5
5:15 PM: Family Dinner
6-8 PM: Class

This year, we are going on a "Road Trip with God". Our studies will be based off the Bible verse Joshua 1:9 - "The Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Join us as we discover God's presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together.

Registration for all our Travelers (students) and Navigators (volunteers) will be open soon. Can't wait to hit the road with you all!

High School Youth Trip
with the Nebraska ELCA
July 6-12
Nashville, Tennessee

Get registered for the 2024 Youth Mission Trip to Nashville, Tennessee. Youth completing grades 8 through 12 are invited to join the Nebraska Synod in traveling to Nashville for a week for faith formation, service, fellowship, and fun!

Contact Kristin Boe or Pastor Lucy for questions or to get registered. We look forward to hearing from you and completing this important service trip together.

Rally 4 Kids
Thursday, March 6
6 - 9 PM
DJ Sokol Arena
701 Florence Blvd
Dinner | Raffle | Live Auction

Lutheran Family Services makes a difference in the lives of children and families through their comprehensive intervention and prevention programs. This is a chance to celebrate all of the great work of LFS. Grab some friends and join in a casual evening of pure joy and magic. You'll meet some amazing families and learn how LFS changes lives right here in our community. It's an evening you don't want to miss!

When you support Rally4Kids, you support 40+ programs that empower people across the region!
 The event is for people 21 years or older.



CALENDAR

MARCH

March 1 Saturday

Homebound Communion
Scholarship Application Deadline
5:00 PM Worship

March 2 Sunday

Homebound Communion
Transfiguration of Our Lord
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

March 3 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

March 4 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

March 5 Wednesday

Ash Wednesday



11:00 AM Lenten Meal
12:15 PM Worship
5:00 PM Lenten Meal
6:30 PM Worship
7:30 PM Adult Choir

March 6 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

March 7 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal
5:00 PM Pantry

March 8 Saturday

2:30 PM Schumert & Sundquist Wedding
5:00 PM Worship

March 9 Sunday

Lent 1
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 Book Group

March 10 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

March 11 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

March 12 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
11:00 AM Lenten Meal
12:15 PM Worship
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor
4:00 PM Executive Committee
5:00 PM Lenten Meal
6:30 PM Worship

March 13 Thursday

9:30 AM WELCA Board
11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

March 14 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

March 15 Saturday

Good News Deadline
11:00 AM Women's Spring Gathering
5:00 PM Worship

March 16 Sunday

Lent 2
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

March 17 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board

March 18 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group
6:00 PM Congregation Council

March 19 Wednesday

11:00 AM Lenten Meal
12:15 PM Worship
5:00 PM Lenten Meal
6:30 PM Worship

March 20 Thursday

Council Reports Due
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:00 PM Circle 5

March 21 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

March 22 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

March 23 Sunday

Lent 3
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

March 24 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

March 25 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:30 PM Circle 3

March 26 Wednesday

11:00 AM Lenten Meal
12:15 PM Worship
5:00 PM Lenten Meal
6:30 PM Worship

March 27 Thursday

1:00 PM Circle 4
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

March 28 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

March 29 Saturday

10 AM Vinn Stephens Memorial Service
5:00 PM Worship

March 30 Sunday

Lent 4
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
12:00 PM OSJ Appreciation Lunch

March 31 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry



Schedule a time to meet with Pastor Lucy by following the link or QR Code to the right...

<https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min>





1. Pam Backora, Grayson Christensen, Joseph Daffer, Joseph Hawkins, Anthony Ignowski, Eric Molde
2. Dylan Gammel, Gregg Loucks, Ryan Mulick, Barb Paris, Marce Picha, Matthew Salmon
3. Lydia Theisen
4. Lois Denzler, Lynn Langer, Marisa McShane, Sharon Miley, Cydney Oliver, Taylor Woosley
5. Ashley Cavalieri, Jerry Fischer, Aiden Myers, Brian Rolfe
6. Michael Lamphere, Joseph Lyons, Bridget Reagan
7. Ryan Severson, Caleb Theisen, Angie Zambuto
8. Joel Fischer, Beverly Johnson, Justus Kucera, Dustin Kunkel, Cecelia Ward
9. Diane Burt, Erika Fili, Deb Kelly, Morgan Kreiser, Sharon Nelson, David Pfetzer, John Vaughan, Mary Yocom, Samantha Zellmar
10. Terri Gogetap, Linda Higa, Sherri Labedz, Jon Natvig, James Reichert, Mark Sullivan, Christian Thom
11. Sharon Arispe, Constance Jacobsen, Joanna Robertson
12. Adam Backora, Anna Kidder
13. Jason Hage, Kelsey Svacina, Nina Winther
14. Robert Ellison, Denise Hawkins, Kathy Preininger, Adam Studts
15. Sunshine Hansen, Zachary Hatcher, Randal Leclair, Jim McCarthy, John Sheely, Johanna Vacek
16. Caroline Bressman, Chelsea Chmura, George Ernce, Dan Troxel, Michelle Willits
17. Tim Backora, Len Hansen, Ree Reimers
18. Alan Barrett, Audrey Klein, Michael Orris, Lois Sorensen, Kyle Storer
19. Zachary Girthoffer, Tom Jensen, Karen Loucks, Tom Steffen
20. Osborne Eckhorn, Jason Klonglan, Jan Petersen, Sharon Waller
21. Samantha Furjanic, Bruce Gerhardt, Marie Kubat, Eric Reinholz
22. Kristy Boone, Naomi Kirkvold, Patty Nansel, Tamara Sladek, Brandon Sorensen, Laura Ulrich, Amy Wemhoff, Joshua Wendle
23. Carol Jenkins
24. Lawrence Bradley, Elizabeth Stieneke
25. John Bodnar, Alicia Diggins, Mike Edris
26. Myrna Carter, Bailey Gittler, Jessica Reed, Roy Segelberg, Carole Woodworth, Mickey Zellmar
27. Alexis Dragon, Brody Gunia, Katie Larson, Amaya McLaren
28. Kelly Bartek, Brian Ervin, Dylan Henneman, Andy Hinrichs, Terri Morrow, Andrew Reinert
29. 29 Philip Meyer, Jacob Weiland
30. 30 Cadyn Kocourek, James Pestel, Amy Pignatore
31. 31 Carl Ekstrom, David Studts

