

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor: Pastor Denise Arnold

Pastor's hours: Tue. 10:30am-4pm

Office Hours: Tuesday's 8am-2pm
& Wednesday's 8am-10am

Check us out on Facebook,
www.gloriadeilutherankelso.com
or email us at
gloriadeikelso@gmail.com



P.O Box 1020
402 Crawford St.
Kelso, WA 98626
360-577-1536

**NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2022**

UPCOMING EVENTS



Soup suppers - our last one will be April 6th, 5:30 dinner and service at 6:30.

SEDER MEAL, Thursday April 14, 2022 at 6:00pm

Gloria Dei will once again be hosting a Seder meal on Maundy Thursday, April 14th at 6:00pm.

We hope you will put this date on your calendar and plan to attend. There will be sign-up sheets circulating in the near future for:

NUMBER ATTENDING - Invite your family, friends and neighbors. This is a meaningful, family friendly event that we would like to share with others.

FOOD DONATIONS - For instance, cans of green beans, butter, etc. Watch for the sign-up sheets.

FOOD PREPARATION - We hope those who have prepared food items in the past will consider preparing those same items for this year's Seder Meal.

TABLE SET UPS with WINE- We are again asking GDLC members to bring table settings and decorations from home and host a table. Each host will be asked to provide wine for their table.

CLEAN UP - A necessary close to every meal and much appreciated.

It is exciting to be able to resume gathering for these memorable events that have been put on hold these past years due to Covid. Hope to see you there. (If you have any suggestions or questions, please call Paula at 360-949-9684.)



Easter Service

April 17th 8am & 10am with brunch in between at 9am. Allan is heading up the breakfast and will have a sign-up sheet soon

Church Camp out

The camp out will occur July 22-24. Please join us for fun, food and fellowship. Even if you do not stay, we potluck on the Saturday evening and you can come and spend the day with those in attendance.

Family Promise of Cowlitz County recently honored Boyd Burns for Business Partner of the Year. Lisa Staudinger, Executive Director gave Boyd (Pacific Door & Window) the award based on donating doors and windows for the Family Promise Center during remodeling of The Day Center. In 2020 Boyd closed Pacific Door and Window after 40 years and donated a lot of office supplies and equipment to Family Promise. In addition he is donating much needed storage space in his warehouse for furniture and household items. The organization has minimal storage space, and more need for it than ever, once the pandemic started and the guest families were sheltered at the family center instead of in partner congregations. Lisa states the approximately 500 square feet of space would not have been financially possible for Family Promise. Thank you to Boyd and host church Gloria Dei Lutheran Church along with their partners, Rose Valley Friends and Renewal City Church, to host Family Promise guests about four times a year. Family Promise assists families with children who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to attain housing and achieve lasting stability through a community-based response.

Lisa Staudinger
Executive Director of Family Promise

FISH Schedule for 2022

May 31 & June 1

July 14 & 15

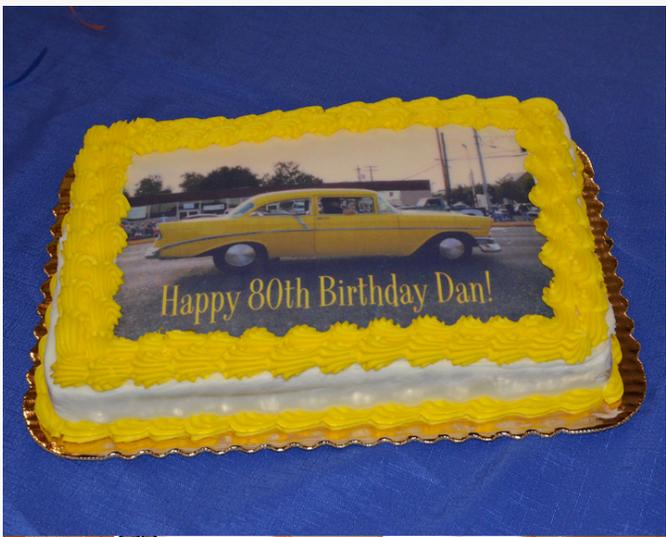
Aug. 2 & 3

Sept. 1 & 2

Oct. 31 & Nov. 1

Dec. 15 & 16





Thank you Carl Winston for the great pictures!



