

# Nightwatch News

November, 2017

## Thankfulness

By Rev. Rick Reynolds



Most of us are so isolated from hungry people that we can scarcely believe they even exist in the city. But I've looked into the eyes of a kid who had never seen a Costco-size box of Oreos before. I have witnessed an elderly man come into a restaurant and finish the meal of a stranger who left food behind. I have observed a phantom on our city streets, rummaging through a Pioneer Square garbage can to find something, anything, to eat.

This last moment happened at 10:15 one night. He lifted the lid on the garbage can at Third and James, pawed through the trash without luck, then crossed the street. I invited him to my car, and opened the trunk. There were 20 pizzas. His eyes opened wide, as I handed him one.

If we really want to express our thankfulness this month, let us welcome to our table all people, not just our friends and relatives. "For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat." Thank you for helping Nightwatch feed hungry people in this city, every night.

*Lord, grant us the ability to get out of our comfort zone, to give up our self-centered ways, and to truly love our neighbors as we should. Amen. ●*

## Best man

By Ben Curtis, Street Minister

Many times after talking with someone on the street, I have no idea what happens to them unless I run into them again. If I don't see or hear from them, all I can do is hope that seeds of love and kindness were planted, and pray that they are in a better place.

A couple of weeks ago, I got a call from a guy I hadn't seen in a couple of years. Back then, I had done my best to walk with him through some very difficult things regarding legal issues, family, and depression. He was on the streets for several years, always hard-pressed to find a job because of his criminal history.

He was calling me now to let me know that he had a full time job, had recently bought a house, and was engaged to his girlfriend. Besides this good news, he asked if I would be the best man at his wedding next year.

I was humbled to think of all he had been through that he would ask me to stand with him on such an important day.

'You were the only person I could think of to be my best man,' he told me. 'Without you, I think I'd be dead.'

Christ implores us to love our neighbors, wherever we might find them. In doing so, we might affect people in such a way that they ask us to be a maid of honor or a best man at their wedding. But, truly, I would hope that how we walk with those around us, would point them to the 'best man' that ever walked the earth. ●



# NIGHTWATCH

**Serving the night  
community in the  
name of Christ**

*Please join us!*

## SOCK IT TO HOMELESSNESS

and

### 50th Anniversary Open House

Come by, drop off some socks, take a tour, and help Nightwatch celebrate our 50th Anniversary!

**Sunday, November 12  
Noon—3 pm**

302 14th Ave S, Seattle, 98144  
info@seattlenightwatch.org  
www.seattlenightwatch.org

### Volunteer Open House

Find your favorite  
volunteer job!

**Thursday, Nov 2, 2017  
7:30—8:00 pm**

RSVP or questions:  
info@seattlenightwatch.org

Find out more:  
<http://tinyurl.com/ydaqfjsx>

# Memorials & Tributes

## Memorials

Dr. David Aasen  
Joseph Frost  
Bill Branom  
Mary Branom  
Marie Davidson  
Lola Davidson  
Robert Domzalski  
Todd Eakes  
Eileen Giblin  
Nicole Greco  
Mary & Denny Hunter  
Taro Kawabe  
John Rouse  
Tony Domzalski  
Mark & Lisa Domzalski  
Pat Domzalski  
Byron Forbes  
Bud & Trudy Forbes  
Keith & Kay Forbes  
George & Carolyn Rippee

Pete Gudger  
Cheryl Gudger  
Ruth Hansen  
Kelly Black  
Lyle & Shelley Staley  
Hattie Kimble  
Chuck & Marge Beavers  
Ron Kimble  
Carl & Heather Craven  
Al & Maxine Lobb  
John & Jody Fenlason  
George Matsuda  
Ong & Kimura, Inc.  
Edith Root  
Janet Buck  
Louise Solemslie  
Allen Solemslie  
Mary Speltz  
Greg Speltz

Don Tekawa  
Ron & Sharon Hirata  
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok  
Tony Volchok  
& Cindy Monsen  
Glenn & Shirley Weed  
Andy & Ramona McBeth  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Jim & Cynthia Weaver  
Gilbert Weiss  
John Weiss  
& Corry Venema-Weiss  
Leonard Woodgate  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Mary Wooldridge  
Holly Boone

## Tributes

Joanne Crawford  
Harvey & Geri Nelson  
Family  
Jan Creason  
All the hurricane victims  
Pam & Clay Herbst  
Mike Potts  
Catharine Fletcher

## Whose hands?

By Ann Sakaguchi

The other day, I went to a burial service in Renton for 180 people, considered “indigent,” who had no family or loved ones to claim them. It was attended by many caring people. It was a solemn service. Of course, rain was pouring down. And it was cold standing in the cemetery, shivering under hoods and umbrellas.



Listening to the names being read, my thoughts turned back to Nightwatch, and our homeless friends. Now that the weather has turned cold and rainy, we have still not fully resolved our shelter crisis. People are having to be outside every night.

Thanks to gracious partners in ministry, we have seen some of our men enter programs aimed at getting them into housing. For the others, we are grateful for temporary shelter space with our friends at the Union Gospel Mission. This ends soon, though.

But there is hope; we’ve found another place for shelter. As I write this, we are frantically making the necessary changes required by city building and fire codes. We’re scheduling inspections to receive the permission that’s required to operate a shelter. We’ll share the details once we open.

Can I just be honest? I’m tied up in knots about all this. Every time I walk across the street, I’m reminded of how hard it must be to live outside; I’m pushed to work harder at getting the shelter up and running and our guys inside. But as I push, I am reminded from many sources, that all my pushing is pointless. This whole shelter crisis is in God’s hands. It always has been and it still is. I wish I could remember that.

***Lord, thank you that everything is in your hands. Amen. ●***

**Special Christmas Wish**  
from our senior tenants  
\$25 gift cards from  
Grocery Outlet or QFC

## Shopping List

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

- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Shave cream
- Dental floss
- Lip Balm
- 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

## 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

[Info@seattlenightwatch.org](mailto:Info@seattlenightwatch.org)  
[www.seattlenightwatch.org](http://www.seattlenightwatch.org)



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