

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# GOOD NEWS

Volume 45, Issue 6

June & July, 2025



## FROM THE PASTOR

### Compassion & Courage, Not Controversy

**We live in such a divided and hostile world.** It's exhausting, isn't it – this ugly, mean society we seem to be surrounded by these days. And **I know we all want church to be a sanctuary from the bitter divisiveness!** Don't you long for community that's different?! For places and people you know you can trust to care for you and those you love? For spaces where you don't have to be anxious that someone might say or do something offensive – or accuse you of being offensive? For an emphasis on what builds up, encourages, and unites us in faith?

**"So, Pastor, why do you keep referencing things you know are divisive and hurtful to some people?"**

I know we don't all feel exactly that way – and the sentiments above may not be worded perfectly. But I hope you'll recognize what I'm trying to get at. There are definitely folks here at Kountze Memorial – and not just one or two – who are at times frustrated that sermons or our prayers of intercession or the ELCA nationally or the Nebraska Synod go too far, express what might be seen as political or biased views, fall into the traps of unhelpful stereotypes or activism. There are others – and not just one or two – who are frustrated at times that we don't speak out more about things happening in the world around us, that we aren't more engaged in living out our faith. So what do we do? How do we navigate what it means to be church together in this current reality?

These are oh-so-real questions that pastors, lay leaders, and folks in the pews have to struggle with these days! Believe me – I have been kept awake at night more times than I can probably count wondering whether I'm saying the wrong things, or not saying the right things. Whether I've crossed a line in one direction or the other; whether I'm truly listening and following God or simply inserting my own opinions and bias.

I'd like us to talk about it. Not about the \*issues\* – though I do hope we might get to the point where we could have healthy, constructive conversation with one another about things that matter to each other: LGBTQ inclusion

in the church and society; treatment of immigrants, ethnic and cultural minorities, etc.; how we best show care and come alongside the poor, the mentally and physically ill, the homeless, the prisoners, the abused – those whom Jesus showed compassion for. But **before we talk about things like that, I'd like us to talk about WHY I think we should talk about them, and how.** Not because I want to push an agenda, but because I deeply believe it's what God wants – precisely because God wants us to be a community, a church, that belongs to God, where all parts of the body are treated with dignity and compassion.

Because here's the thing – we cannot be a place that builds up, that encourages and unites us in faith, a place where folks feel confident they can come and experience the love of Christ, if we are a place that avoids talking about hard, controversial issues. Why? Because **for so many people among us these are not simply issues, they are life realities.** So if we are not a community where someone can say, "My child just came out to me as queer – what do I do? How do I handle these hard, roller-coaster emotions I'm feeling?" and know that they won't be met with awkward silence and averted eyes, we are not a safe place of compassion and support for that person. How can we be that sanctuary community if someone can't come and say, "My brother is an alcoholic, and I think he's abusing his wife. I love them both, but I'm so angry and sad and I feel helpless. What do I do?" If someone can't come and say, "I messed up so badly – I might lose my job. And my family. I need help."

All of those are incredibly difficult, uncomfortable, painful conversations. They are things none of us have the "right" answers to. They are complex, and sensitive, and oh so hard. But I long for Kountze Memorial to be a place where people know they can come as they are, and where they find that the words and actions we do offer can bring healing and peace – God's unconditional love and grace. People who will look them in the eye, treat them with dignity, and love them. Because these are not just hypothetical "issues" – they are realities in the lives of people in our community.

I believe that the Bible gives us guidance about how to be a place that can talk about those hard, complex, sensitive things – even when we don't always agree or see

*Continued on page 3*

# 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.

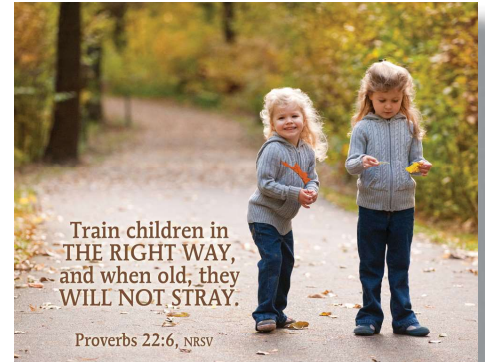
Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and the cost is \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$220 per week.

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...