It is with a heavy heart that I share this news. Dan Carter passed away Saturday morning the 19th around 6 AM with his whole family in the home. Keep them in your prayers. A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Oh God of glory and grace, we remember before you today our brother Dan. We thank you for giving him to us for a time... In your boundless compassion console and comfort Mary and the family. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so we may live with confidence and hope until we are all gather together again in our heavenly home. Through Christ Jesus Amen



Happy Birthday

April Birthdays

Happy Birthday

3rd – Allan Erickson
 4th– Ruth Raymen
 8th Celina Dotson
 9th Samantha Masiarek
 11th– Chuck Davison
 18th– Seth Burns
 18th– Candi Engebo



18th Dan Libby
 20th Sharon Kaighin
 22th– Russ Halverson
 26th – Arlene King
 28th – Rocky Little
 30th – Greg Price

Readers for April

3rd- Candace Kolberg
 10th-
 17th 8am- Candace Kolberg
 17th 10am-Allan Erickson
 24th-

Coffee hour for April

3rd- LeAndra Rogers
 10th-
 17th-
 24th-

Flowers for April

3rd- LeAndra Rogers
 10th- Jane Vaughn
 17th- Mary Roundy
 24th-

Greeter for April

3rd- Candace Kolberg
 10th- Mary Roundy
 17th 8am-
 17th 10am-
 24th-

If you would like to be a reader contact Jackie at 360-430-7778 with the date you are interested in.

Sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex to be a greeter or bring flowers or host coffee hour.



APRIL 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:30 Holden Evening Prayer GD 	7	8	9
10 11am Council	11	12	13	14  Seder Meal 6pm Seder Dinner	15	16
17 Easter service 8am & 10am & 9am brunch Easter Egg Trunk or Treat Newsletter deadline Community House 	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

WHO'S IN THE PEW NEXT TO YOU?

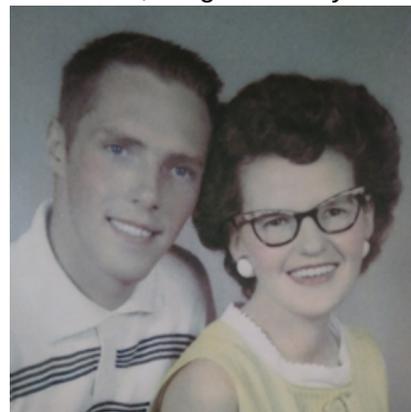
by Paula Zerby

This past week I visited Gladys Collins in her light and sunny apartment at the Monticello Park facility in Longview and reminisced with her about memorable events in her life. I thoroughly enjoyed our conversation and loved learning some personal details about her. I have chronicled a few of the stories she related to me with hopes that you will know her a little bit better too. The focus of this feature, after all, is to get to know one another better as members of our Gloria Dei Lutheran family.

On July 3, 1935, Gladys Marlene was born to Goodwin and Francis Olson in a hospital in Dickinson, North Dakota. A hospital birth was not a common occurrence in those days but Gladys's mother was having difficulty due to the breech position of the baby and was driven 48 miles from the farm in Regent, ND, to the hospital in Dickinson. The cost of the birth was so expensive that it took her parents 8 years to pay off the bill. At eight years old she remembers going with them to Dickinson to present the last payment to the hospital. On the way home she was treated to her first meal in a restaurant and delighted in her first taste of French fries.

Gladys lived with her parents and 18 siblings (she was child number 9) on a farm outside of Regent until her father bought two taverns in town and moved the family closer to his businesses. In 1948, the Olson family once again relocated, this time from North Dakota to Longview, Washington, where Goodwin operated a grocery store on Commerce Ave. That year Gladys started 8th grade in the Kelso School system and eventually graduated high school in 1953.

The Olson family joined Emmanuel Lutheran church where Gladys and her siblings were confirmed. During these years she met her future husband, Marlin Collins. She was 14 and he was 18 and she marvels that her parents allowed her to date him. Not long after their first date he and his best friend enlisted in the service and served four years in the Navy before returning home. Meanwhile, at age 16 Gladys had gotten an apartment, secured a job at the Telephone Company and walked to and from school



Marlin & Gladys Collins

to finish her high school education. At age 18 she needed major dental work (she had only visited a dentist once in her early years) so she took 12 bus trips to Portland during one week to have all her teeth pulled and be fitted for dentures.

