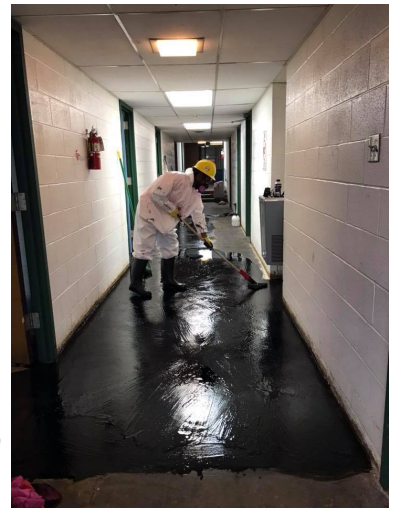




May Update



Dear friends of Bethel Neighborhood Center,

It is with a great excitement that we share some of our renovation pictures! As you can see in the pictures, we are making progress and we cannot wait to go back to a renovated and expanded building! **Thank you very much for your recent donation to the Bethel ministry.** You enable us to offer **Hope** to our children, youth, seniors, and families that are struggling financially. **Our partnership in reaching out to our community has produced lasting results in the lives of the people we work with, and we are very grateful to you.**



The old entrance area



Playground area



Corridor on the west wing

Please mark your calendar as we are planning to have a **GIVING DAY** on June 26 from noon to June 27 noon for phase 2 construction (new Multipurpose Hall). This will give everyone a new opportunity to make new gifts and pledges to go towards our phase 2 need of \$349,400. We will have more details soon. I want to say a big thank you to those who have responded to the matching grant (\$150,000) we announced last month. You have helped us matched **\$50,600 within such a short time!** The opportunity is still wide open to donate and double your money as we are yet to match \$90,400.



Our After School Program for the spring semester winded down last week and we are so happy to celebrate the success of our students. We had graduation ceremonies for 5th, 8th, and high school students. It is very encouraging to hear from older students how their time at Bethel has helped and shaped their worldview and the wonderful advises they gave to their juniors. Touched by our students' reflections, Manuala Perez, our Program Coordinator said, **"I am so touched by the things our students said. This is the reason I work at Bethel and continue to do what I do."** We thank God for the small role we play in the lives of our young people and we thank you for your partnership in this important work.

Yes, we are ready for our Summer Youth Enrichment Program. We are super-excited to have some former Bethel kids (now in college) to work with us this summer to impact the lives of our children.

May God bless you abundantly for your love and care for our community!

Rev. Mang Sonna, Executive Director