

### 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 Slaight	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)

**August 9 & 10, 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 or anyone who does not commune will receive a blessing. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (for health or other reasons) have communed fully. Our form of distribution is Intinction, meaning you will receive the wafer in your hand and then dip it 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 plates 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**

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God by Mary Jo Fike & Family in memory of Randall S. Fike

### **Children's Sermon**

**9:15 AM**

Following the 9 AM Children's Blessing, children in grades Preschool - 5<sup>th</sup> grade may join our Faith Formation Leaders for a children's sermon in the Upper Rooms. All the children will return to their seats in time to receive communion.

### **Kountze Café Lite**

**9:30—11:00 AM**

### **Free-will Offering**

Through Labor Day weekend, we will be serving a lighter fare for breakfast. If you would like to help with breakfast, even just for a Sunday or two, please contact Sherri Labedz.

### **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.

**August 10:** Meet & Greet with Deacon Eric Haitz

**August 17:** Congregational Meeting

### **Meet & Greet with Deacon Eric Haitz**

Deacon Eric will join us this weekend to preach during worship, share in a Saturday potluck, and lead Sunday's Forum. This is an opportunity for you to get to know him and to prayerfully consider calling him to serve with us in ministry.

### **KMLC Book Group**

**Sunday, Aug. 10**

***The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride**

**12:15 PM**

### **Fellowship Lounge**

Join us for a fun discussion about this popular book among book groups.

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### August 10 Sunday

Pentecost 9  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Adult Forum—Meet & Greet  
12:15 PM Book Group

### August 11 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry  
11:30 AM Endowment Board

### August 12 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
**August 13 Wednesday**  
9:00 AM Sewing Group  
12:15 PM Worship  
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor  
4:00 PM Executive Committee

### August 14 Thursday

Council Reports Due  
9:30 AM WELCA Board  
11:30 AM Property Committee  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### August 15 Friday

Good News Deadline  
5:00 PM Pantry

### August 16 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### August 17 Sunday

Pentecost 10  
Blessing of Backpacks  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Congregational Meeting—  
Vote on Council & Deacon Eric

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Communion Assistants & Lectors Needed

Please consider signing up to serve as a Communion Assistant or Lector in August. We still need people for most dates. Summer schedules can be tricky, and having volunteers in place ahead of time really helps! You can use the links below to sign up. Thank you for being part of this important ministry.

### Looking for Sunday School Volunteers

We need your support! The Sunday School department is in need of leadership for the 2025/2026 school year. Each classroom requires a teacher and assistant. All lessons are scripted and materials are provided. If you can help, please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/3yvvh3fy> or email Kristin Boe at [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org) with questions or a link to sign up. Thank you for your consideration.



### Street Car Construction ALERT!

#### Effective Monday, August 11

We have been notified that the North bound off ramp to Harney/Dodge Street from I-480 will close on Monday August 11 for approximately 10 weeks for manhole relocation and water main construction. They will post detour signs. If you are coming from the South, you will need to exit at the Leavenworth exit, go East (right) to 24<sup>th</sup> Street then North (left) to Farnam Street, and then West (left) to the church.

### Next Sunday!

#### Annual Congregational Election Meeting

Sunday, August 17

10:10 AM



### 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 **vegetables from your garden, ramen noodles, and soup**. 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 volunteer as it fits your schedule. We have options for volunteers of all abilities. Please use the link below to sign up and join our mission.



<https://tinyurl.com/uasdddp>

If you have questions about the Pantry, you can call Toby Rees at 402-979-1425.

### Exciting News!

After a process of interviews, prayer, and discernment, the Call Committee and Church Council are thrilled to recommend Deacon Eric Haitz (pronounced "Heights") as our new Associate pastoral team member. Look for more information about Deacon Eric in the August *Good News*. Feel free to speak with members of the Call Committee or Council about what excites them about his potential ministry here at Kountze Memorial. Please plan to be here next **Sunday, August 17**, when the congregation will vote on whether to extend a call to Deacon Eric during our Annual Election Meeting.

**All Aboard for Men's Lunch!**

**Thursday, August 21**

**11:30 AM**

**Suggested Donation: \$10**

**Please RSVP by Tuesday, August 19**

This month we're pulling into the station with a 1930's train dining car theme—and you won't want to miss the ride! Come enjoy a hearty meal, great company, and a bit of railroad flair. Join us for good food, conversation, and a few surprises along the way! Please RSVP by Tuesday, August 19—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 plan to be aboard.

**Dinners for Eight(ish)**

**September, October, & November**

**Sign up by Monday, August 25**

Get to know others in the congregation over 3 dinners for 3 months in groups of eight(ish).

- Meet each month for a meal in September, October, and November.
- Consider meeting for lunch instead of dinner!
- Enjoy a meal and conversation with one another.
- Singles, couples, you and a plus 1 - all are welcome!
- Sign up at the Welcome Desk or call the church office by Monday, August 25. See you around the table!