On September 3, 1955, Marlin and Gladys married. Marlin started work at Weyerhaeuser and Gladys settled into homemaking. They welcomed into their family son Steve in 1957, son Phil in 1958 and daughter Dana in 1962.

Gladys enjoyed being a homemaker and loved to bake. In fact, her cinnamon rolls were so legendary that one of her sister's dying wishes was to taste some of those delicious buns. So, for four weeks Gladys baked cinnamon rolls and overnighted them to her sister. It was told to

Gladys later that her sister ate them all, not wanting to share any of them with anyone. Unfortunately, Gladys's failing eyesight, due to macular degeneration, prevents her from baking anymore.

Sometime during the late 1960s Marlin and Gladys joined Gloria Dei Lutheran Church at the urging of Gladys's sister Arlouin and her husband Don. They settled into church family life and saw Steve, Phil and Dana go through confirmation classes and be confirmed. Gladys remembers some pastors more fondly than others but she holds Pastor Andrew Rosenburg in high regard. When her oldest son Steve was in the hospital, Pastor Rosenburg was a great support to them both. He visited the hospital to pray with them and was a comfort during this trying time in their lives. She has seen many pastors and members come and go over the years but GDLC has remained her church home.

Unfortunately, tragedy struck the family in 1980. In spite of having undergone heart surgery five years earlier, Marlin suffered a fatal heart attack at age 49. Gladys was only 45. She was now the sole breadwinner so she went out and got a job. She worked at a jewelry store, Safeway and finally Park 'N Shop, where she was employed until she retired.

Once Gladys was no longer tied to a job, she and a sister moved to Arizona. They enjoyed their new life in the south and met many new people. In fact, marriage was once again in the cards for Gladys. She met Doug and they were soon wed. She and Doug bought a motor home and enjoyed traveling. Her favorite vacation memory is driving their motor home to Alaska. Joel Halverson, Gladys's sister Mavis and her husband Bud (Joel Halverson's parents),



BR-Steve & Doug, FR-Phil, Dana & Gladys

accompanied them in their own motor home. When they reached Alaska, they were joined by Steve, Phil, Dana, Wes and Kathy who had flown in by plane. According to Gladys it was a cold but marvelous trip.

Eight years ago, Gladys felt she needed to be in a retirement facility where she would be surrounded by people who could provide some care if needed. So she packed up and moved to Longview once again.



She has made a home in a lovely little apartment at Monticello Park, is surrounded by many friends and is close enough to her family to be able to see her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Thank you, Gladys, for taking the time to visit with me and be the subject for my first "WHO'S IN THE PEW NEXT TO YOU" article. Many blessings to you.

WHO'S IN THE PEW NEXT TO YOU?

by Paula Zerby

On a recent wet and rainy February afternoon, I enjoyed the warmth and hospitality of Ruth Raymen's cozy kitchen as she answered my questions and recounted remembrances of her life. I felt surrounded by the many memories that have been made in her home over the last seven decades and feel honored to share some of those stories with you.

Bonnie Ruth Hoehne was born on April 4, 1929, in Mission, South Dakota. She was the third of seven children born to her parents Martha and Earnest Hoehne. As was common at that time, the birth occurred at home and her mother was assisted by a midwife who lived on a neighboring farm. Ruth's mother wanted to name her Bonnie and her father wanted the name Ruth so they compromised and used both names. Although Ruth is her middle name, it is the name by which most people know her.

Ruth's earliest memories are centered around the farm her parents owned in Mission. It was not long, however, before the worsening conditions of The Dust Bowl reached the Hoehne home. Farming became almost impossible due to the drought and Ruth's dad's lungs could not tolerate the dust. So, in 1937, the Hoehne family became part of the migration moving west. They first relocated to Centralia but eventually settled in Kalama where Earnest worked for the fish hatchery on the Kalama River until his retirement.

