



The Saltshaker

December 2025

Kokomo Zion Church

Pastor Keith Chanley

'Tis the Season

As unbelievable as it seems, another year is coming to a close. It seems as if it was just a couple weeks ago that we were in the heat of August. As we begin to bring this year to a close there are a few thoughts I want to leave with you.

First, don't let the crazy hectic shopping days before Christmas cause you to miss the season of Advent. 'Tis' the season during which we remind ourselves as a church, of the coming of Christ. We remind ourselves of why He came in the first place: because we needed a Savior. We also remind ourselves that He is coming again to take His bride home. Make sure that you pause and remember the true reason for the season. Pause and give thanks.

Second, don't let those same crazy days steal from you the joy of the season. Joy of being with friends and family. The joy of bright smiles and sparkling eyes. The joy of the gift of Christ, forgiveness, wholeness and eternal life, to all who will receive it.

Third, as the year comes to an end remember that the year is past. The things we wish we could do over need to be let go and the events we cherish need to be not anchors to the past, but building blocks to a future.

Fourth, look forward to a new year with new possibilities and hopes. We are continuing to do some new and exciting things within the church, anticipate those with joy.

From our family to yours, we hope and pray that each of you has a blessed Christmas and we look forward to the next year spent in ministry with you.

Blessings and merry CHRISTmas, Pastor Keith



You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: Kokomo Zion Church
5051 CR East 400 N
Kokomo, IN 46901

When: Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk** Screenings.

Trusted by over 11 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend:
Anyone **age of 40+**

Special Pricing for \$129

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening

4 ways to book your appointment...

Call **800-324-9458** and use promo code **HABC001**

Visit  [LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC](https://llsa.social/habc)



Text the word **"circle"** to **216-279-1607**

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.



THANK YOU for your generous participation in the Operation Christmas Child 2025 campaign! We were able to fill 129 boxes to send to children around the world in Jesus' name. As we pray over and bless these 129 boxes and send them off, take a moment and set your goal for 2026. Shoeboxes are always available for you to pick up in the Treasurer's Office (the 1st office east the mailboxes on the right). Help yourself to as many boxes as you like and begin your preparations for 2026. I found last year it was helpful to make a goal of completing 1 gift/item per month.....school supplies, hat or gloves, personal hygiene, craft item, wow gift, etc. When fall came – it was a breeze to finish up all of my boxes! May you each be blessed as generously as you have blessed others!
Sheila Lamb



Theo spent his birthday helping deliver the boxes to the collection site where they quickly packaged them into large shipping containers.



Ryan Lamb is currently stationed in Maryland for several months of training to prepare for a new assignment and deployment to Cuba in February. His current mailing address is:

Lamb, Ryan Rm 24
8606 6th Armored Calvary Rd
Fort George G
Meade, MD. 20755



The Annual Corporation Meeting for Kokomo Zion Church Inc. will be held at the Charge Conference on Dec. 7 @ 2:00 pm.



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

Scripture Sisters Schedule:

December 1 - Psalm 119:129-144

December 15 - Psalm 119:145-160

January 5 - Psalm 119:161-176

Thank you,

Cindy



December 14th

Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins

We will leave the church @ 3:00 pm

Bring snack & finger foods to share after caroling.

Everyone is welcome to come and join us!

Christmas at Zion is almost here! Our choir and friends have been hard at work learning music for this afternoon of worship. Join us as we add orchestra and guest soloists Cherresa Lawson and Jim O'Connor for an afternoon of worship to the new born King.



Christmas Eve Service at Zion

We will be having our Christmas Eve Service at 10:00 pm.

Bring your family & friends to prepare for the birth of Jesus.

ON THE CALENDAR @ ZION

December

- 1 Scripture Sisters @ 10:00
- 3 1 Peter Bible Study 10:30 or 7:00
- 4 Bishop Webb 6:30-8:30
- 7 Corporation Meeting 2:00
- 7 Zion Charge Conference 2:00
- 8 Staff Meeting @ 3:00
- 10 Bible Study 10:30 or 7:00
- 14 Caroling @ 3:00
- 15 Scripture Sisters @ 10:00
- 17 Bible Study 10:30 or 7:00
- 21 Christmas Program @ 3:00
- 22 Staff Meeting @ 3:00
- 24 Christmas Eve Service @ 10:00
- 25-26 Office will be closed
- 31 Office open 1/2 day



A child has been for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he
is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty
God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

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



As I stepped into the loud, smoky bar, I secretly hoped no one I knew would see me. Of all the places I ever thought I'd be on a Sunday afternoon, a bar was at the bottom of the list. But there I was, following Warren into Gas City's Pour House to watch him play pool.

Not long after that, Warren offered to teach me how to play. He bought me an inexpensive beginner's cue for Christmas, and I joined the team. It was a lot of fun learning to play. Four of the other players were near the age of my own daughter. I mostly hung out at the end of the table, watching and soaking in as much information as I could.

Over the months it has become easier to enter the various bars. Still, I find it uncomfortable. But it's a family, and we have come to know a lot of the players

One of the players on Warren's afternoon team passed away the Friday before Thanksgiving. He had been playing in the area on multiple teams for around 14 years. He was older, his health had deteriorated, but he still loved playing pool. The team was in shock. The young ladies were unusually quiet on the following Sunday. Then Warren said someone needed to talk to me.

The funeral director handling Roger's service had reached out to Warren, because he knows we are chaplains for AMVETS, that Warren is on Roger's team, and that I am ordained. He asked if I would conduct the funeral service on December 1.

Over the last year, I've come to consider the time in the bars playing pool a ministry of sorts. I've tried to form relationships with people that are different than most other people in my life. They find me different, too. When I'm honest about a foul that no one would have noticed but me, they comment how rare that is.

Over the past few days, I've found myself saying, "What are the odds?" It's my way of saying that I know God is in the middle of it all. It's no coincidence that Warren switched afternoon teams this fall. It's no coincidence that I'm taking a pastoral care and counseling class, right now. It's no coincidence that [fill in the blank].

By the time you read this, the funeral will be over. People will be caught up in the Christmas season. It's easy to sit in house or a pew and think how the world needs Jesus. Remember that you might just be the one to show them who He is.

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Thank you for allowing me to grow alongside all of you the last four years. You've been an important part of my life. May the Lord continue to bless the work of Kokomo Zion Church in the community and the world. -- Melissa Dalrymple