

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

GOOD NEWS

Volume 45, Issue 8

September, 2025



FROM THE PASTOR

Who are the "Welcome Team" - The Most Important Team at Church??

A couple years ago I read an article that has stuck with me. It was in the ELCA magazine Living Lutheran and was called **"The Search for a Church"**. Written by a retired pastor, Kathryn Haueisen, the author found herself, for the first time in many, many years, searching for a church where she could belong – and finding it a more bewildering, uncomfortable process than she remembered it could be! I thought about the article again this past Sunday as I chatted after worship with a few first-time visitors, new to our city, and looking for a church. I think it's easy to forget how much courage it takes to walk through the doors of a new-to-you congregation – and how different and alien it can feel, even if you've gone to an ELCA church your whole life.

Haueisen shares in her article that her whole experience visiting churches taught her some things about the best ways to make people truly feel welcome when they walk through our doors. And about some things to avoid. **We think friendliness is most important, but she describes a few times when people were very friendly but the communication about what was happening and where and when was unclear – and she was left feeling awkward and exposed despite the friendliness.** So good, clear signage and communication is vital! I try to read our bulletins, newsletters, website, and Facebook page with the eyes of a visitor: what information are newcomers most likely to search for and can they find it easily? When someone who has never worshipped with us before joins us on a Sunday, does the bulletin and the instructions from the front make it easy for them to know what to do when – when to stand and sit, how to receive communion, where to find the bathrooms, nursery, etc.?

One step we'd like to take towards being even more

welcoming than we already are is to form a "Welcome Team" on Sunday mornings. The Welcome Team are there to look out for folks who might be new, to be ready to answer those practical questions like "Where are the bathrooms?" or "Where is that sign-up sheet the pastor mentioned?" ...Who would serve on such a team? ALL of us! Why? Because welcome is a job that belongs to us all! **Haueisen identifies two really key roles that are essential to making people feel welcomed – roles that any of us can do: spotters and scooters.** *Spotters* are just always on the lookout for someone who looks like they might be new and maybe doesn't have anyone to talk to or greet them. Here are some ways to initiate that won't get you in trouble if it turns out the person you're talking to has been here for years: "Hi, I'm not sure I've met you – my name is _____." What's the next thing to say after they

tell you their name? You might try, "I know I don't know everybody – have you been here before?" or "Tell me a little about yourself, if you don't mind." *Scooters* are people who physically move – scoot over – to visually cue somebody looking for a spot to sit that they would welcome them choosing the spot next to them.

All of us can be spotters and scooters. **All of us belong on the "Welcome Team".** Not to pounce on every newcomer who walks through the door – that can be as intimidating and off-putting as no one talking to you! But just to make sure that we're a place where no one leaves feeling like their presence wasn't noticed, and where everyone feels like they could figure out the rituals and routines of this place easily enough to fit in. So I hope you won't mind being volun-told – but you've just been commissioned to join our Welcome Team. What role you can play in making all feel welcome here?

You already do this well, Kountze Memorial. Countless people have said it to me and I notice it all the time – you

Who We Are (from our website):

A city-wide church made up of people from diverse backgrounds & perspectives who in weekly worship & daily service encounter the Risen Lord in Word and Sacrament for the work of God: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, and heal the sick.

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). 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 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.

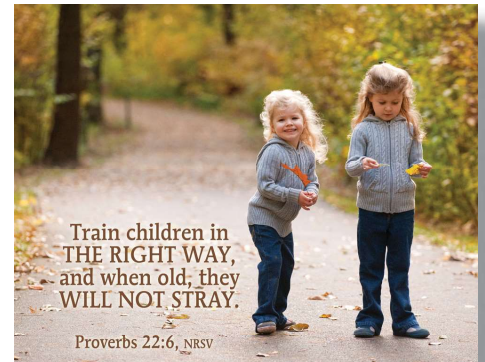
Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and the cost is \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$220 per week.

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.



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- Handbell Choir
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- Mission Field Nebraska Fundraiser
- New Member Classes
- Rally Sunday
- Sip, Support, & Celebrate
- Sunday School Registration
- Table Grace Concert
- Youth Ministry Director Wanted

GROW with us...



