

# THE BETHEL BEACON

## FEBRUARY 2024

#### NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...

Thank you so much for your continued prayer and financial support of the Bethel ministry. We are able to meet emergency food needs and are able to work with our community because of generous donor like you. Thank you for your partnership in impacting lives in Kansas City, Kansas.

As we enter into the month in which we celebrate LOVE, I am reminded of your love for our community and the depth of God's love for us all. Love is a verb and is followed by action - doing or sacrificing something for the one you love. The Bethel community and I thank you for expressing your love and care for us in so many ways.

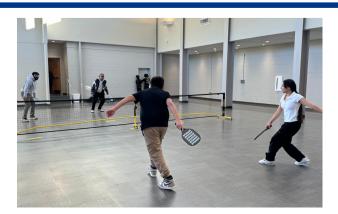
We are in the middle of raising funds to match a challenge grant of **\$100,000** from The Hall Family Foundation. They will match every dollar raised at 1:1 ration until the end of June. This means that your donation will have a double impact and be amplified! We are at **\$49,000** at the beginning of February and we invite you to help us match the entire amount.



### **FOOD PANTRY**

We are so thankful for the opportunity to help meet the need for emergency food assistance in our community! We are working on ways to streamline our client intake and expand our food source network so that we can better help our community. If you have not already considered doing so, your partnership in providing food, diapers, and baby wipes to Wyandotte County families in need would be a great blessing both to us and the community we serve together.

"I actually love coming to Bethel after school program because I get to hang out with my friends here and have all kinds of snacks and food." Leonardo, grade 8



#### AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Our after school program aims to nurture our students' talents, broadening their horizons and preparing them for the bright futures that lie ahead. With this vision in mind, we're embarking on a new phase of our program focused on enrichment opportunities for our high school students. We believe that exposure to different career paths and mentorship opportunities is essential in guiding our students toward success. That's why we're dedicated to expanding our programming to include a wide range of activities designed to ignite their passions and help them explore various professional avenues. We're committed to providing our students with firsthand experiences that will not only educate and inspire them but also equip them with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in their chosen paths. I look forward to updating you on the steps taken in shaping the next generation of leaders here at Bethel!

#### Warm Regards,

Michael Stewart, Assistant Program Director





#### **PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Praise for how much all of the program participants have been enjoying using the new building!
- Praise for new staff and volunteers.
- Pray for Bethel board, staff, volunteers, and program participants.
- Pray for God's supplying of \$100,000 before the end of June, this year.
- Pray for God's continued use and blessing of the Bethel Neighborhood Center, specifically through our expanded Wednesday night worship services.

#### **BETHEL WORSHIP UPDATE**

Starting this month, Bethel will be hosting community meal and worship every Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m. Our dear friends at Oak Grove Assembly will still put on the event twice a month, and our friends from Freedom Church of the Poor will do so once a month. The Bethel staff will put on worship the first Wednesday evening of the month. On the months with five weeks, we will host a community potluck.

We are so excited to extend our community outreach efforts in this way! This provides even more opportunities for us to connect with our neighbors! We look forward to showing and sharing God's love through this ministry. Would you join us in praying for the Lord to use our efforts to bring people into a relationship with God?

