

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# GOOD NEWS

Volume 46, Issue 1

January, 2026

## FROM THE PASTOR

### Christmas Continues...

#### The Work of Christmas

by Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,

To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart.

Perhaps it's a peculiar reality of my job – but I suspect some of you might relate: About December 26<sup>th</sup> I am really \*ready\* to start enjoying the Christmas season! Of course, Christmas as a liturgical calendar season only begins on December 24<sup>th</sup> & runs a full 12 days until Epiphany, January 6<sup>th</sup>... but as you and I well know, by January 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the latest, most of the world has decidedly moved on. For society, it's no longer Christmas once January hits. I feel on the one hand I get to truly live into Advent and Christmas

more than the average person, but on the other, that in the very busyness of all the planning, I get almost robbed of the season. Which is why I am so grateful for those 12 days of Christmas. But I have increasingly learned to embrace an even wider, and longer, view of Christmas, taking my cue from neighboring cultures and other corners of our global communion of saints.

For our Mexican siblings, I have learned, Christmas really begins on December 12th with the Feast of the Virgin of

Guadalupe, and stretches until February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Candlemas. Candlemas is an ancient Christian celebration marking 40 days after Jesus birth and his presentation in the temple, according to Jewish tradition. Luke 2, beginning in verse 22, tells that story – Mary and Joseph bringing the baby Jesus to be consecrated, and the devout elder, Simeon, and prophet, Anna, praising God for the salvation he brings.

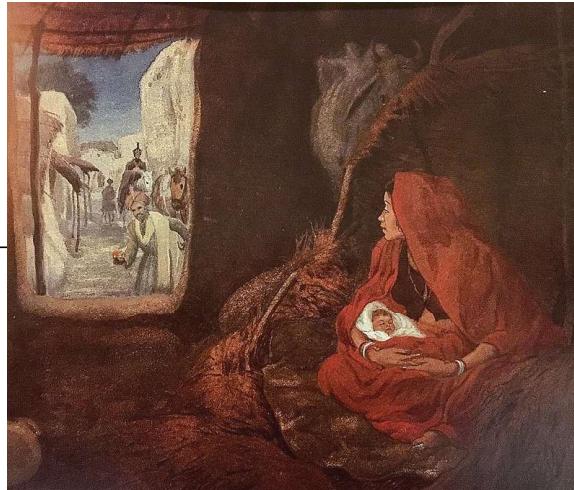
What I love is the reminder that the story we condense into short days, sometimes short minutes of reading and retelling, unfolded

in real time much like our lives – in significant moments and milestones sandwiched between long days and weeks of regular, busy, everyday holiness. The wise men journeying for weeks, following the star and wondering where it would lead. Mary counting the months as her belly grew. Even the shepherds – how long did it take them to get from that hillside to the manger? What did they talk about on the way? And so I leave my tree up all the way through January and remind myself that these days are filled with the sacred gladness and invitation of

Christmas too. These cold, mundane days are anointed with the promise that God has come, and they invite me to what Howard Thurman describes in his famous poem as “the work of Christmas”. The beauty and magic of the season isn’t over – it’s simply hidden amongst the tasks and people of each day, ready to be discovered and embraced.

God’s incarnation among us continues – Merry Christmas!

Pastor Lucy



Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. *Arrival of the Kings*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://digilib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59233> [retrieved December 17, 2025].

# ***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](http://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.



## **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](http://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.

## **New Altar Flowers, Eternal Candle, TV Broadcast Charts**

The 2026 charts are up in the Narthex on the bulletin board. Be sure to sign up for your date(s) before they're gone.

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.

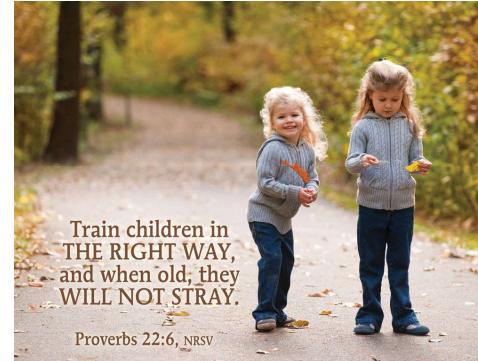
Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and the cost is \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$220 per week.

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**

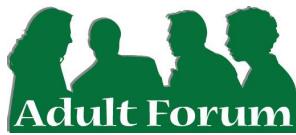
We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available. We also have a room, just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a TV and a variety of toys, games, and books for young children.



