

## Supporting the Cornerstone Community

Corey Kennard



Pastor Corey Kennard has been part of the Cornerstone Schools community since 2006. He leads a church called AMPLIFY, and his message is simple: BE the church. “By that I mean, help those around you, without prerequisite. It’s simple,” he explains.

One of the ways he puts that belief into action is by supporting the Cornerstone Schools community in many ways. For instance, before Thanksgiving, Pastor Kennard’s congregation put together food bags for anyone in the Cornerstone community who might need a holiday meal. The bags included all the main ingredients for Thanksgiving dinner, such as stuffing, mashed potatoes, green beans, and even two small hens. Amplify served over 50 families from Washington-Parks Academy with their Thanksgiving bags last November, and that is only one example of how they are “living out loud.”

Pastor Kennard and his wife Kristen have organized countless opportunities for the Cornerstone families, including offering warm winter clothing to students and parents, purchasing and donating equipment for the school, providing workshops and mentoring events for children, volunteering in the reading clubs for students in the summer, and stocking a supply room within the school where students and families can go to get items they may need for school like backpacks, notebooks, and more. Kennard believes practical assistance for real-life struggles is the best way to represent the church that he leads.

“I want Amplify to be a place where people learn to take action in their community. We aren’t affluent by any stretch of the imagination, but we do what we can to take care of each other and to pour out love around us. That is the best way to show God’s love,” Pastor Kennard says. He loves Cornerstone and how it is offering strong educational and character development programs to the children of Detroit. “Being involved with Cornerstone in very practical ways is how we help these children grow up to achieve more in their lives. A strong education and a good character foundation will give them the chance to build a bright future. We are just thankful to be a part of supporting Cornerstone in whatever way we can.”

The Cornerstone family is thankful for Pastor Corey and his wife Kristen for their endless support for our community.

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