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- Camp Week
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- Class of 2025
- Council Notes
- Fall New Member Classes
- KMLC Book Group
- KMLC Food Pantry
- Men's Lunch
- Nursery Volunteers Needed
- School Supplies Needed
- Summer Service Days
- Synod Assembly Worship
- Vacation Bible School
- Youth Summer Kick-Off Event

# GROW with us...



10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

- June 1: Fellowship (Synod Assembly)
- June 8: Recap of the Synod Assembly (pending)
- June 22: Compassion & Courage, Not controversy
- Other dates in June & July TBD

## Synod Assembly Worship

Sunday, June 1

10 - 11:30 AM

The Nebraska Synod will be gathering in assembly this year in Kearney, Nebraska under the theme of "Imagine! Imagine? Imagine..."



The Synod Assembly will come to an inspiring close worshipping together. All congregations are invited to participate in worship together across the state... from Scottsbluff to McCook to Niobrara to Falls City! We can all join the Sunday Worship at:

<https://nebraskasynod.org/>



## Fall New Member Classes

September 14 & 21

10:15 AM

Considering membership at Kountze Memorial? Join us for our upcoming new member classes and learn more about becoming part of our church family. Both sessions

are important, so please plan to attend each one. New members will be received during worship on Sunday, September 28.

If you have questions or would like to sign up, contact the church office at 402-341-7761 or [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org). We're excited to get to know you! In the meantime, you're invited to worship with us and join in any activities that interest you.

*come grow with us!*

*Compassion & Courage, Not Controversy continued from page 3*

eye to eye. Of course we don't! The world is a complex and broken place. But I do think the Holy Spirit can shape us to be a courageous and compassionate people of God. A community that is clear on what unites us in a way that gives us the capacity to bear the awkward discomfort and pain of hard conversations. A community that sticks with one another when "the issues" become our issues, so that no one feels alone. Because we are one body in Christ Jesus. Because we have been forgiven and lavished with God's grace, and that's exactly what we extend to those around us.

A newsletter article is nowhere near sufficient or appropriate to delve into the how and why and what-abouts of this topic – for one, because it's not a conversation, it's simply me writing to you. So **I am asking you to gather with me during a Forum time in June to talk about these questions of how and why and what it looks like to be God's church in this divided age.** How do we do that in a way that honors God and produces in us the fruits of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control)? **Please join us at around 10:15 on June 22 in the Fellowship Hall.** We'll talk together about:

- A biblical approach to difficult conversations.
- What does it look like to treat each other with dignity and compassion – especially when we disagree?
- How much disagreement can we and should we tolerate in our community? How do we do that, practically?
- What are the essentials that unite us?

And a standing invitation: If I say or do something that makes you angry, leaves you confused, hurts or offends you – please, would you reach out and set up a time to speak with me? For my part, I promise to listen and be open to how God might speak through you. Thank you!

In great love & hope,

*Pastor Lucy*



# SERVE with us...

## Kountze Food Pantry



Have you visited our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry recently? Summer months can be even busier in the pantry as families in our neighborhood may not be able to get assistance from schools or other groups.

Food insecurity is growing in our community and

around the world. Please consider donating your time or resources to assist those in need. If you want to visit the pantry and see the impact on our guests, stop by on Mondays 10 AM -12:45 PM and Fridays 5 - 6:45 PM. If you would like to learn more please reach out to any of the members of the Food Pantry Board, Bob Johnson, Chair, Jim Smejkal, Dan Troxel, Tim Backora, Jerry Fischer or Steve Hinrichs. You may also reach out to Toby Rees, Executive Director of Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center at [toby@kmlchurch.org](mailto:toby@kmlchurch.org) or by calling the church office.

We are currently in need of pasta sauce, cereal, and water or any items you feel would brighten the day of a guest who shops in our pantry. If you need assistance bringing items into the church please contact Toby Rees.

We look forward to seeing you at the Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry soon!

Join us this summer by using this link to sign up.  
<https://tinyurl.com/uausdddp/>

## Food Pantry Report

2/1/2025 - 4/30/2025

### Income:

Grants	\$	-0-
Donations	\$	20,033.53
Memorials	\$	25.00
	\$	20,058.53

### Expenses:

Grant Expense	\$	-0-
Regular Expenses		
Family Fare	\$	717.25
Other	\$	9,881.08
	\$	10,598.33

**Balance**                    \$     **9,460.20**

## August Good News

Thursday, July 24

9 AM



KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
**GOOD NEWS**  
Volume 45 Issue 7 August, 2025

We're gathering a group of volunteers to help collate the August Good News—and we'd love for you to join us! It's a fun and easy way to serve, catch up with friends, and enjoy a tasty lunch.

