

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# GOOD NEWS

Volume 45, Issue 4

April, 2025



**April is a wonderful month** – spring is here, Easter is just around the corner, some of us are making fun plans for summer, and we can feel our spirits lifting as the days get longer and the weather warmer. I know we still have a few weeks of our Lenten journey to go – but my head and heart are jumping ahead to the promise of Easter. Spring and Easter are reminders that there is new life, resurrection, even in the here and now of our sometimes broken and hurting world. This has been a hard winter for some – at Kountze we lost a number of our beloved saints in the last 6 months, and the storms though few, were harsh and disruptive. I'm ready for some newness, some new life, some light, and warmth!

As we round the corner to spring and the Easter season, we also anticipate new things in our congregation. We've recently hired a new Executive Director for Kountze Commons, and we hope to welcome a new Associate to the pastoral team very soon. We have new partnerships with Omaha Bridges and Together, helping our community members gain important skills to climb out of poverty and find affordable housing. Our old, old building is in a constant state of being repaired and renewed, and we are looking at putting in a columbarium and rededicating the chapel space on the east corner.

Every Easter season I am reminded, though, that newness and resurrection do not always, or even often, feel comfortable, natural, easy. Exciting, yes! But easy

and comfortable? Nope! As we welcome new folks to the Kountze community – new staff, new members, new community partners – and as we watch things change around us, from the streetcar project to our own steady but regular changes in the building and programs, it can be easy to forget that. So here is a gentle reminder: discomfort and pain are not always a sign that something is wrong, just that something is new.

Change is hard. New parents know this, anyone who has switched jobs or moved to a new house knows this, and kids who have just gotten used to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and now have to move on to 4<sup>th</sup> know this! So be gentle on yourself and on others. And as a church community, let's be grace-filled, patient, and hopeful with one another. There are exciting things afoot! There is new life and new mission just around the corner – and that will sometimes feel thrilling, and sometimes very disorienting. Each step of the way God is with us, God is making all things new, and God can be trusted. Remember as we finish our Lenten season of Unbroken: A Living Faith, that there is an unbroken cord of God's faithfulness and grace that stays the same, even as new things happen all around us. And so let new life break forth!

In hope and joy,

*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](http://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](http://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.

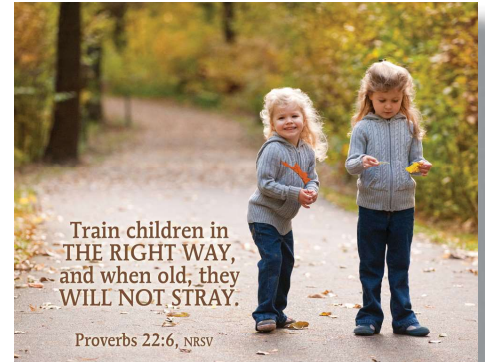
Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and the cost is \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$220 per week.

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.



## In this issue...

- Affirmation of Baptism
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- KMLC Book Group
- Lent/Holy Week/Easter Schedule
- Missionary Newsletters
- Neighborhood Gathering
- New Member Classes

# GROW with us...



**10:10 - 10:50 AM**

Join us Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

- April 6: Jesus as "God from God" and "Of One Being" with the Father  
April 13: Palm Sunday  
April 20: Easter Sunday  
April 27: Confirmation Reception (pending)

## 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 [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org)). We look forward to connecting with you!



## Wednesdays in Lent Unbroken: A Living Faith

**Wednesdays, 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

- **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 handicapped hanger), or in the West parking lot.



## Palm Sunday, April 12 & 13

5 PM, 9 & 11 AM Eucharist with Palm Procession and Passion Reading

## Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, March 25, 26, & 27

12:15 PM Eucharist in Rotunda Chapel

## Maundy Thursday, April 17

- 11 AM Lunch (free-will offering)  
12:15 PM Worship  
5 PM Dinner (free-will offering)  
6:30 PM Worship & First Communion (Nursery care is available for children ages infant – 4 years in the nursery located near the Fellowship Hall. Please ask an Usher for directions.)

