

# Nightwatch News

Thanksgiving, 2021

## What are you thankful for?

By Rev. Rick Reynolds, Executive Director



Every Thanksgiving as a kid, our mother would have us go around the heavy-laden table and say what we were thankful for. She wanted to hear what we'd say, even if it was only being thankful for potatoes.

This Thanksgiving I'm feeling a bit grouchy and sorry for myself. Our furnace died. I've got a half-done bathroom remodel that has run into a snag. Our two cars have a combined age of 34. After my pity-party, I am reminded of the homeless guy who was carrying two grocery bags with all his worldly belongings.

Richard told me one November day that it didn't matter where he woke up in the morning—in a park, or a shelter, or on the docks. The first thing he did every morning was to thank God for that first breath. He was thankful, yet everything he owned was in those two plastic grocery bags.

So, I'm getting up, dusting myself off, and thinking about everything that has made my life meaningful and good. Good family, meaningful work, amazing friends, so many helpers during the pandemic they can't be numbered.

*God forgive us for our lack of gratefulness at the goodness you have granted. Thank you for the donors, the volunteers, the staff, the clients, the tenants and the socks! ●*

## Adjusting to life inside

By Marlene Poland and staff  
Housing Coordinator

How would you adjust to life inside after being homeless?

Now that I've been at Nightwatch for five years, I have learned how homeless seniors adapt to life after homelessness.

The first thing they do is sleep. We might not see them very much for several days while they enjoy the feeling of clean sheets, privacy, a warm room. There's not much sleep when you are staying in a shelter or living outside. Once you have your own place, sleep seems to be the number one thing to do.

The number two thing new tenants want is to take a long hot shower. At Nightwatch you don't have to wait in line for a shower, and we don't set the timer like some of the homeless hygiene programs have to do.

Homeless people are constantly on guard. They have to be aware of their surroundings, day and night. There are many threats they have to contend with. This takes a toll on a body. And when you are a senior, these threats are magnified. You don't want to fall, you don't want your backpack stolen, you don't want to drop your phone. Life is a constant worry as a homeless senior. No wonder they love to sleep and take long showers!

And there's one more thing for new tenants. They have to remember how keys work! That's my favorite thing, though; when I get to hand a new tenant a set of keys.

Thank you for making our work such an occasion for joy! ●



# 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

# Memorials & Tributes

## Memorials

Daisy Beach  
John & Jody Fenlason  
Jim & Jan Sullivan  
Chuck Beavers  
Marge Beavers  
Bill Branom  
Mary Branom  
Charley Bush  
Ginny Larkins  
Merna Corson  
Ina Page  
Robert Domzalski  
Mark & Lisa Domzalski  
Pat Domzalski  
Tony Domzalski  
Mark & Lisa Domzalski  
Pat Domzalski  
Bud & Trudy Forbes  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Jim & Fern Smith  
Keith & Kay Forbes  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Kim Forman  
Bill & Jody Lemke  
Chris Graff  
Norma Jean Hanson  
Lee Hermann  
Anthony Chang

Mal & Effie Higgins  
Linda Martin  
Mary Ellen Ingersoll  
Jim & Jan Sullivan  
Paul Jacobson Sr.  
Paul & Carole Jacobson  
James/AK  
Molly Bosch  
Taryn Jensen  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Iorwerth Jones  
Bob Porter  
Dean & Hattie Kimble  
Kathy Greiner  
Katherine Smith  
Ron Kimble  
Carl & Heather Craven  
Al & Maxine Lobb  
John & Jody Fenlason  
Don MacDonald  
Ginger MacDonald  
Elmer Molzahn  
Sherianne Caldwell  
Daisy Neves  
The Neves Family  
Bud Palmberg  
Anonymous  
Chrisi & Michael Dotson

Michel Pawloski  
Holly Bienkowski  
Mike Potts  
Catharine Fletcher  
Greg & Mary Speltz  
Barbara Anderson  
& John Preston  
Alison Eisinger  
Kate Speltz & Rich Gamble  
Lyle Staley  
Shelley Staley  
Violet & John Stevens  
Joy Lauderbaugh  
Clio Thomas  
Henry Jordan  
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok  
Tony Volchok  
& Cindy Monsen  
Glenn & Shirley Weed  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
Cynthia & Jim Weaver  
Gary White  
Lisa Connolley  
Eugene White  
Mary Wooldridge  
Holly Boone & Pat Braus

## Tributes

Patricia Broulette  
Akane Yamaguchi  
Frank DiGirolamo  
Diane Odegard Gockel  
& Don Gockel  
God's Grace  
Kenneth Jordan  
Kathy Higbee  
Trude Higbee  
Bob Hirotaka  
Harvey & Geri Nelson  
Man Lung Li  
Shutyee Yeung  
Denny Shaw  
Carol Sue Janes  
Kate Speltz  
Alison Eisinger

## Hold on a little more

By Ann Sakaguchi,  
Deputy Director

When the pandemic started, it was clear that Nightwatch was an essential service. That made our staff "essential workers." They could not stay home and work remotely.

They still had to work with homeless people, in person. They were not allowed to isolate in their homes. They all came to work, at great risk to themselves and to their families. Some caught COVID; most did not.

Now, almost two years later, I reflect on some lyrics of a song we sing in church, The Kingdom Is Yours\*. The words seem so fitting for all of us, but especially for the Nightwatch staff and volunteers.

*Blessed are the ones who walk in kindness  
Even in the face of great abuse  
Blessed are the deeds that go unnoticed  
Serving with unguarded gratitude.*

*Blessed are the ones who fight for justice  
Longing for the coming day of peace  
Blessed is the soul that thirsts for righteousness  
Welcoming the last, the lost, the least.*

*Blessed are the ones who suffer violence  
And still have strength to love their enemies  
Blessed is the faith of those who persevere  
Though they fall, they'll never know defeat.*

*The kingdom is yours, the kingdom is yours  
Hold on a little more, this is not the end  
Hope is in the Lord, keep your eyes on him.*

Thank you for supporting us so that the Nightwatch staff can come to work. Thank you, volunteers, for helping us do our work. ●

\*Written by Terrell Wilson (BMI), Brittney Spencer (BMI), Micah Massey (ASCAP), Aaron Keyes (ASCAP)



## 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.)
- Protein bars
- Chewy granola bars
- Fruit snacks
- Wrapped candy
- Cookies and pastries (individually bagged)
- Whole individual fruit (apples, oranges, bananas)
- Hand Warmers
- Beanie hats
- Gloves
- Socks (new)
- Tooth brushes & paste
- 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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