If you're able to lend a hand, please call the church office (402-341-7761) by Wednesday, July 23 to sign up so we can keep you in the loop in case the schedule changes. Thank you for helping us share the Good News with our church family!

## School Supplies for KMLC Pantry Guests



**SCHOOL  
SUPPLIES  
NEEDED**

Over the summer, we will be collecting backpacks of all types, notebooks, folders, pencils, pens, crayons, markers, color pencils, glue, tissues, scissors, hand sanitizer, and anything else you may find useful for our school-aged pantry guests. You will find labeled donation tubs in the Fellowship Hall for your donations.

Plan to join us in the link on August 3 after the 9 AM service to fill the backpacks with school supplies that will be given to students at the Kountze Pantry.

## Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 4/1/2025	\$714,634.03
Principal Payment, 4/1/2025	\$3,188.88
Interest Payment, 4/1/2025	\$2,516.12
Balance, 5/1/2025	\$711,445.15

## Finances: April, 2025

	April	Year-to-Date
<b>Total General Fund</b>		
<b>Income:</b>	<b>\$ 103,661.69</b>	<b>\$ 397,011.74</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Mission Support:	\$ 5,833.33	\$ 23,333.34
Faith Formation:	\$ 759.58	\$ 2,416.79
Facility Costs:	\$ 20,043.40	\$ 79,708.19
Staff Comp. & Benefits:	\$ 51,075.93	\$ 208,195.01
Worship & Music:	\$ 13,001.80	\$ 30,484.24
Office & Administration:	\$ 3,728.61	\$ 13,793.34
Membership:	\$ 3,031.53	\$ 8,330.65
Finance:	\$ - 0 -	\$ - 0 -
Leadership:	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,804.06
Justice & Mercy:	\$ - 0 -	\$ - 0 -
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 97,724.18</b>	<b>\$ 368,065.62</b>

# NEWS & Notes...

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April 15, 2025

Pastor Wynard called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Jerry Fischer led the devotions.

The agenda and the minutes of the Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church Congregational Council Meeting held on March 18, 2025, were accepted as presented.

The financial report was presented by Tim Backora. He reported that total revenue was around \$89,000, expenses were \$109,000 for March 2025, with a year-to-date balance of \$39,000. April has been a good month so far. The allocations approved from deFreese Manor and undesignated memorials will be transferred to Cambridge Advisors. In preparation for the moving of these funds, Noni identified \$50,000 of the undesignated memorials were memorials to support music. The Vision Fund currently has a balance of \$378,500. All remaining funds are unchanged. The transfer of funds to Cambridge Financial was approved.

The Your Mission Trip Fund has \$18,000 in the checking account, which are funds left over from the youth mission trip that was canceled due to COVID.

The TV Media Fund currently has a balance of approximately \$100,000. Due to this balance, there may not be a need to request support from the Endowment to support the TV Media this year.

Realm Training for staff and council members will start sometime in June 2025.

## OLD BUSINESS

The call process with Deacon Korra was discussed in detail. The assessment was that everything was done correctly and that the decision was probably the correct one. The call process continues to move forward.

## NEW BUSINESS

The Scholarship Committee usually allocates 5% of the available funds to support scholarships. Per Tim Backora, the Scholarship Committee may come back to the Council to request using up to 10% of the available funds to support a seminarian if the need is presented.

The Scholarship Committee recommended a total of \$6,286 be awarded to 5 college students and one Seminarian. The Scholarship Committee's recommendations were accepted.

## STAFF REPORTS

The staff Reports were accepted as presented.

## COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

### Faith Formation

- Kristin Boe is coordinating volunteer service Fridays for middle schoolers during the summer, who will be doing different projects around the church.

### Membership Committee

- The new member classes will be held on April 27 and May 4. New members will be received on May 18.
- The Neighborhood Gathering will be the first weekend in May, which is earlier than it has been.
- Bruce Nissen reported that the Archives Committee is missing confirmation class pictures for three years. He will follow up with Pastor Wynard after Easter.

### Community Engagement

- Phil Meyer has agreed to be the coordinator for the Kountze Community Garden.

### Worship/Music

- The next meeting will be held on May 8, 2025.

### Property/KETV

- The last scheduled meetings for the Property and KETV Committees were canceled due to a funeral held at the church.

### Leadership

- The Personnel Committee will meet in the upcoming weeks.
- There was a lengthy discussion regarding the changes occurring at the Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry and what we are trying to improve in what we can offer.
- There are three confirmation members this year. Next year's class will be larger.
- There was a discussion regarding the planning for a Youth Director.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be held on May 20, 2025, at 6:00 PM.



