

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

September 6 & 7, 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

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of LeClare Steffen given by Tom Steffen & Tracey Gehringer

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Karen & Shirley Bonneau in memory of Andy Killion

Television Broadcast is sponsored to the glory of God by Lee Johnson in memory of Lois Johnson, mother of Lee Johnson and Dayle Johnson

Rally Sunday!

9/10:10 AM

Following the blessing at the 9 AM We will receive a blessing for the upcoming year of Faith Formation. We will process out of the church and to 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 hope you'll join them.

Children's Sermon & Children's Choir

9:15 AM (following 9:00 AM Children's Blessing)

2nd Floor Sunday School Music Room

Grades K-6

Following the 9 AM Children's Blessing, children in grades K-6 are invited to join the Children's Choir with Barb Carlsen. Children in grades K-4 not wanting to participate in Choir may join Kristin Boe 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 AM

Free-will Offering

We will be serving a lighter fare for breakfast until September 28, when we will begin serving a full hot breakfast again. If you would like to help with

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

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.

Sept 7: Rally Day

Sept 14: Immanuel Visions Foundation with Rev. Brian Maas

Singing for THEIR Supper

During the month of 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!

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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*
10:10 AM Adult Forum
12:00 PM KCCOC

September 8 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

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 Lite*
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
10:15 AM New Member Class
12:15 PM Book Group

*Full Breakfast will begin on September 28

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

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 with questions or a link to sign up. Thank you for your consideration.



SS Volunteers

code or the following link to sign up and join our mission.

<https://tinyurl.com/uausdddp>

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

Confirmation Classes Begin

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

(93rd & Dodge)

Grades 7 & 8

Wednesday, September 10

6 - 7:15 PM

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.

Kountze Food Pantry

Our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry is in need of your gifts and service. The current needs this week for the pantry are cereal, chili beans, and deodorant. 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 QR



Pantry

Swing for a Cause

LFS Golf Tournament

Thursday, September 11

Iron Horse Golf Club

900 Clubhouse Drive, Ashland, Nebraska

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

Join Lutheran Family Services (LFS) for a day of golf and



LFS Golf

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

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/>

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.

Handbell Choir

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!

A Spantember Men's Lunch

Thursday, September 18

11:30 AM

Recommended Donation: \$10.00

Move over beef—it's Spam's time to shine! Spantember 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.

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. Walkins are



Blood Drive

also welcome. Donor FAQ's and information will be provided in Fellowship Hall. If you would like additional information please call the Blood Bank at 402-486-9414.

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/>



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

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

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, August 28—Wednesday, September 3

Saturday: 33

Sunday: 9:00: 108 11:00: 51

Wednesday: 12:15: 13

Total: 205

Streaming: 93

Pantry Guests Served: 226 (inc. 56 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 14

Offering:

\$8,201.78 (Regular)

\$1,333.53 (Specials)

\$122.00 (Debt Reduction)

Following Jesus is important and demanding.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 14:25-33	The cost of being a disciple
Monday	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Choose life, not death
Tuesday	Philemon 1:1-21	Philemon's love and faith
Wednesday	Isaiah 57:14-21	A promise of health and healing
Thursday	John 15:12-17	Love one another
Friday	Philippians 2:12-18	Shining as lights in the world
Saturday	Psalms 1	The way to happiness
Sunday	Luke 15:1-10	The lost sheep and the lost coin

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

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live. Deuteronomy 30:19 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Creator God, your ways bring life, love, and hope; help us to follow your ways that our lives may flourish, and our acts of love serve others through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may your life-giving gift of food remind us of your love and faithfulness that makes all the difference for our daily lives. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

Grace and peace to you from God the Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Philemon 1:3)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What does it mean to you to "follow the crowd"?
- How does following God's ways help you? How does it challenge you?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 14:25-33 and Deuteronomy 30:15-20.

The way of discipleship is demanding. In Luke, Jesus makes drastic demands of those who want to follow him. Deuteronomy makes a similar demand. Either you follow the ways of God and live or you follow false gods and die. Dramatic and clear? Yes! Deuteronomy was written with the people of the Babylonian captivity in mind. The enslaved people in Babylon had not followed God by adhering to the commandments, decrees, and ordinances. The people were given a new chance to make the right choice. God's word is to be taken with all seriousness. This message is to be heard by us now as well. There are real consequences for not having the right priorities in life, including the importance of following Jesus completely. God's eternal grace does not diminish the importance of being a disciple of Jesus. Following Jesus, however imperfectly, does not wipe out the power of grace that gives us a new beginning each and every day.

Discuss: What do you think makes following Jesus difficult?

Pray: **Almighty God, your ways lead to life; give us courage to place our trust in Jesus that we may pick up our crosses and experience life with grace and mercy now and always. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who needs a second chance?

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 51:1-10
1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10