## Good Friday, April 18

- 12-3 PM Ecumenical Good Friday Service: Seven Words from the Cross with Guest Speakers, String Quartet and Kountze Choir (Come and go as your schedule allows.)  
6:30 PM Tenebrae (Veneration of the Cross and Service of Shadows) (Nursery)

## Holy Saturday, April 19

10 PM Easter Vigil (Fire, Word, Water, Eucharist) (There will be no 5:00 PM Saturday service)

## Easter Sunday, April 20

- 7:30 AM Festival of the Resurrection in the Link  
8 - 10:45 AM Easter Breakfast  
9 & 11:00 AM Festival of the Resurrection  
10:10 AMish Easter Egg Hunt in the Link after the 9 AM service





# SERVE with us...

## Kountze Food Pantry



Our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry is need of your gifts and service. The current needs this month for the pantry are cereal, razors, and shaving cream. You may leave your donation in the box marked "Food Pantry", located in the Fellowship Hall. Tax deductible slips are available

on the inside pocket of the box.

Please join us as a volunteer in the pantry in the Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center. You are welcome to volunteer as it fits your schedule. We have options for volunteers of all abilities. We are using a new sign up format, so please use the link or QR code to sign up (even if you are a regular volunteer or signed up on the old form) and join our mission.

<https://tinyurl.com/uasdddp>



## Food Pantry Report

2/1/2025 - 2/28/2024

### Income:

Grants	\$	-0-
Donations:	\$	3,430.41
Memorials	\$	-0-
	\$	3,430.41

### Expenses:

Grant Expense	\$	-0-
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### Regular Expenses

Aldi	\$	-0-
Costco	\$	-0-
Hidden Valley Ind.	\$	-0-
Hy-Vee	\$	-0-
Dollar Tree	\$	-0-
Family Fare	\$	-0-
Food Bank	\$	-0-
Walmart	\$	-0-
Sam's Club	\$	-0-
Other	\$	-0-

**Balance** \$ **3,430.41**

## Good News "Collating Party"

Tuesday, April 29

9:00 AM

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

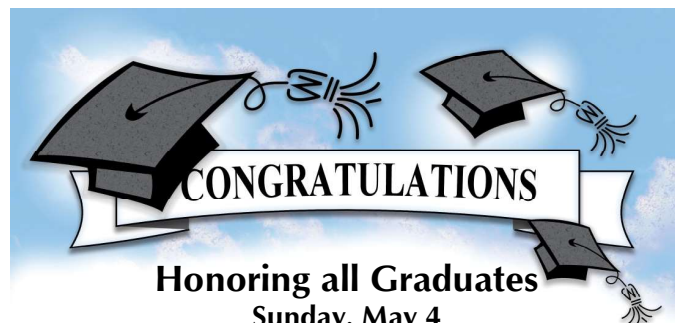
**GOOD NEWS**

Volume 45, Issue 5

May, 2025

As we prepare for another edition of the Good News, we could use a few extra hands to help with collating. And here's a bonus—lunch is included! Not sure of the menu yet, but it will be yummy. If you enjoy teamwork and good company, we'd love to have you join us for this behind-the-scenes effort. If you can help, please call the church office to let us know.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve our church family in such a meaningful way!



If you have graduated in the past year or will graduate this spring, please let us know. On May 4 we will uplift the names of all who are celebrating a graduation during the year. Call the church office by April 15 at 402-341-7761 or email [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org), so we can celebrate with you.

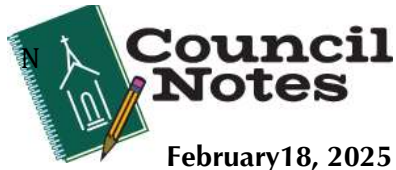
A Quilt Blessing for high school graduates will take place on that date. There will also be a reception of Congratulations and Celebration in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10 - 10:50 AM. Cake will be served.

Cards of Congratulations can be brought by the congregation on this day. If you forget, we have some that you can write on at the Welcome Desk.

A listing of all graduates will be in the May Good News and the Sunday bulletin on May 4.

# NEWS & Notes...

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February 18, 2025

Pastor Wynard called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM via Zoom. Jennifer Bunge led the devotions, "Trust the Process, Trust God's Plan," followed by prayer led by Pastor Wynard.

The agenda and January minutes were approved as presented.