Wednesday, June 11 and July 9

9:00 AM

Our Sewing Group gets together on the second Wednesday of each month to sew quilt tops, attach backing and binding, and to tie quilts. The quilts are given to Carol Joy Holling Camp for

their Annual Quilt Auction (see back page), to Lutheran World Relief, and to our high school graduates.

Quilting expertise is not necessary. If you can tie your shoes, you can tie a quilt. Come and join the group this summer!

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## Switch in Bible Translation

Beginning this summer, if you're paying very close attention, you might notice a few changes in worship around the reading of Scripture. That is because **we are making the switch from using the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the bible to the NRSV Updated Edition (NRSVue).** The switch doesn't come at our initiative but because the publisher of these editions, Friendship Press, is withdrawing the authorization for other publishers to distribute the NRSV in either print or digital form. So we will no longer be able to get the NRSV online to use in our bulletins, etc. or buy new bibles or other resources with the NRSV.

**Why publish a new update to the bible?** There are two primary reasons for any new bible translation: first, language is always changing and so translating the ancient text into modern language must be a regular, periodic exercise; second, new discoveries of ancient manuscripts come to light that add to the library of sources that inform translators about what the original texts said. Since the first publication of the NRSV, hundreds of such manuscripts have come to light.

**What does it mean for us at Kountze Memorial?** Most of the time you probably wouldn't even notice. Much of the NRSVue is virtually the same as the NRSV. But occasionally you may hear passages that strike you as quite different than what you remember them being. Our lectors and lay worship leaders will notice the change from using lectionary books to printed Scripture passages – that is because the ritual lectionary books we use are not yet available in the NRSVue. We are keeping an eye out and may well purchase those resources when they become available. In the meantime, if you are interested in learning more about the NRSVue and downloading an example of some of the passages that have been updated, you can check out this website:

<https://www.friendshippress.org/pages/about-the-nrsvue>

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## Stories From the Holy Land

with Pastors Adam & Jordan Miller-Stubbendick

Saturday, June 14

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church

1031 Sunset Trail

Free & Open to the Public

Pastors Jordan and Adam share stories of the life-changing work of the ELCJHL, the realities of life in Palestine, and ways that the people of the ELCA can help fellow Christians in the Holy Land. For more information, contact Gretchen at 404-583-4591 or [gretchen@nebraskasynod.org](mailto:gretchen@nebraskasynod.org), or go to the following website to register:

<https://tinyurl.com/holylandstories>

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## 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).

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## 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!

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## Pastoral Acts

April 16, 2025 - May 15, 2025

### Baptisms:

Sydney Claire Danenhauer, May 4

### Marriages:

Lauren Salerno & Ben Hammer, May 10

### Funerals

Peter J. Offerdahl, April 29

JoAnne Janette Whitmyre, April 30



## Cards with Friends

Thursday, September 4

2:00 PM

The group will be taking a break over the summer due to vacations, etc. We'll pick up again on September 4. Have a great summer and we'll see you in September!

Everyone is welcome—make plans now to come be part of the fun!



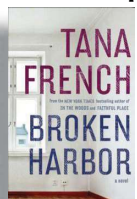
## KMLC Book Group

Sunday, June 8 - *Broken Harbor* by Tana French

Sunday, July 13 - *James* by Percival Everett

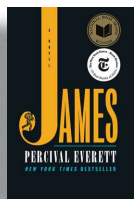
12:15 PM

### Fellowship Lounge



American-Irish Tana French has been identified as the most talented crime writer alive. She has written a series of Dublin Murder Squad novels set in Ireland where she resides.

*Broken Harbor* is the fourth novel in the series of psychological thrillers written by French. The novel is set in a neighborhood in Brianstown, originally named Broken Harbor. Patrick Swain and his two children have been murdered and his wife seriously injured after an attack in their home during the middle of the night. Mick "Scorcher" Kennedy, with a new detective in the agency, have been assigned to the case. Mick thinks it will be an easy case to solve, but as French's novels evolve, many turns take place in solving the case. Childhood memories of this neighborhood for "Scorcher" and his sister enter into solving the crime.



*James* is the novel by award winning and Pulitzer Prize author Percival Everett. The novel is the retelling of Mark Twain's story of Huckleberry Finn from the perspective of character, Jim. Jim is an enslaved man who learns he is to be sold. In order to save his wife and daughter, he escapes to Jackson Island where he meets Huck who is escaping his abusive father, and they embark on a dangerous, adventurous voyage down the Mississippi River.