### **In this issue...**

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- Digital Safety Workshop
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- Sunday School
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- Water Damage Report

# *GROW with us...*



**10:10 - 10:50 AM**  
Join us Sunday Mornings in the Fellowship Hall.



## New Member Classes

January 11 & 18  
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, January 25.

If you have questions or would like to sign up, contact the church office at 402-341-7761 or [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto: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.

## Missionary News

**Pr Bridget Gautieri**  
ELCA Wittenberg Center  
Wittenberg, Germany



Read Bridget's October newsletter  
at:

<https://tinyurl.com/4yajay8b>

**Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson**  
ELCA Global Personnel  
Arusha, Tanzania



You can find The Swanson's  
November newsletter at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/3zck6fa9>

Christmas Message:  
<https://tinyurl.com/ycx9z64n>

**Kaitlynne Larson**  
Bogotá, Colombia



Katie Larson, one of Kountze Memorial's Seminarians, has been approved for ordination. Stay tuned for updates.

## Evensong: A Grand Choir Experience!

Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry

ILLuMin the Night

Sunday, January 25

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church

1031 Sunset Trail

**4:30 PM: Chili cook-Off & Silent Auction**

**6:00 PM: Holden Evening Prayer w/Grand Choir**



Our choir (and any add'l singers!) to join in the "Grand Choir" as part of our Evensong worship for Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry. The anthem is "O Nata Lux." The service will be a heart filled and powerful worship, filled with prayer, hope and healing for Pastor Heather Goertz, and support those she has helped to shine light on through her ministry on the UNO campus. Anyone not in the choir is invited to attend the chili feed and worship (Chili sharing and judging starts at 4:30 PM).

Use this link <https://tinyurl.com/5cc88mmr> to RSVP to attend the event. Donations to campus ministry can be made by clicking the donate link at [www.nelcm.com](http://www.nelcm.com).

# *SERVE with us...*

## Kountze Food Pantry



Food insecurity continues to increase in our community. The number of guests that walk through our pantry doors each week is on the rise. Please consider supporting the pantry with your time or financial gifts. The sign up for volunteers for 2026 is open and we hope to see you join us! Sign up at [\(link\)](#) or contact Toby Rees at 402-979-1425.

Food and hygiene items are also helpful. The pantry is always in need of peanut butter, soups, cereal, chili and pasta sauce (no glass jars please). Hygiene items such as toothpaste, soap, deodorant, shampoo and razors are in high demand.

Thank you for your continued support of our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry!

If you have questions please feel free to reach out to Toby Rees at 402-979-1425, [toby@kmlchurch.org](mailto:toby@kmlchurch.org), or any of the Pantry Board Members. Thank you for considering this important mission of our congregation.

<https://tinyurl.com/uausddd>

## Food Pantry Report

1/1/2025 - 11/30/2025

### Income:

Grants	\$	-0-
Donations	\$	87,825.19
Memorials	\$	25.00
	\$	<b>\$87,850.19</b>

### Expenses:

Grant Expense	\$	-0-
Regular Expenses		
Capital San. Supp.	\$	923.80
Family Fare	\$	717.25
MUD	\$	\$445.09
Other	\$	<b>19,543.01</b>
	\$	21,629.15
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>66,221.04</b>

## Help Us Collate the February Good News

Tuesday, January 27

9 AM



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 Monday, January 26. That way we can let you know if anything changes and know how many we'll have for lunch.

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

## Calling all Artists and Makers!

Friday, February 6

*"He has filled them with skill to do all kinds of work as engravers, designers, embroiderers in blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen, and weavers—as artistic designers of every kind of craft". Exodus 35:35*



Art Show

Join us for an Art Show featuring members of our congregation. Enjoy charcuterie while viewing the talent on display.

There will be a silent auction for all pieces of art, with the proceeds benefitting the Youth Group Mission Trip.

If you are interested in donating your handiwork, please contact Kristin Boe at [Kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:Kristin@kmlchurch.org).

## Tuba Christmas

A tuba Christmas concert was held at Kountze Memorial on Sunday, December 14. There were over 60 tuba players that played Christmas carols for an hour.



Participants weren't a part of any particular group. They were asked to dress festively and to decorate their instrument. A sharp eye might spy our own Nebraska Synod Bishop Scott Johnson playing in the far left/back corner! Maybe you'll want to participate next year...

