

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF MICHIGAN

State News for December 2025

Web Site: www.kt-mi.org

SK Adam W. Wygant, REGC



***“As He
Died***



Let Us Live”

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Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies, Companions and Brothers All!

Welcome to the December 2025 edition of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan update and Knights Templar Magazine Supplement.

Grand Commander Message

2025 is almost in the records book and inspection season is wrapping up. I hope that Christmas Observances around the state bring a special sense of celebration of our Savior's birth for all Sir Knights and Ladies.

Please continue to practice tactics, drill, and ritual in the new year. Don't let up just because your inspection is in the rearview mirror. Spring will bring the Captain General's Workshop and Schools of Instruction but there is no reason not to have fun practicing together. If you have candidates that need knighting, please contact the Grand Commandery officers or your battalion leadership to put together a cast. Continue to make knightings in your own asylum special!

Peace and joy to each of you. My earnest prayer is that this season of advent and Christmas is a special time for you. If you are hurting or have prayer requests, please contact me, this is a tough time of year for some.

Courteously – Adam W. Wygant, Grand Commander

Michigan Templar Notable Shots



November 8th Joint Inspection St. Bernard and St. George Commanderies. That is a lot of saints in one picture. Hospitality is always wonderful at St. Bernards round table dinner.



Birthday Boys Bill Herlihy and Adam Wygant got to enjoy pumpkin pie and a great performance of "Happy Birthday" following the Jackson No. 9 Inspection. The day was complete with a knighting of a candidate from Adrian Commandery No. 4.





Northville Commandery inspection was held in the morning on November 22nd. It was a great morning packed with donuts and coffee, 10-man opening, outstanding Order of the Temple and a tasty lunch.

Grand Prelate's Pen

Greetings and Blessings Sir Knight's All,

Immanuel, God with us!

Gathered together around the Christmas tree and with wonderful meals, we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. In Church, we will sing praises unto our Savior with family and friends. One of my favorite Christmas stories about singing praises unto our Savior can be found in the book "Silent Night, Silent Guns" The 1914 Christmas Truce written by Dr. Timothy J. Demy, Retired Navy Chaplain. The following taken from pages 31,32 (*with permission personally granted from the author.*)

The hand-painted sign above the German trenches was clear:

"CONCERT OVER HERE TONIGHT. ALL BRITISH TROOPS WELCOME."

What was uncertain, was how the British troops across No Man's Land would respond. Music, especially the singing of Christmas carols, was prominent in the letters home. At a time when most signing was in conjunction with the cadence of men marching and boots pounding the ground, the air was instead filled with songs of home and holiday. Rifleman Graham Williams wrote of sentries first being surprised at seeing German Christmas trees with lights on the parapet of the German trench. The sentries "quickly awoke those on duty, asleep in the shelters, to 'come and see this thing, which had come to pass'" [Luke 2:15].

For Williams what followed was equally surprising:

Then our opponents began to sing "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht." This was actually the first time I heard this carol, which was not then so popular in this country. They finished their carol and we thought that we ought to retaliate in some way, so we sang "The First Nowell," and when we finished that they all began clapping; and they struck up another favorite of theirs, "O Tannenbaum." And so it went on. First the Germans would sing one of their carols and then we would sign one of ours, until when we started up "O Come All Ye Faithful" the Germans immediately joined in signing the same hymn to the Latin words "Adeste Fideles." And I thought, well, this was really a most extraordinary thing - two nations both singing the same carol in the middle of a war.

During one of the bleakest times of World War I, in freezing temperatures, sworn enemies came together to rejoice in the birth of Christ, singing Christmas carols in their native languages, exchanging personal possessions and food, and playing games in peace. What a Mighty Blessing we have received for all that call Christ Jesus Lord and Savior! May His name be exalted forevermore and all God's children seek Him more diligently with grateful hearts. I pray we take the joy and exuberance experienced this Christmas Season and carry it throughout the New Year. To be shared not just with family but also with those who might not know Christ.

As this is written in **St. Matthew 28:19-20** "Therefore go and make disciples of all Nations baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Merry Christmas and may God abundantly bless you.

Matthew G. Kent, KYCH

Grand Prelate of Michigan

Grand Commander Christmas Greetings

Sir Knights and Ladies,

As soldiers of Christ, we often focus on the redeeming work of the cross, the Savior's death and triumph over the grave, and bringing us the message of salvation.

The Christmas season is a special time to think about Christ and the manger scene. We have biblical accounts in the gospels that give us a sense of what it must've been like to be a shepherd visited by angels. How amazing to be part of the good news and to share the tidings of great joy.

It is not a Biblical account, only written in 1941, but I love the song "The Little Drummer Boy" because I can picture the lowly manger scene. I picture it like a peaceful low-lit barn with a variety of animals but with the infant King of Kings laying in a crude manger. Then this visitor comes to play his instrument for the newborn King. There is a fun line in the lyrics about "the ox and lamb kept time" and it is fun to picture the animals dancing along with the drummer's musical offering. But the line that really gets me is "and then he smiled at me...pa rum pum pum pum." I can't fathom the joy that would come from my savior, as a little baby, smiling at me and I can't help but be full of joy at the thought of that same King of Kings, welcoming us to glory, saying "Well done! My good and faithful servant."

May the joy of this wondrous season be upon each of you, may the saviors grace and peace abound in each of us in the new year.

Warm Christmas Blessings to All,

Adam W. Wygant

Grand Commander

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan



ON THE RADAR

Inspections are winding down and there have been some very good inspections this year complete with Order of the Temple, protocol, and dinner. Well done on bringing these back as a priority. The Detroit Commandery No. 1 inspection is this week, December 6th and will have some special happenings this year, there will be an international knighting and heavy attendance from the Great Priory of Canada and the

Grand Encampment of the United States of America. This will be a great one to attend if you have never seen a knighting at the Detroit Asylum. Time is short and reservations for meals need to get to the recorder ASAP.

December Inspections – please get reservations in for any with meals

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| December 6, 2025 | Detroit Commandery No. 1, 12:30 p.m. Chamber, 1 p.m. start of Opening and Order of the Temple, Ladies Program, 5 p.m. Dinner (Contact SK David Hutton, Detroit Recorder for details and RSVP). |
| TBD, 2026 | Peninsular and Caledonia Joint Inspection |
| March 17, 2026 | Muskegon Commandery No. 22 Inspection on St. Patrick's Day. Come support Muskegon No. 22 then a bit of Irish Cheer. |
| December 14, 2025 | Christmas Service in Alma, Michigan. Don't miss this opportunity to worship together as Sir Knights and Ladies, then mingle with residents and presenting them with cookies and Christmas cards. Michigan Masonic Home, 1200 Wright Avenue, Alma, MI 48801. Fall in at 9 am at the Doig Chapel and service at 10 am. |
| March 13-15, 2026 | East Central York rite Conference, including York Rite Leadership Training on March 13. Sir Knights this is for everyone and is a great time in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This year the Leadership Training is being offered free of charge. You will likely need hotel Thursday night, and purchase a meal on Saturday. If you are interested in more details and taking the 100-Level Introductory Course or 400-Level Capstone Course please contact the Grand Commander for more information or to get East Central details. |
| March 28, 2026
10 a.m. Start | Captain General's Workshop. Hosted by Lansing Commandery No. 25 at 1125 Weber Drive, Lansing, Michigan 48912. This is a major event in the Templar Year. This year's event will be normal instruction in the morning, and will have a fun ritual competition following lunch. This is not just for captain generals, it is for everyone, especially each commandery's leadership. More details soon. |