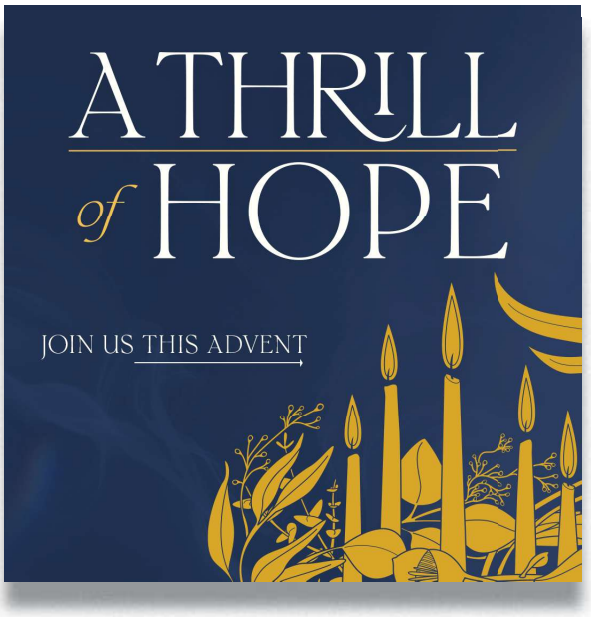
KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

GOOD NEWS

Volume 46, Issue 11 December, 2026

FROM THE PASTOR



Advent is a season of contrasts – our culture pushes back against the cold and dark, against the fractures and divisions a contentious election cycle laid bare, against the weariness so many of us feel by this point in the year. But our culture pushes back with a forced merriness that can feel and sound hollow if we slow down long enough to pay attention. The church pushes back by starting over, by remembering and retelling the story that has been true through all of human history. Across every generation and culture, around the whole world, humanity longs for healing and justice, hope and wholeness.

This Advent we will focus on the hope breaking into the world – 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem, today in Omaha, Nebraska, and always and forever a promise on the horizon – the Savior is coming. The Messiah, the hope of the whole world, is drawing near once again. And we shout that hope with whatever breath we can muster, inviting others who are weary, or hopeful, or both, to come and see the One whose birth heralded the salvation we've always longed for. This is the One who shows us how to push back against the darkness of the world with love, and justice. And promises, by the Holy Spirit, to fill us with the courage and compassion to keep actively waiting and watching for the fulfillment of all our hopes in this baby born to us.

As Illustrated Ministry sums it up:

> "In the Season of Advent, we wait for the Messiah who will save us. And on this path toward Christmas, a thrill of hope creeps over our weary world. We watch for the Messiah not only in ancient stories, but in the living world around us. We look for signs of God's kingdom whenever people choose mercy over cruelty, generosity over greed, and courage over fear. We expect Christ to meet us in classrooms and courtrooms, at kitchen tables and hospital bedsides, in protests and prayer circles, in shelters, sanctuaries, and neighborhoods longing for peace. The miracle of Immanuel did not end in Bethlehem. The thrill of hope persists."

Join us this Advent – the thrill of hope persists!

Pastor Lucy



We need your help to finish the year strong & sustain our vital programming for all ages. Would you consider an extra gift to Kountze Memorial in the month of December? Your gift sustains the ministry that happens every day of the week and to people of every age and walk of life. Donate online at kmlchurch.org (Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church) or send/drop-off your gifts to the church office. Many, many thanks for your generosity!

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). 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 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.

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.



Altar Flowers, Eternal Candle, TV Broadcast Charts

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.



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Youth Home Alone Christmas Party

GROW with us...



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

December 6: ELCA Social Statement: For Peace in God's World
December 13: Fellowship
December 20: A History of Manger Scenes/Creches
December 27: Fellowship



New Member Class

Sundays, January 24 & 31
10:15 AM

If you are considering membership at Kountze Memorial, please join us in September for the next 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, February 7.

If you have questions or would like to sign up, contact the church office at 402-341-7761 or info@kmlchurch.org, or add your name(s) to the sign up sheet at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall. 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.

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.