Tim Bakora reported that Noni is working diligently to get the income and expenses recorded in the appropriate categories using the new accounting software, Realm. This is a very time-consuming process. He reported that January 2025 was an excellent month for donations. Donations to the General Fund were over \$115,000, and expenses were approximately \$75,000. The donation to the Synod was not submitted in January; however, it will be submitted with the February donation.

Training for the staff and key leaders on the Realm accounting system will begin soon.

## **Old Business:**

Pastor Wynard reported that the Call Committee has met. Tarna Kidder is leading the Call Committee and doing an excellent job. Pastor Wynard provided an update on the Call process.

## **New Business:**

**Kountze Commons.** Pastor Wynard reported that Joyce Palmer resigned as the Healing Gift Free Clinic administrator on December 31, 2024. Steve Hinrich reported that the Clinic's Search Committee for Joyce's replacement has hired Mr. Ryan Mahr as the Clinic Administrator with an official start date of February 20, 2025. The Clinic Administrator reports to the executive committee of the Clinic Board.

There was a discussion regarding the sharing of the current office in the Kountze Commons. This space could be configured as a shared office for the Clinic Administrator and the Kountze Commons Executive Director.

Pastor Wynard reported that the Kountze Pantry Director and the Kountze Commons Executive Director have stepped down from their respective roles.

The Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry recently became a USDA Program facility at the request of the Foodbank for the Heartland. The search for the Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry Director has not started yet as a job description is being developed as more clarification on some of the training requirements and multiple other requirements of

the USDA Program are received. At this point, things seem very overwhelming and confusing.

Tim Backora pointed out that it is very likely that because of the multiple requirements and extensive record keeping the director position may potentially require several hours per week and may need to be a paid position.

Pastor Lucy reported that the Pantry Board will meet with the San Andreas Food Pantry representatives to discuss their experiences running a USDA Program member food pantry. That meeting was scheduled for this week but was canceled due to the inclement weather. There is also the possibility that the Kountze Commons Executive Director may be able to help with some of the pantry administration.

Ruth Hennemann reported that two applications have been received for the Kountze Commons Executive Director and that interviews are being scheduled. Some of the administrative responsibilities of the Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry are being considered as a part of the job description for the Executive Director.

Tim Backora and Pastor Wynard reported that both designated and undesignated memorial funds sometimes are not applied in a manner that was the family's (families) wishes at the time of the bequest. It was suggested that a specific committee be formed to remedy this issue. The Committee would work to ensure the donor's requests are followed, that letters would be sent to the families documenting what was being done with the donations, and to acknowledge such gifts.

Tim Backora moved, and it was seconded, that the Council establish a Memorial Committee to ensure that both designated and undesignated memorial funds to the church are being used per the donors'/families' wishes and to document how these designated and undesignated memorial funds are used. Following discussion, the motion was carried.

Three Council members agreed to serve on this committee. They are Tina Broeckemeier, Bruce Nissen, and Ruth Henneman.

## **Staff Reports:**

Staff reports were accepted as presented.

## **Committee and Board Reports:**

Pastor Wynard reported that there are eleven members in the current confirmation class. A winter retreat was held for the entire group of confirmation students.

## Introducing Toby Rees

### Director of Kountze Commons

Toby Rees has joined us as the Executive Director of Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center. Toby has a background in dispute resolution, legal writing, negotiations, and human resources. She received her Juris Doctorate from Creighton University School of Law and also holds a Masters of Business Administration with concentrations in Marketing, Human Resources, and Healthcare Benefits Administration. Additionally, she has a Masters of Managerial Communication and is two courses shy of a Masters in Organizational Performance. Toby has experience in several industries including food and beverage, transportation, facilities management/construction, and education.

Toby has been a long-term member of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. Toby and her husband, Eric, were married in the church and also baptized all three of their children, Dannika, Lawton, and Braxton at Kountze. Toby participates and assists in Sunday School, the breakfast mission, and Circle.

Toby is active in the swimming world and volunteers as a swimming official. In her free time she enjoys gardening, running, and scrapbooking.