Key points of the novel are the horrible effects of slavery, the intelligence of Jim since he could read and write, family loyalty, and importance of language. Everett gives a new perspective on American history and literature through the novel which may become a cornerstone of twenty-first century literature.

## Men's Lunch

Thursday, June 19 & July 17

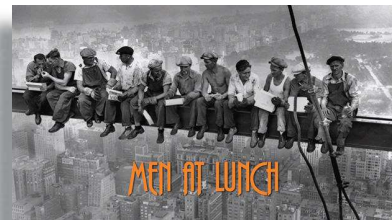
11:30 AM

Suggested Donation: \$10

Join us in the Fellowship Hall in June as we explore International Picnic Day. And what would a picnic be without fried chicken? Will Jim order out or try his hand at oven fried chicken? You'll have to attend to find out.

Our July Men's Lunch will be Thursday July 17; guess what day it is? National Hot Dog Day (actually it's the day before). Who doesn't love a good all beef hot dog with Chilli, Onions, Cheese, Sauerkraut, and all the fixings. Let Jim know what you like on your hot dog and we will try and have it available.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, June 17 & July 15. Call the church office, sign up at the Welcome Desk, or email Jim at [jim@kmlchurch.org](mailto:jim@kmlchurch.org) to let us know you're coming.



## 2025 - 2026 Reading Selection

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| June 8   | <i>Broken Harbor</i> by Tana French                        |
| July 13  | <i>James</i> by Percival Everett                           |
| Aug. 10  | <i>The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store</i> by James McBride |
| Sept. 14 | <i>The Day the World Came to Town</i> by Jim DeFede        |
| Oct. 12  | <i>The Lion Women of Tehran</i> by Marjan Kamali           |
| Nov. 9   | <i>Small Things Like These</i> by Claire Keegan            |
| Dec. 14  | No Meeting   |

### 2026

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Jan. 11  | <i>The Frozen River</i> by Ariel Lawhon  |
| Feb. 8   | <i>The Covenant of Water</i> by Abraham Verghese                                   |
| March 8  | <i>The Women Who Built Omaha</i> by Eileen Wirth                                   |
| April 12 | <i>The Book of Joy</i> by Douglas Abrams   |
| May 3    | No Book Discussion—Meet for lunch and book selection for next year's reading list. |



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY...

## Congratulations Graduates!

### High School Graduates

#### Brayden Renken

**Parents:** Lenny Renken & Audrea Grundman

**School Attended:** Westside High School

**Activities:** Football, Baseball

**Future Plans:** Enlist in United States Army

#### Daisy Wynard

**Parents:** Lucy & Dan Wynard

**School Attended:** Papillion-LaVista South High School

**Activities:** Culinary Club & Academy, Book Club, Tennis

**Future plans:** Attend University of Nebraska at Kearney, majoring in Art Education



### College Graduate

#### Mackenzie Madsen

**School Attended:** Creighton University

**Activities:** Major in Neuroscience and minors in Philosophy and Biology

**Future Plans:** Mackenzie plans to attend St. Louis University School of Medicine starting in the fall. She has interests in child and adolescent psychiatry and ophthalmology.

### 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. 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>



### Save the Date! Youth Summer Kick-Off Event

Grade 7 and Up

Sunday, June 8

5-8 PM

Link/Courtyard

Come and join us for a time of fellowship & fun to kick-off the summer. We'll have hotdogs & s'mores around the firepit, games, and a chance to hang out and get to know other Kountze Memorial young people. Friends are welcome! Open to youth

going into 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up, including recent high school graduates. Look for a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Desk soon. Contact Pastor Lucy at [lucy@kmlchurch.org](mailto:lucy@kmlchurch.org) with any questions.



## Summer Service Days

2025/26 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Graders

Fridays, June 20 - August 8 (closed on July 4)

8 AM - 4 PM

This summer, students going into grades 7, 8, and 9, are invited to participate in service projects within our church and community. The day will begin between 8 and 9 AM with a light breakfast, lunch will be served, and the day will end at 4 PM. Projects include making art for the pantry and freshening up the youth room, working in the community garden, reading or playing board games with the elderly, and more.

We know families with children this age are often very busy in the summer. Participation is encouraged on whatever days and times fit your schedule. There will be a sign up coming soon. Contact Kristin Boe at [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org) with any questions.



