

January 16, 2021

Dear Bethany Family,

Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it—because it does.

1 Corinthians 14:1-3 (The Message)

At the beginning of December, a letter from our Board of Deacons reminded us that **“the Bethany community is needed.”** For all of us, the sadness over not being able to reopen West Covina Christian School this past September remains close to the surface. Yet despite the challenging changes and losses our faith family has endured the past eleven months, our mission remains steadfast — **we exist to love.** In light of this, we are pleased to update you on the progress of our dialogue with a local Christian school.

After months of prayer, strategizing, and candid negotiations, the Board of Deacons and Pastoral Staff has signed an agreement with Jubilee Christian School to begin renting our campus (primarily our classrooms) during the week. Renting our classroom space will provide *revenue* to enable Bethany to continue impacting new generations in our community, and to offer *Christian hospitality* to a school who is losing their current campus very soon.

Jubilee was started in 2001 by Faith Church, but has been operating independently for many years, educating preschool through eighth grade students in a Christ-centered environment. The imminent sale of Faith’s property means a change of venue for Jubilee. I invite you to join us by **warmly welcoming** Jubilee to the Bethany campus . . . and by **passionately praying** that their ministry will bear much fruit!

To prepare for their occupancy, there will be extensive redevelopment projects in the classrooms. We anticipate that Jubilee Christian School staff and students may be on campus around Easter. In light of our long and deeply invested history of providing a Christian school where students can develop and soar as children of God, we see this opportunity as a Kingdom partnership to maintain the mission of Christian education in our community. And for this, may we rejoice!

We will continue to update you with information concerning this historic moment in the life of Bethany. We ask for your prayers as we trust God to leverage Bethany’s legacy into a future that is as bright as the promises of God.

*I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like me.
I make known the end from the beginning,
from ancient times, what is still to come.
I say, ‘My purpose will stand,
and I will do all that I please.’
What I have said, that I will bring about;
what I have planned, that I will do.*

Isaiah 46:9b-11 (TNIV)

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Doug...on behalf of the Board of Deacons and Pastoral Staff