**This Week’s Prayer Focus:** Bethel Church

**Week of:** January 21, 2018

**Location:** Bethel Presbyterian Church, Wichita

**Mission Focus:**

**1. Our life as a Community of Prayer.** In July 2012 we moved to a communal prayer life, with members of the congregation praying aloud for concerns during Sunday worship. This continues to be a strong part of our church life. We hold two healing services each year. We have an active prayer chain. Individually and corporately, we pray for the teachers and staff at Earhart Elementary School, across the street from our church building. We cherish our identity as a Community of Prayer, and believe it will be a significant part of the church’s renewal.

**2. A sense of invitation and evangelism.** We believe that it is incumbent on us to reach out into our neighborhood, in north Wichita, Valley Center, and Park City. We have experienced the power of the gospel, and we are sure it isn’t just for us: it’s for the world around us as well. Evangelism is hard: but we are praying that Jesus will give us five new members in 2017.

**3. Mission work.** The church conducts a food collection effort during the winter, spring, and fall quarters of the year, with the food distributed to the needy through Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church’s food pantry. In 2017 more than 750 pounds of food were collected for this effort; our goal for 2018 will be 900 pounds. In the summer quarter we collect school supplies for needy children at Earhart Elementary School, and we provide an annual lunch for the teachers and staff just before classes start each August. Members of the church sponsor Phil and Gale Fields and Rachel Fields of Pioneer Bible Translators, and Brooke and Eduardo Beato of Medical Ministry International. Pastor Jay Ayers spends two weeks each year in the Dominican Republic as a missionary translator.  The church is equipped with a wheelchair ramp and an elevator for easy access to the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Large print hymnals and headsets to assist the hearing impaired are provided in the sanctuary.

**Prayer Request:** Please pray that we will continue to grow into our vision to be a strong and vibrant Community of Prayer, and that we feel a growing spirit of evangelism to reach out into our community.

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