10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

- Sept 7: Rally Day
Sept 14: (New Member Class); Immanuel Communities with Rev. Brian Maas
Sept 21: (New Member Class); Fellowship; Blood Drive
Sept 28: Reception of New Members

Lift Your Voice in Song! Kountze Memorial Adult Choir 1st Rehearsal - September 3 7 - 8:30 PM



Do you love singing and want to be part of a joyful, dedicated community? Join our Kountze Memorial Adult Choir, where we sing praises to God and enjoy fellowship together. Whether you're a seasoned singer or just love to lift your voice, we'd love to have you with us as we make vibrant and beautiful music. We're excited to return to worship services on Sunday, September 7. Come be a part of something special!

If you're interested in becoming a vital part of our worship through music, we'd be thrilled to welcome you to the choir. Previous singing experience in high school or college is a plus, but not required. For more information or to join, please reach out to Barb Carlsen at 402-341-7761. We'd love to have you sing with us!

Carol Joy Holling Camp Fall Events

Family Campout
September 12-14
All Ages

UFO Retreat
(Unfinished Objects)
September 21-25

Camp Classic Golf
October 3
11 AM

Fall Festival
October 4
All Ages

Fall Kinnect Retreat
November 1-2
Grades 4 & 5 + Adult

Mother-Daughter Retreat
November 15-16
Age 10-13 + Adult

Check out the Events page at nlom.org/events/ for more information.



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. 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.



The Kountze bells are looking to start back up again. Our plan is to see how many folks are interested in the group and when would be a good time to rehearse. If you are interested in participating in a bell choir, please talk to Barb Carlsen or call the Kountze

office at 402-341-7761. Thank you!

Mission Field Nebraska

Sunday, September 28

2 - 4 PM

Glacial Till Cider House
1419 Silver St., Ashland

Sip, support, and celebrate at the Spirit of Ministry Open House at Glacial Till Cider House & Tasting Room. You're invited to an inspiring afternoon in Historic Ashland as we raise awareness and support for the life-changing ministries of Mission Field Nebraska.

Your \$20 ticket includes a beverage, hors d'oeuvre, live music, and the opportunity to meet the people behind the mission.

Learn more and get your ticket: <https://nebraskasynod.org/news-events/spirit-of-ministry/>



come grow with us!

SERVE with us...

Kountze Food Pantry



The Kountze Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry is a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) certified pantry. This certification allows us to receive food under The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) from Foodbank of the

Heartland. However, the food we are receiving from

the Foodbank is drastically decreasing. For example, we have not received protein such as meat or fish in almost two months.

We are working diligently to apply for grants and other sources of food to continue to provide for all our guests. Your donations and support are assisting in this mission to feed the hungry! Please consider food or monetary donations for our pantry. If you have questions or would like more information please do not hesitate to contact Toby Rees at 402.979.1425 or toby@kmlchurch.org or any of the Food Pantry Board members. We look forward to seeing you at the Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry soon! Join us by using this link to sign up.

<https://tinyurl.com/uasdddp/>

Food Pantry Report

1/1/2025 - 7/31/2025

Income:

Grants	\$	-0-
Donations	\$	29,611.80
Memorials	\$	25.00
	\$	29,636.80

Expenses:

Grant Expense	\$	-0-
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Regular Expenses

Family Fare	\$	717.25
MUD	\$	161.74
Other	\$	12,163.79
	\$	13,042.78

Balance \$ **16,594.02**



Help Us Collate the October Good News

Thursday, September 25

9 AM



KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
GOOD NEWS

Come be part of the crew that puts together the *Good News*! It's a simple way to serve—and a great way to catch up with church friends and enjoy a delicious lunch while you're at it.

If you can join us, give the church office a call at 402-341-7761 by Tuesday, September 23. That way we can let you know if anything changes.

Thanks for helping us get the *Good News* out.

CJH Quilt Auction Results



Camp Carol Joy Holling had their 37th Annual Quilt Auction on Saturday 26. Over 400 items were actioned off and raised over \$113,000! It looks like Kountze Memorial donated 14 quilts and raised \$1,630. Members of Kountze Memorial also donated quilts bring both of those numbers a little

higher. It's not too earlier to begin sewing for next year's auction. You can also go through your closets and donate any quilts that are still good but you don't use any more. Everything helps.



