

## 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
Toby Rees	Director of Kountze Commons



# KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761

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

April 5 & 6, 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-6<sup>th</sup> 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-6<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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.

**April 6:** Jesus as “God from God” and “Of One Being” with the Father

**April 13:** Fellowship

### First Communion Classes

**Sundays, April 6 & 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 her at [Kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:Kristin@kmlchurch.org) to sign your child up for this class. First Communion will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 17.

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### April 6 Sunday

Lent 5  
Homebound Communion  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)  
9:30 AM Kountze Café - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour  
12:15 PM First Communion Class - attend April 6 or 13

### 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 WELCA Board (note time change)  
11:00 AM Bobbie Powell Funeral  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### April 11 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### April 12 Saturday

9:00 AM NE Synod MS Gathering (gr 5-9)  
5:00 PM Worship

### April 13 Sunday

Palm Sunday  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:15 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 - attend April 6 or 13

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Synod-wide Middle School Gathering Grades 5 - 9

Held at Kountze  
Saturday, April 12

9:30 AM to 7:00 PM

**Cost: \$45 and includes both lunch and dinner**

Your student will join with other 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> graders from the Omaha and Lincoln area in a morning of learning, an afternoon of service, and an evening of worship. If cost is an obstacle, please let Pr. Lucy know. Learn more and register at :

<https://tinyurl.com/mwymhkat>



Sunday, May 18. Questions or planning to attend? Contact the church office ([info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org)) or 402-341-7761. We look forward to connecting with you!

### High School Graduate Quilt Blessing Sunday, May 4

9:00 AM

A reception of Congratulations and Celebration will take place from 10:10 to 10:50 AM. Along with breakfast, cake will be served. High School Seniors, please submit 5 to 7 photos to include in the video presentation no later than April 27. The photos may be brought to church or emailed to [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org). Please be sure to have your names on the photos. Cards of congratulations can be brought by the congregation on this day for the graduates.

### KMLC Book Group

Sunday, April 13

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

*The Women* by Kristin Hannah

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

### Honoring our High School and Other Graduates Sunday, May 4

If you are a graduate in this past year, please let us know by Tuesday, April 15. We need to know your name, who your parents are, where you are graduating from, major if applicable, and what will be next for you. On May 4 we will uplift the names of all who have celebrated a graduation this past year. Call the church office at 402-341-7761 or email [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org), so we can celebrate with you. Cards of

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

congratulations can be brought by the congregation on this day. A listing of graduates will be listed in the May Good News and in the Sunday Bulletin on May 4.

### **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>

### **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 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

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!

### **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 of 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!

### **Kountze Food Pantry**

Our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry is in need of your gifts and service. **The current needs this week for the pantry are cereal, pasta, and pasta sauce.** 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. Also, if you get cards, calendars, pens, etc. in the mail that are taking up room in your "junk drawer," you might consider donating those items to the pantry as well. 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>



### **Menu for April 9 (Free-will offering)**

**Chicken Tortilla Soup**

**Beef Barley Soup**

**Assorted Wraps**

**Vegetarian Options Available**

**Assorted Bread Pudding**

**Everyone is welcome. Join us!**

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Thursday, March 27—Wednesday, April 2**

**Saturday: 26**

**Sunday: 9:00: 154 11:00: 64**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 98**

**Total: 342**

**Streaming: 59**

**Pantry Guests Served: 759 (inc. 225 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 12**

**Offering:**

\$29,954.18 (Regular) \$4,900.12 (Specials)

\$537.15 (Debt Reduction)

*Mary shows extravagant love for Jesus.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 12:1-8	Mary anoints Jesus at Bethany
Monday	Isaiah 43:16-21	The Lord will prepare the way
Tuesday	Philippians 3:4b-14	Running toward the goal
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 15:7-11	How to treat the poor
Thursday	2 Corinthians 2:14-17	We are the aroma of Christ
Friday	Isaiah 43:1-7	God promises restoration
Saturday	Psalms 126	A harvest of joy
Sunday	Luke 19:28-40	Blessed is the king who comes



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

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. **John 12:3 (NRSV)***

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, through Christ you touch us with lavish love and care. Help us to respond with reverence and joy for all that you do for us. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

God of the harvest, we thank you for filling our bodies with food and our hearts with joy. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you to be rich in love.

## CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- How do you show your care and affection for someone else?
- How do you experience God's extravagant love?

## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* John 12:1-8.

All four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) mention the anointing of Jesus' feet by a woman. Only John names the woman as Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha. It is another way John emphasizes the love relationship between Jesus and his disciples. Just as Mary wiped Jesus' feet with her hair, Jesus would wipe the disciples' feet with a towel (John 13:5). Both acts are meant as a sign of extravagant love. Even though Jesus' disciples will soon betray, deny, or abandon him before his crucifixion, his final entry into Jerusalem is preceded by this act of love. All real and intimate relationships experience difficulties. Following Jesus will be no different. What we see and remember with Mary's anointing, is that at the heart of our relationship to Jesus is a love that will not end.

*Discuss:* How do you express your love for Jesus?

*Pray:* **Lord Jesus, you gave everything you had to love us and save us from our sins; free us to show our love for you and our care for the world you love. 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 show love and support for someone?

## 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 fifth week in Lent we reflect on "And do not bring us to the time of trial" (v. 4b). Add this verse to verses 2a, 2b, 3, and 4a from the first, second, third, and fourth weeks in Lent by writing it around the 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.

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