Mosaic International

Rev. David deFreese spoke at a Sunday Forum about the connection Mosaic has with the the work being done in and around Moshi, Tanzania to support individuals and their families affected by physical and cognitive disabilities. After that, Bryan Coffey spoke about how to become involved with this amazing work. There are opportunities for you to help spread the word about this program, but also to visit Tanzania and see the miracles occurring there for yourself. Getting involved is a life-changing experience and touches thousands of lives. If you would like to learn more about Mosaic International, check the fact sheet link below:

https://tinyurl.com/44myuv36

or contact Carol Stoltenberg through the church office.

Missionary News

Bridget Gautieri

ELCA Wittenberg Center
Summer, 2026

You can find Bridget's summer newsletter at: https://tinyurl.com/yedk97j9



Chandran Martin



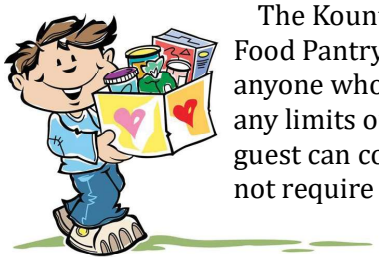
The title of this edition, Woven Together in Hope, is inspired by the 2026 ELCA Staff Summer Gathering in Chicago,, which met under the theme "Woven Together." 'Being Woven Together in Hope' is a reality in the communities, peoples, and nations we serve in South Asia. In these pages you will see some of the ways the ELCA accompanies these communities and shares hope with them in this world of brokenness! I have included some life-transforming stories of individuals and communities.

The link to Chandran Martin's newsletter is found below.

https://tinyurl.com/y8ncuxp8

SERVE with us...

A Note from the Pantry Director:



The Kountze "Love Thy Neighbor" Food Pantry is a welcome place for anyone who needs food. We do not have any limits on the number of times a guest can come to the pantry, and we do not require identification. Our neighbors are hungry and our mission is to feed anyone who comes through the door. The pantry is open Mondays from 10-12:45 and Fridays from 5-6:45.

One way you can help us take care of our neighbors is through the **Reverse Advent Calendar**. When we were growing up, we always had Advent Calendars. I am sure many of you had the same things or shared the tradition with your own children.

Each day we counted down the days until Christmas by either moving a little star on a calendar or opening up a little pocket or box to reveal a tiny gift. It is a fun way to count down the days until Christmas.

The idea with the Reverse Advent Calendar is the opposite of what we normally do. Instead of taking something out the idea is to put something aside for Advent to give to someone else. There is a calendar we have created with suggested items – look for it in the bulletin or posted around church.

If you'd like to get involved in helping feed our neighbors, you are welcome to come join our mission! If you'd like to volunteer at the pantry, please go to our Sign-Up Genius and sign up for a shift.

https://tinyurl.com/uausdddp

Contact Heidi at heidi@kmlchurch.org or the church office with any questions. Thank you for supporting our mission to feed our hungry neighbors.

See page 11 for the Food Pantry Financial Report

Coat & Hat Drive

All Sizes Welcome

The Friends of Omaha Nation are gathering much needed winter outerwear for the K-12 Public Schools located on the Omaha Reservation in Macy, Nebraska.



- We are collecting new or gently used coats
- New hats and mittens
- All sizes are welcome

Please drop off your coats, hats, and mittens in the Fellowship Hall no later than December 13. Thanks.

Help Us Collate the January Good News

Tuesday, December 29
9 AM

Come be part of the crew that gets the Good News ready for mailing! 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 by Monday, October 26. That way we can let you know if anything changes and to be sure we have enough for lunch. Thanks for helping us get the Good News out.

Advent Alternative Gifts Market

Sundays November 22, 29, December 6, & 13
9:30-11 AM
Saturday, December 12 – after Candlelight Carol Service
ELCA Good Gifts and Global Mamas

For more than twenty years KMLC has offered Alternative Gifts during Advent, primarily using the ELCA Good Gifts program. As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving gifts, we can make a difference. ELCA Good Gifts provide critical support to the ministries and programs that support the needs of people in Third World countries so they can become self-sufficient. Some examples that your monetary gifts purchase are goats, chicks, school supplies, water systems, bees, and so much more.

We also support our Love thy Neighbor Food Pantry and the Del and Lou Ann Weber Healing Gift Free Clinic with monetary gifts during this Alternative Gifts Market.

