## Nightwatch News Thanksgiving, 2018

## **Richard and me** By Rev. Rick Reynolds



Richard stopped me on the sidewalk one November day. "Hey, Pastor Rick, what are you doing for Thanksgiving?"

"Not really sure," I told him. "Hope he doesn't want to come to my place," I thought to myself.

"You know, you could always come downtown and have dinner with us," he said, graciously. "Pastor Rick, wherever I wake up in the morning, maybe on the loading dock, or in the park, I never know where I might be. The first thing I do in the morning is thank God for that first breath."

I looked at Richard's athletic bag, with everything he owned. I thought about my warm home, filled with too much stuff.

But Richard was the thankful one. I've carried that lesson with me for 23 years now.

Lord, grant that thankfulness will overflow our lives into the lives of those around us. And wherever Richard is tonight, grant him your Peace.

## Investment **By Ben Curtis, Street Minister**

For the past few weeks, my wife and I have been in the process of buying a home. It's our first time. I never realized before how much work it actually takes: Searching through listings, going to open houses and tours, inspections, appraisals and endless paperwork and forms.

As we near our closing date, I've been reflecting on the plight of my friends

outside. They don't own homes. They don't even have a roof over their head. The challenge of getting someone off the street and into stable housing can be even worse than what we're going through.

Often, the slide into homelessness takes time. Getting back into housing can also take time. It's easy to assume the process is simple; you get a job, you get housing. It's almost never that simple. There are forms to fill out, more paperwork, interviews, signing things, and lots of waiting to see if you can get into a place or not.

Meanwhile, you're in survival mode. That's when Nightwatch helps.

Because you give, we can bring people through perilous times. We share warm food and shelter every night. Street Ministers show up with food, water, socks and more. We hold the hands of hurting people. Our Senior Housing brings stability for people in crisis; and the rents are affordable because generous people like you see the importance of keeping old people off the street. Food, shelter, housing, and hope is what we're about. Loving our neighbors, as we like to say.

It's an investment, caring for poor and homeless people. Your support pays big dividends, when we see formerly-homeless people jangling their new set of apartment keys.



# NIGHTWATCH

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

Year-end tax stuff

Donations received by mail must show a 2018 postmark, to be credited for 2018 giving, according to the IRS.

You can donate online for 2018 until midnight, December 31, at www.seattlenightwatch.org.

Year-end giving reports will be mailed out in late January. Call our office if you have questions. Thank you.

#### **Done with paper newsletters?**

We can email the monthly Nightwatch News to you! Sign up at: http://eepurl.com/x5Epv

Or email: coleen@seattlenightwatch.org (include your first & last name)

#### Volunteer Open House

Find your favorite volunteer job! Thursday, December 6, 2018 7:30-8:00 pm **RSVP** or questions: volunteer@seattlenightwatch.org Find out more:

http://tinyurl.com/ydaqfjsx

## Memorials & Tributes

#### Memorials

Renata Asic Kozina **Dianne Lattemann** Tom Box Lyle & Shelley Staley Bill Branom Mary Branom **Bob Bryant** Janet Buck **Charley Bush Ginny Larkins** Gail & Jay Winberg Chris Norma Jean Hanson Joe Curtis Robert & Roberta Brown Craig Davis **Bruce Davis** Robert Domzalski Mark & Lisa Domzalski Tony Domzalski Mark & Lisa Domzalski Pat Domzalski Bud & Trudy Forbes Rhoda Peel Kim Forman Jerry Shigaki

**BJ** Furgerson Kathleen Todd **Betty Holing** Judy & Jim Jansen Mary Ellen Ingersoll Jim & Jan Sullivan Brian Keating Pam & Clay Herbst Al & Maxine Lobb John & Jody Fenlason Annette Mayor Janet Buck Martin Murray Maria & Greg Van Horn **Our Parents** Brian & Pat Hogan Norm Riggins Maureen Wells-Henderson Paul Sakaguchi Sr. Ats Kiuchi Terry Sheehan George & Carolyn Rippee **Dick Shipe** Gary & Theresa Shipe Jane Shipe

Mary Speltz Greg Speltz Anne Todd Kathleen Todd Zollie & Sylvia Volchok **Tony Volchok** & Cindy Monsen **Glenn & Shirley Weed** Andy & Ramona McBeth Jim & Cynthia Weaver **Gilbert Weiss** John Weiss & Corry Venema-Weiss Leo Werlech Ray & Jackie Marsh Shee Wong Irene Cheung Mary Wooldridge Holly Boone Diana Zagurski Joanna & Fritz Walter

#### Tributes

Christine Henderson's birthday Mary Ellen Reimund **Courtney Hirata** Jerolyn Yoshihara Man Lung Li Mimi Yi Lois Lingren Anonymous Brett & Karen Lolley Vern & Marilyn Lolley Mark McLaughlin Anonymous Mary Oaksmith Nichols **Cammy Hendrix** Mike Potts **Catharine Fletcher** Leonard Root Jim & Frances Reynolds Greg Speltz **Robert Petersen** 

## 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:

Ship donations to our door! http://a.co/1UAUEUZ

Amazon donates to Nightwatch when you shop through Amazon Smile! Here's the link:

http://smile.amazon.com/ ch/91-0964027

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

## "HEY ANN! HOW YA DOIN'?"

#### **By Ann Sakaguchi**

We have 24 tenants living with us in our apartments for seniors. Most of them have been homeless at one time. They are all low income; they are all my age or older. We know some of them really well; others keep to themselves. Several we see and talk with every day; kinda like family.

In families, there is likely a similar situation; some members we are close to, but others not so much. Some we get along with very well. If we're honest, some just get on our nerves, right?

One longtime resident has a habit of greeting me whenever he sees me. He might be across the street and half a block away and I'll hear "HOW YA DOING, ANN?"

I know it's me; I don't like to be yelled at from across the street. I love this old guy like a little brother, yet I get so irritated when he calls out to me like that. What's wrong with me? Why can't I be gracious and just accept the friendly greeting for what it is?

I am grateful for this almost daily reminder of my shortcoming. I am still, even after 11 years, struggling to accept the loving greeting that is shouted to me from across the street.

Do you have any family members that irritate you in this way? If you do, how about joining me in prayer and solidarity to overcome our irritations with one another and simply love? This crusty old guy living at Nightwatch is challenging me to be a more accepting and loving person. Sure, he's getting help from Nightwatch, but he's helping me, too.

Are there other things we can learn from our friends at Nightwatch? Definitely! Wanna come and see?  ${\ensuremath{\bullet}}$ 