Their first home in Kalama was quite a long distance from the grade school. Since there was no bus service to their home, Ruth remembers making the walk to and from school on that long and lonely road. One day, on their way home from school, a man with bright red hair driving a flashy blue convertible stopped Ruth and her sister and asked if he could give them a ride up



Ruth's High School Graduation 1948

Ruth and her sister and asked if he could give them a ride up the road where he was going to visit a friend. Luckily, the girls knew better than to accept a ride from a stranger. They also knew their house was the only house on that particular road so he couldn't have been telling the truth. He continued up the road while Ruth and her sister hid in the ditch alongside the road until he came back down the road heading into town. They were all happy to move into Kalama the next year where they could easily walk to school and attend the Methodist Sunday school each week. During her high school years, Ruth met and became fast friends with Mary, with whom she continued to share a lifelong bond. One particular memory Ruth had of Mary involved going to a dance in Ridgefield without the certainty of having a ride home. Ruth was reluctant to attend the dance under those circumstances but Mary insisted they would most likely see someone they knew

and could then hitch a ride home. So, Ruth agreed to go. They took a bus to the dance and Mary did find someone to take her home but the ride home did not include Ruth! Ruth was left high and dry in Ridgefield. When it became apparent to the band, who were the last people in the dancehall, that Ruth was in a dilemma they offered to drop her off in Kalama on their way up north. She laughingly jokes that she and Mary remained friends in spite of all that happened. It was, in fact, through Mary that Ruth met her future husband Norman Raymen, a serviceman who had served 4 years in the Navy during WWII. During her junior year in high school, Norman asked Mary out on a date and Ruth went along on the outing. Soon after this first date, Norman again asked Mary to go out but this time they double dated with Ruth and her friend. While on the double date, Norm asked Ruth to go out with him and the rest, as they say, is history.

Ruth graduated from Kalama High School on Thursday, May 27, 1948, and married Norman on Saturday, May 29th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Longview. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church had only been talked about at this time but by September of 1948 a charter had been drawn up and the church was organized with 132 charter members. Ruth and Norman, along with several of Norman's siblings and his parents, were among those first 132 members. Ruth is the last of the original charter members to still be attending GDLC.

The newly married couple bought a small one bedroom house on a large lot in north Kelso and moved into their new home. In November 1950, they were delighted to welcome daughter Jenean into the family. In 1951, Norman decided they should move to Anchorage, Alaska, where he could get a good job in construction. Ruth was not very keen to go but agreed to move for a one year trial. During their time in Anchorage they added another child to their growing family. Leandra was born in July 1952. After spending many months in the frozen north, they were both ready to head back to Washington. Ruth was homesick and lonesome for her large, extended family. She reported that she went to Alaska with one child and was delighted to return with two.

Back in Kelso, Norm got a good job at Weyerhaeuser and Ruth continued to be the homemaker. Their one bedroom house in north Kelso was now too small to accommodate the family so Norman built a new and larger two bedroom house next door. With the birth of their third daughter Melanie in December of 1956, the need for more room became readily apparent.

Norman, once again, got to work and added a family room and master bedroom. This house on North 2nd St. in Kelso has been the Raymen's home until this day. It has been a place of love and welcome throughout the years. Pastor Elten Zerby, who was a high school friend of Jenean's, has fond memories of Ruth's kindness whenever he visited their home.

During these same years of the early 1950s, Ruth and Norman were very involved with the new GDLC congregation; first it's groundbreaking in May 1953 and then the completed building's dedication in December 1953. Church has been a central part of their family life. It is at GDLC that their daughters were baptized and confirmed and it has remained "the family" church of the Raymen family to this day. Ruth was also very proud of Norman's involvement in his community. He served on the governing board

of St. John's Hospital for twelve years and the Mint Valley Credit Union for more than 20 years.

Ruth says she was blessed with a loving husband and wonderful father to their three girls. One memory that underlined Norman's devotion to his daughters occurred after Jenean returned from a stay at Tri-Hi-Y camp. At the dinner table that night, she told her family that she had had some difficulty with one of the camp counselors and he had called her a name. Upon hearing this, Norman got up from the dinner table, donned his hat and quietly left the house. He related to Ruth afterwards that he had driven to the YMCA and voiced his displeasure at the treatment his daughter had received from this particular counselor. Ruth said she was so proud of him at that moment.



