



The Saltshaker

May 2026

Kokomo Zion Church

Pastor Keith Chanley

As I write this I am sitting in Chula Vista California where it is sunny and 65 while at home storms are popping. One of the online meteorologists I listen to is covering the storms from Indiana to Texas and has said there are over 10 tornado warnings and more thunderstorm warnings active through the front. It is 10:00 pm Indiana time. I was thinking earlier about April showers and May flowers and how when storms roll through our lives they can bring growth and beauty if we will allow God to do the growing. This was not the volume of storm I was thinking of. I am wondering if my truck will resemble a golf ball when I get back if there was hail that rolled over the airport. But then again perhaps that is the point. We don't get to choose what kind or how big the storms are that roll through our lives. They can be hurricanes, tornadoes, strong thunderstorms, hard rain or just an overcast day. What we do control is how we react to those storms. Do we seek shelter in the strong tower (Proverbs 18:10) and build on the rock (Matthew 7) or will we shake our fist at heaven and be angry that a storm came all while building on shifting sand? Will we let God do the work within us that needs to be done or resist? Perhaps there is something in your life that needs to be uncovered by a storm through the washing away of dirt. Perhaps there is nourishment that you receive from the storm by realizing how much God cares for you through the storms. A presence of storms does not indicate an absence of God's love. Sometimes the storm is a gift of love because of what needs to be done in our life if we will receive what God wants to do. To quote the great philosophers The Oak Ridge Boys, "where the sun always shines, there is a desert below" (It takes a little rain (to make love grow) 1985 album Where the fast lane ends). Instead of fussing the next time a storm rolls through your life, ask the Lord what it is that you need to receive from it and then you can be singing praises to God in the rain.

Henderson Settlement Work Camp June 14-19, 2026

It is not too late to sign up, but if you desire to go, we do need confirmation to reserve your room. This is a great opportunity to serve and enjoy the great outdoors in the Appalachian Mountains. The cost is \$375 for the week, and this includes your room and all meals except for Wednesday dinner. Towels and linens are provided. If you have any questions, you may contact Norman Lavengood on mobile phone 765-438-3537.

We have the Baldinger Dorm and 4 cottages reserved. As of today, April 17, 2026, we have 22 people registered and 4 others are giving consideration to attending.

There are several work areas already selected. They include painting the exterior of a mobile home, installation of LED lights in a garage and in the Partin House, removing old Masonite siding and applying insulation board and vinyl siding to a house and working with the summer children and youth program. The theme for the week for the children's program is "Western & Nature".

To date total registration cost is \$9,000 and total project cost is \$4,200. We will be adding at least 2 and maybe three more jobs. These may include additional LED light fixtures, an additional community project and a project on the Frakes house (a campus house) that includes replacing shower fixtures and replacing broken windows.

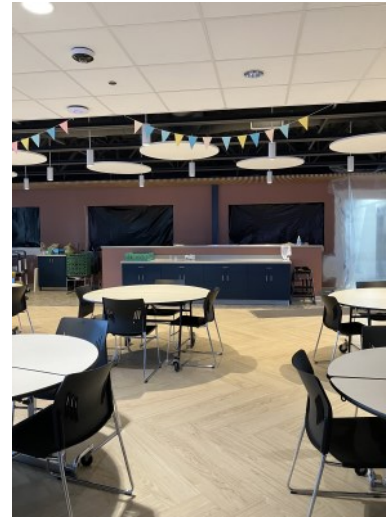
The total registration fee is \$375. Of this fee, \$150 is due by Sunday May 3 and the final amount of \$200 is due by Sunday May 24th. You can place your check in the offering plate made out to Kokomo Zion Church and "Henderson 2026 work camp registration" in the memo line.

If you cannot attend the work camp but would like to support a camper, you may place your check to Kokomo Zion Church in the offering plate with "HS Camp Scholarship" in the memo line.

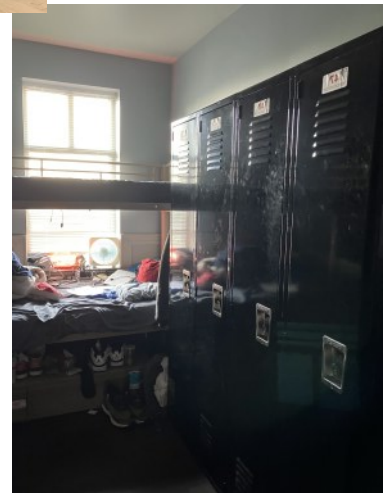
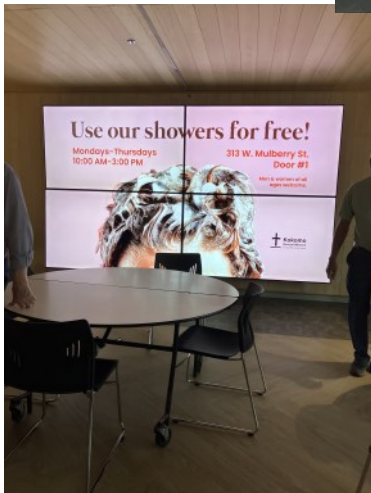
There is a planned meeting scheduled for Sunday May 3 after worship service. A light lunch will be provided.