Simone Weber

Live in concert at Stories Coffee

September 13, 2025

7-9 PM

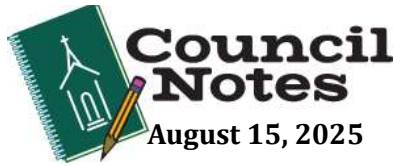
Stories Coffee

11432 Davenport Street, Omaha

If you would like to donate to Table Grace, you may do so through:

1. Paypal nhbs.cc/paypal
2. Text the word "NOURISHING" to 44-321.
3. Come to Table Grace for a meal and give
4. Attend a Food Truck lunch and give
5. Send a check to Their mailing address: Table Grace Ministries, 1617 Farnam Street, PO Box 38, Omaha, NE 68101

NEWS & Notes...



August 15, 2025

Pastor Wynard called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Pastor Lucy requested that signing onto “nonprofit organization sign-on letter” be added to the agenda under new business. The agenda was accepted as amended.

The following corrections were made to the June 17, 2020 minutes: (1) Under Council Retreat: Line 6 change “Synod Council” to “Synod Assembly”; (2) Under Questions/Concerns/Comments: under NIL Lutheran second paragraph Line 6 change “which complicates” to “which requires strategies for...”; and (3) remove Jerry Fischer from the list of those present. The minutes of the June meeting were accepted as corrected.

Tim Backora reported that total income for the month of June was just over \$61,500. Last June it was just under \$55,000. The year-to-date balance is \$5,900. Typically, summer revenue is down. Financially, the church is doing well but not great.

The MIF building loan balance is currently \$704,000.

Kountze received an IRA account from the estate of Bobby Powell. These funds are currently in an undesignated Memorial Fund.

The Financial Report was accepted as presented.

Old Business

Associate Minister – There was discussion related to the Call Committees' recommendation to call Deacon Eric Haitz as the Associate Minister for Kountze. The areas of focus for Deacon Haitz in his role as Associate Minister are: Youth and young adults; developing young adult ministries; spiritual formation; share in both preaching and pastoral care; outreach; and building a sense of community. After interviewing him, the Council and the Pastors believe that he has the qualifications to fulfill a majority of these areas. Tim Backora confirmed that the current budget includes monies to support this position. In addition to this position, a part-time Youth Director is also being sought. The Council unanimously voted to recommend to the congregation that we call Deacon Haitz as the next Associate Minister at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. Pastor Wynard will move forward with making the arrangements for his visit.

The timeline for Deacon Haitz's introduction to the congregation would be to invite him to preach on August 9 and 10 and to be introduced at the Forum on August 10 for a Q&A session. A vote would be taken on August 17 at the congregational meeting, .

2025 Fall Council Retreat – The 2025 Fall Council Retreat is scheduled for October 3 and 4. Pastor Wynard will invite some of the program staff and possibly some of the key committee chairs who are not part of the Council to attend the retreat.

Nominating Committee – The Nominating Committee met and has received confirmation from the following individuals that they will be on the ballot as Council Members for the upcoming election: Marsha Vance, Leon Valquier, and Jacque Johnson.

Memorials Committee – The mission statement drafted by Pastor Wynard and Tim Backora for the Memorials Committee was reviewed and discussed. It was suggested that a brief definition of what a Memorial is be added to the mission statement and that a clause be added at the end of the second sentence that reads “...distribution of designated memorials in accordance with the Council's consensus and our constitution”. There was also discussion regarding how memorials are received - undesignated and designated. There will be a total of seven members appointed to the Memorials Committee.

Youth Director Search – The Youth Director position has been posted on INDEED, LinkedIn, and in the church bulletin.

New Business

Non-Profit Organization Sign-on Letter – Information was shared related to a legal settlement related to a landmark case on nonprofit nonpartisanship. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and National Religious Broadcasters, along with two churches in Texas, last week urged a federal court judge to approve a legal settlement between the parties in a landmark case on nonprofit nonpartisanship. This settlement agreement, proposed by the IRS and NRB would declare the Johnson Amendment unconstitutional. The pastors will sign on to the letter to the Trump Administration urging them to uphold the Johnson Amendment (on behalf of the Council).