# NEWS & Notes...



November 18, 2025

Call to Order: 6:04 PM

A motion to accept the agenda as written was made and carried.

## Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes were accepted with the following corrections:

- Tim Backora was not listed as present.
- Kate McCoy was not listed as present.
- Expenses should have been listed as \$80,000, not \$85,000.

## Financial Report

- Total income for the month: \$70,000 (compared to \$78,000 last year).
- Last year's high interest income skews the comparison slightly; overall giving trends are consistent.
- Expenses: \$98,000 (compared to \$78,000 last year)
- Maintenance costs increased.
- Compensation increased due to additional staff.
- Net income for the month: -\$28,000.
- Funds at Cambridge: \$1.4 million with solid returns.

Overall, finances are stable, though with some strain. Leadership anticipates remaining in a generally sound financial position.

## Old Business

### Council Retreat

- Council members are asked to reflect on and list current challenges facing Kountze (large or small).
- Breakfast and lunch are provided.

## Street Car Construction Update for January 2026

Work continues on the street car along Farnam Street. The current schedule calls for:

- the closing of the Farnam Street bridge over I-480 on Monday, January 5.
- I-480 will be closed traffic for bridge demolition on Friday, January 9 at 9 PM. The closure will last until Monday January 12 at 6:00 AM, weather permitting. North bound Traffic will have to exit at the Harney/Dodge exit, South bound traffic will have to exit at 30<sup>th</sup> Street.

Please watch for detours and allow a little extra time to get to church on Sunday January 11. In the coming months, as construction ramps up, we will do our best to keep you informed.



## Epiphany New Year Home Blessing

In German and Scandinavian countries, it is an old Christian custom to bless homes on January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany (or Three Kings Day). The family gathers at the front door, where the year and C + M + B is written over the door or on the door. The letters are initials of the Latin phrase, "May Christ bless this house" (Christus Mansionem Benedicat). However, because the blessing occurs on Epiphany (the last day of Christmas marking the visit of the Magi to Jesus), children are given a small gift (usually candy) and told that the three wise men (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar) visited in the night, signed their initials, and left a present. You can celebrate this blessing yourselves on this festival day to mark the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of a new calendar year, whether you live alone or with a large family.

You can make this blessing as simple or as intricate as you like; including the liturgical greeting (e.g. "The Lord be with you..."), a song or carol, Prayer of the Day for Epiphany, sprinkling the door or each room with water, readings (e.g. Matthew 2:1-12 or the start of

John's Gospel, 1:1-14), Lord's Prayer, and/or incense (frankincense, of course!). The core of the house blessing simply involves taking chalk (of any color) and gathering at the main door. You may write on the door or above the door: 20 + C + M + B + 25. As you do so, you or another may say: "The three Wise Men—Caspar, Melchior, Balthazar—followed the star to God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty-five years ago. Thanks be to God! May Christ bless this home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen." Indeed, may the light of Christ enrich our homes and all the people who dwell within, giving us and the guests who come the light, warmth, and peace of the Holy Trinity, whose love is everlasting!



## Advent Alternative Gift Market

### Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church has your Goat!

Yes, Kountze has your goats, pigs, chicks, cows! The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America now has \$2,982 donated by you to provide animals, water filters, latrines, Bibles and more to people who need them abroad. And our own "Love Your Neighbor" Food Pantry has \$960 more to help feed our neighbors. The Del and Lou Ann Webber Healing Gift Free Medical Clinic has received \$1,700 more funds to give medical care. Our refugee family, the Bowari's, now has \$360 to help with their expenses.

Our Sunday School children collected The Noisy Offering that amounted to \$939.89! Thank you Kristin Boe for organizing the competition between the elementary kids, the teens and the adults. Congratulations kids you won! Their total will be added to the ELCA Good Gifts offerings. And if you did not get your goat or chick purchased yet, you can always do that online at [ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://ELCA.org/goodgifts).

The Global Mamas of Ghana merchandise sold well again this their second year. The beautiful and useful bowl cozies sold out before the last day! Their total sales amounted to \$2,648. If you did not have a chance to shop their store, you can always order their products online anytime at [globalmamas.org](http://globalmamas.org).

So thank you saints of KMLC for your generous contributions!

