

Nightwatch News

November, 2017

Thankfulness

By Rev. Rick Reynolds



Most of us are so isolated from hungry people that we can scarcely believe they even exist in the city. But I've looked into the eyes of a kid who had never seen a Costco-size box of Oreos before. I have witnessed an elderly man come into a restaurant and finish the meal of a stranger who left food behind. I have observed a phantom on our city streets, rummaging through a Pioneer Square garbage can to find something, anything, to eat.

This last moment happened at 10:15 one night. He lifted the lid on the garbage can at Third and James, pawed through the trash without luck, then crossed the street. I invited him to my car, and opened the trunk. There were 20 pizzas. His eyes opened wide, as I handed him one.

If we really want to express our thankfulness this month, let us welcome to our table all people, not just our friends and relatives. "For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat." Thank you for helping Nightwatch feed hungry people in this city, every night.

Lord, grant us the ability to get out of our comfort zone, to give up our self-centered ways, and to truly love our neighbors as we should. Amen. ●

Best man

By Ben Curtis, Street Minister

Many times after talking with someone on the street, I have no idea what happens to them unless I run into them again. If I don't see or hear from them, all I can do is hope that seeds of love and kindness were planted, and pray that they are in a better place.

A couple of weeks ago, I got a call from a guy I hadn't seen in a couple of years. Back then, I had done my best to walk with him through some very difficult things regarding legal issues, family, and depression. He was on the streets for several years, always hard-pressed to find a job because of his criminal history.

He was calling me now to let me know that he had a full time job, had recently bought a house, and was engaged to his girlfriend. Besides this good news, he asked if I would be the best man at his wedding next year.

I was humbled to think of all he had been through that he would ask me to stand with him on such an important day.

'You were the only person I could think of to be my best man,' he told me. 'Without you, I think I'd be dead.'

Christ implores us to love our neighbors, wherever we might find them. In doing so, we might affect people in such a way that they ask us to be a maid of honor or a best man at their wedding. But, truly, I would hope that how we walk with those around us, would point them to the 'best man' that ever walked the earth. ●



NIGHTWATCH

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

Please join us!

SOCK IT TO HOMELESSNESS

and

50th Anniversary Open House

Come by, drop off some socks, take a tour, and help Nightwatch celebrate our 50th Anniversary!

**Sunday, November 12
Noon—3 pm**

302 14th Ave S, Seattle, 98144
info@seattlenightwatch.org
www.seattlenightwatch.org

Volunteer Open House

Find your favorite
volunteer job!

**Thursday, Nov 2, 2017
7:30—8:00 pm**

RSVP or questions:
info@seattlenightwatch.org

Find out more:
<http://tinyurl.com/ydaqfjsx>

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Dr. David Aasen	Pete Gudger	Don Tekawa
Joseph Frost	Cheryl Gudger	Ron & Sharon Hirata
Bill Branom	Ruth Hansen	Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Mary Branom	Kelly Black	Tony Volchok
Marie Davidson	Lyle & Shelley Staley	& Cindy Monsen
Lola Davidson	Hattie Kimble	Glenn & Shirley Weed
Robert Domzalski	Chuck & Marge Beavers	Andy & Ramona McBeth
Todd Eakes	Ron Kimble	George & Carolyn Rippee
Eileen Giblin	Carl & Heather Craven	Jim & Cynthia Weaver
Nicole Greco	Al & Maxine Lobb	Gilbert Weiss
Mary & Denny Hunter	John & Jody Fenlason	John Weiss
Taro Kawabe	George Matsuda	& Corry Venema-Weiss
John Rouse	Ong & Kimura, Inc.	Leonard Woodgate
Tony Domzalski	Edith Root	George & Carolyn Rippee
Mark & Lisa Domzalski	Janet Buck	Mary Wooldridge
Pat Domzalski	Louise Solemslie	Holly Boone
Byron Forbes	Allen Solemslie	
Bud & Trudy Forbes	Mary Speltz	
Keith & Kay Forbes	Greg Speltz	
George & Carolyn Rippee		

Tributes

Joanne Crawford
Harvey & Geri Nelson
Family
Jan Creason
All the hurricane victims
Pam & Clay Herbst
Mike Potts
Catharine Fletcher

Whose hands?

By Ann Sakaguchi

The other day, I went to a burial service in Renton for 180 people, considered “indigent,” who had no family or loved ones to claim them. It was attended by many caring people. It was a solemn service. Of course, rain was pouring down. And it was cold standing in the cemetery, shivering under hoods and umbrellas.



Listening to the names being read, my thoughts turned back to Nightwatch, and our homeless friends. Now that the weather has turned cold and rainy, we have still not fully resolved our shelter crisis. People are having to be outside every night.

Thanks to gracious partners in ministry, we have seen some of our men enter programs aimed at getting them into housing. For the others, we are grateful for temporary shelter space with our friends at the Union Gospel Mission. This ends soon, though.

But there is hope; we’ve found another place for shelter. As I write this, we are frantically making the necessary changes required by city building and fire codes. We’re scheduling inspections to receive the permission that’s required to operate a shelter. We’ll share the details once we open.

Can I just be honest? I’m tied up in knots about all this. Every time I walk across the street, I’m reminded of how hard it must be to live outside; I’m pushed to work harder at getting the shelter up and running and our guys inside. But as I push, I am reminded from many sources, that all my pushing is pointless. This whole shelter crisis is in God’s hands. It always has been and it still is. I wish I could remember that.

Lord, thank you that everything is in your hands. Amen. ●

Special Christmas Wish
from our senior tenants
\$25 gift cards from
Grocery Outlet or QFC

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
- Dental floss
- Lip Balm
- 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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