Global Mamas from Ghana, Africa is a community that works together to create a life of prosperity for themselves and their families. From plain white organic cloth to handmade, dyed, stamped, vibrant products—batik bags, aprons, button boxes, bowl cozies, coasters, table runners, napkins, tea towels, hot pads --are created by these skilled craftswomen. Their beautiful glass beads, made from discarded glass bottles into Christmas ornaments were sold out last year. These women are fully invested in fair trade principles as they improve the economic outlook for themselves and their families. For more information, go to:

globalmamas.org

NEWS & Notes...

Council Notes

October 24, 2026

The Congregation Council reviewed Kountze Memorial's finances and discussed how to cover immediate expenses while addressing the ongoing General Fund shortfall. Through September 30, giving totaled $754,041 and expenses totaled $894,052, leaving a shortfall of $140,011.

Council approved temporary transfers from savings and authorized the use of eligible investment earnings to help cover bills. Council also asked the Finance Committee to bring a plan to the December meeting for addressing the shortfall over the coming months and beyond. Thank you for the many ways you support Kountze Memorial. If you're able to make an additional gift, please consider giving to the General Fund, which supports the church's day-to-day operations.

Work continues on the new church website, and Deacon Eric welcomes volunteers interested in helping with social media. Completed Time and Talents forms may be placed in the collection box at the back of the worship space or handed to an usher.

New security cameras are planned, and the Facilities Committee is reviewing whether to replace the entire flat roof or only portions of it. The next new member classes will be held in the new year.

Council Retreat

October 24, 2026

At its October retreat, the Congregation Council took time to reflect on what is flourishing at Kountze Memorial and where there is room for new growth. Pastor Lucy opened with a reflection on "Baptism in Muddy Waters," which led to three questions for small-group conversation: What needs tending? What might we be ready to let go of? What is ours to do?

Council members shared hopes for more opportunities to worship and gather across generations, stronger ministries for children, youth, and young adults, and closer relationships with our neighbors. They also explored ways to make better use of our church campus, offer activities at times more people can attend, and share the work of ministry among more members.

Council members practiced active listening in pairs, asking open-ended questions and giving each other time to share their stories. Each person named three people in the congregation they would make an effort to get to know better. The Council planned to revisit the retreat conversations at its next meeting and discuss which ideas to pursue.

Advent Alternative Gifts Market, continued

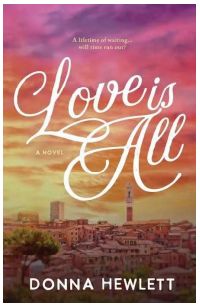
Noni is selling peanut brittle again this year as a part of the Alternative Gifts Market. This is a Food Pantry and Human Assistance Fund Raiser. Enjoy some yummy peanut brittle and help someone in need at the same time!



KMLC Book Group

No Meeting in December

There will be no meeting in December.



The selection for January, 2027 is *Love is All* by Donna Hewlett. She is an Omaha author and we switched the January and February books to accommodate her schedule as she will be attending to lead our discussion. February will be Solito by Javier Zamora.

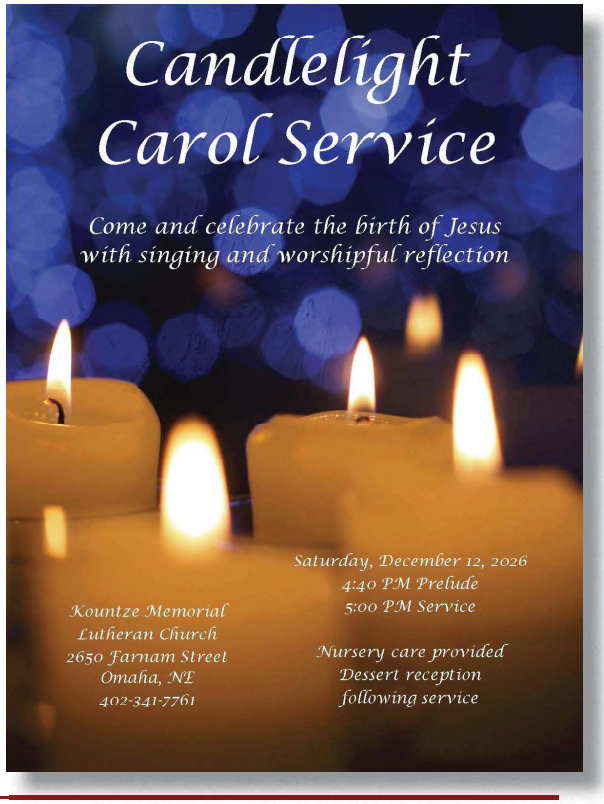
Have a very merry Christmas and see you in January!

