

Nightwatch News

December, 2016

A little child shall lead them. . .

By Rev. Rick Reynolds

Dear Night Watch, Me, Ava, Isabelle, Manwella, Kate and Cameron raised money for the homeless people. My mom also got some stuff off of the shopping list. So we were standing on the sidewalk holding signs.



In some sort of poetical justice, I was the only Nightwatch employee working during the day after our sock drive. At 10 a.m. seven carloads of first-grade students showed up with 1,379 pairs of socks from St. Benedict's school in Wallingford.

The kids were really excited. Twenty-six of them finally quieted down enough to hear a little bit about what we do. In single file, they inspected the kitchen, the store room, the senior housing, then off they went, back to school. I was totally exhausted after about 15 minutes!

I still remember the thoughtful question posed by a kindergarten kid several years ago. He had listened to me talk about my homeless friends.

"If they don't have a place to live, why don't they go stay with their grandma?"

Thanks to St. Benedict's, we got socks, blessed by the priest. Wouldn't it be nice if the sock recipients—our homeless friends—could enjoy the holidays in a place of their own? That is our hope and constant prayer. Your support for Nightwatch brings food, shelter, housing and hope to those without a home. Thank you for your generosity.

Lord, as we celebrate this Christmas season, help us to remember what matters most to the One whose birthday we are observing. ●

Inspiration

By Liz Fenn

Usually my article for the newsletter is inspired by something extraordinary that happened at the Dispatch Center; something that provided a lesson to be learned or remembered. Inspiration did not come to me this time – at least, not in the form of the extraordinary. So I pondered the ordinary aspects of Nightwatch to find inspiration.



I found it in the care shown by our clients, who pick up a broom or a mop at the end of each night without being asked. I found inspiration in our former clients who call the Dispatch Center to thank us and to let us know they have housing.

I found it in my colleagues, who give up their time on their days off to help me cook when there's a vacancy to fill. I found inspiration in the way our staff treats the clients with respect, mercy and compassion in the midst of adversity.

I found inspiration in the kitchen groups that volunteer month after month to prepare delicious meals so no one goes hungry. I am inspired by the college and high school students and young people whose commitment to social justice goes way beyond their required service hours.

I found inspiration in the people who live in neighboring communities who bring bread, cookies, clothes, socks, toiletries and other goodies because they recognize that they have been given much, and they want to give something back in return.

Thank you to all who volunteer and give. You make Nightwatch such an inspiring place to be. ●



NIGHTWATCH

Serving the night community in the name of Christ

Have a blessed Christmas!

Volunteer Orientation Open House

The best way to learn about Nightwatch and the many volunteer opportunities.

Thursday, Dec. 1, 2016
7:30–8:00 pm

RSVP or questions:
info@seattlenightwatch.org

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Tony Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
Ozie & Ora Gibson
Hal Gibson
Pete Gudger
Cheryl Gudger
Max Harrington
Roy Harrington
Mal Higgins
Linda Martin
Hattie Kimble
Lorri & Rick Reynolds
Dorothy Klingle
George & Carolyn Rippee

Al Lobb
John & Jody Fenlason
Shirley Pulis
Ken & Carol Williams
Pat & Lyle Riddell
Jodi Mangold
Dick Shipe
Gary & Theresa Shipe
Jane Shipe
Louise Solemslie
Allen Solemslie
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Tony Volchok &
Cindy Monsen

Glenn & Shirley Weed
Andy & Ramona McBeth
Jim & Cynthia Weaver
Gilbert Weiss
John Weiss &
Corry Venema-Weiss
Mary Wooldridge
Holly Boone

Tributes

Audrey & Mark
Pam & Clay Herbst
USChee—fight on!
Joseph Chen
Sue & Aaron Feik
Jim & Frances Reynolds
Jason's Trojans
Brian Kumasaka
Courtney Hirata
Lance & Patti Matsuda
Man Lung Li
Mimi Cheung
Mike Potts
Catharine Fletcher
Pro-life President
Daisy Neves
Larry Sato's birthday
Amy Sato

Seniors on the move

By Marlene Poland

Newton's Law: A body at rest tends to stay at rest, while a body in motion stays in motion.

The seniors at Operation Nightwatch Housing are on the move! We host a low-cost outing every week, whether it's to the coffee shop or to the Museum of Flight. Our seniors are not only safe from life on the streets, they are keeping their minds and bodies active as well.

Just the other day, we took a field trip to Broadcast Coffee, and were kindly treated to a cup of wonderful coffee. Broadcast Coffee has been doing this for us each time we visit their establishment.

One rainy day was especially memorable. As we sat at the window, watching the rain fall and the sun trying to peek out, one of us said, in a very low voice "Now this is really living." We all laughed in agreement.

Giving thanks for one more day is something that we all agree on. I remember thinking just how much I have learned about myself from the conversations with the seniors here at Nightwatch. As I look at each one of them, I am reminded they are someone's son, daughter, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, mother or father. They have wisdom to share. At Nightwatch, we are proud to be a part of their life's journey.

We have plans, the seniors and I. We are going to see the zoo lights, visit the Center for Wooden Boats on Lake Union, and, of course, return to our favorite coffee shop. Nightwatch seniors are going to keep on moving all the way through the Christmas season, into the New Year! Thank you to our donors who make this work possible, keeping rents low. Thank you to our volunteers for making life joyous. Remember our seniors as you pray. ●

Please consider a gift to Nightwatch for the holidays. God bless.



Shopping List

Please help by collecting these items for us to distribute to our homeless friends and tenants (travel sizes are preferred):

- Deodorant
- Hand warmers
- Lotion
- Lip balm
- Shave cream
- Hand sanitizers
- Multi-vitamins
- Cough drops
- Pain relievers
- Kleenex packs
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Bulk drink mix

For more information about these items please contact:
liz@seattlenightwatch.org

For a list of other needed items, please check out our

Amazon Wish List:

<http://tinyurl.com/zjo64fd>

Shelter Dispatch Center & Senior Apartments

302 14th Ave. S
Seattle, WA 98144

Contact us:
PO Box 21181
Seattle, WA 98111

206-323-4359 Administration
206-860-4296 Senior Housing
206-329-2099 Shelter Dispatch

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