

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	Facility & Events Director
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
Dan Collett	Facility Assistant
Louis Flake	Night Manager
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Heidi Pospisil	Pantry Director
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

June 13 & 14, 2026

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 in memory of Barbara Saklar given by Tracey Saklar, Kris Placzek, and family; in memory of Kelcey Renae Fike and Randall S Fike given by Mary Jo Fike and family.

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Amanda Plantz in memory of her father, David Penning.

Television Broadcast is sponsored by the family of the Rev. Dr. Paul H. Moessner in gratitude to God for 50 years of ordained ministry. The Moessner family will also provide cupcakes in the Fellowship Hall this morning for the celebration.

Kountze Café Lite
9:30—11:00 AM

Free-will Offering

Now through Labor Day weekend, we are serving a lighter fare for breakfast. If you would like to help with breakfast, even just for a Sunday or two, please contact Sherri Labeledz.

Children's Sermon

Children are invited to sit with their families at the beginning of the service. Following the children's sermon, youth who are going into grade four and younger are invited to follow the adult leader upstairs for the Kountze Summer Reading Program. The kids will enjoy a story book on important life lessons. Coloring sheets, fidgets, and sensory items will be provided. They will return to their families for communion.



Summer Reading

Are you an adult interested in reading to the youth? Use the following link or QR code to sign up to read. You may also reach out to Kristin at kristin@kmlchurch.org.

<https://tinyurl.com/2epndk6z>

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, *continued*

Adult Forum

Sundays, 10:10 AM

Join us Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall. This Sunday, we'll hear from those who attended the Synod Assembly.

KMLC Book Group

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

Sunday, June 14

The Ride of Her Life, by Elizabeth Letts

This is a true story of a woman, her horse, and the last chance journey across America.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

June 14 Sunday

Pentecost 3

Pr. Paul Moessner 50th Anniversary of Ordination

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite

10:10 AM Adult Forum

12:15 PM Book Group

June 15 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

June 16 Tuesday

Pr. Wynard's birthday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation Council

June 17 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

7 PM Handbell Rehearsal

June 18 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

4:00 PM Healing Gift Clinic

June 19 Friday

No Pantry

9:00 AM Service Friday

June 20 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

June 21 Sunday

Pentecost 4

Father's Day

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite

10:10 AM Adult Forum

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Kountze Memorial Youth Ministry Parent Survey

Parents/guardians, please take a few minutes to share your thoughts regarding our Youth Ministry Program. This survey is anonymous and will help us plan youth activities and Sunday Youth Forum for next year.

Please do not include your name or your youth's name unless you would like someone to follow up with you. The survey can be found by using the QR code or the following link:



Parent Survey

<https://tinyurl.com/yhmp3jsf>

Men's Lunch

Thursdays, June 18

11:30 AM

Suggested Donation: \$10

Please RSVP by Tuesday, June 16,

Call the church office, sign up at the Welcome Desk, or email Jim at jim@kmlchurch.org to let him know you're planning to attend.

Service Fridays

June 19 - July 31

9 AM - 4 PM

Grades 7 - 9

Service Fridays are a chance for Middle School Students to spend time in fellowship while giving back to the

community. Each Friday, students that are going into grades 7, 8, and 9, are invited to Kountze to work together in partnership with ministries connected to Kountze and other local non-profits. We will be working with deFreese Manor, the Kountze Love Thy Neighbor Pantry, YES House, Physicians Mutual, and many other charities focused on helping those in our neighborhood. While Service Fridays are limited to those going into 7th–9th grades, we do need some adult support. If you have time, we could use some adult volunteers during our activities. In addition, we will be focusing on collecting hygiene supplies to make care bags. Soap, shampoo, conditioner, razors, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, lotion, Q-tips, and any other basic necessities you can imagine is needed. These items can be dropped off at the Sunday School office. If you have questions about Service Fridays, or would like to volunteer your time, please contact Kristin at kristin@kmlchurch.org. Sign up your middle school student with QR code or the following link:



Service Fridays

<https://tinyurl.com/3sjzfpmk>

Youth Social Justice League Summer Field Trip

Tuesday, July 21

9 AM—4 PM

Middle and high school youth are invited to join us and the Urban Abbey Youth Social Justice League for a day of

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

exploring Omaha's "third spaces"—places where people gather, connect, and build community.

Participants will visit several locations, ride the ORBT, and learn about inclusion, community building, and social justice.

Hosted by the Kountze Mercy & Justice Team.

