



The Saltshaker

October 2025

Kokomo Zion Church

Pastor Keith Chanley

Over the last couple of years, I have been asking myself the question, where is our community to focus our ministry toward? Where is the place where God is directing us to work? Is it Greentown? Is it the north side of Kokomo? Is it someplace else? When you look around the church there are not a lot of houses in one location. There are clusters, but not a large gathering in one place. So, where do we focus. While I was at the New Room Conference a couple of weeks ago, great conference, worship and teaching, I was once again thinking about that question. Where is our community? Where do we focus? As I was pondering, I received an answer, a word from God. Our community is everywhere you live. We are spread over a wide area. We cover from Bunker Hill/Grissom to Hwy 26 and from the Green Acres Community to Marion. God has sown his people wide when it comes to the congregation of Zion. Our community is where you are. The question then changes. It is not where is the one place to focus but rather how do we be the church where you live? Is there a bible study to do where you live? Is there a block party to have? Is there yard work to be done for those in need? Are there hungry to be fed or lonely to be visited? The question is no longer where but how and the how will differ from place to place because the people around you differ in their needs. So, look around your home and ask God to show you how we might be the church where you are. As God opens our eyes and hearts to what he is doing and how he wants us to join him may we be obedient in following his direction.

Pastor Keith



OPERATION SHOEBOX CHRISTMAS

Shoeboxes are available to be picked up. Collection and dedication day will be **November 16th**. If you have never participated in Operation Shoebox Christmas and need ideas, please check out their website: <https://samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>. OR, talk to Sheila Lamb or just about anyone else in the congregation! If you haven't already started your shopping, now is the time. There are lots of supplies for **FREE** on the table just inside the fellowship hall that were donated from another church – HELP YOURSELF!!! **ALSO** – a reminder that beginning this year, SOAP IS NO LONGER ALLOWED to be packed in shoeboxes. September and October are good months to be writing your personal letter to your child. To save space, a suggestion is to decorate the **INSIDE** of your box with your personal message (and a great way to involve your children).



THANK YOU!
Because of all you did to help us,
we had another successful fish fry.
Sheila & LeAnne

Mission Moments

*Lowell & Claudia Wertz
P.O. Box 496
Lansing, IL 60438*

September 2025

Dear Friends,

It is time to go back to Africa. We have our tickets for September 20 to fly from Chicago to Amsterdam and after a three-hour layover, fly to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Then, the next day, a two-hour flight home to Kigoma.

This last couple of weeks in the USA are going to be a whirlwind. Not only are we getting this newsletter and thank you notes out, we have to close down and store the travel trailer and truck, have an in-person JOY Board of Directors meeting, receive our new passports, and finish purchasing and packing.

We are excited to get back. After 14 months in our travel trailer, every Saturday night in a different church parking lot ready to share the next day at a church, Claudia says the camper seemed to get smaller. But this furlough has been fantastic. We were so thrilled to see many of our old and dear friends. You are very near and dear to our hearts.

We didn't get to see everyone we need and want to see. Our plan right now is to be in Africa for a year and come back next fall for a few months to get to see more friends and churches.

Our church visits were so meaningful to us. Every church we visited made us feel so special and loved. We visited United Methodist Churches, Global Methodist Churches and also churches of other denominations. We are deeply grateful for the invitations we received and made an effort to accept as many as possible. It has been amazing to see God at work in unique and often miraculous ways in the churches. We are so encouraged.

We rejoice having churches that are serious about Christ's Great Commission. God loves everyone and all people need the Lord Jesus as their Savior. The opportunities for the work of the Gospel have never been greater in Africa. God is preparing His people in America for this work and the blessings that are ahead.

Rejoice with us that we have a God who cares and loves people all over the world. What an honor to share together in the work God calls us to do. We stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us, often at great cost. We will not forget or fail them. Let us be faithful. Let us permit the Lord of the Great Commission to inspire us to bring His love and salvation to all of Africa and beyond.

Love,

Lowell + Claudia



When Travis & Sarah Lacy were here in September, they forgot to mention how people can donate to Hope Remembered, the mission that they are associated with. Below is that information.

People can either go online to <https://hoperemembered.org/donate/> or write a check to Hope Remembered and mail it to Hope Remembered 1105 Southview Lane Ste 103 PMB #159 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405.

You can also give through the Zion Church with our Mission 50 program.