**Confirmation Orientation (& Meal)**

**August 27, 2025**

**6 PM**

**St. Timothy's Lutheran Church**

**(93<sup>rd</sup> & Dodge)**

**Grades 7 & 8**

Do you have a student who will be in 7th or 8th grade this fall? We are once again partnering with St. Timothy's, Lord of Love, and Luther Memorial Lutheran Churches for Confirmation on Wednesday nights from 6 -7:15 PM. Mark your calendars!: Our Confirmation programming kicks off with an orientation Meeting & Meal for both students and their adults at St. Timothy's on August 27 at 6 PM AND... a lock-in and service night here at Kountze, September 5-6. Watch for more information in your email and mailbox. Please let the church office or Pastor Lucy know if you have a student.

**Kountze Memorial Adult Choir**

**Rehearsal, Wednesday, September 3, 7 to 8:30 PM**

**Begin Singing at Worship, Sunday, September 7**

Join our Kountze Memorial Adult Choir, where we sing praises to God and enjoy fellowship together. Previous singing experience a plus but not necessary. Contact Barb Carlsen (402-341-7761) if you're interested or have questions.



**We're Looking for a Part-time  
Youth Ministry Director**

Are you called to inspire the next generation of faith at Kountze Memorial?

**Position Details:**

- 15–20 hours/week
- \$20,000–\$25,000 salary (based on experience)
- In-person Sundays plus flexible remote planning
- Start Fall 2025

**Responsibilities Include:**

- Lead Sunday Youth Forum (Sept–May)
- Plan mission trips, retreats, service & social events
- Engage with Synod & camp programs
- Recruit & equip volunteers
- Communicate via newsletter & social media

**We're Looking For Someone Who:**

- Connects deeply with faith & youth
- Is creative, organized, tech-savvy
- Communicates well and builds relationships
- Loves teens, teamwork, and church life

**Interested?** Request a job description for more information and submit a letter of interest, resume, and three references to the church office. If you know someone who may be interested, please have them contact the church office.

**Attendance & Giving**

**Thursday, July 31—Wednesday, August 6**

**Saturday: 41**

**Sunday: 9:00: 123 11:00: 64**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 15**

**Total: 243**

**Streaming: 48**

**Pantry Guests Served: 825 (inc. 260 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 14**

**Offering:**

\$18,246.93 (Regular)      \$3,861.00 (Specials)

\$827.00 (Debt Reduction)

*Be secure in God's love.*

#### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 12:32-40	Seek treasures in heaven
Monday	Genesis 15:1-6	Abram believes the Lord
Tuesday	Hebrew 11:1-3, 8-16	The meaning of faith
Wednesday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust and honor God
Thursday	Psalms 112	Blessings of the righteous
Friday	Isaiah 41:8-13	The Lord's chosen servant
Saturday	Psalms 33:12-22	Trust only in God
Sunday	Luke 12:49-56	Following Jesus causes division



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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

*"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."* **Luke 12:32 (NRSV)**

#### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

##### A Prayer for the Week:

God of power and might, help us to turn to you with confidence, trusting that you care for us and promise us peace and joy through Christ our Savior. Amen.

##### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for this food we give you thanks; for all that you promise to do for us, we give you our hope and trust through Christ. Amen.

##### A Blessing to Give:

May God's love give you peace.

#### CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What worries do you have?
- What keeps a person from fully trusting in God?

#### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Luke 12:22-40.

Jesus wants us to trust God for what we need. Jesus told his disciples, "[S]trive for his [God's] kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well" (v. 31). He was emphasizing that God knows our basic needs in life. We should not worry about "what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear" (v.22). It is a tall order to put one's life on the line and give full trust in God. Jesus goes on to tell the disciples that they should sell their possessions and rely on the stuff of life that is eternal, "where no thief comes near and no moth destroys" (v. 33b). Faith is looking to and looking for God in everything around us. It is God who gives us what we need. We are to look to God instead of bank accounts, promotions, or a sense of personal security. This is something that is much easier said than done. However, the benefit is a life without fear, a life that need not compare our comfort with that of others. It is a life ready for what God promises.

*Discuss:* How does faith in God make you feel secure?

*Pray:* **Almighty God, you know our weaknesses and worries; give us faith to trust in you above anything else so that we may have a life of peace and joy through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what organization can you contribute to that serves the needs of others?

#### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In the reading from Genesis 15:1-6, God made a special covenant with Abram promising him as many descendants as there were stars in the sky! And again, in the reading from Hebrews, we learn that Abraham (Abram), was faithful and that he and Sarah fulfilled the covenant. "[D]escendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven'" (Hebrews 11:12b). Go outside on a clear night and take a moment to look at all the stars in the sky. Can you count them? Think or talk about God's promise to Abram. *Pray:* **Dear Lord, we are in awe of your presence in our lives. We ask that you give us faith in all your promises. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82  
Hebrews 11:29—12:2; Luke 12:49-56