

# Nightwatch News

Thanksgiving, 2024

## One day at a time

By Deacon Frank DiGirolamo, Executive Director



Autumn evokes the time of harvest. Reaping what we sowed many months ago.

Our clients do not have the luxury of this long calculated view of life. They depend on Daily Bread. Enough to keep going. When you are in survival mode, you can often "plan" just for the next hour or so... Even to plan for "tomorrow" is often a stretch.

"Gary" and "Kim" summed it up well last week, over dinner at our Dispatch Center. Operation

Nightwatch is making a difference, one day at a time. "What you're doing here is showing life-saving love for people who generally haven't experienced it very much in their lives."

Their words encourage us to slow down. To be more present in the now. To resist the temptation to "store up our treasures" and instead put them to use right now - for the greater good. We think that makes God happy. It gives us greater peace for sure.

We continue to be in need of support to sustain our programs of chaplaincy, food, shelter, housing, and basic medical care. Please pray for our efforts to depend on God and you, one day at a time.

Happy Thanksgiving. May your harvest be great, each day. ●

## Sometimes I feel invisible

By Rev. Michael Cox,  
Director of Outreach Ministry

I was hosting our Community Dinner Church when we met in the summer. Key was sitting, crumpled over, in a wheelchair, sheltering from the sun with a broken umbrella. I was concerned about Key's wellbeing, and offered them food, water, and conversation.

Last night, for the first time in months, I saw a figure gingerly walking up the stairs to the dinner church with the aid of two canes. I reintroduced myself and wondered out loud about the wheelchair. Key shared how liberating it was to be out of the chair, slowly gaining strength, and stated, "Thanks for remembering me. It really means a lot. It made me feel seen. A lot of times I feel invisible."

My time with Key reminds me that Jesus makes the invisible God visible. **Standing with Key bears witness to a God that doesn't leave or forsake us. A God that sees when we can't.** Through his teaching, preaching, and healing, Jesus embodies and incarnates the mystery of God.

Hosting dinner with the Christ story continues to welcome those of us that feel unseen, unknown, and unheard into the family of God. "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him." (Colossians 1:15-16) ●



# NIGHTWATCH

Serving the night  
community in the  
name of Christ

## Volunteer Orientation

Friday, December 13  
5:30 pm

Come on in, take a look around, and hear about all of our volunteer opportunities. Then stick around and serve dinner with us!

RSVP:  
[michelle@seattlenightwatch.org](mailto:michelle@seattlenightwatch.org)



# Memorials & Tributes

## Memorials

Bill Branom	Dean & Hattie Kimble	Mike Potts
Mary Branom	Kathy & Jared Greiner	Catharine Fletcher
Charley Bush	Ron Kimble	Dick Shipe
Ginny Larkins	Carl & Heather Craven	Gary & Theresa Shipe
Shirley Wilson	Ed King	Greg & Mary Speltz
Jay & Gail Winberg	Debbie Lawrence	Lynn Vollert
Robert Domzalski	Al & Maxine Lobb	Glenn & Shirley Weed
Mark & Lisa Domzalski	John & Jody Fenlason	Jim & Cynthia Weaver
Pat Domzalski	Davonne Loup	Gary White
Tony Domzalski	Carl Westphal	Lisa Connolley
Mark & Lisa Domzalski	Craig MacGowan	Mary Wooldridge
Pat Domzalski	Pat & Ron Cygan	Holly Boone & Pat Braus
Phil Felde	Mark McNeil	
Dikka Ballantine	Robb Petersen	
Joyce Elaine Freese	Elmer Molzahn	
Bryan & Margaret Freese	Sherianne Caldwell	
Chris Graff	Bud Palmberg	
Norma Jean Hanson	Anonymous	
Virginia Hansen	Steve Penny	
Dikka Ballantine	Theresa Werlech	
Mal & Effie Higgins	Robert & Nellie Porter	
Linda & Mike Martin	Bob Porter	

## Family

### By Marlene Poland, Housing Coordinator

This year our Senior residents will have their Thanksgiving celebration on November 27th, an early dinner. I plan a traditional meal with all the fixings; there will be turkey (of course) with candied yams, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy and macaroni salad. Caring volunteers and donors make this meal a possibility. I love cooking with the seniors, several of them take turns helping me prepare the meal. All of this joyful activity and commotion happens in our second-floor kitchen.



For Thanksgiving, all 24 of the residents take part – cooking, serving, eating and cleaning-up. We serve the meal open-house style, so they can come and go as they need. Several stick around and talk. **We share stories about our families, favorite meals and football.** It is a good time of sharing and community.

I know that many of our residents have lost touch with family. The holidays can be hard for them. I try to gently remind them of the progress that they have made from their days on the streets. When they feel ready, I am here to help them reconnect with family and friends. Sometimes these moments give way to renewed relationships with loved ones from the past. Other times, the moments do not work out the way we would have hoped.

The courage these seniors show day by day, making sense of things after years of isolation, reminds me of Jesus' love for us all, especially during the holidays.

**Please pray that this time of Thanksgiving brings families and friends together in love.**

*“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35 ESV) ●*

## Thank You Lighting the Path Fundraising Dinner Sponsors!

Event Sponsors: Encounter Church, Epiphany Parish, Richard Ferry, Lucky Seven Foundation, and M. Jean Fisher Fund

Legacy Sponsors: Biella Foundation, Griptape, and Lytle Enterprises

## Tributes

Patricia Broulette  
Akane Yamaguchi  
Donna Jean's  
Women's Shelter  
Steve & Patty Hopps  
God's protection  
Mary & Michael Brooks  
Laurie  
Teresita Capuli  
Man Lung Li  
Jessica Yeung  
Love and respect  
Janice Bradley  
Lorri Reynolds  
Yen Thai Connolly  
Ann Sakaguchi  
Paul & Tina Miller  
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):

- Cookies and pastries
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Lotion
- Soap & body wash
- Deodorant
- Men's new athletic socks
- Wash cloths & towels
- Twin sheet sets, new or clean
- Twin blankets, new or clean

For more information, or to schedule a donation drop-off: [info@seattlenightwatch.org](mailto:info@seattlenightwatch.org)

## Amazon Wish List:

Ship donations to our door!  
<https://bit.ly/ONWlist>



## Shelter Dispatch Center & Senior Apartments

302 14th Ave. S  
Seattle, WA 98144

**Mailing address:**  
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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