

# Nightwatch News

May, 2021

## A little help

By Rev. Rick Reynolds, Executive Director



Every week we visit a north-end homeless camp, with the provision of Shoreline Little Caesar's pizzas. We buy seven, and they give us a few extras when they can. I worry sometimes that all the food options in the camp will make the pizzas superfluous, but I'm told the homeless campers have never thrown any pizza away, ever. And I believe it.

I look in the food tent every time we drop off, just to see what sort of things they have in abundance.

There is never a shortage of stale donuts and sheet cakes. Bread of every type is piled up in banana boxes and on the shelves. Sometimes there are left-over-left-overs from a church dinner. And, of course, the residents buy food for themselves daily.

Much of that food requires refrigeration, and freezing is a bonus. So the campers were thrilled to be given a giant two-door freezer. We got to camp just as it was being unloaded. It was eased down from a trailer by 5 big guys using two-by-fours, then hoisted onto the plywood platform, under the corner of the tarp that shelters the "kitchen." Picture me in my clerical collar, putting my hands on the side of the freezer as it wobbled and rocked back and forth into it's new homeless home. To say that I helped is laughable. But it got me thinking.

We can work together to steady a few human beings along the way. Our help may seem so inconsequential that it is laughable to even say we helped. But some people are teetering like that freezer, and maybe all they need is just a steadying hand from you and me, to keep from falling into despair or worse. Maybe you've been there yourself. For the love of God, let us do something. Even the smallest act of kindness will not be forgotten.

*Lord help us to leave aside our grandiose day dreams and put our hand to the simplest act of kindness each day. ●*

## Comfort zone

By Tonette Winston,  
Dispatch Center Manager

This year has forced all of us out of our comfort zones, including our homeless friends. Yes, even homeless people have comfort zones. Along with the Nightwatch staff and volunteers, homeless people have had uncertainty piled upon uncertainty.

Shelters have closed. Sit down meals with friends can't happen. The library and day programs are closed. Despite this, good things have happened.

Now there is a new comfort zone. Nightwatch has been able to offer hotel rooms. And we added Julia's Place shelter at Madrona Grace Presbyterian. This means homeless people can sleep without interruption or fear. As a result, some have gotten into housing. Others have shown up for appointments they might have missed in the past. Some have found work. And a surprising number have secured their vaccination.

Sometimes we have to leave our comfort zone, in order for growth and change to happen. **Thank you for getting out of your comfort zone for Operation Nightwatch!** We are in this together. ●



## NIGHTWATCH

Serving the night  
community in the  
name of Christ



## GiveBIG 2021

May 4th and 5th

Help keep homeless  
people safe this spring!

[www.givebigwa.org/  
operation-nightwatch](http://www.givebigwa.org/operation-nightwatch)

# Memorials & Tributes

## Memorials

Bill Branom  
Mary Branom  
Charley Bush  
Gail & Jay Winberg  
Donald Davidson  
Lola Davidson  
Craig Davis  
Bruce Davis  
Robert Domzalski  
Mark & Lisa Domzalski  
Pat Domzalski  
Tony Domzalski  
Mark & Lisa Domzalski  
Pat Domzalski  
Don  
Christine Hanson  
Dick Erickson  
Peggy McClintock  
Woodland Park Presbyterian  
Keith & Kay Forbes  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Chris Graff  
Norma Jean Hanson  
Sharon Green  
Pat & Ron Cygan  
Mal & Effie Higgins  
Linda Martin  
Jon Ihde  
LaVonna Ihde  
Mary Ellen Ingersoll  
Jim & Jan Sullivan

David Johnson  
Gary Baker  
Dean & Hattie Kimble  
Katherine Smith  
Richard Lamb  
Luke Larson  
Al & Maxine Lobb  
John & Jody Fenlason  
Harley & Mercedes Lolley  
Vern & Marilyn Lolley  
Donald Mayo  
Chriselda &  
Christopher Calderon  
Elmer Molzahn  
Sherianne Caldwell  
Daisy Neves  
The Neves Family  
Bud Palmberg  
Chrisi & Michael Dotson  
Mike Potts  
Catharine Fletcher  
Larry Prall  
Russel Poppe  
Leroy Poppe  
Stephen Poppe  
Otto Pribnow  
Lynn Schnoor  
Janice Smeal  
Norm Riggins  
Maureen Wells-Henderson

