



April Update

Folklorico del Sol - dancers



Dear friends of Bethel Neighborhood Center,

In spite of the continued cold weather we have had, April is a great month for us here at Bethel Neighborhood Center. We celebrated Bethel's 107th Birthday, signed a contract with A.L. Huber to renovate and expand our aging building, received a \$200,000 check from the Sunderland Foundation for our capital campaign, and an anonymous donor challenged us with \$150,000 matching grants for our Multipurpose Hall (called Whole Life Center). This month is also great because we see God's faithfulness to us through you and your recent donation. Thank you for your generosity!

Bethel's 107th Birthday



We celebrated Bethel's 107th Birthday on Tuesday, April 10 at 5:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Kansas City, KS. The event was well attended. Our elementary students sang two group songs, did a handbell choir, and two brave and gifted students sang their

hearts out at the event. Our Mayor David Alvey thanked Bethel for serving our community for 107 years and wished us the very best as we embarked on our renovation/expansion project! Having "Help us get back home," as a theme for the day, our students raised over \$10,000 for our capital campaign!

Contract Signed with A.L. Huber

We are thrilled to let you all know that we signed a contract with A. L. Huber on April 13th to renovate our old building, construct a new driveway for a safer drop off and pick up area for program participants, and a new garage to keep our vans safe. Construction work will begin soon! We are continuing our fundraising efforts as we still need \$400,000 to construct a Multi-purpose Hall (Whole Life Center). Please keep us in your thoughts and in prayers for everything that is going on at Bethel Center.



Bethel Youth Mission Trip



During the spring break in March, 14 middle and high school students and 6 Bethel staff went on a mission trip to Camp Moses Merrill near Omaha, Nebraska. They had a wonderful time of helping others and bonding closer with one another. Their service projects consisted of sanding and weather treating picnic tables, cutting down saplings that are a threat to the ecosystem, and deep cleaning tasks. They ended their evening meals with a time for singing, reflection, and spiritual study - listening for God's new song for their lives. It was a great experience for our students as they don't have many opportunities to go outside of the Kansas City area. Thank you very much for your continued support of our inner city ministry.

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

Rev. Mang Sonna, Executive Director