

# Nightwatch News

September, 2020

## Van drivers needed

By Rick Reynolds, Executive Director



For the second time in a week, I delivered homeless men to “Julia’s Place” at Madrona Grace Presbyterian. Ten guys. Lots of social distancing. And one Nightwatch worker overnight.

I gotta say, driving the van is the most fun I’ve had in a long time. The men are grateful for the shelter and for the ride. While in the van, they talk about sports, old cars, barbecue.

Last night, we were almost at the church. “Did Jackson get in the car?” I ask. Two nights ago Jackson was going on and on, talking about barbecue in West Texas where he’s from, compared to barbecue in Seattle, about which I have opinions.

The back and forth was great, But tonight, from my driver’s seat, there was no gentle drawl from the back of the van. “Is Jackson with us?”

There was a pause. “I’m here,” Jackson says. “It’s the spaghetti.” He had gotten his meal and was relishing every morsel — in the van, before arriving at the church.

Everyone chuckled, but Jackson did not mind it one bit. There was so much gratitude in the van that night. God is great, God is good, let us thank him for our food.

*Lord, help us to focus on the goodness around us, the deeply satisfied homeless guys who got a meal, and a wonderful place to stay. Grant us wisdom and strength for the days ahead.*

Your support makes food, shelter, housing and hope happen for poor and homeless people in Seattle. If you would like to drive, email [haley@seattlenightwatch.org](mailto:haley@seattlenightwatch.org). ●

## Baptism

By Rev. Michael Cox,  
Street Minister

Street ministers try to meet the needs of homeless people on many levels—food, water, socks, bus tickets. But “Larry” wanted something different.

Larry wanted to be baptized.

We would see him every week. We talked and prayed, We ate lasagna together.

He still wanted to be baptized. Right in the parking lot on Pike Street where we serve a meal. We asked Larry the traditional questions, and I poured water over him in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. His friends, mostly homeless, all yelled their support.

Larry had this huge grin on his face. “I can’t wait to tell everyone.” It’s a steamy hot day. We are socially distanced and wearing masks.

At the bus stop, someone is working their way through a 12-pack of beer. But Larry is announcing to the world that he wants to follow Jesus. It’s a good thing. ●



# NIGHTWATCH

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

*Save the Date*



**Lunch In  
with Nightwatch**

**Wednesday,  
October 21  
at noon**

This is an online event—  
more details to come!

**Make the switch to  
email newsletters!**

Email your request to  
[coleen@seattlenightwatch.org](mailto:coleen@seattlenightwatch.org)

# Memorials & Tributes

## Memorials

Bill Branom	Congressman John Lewis	Gordon Siddons
Mary Branom	Irma Evans	Bob Porter
Jay Cawley	Al & Maxine Lobb	Mary Speltz
Adam & Erika Schuyler	John & Jody Fenlason	Greg Speltz
Craig Davis	Ted Lomax	Margaret Sullivan
Bruce Davis	Gloria Lomax	Fran & Frank Abbott
Robert Domzalski	Daisy Neves	Robert “Mugs” Tracy
Mark & Lisa Domzalski	The Neves Family	Eileen Anderson
Tony Domzalski	Bud Palmberg	Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Mark & Lisa Domzalski	Anonymous	Tony Volchok
Pat Domzalski	Mike Potts	& Cindy Monsen
Bud & Trudy Forbes	Catharine Fletcher	Glenn & Shirley Weed
Jim & Fern Smith	Barbie Sharrard	Carolyn & Curtis Neitsch
Chris Graff	Joy Lauderbaugh	Mary Wooldridge
Norma Jean Hanson	Dick Shipe	Holly Boone & Pat Braus
Mal & Effie Higgins	Gary & Theresa Shipe	
Linda Martin	Jane Shipe	
Mary Ellen Ingersoll	Chris Siddons	
Jim & Jan Sullivan	Bob Porter	

## Tributes

All the volunteers  
Ken & Carol Williams  
American Legion Post #82  
Tonasket, WA  
George & Carolyn Rippee  
All the wonderful people helping  
our homeless  
Jackie & Clark Hoyt  
Gautam, Callendar, Klein, and  
Larios families  
Kirstin Ward  
Abbey McMahon  
Jennifer Grant  
Sono Sakaguchi  
Rodney & Kristine Kawakami  
Greg Speltz  
Robert & Roberta Brown  
Muriel Staple’s 92nd birthday  
Bob & Dixie Doyle  
Wonderful staff  
Yukio & Julianne Kumasaka

## Just a chair

By Ann Sakaguchi,  
Deputy Director

No doubt, it’s been challenging for everyone, these past six months or so. We’ve had some tough times here at Nightwatch, not the least of which was being without Pastor Rick, while he battled COVID 19 at home. We’re thankful for his recovery and return to work.

We’ve been working hard to find new shelter sites. It takes a lot to get a shelter up and running; we thought we knew the basics, so we decided to try using the Dispatch Center for overnight shelter.

Our Dispatch Center Manager, Tonette, worked on the details; the mats, blankets, how to space them out so that everyone is safe. The guys were hesitant at first; but they soon felt comfortable.

On the first night, Tonette showed the guests their mats. She had carefully placed a chair at the head of each mat. When she pointed out the chair, one guest responded with sincere gratitude: “That’s so nice,” he said. Think about that. A simple plastic chair next to your mat. You can sit in the chair to take off your shoes, instead of being on the floor. You can put your stuff up on the chair, off the ground.

Putting a chair next to each mat was not on the list of things required for shelter. It was Tonette’s sensitivity to the needs of our homeless friends, a small thing to make shelter better, that led her to do it. Thank you, Tonette.

We are also grateful to our new friends at Madrona Grace Presbyterian Church. When we asked if we could use their basement for shelter, they responded quickly and enthusiastically “Yes!” So last week, we opened shelter for up to ten men in the space known as Julia’s Place (named for a beloved church member). And, yes, next to each mat, there is a chair.

We still need more shelter. We need space and we need funds to pay the workers. Please continue to pray. This pandemic is not even close to being over. ●



## Shopping List

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

- Bottled water (8 oz. - 16 oz.)
- Juice (single-sized)
- Protein bars
- Chewy granola bars
- Cereal bars
- Fruit snacks
- Fruit cups
- Trail/nut mix (individual pack)
- Cheese-n-cracker snacks (individually wrapped)
- Beef jerky sticks
- Wrapped candy
- Cookies and pastries (individually bagged)
- Whole individual fruit (apples, oranges, bananas)
- Large jars of jelly and jam

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


## Amazon Wish List:

Ship donations to our door!  
<https://amzn.to/2NwV2JG>

**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**

 Follow us on Facebook!