

## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	Senior Pastor
Dn. Eric Haitz	Deacon
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 Slaughter	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)

October 11 & 12, 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 William and Patricia Grow given by Patricia Danigole

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God by Amanda Plantz in memory of David Penning

### 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 (Jacque Johnson is filling in this week for Barb while she is on vacation—thanks Jacque) 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-6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Join us in the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

## Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

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.

### Youth Forum

**Sundays, 10:15 AM**

### Youth Center

**Grades 7-12**

You are invited to grab breakfast and bring it to the Youth Center each week during the Sunday Faith Formation hour.

**Oct. 12:** Meet Deacon Eric; Current Events in our church

**Oct. 19:** Service Project—Pantry Halloween Bags

### 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.

**Oct. 12:** Magdalene Omaha (guest speaker); (Imagine: Community)

**Oct. 19:** Imagine: Community, cont.

### 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.

### First Communion

**Sunday, October 12**

**12:15 - 2 PM**

### Lunch will be provided

The recommended age for taking the First Communion class is around 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, or if your child has shown a curiosity about what it means to take Communion. First Communion will be held on October 26 at the 9 AM service. Students will then be recognized at the Adult Forum. For any questions, or to reserve your spot in the class, email [Kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:Kristin@kmlchurch.org).

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### October 12 Sunday

Pentecost 18

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

12:15 PM Book Group

12:15 PM First Communion Class

### October 13 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### October 14 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

2:30 PM Audrey Nelson Funeral

(Heafey-Hoffmann-Dworak-Cutler, West Center Chapel)

### October 15 Wednesday

Good News Deadline

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.

Timothy

### October 16 Thursday

Council Reports Due

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

### October 17 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### October 18 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### October 19 Sunday

Pentecost 19

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

12:00 PM Young Adult Gathering

No Parking in  
Methodist Lot  
this weekend  
(Handicapped  
Door)

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### 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](mailto:jim@kmlchurch.org). You can also sign up at the Welcome Desk. Bring a friend. Lederhosen not required.

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

### **Parking Notice**

#### **Next weekend**

**October 18 & 19**

The Methodist parking lot (by the handicapped entrance) will be closed for repairs. The lot will be barricaded during this time, so please use alternative parking. For everyone's safety, we kindly ask that you do not move the barricades or drive around them. Thank you for your understanding!

### **Young Adult Gathering**

**Sunday, October 19**

**12 PM**

#### **Lunch Provided**

We'd like to get something started for the young adults of Kountze Memorial and our wider community... but truthfully, we're not sure what! Are you college-aged or in your 20s to early 30s? Join us after the 11 AM service (on the 19<sup>th</sup>) for a lunch and conversation. We want to get to know each other and hear your thoughts, ideas, etc. for what we might do to help you Worship \$ #Grow \$ # Serve with us here at Kountze Memorial. Sign up at the Welcome Desk or by contacting the church office. (Please advise us of dietary restrictions.)

### **Bible Sunday**

**Sunday, October 26**

On Bible Sunday, we will be celebrating with children of various ages and grades - listed below - as they receive their own age-appropriate Bibles. Those receiving Bibles this year are:

- Children aged 2 and 4
- Children in 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> grades
- Youth beginning Confirmation (7<sup>th</sup> grade)

Please register your child so that we have an accurate count. Join us as we parade into the church with new Bibles and celebrate this exciting part of our Faith Formation.

### **Youth Fall Fellowship Event**

**Get to Know Deacon Eric!**

**Sunday, October 26**

**5 PM**

**Meet at Pr. Lucy's House**

**Grades 7-12**

Come hang out for some fall fun, s'mores, cider, and a chance to get to know our new Deacon. Sign up at the Welcome Desk or contact the church office.

### **Grief Seminar**

**Sunday, November 2**

**12:15 PM**

#### **Fellowship Lounge**

Grief is difficult and especially during the holidays. If you have lost a relative or close friend, this would be an opportunity to share that grief with others and share how we can move through that grief. A light lunch will be served. Please call the church office at 402-341-7761 or sign up at the Welcome Desk to make a reservation.

### **Confirmation Classes Continue**

**St. Timothy's Lutheran Church**

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

**Grades 7 & 8**

**Wednesdays, 6 - 7:15 PM**

### **Kountze Food Pantry**

Our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry is in need of your gifts and service. 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

### **Singing for THEIR Supper—Last Week (For Real)**

There are 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. We'll see what hymn won and which staff member chose that as their favorite. Let's stock the Pantry with Protein!

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Thursday, Oct. 2—Wednesday, Oct. 8**

**Saturday: 59**

**Sunday: 9:00: 138 11:00: 62**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 13**

**Total: 259**

**Streaming:**

**Pantry Guests Served: 539 (inc. 164 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 15**

**Offering:**

\$20,660.21 (Regular)

\$3,850.73

(Specials)

\$792.00 (Debt Reduction)

*Jesus shows a foreigner mercy.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 17:11-19	One leper gives thanks to God
Monday	2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c	Elisha heals Naaman
Tuesday	2 Timothy 2:8-15	A soldier of Christ Jesus
Wednesday	Jeremiah 30:12-17	Restoration promised to Israel
Thursday	2 Timothy 1:13-18	Encouragement to be faithful
Friday	Leviticus 19:33-34	Love the alien as yourself
Saturday	Psalms 111	Praise God for wonderful works
Sunday	Luke 18:1-8	Parable of the persistent widow



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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

*"Was none of them [the ten lepers] found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"* **Luke 17:18 (NRSV)**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, your compassion reaches out to those in need; give us thankful hearts for reaching out to us through Jesus Christ, the great healer of our lives. Amen.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we are thankful for this gift of food we receive today and for all that you do to care for us. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May God show you kindness and mercy.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Have you ever been left out of a group? Explain.
- Where have you witnessed God's love shown to a stranger?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Luke 17:11-19.

The Bible, especially the Old Testament, tells of an intimate connection between foreigners and God's people who had been slaves in Egypt and poorly treated. It is easy to have negative thoughts about people we do not know personally and sometimes tempting to go on the attack against them. This is especially true of people we may call strangers or foreigners. Jesus confronts our negative bias about others when he lifts up the Samaritan as a *"foreigner"* (Luke 17:18), someone God protects yet others often attack. For Jesus' own people, lepers were unapproachable, and Samaritans were belittled, yet Jesus approaches lepers and praises a Samaritan. For those moments when we, ourselves, may feel unapproachable or belittled, this is good news. For the unapproachable and belittled around us, Jesus' message is a calling to have a thankful heart filled with mercy.

*Discuss:* How does Jesus' mercy for foreigners encourage you to reflect on the needs of foreigners in your community?

*Pray:* **Loving God, you know our temptation to criticize people; help us to see others with your mercy that we may have thankful hearts 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, how can you support an organization that helps refugees?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalms 111 gives praise for God's wonderful deeds. God is holy and awesome (v. 9). Take a walk around your neighborhood and note the things you see that you consider to be awesome. For example, trees, buildings, the sky, and clouds. Then sit down in your home and write a list of what you saw. Take time to say a prayer of praise to God using words from Psalms 111 to be thankful for *"his wonderful deeds"* (v. 4), *"the power of his works"* (v. 6), and *"the work of his hands"* (v. 7).

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Genesis 32:22-31; Psalms 121  
2 Timothy 3:14—4:5; Luke 18:1-8