“We were one of many families that was on welfare... we were kids, we didn’t know, we didn’t understand why there wasn’t very much food on our plates... I wanted to do this, I wanted to do that, I wanted to eat...and mom was like ‘yeah, you’re a growing boy but I just don’t have it.’” - Mark Blakeslee

“I came here for the first time hungry, scared and the chef made Chicken-a-la-King. I’m telling you, when I was a boy, I used to badger my mother about making that stuff. I could eat it every day and I looked at that and... and it was so identical to the way my mom used to make it. We’re talking 45 years ago. It was absolutely delicious, so soul-warming, such a comfort that I could almost cry. – Kent Johnson

“I thought I could do it on my own. But it’s not that simple when your babies are on the line. No matter how old they are, when they’re looking at you asking, ‘What’s for dinner, Mom?’ and you’re going, ‘Well...crackers and ketchup sounds good,’ that eats at your backbone a bit.” – Jami Sullivan

For nineteen years, Shalom’s supporters have provided relief for our hungry neighbors like Mark, Kent, Jami, and their families. Last year, Shalom served over 79,084 meals and, while we don’t have an exact count, we know we’ve served well over a million meals in our history. Because of you, Shalom also served breakfast and lunch every day of the last year, (our first full year of seven day-a-week service, providing 21,504 meals on the weekends).

On behalf of our hungry neighbors, we need YOUR help to do so again. The months of February and March are the most important time of year for our hunger relief program, when we raise half of the money it takes to provide those meals.

Over the next two months, we’ve set an ambitious goal. We want to raise $50,000, 25% more than last year, and the full cost of our food budget. Can you help us do it?

Please fill out the enclosed response card right now and increase your gift by 25% to help us fully fund Shalom’s hunger relief efforts. And, thanks to a very generous donor, every Hunger Relief donation you make will be partially matched if we receive your gift on or before March 31st, making your gift go that much further.

Thank you for your support,

Rev. Forrest Gilmore
Executive Director

P.S. Donate today to fully fund our food budget of $50,000 before March 31st. People just like Mark, Jami, and Kent hunger for your support today.