

### KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	Senior Pastor
Dn. Eric Haitz	Deacon
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Kristin Boe	Director of Faith Formation
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Toby Rees	Director of Kountze Commons
Sheila Valquier	Youth Director
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Danielle Fleming	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Louis Flake	Night Manager
Kayla Slaight	Janitorial Staff
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director



# KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

**2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761**

**Omaha, NE 68131  
www.kmlchurch.org**

**November 1 & 2, 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.*

### **Today at Kountze Memorial**

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God given by Debbie Bogue in memory of John Bogue

### **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-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 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.

### **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, *continued*

### 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. Today all youth are invited to stay in the Fellowship Hall as we celebrate All Saints & Deacon Eric's installation.

### 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.

**Nov. 2:** Installation Reception/All Saints

**Nov 9:** Imagine: World

### Grief/Anxiety Seminar

**Surviving... Handling...**

**THRIVING through the Holidays!**

**Sunday, November 2—TODAY**

**12:15 PM (A light lunch will be served)**

- Do you feel anxious, sad, or worried when you think about the upcoming holiday season?

- Maybe you've lost someone important in your life and the grief still weighs on you.
- Or you might feel like your role is to keep the peace and make sure others have a magical holiday—while for you, it's stressful and difficult.
- The idea of gathering with family and navigating all the dynamics, especially in today's world, can be overwhelming.

Pease join us for a light lunch and workshop with Rev. Cindi Steward, Lead Pastor of Faith Westwood United Methodist Church, and Vikki O'Hara, Director of Caring Ministries. They will lead a highly practical session on how to not just survive, but thrive this holiday season. Go into the holidays equipped and encouraged so that you can receive the joy, peace, and beauty of the season—even alongside grief and stress. God can meet you in the midst of it all and give you a holy season too!

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### November 2 Sunday

All Saints Sunday  
Deacon Haitz Installation  
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  
12:15 PM Grief/Anxiety Seminar

### November 3 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### November 4 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### November 5 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 PM Confirmation @ St. Timothy  
6:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

### November 6 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
7:00 PM Youth Committee

### November 7 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### November 8 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### November 9 Sunday

Pentecost 22  
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  
3:00 PM Lincoln Lutheran Choir

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Cards with Friends

**Thursday, November 6**

**2 - 4 PM**

Meet in the Fellowship Hall for a time together playing cards. Bring a snack to share. All are welcome.

### KMLC Book Group

**Fellowship Lounge**

**Sunday, November 9**

**12:15 PM**

This month we read *Small Things Like These*

by Claire Keegan. New members welcome. Join us!

### Lincoln Lutheran Choir

**Held at Kountze Memorial**

**Sunday, November 9**

**3 PM**

The Lincoln Lutheran Choir, under the direction of Artistic Director Jon Marquez and Accompanist Kayla Wombacher, will perform in concert at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church at 3:00 PM on November 9. The 35-voice choir has a 40+ year history of singing sacred music in

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

Lincoln and throughout Eastern Nebraska. The Choir will sing a wide variety of Christian music, including works in Latin and Russian, as well as a capella anthems and traditional spirituals. There is no admission charge, but a free-will offering will be gathered. The public is enthusiastically invited!

### Parent's Night Out

**Friday, November 14**

**6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at KMLC**

**Ages 2 - 12**

- The Youth of Kountze are providing dinner, crafts, and fun for your kids. Enjoy a quiet dinner or knock out some errands while we play games.
- Please RSVP to the church office or sign up at the Welcome Desk. A monetary donation is suggested with all proceeds going to benefit the Youth Trip to Pittsburgh this coming summer.

### Men's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cookoff Lunch

**Thursday, November 20**

**11:30 AM**

Guys, do you have a winning chili recipe—or just love a good bowl of chili and great fellowship? Join us for our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Chili Cookoff! Sign up at the Welcome Desk, call the church office, or email [jim@kmlchurch.org](mailto:jim@kmlchurch.org) by Tuesday, November 18 and let us know if you're coming and if you'll be entering a pot of chili or attending as a taster.

#### Cost:

- Chili entrants: Free
- Tasters: Suggested donation is a new stuffed animal or toy to be given as Christmas gifts to children served by the Kountze Food Pantry.

