



**Dr. Pastor Denise Kingdom Grier**

**Serving This Week**

**Liturgist:** PJ **Projection:** Owen **Audio:** Oscar  
**Video:** Oscar **Deacon/Counter:** Celeste & Gordon  
**Opener:** Jeremy **Collectors:** Joan & Adam **Greeter:** George  
**Coffee:** Arika **Nursery:** David & Laura B  
**Children's Church:** PreK, Amanda B - No Elem today

**Serving Next Week**

**Liturgist:** Dennis **Projection:** Grayson **Audio:** Jarvis  
**Video:** Oscar **Deacon/Counter:** Celeste & Casey  
**Opener:** Adam **Collectors:** Elise & Viola **Greeter:** Beauford  
**Coffee:** Elisa **Nursery:** Jim & Arda  
**No Children's Church Today**

**Connecting**

<p><b>Elders</b></p> <p><b>*Arika Theule-VanDam:</b> VP &amp; Education Team arikatvd@gmail.com</p> <p><b>*Keith Blystra:</b> VP &amp; Youth Team kblystra@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Brad Holehan:</b> Embracing Team bhoolie@gmail.com</p> <p><b>PaulaJo (PJ) Benedict:</b> Worship Team pj.maske@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Dennis Taylor:</b> Congregational Care Team tay4lor@att.net</p>	<p><b>Deacons</b></p> <p><b>*Casey Rycenga:</b> Business Admin. rycengac@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Celeste Norvell:</b> Embracing Team celestenorvell@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Gordon Howe:</b> Properties Team harley841@yahoo.com</p> <p><b>Beauford Johnson:</b> Hospitality Team 313-770-1799</p>
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<p><b>Dr. Denise Kingdom Grier</b>  <b>Senior Pastor</b>          616-886-4745          pastorofembracing@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Minister C.J. Kingdom Grier</b>  <b>Chief Musician</b>          616-886-4758          ckgrier89@gmail.com</p>
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**Church Office Phone:** 616-392-1711 **Fax:** 616-392-9273  
**Email:** 427mam@gmail.com  
**Administrative Assistant:** Joanne (Jo) Blok

**Giving - Month of December 2018**

<b>Annual Budget (2018/19)</b>	\$193,000.00
<b>Year to Date</b>	\$81,073.60
<b>December Goal:</b>	\$18,560.00
<b>Last Week's Offering:</b>	\$2,330.00
<b>December Total:</b>	\$9,085.93
<b>Under Monthly Goal</b>	-9,474.07



**December 23, 2018**

**"Weary of Waiting"**

**Psalm 89**



**Rev. Dr. Denise Kingdom Grier**

Celebrating over 100 years of service to the Core City. Union Church of The Reformed Church in America and The Christian Reformed Church in America.

**Today in Worship**

**Sermon:** "Weary of Waiting"  
**Scripture:** Psalm 89

**Music and Worship:**

**\*\*\*First Time Guests\*\*\***  
 We would like to get to know you. There are communication sheets in the pews, please fill one out and place it in the offering plate.

 Like us on Facebook and join the conversation.	 MAM Guest WiFi Mam_Guest	 Sermon Videos available: <a href="http://www.mapleavenue.org">www.mapleavenue.org</a>
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## Order of Worship

Call to Worship

Opening Song:

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Mutual Greeting

Songs of Praise:

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Children's Blessing

Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Offering:

Doxology

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Psalm 89

Message: "Weary of Waiting"

Closing Song:

Benediction

## Please Pray For

Thanksgiving for John Van Voorhees who's procedure was successful and is slowly regaining energy.

Dennis "Grandpa" Taylor as he continues to undergo testing & praying for healing & R.L. as he continues to recover.

People traveling during the holiday including Pastor Denise & CJ

For Christ, the true reason for the season to reign in our midst.

For people who are struggling with loss, depression, & loneliness

## Announcements

**Tomorrow, Christmas Eve Service will be at 5:30pm.** Families are invited to participate by reading or singing. Contact CJ at [chris@grier.com](mailto:chris@grier.com).

**WE Need YOU in the Maple Avenue Church Directory!** Check the narthex and display for more information

**Unmarried Bible Study - Will resume on January 10th**, Thursday's at MAM from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. All Unmarried are invited to join in on a great discussion & bible study. Winfred Burns will be leading this weekly bible study. Up next reading from the book; "Relationships A Mess Worth Making", so anyone who thought about joining in, this would be a great time! On January 10th we will discuss chapters 1 & 2.

**King Day of Service** - January 20th we will be honoring MLK, we are joining forces with Willy Watt @ Escape Ministries to provide duffle bags for the homeless, if you have any duffle bags that are not being used, please consider donating them to this cause. We will be filling them with essential everyday needs.

**HOPE College MLK DAY:** The annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights Lecture at Hope College will feature the Dr. Joy DeGruy, a nationally and internationally renowned researcher, educator, author and presenter, on Monday, January 21, 2019, at 2 p.m. in Dimnent Memorial Chapel. The keynote's theme is; "We Have Been Here Before: Challenges and Courageous Alternatives". Admission is free. Let's Go together and have a time of discussion at a local restaurant afterward.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH BOOK STUDY:** James Cone's Black Theology and Black Power will be the text for all who wish to join the study for 6 weeks beginning in mid-February. The MAMily's Rev. Dr. Matt Jantzen who is also Interim Director of Emmaus Scholars at Hope College will host the discussion. Look for more info.



## Fellowship Throughout the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	Tabernacle Choir rehearsal 7-9pm
<b>Tuesday:</b>	6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting
<b>Wednesday:</b>	6:00 pm - Women's Bible Study
<b>Thursday:</b>	6:00 pm - Unmarried Bible Study @ MAM
<b>Sundays:</b>	9:00 Men's Bible Study in the prayer room 9:00 Bible Study in the blue room 9:45 am - Coffee Fellowship 10:30 - Service
<b>Children's Church</b>	1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month 4th Sunday PreK & 1st grade only
<b>1st Sunday</b>	Communion & MAMily meal after the service

## December Birthday Blessings

Shya Harris (12/23), August Bohle & Chris Kirk (12/27),  
Debra Lappenga (12/29)

*\*\*Please check your mailbox!\*\**

*If we omitted your birthday, email or call the office and we will add you to our list*

## Mission Statement

**... Centered in Christ:**

"He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church..."  
[Colossians 1:17,18]

**... Called to the Core City:**

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon [us], because the Lord has anointed [us]; he has sent [us] to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken hearted.. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations."  
[Isaiah 61:1,4]

**... Committed to becoming a multicultural community, reconciled to one another through Christ:**

"For he [Christ] is our peace; in his flesh he has broken down the dividing wall, that is the hostility between us... and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it." [Ephesians 2:13-16]