The Women of the ELCA sponsored the Global Mamas alternative gift market. We thank them, especially the WELCA board. Special thanks to Julie Odoherty, Marsha Vance and Vicki Freeman. Our congregation's World Mission committee sponsors the ELCA Good Gifts. Thanks also to Pam Johnson, Kris Kendal, Karen Jacobsen. Special thanks to Scott & Ruth Henneman, Pastor Dean Bard, and Dulcinea Bosenberg.

Submitted by Donna Moessner,  
Member of both the Global Mission Committee and the WELCA Board,  
and chairperson of the Advent Alternative Gifts Market



## Pastoral Acts

Nov. 16, 2025 - Dec. 15, 2025

### Funerals:

Debby Woosley, November 25

## Inclement Weather Policy

Just a Reminder This Winter



If Omaha Public Schools are closed or remote learning because of inclement weather, the church office will be closed and church activities will be cancelled unless otherwise announced.

## Un-Decorating Party!

Saturday, January 11

9:30 AM

Your help in taking down Christmas decorations would be appreciated!



## 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](mailto: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!

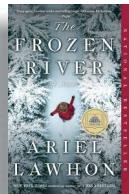
If you are at the 11:00 AM service and know of someone who would like to be remembered in this way, please take one of the bouquets to them. If you attended another service but would like to deliver flowers, please call the church office on Monday to see if they are still available.

Your help is appreciated!

## Cards with Friends



As the weather continues to be cold, our Cards with Friends group will take a cozy winter break. We'll look forward to gathering again in the spring for laughter, conversation, and a friendly game of cards. Until then, stay warm and stay in touch!



## KMLC Book Group

Sunday, January 11

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

**The Frozen River** by Ariel Lawhon

An outstanding, well written historical fiction novel set in Hallowell, Maine, following the American Revolution. The story begins with a body found in the frozen ice of the Kennebec River. The main character, Martha Ballard, a midwife and healer is summoned to examine the body. Murder of the man is suspected and the story revolves around the mystery. Martha keeps a diary of all the births, deaths, crimes, and events that occur in the community and becomes involved in proving the truth to find justice. The novel is a page turner about a real woman who portrays the struggle of women in early American history.

Please join us for the discussion.

## Men's Lunch

Thursday, January 16

11:30 AM

**Suggested Donation: \$10.00**

Please RSVP by Tuesday, January 14. Call the church office, sign up at the Welcome Desk, or email Jim at [jim@kmlchurch.org](mailto:jim@kmlchurch.org) to let us know you're coming. Watch the bulletin for more details.



## Behind the Scenes on Sunday Mornings



Church Media is looking for volunteers to help with sound, video, and computer graphics. No experience is needed—we provide hands-on training. If you're curious, stop by on Sunday morning at 9:00 AM and see how it all works. Try it and you might discover a role that's a perfect fit for you. Call the church office or talk to Ron Brown if you think you might be interested.



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY...



**Sunay School**  
10:10 AM  
Ages 2 years-6th Grade  
Sunday school will restart on January 11. The Sunday School hours begins with breakfast served in the upstairs Choir Room. The students take their meal to their assigned classroom to enjoy. Our curriculum continues to follow the lectionary, providing easy talking points for families later in the week.

## Sunday School Volunteer Opportunities



We need your help supporting the youngest members of Kountze! Sign up to lead a class or assist the teachers. All lessons are scripted and supplies provided. Reach out to Kristin at Kristin@kmlchurch.org with any questions you may have about volunteering.

Easy sign up online!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4EA8A629A0F49-61294564-sunday#/>

## Children's Choir

**Resumes January 11**  
**9:15 AM (following 9:00 AM Children's Blessing)**  
**2nd Floor Sunday School Music Room**  
**Grades K-6**

Beginning January 11, join Barb Carlsen and friends for a joyful time of singing and sharing God's love through music! Children in grades K-6 are encouraged to come make music together each week as they learn songs of faith and praise.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Barb in the church office at 402-341-7761.

## Confirmation Class

**Confirmation Classes**  
**St. Timothy's Lutheran (93<sup>rd</sup> & Dodge)**  
**Resumes on January 7**  
**Wednesdays, 6-7:15 PM**

We'll meet each Wednesday until Lent begins, with the exception of January 21 when we will take a "field trip" to St. Michael Lutheran Church (13232 Blondo) for a Digital Safety for Middle Schoolers workshop from 6-7 PM. Please meet at St. Michael on January 20.