Thank You Letter

Rev. Robert & Kathy Moore, Leipzig, Germany

On behalf of the Leipzig Church District and the Congregation of St. Thomas Church we thank you for your generous support of our work as ELCA Global Mission Volunteers in 2024. Without the help of the Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, the help of the Minneapolis Area Synod, ELCA Global Mission and the other donors we could not have managed to be here. Thank you!"

"Attached is a brief expression of the work that Kathy and I do in Leipzig. It is rather awesome to preach at St. Thomas Church and St. Nikolas Church and to greet the many Americans and especially our fellow members of the ELCA who visit here".

"P.S. Thank you for viewing PBS Samantha Brown - Places to Love episode on "Berlin, Leipzig and Meissen, Germany." It was fun working with Samantha Brown".

Use the link below for photos and thank you letter from the Moores:

<https://tinyurl.com/y8b45f6d>

Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 1/1/2025.....	\$774,379.53
Principal Payment, 1/1/2025	\$3,157.13
Interest Payment, 1/1/2025.....	\$2,547.87
Balance, 2/1/2025	\$ 771,222.40

Finances: January, 2025

	<i>January</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
Total General Fund		
Income:	\$ 116,779.56	\$ 16,779.56
Expenses:		
Mission Support:	\$ - 0 -	\$ - 0 -
Faith Formation:	\$ 132.09	\$ 132.09
Facility Costs:	\$ 11,347.49	\$ 11,347.49
Staff Comp. & Benefits:	\$ 53,572.19	\$ 53,572.19
Worship & Music:	\$ 3,004.96	\$ 3,004.96
Office & Administration:	\$ 3,176.58	\$ 3,176.58
Membership:	\$ 827.76	\$ 827.76
Finance:	\$ - 0 -	\$ - 0 -
Leadership:	\$ - 0 -	\$ - 0 -
Justice & Mercy:	\$ - 0 -	\$ - 0 -
Total Expenses:	\$ 72,061.07	\$ 72,061.07

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
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Fax: 402-341-4841
E-mail: info@kmlchurch.org
Web: www.kmlchurch.org

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Permit 238

Rev. Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor
Rev. H. Ashley Hall, Ph.D., Associate Pastor

Worship Times

Saturday at 5:00 PM

Sunday at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Wednesday at 12:15 PM

The 9:00 AM Sunday service is
televised live on Cox channel 13 and live
streamed on our website at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/> (you may
watch the live-stream any time)

A bulletin is available on our website
at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/bulletin-announcements/>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



We begin the month of March this year on the mountaintop on Transfiguration, but then we quickly return down the valley. No sooner than we have come down from the summit, and Ash Wednesday is upon us and the start of the great forty days of Lent. As we journey with Jesus, learn and follow as disciples, and see all that God has done and promises to do, we are invited to respond. This Lenten season in particular, we will be cultivating response. Our response to God in Christ's love. Our response to our neighbors in need. Our response to all that we see, sense, believe, and wonder through our various vocations. Our response this particular month flows from the Lenten call to return or turn toward God. As we make that move, we are invited to go deeper, to be intentional, and to focus on growing as disciples and stewards of God's love.

Questions for Reflection:

- What might be your response this Lenten season for what God in Christ has done, will do, and promises to do for you?
- As you respond, what are you going to take on and give instead of giving up during Lent?
- How might God be inviting us to respond?
- What are two or three ways that you will respond to God and your neighbors, as a beloved Child of God this year?