Staff Reports – The staff reports were accepted as reported.

Committee & Boards Reports – Reports accepted as given.

The next meeting will be held on August 19, 2025. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

make people of all ages, backgrounds, abilities, and experiences feel at home here among you. And I love you for it! So let's keep it up – let's continue to welcome all.

Blessings,

Pastor Amy

P.S. You can find Haueisen's whole article here:

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2023/06/the-search-for-a-church/>

(Or email or call the church office and we'd be happy to send you a copy. I encourage you to read her short but helpful account!)

Congratulations Pr. Ashley Hall

Following is a note from Pr. Hall:

"I am honored to share that I was appointed to serve as the North American representative on the Board of Trustees of the Lutheran Foundation for Interconfessional Research (which oversees the Institute for Ecumenical Research in Strasbourg, France; <https://ecumenical-institute.org/en/>) of the Lutheran World Federation. This a three-year term that begins in 2026 and requires an annual visit to the Institute."

Swing for a Cause

LFS Golf Tournament

Thursday, September 11

Iron Horse Golf Club

900 Clubhouse Drive, Ashland, NE

Registration at 9:00 AM | Shotgun Start at 10:00 AM



Join Lutheran Family Services (LFS) for a day of golf and giving back. This annual event, proudly sponsored by the Corporal Daegan Page Foundation, supports LFS's 40+ programs, including vital services for veterans, refugees, children, and families across Nebraska. Whether you're a seasoned golfer or a newcomer to the sport, this tournament offers a fantastic opportunity to enjoy a day on the greens while making a meaningful impact. Proceeds from the event help fund LFS's comprehensive services, ensuring that individuals and families receive the support they need to thrive. To register, explore sponsorship opportunities, or for more information, please go to <https://www.onelfs.org/events/2025golf/>



Everyone is Invited to Our Annual Church Picnic!

Sunday, September 21

11:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Get ready for a day of food, fun, and fellowship at our Annual Church Picnic! Mark your calendars now because this is one event you won't want to miss. Join us at the church for a delicious meal (with a vegetarian option, of course) and bring your favorite side dish to share.

The day will be filled with outdoor entertainment for the kids, and we'll wrap up with everyone's favorite—BINGO!

Keep an eye on the bulletin for sign-up sheets starting September 7. Let's make this year's picnic the best one yet!

Free Community Health Fair

Monday, September 29

9 AM - Noon

Methodist Community Health Clinic and the Kountze Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry are hosting a free health fair at Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center. Join us at the Health Fair to learn more about skin health, cancer prevention, heart health, signs and symptoms of stroke, and healthy eating. Screenings will be available for skin, blood pressure, blood sugar, lung health, and breast exams. AND... The Omaha Fire Department will be providing safety training and free smoke detectors. Healthy food samples will be provided as well.

The Health Fair is open to all! You do not need to be a patient of Methodist Community Health Clinic or a Food Pantry guest to participate. If you have questions please reach out to Toby Rees at 402-979-1425 or toby@kmlchurch.org.



Save a life! Donate Blood!

**Kountze Commons &
The Nebraska Community Blood Bank**

Sunday, September 21

9 AM—1 PM

Reserve your donation time by going to www.ncbb.org/searchdrives and use sponsor code KOUN. Walk-ins are also welcome. Donor FAQ's and information will be provided in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like additional information, please call the Blood Bank at 402-486-9414.



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.

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

July 16, 2025 - August 15, 2025

Baptisms: Margaret Kreiser, July 19
Amanda Roynesdal, July 20
Isabella Roynesdal, July 20

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!