Candlelight Carol Service

Saturday, December 12
Prelude 4:40 PM
Service 5 PM

The annual Candlelight Carol Service has become a beloved tradition at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church! We hope that you, your family, and friends can join us for this special service of Sacred Scripture and Poetry, Congregational Carols, Communion, and Choral, Handbell and Instrumental Music. Please join us for this special evening as we journey through Advent and celebrate the Birth of Our Savior! Nursery care will be provided.

Cheese and dessert reception following the service.



December 2, 9, and 16
Meals: 11 AM – Noon
Worship: 12:15 & 6:30 PM



Advent lunches and suppers 2026 are just around the corner:

- Mark your calendars and join us for one or all three meals this year.
- Bring your family, friends, and neighbors and meet at Kountze for lunch or dinner.
- We will have a vegetarian option at each of the meals.
- All meals are free will offering and served with choice of coffee, water, or tea.

We can always use volunteers to help with prep, serving, or clean-up throughout the day even if it's just an hour or two. Please sign up at the welcome desk or by emailing jim@kmlchurch.org if you can help.

Note: Confirmation Youth are expected to attend Advent services and meals as part of their continued learning.

Advent Menu

December 2	December 9	December 16
Pulled Pork Sandwiches	Peruvian Chicken	Baked Spaghetti
Baked Beans	Cilantro Lime Rice	(Meat Sauce or Alfredo)
Coleslaw	Roasted Broccoli	Garden Salad
Apple Crisp	Fried Ice Cream	Garlic Bread
		Brownie Sundae

After you eat, come to the Nave for a peaceful break in the middle of the week with a quiet time of prayer and song. Both services will follow the pattern of Evening Prayer and use *Unfailing Light*, Marty Haugen's setting with simple melodies that are easy to sing that we used during Lent last year. We'll share Communion at 12:15 PM and light candles and pray together at 6:30 PM. Come as you are, and take a little time to slow down, sing, and pray together.

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.

Help Deliver Altar Flowers to the Sick & Homebound



After the 11 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 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!

Pastoral Acts

October 16 - November 15, 2026

Funerals:

William "Larry" Jacobsen, Nov. 6

First Communion: October 25

Drake Aubry
Emilia Fischer
Silje Pignatore

Men's Lunch



We won't be getting together in December but join the group again next year on January 21.

Be sure to join us on Wednesdays during Advent for worship and lunch or supper - and yes, Jim is cooking the Advent meals.



Men's Lunch 2026 Chili Cook Off

Congratulations to our 2026 chili cook-off winners! Jerry Fischer took first place, Deacon Eric came in second, and Jim Smejkal was close behind in third. After the tasting and voting, everyone settled in with a bowl (or two!) of their favorite chili.

Thank you, Deacon Eric for your touching prayer to start the festivities.

Merry Tuba Christmas Concert



Sunday, December 13
3:00 PM
Held at Kountze Memorial

The concert is free and open to the Public Bring your friends. It's a fun way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

For those tuba/euphonium players who are interested in playing along, registration is at 1:00 PM with rehearsal at 2:00 PM. Bring your own music stand. There is a $10 participation fee for all players. For more information, contact Nate Griffith at 402-980-6121.

GIVING TUESDAY

Tuesday, December 1

Kountze Commons is participating in Giving Tuesday through Share Omaha. Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center (KCCOC) exists to serve our city's most vulnerable citizens who have complex issues making life harder for them. Our integrated model services the whole person through the partnership of organizations located in one building:

The *Del & Lou Ann Weber Healing Gift Free Clinic* (with a fully licensed free pharmacy);

Methodist Community Health Clinic;

Lutheran Family Services Behavioral Health and Crisis Response;

and, the Kountze Memorial *Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry*.

