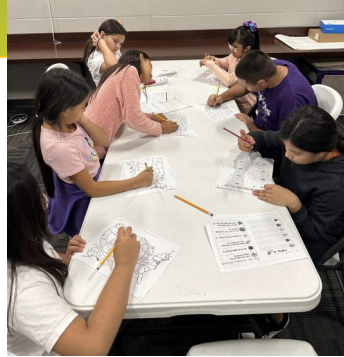




# The Bethel Beacon

November 2023



Dear Bethel Friend,

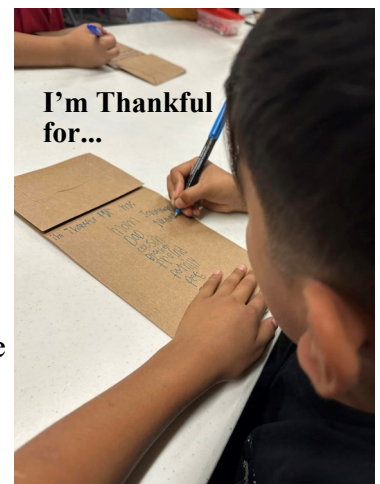
The excitement we see in the faces of our after school program students while picking them up from their schools makes us happy knowing how much they enjoy coming to the Bethel Center. A young mother often asked us, ***“How is my son doing? Is he following instructions? He enjoys coming to Bethel and he listens to me better. He doesn’t want to get into trouble. He don’t want me to take away Bethel from him?”*** It is very rewarding for us to see our students completing their homework, learning new skills, improving their behaviors, and enjoying the activities we do with them. Your donations enable us to work with more than ninety students, many families and seniors in our city. We are very grateful to you for your love and care for our community.



There has been a great need for emergency food assistance in our community. The number of food pantry users has grown since last summer, and we are struggling to restock our food pantry. Food donations we usually receive from local churches, businesses, and clubs are not enough to keep up with the increasing food needs, and we have been buying food from grocery stores and Harvesters to feed the hungry. There were days we had nothing to give out to those who sought assistance from us, and we had to close our food pantry early. It is heart-wrenching to send away someone needy, knowing they might face the same issue elsewhere. We need help to restock our food pantry and to feed the hungry.

As we prepare ourselves to celebrate the Thanksgiving holidays, we want you to know that we are **THANKFUL FOR YOU** for your continued prayers and financial support of the Bethel ministry. Our partnership has enabled us to offer hope and help to community members who are going through challenges in their lives. We encourage our program participants to make a list of what they are thankful for, and it is encouraging to know that many of them are thankful for Bethel and the staff who work at Bethel Neighborhood Center.

It is not too late to adopt Bethel families for Christmas. We asked our families what their Christmas needs are, and we are planning to meet those needs with the help of our ministry partners. We can share with you family size, shirts, pants and shoe sizes, and their specific needs. If you and your family, your church, Sunday school, business or organization would like to adopt a family or two, please call us at 913-371-8218 or email us at [admin@bethelcenter.org](mailto:admin@bethelcenter.org)



Have a very **Happy Thanksgiving!** May God bless you for your generosity!

Rev. Mang & Nem Sonna