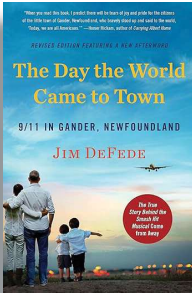
KMLC Book Group

Sunday, September 14

The Day the World Came to Town by Jim DeFede

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge



September 11, 2001 was a day of tragedy for America and the world. This book is an account of the events that occurred in the small Canadian town of Gander, Newfoundland, when 38 planes were diverted to the Gander International Airport when U.S. airspace was closed. The town of population 10,000 was faced with providing food, shelter, clothing, and emotional support to 7,000 stranded passengers. The book emphasizes the compassion and kindness of ordinary people to come together at a time of tragedy. Stories of the passengers who were impressed with the kindness and generosity shown them, which gave them hope and comfort during their fear and uncertainty, are shared in the book. The book is an inspirational testament to the best of humanity and inspired the Broadway musical, "Come From Away".

A Spamtember Men's Lunch

Thursday, September 18

11:30 AM

Recommended Donation: \$10.00

Move over beef—it's Spam's time to shine! Spamtember is back—because one year just isn't enough for this culinary classic! Come for the food, stay for the fellowship—and see if Jim can top last year's creations.

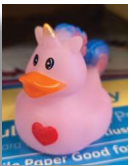
Please RSVP at the welcome desk, call the church office or email: jim@kmlchurch.org to reserve your spot at the spamtacular event.



Thank you!

A huge thank you to whoever "ducked" my office for my birthday. There were ducks everywhere—and I loved it. Now, every time I see one, it brings a smile to my face—and the faces of everyone who comes into my office! You truly made my day (and many days after)! Thanks again.

Debbie



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY...

Rally Sunday Sunday, September 7



We will WORSHIP at the 9 AM service and receive a blessing for the upcoming year of Faith Formation.

We will GROW. Following the blessing, we will process out of the church and into the Fellowship Hall. There, the Youth will present all the ways they were challenged and grew this summer through the

different programs Kountze provided.

We will SERVE. To kick off the new school year, we will be "Singing for THEIR Supper". Beginning in September, you will find boxes in the Fellowship Hall with the title of a beloved hymn on it. Put your canned tuna, chicken, or ham donations in the box of the song you like the most. At the end of the month, we will see what hymn won and which staff member chose that as their favorite. Let's stock the Pantry with Protein!

Sunday School



The first day of Sunday School is September 7 and we are excited! The rooms are ready, the lessons are planned, but we are still in need of some teachers. Please consider giving some of your time to the youngest members of our congregation. All lessons are scripted and materials are

provided. If you have any questions, please talk to or email Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org.

Children's Choir

Beginning Sunday, September 14
9:15 AM (following 9:00 AM Children's Blessing)
2nd Floor Sunday School Music Room
Grades K-6

Barb Carlsen is excited to have another opportunity to work with your talented children this year. She has over 35 years of experience as a music teacher and enjoys working with young people.

All children in grades K-6 are encouraged to sing in our Children's Choir. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Barb in the church office at 402-341-7761.



Confirmation Lock-in & Service Event

Grades 7 & 8
September 5 & 6

Drop off Friday - 4:30 PM

Pick up Saturday - 10:30 AM

We need you to let us know if your Youth will attend, so if you were at the Confirmation Orientation, you should have received a form to fill out and return. If you didn't make it to the Orientation, please contact Pr. Lucy or the church office and we'll be sure to get the RSVP form to you.

Confirmation Classes Begin

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

(93rd & Dodge)

Grades 7 & 8

Wednesday, September 10

6 - 7:15 PM

Plan to join us at Kountze Memorial for a lock-in and service night on September 6-7.

If any 7th or 8th graders and their parents weren't able to be at the Confirmation Orientation at St. Timothy's on August 27 but want to participate in the classes or you have questions, please contact Pr. Lucy.



Summer Service Days

This summer, about 15 students going into grades 7, 8, and 9 participated in service projects within our church and community. They were a big help doing various projects each week. They had some time to play and have fun too!



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're interested. If you know someone who may be interested, please have them contact the church office.

Summer Youth & Family Activities

by the Numbers:

- Camp Carol Joy Holling: 28 Kountze kids from 16 families went to camp
- Collaborative VBS: 13 Kountze kids from 6 families participated
- Journey Mission Trip: 6 high school students (and 1 adult chaperone) joined the Synod-led trip to Nashville
- Summer Service Fridays: 15 Middle School Students participated during the six Summer Service Fridays

Join us on Rally Sunday, September 7, to hear more about our summer adventures in faith and get a little preview of what's to come this program year!

