

# Nightwatch News

November, 2021

## The beauty of a church basement

By Rev. Rick Reynolds, Executive Director



There's a dimly lit church basement which serves very well as home to 10 homeless guys overnight.

I don't hang around very often, but I found myself at Madrona Grace Presbyterian, with very little to do but chat with the residents. "Charles" gave me a running commentary on the news of the day, and other guys were listening in, amused. In the back, eating a meal alone, "Vinnie" talked about how much he appreciated having a place to stay. "This is home." He felt comforted by the warmth and welcome of the place.

This domestic scene stands in contrast with life outside. In a tent, you have to worry about enforcement. You are subject to being swept away and all your things taken, by thieves or the police. Your basic needs must be met in the open air, without dignity. And that damp, cold air seeps into your very bones, a chill that sometimes doesn't go away all day.

Look, I don't know what will end the pandemic of homelessness in Seattle. But I know that 10 guys and a single Nightwatch worker is making a difference to Charles and Vinnie. That's 10 fewer tents. 10 hopeful men. 10 guys getting cared for in a church. We can reproduce this with your help. Amen? Call me.

*Lord, grant us wisdom for this hour, and the strength to stand. ●*

## Shaking my head

By Tonette Winston,  
Shelter Dispatch Center Manager

Nightwatch tries to be a good neighbor to both the housed and the unhoused. Sometimes the housed neighbors call us—worried about someone in crisis— or simply being bothered by some bad behavior.

The culprits aren't always our folks. But sometimes they are.

Recently, I took a 2:00 am call. There was glass breaking and yelling involved, just up the street from Nightwatch.

The next morning I figured out the problem. One of our homeless friends wasn't in a place like we thought. "Deaf Mary" slept in a van, which was slated for impound. After hours of fevered note-writing, she agreed to go to a woman's shelter if I could find one with an open bed.

It seemed like an impossible task. I was on the phone for hours, with no luck. At the end of that long day, I took one last call from a worker trying to get a guy into shelter. We traded our stories of frustration. But as I described Mary's situation, the worker stopped me. "We've got a spot for Mary in our women's shelter!" Just a mile or so from Nightwatch, provides 24-hour care, just for women. Problem solved!

Someone up there was watching out for us, for Mary, and for the neighborhood.

I'm still shaking my head. ●



# NIGHTWATCH

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

# SOCK IT TO HOMELESSNESS

**Sock Drive-Up Drop-Off**

Sunday, November 14  
12:30–2:00 pm

302 14th Ave S, Seattle

More details:  
[seattlenightwatch.org/sock-it](http://seattlenightwatch.org/sock-it)

**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

**PB&J Lunch-In**

Thank you for the  
tremendous support!  
If you couldn't join us,  
watch the recording!

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

# Memorials & Tributes

## Memorials

Dorothy Balch  
Shelley Staley  
Candi Tepke  
Bill Branom  
Mary Branom  
Charley Bush  
Ginny Larkins  
Craig Davis  
Bruce Davis  
Robert Domzalski  
Mark & Lisa Domzalski  
Pat Domzalski  
Tony Domzalski  
Mark & Lisa Domzalski  
Pat Domzalski  
Bethany Erickson  
Peggy McClintock  
Dick Erickson  
Peggy McClintock  
Kim Forman  
Paula Ross  
Chris Graff  
Norma Jean Hanson  
Larry Hagglund  
Peggy Hagglund  
Mal & Effie Higgins  
Linda Martin

Mary Ellen Ingersoll  
Jim & Jan Sullivan  
Robert Ishii  
Steve & Chris Murphy  
Paul Jacobson Sr.  
Carole & Paul Jacobson Jr.  
Dean & Hattie Kimble  
Katherine Smith  
Ron Kimble  
Heather Craven  
Richard Lamb  
Luke Larson  
Al & Maxine Lobb  
John & Jody Fenlason  
Davonne Loup  
Carl Westphal  
Donald Matson  
Georgia Kurtz  
Mary Mayeno  
Steve & Chris Murphy  
Elmer Molzahn  
Sherianne Caldwell  
Martin Murray  
Maria & Greg Van Horn  
Daisy Neves  
The Neves Family

Bud Palmberg  
Chrisi & Michael Dotson  
Jack Patterson  
Merle Patterson  
Andrew Pine  
Paul Pemberton  
Mike Potts  
Catharine Fletcher  
Greg & Mary Speltz  
Lynn Vollert  
Lisa Marie Styer  
Pat & Gene Styer  
Clio Thomas  
Jim & Jan Sullivan  
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok  
Tony Volchok  
& Cindy Monsen  
Glenn & Shirley Weed  
Cynthia & Jim Weaver  
Mary Wooldridge  
Holly Boone & Pat Braus  
Zach Sutthoff Zappone  
Bob Zappone  
& Maggi Sutthoff

## Tributes

All volunteers  
Art & Ruby Meyer  
Eddie Ardrooni  
Bob Porter  
Frank DiGirolamo  
Don & Diane Gockel  
Mary Jo Eck  
Harvey & Geri Nelson  
Sterling Heart  
James Yorkston  
Trudy James  
Bob Porter  
Janice  
Magdalena Brooks  
Johnson, Millam, Brown, Callender,  
and Mooers  
Kirstin Ward  
Denny Shaw  
Carol Sue Janes  
Wonderful staff  
Julianne Kumasaka

## Thank you!

**By Ann Sakaguchi,  
Deputy Director**

It's November already. Thanksgiving is almost here. What are you thankful for?

I have a long list.

In my job at Nightwatch, I get to sit in on all the interviews when we hire new staff or bring in new residents to our senior apartments. I might complain about it, but it's really one of the "funnest" things I do around here.

People want to impress you, right?

They're hopeful for a new job or apartment. It's amazing sometimes, the stories we hear. The folks looking for apartments are over 62 years-old. They are living outside or couch surfing. Some are in a shelter.

Before I left on vacation, we interviewed several people for the apartment vacancies. I left the final decisions up to coworkers. When I returned, a couple of guys had moved in. Also, while I was gone, the new videos for our Peanut Butter and Jelly fundraising event had been produced. I didn't know who was captured in these, but looked forward to seeing them.

A new resident, "Bennie," shared some thoughts in the video. He talked about sleeping in a bed again. He proudly held up his keys, something he hadn't owned in a long time. "Even a key for the mailbox!" He described our humble little apartment building as "heaven." Over and over. He is so thankful!

Without your support, the apartment where Bennie now lives would not be possible.

Bennie isn't the only one who's thankful. I am too. ●

The work of Operation Nightwatch is made possible through the support of people like you. Please give!



## 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 or to schedule a drop-off, please contact:  
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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