THE CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT OF THE GREAT LAKES ANNUAL CONFERENCE PRESENTS

EQUIPPING THE CHURCH WITH A GLOBAL-CULTURAL MINDSET

SATURDAY,
October 25, 2025

Check In 9:30 AM

Workshop: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Grace Methodist Church
901 N. Main St.,
Decatur, IL 62521

Registration Fees: \$10.00
(Lunch Included)

Registration Deadline: October 21

Online at www.decaturgace.org

OR

By Phone 217-429-5374
(Monday - Thursday,
9 am to 5 pm)

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."
Matthew 28:19

Πάντα τὰ ἔθνη
(All Nations/All Ethnicities/Cultures)

ἔθνος

• ἔθνος (from ethō, "forming a custom, culture") – properly, people joined by practicing similar customs or common culture; nation(s)



Presenter and Trainer: Rev. Dr. Arun Paul, PhD, Intercultural Studies.
A Qualified Administrator and Interpreter of the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)

We are starting a **MomCo (previously MOPS)** group at Kokomo Zion. It will be held the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month. The first session will begin October 7th. They will meet at the church @ 6:00 pm.



Rehearsals for the choir's Christmas Concert will begin October 9th. The rehearsals are from 7:00—8:00 pm.

Matt would love to have you come and be a part of the choir.



Please join us as we continue our study of Psalm 119!

Scripture Sisters Schedule:

October 6 - Psalm 119:65-80

October 20 - Psalm 119:81-96

November 3 - Psalm 119:97-112

November 17 - Psalm 119:113-128

December 1 - Psalm 119:129-144

December 15 - Psalm 119:145-160

January 5 - Psalm 119:161-176

Thank you,

Cindy

ON THE CALENDAR @ ZION

October

- 1 Bible Study @ 7:00 pm
- 5 World Communion Sunday
- 6 Scripture Sisters @ 10:00 am
- 7 MomCo @ 6:00 pm
- 8 Bible Study @ 7:00 pm
- 14 Sewing Class @ 6:00-7:30
- 14 Finance Meeting @ 7:00
- 15 Bible Study @ 7:00 pm
- 16 Fill treat bags 1:00 - 4:00
- 19 Matt's Concert @ 3:00 pm
- 20 Scripture Sisters @ 10:00 am
- 21 MomCo @ 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- 22 Bible Study @ 7:00 pm
- 25 Kendall Farms 11:00 - 1:00
- 26 Kendall Farms 1:00 - 3:00
- 28 Trustee Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 28 Sewing Class @ 6:00-7:30
- 29 Bible Study @ 7:00 pm

The next opportunity to hear Matt play the organ and piano ...

October 19th @ 3:00 pm.

Bring your friends and enjoy a wonderful afternoon of music.



Community Fish Fries
Saturday, Oct. 11th @ ConneXion Church
All you can eat fish & chicken
4:30 - 7:00 pm
Cost is \$13

Saturday, Oct. 25th @ Brookside Free Methodist Church
Fish & Tenderloin
4:00 - 6:00 pm

Hillsdale does all of the frying.

KOKOMO ZION CHURCH

Schedule of Services

Sunday School 9:00 a.m. / Worship 10:30 a.m.

Keith Chanley, Pastor

LeAnne Donson, Secretary

Melissa Dalrymple, Family Ministries Director

Matt Gerhard, Music Director

Sheila Lamb, Treasurer

Teri Lavengood, Custodian



FAMILY MINISTRIES

partnering with families to create a culturally relevant, biblically sound, safe, and fun environment for children and youth to grow in their relationship with Jesus



We will be going out to Kendall Family Farm Adventures again this year. We will hand out treat bags and talk with people. Everyone is invited to join us!

Candy Collection: Sep 28-Oct 12

Fill Treat Bags: Oct 16th from 1-4 pm

Going to Kendall Farm: Oct 25, 11 am-1 pm; Oct 26, 1-3 pm



2nd & 4th Tuesdays (Oct 14, 28, & Nov 11) from 6-7:30 pm

We've had a great response with 9 students and 5 teachers on Sep 23! Five ladies and one teen couldn't make it for the first lesson but will be attending future dates. Please continue to pray for them!

M

MOMCO AT KOKOMO ZION CHURCH
THE MOMCO
1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Oct 7 & 21

Nov 4 & 18

6-8 pm



Sign up to help! The paper is on the bulletin board next to the welcome desk.

WORK with KIDS: KidsCo meets the needs of children as well as the needs of their moms. The quality care and biblical teaching in KidsCo impacts the entire family.

BECOME a MENTOR: A Mentor walks a few steps ahead. She doesn't have to know all the answers; she just needs to be willing to offer perspective on mothering, womanhood and relationships.

PROVIDE SNACKS: The best conversations often happen around a table. It's even better when that table has food on it. You can bless moms by providing a snack.

Melissa Dalrymple
Director of Family Ministries
melissa@kokomozionchurch.org || 765-416-1716