Together these, and other organizations that use our space for short-term activities - like Bridges Out of Poverty classes - help us meet our mission to Feed the Hungry, Heal the Sick, Tend the Soul. YOU can be part of that mission! Learn more and donate at kountzecommons.org or shareomaha.org/nonprofit/kountze-commons-community-outreach-center

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY...



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.

If you are interested in supporting our Sunday School children by volunteering, we still need your help! The Sunday School students are looking for volunteers to teach and assist with weekly classes. We have three levels of Elementary classes, in addition to a preschool room, that need your support. Sign up to teach a class or two by using the link below:

https://tinyurl.com/37t5msmw



Note: On December 20th, the Sunday School students are invited to a Christmas party during the Sunday School time. We will enjoy our breakfast and treats, play games, and have crafts available. All our adult leaders are welcome to attend the festivities.

No Sunday School on December 27 or January 3. Classes will resume on January 10.

Sunday School Volunteer Opportunity



Do your talents lie in the theatre arts? Barb Carlsen and Kristin Boe are looking for volunteers adept at costume design and directing skills. We can especially use your talents for our Christmas Program. A couple of parents to help with lining up is also needed. Thank you for considering!

Children's Choir

Sundays, 9:15 AM (following 9 AM Children's Blessing)

2nd Floor Sunday School Music Room

Grades K-6



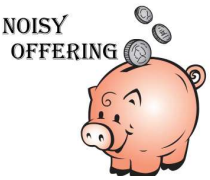
All children in grades K-6 are encouraged to sing in our Children's Choir. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Barb Carlsen in the church office at 402-341-7761.



Sunday, December 13

Join us for the 9 AM Worship service to hear the Good News told by the youngest members of our congregation.

It's time for a Noisy Offering!



Sunday, December 13

The Sunday School students are encouraging everyone to dig deep into their pockets, purses, and couch cushions to help raise money for ELCA Good Gifts.

During the Adult Forum on December 13, the students will be passing the bucket to raise money for sustainable and life changing resources for communities in need globally.

Start saving your coins to make a joyful noise!

Confirmation Classes

There won't be class during Advent. Confirmation will continue in January.

Art Show

Saturday, January 16



Calling All Artists and Makers! The 2nd Annual Kountze Art Show is coming! Share your creativity while helping raise funds for next summer's Youth Gathering in Minnesota. We welcome creations of all kinds—paintings, quilts, photography, sculptures, knitting, woodwork, stained glass, collages, accessories, upcycled projects, and more!

Last year's show featured a wonderful variety of work, and we look forward to celebrating even more of the talent at Kountze in January. Every donated piece helps support our youth! To donate a creation, please contact Kristin Boe Hendrix at kristin@kmlchurch.org.

Camp Carol Joy Holling

$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. 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 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/caroljoyholling/register/

National Youth Gathering

Registration is open for Youth Participants and Adult Leaders!

The 2027 ELCA National Youth Gathering is on the horizon, and now is the time to start planning! If you've ever been, you know what a formational experience the gathering is!

This incredible opportunity brings young people together from across the ELCA for faith, fellowship, worship, service, and an unforgettable experience of being part of a larger church community.

Who can attend?

Youth entering 9th grade through those graduating in spring 2027, as well as young adults, are eligible to participate!

The time to act is NOW! Registration is open, and the priority registration rate is available, prices go up the longer we wait.

Priority registration: October 21–November 11, 2026

Regular registration: November 12, 2026–February 10, 2027

Don't wait to start the conversation!

Want to learn more or find out how to register? Contact either:

Sheila Valquier — sheila@kmlchurch.org

Deacon Eric Haitz — eric@kmlchurch.org

Help us spread the word! Share this post with families and young people who might be interested in joining us for this amazing experience.