For any additional information, contact Norman Lavengood at 765-438-3537

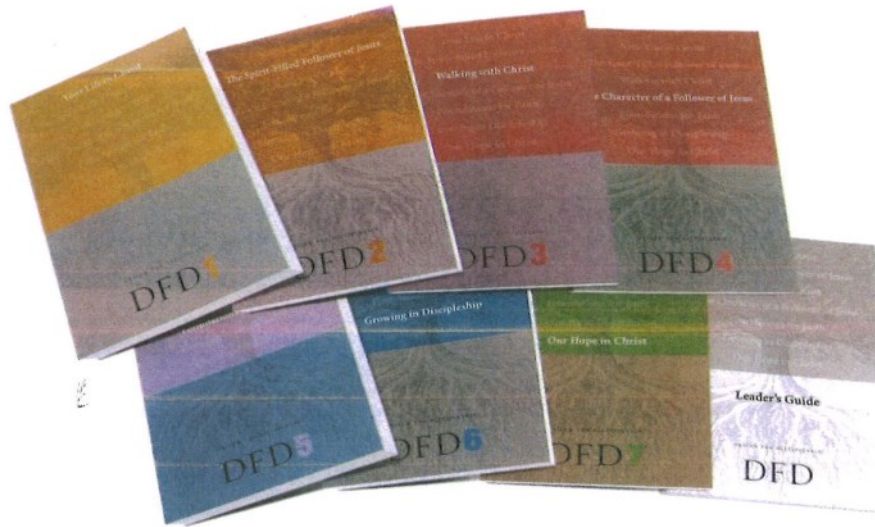
Kokomo Rescue Enrichment Center



The mission committee visited the Kokomo Rescue Mission and toured the new Engagement Center during our April meeting. I was impressed with the size and well-planned layout of the new addition which is connected to the existing main facility. Because of this they are beginning to offer new programs and services for those in need, such as visiting medical providers and much needed educational opportunities. They also have new showers and a laundry room for those who don't have other options. If you would like to learn more please see Ken Spanlger.



New Sunday School Class



We have begun a new young adult or young in heart class that is meeting in the basement of the educational facility. We will be studying Design for Discipleship Series. We look forward to seeing you. We start at 9 am. We will begin with Book 1 "Your Life in Christ." Topics covered in book one is:

- God Cares for You
- The Person of Jesus Christ
- The Work of Christ
- The Spirit within you

The Design for Discipleship studies have been carefully planned to help you:

- Establish a program of personal study of the scriptures
- Examine the great truths of the Bible and your response to these
- Learn and practice the essentials of discipleship

To get the full benefit of the course, it is important to work consecutively from Book One through Book Seven.

This series offers you an adventure as you deepen in your life with Christ.

Bible Trivia Night to raise funds for CEF Christian Youth in Action. Come for a fun night of Bible Trivia and also to hear about the ministry of CYIA! Tuesday May 5th at Kokomo Zion Church. Game starts at 6:00 PM. Register your team, \$60 per table. There will also be a bake sale. Let Norman Lavengood know (765-438-3537) if you would like to provide an item for the bake sale. Also let Norman know if you would like to sponsor a table.

CEF has planned to provide an exhibitor table at the **Great Lakes Conference June 10-12**. Along with this exhibit there is an opportunity to speak at a luncheon or breakfast to tell about the ministry of CEF and how CEF can assist churches bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to children and in connecting children with the local church for growth and discipleship. The cost of the booth space is \$2,000 along with \$600 in travel and housing expenses. This is a great opportunity for the Global Methodist Church and for Child Evangelism Fellowship. The Great Lakes Conference of the GMC that includes the state of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin now has 306 member churches. There will be around 750 people in attendance at the conference. *(If you would like to help with the cost, make checks payable to Kokomo Zion Church. Put CEF Booth on memo line.)*

Contact Norman Lavengood if you would like to support this effort.

Thank you to everyone for their prayers, care notes, and beautiful get well cards. I am feeling stronger each day.

Thank you so much for the Easter Basket and cards. It was so thoughtful and made me very happy.

Estelle Clark

Dear Church family,

Thank you for the gift of Bibles in memory of our brother, Jeff. We do appreciate your presence during services and the delicious meal. And, we appreciate your loyal support during Jeff's illness and passing. Our hearts were touched and blessed by your many acts of kindness.

Your kind and thoughtful
expression of sympathy
is deeply appreciated
and gratefully acknowledged

the family of Jeff Schaefer



Kokomo Zion Church,

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to rent your facility. We are so grateful to be welcomed back into the place our hearts think of as home. We feel so blessed to shower Emma in such a meaningful place.

Gratefully,
Marianne Hogsett

I would like to thank my church friends for the Easter & Christmas gifts I received these past months

Jim Lipno

Thank you for the wonderful Easter basket filled with many, many tasty surprises and cards with well wishes.

We feel so blessed to have such a supportive church family.

We are so appreciative and God Bless each of you!

Bill & Jane Keaffaber



We are providing meals 2 nights a week for Jack McKibbin and his family. If you would be willing to provide a meal either on a Tuesday or Thursday evening, please let LeAnne know in the office. The meal needs to serve 3-4 people and may be delivered between 4:30-5:00. Thank you so much. I know the family really appreciates it too!



Opportunities to Enjoy Some Music

- * Saturday, May 1st at Havens Auditorium, Indiana University Kokomo. The Kokomo Symphony Orchestra will be Celebrating America. The concert features the KSO and community choir performing favorite patriotic pieces.
- * The concert begins at 7:00 pm. Tickets may be purchased at the door or you can go online at www.kokomosymphony.com.

Sunday, May 31st at 3:00 pm Matt will have his monthly concert. He will be performing Songs of Heaven.



Knit 1 Pray 2

We are going to begin meeting in person again. Starting May 4th we will meet the first Monday of each month. Anyone is welcome to come and join us. We will meet in the lounge in the education unit from 7:00-8:30 pm.

If you have questions talk to Cheryl Yoars or Jayne Boltz.



We will meet on May 4th. We are studying "Jesus in Genesis." See you at 10:00 am in the Beamer Room.

We will be taking June off and will resume in July.