Please scan the QR code to **register by July 1** or go to:

<https://forms.gle/Cyctn3TdoCtmsBnX9>



Justice & Mercy

and of course games! Please register your child/ren now so we can have all the supplies needed and be ready for a great week together. The child registration form can be found at:

<https://tinyurl.com/2m5trfbd>



VBS Registration

Confirmation "Boot Camp"

Do you have a student who wasn't able to participate in Wednesday night Collaborative Confirmation classes? Do you want a Confirmation "refresher" course? We are looking to do a Confirmation "Boot Camp" this summer for students (and adults) who for whatever reason didn't get the traditional Confirmation experience or would like a little more. Please contact Pastor Lucy if you would be interested in participating and we will look for a good time and format.

Halloween Costume Collection

Do you have years of gently used Halloween costumes tucked away that don't fit anyone in your house any more? If so, please bring those gently used costumes to the church to be donated! If you have questions on donations or would like to assist in the event in the fall, please reach out to Toby Rees (402-979-1425 or toby@kmlchurch.org).

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. We are always in need of grocery bags.



Pantry

<https://tinyurl.com/uausddd>

Middle-High School students are welcome to participate as staff to make this a great learning experience for all. Adult volunteers are also needed. Volunteer registrations can be found at:

<https://tinyurl.com/29ppewa2>



VBS Volunteers

FYI: For those ages 18 and over, we will be requiring a background check through your home church, if you haven't already done one. Thank you for volunteering your time and talents to VBS. We are happy to have you!

VBS Volunteer Meeting

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

June 24

6 PM

Pizza will be provided

School Supply Drive

The youth will be hosting a school supply drive this summer. We are asking for supplies and backpacks to fill for our Love thy Neighbor Pantry in Kountze Commons. Notebooks, folders, crayons, markers, colored pencils, pens, glue, scissors, etc. are welcome. Please bring items to church by August 2. We will be stuffing backpacks on August 9.

Omaha Collaborative VBS

July 19-22 (Sunday to Wednesday)

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

(93rd & Dodge)

Supper (for families) 5:15 PM

Program 6 - 8 PM

Pre-K through 5th Grade

Five Omaha Area Lutheran Churches have joined forces to serve together. Our program this year is "Snowball Mountain Challenge - Find your Strength in God." Each evening begins with a simple meal provided in the Café for all participants and their families. Children will rotate through story stations, craft activities, science experiments

Attendance & Giving Thursday, June 4—Wednesday, June 10

Saturday: 25

Sunday: 9:00: 125 11:00: 65

Wednesday: 12:15: 9

Total: 224

Streaming: 57

Pantry Guests Served: 346 (inc. 103 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 8

Offering:

\$15,216.88 (Regular)

\$1,510.04 (Specials)

\$1,327.00 (Debt Reduction)

We are Jesus' hands, feet, and voice.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 9:35–10:23	The sending of the twelve
Monday	Exodus 19:2-8a	Israelites go to Mt. Sinai
Tuesday	Romans 5:1-8	How to be acceptable to God
Wednesday	Genesis 18:1-15	A son promised to Abraham
Thursday	Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19	Thanksgiving for illness recovery
Friday	Galatians 5:13-15	Christ gives freedom
Saturday	Psalms 100	The Lord is good
Sunday	Matthew 10:24-39	The call and cost of discipleship



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SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. Matthew 9:35 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God of constant love and faithfulness, we thank you for your care; give us strength to care for and bless others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

We thank you for this food, a gift of your steadfast love and faithfulness. Amen. (Psalm 100:5)

A Blessing to Give:

May God care for you with tender compassion.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- How have others cared for you?
- Our relationship with Jesus is meant to help us serve others. How do you serve others?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 9:35–10:23.

In the Old Testament lesson for this week (Exodus 19:2-8a), God once again establishes a covenant with the house of Jacob, just as God established a covenant with Abram in Genesis 12. God is making a priestly people, a holy nation to bless the world. In Matthew 9 and 10, Jesus now is establishing his covenant with his followers to serve and bless others. Just as Jesus tells good news to people and heals every disease and sickness, his followers will go out and do similar acts in the kingdom of God. Those sent out by Jesus are doing the work of Jesus. The task was not easy for Jesus and will not be easy for his followers, but the Spirit of God will go with them. This passage is filled with compassion and is sobering at the same time. It is the call for all of Jesus' followers. It is a daring mission that requires courage and wisdom. It is not presented as an option. Our work as Jesus' hands, feet, and voice in the world today wins because we do not go alone, but with the Spirit of God.

Discuss: In what ways have you been Jesus' hands, feet, and voice in the world?

Pray: **Almighty God, send us out with your message of hope and compassionate service, both of which heal through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, what act of kindness and compassion can you show towards someone who is ill?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing" (Psalm 100:1-2).

"I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy Down in My Heart" is a popular Christian song written in the 1920's and still stirs memories and joy in the hearts of many. Take a moment to make a joyful noise to the Lord and sing this well-known song.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18
Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39