Jennifer Russell  
Bob Porter  
Greg & Mary Speltz  
Barbara Anderson  
& John Preston  
Jack & Sheila Giesler  
Lisa Marie Styer  
Pat & Gene Styer  
Clio Thomas  
Mike & Sandy Birdsall  
Henry Jordan  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Jim & Jan Sullivan  
Robert "Mugs" Tracy  
Eileen Anderson  
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok  
Tony Volchok  
& Cindy Monsen  
Glenn & Shirley Weed  
Carolyn & Curtis Neitsch  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Cynthia & Jim Weaver  
Leo Werlech  
Ray & Jackie Marsh  
Gary White  
Eugene White  
Irene Woodgate-Campiglia  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Mary Wooldridge  
Holly Boone & Pat Braus

## Tributes

Church of the Ascension  
Carol Voelker  
Bruce Davis  
Joan Bergman  
Happy Easter!  
Fran & Frank Abbott  
Harborview Healthcare Workers  
Anonymous  
Victoria Palmén  
Harvey & Geri Nelson  
Jennifer Poole for Mothers Day  
Matt Poole  
Denny Shaw  
Carol Sue Janes

## Then what?

**By Ann Sakaguchi, Deputy Director**

When the pandemic is over will homelessness be over too? When it's over, will everything go back to normal?

Restrictions are lifting; things are opening up a bit and there is real light, with an end clearly in sight. So what does that mean for Nightwatch and the people we help?

Maybe you've heard this in the news.

"Congregate shelters" are out of favor. Too many people are sharing a room in close quarters.

Hotel rooms and tiny houses seem to be the most favored way to go.

When our shelter in the University District was forced to close, some of our guests were moved into hotel rooms. After sleeping in a room with 20 other guys, having your own room sounds good, right?

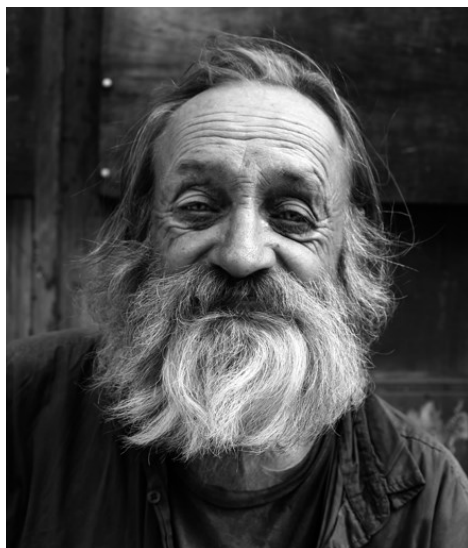
After a few days, "Norman" contacted us. He did not want to stay in the hotel room anymore. He missed Nightwatch and he preferred to be in a shelter.

Norman has been staying at our 10-bed "congregate" shelter, Julia's Place, in the basement of Madrona Grace Presbyterian Church. Beds are socially-distanced; high ceilings and fans make for good airflow, masks are worn. Norman helps with chores and is thriving there.

My question: Hotel rooms and tiny houses are fine. But what about the folks who cannot survive in the isolation of a hotel room? What will happen to those who prefer and need the structure and stability of a shelter?

How can Nightwatch respond to this need?

As we look ahead to an end of the pandemic, we need your prayers. Would you please join us? To pray for wisdom and discernment? We need you. ●



## Shopping List

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

- Bottled water (16 oz.)
- Juice (single-sized)
- Protein bars
- Chewy granola bars
- Cereal bars
- Fruit snacks
- Trail/nut mix (individual pack)
- Beef jerky sticks
- Wrapped candy
- Cookies and pastries (individually bagged)
- Whole individual fruit (apples, oranges, bananas)
- Gloves
- Warm hats—beanie style
- Toothpaste
- Floss
- Deodorant
- Band aids
- Combs

For more information about these items please contact:  
[info@seattlenightwatch.org](mailto:info@seattlenightwatch.org)

## Amazon Wish List:

Ship donations to our door!  
<https://amzn.to/2NwV2JG>

## 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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