Ruth & Norman's Wedding 1948



After Norman's retirement, the two of them enjoyed traveling in their RV to Mexico, Alaska and other U. S. camping sites along with six other couples they had met while square dancing during the early days of their marriage. These same couples met once a month to play cribbage and enjoyed each other's company throughout the years.

Sadly, in November 2009, Norman passed away. He and Ruth had been married for 61 years. She remains close to her children and grandchildren and is very blessed to have had Leandra as a next door neighbor these past 43 years.

Thank you again, Ruth, for taking the time to share your life stories with me. Blessings to you.

Raymen Family- BR: Melanie, Jenean, Leandra
FR: Norman, Ruth

A few pictures from happenings around the church in March



GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2022

Present: Joel Halverson, Boyd Burns, Seth Burns, Peggy Winston, Chuck Davison, Terri Reichert, Dana Libby, Candi Engebo, Greg Price, George Bixby, Jackie Erickson, Jocelyn Price, and Pastor Denise.

Devotions: Candi shared her Faith Journey.

Election of Officers:

President: Boyd Burns nominated

Vice President: Candi Engebo nominated

Treasurer: Jackie Erickson nominated

Secretary: Dana Libby nominated

Financial Secretary: Jocelyn Price nominated

Terri motioned that the above nominees all be awarded the Council leadership positions as noted. Peggy Winston seconded, and the motioned passed without dissent.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer reported receipts for January of \$8,557.00, and expenses of \$11,040.26. Candi moved and Joel seconded the motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. George requested clarification on what restricted and unrestricted means in regards to the invested funds.

Christian Education: Pastor Denise, Jackie and Dana met via Zoom to discuss VBS which is now scheduled for July 25th-28th. Jackie has started purchasing items for VBS. Instead of doing an Easter egg hunt, Jackie is hoping 5-7 volunteers will help with a "trunk or treat". Jackie shared the multiple items that she will utilize with our kids in porch bags through May. George requested a new white board, as the library board is stained. George is having fun with RJ during Confirmation.

Property Team: Doug Engebo is working on a new sign utilizing a new laminate material. Downstairs temperature is good, but still working on getting upstairs warmer. Greg noted we may need to call Entek for help. There was a suggestion of having the property committee meet monthly to help grow the committee and work on projects. Jackie mentioned having a spring cleaning day on May 22nd. Boyd purchased new locks for the basement door by furnace room, and the upstairs east door so that they will remain locked at all times. The locks will be keyed the same as the current locks. Seth mentioned we could put a doorbell outside the door to be rang for those with no keys. Seth volunteered to look into a doorbell. George asked about a light switch on the west end of the upstairs hallway. Property Committee will review to see if a light switch exists that could be utilized.

Stewardship: Pastor Denise brought up a program called "Not My Parents Offering Plate". Boyd is reading, and Chuck has read, and Chuck felt it put a lot on the Pastor, but contained ideas to encourage giving. More to come later.

Worship & Music: Seth felt we should create a sub-committee for organ replacement. Seth will invite other members to be part of the committee as well. Pastor asked Seth to send out an email to survey opinions. Joel noted that the Worship Committee has done a wonderful job with song selection.

Mutual Ministry: Pastor would like to get this team going again. Denise noted that this team is a pulse and support for the Pastor and Congregation. Chuck shared, that the group is considered an intermediary between Pastor and congregation. The Committee helps head off problems before they escalate. Pastor chooses one member, Council chooses one member, and one member who represents the congregation. Boyd asked Pastor Denise to bring a name suggestion, Boyd will review the constitution on how the other members are determined.

Pastor's Report:

First I want to acknowledge and share my utmost thanks and appreciation for the beautiful stole you all gave me for my installation. It truly captures my call to ministry and love of God's creation. Thank you Thank you Thank you!!!!

I met for dinner with Pastor Craig of Trinity on Jan. 27th to discuss plans for our Lenten season. Trinity will host us for Ash Wednesday and then the following five Wednesday evenings will be at Gloria Dei with Soup suppers. I have also contacted Pastor Elten to provide the homily for March 9. Pastor Craig will lead the 16th. I will lead March 23 and 30th as I will be on Spring Break.