Confirmation families - be sure to check your email for a more detailed schedule, updates on a Middle School Lock-In at Camp Carol Joy Holling, sign-ups for snacks, adult helpers, and more!

## More Confirmation News

**Digital Safety for Middle Schoolers**

**Wednesday, January 21**

**St. Michael Lutheran Church (13232 Blondo)**

Our Confirmation students will meet for a special workshop on Digital Safety for Middle Schoolers presented by the Smart Gen Society of Lutheran Family Services.

## Parent Digital Safety Workshop

**Sunday, January 25**

**6-7 PM**

St. Michael Lutheran Church is also hosting a Digital Safety workshop for parents. This is for parents of youth of any age, and there will be childcare provided. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend! (As a side note, the Kountze Endowment Board gave a significant grant in late 2025 to support the Smart Gen Society.)

**Sundays, 10:15 AM**  
**Youth Center**  
**Grades 7-12**

Beginning January 11, youth in grades 7-12 are invited to grab breakfast and a friend and go to the Youth Center each week during the Sunday Faith Formation hour.

## Candlelight Carol Service

Thank you to the Kountze Staff, Adult & Children's Choirs, Handbell Choir, Instrumentalists, Dancer, and Volunteers for sharing your gifts with Kountze and the community at our Annual Candlelight Carol Service! It was a beautiful evening of scripture,



poetry, music, and dance which helped to usher in the Christmas season. Thank you!!

## KMLC Week at Camp Carol Joy Holling

June 7-12/week 2

**\$50 Early Bird Savings Until January 31**

Join friends and other familiar faces for fun, faith, and fellowship with other Lutherans from around the state.



Kountze Memorial will cover the cost for any Kountze Memorial child/youth if you register by the January 31 Early Bird Registration date. If you register after this date, you will need to pay the additional cost. Kountze Camp Week is June 7 - 12, but you can attend camp whenever it is convenient for you. Check out the schedule for the different camp opportunities for grades K-12 as well as day camps and leadership training for high school-age youth and Special Needs camps. In order for the church to pay the fee, choose:

- to mail your payment,
- select "Pay items in Full"
- then "Pay by Check/Money Order"
- email a copy of the receipt to [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org) and we will submit payment on behalf of your youth.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the church office. To register, use the link below and follow the directions above:

<https://www.nlom.org/carlojoyholling/register/>

## Water Damage

At approximately 2:30 AM on December 14, our fire system alerted that we had a problem - the "dry" side of the system lost air pressure, triggering the water valve to release and quickly causing a flood in the church basement. It turns out two pinholes caused by rust - due, we suspect, to the pipe settling and sloping just slightly in the wrong direction - had finally gotten to the point of not holding enough pressure. Thanks to a combination of luck, quick and smart response by our staff and volunteers, and God's abundant grace, the problem was significantly mitigated. A small team of our folk removed roughly 60 gallons of water before the professionals even got here. ServePro removed another 30+ gallons and set up fans and dehumidifiers for several days. In the end the water damage was limited, the pipe has been fixed (and slopes in the right direction now!), and we will make sure the whole fire suppression system is inspected in spoken with our insurance agent and they were quite impressed situation was handled. We won't be making a claim since it's meet our deductible. HUGE thanks to all who helped so quickly - including those who pitched in Sunday morning to haul things out of the affected rooms and our Council leaders who authorized quick action. A special shout-out to the team who showed up in the wee morning hours - Louis Flake, Jim Smejkal, Jason Klonglan, Tim Backora, Dan Troxel, and Mike Jensen. We are so very grateful for you!

## Summer Youth Mission Trip

July 6-12, 2026

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Early Bird Registration: \$750 until Dec. 31, 2025**