CALENDAR

DECEMBER

December 1 Tuesday
9:00 AM Staff Meeting
December 2 Wednesday
11:00 AM Advent Meal
12:15 PM Worship
5:00 PM Advent Meal
6:30 PM Worship
7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
December 3 Thursday
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
December 4 Friday
5:00 PM Pantry
Wedding Rehearsal
December 5 Saturday
Homebound Communion
Ziegler/Miller Wedding
5:00 PM Worship
December 6 Sunday
Advent 2
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 Alternative Gift Market
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
December 7 Monday
10:00 AM Pantry
December 8 Tuesday
9:00 AM Staff Meeting
December 9 Wednesday
9:00 AM Sewing Group
11:00 AM Advent Meal
12:15 PM Worship
3:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor
5:00 PM Advent Meal
6:30 PM Worship
7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
December 10 Thursday
Council Reports Due
9:30 AM WELCA Board
11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
December 11 Friday
5:00 PM Pantry
December 12 Saturday
9:00 AM Christmas Program Rehearsal
3:30 PM CCS Choir Rehearsal
5:00 PM Worship
5:00 PM Candlelight Carol Service - Prelude begins 4:40 PM
6:00 PM Alternative Gift Market
December 13 Sunday
Advent 3
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:00 AM Children's Christmas Program
9:30 AM Alternative Gift Market
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour
3:00 PM Tuba Christmas Concert
4:00 PM Youth Home Alone Christmas Party (3 PM Tuba Christmas)
December 14 Monday
10:00 AM Pantry
December 15 Tuesday
Good News Deadline
9:00 AM Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group
6:00 PM Congregation Council
December 16 Wednesday
11:00 AM Advent Meal
12:15 PM Worship
5:00 PM Advent Meal
6:30 PM Worship
December 17 Thursday
11:30 AM Endowment Board
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:00 PM Circle 5
December 18 Friday
5:00 PM Pantry
December 19 Saturday
5:00 PM Worship
December 20 Sunday
Advent 4
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Sunday School Christmas Party
10:10 AM Adult Forum
December 21 Monday
10:00 AM Pantry
December 22 Tuesday
9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:30 PM Circle 3
December 23 Wednesday
12:15 PM Worship
December 24 Thursday
Christmas Eve
OFFICE CLOSED (at noon)
4:00 PM Worship
7:00 PM Worship
11:00 PM Worship
December 25 Friday
Christmas Day
No Pantry
OFFICE CLOSED
10:00 AM Worship
December 26 Saturday
5:00 PM Worship
December 27 Sunday
Christmas 1
No Sunday School
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
December 28 Monday
OFFICE CLOSED
10:00 AM Pantry
December 29 Tuesday
9:00 AM Staff Meeting
9:00 AM Good News Assembly
December 30 Wednesday
12:15 PM Worship
December 31 Thursday
New Years Eve

Schedule a time to meet with Pastor Lucy by following the link or QR Code.
https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min



1. Becky Anderson, Marlys Duin, Soren Johnson, Kim Neville, Ashley Sum, Daisy Wynard
2. Dianne Bruckner, Kolbey Burns, Sydney Lawrence, Brett Nelson
3. Clay Cameron, Michele Eakins, Carol Gleason
4. Brett Bailey, Troy Dougherty
5. Dale Broekemeier, Hailey Ingram, Jim Marcum, Alan Woster
6. Dale Ervin, Jery Inbarasu, Aage Jensen, Nicholas Natvig
7. Arlene Hirsh, Neil Stier
8. Tara Capellupo, Madison Duffield, Lowell Harms, Micah Scarlett
9. Craig Hill, Tyler Johnston, Renee Osborn, Norm Sack, Scott Saxton, Jeffrey Watts
10. Talen Costanzo, Sydney Kinish, Kirk Krisor
11. Robert Burt, Zachary Stoj
12. Edward Jenkins, Zachary Johnson, Scott Neill, David Roethemeyer, Emma Ryder
13. Hal France, Ryan Lawrence, Sandy Lundholm, Melissa McDermott, Donna Moessner, Luke Woosley
14. Marjorie Andrews, Jim Camenzind, Margaret Day, Madelyn DeWald, Emily Drickey, John Georgeson, Tanner Klemmensen, Susan Sanders, Tiffany Stienblock
15. April Baker-Hage, Claire Bossman, Ryan Daugherty, Lori Grisso, Ronda Nelson, Jaya Winther
16. Judith Bridge, Gary Dietrich, Leigh Freeman, Jack Greguska, Gage Hansen
17. Tessa Futey, Carla Ohm
18. Carly Headley, Benjamin Williams
19. Charlie Campbell, Mark Meier, Corey Reimers
20. Andrew Darr, Rich Fogleman, Jamie Freier, Eric Rees, Sydney Ryan
21. Steven Hansen, Landon Putnam
22. Justin Bailey, James Bodnar, Torin Edwards, Julie Green, Lindsay Neill, Melanie Reida-Sample, Suzanne Schueler, Bev Troxel
23. Steven Duffield, Debra Larsen, Corey Lynch, Lynn McKeeman
24. Holly Bartek, John Groenjes, Charles Martis
25. Kathe Andersen, Carson Ohm, Ashley Rusch, Randy Titus
26. Ingrid Furby, Lara McCormick, Nancy Rodene, Holly Willert
27. Emilio Arispe, Tanya Kosola, Robert Nelson, Colleen Sorensen, John Waterman, Zach Zellmar
28. Kathryn Dean, Charles Misbach, Elizabeth Portrey, Joel Woosley
29. Shane Hallowell, Arthur Land, Linda Swartz
30. Monica Albers, Kara Di Lorenzo, Lauren Jackson, Benjamin Myers, Deborah Ricks
31. Jeffrey Baker, John Martin, Brianne Minturn

