

# Nightwatch News

August, 2021

## The compassionate ones

By Rev. Rick Reynolds, Executive Director



"Marco" could barely keep his eyes open. "I may be just a little. . . tipsy." Maybe?

We talked, about nothing in particular. He likes being in the shelter, after so many years sleeping outside.

Suddenly, Marco was focused on me. He looked at me intensely. "Are you okay?" he asked.

"What do you mean?" I really didn't know what he was asking me.

"Do you got a place to go tonight?"

"Yes, Marco, I'm good." I think about my warm bed, surrounded by various comforts.

"If you needed a place, I'd get you in here," Marco assured me. "We have to take care of each other. We're all family here." He waved his arm around the TV room.

Indeed.

I've been talking to homeless people steadily for 39 years now. This was the first time I was offered a place to go, if I needed help. Marco, despite his alcohol problem, is one of the compassionate ones. He is looking out for the people around him. He is full of love for his community at the shelter. And through the fog, he wants to help me. And I say, "God grant wisdom and strength to all who would serve."

*Lord, you equip us with gifts for serving you and others. Help us to use these gifts in a way that expresses your care for all your children. ●*

## Swing and a miss

By Tonette Winston,  
Shelter Dispatch Manager

What will life be like in the future, for our homeless friends?

Shelters are still dealing with ongoing health issues. Like the rest of us, homeless guys are worried, and facing even more uncertainty. And yet, they have adapted. They are rather used to uncertainty in life.

We had high hopes for one of our afflicted friends, George. He's an old man, in poor health. He limps around with a cane and slurred speech, following a brain injury. Nightwatch got him into our senior apartments, but after a few months, he simply limped away. George returned to being homeless, where people steal his money, and he has to face the hardships of the weather.

Because of the pandemic, we discovered that we are here to support each other. Our struggles may be different, but we can inspire hope in each other. Thank you for your help, because discouragements sometimes abound. And if you have a quiet moment, remember George, would you? ●



# NIGHTWATCH

Serving the night  
community in the  
name of Christ

### Nightwatch needs shelter!

- Room for 10 guys and a worker
- Access to bathrooms
- Available 9:00 pm to 7:00 am

### Let's talk about it!

Call Rick:  
206-323-4359

**Nightwatch relies on our donors each month. Thank you!**

# Memorials & Tributes

## Memorials

Keve Anshutz  
Lola Davidson  
Bill Branom  
Mary Branom  
Charley Bush  
Ginny Larkins  
Gail & Jay Winberg  
Craig Davis  
Bruce Davis  
The dearly departed van  
Anonymous  
Robert Domzalski  
Mark & Lisa Domzalski  
Pat Domzalski  
Tony Domzalski  
Mark & Lisa Domzalski  
Pat Domzalski  
Dick Erickson  
Peggy McClintock  
Chris Graff  
Norma Jean Hanson  
Fr. Gus Hartman  
Robert & Roberta Brown  
Rev. Paul Jacobson  
Paul & Carole Jacobson  
Rev. Jean Kim  
Jan Anderson  
Justin & Robin Desilet  
Rick & Lorri Reynolds  
Dean & Hattie Kimble  
Katherine Smith

Yukio Kumasaka  
Joan Hirata  
Steve & Chris Murphy  
Al & Maxine Lobb  
John & Jody Fenlason  
Elmer Molzahn  
Sherianne Caldwell  
Daisy Neves  
The Neves Family  
Oscar Nunez  
Kathy Rossi  
Bud Palmberg  
Anonymous  
Chrisi & Michael Dotson  
Mike Potts  
Catharine Fletcher  
Donald Reilly  
Carol Hepburn  
Jim Reynolds  
Marge Beavers  
Janet Buck  
Cliff Bull  
Jason & Julie Chee  
Dean & Susan Christianson  
Lois Lingren  
Vernon & Marilyn Lolley  
Jerry & Berta Merrill  
Jayne Ross  
Kim Sather  
Roger & Sandy Schoenhals  
Shelley Staley  
Rob & Carla Wall

## Persistence

### By Rev. Michael Cox, Street Minister

“Rhonda” is a regular guest at the Nightwatch outdoor community dinner. (This Tuesday-night meal is served by our street outreach workers and volunteers.) She is always intoxicated and screaming obscenities. In the middle of her outbursts, she often breaks down and cries, asking for prayer. After we pray and hug, she will usually calm down for a while and eat a meal. Soon she starts yelling again, drinks a beer at the bus stop, and then walks across the busy intersection into traffic. One evening she was extra-aggravated, pushed one volunteer, and threw a bottle of water at another. All I could think was, “This is who Nightwatch is here for.”

Then, as Rhonda left the meal, she grabbed an entire bag of Dicks hamburgers, walked into the street, and glared at me. All I could do was laugh. Rhonda is exactly who Jesus invites to dinner. Only God knows what has happened in her life.

The next week Rhonda came to the meal and apologized, handing me a swordfish Christmas ornament she found in the trash. I thanked her and promised to hang it up in my office.

Rhonda came again last night to the dinner and hugged me saying, “Thank you, Pastor and thank you to the Church.” She was clear-headed and well-spoken. She had been in county jail for twenty days and was clean from meth, alcohol, and crack cocaine. She participated in a jail house Bible study and was praising the Lord. The judge at her arraignment gave her a second chance and told her he wanted to see her succeed. So do I, and so does God. Rhonda asked me if I would pray for her. Driving home, I could not stop crying.

Jesus said, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.” (Mark 5:33-34) Thank you for making this work possible. ●

*Ann Sakaguchi's column will return next month.*



## Tributes

Betty Buzitis  
Pam Bentley  
Dan Helton  
Mary Kaplan  
Judy Hurley  
Martin Hurley  
Denny Shaw  
Carol Sue Janes

## 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
- Fruit snacks
- Trail/nut mix (individual pack)
- Wrapped candy
- Cookies and pastries (individually bagged)
- Whole individual fruit (apples, oranges, bananas)
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Floss
- Lotion
- Deodorant
- Band aids

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

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[www.seattlenightwatch.org](http://www.seattlenightwatch.org)



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