## Annual Neighborhood Gathering

Sunday, May 4

11 AM - 2 PM

Kountze will be hosting our Annual Neighborhood Gathering next month. We will hold the event in the North part of the West Parking lot. All are invited - friends, neighbor's, anyone that wants to have a good time, are welcome to stop by and have a hot dog, potato chips, popcorn, and ice cream.

This year we will have a new band "Ron and the Renegades." They will not be playing for the worship services so the gathering will start at 11 AM.

We can always use volunteers so please use the insert in the weekly bulletin later this month to sign up or contact the Church office at [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org) or 402-341-7761. More details to follow shortly.



## Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson

ELCA Global Personnel

Arusha, Tanzania

March Newsletter



Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson are in our prayers each week as "serving in mission". The swansons are pictured here with Hilda and Evelyne, Tanzanian doctors completing their pediatric speciality training in Cape Town, South Africa. Use the link below to read the Swanson's March newsletter.

<https://tinyurl.com/4v35tsr9>

## Rev. Bridget Gautier

ELCA Missionary, Wittenberg Center

Winter Newsletter



Rev. Gautier is also one of the missionaries we pray for each week. Use the link below to read Rev. Gautier's newsletter.

<https://tinyurl.com/yujh73h7>



## 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](mailto: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

February 16, 2025 - March 15, 2025

### Marriages

Victoria Schulmeister & Samuel Sundquist, March 8

### Funerals

Barb Chrisman, February 18

Rev. Dr. Olaf Roynesdal, March 13

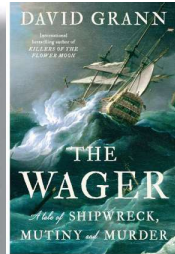
Dorothy "Dottie" Stanzel, March 14

## Cards with Friends

Thursday, April 3

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, April 13

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

**The Women by Kristin Hannah**

Kristin Hannah is the best selling author of more than 20 novels. *The Women* was in the process of writing for decades and published in 2024. The Vietnam War was a dangerous time in our country, and Hannah was inspired by the stories of the women who served during that time. Their stories were overlooked and forgotten and Hannah wanted to recognize the women for their heroic deeds.

The main character, Frances, "Frankie", Mc Grath, was a 20 year old nursing student when she heard the phrase, "women can be heroes". After her brother was sent to Vietnam, she decided to join the Army Nurse Corps, and was assigned to duty in Vietnam. She put her life in harm's way and endured the pain of war to make a commitment to her country which was forgotten. The battle for Vietnam veterans continued when they returned home to a country who mistreated them. The novel describes an era of a divided nation and how deep friendships and patriotism formed under fire were forgotten. It is an account of the many women who were in Vietnam.

There will be no Book Group meeting in May. We will meet April 27 at 12:15 for lunch at Jason's Deli and then go to The Book Worm to select books for the 2025-2026 reading list.

## 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 on Wednesdays—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-6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Thank you for saving your toilet paper rolls for various Sunday school activities. We are now in need to your old magazines. Help us with our next project by dropping your old magazines near the Sunday school office.

**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.

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)

2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



## 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 Faith Formation Hour (10:15 AM).

## 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.

The last two Confirmation classes of the year will be



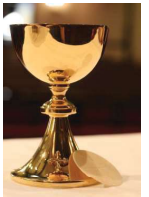
April 23 & 30 at St. Timothy's.

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



## Easter Morning, April 20

10:10 AMish

Join us for the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter morning in the Link, following the 9 AM service. Bring your basket and get ready to hunt some eggs!

## Easter Breakfast

Easter Sunday from 8 - 10:45 AM

The youth will be providing egg casseroles, pastries, fruit, and yogurt on Easter morning. If you would like to donate pastries or yogurt to the breakfast, watch for the sign-up sheet in the bulletins and let us know what you're able to provide. All proceeds will go to support our Youth Mission Trip to Nashville this summer, so please be generous if you are able.



## Explore 2025

Saturday, April 26

9 AM - 3:30 PM

Grades 1 - 6

Cost: \$25

Camp Carol Joy Holliing



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 they focus on environmental education, fellowship, and fun!

For more information or to register, go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/ec4789ua>

## Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)

Sunday, April 27

9 AM

Reception 10:10 AM

We will celebrate with our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students confirming their faith during Worship. Please join us for a reception during the Faith Formation Hour.