## 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.



All our Travelers (students) and Navigators (volunteers) can register by using the link below. If you have questions/concerns, please contact Kristin Boe ([kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org)) or Pastor Becky (402-740-1985 or [pastorbecky@lord-of-love.org](mailto:pastorbecky@lord-of-love.org)).

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



## Blessing of the Backpacks

August 16, 5 PM

August 17, 9 & 11 AM

All students, teachers, professors, Sunday school volunteers, and

support staff are invited to bring their school bags to church and receive a blessing for a year of abundant learning and development.

## Nursery Volunteers Needed



We are seeking volunteers to help provide occasional care for our children in the nursery. Volunteers are willing to be contacted when our regular nursery staff are out of town or otherwise unavailable. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our youngest members, making a positive impact in their lives and in the lives of their families! Duties include playing with children, changing diapers, and providing a warm and loving environment. Training will be provided. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact our Nursery Director Shannon Picha at [nursery@kmlchurch.org](mailto:nursery@kmlchurch.org).

## Neighborhood Gathering, 2025

A great time was had by all!



The fire truck was a big hit!

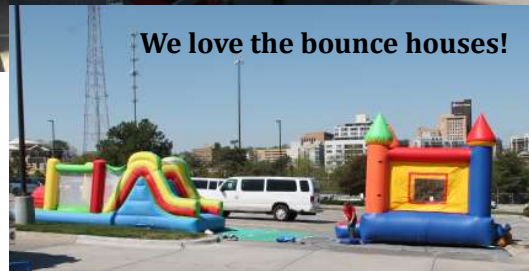
It was a beautiful day to be outside!



Thanks for providing the food, Physicians Mutual!



We love the bounce houses!



# CALENDAR

## JUNE

### June 1 Sunday

Easter 7  
Homebound Communion  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM KMLC Café Lite  
10:10 AM Adult Forum  
6 PM Cantaré Omaha  
Concert @ KMLC

### June 2 Monday

10 AM Pantry

### June 3 Tuesday

9 AM Staff Meeting

### June 4 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

### June 5 Thursday

4 PM HGF Clinic

6:30 PM Christian Educ.

### June 6 Friday

5 PM Pantry

### June 7 Saturday

Homebound Communion  
5 PM Worship

### June 8 Sunday

Day of Pentecost  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yr)  
9:30 AM KMLC Café Lite  
10:10 AM Adult Forum  
12:15 PM Book Group  
5 PM Youth Kick-off

### June 9 Monday

10 AM Pantry

### June 10 Tuesday

9 AM Staff Meeting

### June 11 Wednesday

9 AM Sewing Group  
12:15 PM Worship  
1 PM Devotions @  
deFreese  
4 PM Exec. Committee

### June 12 Thursday

Council Reports Due  
9:30 AM WELCA Board  
11:30 AM Property  
Committee  
4 PM HGF Clinic

### June 13 Friday

5 PM Pantry

### June 14 Saturday

5 PM Worship

### June 15 Sunday

Holy Trinity  
Father's Day  
Jun 15 - Jun 20 Camp Wk.  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM KMLC Café Lite  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### June 16 Monday

Pr. Wynard's bday  
10 AM Pantry

### June 17 Tuesday

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

### June 18 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 PM VBS Volunteer  
Training @ Luther  
Memorial

### June 19 Thursday

Juneteenth  
11:30 AM Men's Lunch  
4 PM HGF Clinic  
6 PM Circle 5

### June 20 Friday

8 AM Summer Svc. Day  
5 PM Pantry

### June 21 Saturday

5 PM Worship

### June 22 Sunday

Pentecost 2  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM KMLC Café Lite  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### June 23 Monday

10 AM Pantry

### June 24 Tuesday

9 AM Staff Meeting  
12:30 PM Circle 3

### June 25 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

### June 26 Thursday

1 PM Circle 4  
4 PM HGF Clinic

### June 27 Friday

8 AM Summer Svc. Day  
5 PM Pantry

### June 28 Saturday

5 PM Worship

### June 29 Sunday

Pentecost 3  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM KMLC Café Lite  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### June 30 Monday

10 AM Pantry

## JULY

### July 1 Tuesday

9 AM Staff Meeting

### July 2 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

### July 3 Thursday

4 PM HGF Clinic

### July 4 Friday

Independence Day  
OFFICE CLOSED

### July 5 Saturday

Homebound Communion  
5 PM Worship

### July 6 Sunday

Jul 6 - Jul 12 Youth Trip to  
Nashville  
Pentecost 4  
Homebound Communion  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM KMLC Café Lite  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### July 7 Monday

