

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 Slight	Janitorial Staff
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

March 15 & 16, 2025

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 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

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. Thank you to our Children's Choir this morning for sharing their musical talents with us.

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 - 10:50 AM

Ages 2 years-6th Grade

The kids can enjoy the same breakfast upstairs while listening to the lessons of the day (the same breakfast that is being served in the Fellowship Hall). If you would like to support the Sunday School with donations of juice boxes or individual milk cartons, we would appreciate it and will be serving those with breakfast.

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

Youth Forum Youth Center 10:10 AM Grades 7—12

You are invited to join us each week in the Youth Center during the Sunday Faith Formation hour.

- 3/16 Bible study with Tarna Kidder
3/23 Special speaker— their involvement and history at Kountze Memorial

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.

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.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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

- 9:00 AM Sewing Group (postponed from last week)
11:00 AM Lenten Meal
12:15 PM Worship
5:00 PM Lenten Meal
6:30 PM Worship

March 20 Thursday

- 11:30 AM Men's Lunch
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
4:30 PM Scholarship Committee
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

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Reservations First Christian Church

6630 Dodge Street

March 17

6 - 8 PM

\$30/pp - Proceeds to benefit Table Grace Café and "It's All About Employment"

It's All About Employment (IAAE) is dedicated to guiding individuals on their journey to becoming employment-ready, enabling them to work and improve their lives. At IAAE collaborates with various agencies in the community to help individuals overcome barriers so they can advance toward their employment goals. For more information or to get your tickets, go to:

tickets@tablegracecafe.com

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>

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

**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. Our participation enables NLOM to provide opportunities to campers no matter their ability to pay for camp. All are welcome here. This will be an evening of fun, auction bidding wars, fellowship with friends, and great food. 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/>

**First Communion Classes
Sundays, April 6 & 13
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 her at Kristin@kmlchurch.org to sign your child up for this class. First Communion will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 17.

Youth Mission Trip

Kountze Memorial will join other high school youth and leaders from around the Nebraska Synod this summer on mission in Nashville. The Nebraska Synod Journey is a week-long experience for youth who have completed grades 8-12 by the summer of 2025 and their adult leaders. The 2025 Journey to Nashville will feature service learning throughout the Nashville area, worship, fellowship and other activities throughout the city.

- Date: July 6-12, 2025
- Location: Nashville, TN
- Cost of event: \$680/person
- We will fundraise to offset the cost to families
- Contact Pr. Lucy or Kristin Boe if you are interested!

To help with fundraising for this trip, there are envelopes in the Fellowship Hall. We ask you to support our youth by taking an envelope and putting a donation inside matching the number on the envelope before returning it. Checks/envelopes should be made out to Kountze Memorial and clearly marked "Youth Mission Trip" in the memo line.

Many, many thanks!

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Pantry is in immediate need of toothbrushes and toothpaste. We are still collecting gloves for men, women, and children. Men's large and extra-large gloves are especially in short supply. Also, we will accept and distribute new or like-new coats to our Pantry guests if they request them. 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>



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Attendance & Giving	
Thursday, March 6—Wednesday, March 12	
Saturday:	44
Sunday: 9:00:	133
11:00:	78
Wednesday: 12:15:	96
Total:	351
Streaming:	63
Pantry Guests Served:	736 (inc. 226 children)
Medical Clinic Guests Served:	17
Offering:	
\$10,833.44 (Regular)	\$6,691.1 (Specials)
\$492.00 (Debt Reduction)	

Jesus' compassion is greater than our misguided ways.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 13:31-35	Jesus' sorrow over Jerusalem
Monday	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	God's covenant with Abram
Tuesday	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Stand firm in the Lord
Wednesday	1 Peter 5:6-11	Helping Christian leaders
Thursday	James 5:7-12	Patience in suffering
Friday	Hebrews 10:19-29	A call to persevere
Saturday	Psalms 27	A song of trust
Sunday	Luke 13:1-9	Parable of the fig tree



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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

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I [Jesus] desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing." **Luke 13:34 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, you are the source of all goodness and our salvation; give us confidence in your care through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. (Psalm 27:1)

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for your love that cares for us with this gift of food, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus be your strength and protection.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- How do you respond to someone who is being treated unfairly?
- Jesus stood firm against those who opposed him. Would you do the same? Explain.

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 13:31-35.

Jesus stands firm against powers that oppose him. He opposes the Roman government that alone has the power to execute him. He opposes religious leaders who have killed God's prophets. He speaks against those who cannot or will not see the healing he brings (first described in Luke 4:16-21). Jesus' desire is to gather in misguided people who oppose him, much like a hen gathers in her chicks to protect them. This compassionate image of care is a strong contrast to acts of violence. Jesus refuses to let concern for his safety deter him from his task to go to Jerusalem where he will meet betrayal, suffering, and death. His reference to *"on the third day"* (v. 32) is a clue that his work has not ended until the day of his resurrection. This Lent we reflect on the depth of our misguided ways and the greater depth of God's love in Jesus that will not be stopped.

Discuss: How might some of your actions or thoughts appear to be misguided ways?

Pray: **Loving God, forgive us when we stray from your compassionate ways and strengthen us to follow Jesus who died that we may live. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you speak up for someone who is being mistreated?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Prayer is an important spiritual practice for Christians. During this Lenten season, take time to focus on the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2-4). This second week in Lent we reflect on *"Your kingdom come"* (v. 2b). Add this to verse 2a from the first week in Lent by writing it outside of the cross drawn on the paper the first week. Take a moment to think or talk about what this verse means to you.

Pray: The Lord's Prayer.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17—4:1; Luke 13:31-35