

Nightwatch News

March, 2023

Responding with love

By Deacon Frank DiGirolamo, Executive Director



Warning: The following article includes references to physical violence. Please practice self-care.

It's late at night, mid-February. I'm in the ER with street minister, Reverend Paul. He has just been assaulted on the streets. He is going to be okay.

It seems to have been a random act. Part of the epidemic of violence in Seattle. Rev. Paul has just experienced the same violence that our clients live

within every day. (Note: The attacker did not appear to be someone experiencing homelessness.)

Rev. Paul repeatedly says, "We gotta pray for that man. He doesn't know the love of God. His heart is caught up in rage and anger."

It calls to mind the adage, "hurt people are the ones who hurt people." We can't imagine what types of hurt this man has received.

On the gurney, Rev. Paul echoes Jesus on the cross, "Father, forgive him. He does not know what he is doing." (ref. Luke 23:34)

An injured man in the ER, responding to violence with grace and mercy. This is ministry to a hurting community, in the name of Christ. This is Operation Nightwatch.

Please pray for us as we revise all of our ministry policies, to ensure that safety is a top priority.

Lord, lay your healing hand upon our community. ●

Kneeling on the corner

By Rev. Michael Cox, Street Minister

I saw you out of the corner of my eye. You were well hidden between the abandoned store front and busy bus stop.

The vacant look in your eyes made me wonder if we should leave you alone. If talking to me would be upsetting for you.

Gently, I offer some socks and handwarmers. You don't hear me or understand what I am doing, and look scared and worried. I hold out a pair of Kirkland brand tube socks and we start a conversation.

Your story reveals that you're forty-two, a Navy veteran, and that your brain is extremely tired. You are confused about the details of your Military service, but are interested in talking with a counselor and accessing benefits. I give you my pen and you write down phone numbers, addresses, and bus routes.

Gradually, the countenance of your face becomes brighter, your speech more articulate. We discuss the two bloody scratches on your neck. They are deep and concerning. Emblematic signposts of your suffering and longing for safety. You genuinely seem to understand the danger you're in.

We kneel down on the busy sidewalk, hold hands, and pray for healing, peace and rest. ●



NIGHTWATCH

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

Volunteer Orientation

Come on in, take a look around, and hear about all of our volunteer opportunities. We'd love to meet you and get you connected!

**Tuesday, February 28
7:30 pm**

302 14th Ave S, Seattle 98144

RSVP
marica@seattlenightwatch.org

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Bill Branom	Dean & Hattie Kimble	Clio Thomas
Mary Branom	Kathy Greiner	Henry Jordan
Charley Bush	Ron Kimble	Jim & Jan Sullivan
Nancy & Ed Emerson	Carl & Heather Craven	Veryl Toms
Ginny Larkins	Al & Maxine Lobb	Randall & Linda Toms
Craig Davis	John & Jody Fenlason	Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Bruce Davis	Craig MacGowan	Tony Volchok
Robert Domzalski	Pat & Ron Cygan	& Cindy Monsen
Mark & Lisa Domzalski	Elmer Molzahn	Glenn & Shirley Weed
Pat Domzalski	Sherianne Caldwell	Carolyn Neitsch
Tony Domzalski	Bud Palmberg	Leo Werlech
Mark & Lisa Domzalski	Chrisi & Michael Dotson	Theresa Werlech
Pat Domzalski	Cynthia Pemberton	Gary White
John Gehrig	Paul Pemberton	Lisa Connolley
Catherine Hummel	Robert & Nellie Porter	Eugene White
Scott Giles	Bob Porter	Mary Wooldridge
Ryan Yalowicki	Mike Potts	Holly Boone & Pat Braus
Chris Graff	Catharine Fletcher	
Norma Jean Hanson	Dick Shipe	
Mary Ellen Ingersoll	Gary & Theresa Shipe	
Jim & Jan Sullivan	Stephen Shipe	
	& Marta Pasztor	

Tributes

Patti Broulette
Akane Yamaguchi
The DiPietro Family
Kim Bundy
Koyasan Buddhist Temple
Kent Smith
Jana Lauderbaugh
Joy Lauderbaugh
Man Lung Li
Shutyee Yeung
Rick Reynolds
Dick & Carol Grieves
Linda & Mike Martin
Doug Hart & Carole Powell
Ann Sakaguchi
Julianne Kumasaka
Denny Shaw
Carol Sue Janes
Shelley Staley
Charlotte & Virgil Huntsinger
Lori Todd
Harvey & Geri Nelson
David & Karen Wilkinson
Shirley Wilkinson

Improving life

By Tonette Winston, Director of Housing and Shelter Services

By God's grace, and our generous donors, life is improving for our Nightwatch-run shelter clients.

We have merged two of our shelters into one, at Madrona Grace Presbyterian Church. Daily operations get much easier for everyone when we are closer to our dispatch center in Seattle.

Led by Pastor Reggie, Madrona Grace is rich in culture and they have a history of supporting their community. Check it out! They have served as a refuge for those marginalized and oppressed by the forces of racism, politics, and homelessness.

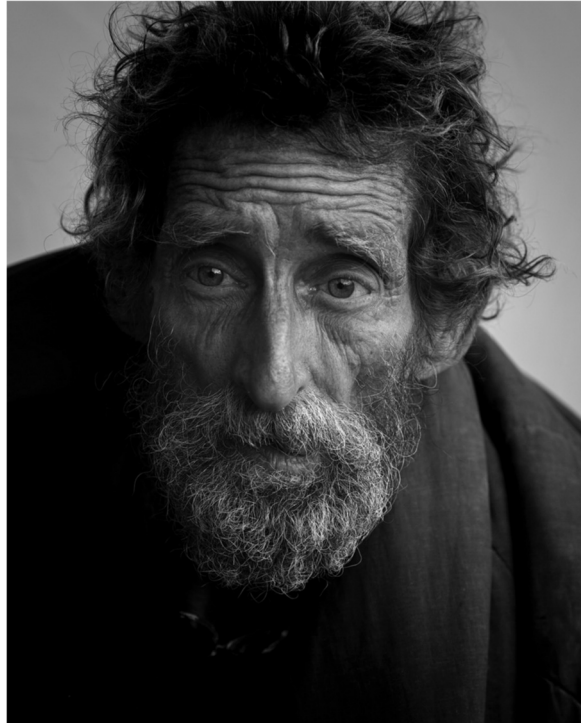
Many thanks to the St. John the Baptist community in West Seattle, for allowing us the use of their space for most of the past year. Their congregation, and the amazing Pastor Elise, welcomed us inside when many other doors were closing. It was difficult to say goodbye!

We are always thankful to be connected with communities like St. John the Baptist and Madrona Grace. They not only provide safe space for our clients, but also hold them in prayer and rally others in support of our mission.

We are responding to an increased desire for connection, and our community is revitalizing. Lately, we've been serving an average of 134 hot meals nightly, and we provide shelter for up to 65 people every night.

God is smiling down as we serve one precious client at a time.

Your support and prayers keep our shelters open for those in need. Thank you. ●



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.)
- Protein & chewy granola bars
- Individual bags of chips
- Cookies and pastries
- Fruit
- To-go soup containers
- Shampoo & conditioner
- First aid cream
- Razors
- Lotion
- Gloves
- Beanie style hats
- Men's new athletic socks
- Twin size sheet sets
- Clean, durable blankets

For more information, 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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