10 AM Pantry

### July 8 Tuesday

9 AM Staff Meeting

### July 9 Wednesday

9 AM Sewing Group  
12:15 PM Worship  
1 PM Devotions @  
deFreese  
4 PM Exec. Committee

### July 10 Thursday

Council Reports Due  
9:30 AM WELCA Board  
11:30 AM Property  
Committee  
4 PM HGF Clinic  
6:00 PM Worship  
Committee

### July 11 Friday

8 AM Summer Svc. Day  
5 PM Pantry

### July 12 Saturday

5 PM Worship  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM KMLC Café Lite  
10:10 AM Adult Forum  
12:15 PM Book Group

### July 13 Sunday

Pentecost 5  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

### July 14 Monday

10 AM Pantry  
5:00 PM KCCOC Board

### July 15 Tuesday

Good News Deadline

9 AM Staff Meeting

1 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6 PM Council

### July 16 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

### July 17 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch  
4 PM HGF Clinic  
6 PM Circle 5

### July 18 Friday

8 AM Summer Svc. Day  
5 PM Pantry

### July 19 Saturday

5 PM Worship

### July 20 Sunday

Jul 20 - Jul 23 VBS @  
Luther Memorial  
Pentecost 6  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM KMLC Café Lite  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### July 21 Monday

10 AM Pantry  
6 PM HGFC Board

### July 22 Tuesday

9 AM Staff Meeting  
12:30 PM Circle 3

### July 23 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

### July 24 Thursday

9:00 AM Good News  
1 PM Circle 4  
4 PM HGF Clinic

### July 25 Friday

8 AM Summer Svc. Day  
5 PM Pantry

### July 26 Saturday

9 AM CJH Quilt Auction  
5 PM Worship

### July 27 Sunday

Pentecost 7  
9 AM & 11 AM Worship  
9 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM KMLC Café Lite  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### July 28 Monday

10 AM Pantry

### July 29 Tuesday

9 AM Staff Meeting

### July 30 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

### July 31 Thursday

4 PM HGF Clinic

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)







1. Jason Boehm, Charles Martis, Staci McDowell, Delaney Morgan, Leslie Perez, Justin Pestel, Taylor Rohde, Jack Ruesch, Jeannie Swanson, Joyce Wachal
2. Rebecca Klemmensen, Jacqueline Lynch, Katie Wardell, Eric Westerman
3. Victoria Bratcher, Joseph Council, Genevieve Micek
4. Gene Brady, Jocelyn Burt, Matthew Glasgow, Summer Kunkel, Taylor Morrow
5. Jim Reed, Toby Rees
6. Patricia Bressman, Libbie Diggins, Lawrence Storer, Matthew Traub, Olivia Weddell, Diana Wendt
7. Dianne Ratliff, John Schneiderman
8. Dulcinea Boesenber, Linda Hirsh, Liz Pemberton, Kristen Snyder
9. Zachary Bass, Judith Stuart
10. Patt Council, Steven Duffield, Tanya Hoffman, John Kunz
11. Daniel Dosen, Don Johnson, David Robinson, Jane Ross
12. Joan Amos, Natalie Bass, Susan Bass, Matt Coufal, David Mayberry, Margarita Valquier
13. Brian Kooienga, Stephanie Schade
14. Dean Winther
15. Steve Amos, Michael Bailey, Trevor Culbertson, Melissa Forman, Ruth Hashberger, Lyle McFarland, Lynnette Mullins
16. Elizabeth Comfort, Sam Greguska, Marcy Madison, Lawton Rees, Pr. Lucy Wynard
17. Jim Brand, Libby Broekemeier, Sofie Di Lorenzo, Nicholas Fogleman, Steve Jacobson, Wyatt Loucks, Kristina Pache
18. Kathryn Allen, Matthew Brown, Nicole Jones
19. Lisa Chinn, Bill McCoy, Amy McFarland, Nancy Meyer, Nathan Stier
20. Maria Bang, Carl Falk, Tim Laudenback, Sara Worm, Richard Zaporowski
21. Colin Girthoffer, Linda Herrington, Jeba Inbarasu, Frank-John Maaske
22. Peggy Glasser, Rudolf Kotula, Jessica Olson, Virginia Williams
23. Grace Albright, Jadon Costanzo, Nathan Fogleman, Aiden Horel, Heidi Wood
24. Charles Cole, Cindy Featherly-Lavelle, David Gardner, Timothy Kantor, Austin King, Phyllis Kuthan, Patti Line
25. Judy Boelts, Hayden Fischer, Joshua Olson, Ryan Soukup
26. Jamee Bjerke
28. Jaime Bartley, Shirleen Collett, Penny Hovendick, Thomas McCarthy, Ryan Swinney
29. Brian Miller, Robin Perkins, Kim Rasmussen, Lenny Renken, Betty Thomas, Douglas Weedman
30. Michael Bratcher, Nancy Nepodal



