

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 27 & 28, 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 Pastor Lucy by following the link or QR Code. <https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min>



Today at Kountze Memorial

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Elaine Drickey given by Emily Drickey; in celebration of wedding anniversary given by Eric & Toby Rees

Children's Choir & Children's Sermon

9:15 AM

Grades K-6

Children in grades K-6 are invited to join the Children's Choir with Barb Carlsen following the 9 AM Children's Blessing. 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

9:30—11:00 AM

Join us each Sunday for breakfast. The suggested donation is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger for the hot breakfast and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast.

Sunday School

10:10 AM

Ages 2 years-6th Grade

Join us in the 2nd Floor Sunday School Rooms where the children will see how Jesus taught his followers to live in God's word and spread that message to others through art, games, storytelling, and missions. The kids can enjoy the same breakfast upstairs that is being served in the Fellowship Hall while listening to the lessons of the day. If you would like to support the Sunday School with donations of juice boxes or individual milk cartons, we would appreciate it and will be serving those with the breakfast.

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

Youth Forum

Sundays, 10:15 AM

Youth Center

Grades 7-12

You are invited to join us each week in the Youth Center during the Sunday Faith Formation hour.

Sept 28: Get to Know You

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. 28: Stewardship: Kick Off and "Imagine" Theme Introduction

Oct 5: Imagine: Congregational Activities

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!

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/>



Mission Field NE

This Week at Kountze Memorial

September 28 Sunday

Pentecost 16

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

2:00 PM Mission Field Nebraska

September 29 Monday

9:00 AM Community Health Fair

Methodist - Open to the Public

10:00 AM Pantry

4:00 PM Global Mission

7:00 PM Youth Committee

September 30 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

11:00 AM Bev Traub Funeral

October 1 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation @ St. Timothy

7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

October 2 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

October 3 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

October 4 Saturday

Homebound Communion

10:30 AM Blessing of Animals @ St.

Cecilia Cathedral

5:00 PM Worship

October 5 Sunday

Pentecost 17

Homebound Communion

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

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

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.

Confirmation Classes Continue

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

(93rd & Dodge)

Grades 7 & 8

Wednesdays

6 - 7:15 PM

Cards with Friends

Thursday, October 2

2 PM

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on the first Thursday of each month for a fun and relaxed time playing cards and enjoying great company. Feel free to bring a snack to share, but most importantly, just bring yourself! Everyone is welcome—come be part of the fun!

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 4

10 AM—Music & Socializing

10:30 AM—Blessing

St. Cecilia Cathedral

701 N 40th St

Cathedral will host an outdoor celebration of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Bring your pets (dogs on a leash please) to the Cathedral front steps and join in this delightful event for all creatures great and small. Come early and bring your pooch with you to the Pancake Breakfast!

St. Francis Peacemaker Service

Saturday, October 4

5 PM

Held at Kountze Memorial

Kountze Memorial and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral collaborate on a Peacemaker Service on the Feast of St. Francis. Join us as we pray for peace in our city, nation, and world. Lutheran Family Services' Chris Tonniges will preach. We will use the Eucharistic Prayer for Peace, written by Br. James Dowd and approved by Episcopal Bishop J. Scott Barker. The Cathedral and Kountze Choirs will sing together. A cookie reception will follow.

World Day Against the Death Penalty

Eucharist

Friday, October 10

7 – 8 PM

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

113 N 18th Street Omaha

Balancing the Scales invites us to attend World Day Against the Death Penalty Eucharist. World Day Against the Death Penalty is celebrated each year on October 10 to support the call for the end of capital punishment. Episcopal Bishop Barker will preside at the Eucharist and Rev. Stephen Griffith, former executive director of Nebraskans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty and UMC minister, will serve as preacher. Light reception to follow.

KMLC Book Group

Sunday, October 12

***The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamali**

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

This is a fascinating historical novel about the lives of two women who become "lion women" through a thirty-year friendship in a country during turmoil. Join us for a stimulating discussion.

Men's Lunch - Octoberfest!

Thursday, October 16

11:30 AM

Suggested Donation: \$10.00

Join us for another great time of food, fun, and friendship. Jim always keeps us guessing with his menus—whether it's

brats, sauerkraut, or something completely unexpected, it's sure to be delicious!

Please sign up by Tuesday, October 14 by calling the church office or emailing jim@kmlchurch.org. You can also sign up at the Welcome Desk. Bring a friend. Lederhosen not required.

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!

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 toothpaste, soup, & juice boxes. 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 code or the following link 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.



Pantry



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, Sept. 18—Wednesday, Sept. 24

Saturday: 17

Sunday: 9:00: 149 11:00: 49

Wednesday: 12:15: 11

Total: 226

Streaming: 50

Pantry Guests Served: 584 (inc. 205 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 21

Offering:

\$18,821.01 (Regular)

\$2,006.00 (Specials)

\$312.00 (Debt Reduction)

Caring for others is the way of Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 16:19-31	Poor Lazarus and the rich man
Monday	Amos 6:1a, 4-7	Judgment for a self-indulgent life
Tuesday	1 Timothy 6:6-19	The good fight of faith
Wednesday	Proverbs 22:2-16	The value of a good reputation
Thursday	Psalms 119:73-80	The glories of God's law
Friday	2 Corinthians 8:8-15	Generous giving
Saturday	Psalms 146	Praise for God's help
Sunday	Luke 17:5-10	Faith the size of a mustard seed



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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

The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

Psalms 146:9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, give us faith to see that the true riches in life are filled with compassion for others, especially those in need, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, you who feed the hungry and fill the needy with good things, we thank you for this gift of food through Jesus Christ who cares for all people. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with contentment.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What gets in the way of helping those in need?
- How have you or someone you know shown God's compassion by giving to someone in need?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 1 Timothy 6:6-19.

All the readings for this week reveal God's compassion for the needy. God's righteousness seeks life-giving relationships. Those who have wealth are to share with those who do not. Caring for a widow, an orphan, or a poor man at a rich man's door is the way of Jesus. God expects more than comfort and luxurious living from God's people. All we really need in life is *"godliness combined with contentment"* (v. 6). It's not that money is evil; it's the love of money. The desire for wealth can get in the way of healthy relationships that God wants for us. The real treasure is not hoarding wealth or basking in luxuries. Rather, the treasure and joy of life is where we put our energies and trust. It is experienced in *"righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness"* (v. 11b). That is the *"good fight of the faith"* (v. 12), freeing us from harmful desires and blessing us with eternal life that begins now by loving our neighbor with all our being.

Discuss: When have you experienced the love of money getting in the way of a relationship?

Pray: **Compassionate God, we thank you for the treasure of a life of faith that we may be generous with others and content with what we have for the sake of Christ Jesus. 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 become more involved in the needs of your community?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Giving is a response to God's generosity. Walk around your house and look in closets and drawers. Make a list of things you no longer use or need. Think or talk about who may appreciate and need them and consider taking them to organizations who can give them to those in need.

Pray: **Lord, fill me with faith and generosity. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalms 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10