On February 3rd I Zoomed with Dana and Jackie to begin planning for the summer VBS and camping. VBS will be Monday - Thursday July 25-28th. We will begin receiving the gracious gift of Longview Community Church VBS programming entitled "Monumental VBS Celebrating God's Greatness." Perhaps we will do a walk earlier in July through the Mt St Helen's Hummocks... our own Mt. St. Helens Monument.

Slowly, people are trickling in on Tuesdays to meet me. I met with Boyd and Deborah, as well as spent a lovely afternoon with Paula. Pattie is on my calendar for this week. I simply enjoy people and I invite all of you to meet with me... if not on Tuesday, then tell me what works for you. Ideas that are pouring out include a "Getting to know our Neighbor" column that Paula would like to start writing for our newsletter. She may be calling you for an interview. Another exciting idea is to support and encourage our property keepers with some ideas.

I invite all of you (old and new members of council, spouses welcome) to my home on March 27 for a full day of planning for the new year. Dress warm in case we are around the fire pit... otherwise we will be inside. I will organize some type of lunch (possibly Papa Murphy's and salad, unless you have a better idea).

February 20th I have plans to do a creative activity to begin making our mission for 2022 and beyond. I would like to use the product of the 20th to discuss on the 27th of March.

I believe it is important to narrow our focus so that we really shine with our service. I recognize that in our congregation, many of you have done much of the work. I don't want people to burn out, and I also recognize that as many of you are entering retirement, there will be more travel, pulling us away from church commitments. Thus, I really want to hone our mission on a clear focus.

I would like to see our committees have some type of open standing meeting times so all in the congregation can join if they choose to, possibly putting this on the calendars?

On February 27, Pastor Norm has called our Longview area conference together for a day of planning at our house for possible joint ministries and mutual support.

THIS AND THAT-

I have slowed our interest in the Portland Concert in May 12, For King and Country... we will see how COVID pans out. There seems to be too much uncertainty to commit to buying tickets.

Feedback... You are my eyes and ears on our community. Please, email, call, or leave a note under my door if there is a need, or a prayer request. Blessings- Happy Valentines Day! Share the Love.

Joel thanked Pastor for bringing in the new bulletin!

Old Business:

Flooring: Trying to get going on this.

Coffee Hours: Will start again February 20th.

Safety: Boyd purchased new door locks. The Safety Leader from Calvary Chapel, an area person who is familiar with this type of protocol, is willing to come tour the church and provide suggestions. Boyd will set up a meeting in the near future.

Directory: The directory is completed, 28 pages and half are in color. Carl and Peggy received three quotes for 75 or 90. MinuteMan Press for 75 would be \$425, 150 would be \$691; Reprographics \$390 for 90. It was suggested that we should order 100 to ensure that we have plenty for visitors. Peggy will reach out to the vendors and request new quotes for 100, and Council provided approval for Peggy to proceed with ordering. Thanks to Peggy and Carl for all their hard work!

New Business:

Council Spending Limit: Council's spending limit according to our Constitution is \$2,000. A new limit would need congregational approval. The Council would provide a suggestion. It will be determined at a future congregation meeting.

Shrove Tuesday: Jocelyn will take the lead.

Seder: Boyd will talk to Paula Zerby to see if she will take the lead. George will take the lead if the Zerby's do not want to.

Easter: One or two services? Pastor Denise mentioned having a sunrise service. Boyd noted we can discuss at the next meeting once we see how COVID numbers are.

Easter Breakfast: Jackie will ask Allan Erickson to spearhead.

CHURCH CAMP OUT

The camp out will occur July 22-24. Please join us for fun, during the day, potluck dinner at 5:00 and fellowship following dinner on Saturday the 23rd.

FAMILY PROMISE

Our first hosting week for 2022 is May 29th through June 4th. For those that would like to participate and have not done so in the past, please let Dana know your email as meal sign ups are done via Sign Up Genius through Family Promise.

The balance of Gloria Dei's 2022 hosting dates are as follows: July 17-23; August 21-27; and November 13-19. We share hosting responsibilities with Renewal City and Rose Valley Friends and they have been great support churches to work with. The families are in a static housing situation at the Family Promise Day Center, so when we host we provide dinners for the week, with breakfast on Saturday. Family Promise has been doing a great job of getting families into housing within two to three months of arrival, so who we cook for varies each host week.