

Our nurses checking seniors' health



Sewing is fun



Students learning about healthy food



Dear Bethel Friend,

Thank you for your prayers and recent financial donation to Bethel Neighborhood Center. We are able to offer hope and help to families and individuals that are struggling in our community because of generous donors like you. A few days after we buried a young refugee boy of 16, due to gun violence in Kansas City, the Russia-Ukraine war started! Our hearts are heavy seeing so many innocent children, women, and senior citizens becoming the victim of war and violence. We don't know if any of our Ukrainian brothers and sisters will seek refuge in the Kansas City area, but we keep them in our prayers. Thank you for enabling us to serve as the hands and feet of Christ in our city. We count on you as we work with our community that is struggling in so many ways.



In one of our conversations with our high school program participants, we reflected on the Russia-Ukraine war, and our high school students decided to lead a fundraiser called, **“Pennies for Ukraine War Victims.”** They are challenging everyone to bring pennies to represent the number of years they have lived in this free country. Anyone can bring pennies as many times as they like until the end of the school year in May to remember the freedom they enjoy, and to help war victims in Ukraine. We are proud of our high school students for taking the initiative to help those who have become refugees due to the Russian aggression. If anyone would like to help our students, they may participate in this fundraiser by donating online at www.bethelcenter.org/donate or make a designated donation to Bethel Neighborhood Center. Our hope and prayer for our students is that they will become responsible citizens and do all they can to alleviate poverty and the suffering of our fellow citizens near and far.

Our food pantry continues to be the source of meeting emergency food, diaper, and baby food needs for those who need help in our community. In 2020, we helped more than 23,000 individuals with emergency food, rent, and utilities. In 2021, we met the emergency needs of 13,890 individuals in our community. Our pantry shelves are emptying quickly and we are struggling to replenish our food and diaper supplies with donations. As the price of gas and other commodities increases, we expect more families and individuals to seek emergency food and other assistance from us. We hope you will pray for us and continue to support our food pantry. Thank you for helping us feed the poor in our community.



Lastly, you are invited to our 11th birthday on April 11, from 5:30-7:30 PM at Bethel Neighborhood Center. Mayor Tyrone Garner will grace our birthday celebration. If you are able, please join us. May God bless you and your loved ones!

Mang & Nem Sonna

Rev. Mang & Nem Sonna
Bethel Neighborhood Center