



Dear Bethel,

I am writing today to share great news. It is with great pleasure that I announce Sam Sudarsanam has been hired as Director of Community Engagement. This is a new staff position for Bethel and will help us focus our attention and energy toward our surrounding community. In this role, Sam will make new connections with community leaders and seek new partnerships that align the gifts of the congregation to needs and opportunities in the community. Sam will also support our existing mission efforts and service projects and be a consistent public presence for Bethel in Cupertino and beyond.

This is a new and unique role for our church staff and has taken over a year to find the right person. For those who know Sam, his outgoing and friendly nature, his abiding commitment to his faith, and his deep connections with Bethel members make him a perfect fit for this role. As Sam begins his work, he will no doubt grow into this new role, with discoveries and learning along the way. I also know we will all support, encourage, and pray for his ministry among us. Sam has shared a quick note to the congregation which you can find below.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in ministry and mission.

God's Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Ben". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Ben

*I am so excited to join the awesome Bethel team! I will be working with the Bethel staff and ministry leaders to strengthen our community within our church and explore various avenues to build strong linkages with our external community. I trust that my extensive volunteering experience and professional career experience and skills will help me give my best to accomplish God's work. I thank God for giving me the opportunity to serve Him through Bethel. I am looking forward to working with you all in the coming weeks.*

*-Sam Sudarsanam*