**Regular Registration: \$800 Jan. 1–April 1, 2026**

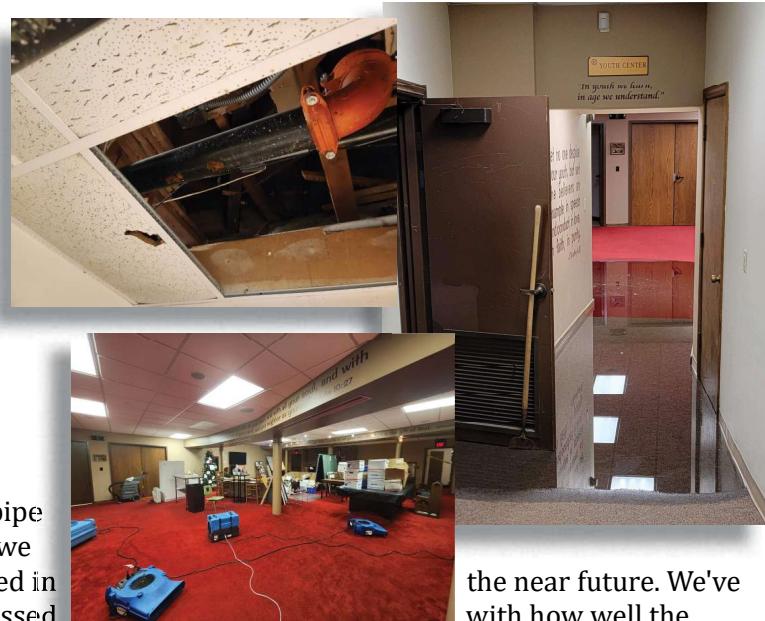
**\$50 Deposit required for registration**

**Cost includes transportation, meals, and lodging.**



The Nebraska Synod Journey is a week-long experience for youth in grades 8 through 12 (completed 2025-2026 school year) and their adult leaders. In 2026, we will gather in Pittsburgh for service, learning, worship, fellowship, and opportunities to grow in faith while learning from our neighbors in Pennsylvania. We will work as a team to raise funds to offset the cost. Presence and participation at fundraising events required.

Spots are limited - register now by contacting Shelia Valquier ([sheila@](mailto:sheila@)



the near future. We've with how well the doubtful it would even

# CALENDAR

JANUARY

**January 1 Thursday**

New Year's Day  
OFFICE CLOSED



**January 2 Friday**

5:00 PM Pantry

**January 3 Saturday**

Homebound Communion  
10:00 AM Paul Carlson Funeral  
5:00 PM Worship

**January 4 Sunday**

Christmas 2  
Epiphany  
Homebound Communion  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

**January 5 Monday**

10:00 AM Pantry

**January 6 Tuesday**

Epiphany of Our Lord  
9:00 AM Staff Meeting

**January 7 Wednesday**

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

**January 8 Thursday**

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

**January 9 Friday**

5:00 PM Pantry

**January 10 Saturday**

5:00 PM Worship

**January 11 Sunday**

Baptism of Our Lord  
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)

**January 11 Sunday (continued)**

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast  
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour  
10:15 AM New Member Class  
12:15 PM Book Group

**January 12 Monday**

10:00 AM Pantry

**January 13 Tuesday**

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

**January 14 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

**January 15 Thursday**

Council Reports Due  
Good News Deadline  
11:30 AM Men's Lunch  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
6:00 PM Circle 5

**January 16 Friday**

5:00 PM Pantry

**January 17 Saturday**

5:00 PM Worship

**January 18 Sunday**

Epiphany 2  
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

**January 19 Monday**

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
OFFICE CLOSED  
10:00 AM Pantry Open

**January 20 Tuesday**

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

**January 21 Wednesday**

12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 PM Confirmation - Digital  
Safety for Middle Schoolers @ St.  
Michael Church (13232 Blondo)

**January 22 Thursday**

12:00 PM Circle 4 (note time change)  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

**January 23 Friday**

5:00 PM Pantry

**January 24 Saturday**

5:00 PM Worship

**January 25 Sunday**

Epiphany 3  
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

4:30 PM Evensong Chili Feed &  
Judging (see page 7)

6:00 PM Evensong Worship w/  
Grand Choir

6:00 PM Parent Digital Safety  
Workshop (St. Michael Church -  
13232 Blondo)

**January 26 Monday**

10:00 AM Pantry  
11:30 AM Endowment Board

**January 27 Tuesday**

9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
9:00 AM Good News Assembly  
12:30 PM Circle 3  
12:00 PM KCCOC Board

