



THE BETHEL BEACON

APRIL 2024

NOTES FROM REV. MANG SONNA, OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Words fail to express our thankfulness to you for your continued prayers and recent financial support of the Bethel ministry. We are able to meet needs in our community because of your help. I was moved by the generosity of a new family that used our food pantry last month. A day after their visit to our food pantry, the son dropped off a donation of \$20 to help our center. The envelop was scribbled with a few scriptures and one of them is John 3:16. He said, ***“Everyone here at the center is my brother and sister in Christ. We are all children of God regardless of our race or background.”*** He and his mother were thankful for the help they received. While the number of people seeking help with food and other needs are growing in our community, in-kind and financial donations are down. We are concerned and we need your help to meet the growing needs in our community.

The Bethel board, staff and I would like to invite you to our upcoming **Grand Opening** of our new Wellness Multipurpose Center on Saturday, April 27th at 12:00 noon. We have received \$55,000 to meet our matching goal of \$100,000. Please help us meet our goal. We would like to be debt free by the Grand Opening Day! Thank you in advance for your generosity. May God bless you all!



FOOD PANTRY

It was another busy month in our food pantry! In the month of March, we:

- provided food to 225 households
- gave families in need 915 diapers and wipes (up 300 from last month!)

We're always looking to keep our pantry stocked. The need is great and your generosity is immensely appreciated!

“I am very thankful to Bethel because I am more happy and get strengthened by coming here!” – Darshan, Senior Program



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Brothers and sisters from the West Side Baptist Church in Topeka joined us in assembling raised beds for our community garden. Their contribution didn't stop there—they also generously funded four out of the six raised beds! We extend our deepest gratitude to them for their support and dedication to our cause.

Our staff and students finished filling each bed with compost in preparation for planting, and we anticipate a bountiful harvest in the coming months. Beyond providing fresh produce, this garden will serve as a space for connection, education, and empowerment for all who participate. To all our donors, volunteers, and supporters, we thank you for your continued commitment to our mission. Your support enables us to make a positive difference in the lives of those we serve.



PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise God for Bethel's 113th years of serving our community. Bethel birthday is April 11th.
- Praise God for the past and present Bethel board members, volunteers, directors, and staff.
- Praise God for all the lives Bethel has touched and impacted in a positive way.
- Pray for the Grand Opening of our new Wellness Multipurpose Center on April 27th at 12 noon.
- Pray for God's supplying of our financial needs.
- Pray for Bethel supporters to have their needs met.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

During the spring break, we were able to do so many amazing things for our community. The middle picture on this page comes from the spring break mission trip we took some of our students on. We partnered with Youthfront to help them clean and organize their Snack Shack, a place where students come to have fun after school. We also partnered with Immanuel Lutheran Church to prepare food boxes for their food pantry. Then, we went to BRKTHROUGH for some fun and time with friends. The bottom picture is from a Sporting KC stadium tour we took with a group of our high schoolers. We have even more exciting programming coming!

This month has been a full one already! We have been deeply encouraged by the partnership of so many brothers and sisters in the Bethel mission. Without you, none of what we get to do for this community would be possible. We look forward to seeing what the Lord has in store for us as we prepare ourselves to have a Grand Opening and Rededication of the Bethel ministry this month!

