

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**

April 19 & 20, 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 Pas-
tor Lucy by fol-
lowing the link or
QR Code. [https://
calendly.com/pastor-
lucy/45min](https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min)



Today at Kountze Memorial

**CHRIST
IS RISEN
INDEED** *Alleluia*

Easter Breakfast

8 - 10:45 AM

The youth will be providing egg casseroles, pastries, fruit, and yogurt on Easter morning. All proceeds will go to support our Youth Mission Trip to Nashville this summer, so please be generous if you are able. All are encouraged to join us in the Fellowship Hall.



Easter Sunday
Breakfast

Easter Egg Hunt 10:10 AMish

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



Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

Sunday School

Ages 2 years-6th Grade

No Sunday School today, but join us in the 2nd Floor Sunday School Rooms next Sunday, April 27.

Children's Choir

Grades K-6

No Children's Choir today, but join Barb Carlsen on the 2nd floor in the Sunday School Music Room next Sunday, April 27.

Youth Forum

10:10 AM

Grades 7—12

Lower Level Youth Room

This Week: Serving Easter Breakfast

Next Week: Reception for Confirmands

Adult Forum

Join us at 10:10 AM on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

This Week: Fellowship (Easter Sunday)

Next Week: Reception for Confirmands

This Week at Kountze Memorial

April 20 Sunday

Easter

7:30 AM Sunrise Easter Worship

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Easter Breakfast

April 21 Monday

OFFICE CLOSED

10:00 AM 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 at St. Timothy's

April 24 Thursday

9:00 AM KETV Board

11:30 Property Committee

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
Rehearsal

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

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Explore! 2025

Saturday, April 26

9 AM - 3:30 PM

Grades 1 - 6

Cost: \$25

Camp Carol Joy Holling

Elementary students are invited to experience a fun-filled day of camp activities, worship, and fellowship at CJH!

Whether your child is new to camp or eager to return, Explore! offers a great chance to reconnect with nature, friends, and faith. We'll revisit this summer's theme, "Created to Be," through Bible study and camp favorites like games, songs, and environmental learning. Every Explore! Day is unique—perfect for both first-time and returning campers! Learn more and register at:

<https://tinyurl.com/ec4789ua>

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)

Sunday, April 27

9 AM

Reception 10:10 AM

We will celebrate with our 8th grade students confirming their faith during Worship. Please join us for a reception in

the Fellowship Hall during the Faith Formation Hour.

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 (info@kmlchurch.org) or 402-341-7761. We look forward to connecting with you!

High School Graduate Quilt Blessing

Sunday, May 4

9AM

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. Please be sure to have your names on the photos.

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

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, so we can celebrate with you.

Together/Omaha Tornado 50th Anniversary Interfaith Worship Service

Tuesday, May 6

7:00 - 8:30 PM

**First United Methodist Church
7020 Cass St, Omaha**



This event remembers the devastating tornadoes that struck Omaha that day, and the subsequent establishment of Together, an organization that seeks to end hunger and homelessness in our community. The non-profit formed in the wake of this devastating event after seven Omaha faith communities came together—including Kountze Memorial—to help the people affected by the disaster. Please register for this free event by using the QR code or the link below so they know how many to prepare for.

<https://tinyurl.com/jhft9e7>

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. Please call the church office and we'll give you details on how to register so we can pay the registration fee minus the early bird discount. To check on available dates use the QR code or the link below.

<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!

Lutheran Collaborative VBS (All free!)

Held at Luther Memorial Church

1031 Sunset Trail (61st St. & Western Ave.)

July 20-23

Preschool (potty trained) to Grade 5

5:15 PM: Family Meal

6-8 PM: Programming

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. Register or volunteer by using the QR code or link below. If you have questions/concerns, please contact Kristin Boe (kristin@kmlchurch.org) or Pastor Becky (402-740-1985 or pastorbecky@lord-of-love.org).

<https://luthermemorial.mycokesburyvbs.com/>



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 macaroni & cheese, rice, Ramen.** 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/uausdddp>



Attendance & Giving

Thursday, April 10—Wednesday, April 16

Saturday: 39

Sunday: 9:00: 192 **11:00:** 115

Wednesday: Not available at time of printing

Total: 346

Streaming: 53

Pantry Guests Served: 696 (inc. 232 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 25

Offering:

\$8,549.73 (Regular) \$3,201.33 (Specials)

\$327.00 (Debt Reduction)

Jesus' resurrection brings amazement and questions.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 24:1-12	The resurrection of Jesus
Monday	Acts 10:34-43	Peter speaks of faith in Jesus
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Confidence in the resurrection
Wednesday	Mark 16:1-8	Jesus has been raised
Thursday	Deuteronomy 11:13-21	Teach the children
Friday	2 Corinthians 4:7-15	Apostles speak the faith
Saturday	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	The Lord is always merciful
Sunday	John 20:19-31	Seeing Christ's wounds



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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

*But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened. **Luke 24:12 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious and Living God, give us ears to hear and believe the message of the resurrection and the voice to speak to others of Jesus victory over death. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food; this is the day that you have made; let us rejoice and be glad in it through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen. (Psalm 118:24)

A Blessing to Give:

May you rejoice that Christ is risen.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Do you talk about your faith with others? Explain.
- Jesus' disciples reacted in different ways to the resurrection. How do you think you would have reacted?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 24:1-12.

Luke wants future disciples to pause and wonder about faith in the resurrection of Jesus. Easter morning and the announcement of Jesus' resurrection begins with fear and then leads to joy. The women are initially terrified, not jubilant. For the disciples, it begins in disbelief. They even questioned the reliability of the women's testimony. Only Peter goes to the tomb. He is moved to amazement when he sees only linen cloths, and not Jesus' body. Luke gives us an honest story that relates to our own difficulties in trusting God. Belief is not our first reaction to God's grace and mercy. Has Jesus' body been stolen or is resurrection something to believe? Clearly, the disciples aren't buying it right away. As with the disciples on Easter Sunday, we, too, can wonder, "What happened?" The tomb is empty, but the resurrected body has not yet been seen. The beauty of the Christian faith is the honest description of discipleship. Even on Easter morning, there is room for confusion and questions as well as wonderment. We are encouraged to be like Peter and explore what might be true.

Discuss: What questions do you have about the resurrection of Jesus?

Pray: **Awesome God, we thank you for the joy and wonderment that Easter brings; help us to overcome doubts and fears that we may live with hope and confidence through Christ Jesus our Risen Lord. 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 encourage someone's amazement and questions about Christ's resurrection?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Place a candle near the cross drawn on the paper on the first week in Lent. Take a moment to trace the cross with your finger and reflect on the words of the Lord's Prayer that were written around the cross during Lent. Then say the Lord's Prayer as written in Luke 11:2-4 with the addition of the doxology: **Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Light the candle and say: Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31