Cornbread and dessert will be provided. Come sample the entries, vote for your favorites, and enjoy a fun afternoon of food, fellowship, and friendly competition! Prizes will be awarded to the top three chilis.

### Friendsgiving

**KMLC Young Adults**

**Thursday, November 20**

**6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall**

You are invited to join us for our next 20's & 30's gathering! We'll share a potluck meal, play some favorite board games, and spend time connecting and celebrating our growing community. Bring a dish to share and come ready for fun and fellowship!

### Advent Alternative Gift Market

**Sundays, November 23 - December 14**

**9:30 - 11:30 AM**

**Saturday December 13 (after the Candle Light Carol Service)**

Plan to shop now! Shop next door to the Kountze Café area beginning November 23. Shop ELCA Good Gifts for different monetary gifts that fight hunger and transform lives. Shop physical handmade gifts from Global Mamas that support women and their families in Ghana. Donate to the Kountze Memorial Healing Gift Free Clinic and/or our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry to help local families in honor of your family and friends.

### Confirmation Classes Continue

**St. Timothy's Lutheran Church**

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

**Grades 7 & 8**

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

During Advent—beginning Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>—Confirmation students should come to the Advent Midweek services and meals at Kountze Memorial. There will be no Confirmation Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>.

### 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 soup, chili, cereal. 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.

**Special Note:** The Food Pantry is collecting gently used egg cartons and grocery bags. Thanks.



Pantry

### Attendance & Giving

**Thursday, Oct. 23—Wednesday, Oct. 29**

**Saturday:** 32

**Sunday: 9:00:** 162 **11:00:** 77

**Wednesday: 12:15:** 6

**Total:** 277

**Streaming:** 43

**Pantry Guests Served:** 668 (inc. 283 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 13

**Offering:**

\$12,906.03 (Regular) \$5,063.54 (Specials)

\$397.15 (Debt Reduction)

*Our faith gives us hope.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 6:20-31	Blessed are you who weep
Monday	Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18	Daniel's vision
Tuesday	Ephesians 1:11-23	Paul's prayer
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	Greetings to the saints at Corinth
Thursday	Psalms 130	Trusting the Lord
Friday	2 Corinthians 8:1-15	Encouragement to be generous
Saturday	Psalms 149	A new song of praise
Sunday	Luke 20:27-38	Jesus speaks of the resurrection



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as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh."* **Luke 6:21 (NRSV)**

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, help us to recall with hope and love those who have died and for whom we grieve, that we may sing your praises through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Mealttime Prayer:

Dear God, for the family and friends that have shared your love with us over the years and for this gift of food, we give you thanks through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with joy.

## CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What brings you comfort when you are sad or grieving?
- How does faith in God comfort those who are sad or grieving?

## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Luke 6:20-31.

In this reading, Jesus says, *"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh."* (v.21) Jesus' promise that laughter will come to those who weep and grieve puts our lives into perspective. It can be hard to laugh when a loved one has died. And yet, even at funerals, we can share laughter while at the same time expressing deep grief. Telling personal stories of triumphs and human shortcomings and everything in between can remind us of our common humanity, our mortality, and our need for faith and hope. All Saints Sunday reminds us of our faith that gives us hope that our joy will be restored. It frees us to see opportunities in our lives not only to laugh but to love, to do good to others, even our enemies (v. 27). The final verse for the reading is the golden rule: *"Do to others as you would have them do to you"* (v. 31). Remembering loved ones in faith reminds us that our lives are meant for joy and laughter and love that will not end.

*Discuss:* What memory of a loved one who has died brings you laughter and joy?

*Pray:* **Almighty God, you know our sense of loss and grief is real; let us hear again and again your promise of life everlasting that we may have laughter and joy through 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 care for someone who is sad or grieving?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday, a day in the church year for remembering Christians who have entered God's heavenly kingdom. In observance of All Saints, research online or think about those you remember as famous Christians from the past. For example: Francis of Assisi, John Calvin, Martin Luther, and Mother Teresa. Say a prayer of thanks for their faith and service: **Holy God, we give you thanks for those who are called by the will of Christ to live for the praise of your glory.**

**Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Job 19:23-27a; Psalm 17:1-9  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38