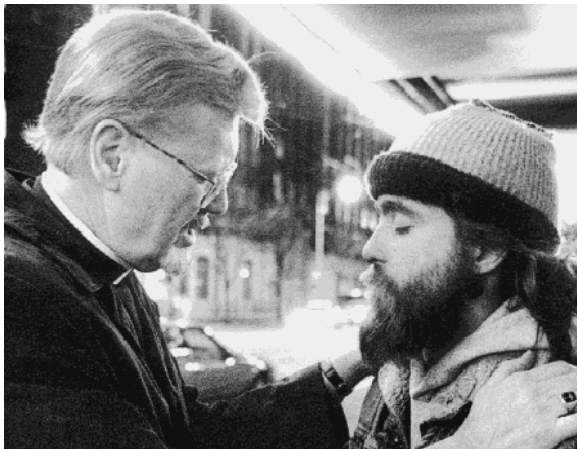


Nightwatch News

Aug, 2017

A Big Mac, the Superbowl, and Nightwatch

By Rev. Rick Reynolds



It was 1967 and a little band of clergy, priests, ministers and nuns started walking the streets of Seattle at 10:00 p.m. every night. They were all volunteers, all busy with church work and other things. Yet, they took the time to hang out in the night. Their world was Pioneer Square, Skid Road, First Avenue. A priest in a bar. A nun in a strip club. A pastor handing a blanket to someone asleep in a doorway.

The world has changed since 1967. If you asked those brave Nightwatch workers about Big Macs, or the Superbowl, they would have looked puzzled. They might have heard about Boeing's new 737. But they wouldn't have ever flown in one — not yet.

Nightwatch is now 50 years old. The earliest Nightwatch ministers were risk-takers. They had no idea what would happen when they began walking the unfriendly streets late at night. They were met with anger, suspicion, and violence. A half-dozen ended up going to the emergency room during our first six months.

But, at some point, the word went out on the street. Homeless people, bar patrons, street toughs, bartenders, hotel workers got the message. "Those folks from Operation Nightwatch are okay." It took persistence, bravery and sacrifice to get to that point. And one more thing: Faithfulness.

Lord, inspire us to be persistent in adversity, brave in uncertainty, generous at all times, and faithful, even when inconvenient. ●

Bravery & Sacrifice

By Ben Curtis
Street Minister

The street ministers were getting ready to head under an overpass that was speckled with tents. As we approached, we saw one gentleman leaning against one of the gigantic, concrete supports. He saw our crosses and collars and asked, half-jokingly, "Are you guys going to church?"



Without missing a beat, I replied, "As a matter of fact we are! Would you like some water?" He accepted it gladly, along with some food and socks. "God bless you," he said as we sauntered off. "God bless you as well, sir."

As we made our way down the avenue, we encountered people who knew God loved them, but needed encouragement. We spoke with people who were seeking wisdom for the journey they were on. We were even told we were an "answer to prayer." We talked, we laughed, we cried, we prayed. We shared life together.

We call it Street Ministry, and yes, it is church too. The curbs, our pews; conversations, our prayers; water and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, our communion.

Some things haven't changed in 50 years. ●



NIGHTWATCH

Serving the night
community in the
name of Christ

Give 50
for 50



Help us raise
\$50,000 for our
50th Anniversary.
We need **1,000** people
to give **\$50** each!

Campaign starts August 7.
Check our website for
more details.
www.seattlenightwatch.org

**Volunteer Orientation
Open House**

The best way to learn about
Nightwatch and the many
volunteer opportunities.

**Thursday, Aug 3, 2017
7:30–8:00 pm**

RSVP or questions:
info@seattlenightwatch.org

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Dorothy Barrett
Do Balch
Laura Baughman
Jason & Coleen Marta
Burton Beegle
Dean Kimble
Bob Bradbury
Jane Bradbury
Bill Branom
Mary Branom
Cheryll, my love
Clinton Kelly
Craig Davis
Bruce Davis
Tony Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
Pete Gudger
Cheryl Gudger
Les Habegger
Janet Buck
Roger Higbee
Scott Higbee

Henry Hoffman
Marlyn Hoffman
Mary Ellen Ingersoll
Jim & Jan Sullivan
Tom & Gertrude Isaac
Bud & Trudy Forbes
Ron Kimble
Carl & Heather Craven
Al & Maxine Lobb
John & Jody Fenlason
Helen Maier
Don Meehan
Brad Meyers
Geri & Harvey Nelson
Howard Rippee
George & Carolyn Rippee
Mary Rippee-Bender
George & Carolyn Rippee
Christa Rippee Pogue
George & Carolyn Rippee
Dick Shipe
Theresa & Gary Shipe

Louise Solemslie
Allen Solemslie
Mary Speltz
Greg Speltz
Eugene Vance
Jon & Nancy Troxel
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Tony Volchok
& Cindy Monsen
Glenn & Shirley Weed
Andy & Ramona McBeth
Jim & Cynthia Weaver
Gilbert Weiss
John Weiss
& Corry Venema-Weiss
Mary Wooldridge
Holly Boone

Tributes

All American Veterans
Carol Ridenhour
Family
Jan Creason
Brigid Hagan
David & Donna Goodlett
Wai Kwok Law &
Jessica Yeung's wedding
Henry Chan
Steven Falahee
Yuk Law
Man Lung Li
Alison & Megan Lolley
Vern & Marilyn Lolley
Mike Potts
Catharine Fletcher
Samuel Taylor
Jessie Hooper

Living with Uncertainty

By Ann Sakaguchi

Persistence, bravery, and sacrifice have been qualities of Nightwatch for 50 years. Now is especially challenging for us and our friends.

Nightwatch is fifty years old. As we write these words, we still don't know where our shelter will go, or who will run it. **But things are hopeful, because we aren't in charge.**

Our volunteers are brave and persistent. Many show up, night after night, for years. They face an onslaught of anxious people, and keep coming back. There's sacrifice too, from staff who are underpaid, yet they keep their composure in a highly-charged environment each night.

Undergirding everything is faith in a God who calls us to love people, even when we don't feel like it, even when people are difficult to love.

"God gives his best—the sun to warm and the rain to nourish—to everyone, regardless: the good and bad, the nice and nasty. If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that." (The Message, Matthew 5)

Nightwatch is still here. Because you care about homeless people. Because God cares.

You give, because you want a better community. You want Nightwatch to move people inside, to safety and stability. This is good for you, for Seattle, and especially for the next guy under Interstate 5. And we believe it is the right thing to do.

Lord, grant us the wisdom to know your will, and the strength to accomplish it—for now and the next 50 years. Or longer. Maranatha.

Consider participating in our "Give 50 for 50" campaign this month, as we celebrate the good work that we have been called to do together. ●



Shopping List

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

- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Shave cream
- Hand sanitizers
- Multi-vitamins
- Cough drops
- Pain relievers
- Kleenex packs
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Bulk drink mix

For more information about these items please contact: liz@seattlenightwatch.org

Amazon Wish List:

<http://tinyurl.com/zjo64fd>

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
www.seattlenightwatch.org



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