1. Gaberian Bauer, Kai-Di Johnson, Jessica Kuthan, Matthew Rudie, Stephen Sieberson
2. Dorothy Bossman, Julie Milks, Nicole Neuschwanger, Laurie Pestel
3. Ethan Ferguson, Gaven Goldsberry, Karen Sundell
4. Donald Burton, Amie James
5. Franklin Yates
6. Jim Akers, Kristy Baker, Mackenzie Peterson, Tom Shields
7. Isabel Bartek, Anne Dey, Ann Hadfield, Alexander Venn, Joshua Venn, Zachary Venn
8. Nathan Gardner, David Gibson, Naomi Klein, Nichole Turgeon, Stacey White
9. Tom Irving, Mabel Wangler
10. Gary Christiansen, Barbara Eckhorn, Cooper Erdman, Molly Gunia, Carl Hartmann, Naomi Martin, Stephanie Stephens, Tim Walker
11. Kristine Beverly, Amanda Fogle, Rick Lienemann, Lorie Nielson, Sarah Penn, Bridget Robbins, William Ryder
12. Scott Rowe, Joel Sacks, Andrew Sifers, Nicholas Stephens, Hannah Workman
13. Mona Brethouwer, Katy Clarke, Steven Fonda, Kristen Gardner, Gail Houghton, Jean Johnson, Eva Reed, Pam Swanger
15. Allison Albright, Christy Edris, William Vawter, Robert Williams
16. Caleb Fili, Robert Nelson
17. Kelsey Ferry, Inba Inbarasu, Dakota Perez, Samuel Williams
18. Natasha Gartin, Florence Hansen, Julie Hoogestraat
19. Jazmin Gardner, Margaret Georgeson, Orv Knapp, Keeley Porter, Katharine Schjodt, Dallas Schramm, Barbara Smrkovsky
20. Deborah Edris, Deb Fogleman, Judy Hamaker, Browyn King, Richard Taylor
21. Bennett Bressman, Patrick Brommer, Pat Edwards, Nancy Falk, Vicki Freeman, Alyssa Hansen, Brad Rogers, Isabel Sampson, Cynthia Whitmyre
22. Lawrence Harvey, Catherine Herzberg, Christine Manion
23. Parker Lefebvre, Suzanne Muller, Joseph Tellgren
24. Kyrsten Rohmeyer
25. Rob Comfort, Kallie Egeland, Shanen Hoke, Tim Holland, Carl Reichert
26. Alex Ignowski, Dayle Johnson, Abbi Miranda Carreto, Megan Neill, Roxann Perrine
27. Tanya Kuenning, Jeffrey West
28. Vicky Berlett, Melanie Bratcher, Linda Hoagland, Celsa Perez, Kelli Rolfsmeyer, Stu Sedlak
29. Dustin Bladt, Kory Bladt, Charles Kocourek, Ashley Laudenback
30. Lee Johnson, Kimberly Merrill
31. Chloe Fischer, Louis Flake, Aiden Girthoffer, Melissa Petru, Carolyn Sieling, Sarah Storer



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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



## Carol Joy Holling Camp 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Quilt Auction

**Saturday, July 26, 2025**

**9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**Carol Joy Holling Camp**

It's time to think about the quilt you'll donate to Carol Joy Holling Camp. The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts. It is held rain or shine. Friends and families are welcome. Our kitchen will be serving pulled pork sandwiches and a selection of favorite salads from 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM. Vegetarian and gluten-free options are available upon request. Concessions will be offered before and after lunch.

Quilt donations can be delivered to Carol Joy Holling Camp between June 1 and July 21. Quilts cannot be accepted after July 21. Please submit in a plastic bag with donation form that can be found on [www.cjhcenter.org/quilt-auction](http://www.cjhcenter.org/quilt-auction)

Silent Auction on Qtego: The silent auction will be online and will open Friday, July 28 at 9 AM.

Bring your friends and family! Admission is FREE!