Recipes for Pantry Guests

Sometimes the Food Bank for the Heartland provides items that may be new to our pantry guests. A few weeks ago, spaghetti squash was on the list—and many weren't sure how to prepare it. Thankfully, "Chef" Jim Smejkal stepped in with a delicious recipe and a cooking demo! Guests were able to take home the recipe along with all the ingredients needed to try it for themselves.



Jim's Spaghetti Squash

Spaghetti Squash

Tomato Sauce

Seasoning Packet

Salt & Pepper

1. Wash the spaghetti squash and cut in half. Use a spoon to scoop out seeds.
2. Place squash cut side down in a microwave safe dish and add enough water to cover the bottom of the baking dish (approximately 1 inch). Cover with plastic wrap and cook on high for 5 minutes. Squash is cooked when it is tender to the touch. Use caution when touching as the squash will be hot. Microwave another 5 minutes if needed.
3. Allow squash to cool. Once cool, use a fork to scrape out the strands of squash into a bowl.
4. Mix tomato sauce, Italian seasoning packet, salt and pepper together. Pour on squash strands.
5. Microwave 1 to 2 minutes.
6. Serve and enjoy!

Support for the Badeng Family

Pastor John Badeng leads Nile Chapel, a Nebraska Synod Mission Church in Omaha. Earlier this year, Pastor Badeng and his wife suffered the heartbreaking loss of their 29-year-old daughter, who died of a heart attack. She left behind five children—including two sets of twins and one child with autism—who are now being cared for by Pastor Badeng, his wife, and their family, the youngest of whom is 15. In response, WELCA graciously stepped in to help, providing funds for school clothing and shoes, and filling backpacks for each of the children.

Pictured is WELCA co-president Julie O'Doherty and Pastor Badeng at Nile Chapel.



CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

September 1 Monday

Labor Day
No Pantry
OFFICE CLOSED

September 2 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

September 3 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

September 4 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

September 5 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry
Confirmation Lock-in & Service
Event

September 6 Saturday

Homebound Communion
5:00 PM Worship

September 7 Sunday

Pentecost 13
Homebound Communion
Rally Sunday
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe Lite -
Breakfast
10:10 AM Adult Forum

September 8 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
5:00 PM KCCOC Board

September 9 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

September 10 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
12:15 PM Worship
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese
Manor
4:00 PM Executive Committee
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.
Timothy

September 11 Thursday

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

September 12 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

September 13 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

September 14 Sunday

Pentecost 14
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 Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
10:15 AM New Member Class
12:15 PM Book Group

September 15 Monday

Good News Deadline
10:00 AM Pantry

September 16 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group
6:00 PM Congregation Council

September 17 Wednesday

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

September 18 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:00 PM Circle 5

September 19 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

September 20 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

September 21 Sunday

Pentecost 15
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 Blood Drive
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
10:15 AM New Member Class
11:30 AM Church Picnic

September 22 Monday

9:00 AM
10:00 AM Pantry
6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board

September 23 Tuesday

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

September 24 Wednesday

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

September 25 Thursday

9:00 AM Good News Assembly
1:00 PM Circle 4
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

September 26 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal
5:00 PM Pantry

September 27 Saturday

3:00 PM Sharon Saxon & Andy Sifers
Wedding
5:00 PM Worship

September 28 Sunday

Pentecost 16
Receive New Members
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 Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

