# Nightwatch News

## It was a great week!

By Deacon Frank DiGirolamo, Executive Director



Last week, "Diane" excitedly ran up to me on the street. "Let me tell you about my week!" She was smiling, and so I assumed there was lots of good news to share.

What followed was surprising. A litany of friends, family, and their many struggles. I'm thinking, "She's still smiling. I guess she's about to get to the good stuff." She kept going with that list. Smiling the whole way through it.

Finally, I had to interrupt. "Diane, I'm so sorry to hear of these situations. Please tell me, what has you smiling as you tell me the stories?" She didn't need to think at all, "I am thankful that I was privileged to be with them in the darkness... to love

them, and remind them that everything will be okay. To be a light, I guess."

My encounter with Diane reminds me of how scripture lets us know that God is present, even in the difficulty. "Do not be afraid." (Is. 41) "This is only a season." (Ecc. 3) "I am with you always." (Matt. 28) Indeed, there was lots of good news to share. That explains her smile.

When you support Nightwatch, you are with folks in the dark moments, loving them.

Lord, thank you for always being with us. •



"When are you guys gonna let us inside to eat?" It's a familiar inquiry, and we would love nothing more.

Out of concerns for public health, our nighttime meal service and shelter referral



has been running as a "drive-thru" operation during the pandemic. As the cold weather hits, we see the weariness in the eyes of our 100+ daily clients, and want nothing more than to offer a refuge, if only a few hours each night. We relate to the longing for brief moments to sit and dine, and the dignity of access to a rest room. We are anxious to re-open. We are finalizing how to do this safely. It helps that public health restrictions have lifted, and COVID rates are low.

It's exciting to imagine reconnecting with our clients. The gathering space becomes a place of friendship and community: clients, staff, and volunteers. Laughter and well-wishes echo off the walls. Peace replaces the anxiety. It's a real type of "Thanksgiving table," every night of the year. This all motivates us to act.

Logistically we are prepared. Our hearts are open. Please keep us in your prayers as we move forward in welcoming clients back inside.

Lord, thank you for your spirit of hospitality.



## **NIGHTWATCH**

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

### Sock Drive-Up Drop-Off

Sunday, December 11 12:30-2:00 pm Start collecting new, men's athletic socks now. Hope to see you there! More details:

seattlenightwatch.org/sock-it

## Nightwatch Works because

It's not too late! Matching funds for gifts of \$200 and more are still available.

of vou

Give today! https://bit.ly/nwwrks



## Memorials & Tributes

#### Memorials

Terry Ball Ann Sakaguchi Bill Branom Mary Branom Craig Davis **Bruce Davis** Robert Domzalski Mark & Lisa Domzalski Pat Domzalski Tony Domzalski Mark & Lisa Domzalski Pat Domzalski Joyce Freese **Brian Freese** Chris Graff Norma Jean Hanson Mary Ellen Ingersoll Jim & Jan Sullivan Dean & Hattie Kimble Kathy Greiner Ron Kimble Carl & Heather Craven Richard Lamb Luke Larson Chue Lee Shukuan De Souza Jemin Liu Yeedeh Loh

Al & Maxine Lobb John & Jody Fenlason Necia McKendrick Ben & Flo Curtis Elmer Molzahn Sherianne Caldwell Gretchen Monteith **Bob Porter** Janet Vischak **Bud Palmberg** Chrisi & Michael Dotson Donna Palmberg Elden Pemberton Paul Pemberton Robert & Nellie Porter **Bob Porter** Mike Potts Catharine Fletcher Nikki Powers Judi Selset Jim Reynolds Judi Selset Leonard Root Rick & Lorri Reynolds Sandy Schoenhals Roger Schoenhals

Dick Shipe

Gary & Theresa Shipe

Mary Speltz Robert & Roberta Brown Clio Thomas Jim & Jan Sullivan Susan Van Pelt Judi Selset Zollie & Sylvia Volchok Tony Volchok & Cindy Monsen Glenn & Shirley Weed Cynthia & Jim Weaver Leo Werlech Ray & Jackie Marsh Gary White Lisa Connolley Mary Wooldridge Holly Boone & Pat Braus

#### **Tributes**

Arnie Brann Rick & Lorri Reynolds Patricia Broulette Akane Yamaguchi **Dutch Brown** Bill Yeend Sidney & Robert Harrelson Karen & John Thielke **Bob Hirotaka** Harvey & Geri Nelson In the name of Christ Christine Zhao Frank Lawler Laurence Belfer Man Lung Li Shutyee Yeung Julia & Wes Proudlove Mary & Michael Brooks Rick Reynolds Dick & Carol Grieves Linda & Mike Martin Mark & Judi Morrison Doug Hart & Carole Powell Kim Sather Ann Sakaguchi Kim Sather **Grace Uomoto** Denny Shaw Carol Sue Janes Samuel & Connie Tarr Kira Martinez The Tuesday night SLU Crew Molly Bosch

## Good news By Rev. Michael Cox, Street Minister

Jesus blesses the homeless from a place where they can see and hear him. On the street, face to face, eye to eye, from "some flat, level ground." (Luke 6:17)

Every Tuesday, Operation Nightwatch participates in



a community dinner church. We meet in a parking garage in downtown Seattle. As hot entrees and desserts are served out of chafing dishes, the invitational hospitality of Christ and his love are shared.

I begin each meal with prayer and a short story about Jesus. The Bible is too often communicated as a book of morality and rules, and our homeless friends often assume they deserve poverty because of their moral failing. "God is punishing me because of all my bad choices."

Reading the Bible with people on the street reveals the centrality of God's care for the marginalized and social outcasts of our city. The story of Jesus is good news to our unhoused friends. "God will bless you people who are poor. His kingdom belongs to you! God will bless you hungry people. You will have plenty to eat! God will bless you people who are crying. You will laugh." (Luke 6:20-21 CEV)

Thank you for helping Operation Nightwatch provide space for homeless people to hear, taste, and see that the Lord is good! Please consider a monthly gift to provide food, shelter, housing and hope to our neighbors in need.

## Shopping I

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

- Bottled water (16 oz.)
- Protein & chewy granola bars
- Individual bags of chips
- Cookies and pastries
- Apples, oranges, bananas
- Shampoo & conditioner
- First aid cream
- Razors
- Lotion
- Gloves
- Beanie style hats
- Men's new athletic socks
- Twin size sheet sets

For more info, or to schedule a donation drop-off: 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



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