

Nightwatch News

April, 2021

For luck!

By Rev. Rick Reynolds, Executive Director



In the pre-COVID nights of street ministry, we would show up at a shelter, now closed, bringing pizzas every week as a treat. From week-to-week we never knew who might be there. But they nearly always seemed happy to see us, happy about the pizza, and sometimes happy to talk.

One night, we had a memorable moment.

An old man in the shelter was describing, with great joy, the sensation of gaffing a 73-pound king salmon, back in the day before everything else got away from him. Fisherman, boat-

owner, family man. That life was all gone.

We all murmured quiet admiration for his grand achievement, the pinnacle of that time in his life. A 73-pound fish? Wow. We sat there, wondering what might have brought him low; he was now homeless, without his family or his boat or his place in the world.

Another shelter resident stood behind the Great Fisherman, and rubbed his hands all around the old guy's buzz-cut head with great enthusiasm. "For luck!" he proclaimed. We all laughed.

"You got the wrong guy," the Great Fisherman exclaimed. We laughed again. But in the quietness that followed, we all felt his pain.

Lord, as we ponder the fate of homeless people among us, help us to listen to their stories with compassion, and to respond with love.

Thank you for making this work possible through your gifts. ●

Miracle

By Rev. Michael Cox, Street Minister

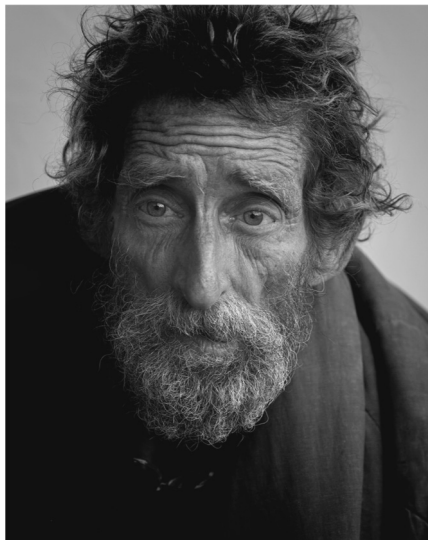
Brett was living in a tent.

We gave him socks, gloves, and a sandwich. The next week we gave him a beanie, more socks, and more sandwiches. He stayed in his tent. Wouldn't talk.

Next we saw Brett in a doorway on a freezing stormy night. This time he was chatty. He had just survived a near-death experience. While he was asleep, a truck lost its brakes and smashed into his tent. "I should be dead. I don't know how I survived." We thanked God for the miracle.

Weeks later, we reminded Brett that he was a walking miracle. Brett began to cry. He shared how he believed in God and how God had blessed him in the past. He shared how he is trying to get clean from drugs. How he is apprehensive and afraid. We made plans to connect for coffee.

We are praying for another miracle for our friend Brett. Thank you for your support and prayers on our behalf. ●



NIGHTWATCH

Serving the night
community in the
name of Christ



Save the Date!
GiveBIG 2021

May 4th and 5th
Your gift provides
food, shelter,
housing and hope
for people in need.
Early giving starts April 20.

[www.givebigwa.org/
operation-nightwatch](http://www.givebigwa.org/operation-nightwatch)

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Chuck Beavers
Gerald Prior
Bill Branom
Mary Branom
Ray Brook
Carla Kepler
Chauncey Burke
Samuel Taylor
Charley Bush
Ginny Larkins
Clarence & Dorothy
Diane McAlister
Dorothy Clement
Norm & Melinda Lobb
Donald Davidson
Lola Davidson
Craig Davis
Bruce Davis
Robert Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
Tony Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
Ethel May (Dolly) Elkins
George & Carolyn Rippee
Dick Erickson
Fan & Jack Gates
Nancy Horman
Peggy Johnson
Peggy McClintock
David Mesenbring
Marilyn Severson
Woodland Park Presbyterian

Suzi Goodling
Bob Porter
Chris Graff
Norma Jean Hanson
Emilie Graham
John & Karen Thielke
Mal & Effie Higgins
Linda Martin
Elizabeth Hoffman
Marla Hoffman
Mary Ellen Ingersoll
Jim & Jan Sullivan
Dean & Hattie Kimble
Katherine Smith
Al & Maxine Lobb
John & Jody Fenlason
Norm & Melinda Lobb
Harley & Mercedes Lolley
Vernon & Marilyn Lolley
Daisy Neves
The Neves Family
Bud Palmberg
Anonymous
Chrisi & Michael Dotson
Mike Potts
Catharine Fletcher
Larry Prall
Judith Huger
Cynthia Stollberg
Norm Riggins
Maureen Wells-Henderson
Paul Sakaguchi Sr.
Stacie & Paul Sakaguchi

Peter Schnebele
Judy Schnebele
Dick Shipe
Paul & Tina Miller
Stephen Shipe
& Marta Pasztor
Mary Speltz
George Keefe
Hide Tekawa
Ron & Sharon Hirata
Clio Thomas
Scott & Betty Schleiffers
Jim & Jan Sullivan
Robert "Mugs" Tracy
Eileen Anderson
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Tony Volchok
& Cindy Monsen
Glenn & Shirley Weed
Curtis & Carolyn Neitsch
Cynthia & Jim Weaver
Gary White
Eugene White
Irene Woodgate-Campiglia
George & Caolyn Rippee
Mary Wooldridge
Holly Boone & Pat Braus

Tributes

Amanda Kang
Michelle Fagan
Denny Shaw
Carol Sue Janes
Maureen Walker
Harvey & Geri Nelson
David Zucker
Robert & Roberta Brown

Shopping List

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

- Bottled water (16 oz.)
- Juice (single-sized)
- Protein bars
- Chewy granola bars
- Cereal bars
- Fruit snacks
- Fruit cups
- Trail/nut mix (individual pack)
- Beef jerky sticks
- Wrapped candy
- Cookies and pastries (individually bagged)
- Whole individual fruit (apples, oranges, bananas)
- Gloves
- Handwarmers
- Warm hats—beanie style

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

Amazon Wish List:

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

Like tulips

By Ann Sakaguchi, Deputy Director

Over a decade ago, a group of Seattle Pacific University students planted some tulip bulbs along the border of our little parking patch. Over the years, a fence went up along that same borderline. One year, an actual vegetable garden was put in the same area. Those old tulips bulbs are still under there somewhere.

In October last fall, remember the "surge" in COVID infections? We had to close our shelter in the U District, for what ended up to be permanently. At that time, I dreaded the cold and darkness of the coming months for our homeless friends. I was discouraged about the future of shelter, given COVID safety precautions. It felt like a heavy blanket was pressing down on us, trying to snuff us out. I wondered how we would make it through the winter.

In the last six months, we've continued to keep our focus. We've continued to provide shelter, though on a much safer, smaller scale. Every night, volunteers kept coming in to prepare and serve meals. We've received donations of food and survival supplies, like hand warmers, hats and gloves. Upstairs in the apartments, we've kept our seniors safe inside and healthy. In summary, **we just keep on going. With your help.**

Now, spring is here; the days are longer. Soon, the tulips will come up, having endured the winter. And we, at Nightwatch, like the tulips, welcome the sunlight and longer days. We will keep on going, with renewed energy and hope for an end to this pandemic nightmare.

Food. Shelter. Housing. Hope.

It's what we do. It's who we are. With your help. ●




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206-329-2099 Shelter Dispatch

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