



**Dr. Pastor Denise Kingdom Grier**

### Today in Worship

**Sermon:** "Rumor Has It"  
**Scripture:** Matthew 2: 1-4

**Music and Worship:**

### First Time Guests

We would like to get to know you.  
 There are communication sheets in the pews  
 and in the back of church.  
 Please fill one out and place it in the offering plate.



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 Facebook and join  
 the conversation.



MAM Guest WiFi  
 Mam\_Guest



Sermon Videos  
 available:  
[www.mapleavenue.org](http://www.mapleavenue.org)

### Serving This Week

**Liturgist & Crafter:** Keith **Projection:** Jane **Sound:** Mario  
**Video:** Oscar **Deacon/Counter:** Emmett & Beauford  
**Opener:** Steve **Collectors:** Mary & Lloyd **Greeter:** Lloyd  
**Coffee:** Laura **Nursery:** Elisa & Emily

### Serving Next Week

**Liturgist & Crafter:** John **Projection:** Shandra **Sound:** Jarvis  
**Video:** Chris **Deacon/Counter:** Mary & Viola  
**Opener:** Emmett **Collectors:** Elisa & Lloyd **Greeter:** Adam  
**Coffee:** Celeste **Nursery:** Hagemeyer Family

### Connecting

#### Elders

*Robert Phillips\*:*  
 856-625-0895  
*John Cox:* 616-392-2986  
*Arika Theule-VanDam:*  
 616-648-3119  
*Keith Blystra:* 616-368-2531  
*Dennis Taylor:* 616-298-9325

#### Deacons

*Emmett Brown\*:* 616-928-7289  
*Casey Rycenga:* 616-405-7490  
*Mary Shumaker:* 616-392-5444  
*Beauford Johnson:*  
 313-770-1799  
*Viola Cleveland:* 616-405-4145

**Dr. Denise Kingdom Grier**  
**Senior Pastor**  
 616-886-4745  
 deegrier@yahoo.com

**Minister C.J. Kingdom Grier**  
**Chief Musician**  
 616-886-4758  
 chris@grier.com

**Church Office Phone:** 616-392-1711 **Fax:** 616-392-9273  
**Email:** 427mam@gmail.com  
**Administrative Assistant:** Joanne (Jo) Blok

### Giving - Month of December 2017

<b>Annual Budget:</b>	\$164,000.00
<b>Year to Date:</b>	\$82,041.20
<b>December Goal:</b>	\$15,750.00
<b>Last Week's Offering:</b>	\$3,470.00
<b>December Total:</b>	\$14,566.60
<b>Under Monthly Goal:</b>	-\$1,183.40



December 31, 2017

*"Rumor Has It"*

Matthew 2: 1-4



**Rev. Dr. Denise Kingdom Grier, Pastor**

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.

## Order of Worship

**Prelude** Silver & Gold, K. Franklin

**Call to Worship**

**Opening Song:** "As With Gladness Men of Old"

**Prayer of Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Mutual Greeting**

**Songs of Praise:** "Mary Did You Know"

**Baptism** Shadae Cherry

**Children's Blessing**

**Announcements**

**Congregational Prayer**

**Offering:** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

**Doxology**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture:** Matthew 2: 1-4

**Message:** "Rumor Has It"

**Closing Song:** "Go Tell it on the Mountain" arr. Grier

**Benediction**

## Please Pray For:

God's Healing for: Will Lowry, Maggie Hollis,  
Robin McGee & Marion Kortman

The needs in South Africa, Sothebelo Child & Family,  
SAHAC

Dreamers, Persecuted Church

"Together. Always Together" Campaign

## Announcements

**A Year of Together** 2017 has been an amazing year for us and we want to rejoice in it. For lent we erected a wailing wall that we now want to use to display our delight. So please over the next few weeks, add pictures of family gatherings, baptisms, friends, gatherings, YOU name it. This is our Wall of Rejoicing for 2017

**King Day of Service:** Monday January 15 our partners from Flint, MI will be introduced to our community and give us an update on the water crisis. We will begin the day assembling Hope Bags for the seniors in Flint. Lunch will be provided after which time we will view the Lifetime Flint Movie together followed by a discussion with our partners. **Mark Your Calendar.**

**MLK 2018 keynote lecture:** held on Monday Jan 15th at 7pm in the Dimnent Memorial Chapel. This year marks the 50th Anniversary and Rev. Dr. Carolyn McKinstry will be the keynote speaker.

**Worship Symposium:** The Classis is offering a grant to each church for their attendance at the Calvin Worship Symposium, January 25-27 at Calvin College. Link for more information, <https://worship.calvin.edu/symposium/>

**Small Group Opportunities:** If you have an interest in joining these groups, please contact the office.

**Book study group,** "The Road Back to You" by Ian Cron & Suzanne Stabile sponsored by The Bohle Family.

**Spanish speaking small group,** to engage the Latin American community serving in translating documents, website, & resources, etc. hosted by the Andres Castro Family

**Writing Class for young women,** high school age and up. This class will be writing in various genres, developing your voice, finding your inner poet/writer, telling your story, then sharing & listening to others. This is offered by Arda Rooks every two - three weeks

## Fellowship Throughout the Week

**Tuesdays:** 6:00 pm - Prayer Meeting  
**Wednesdays:** 6:00 pm - Women's Bible Study  
**Thursday:** 6:30 pm - Bible 101 at Emmett Brown's House 176 W. 10th Street  
**Sundays:** 9:00 Men's Bible Study - Jan 14th  
9:30 am - Setting the Atmosphere  
9:45 am - Coffee Fellowship  
**1st Sunday:** MAMily Meal after the Service  
**1st Sunday:** Communion Service

## December Birthday Blessings

*Henry Cherry IV, Leora Cox (12/31)*

If we omitted your birthday, email the office at 427mam@gmail.com or leave a note in the office administrator's mailbox 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]