## High School Graduate Quilt Blessing

Sunday, May 4

9 AM

A reception of Congratulations and Celebration will take place on May 4 from 10:10 - 10:50 AM. Cake will be served. High School Seniors, please submit 5 to 7 photos to include in the video presentation

by Sunday, April 27 that will be shown during this time to [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org).

## 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](mailto: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 2025 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.

# CALENDAR

APRIL

## April 1 Tuesday

Election Day - Voting @ KCCOC  
9:00 AM Staff Meeting

## April 2 Wednesday

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

## April 3 Thursday

No Pantry  
2:00 PM Cards with Friends  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
6:30 PM Worship

## April 4 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

## April 5 Saturday

Homebound Communion  
5:00 PM Worship

## April 6 Sunday

Lent 5  
Homebound Communion  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir  
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 - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour  
12:15 PM First Communion Class

## April 7 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

## April 8 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

## April 9 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

## April 10 Thursday

Council Reports Due  
9:00 AM KETV Board  
9:30 AM WELCA Board  
10:00 AM Bobbie Powell Funeral  
11:30 AM Property Committee  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

## April 11 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

## April 12 Saturday

9:30 AM Middle School Gathering  
5:00 PM Worship

## April 13 Sunday

Palm Sunday  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir  
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 - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour  
12:15 PM Book Group  
12:15 PM First Communion Class

## April 14 Monday

Monday in Holy Week  
10:00 AM Pantry  
12:15 PM Worship  
7:30 PM Youth Committee

## April 15 Tuesday

Tuesday in Holy Week  
Good News Deadline  
9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
12:15 PM Worship  
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group  
6:00 PM Congregation Council

## April 16 Wednesday

Wednesday in Holy Week  
12:15 PM Worship

## April 17 Thursday

Maundy Thursday  
First Communion  
11:00 AM Lenten Meal  
12:15 PM Worship  
5:00 PM Lenten Meal  
6:30 PM Worship

## April 18 Friday

Good Friday  
12:00 - 3:00 PM Ecumenical Worship  
6:30 PM Worship

## April 19 Saturday

Easter Vigil  
No 5:00 PM Worship  
10:00 PM Easter Vigil Worship

## April 20 Sunday

Easter  
7:30 AM Sunrise  
Easter Worship  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM Easter Breakfast



## April 21 Monday

OFFICE CLOSED  
No Pantry

## April 22 Tuesday

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

## April 23 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St. Timothy's

## April 24 Thursday

1:00 PM Circle 4  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
6:00 PM Circle 5

## April 25 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

## April 26 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

## April 27 Sunday

Easter 2  
Affirmation of Baptism  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism  
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)  
9:30 AM Kountze Café - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour  
10:15 AM New Member Class

## April 28 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry  
11:30 AM Endowment Board

## April 29 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

## April 30 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St. Timothy's

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

[https://calendly.com/  
pastor-lucy/45min](https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min)