Food Pantry Report

1/1/2026 - 10/31/2026

Income:		
Grants	$	-0-
Donations	$	66,993.45
Memorials	$	-0-
	$	66,993.45
Expenses:		
Grant Expense	$	-0-
Regular Expenses		
Capital Sani. Supply	$	4,101.88
Dollar Tree	$	2,352.37
Family Fare	$	7,954.55
MUD	$	436.03
Walmart	$	7,493.06
Rent	$	54,986.01
Sam's Club	$	2,436.59
Other	$	4,571.82
Pantry Director Salary	$	8,163.48
KCCOC Credit Card*	$	23,285.35
	$	115,781.14
Balance	**$**	**(48,787.69)**

*Pantry Expenses from 2025

Kountze Commons Mortgage Update

Loan Balance, 10/1/2026	$575,321.97
Principal Payment, 10/1/2026	$3,872.64
Interest Payment, 10/1/2026	$1,832.36
Balance, 11/1/2026	$571,449.33

Finances: October 31, 2026

		October		*Year-to-Date*
Total General Fund Income:	$	77,344.7	$	831,385.62
Expenses:				
Mission Support	$	4,583.50	$	45,834.68
Faith Formation	$	1,309.80	$	7,465.49
Facility Costs	$	14,850.03	$	166,298.91
Staff Comp & Ben	$	62,414.40	$	686,459.01
Worship & Music	$	5,587.98	$	34,479.32
Office & Admin	$	4,391.57	$	31,062.42
Membership	$	1,890.24	$	13,757.82
Finance	$	-	$	-
Leadership	$	-	$	3,978.11
Justice & Mercy	$	-	$	(255.85)
Total Expense:	$	95,027.52	$	989,079.91
Total Net Income:	$	(17,682.82)	$	(157,694.29)

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
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Omaha, NE 68131-3616
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Fax: 402-341-4841
E-mail: info@kmlchurch.org
Web: www.kmlchurch.org

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

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

You're Invited...

...to join us this Advent and Christmas

Wednesdays
December 2, 9, & 16

- Worship: 12:15 & 6:30 PM
- Lunch: 11:00 AM - Noon
- Supper: 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Weekend Worship Times

- Saturdays: 5:00 PM
- Sundays: 9:00 & 11:00 AM (Nursery available)

Musical Offerings
Candlelight Carol Service

- Saturday, December 12 (Nursery available)
- 5:00 PM (Prelude at 4:40 PM)

Children's Christmas Program

- Sunday, December 13 (Nursery available)
- 9:00 AM

Tuba Christmas Concert

- Sunday, December 13
- 3:00 PM

Christmas Eve

- Family Service, 4:00 PM
- Candlelight Service, 7:00 & 11:00 PM

Christmas Day

- Christmas Day, 10:00 AM