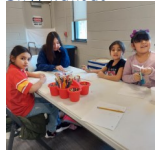


# The Bethel Beacon

January 2023



Dear Bethel Friend,

We thank God for being so faithful in providing all of our needs in 2022 and for bringing us into a New Year that is full of hope and promises! We achieved most of our goals and touched many lives last year because you supported us in prayer and made financial donations to Bethel Neighborhood Center. We are committed to working with more children and youth, senior citizens, and community members in this New Year. We need your help more than ever this year as applying for grants has become increasingly competitive for small organizations like us.



With the help we received from Kansas University Health Systems, local businesses, churches, and individuals, we provided Christmas presents to 66 families, 86 children, and 27 senior citizens last December. The father of a young family that received Christmas presents from us for the first time said, ***“I lost my mother and father in 2022 and I did not think about celebrating Christmas or the holiday season. However, the Christmas gifts we received from Bethel and the excitement of our daughter awakened our broken spirit because we know there are good people who genuinely care for us. I don’t know who adopted my family but I know they truly love God. The Christmas gifts we received brightened our dark world and renew our broken hearts.”*** Hearing stories from recipients of Christmas presents from us has been a great encouragement to us and our supporters. The programs and services we do at Bethel Center do change lives!

Nem and I (Mang) went to India to visit my sick mother, Khawlman in the last week of December, and we thank God for extending her life and the wonderful four days we had with her. She passed away peacefully on January 5th in the presence of my father, her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was 88. My family and I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your prayers, words of comfort, and the sympathy cards. They make our grieving easier and we appreciate each of you. Thank you so much for being there for us.



It is a very exciting time for us here at Bethel Center! We are pleased by the steady progress that is made with the construction of our multipurpose hall (mini-gym) on the north-west side of the existing building. In order to complete this new expansion, we still need \$788,000. Please keep us in your prayers and share our need to your family and friends and those who have the resources. Our children and youth, senior citizens, Bethel families and community members cannot wait to use our multipurpose hall.



May God bless you abundantly!

Rev. Mang & Nem Sonna