Gratitude

By Rev. Rick Reynolds

It has been too long since I told you “Thank you!”

Some of you have been making donations to Operation Nightwatch since I started working here 25 years ago. Some were donating even before that. And a few of our volunteers have continued with us for more than two decades.

Think about the good we have been able to do through the years! Feeding hungry people. Providing overnight shelter. Housing seniors.

“It is only with gratitude that life becomes rich.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Thanks to generous people 20 years ago, we were able to buy the apartment building we use today. And we have been blessed with resources to keep “this old house” in working order. We continue to take good care of formerly-homeless tenants who live here – underwriting the major costs of their housing and support. And we have increased the presence of street ministers, bringing hope and encouragement, socks, food and water to people without much of anything.

None of this can happen without donations from folks like you. Your generosity is the fruit of your own gratitude. May joy abound!

Lord, every good and perfect gift is from above. Help us to live with gratitude daily.

Human frailty

By Marlene Poland and staff, Housing Coordinator

I missed work this month, recovering from surgery. I didn’t have to spend time in the hospital or anything like that. But having to rely on my husband and co-workers and friends and family was a good reminder of how important those relationships are, and how we all need community around us.

While I was gone, one of our senior tenants also had a health setback. As of this moment, it doesn’t look like he’s going to be able to return home. But Nightwatch continues to be a community for him. In fact, it was another senior tenant, one of his neighbors, who was worried about him and asked us to check on him. We found him sprawled in his room. Not hurt, but not able to get up off the floor. We called 911 and stayed until help came. We alerted his daughter, and visited him in the hospital several times. If he is sent to nursing care somewhere, we will take field trips to keep in touch.

It’s what we do around here. We all suffer, we all hurt, we all need each other. No one is immune from suffering.

Let us live a life of compassion for the people around us.
Memorials & Tributes

Memorials
Kay & Art Abe
Tim & Janet Jorve
Stephen Ackerman
Fran & Frank Abbott
Bill Branom
Mary Branom
Chris
Norma Jean Hanson
Robert Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Tony Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
Chris Graff
Norma Jean Hanson
Mal & Effie Higgins
Linda Martin
Mary Ellen Ingersoll
Jim & Jan Sullivan
Doreen Morey Keepers
George & Carolyn Rippe
Betty Koehnke
Dee Koehnke
AI & Maxine Lobb
John & Jody Fenlason
Mike Potts
Catharine Fletcher
Pat & Lyle Riddell
Jodi Mangold
Edith Root
Leonard Root
Katie Schwarzhans
Daisy Beach
Dennis & Mary Ann Erford
John & Jody Fenlason
Brian & Pat Hogan
Rick & Lorri Reynolds
George & Carolyn Rippe
Kathleen & Cliao Thomas
Dick Shipe
Gary & Theresa Shipe
Mary Speltz
Greg Speltz
Lisa Marie Styer
Patricia & Eugene Styer
Donell Tekawa
Sharon & Ron Hirata
Robert “Mugs” Tracy
Eileen Anderson
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Tony Volchok
&Cindy Mosn
Dr. John Walters
Dan Patterson
& Debby Walters
Glenn & Shirley Weed
Jim & Cynthia Weaver
Mary Wooldridge
Holly Boone

Tributes
Deb Burton
Barbara Mahoney
Asher & Stephanie Chiu
Eric Bueser
Courtney Hirata
Tanja Eppers
Jedidiah
Christine Jones
Phillip Lorente
Anonymous
Mom and Gramie
Dee Koehnke
Kell Rabern
Bareq Peshtaz
Greg Speltz
Solomon Karmel
& Martine Smets
The work of Nightwatch
Karen & John Thielke

More grace
By Ann Sakaguchi,
Deputy Director
I have a young friend whose name is Grace. Whenever I see her or even think of her, I feel better. She’s the kind of person that always has a warm glow on her face, whether she is serious or beaming in a smile. Knowing Grace makes my life richer.

I found several definitions for the word “grace.”

Around here at Nightwatch, we see grace in action. Last week, resident neighbors squabbled about a loud television. They argued and accused each other but, in the end, they settled their differences peacefully. Grace.

In the Dispatch Center, a room filled with some 100 people and all their worldly belongings, disputes arise frequently. Tensions build, words grow harsh, and voices are raised. Nearly always, a peaceful solution is reached. Grace prevails.

On the street, homeless campers disagree with each other, accusations are made. Later, cooler heads win out, a truce is declared. It’s not usually perfect, not everyone is happy, but the conflict gives way to peace and a handshake is offered.

What would happen at Nightwatch, in our communities, in the world, if more grace was exercised? Could everyone’s lives be better, richer? More grace.

My friend Grace’s name fits her so well. Seeing or thinking of her makes me smile. And reminds me to give more grace. Everyday. All the time. Thank you, Gracie.

Lord, grant us more grace, and let us sow peace.

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: info@seattlenightwatch.org

Amazon Wish List:
Ship donations to our door! https://amzn.to/2NwV2JG

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

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