**January 28 Wednesday**

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

**January 29 Thursday**

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

**January 30 Friday**

5:00 PM Pantry

**January 31 Saturday**

5:00 PM Worship



## Birthday Blessings

1. Ruth Henneman, Micheala Long, Par Ruach
2. Kailee Harbin, Jenni Hellwig, Richard Stawniak
3. Nakoma Baker, Barb Donelson, Morgan Gardner, Tyler Hiatt, Barbara Rassfeld, Marlys Thomas
4. David Eckstrom, Ilse Grage, Bo Hiatt, William Putnam, Kraig Schjodt, Donald Strazdas, Laura Strazdas, Shawn Wheeler
5. Andrea Brown, Jeannie Sommer, Jessica Starkel
6. Alicia Coles, Lowell Holland, Dena Jacobsen, Breanne John, Judy Westerman
7. Edward Camenzind, Alex Chand, Michael Sommer
8. Chris Kendall
9. Kay Andersen, Karen Bonneau, Julie Knapp, Matt Munderloh, Pamela Peterson, Jean Raber, Jon Taylor
10. Claire Henneman, Tate Horacek, Taylor Horacek, Scott Jones, Judith Poffenbarger, Michelle Wulf
11. Boyd Ervin, Brendan Gugliotti, Makayla Gugliotti, Jacob Headley, Michael Pfeilsticker, Walker Porter
12. Bruce Anderson, Linda Beckman, Deanna Edwards, Dante Jones, Alexandria Olson, Aaron Studts
13. Lola Baum, Tana Clanton, Wayne Hahn, Donald Hirsh, Tina Larsen, Justin Perkins, Chet Worm
14. John Albers, Ryan Albright, Joslyn Barnes, Ken Freudenburg, Dick Mayberry
15. Marsha Vance, Dorothy Yeshnowski
16. Paul Moessner, Mary Syre
17. William Christensen, Wilson Munstermann, Robert Penn
18. Jonna Holland, Thure Johnson, Jim Smejkal
19. Donald Darst, Christine Forslund, Paula Henneman, Mackenzie Jones, Aundrea Renken, Randall Woster
20. Lori Cameron, Tiffany Horan, Faith Klein, Terri Nesselrotte
21. Lois Ernce, PJ Lux, Marvin Olson, Michael Pribyl, Tricia Ryder, Virginia Sarich
22. Chad Brown, Debra Davidson, Peggy Duncan, Sarah Jerome, Sarah Maaske
23. Steve Hinrichs, Katherine Moldenhauer, Melanie Szymczak, Christian Wulf
24. Caleb Bjerke, Mark Mahaffey
25. Sunshine Fonda, Rachel Landsness, Kenyon Martis, Alex Worley
26. Sharon West
27. Karl Kjeldgaard, Michelle Shields
28. Courtney Bailes, Dottie Brown, Debi Clatterbuck, Miranda Johnson, Shane Kuennen
29. Siany Edwards, Carly Horacek, Tanner Horacek, Samantha Schueler
30. John Rayno
31. Mark Coles, Valery Copeland, Rob Hopkins, Aidan Muller, Alexander Urban

## Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 11/1/2025 .....	\$ 690,771.06
Principal Payment, 12/1/2025.....	\$ 3,431.61
Interest Payment, 12/1/2025.....	\$ 2,273.39
Balance, 12/1/2025 .....	\$ 687,339.45

## Finances: November, 2025

	November	Year-to-Date
<b>Total General Fund</b>		
<b>Income:</b>	<b>\$ 85,505.50</b>	<b>\$ 899,330.45</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Mission Support:	\$ 5,833.33	\$ 64,166.59
Faith Formation:	\$ 1,281.22	\$ 17,989.24
Facility Costs:	\$ 15,535.35	\$ 181,698.47
Staff Comp. & Benefits:	\$ 69,817.85	\$ 604,043.35
Worship & Music:	\$ (4,934.62)	\$ 42,462.67
Office & Administration:	\$ 2,719.52	\$ 37,744.87
Membership:	\$ 2,117.41	\$ 17,764.66
Finance:	\$ - 0 -	\$ - 0 -
Leadership:	\$ - 0 -	\$ 3,833.01
Justice & Mercy:	\$ - 0 -	\$ 97.74
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 92,370.06</b>	<b>\$ 969,800.60</b>
<b>Total Net Income:</b>	<b>\$ (6,864.56)</b>	<b>\$ (70,470.15)</b>

Schedule a time to meet with Pastor Lucy by following the link or QR Code.

<https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min>



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Rev. Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor  
Rev. H. Ashley Hall, Ph.D., Associate Pastor  
Dn. Eric Haitz, Deacon

## 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



### Due Sunday, February 1

If you are responsible for a  
report in our Annual Report,  
please have them turned in to  
Debbie Bogue in the office no  
later than February 1. Reports  
are welcome—and preferred—  
anytime before that date. Thanks.