September 29 Monday

9:00 AM Free Community Health
Fair
10:00 SM Pantry
7:00 PM Youth Committee

September 30 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

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. Xander Gibson, Katie Rohmeyer
2. Jordan Burt, Jason Headley, Linda Heedum, Preston Schirber, Matthew Szymczak
3. Scott Bishop, Jan Brady, Julie Huff, Terrie Larkowski, Jacob Martens, Lynn Meyer
4. Dylan Allner, Stacie Badura, Dotty Sum, Andersen Taylor, Rhonda Wachholtz
5. Jason Badura, Kristin Bieber, Beth Burton, Mark Martens, Nick Pignatore
6. Krista Hill, Jack Misbach, Leann Steffen
7. Joel Brown, Ruth Gilmore, Alice Pickinpaugh, Holly Schmidt, Amy Wendling
8. Allysa Anderson, Susan O'Connor
9. Laura Granneman, Janice Hansen, Jackie Jensen, Zachary Martens, Spencer Thom
10. Christopher Huff, Mia Valquier
11. Michelle Bottrell, Alexander Stouffer, Kim Vawter
12. Janet Diggins, Matthew Fletcher, Hal Mangen, Kasadie Rohmeyer-Pratt, Sidney Weddell, Myrt Weible
13. Zoe Brumfield, Beth Reilly, Ann Starkel, Tony Wilson
14. Emma Hiatt, Teresa Larson, Allen Starkel
15. Dan Bruckner, David Bruckner, Jill Earnhardt, Kimberly Fonda, Judy Heim, Robert Johnston, Lewis Stevens
16. Roy Miller, Jacob Pestel, Nancy Rayno
17. Marie Barrett, William Bridge, Andrew Bruch, Matt Hansen, Logan Larsen, Jeffrey Meyer, Natalie Stucker, Erin Wolf
18. Glenn Anderson, Bev Bonner, Lois Callahan, Barb Carlsen, Jeff Perkins, William Robinson, Timothy White
19. Nicholas Albright, Kathy Cole, Larry Filbrandt, Melea Headley, Lilly Johnston
20. Zach Griger, Ashley Hall, Karen Johnsen, Terry Sanne, Katie Schwieger, Charles Ziegenbein
21. Brent VanScoy, Richard Whitmore
22. Taylor Brtek, Melissa Carlberg, Rebecca Daugherty, David Gerard, Joyce Graybill, Amy Kunz, Colton Nuzum, Danielle Waller, Joanna Ziegler
23. Kathryn Earnhardt, Eric Johnson, Jamie Pfeilsticker, Kenneth Rudie, Amaria Tompkins, Grace Wendle
24. Erica Freeman, Jack Stephens, James Yeshnowski
25. Kristy Clarke, Nathaniel Holland, Melissa Meier, Cole Meyer, Thomas Williams
26. Judi Bergjord, Mark Fredrickson, Ann Ultsch
27. Cheri Biggs, Rod Carlson, Kathleen Hawkins, Mark Rayno, Tracey Saklar
28. Curt Johnson, Molly Lyons, Gary Raber, Bev Traub
29. Garrett Day, Jodi Meyer, Douglas Misbach, Lillian Pfeilsticker
30. Erin-Louise Chapman, Lauren Falke, Jill Gittler, Thea Greguska, Todd Reckling, Gary Scarpino

Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 7/1/2025.....	\$704,531.83
Principal Payment, 8/1/2025	\$3,460.75
Interest Payment, 8/1/2025.....	\$2,244.25
Balance, 8/1/2025	\$701,071.11

Finances: July, 2025

	<i>July</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
Total General Fund		
Income:	\$ 83,194.97	\$ 614,595.98
Expenses:		
Mission Support:	\$ 5,833.31	\$ 40,833.27
Faith Formation:	\$ 761.64	\$ 6,671.53
Facility Costs:	\$ 11,660.79	\$ 119,244.91
Staff Comp. & Benefits:	\$ 52,675.29	\$ 366,419.50
Worship & Music:	\$ 425.00	\$ 36,312.96
Office & Administration:	\$ 3,598.33	\$ 28,575.10
Membership:	\$ 1,072.33	\$ 11,624.38
Finance:	\$ - 0 -	\$ - 0 -
Leadership:	\$ - 0 -	\$ 3,706.95
Justice & Mercy:	\$ - 0 -	\$ - 0 -
Total Expenses:	\$ 76,026.69	\$ 613,388.60
Total Net Income:	\$ 7,168.28	\$ 1,207.38

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
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Web: 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

Serving in Mission



Chandran Paul Martin, ELCA
Global Mission, is in our prayers each
week. Use the link below to read his
newsletter.

<https://tinyurl.com/5zwjvn2k>