## Birthday Blessings

1. Bryce Griger, Pat Studts, Donald Zinnecker
2. Dale Enger, Alissa Fial, Genelle Girthoffer, Beckett Stevens, Jo Anne Whitmyre
3. David Pafford
4. Kurt Arends, Noah Bieber, Mary Martens, Mark Panning, Judy Sealer, Rebecca Zellmar
5. Julie Bratcher, Kassandra Morgan
6. Stephanie Dart, John Fonda, William Fonda, Laurie Houseworth, Vicki Meyer
7. Luke Olson, Leon Valquier, Zachary Zellmar
8. Sarah Heimes
9. Lauri Askew, Donald Bass, Connor Cameron, Jennifer Holm, Lauren Holm, Kay Mayberry, Vickie Wichert, Bob Woodworth
10. Ron Brown, Abby Rigas, Amanda Saxen
11. Dave Falke, Marci Luczynski, Ryan Pemberton, Scott Radwan, Ralph Ross, Rachel Stouffer, Leonard Swanger
12. Janet Darst, Christie Frederick, Mike Jensen, Jennifer Johnson, Robert Johnson, Adam Kotula, Mark Maser, Robert McDowell, Bruce Peterson, Margaret Reinholz, Jenna Woster
13. Thomas Brumfield, Braiden Dragon, Jeffrey Hiatt, Rodger Price
14. Rachael Bruechert, Sandy Fonda, Rhiannon Taylor
15. Darlene Anderson, Leonard Falk, Emma Gardner
16. Justin Bradley, Edward Chand, Jack Smock
17. Wanda Frykberg, Claire Furjanic, Brittany West
18. Keith Kotera, Elijah Salmon
19. Rodney Brown, Neely Edwards, Bradley Morrow, Mark Muller, Heather Schirber, Dessire Waller
20. Jessica Carlson, Jeff Clarke, Amy Fischer, Brenda Myers, Gina Samland
21. Susan Malesa, Cameron Miller, Madison Titus, Matthew Woster
22. Gwen Berney, Dan Collett, Mattie O'Kane, Brent Rasmussen, Anola Wheeler
23. Michelle Jensen, Melissa Musick, Rae Ray, Shelley Smisek-O'Connor, Jim West, Dan Wolf
24. Linda Daugherty, James Holzer, Britten Johnson, Deborah Oshlo, Becca Sedlak
25. Hadley Rief, Henry Rief
26. Ruth Hashberger, Nancy Wiese
27. Cindy Edwards, Sydney Morrow, Alison Ward
28. Bennett Eckhorn, Chloe Johnson, Michelle Kuehn, Kaitlyn Rohde, June Van Bibber
29. John Askew, Stevie Duffield, Gregory Fonda
30. Jianna Crouse, Isaac Gardner, Robert Kreiser, Laura Pribyl, Susan Rasmussen, Roberta Vanbuskirk, Todd Weiland



We are now taking orders for Easter Lilies to beautify the church on Easter Sunday. The cost of each lily is \$10.00. If

you would like to order a lily, please fill out the form found in your bulletin and either mail it to the church office with your payment or drop it in the offering plate during worship. You can also pay online on our website. Please be sure to note if it is in honor or memory of someone or a love gift.

Lilies are available for pickup after the 11:00 AM service on Easter or anytime during the following week. After the worship services, any remaining lilies are taken to our shut-ins.

## Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 2/1/2025.....	\$771,222.40
Principal Payment, 2/1/2025 .....	\$3,166.16
Interest Payment, 2/1/2025.....	\$2,538.84
Additional Principal Payment 2/1/2025.....	\$50,000.00
Balance, 3/1/2025 .....	\$ 718,056.24

## Finances: February, 2025

	February	Year-to-Date
<b>Total General Fund</b>		
<b>Income:</b>	<b>\$ 97,492.42</b>	<b>\$ 214,271.98</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Mission Support:	\$ 13,333.34	\$ 13,333.34
Faith Formation:	\$ -0-	\$ 132.09
Facility Costs:	\$ 18,929.45	\$ 30,276.94
Staff Comp. & Benefits:	\$ 49,383.93	\$ 102,956.12
Worship & Music:	\$ 9,668.26	\$ 12,673.22
Office & Administration:	\$ 1,817.63	\$ 5,146.21
Membership:	\$ 475.20	\$ 1,302.96
Finance:	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Leadership:	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Justice & Mercy:	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 93,607.81</b>	<b>\$ 165,820.88</b>



Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church  
2650 Farnam St  
Omaha, NE 68131-3616  
Phone: 402-341-7761  
Fax: 402-341-4841  
E-mail: [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org)  
Web: [www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

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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



As the season of spring continues, so too come longer days, hopes for new life, warmer weather, and reminders of God's promises of new life. This month, we move through the final days of Lent and to the events of Holy Week- from Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday to Easter Vigil, and then the new life of Easter and the resurrection life. These are the central and high holy days of our faith, and we remember God's story of bringing new life and new creation even amid the most uncertain, anxious, and dark days. At the same time, this month also means the start of planting season, Earth Day, Arbor Day, and collectively is a perfect opportunity to remember the goodness of all of God's creation which God entrusts into our care. God is doing something new, cultivating new creation and new life, for me and for you, and for all of God's beloved.

### Questions for Reflection:

- In what ways have you seen, witnessed, and experienced God cultivating creation?
- How might God be inviting you to join in and cultivate creation?
- What are two or three ways that you will cultivate creation this year?