

Nightwatch News

June, 2023

Co-workers in the vineyard

By Deacon Frank DiGirolamo, Executive Director



My staff and I regularly give talks to different groups about the ministries of Operation Nightwatch, and I'm preparing to make several more visits in the coming weeks. It's a broad spectrum of church groups, local business organizations, and retirement communities. What a blessing!

While we provide a brief overview of our organization, we've learned that folks love to hear stories of hope in the midst of homelessness. The hopes that we hear from those experiencing homelessness: healing of relationships, freedom from addiction, and reconciliation with family. Most often, a desire to simply be seen and acknowledged. We can respond to these!

Regardless of the setting, we focus on what we have in common: concern for those who suffer in our midst, our shared inherent dignity, and allowing ourselves to be moved to simply love one another.

It's common for one or more people to approach me after a talk and tell me that homelessness has struck close to them. An aunt, a nephew, even one of their own children.

It's a stark reminder that the folks on our streets are indeed family. Your generosity makes it possible for us to care for our brothers and sisters.

Lord, thank you for gathering us as co-workers in your vineyard. ●

Freshly cut grass

By Marlene Poland, Housing Coordinator

There is something about the smell of freshly cut grass that can evoke happy childhood memories, and a feeling of home.

"Tim", one of our residents, absolutely loves it. He opens his windows wide whenever Deacon Frank takes to cutting the lawn. And several of the other guys come out to give Frank advice.

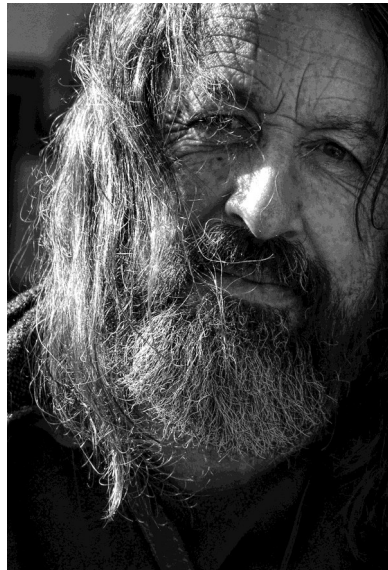
We've been using a small, electric mower, so the sound isn't quite the same as Tim's memories. Still, the wafting aroma of cut blades make their way to Tim's room. He'll often walk outside to take in a big breath of it... and give Frank a thumbs up. And, it's another opportunity to talk about the day and how life is going.

For many of the guys, the apartments at Operation Nightwatch are the first home they've had in a while. Small things like smelling freshly cut grass appeal to the senses, and bring comfort.

Sometimes, mowing the yard can feel like a chore, until we remember that it contributes to the overall service and welcome of our residents. We are thankful for the opportunity to do it.

Soon, we will be firing up the charcoal grill!

Lord, thank you for providing us with a home in you. ●



NIGHTWATCH

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

**Volunteer
Orientation**
Wednesday, June 14
7:30 pm

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!

302 14th Ave S, Seattle 98144

RSVP
marica@seattlenightwatch.org

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Bill Branom
Mary Branom
Charley Bush
Ginny Larkins
Dan Cerillo
Frank & Shelley DiGirolamo
Robyn Crane
Rick & Lorri Reynolds
Joe Curtis
Robert & Roberta Brown
Robert Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
Tony Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
Chris Graff
Norma Jean Hanson
Jon Ihde
Michael & Sue Gibb
Mary Ellen Ingersoll
Jim & Jan Sullivan
Dean & Hattie Kimble
Kathy & Jeff Greiner

Ron Kimble
Carl & Heather Craven
Leslie Larsen
Eva Mader
Al & Maxine Lobb
John & Jody Fenlason
Elizabeth Charles Micha
Marla Hoffman
Elmer Molzahn
Sherianne Caldwell
Gretchen Monteith
Lee Monteith
Joanna Ngai
Chen & Anita Chuck
Grace Ho
Ia Lan & Chi Ping Ted Chen
Joyce Chui
Robert & Nellie Porter
Bob Porter
Mike Potts
Catharine Fletcher
Norm Riggins
Art & Ruby Meyer

Gladys McMenus Rippee
George & Carolyn Rippee
Dick Shipe
Gary & Theresa Shipe
Clio Thomas
Jim & Jan Sullivan
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Cindy Monsen
Jeff Walters
Anonymous
Gary White
Lisa Connolley
Eugene White
Leonard & Vernus Woodgate
George & Carolyn Rippee
Mary Wooldridge
Holly Boone & Pat Braus

Tributes

Lena A.
Molly Bosch
Patricia Brouette
Akane Yamaguchi
The Cerillo Family
Frank & Shelley DiGirolamo
The DiPietro Family
Kim Bundy
Nathan Hautala
Toni & Robert Hautala
Wendy Hirotaka
Harvey & Geri Nelson
John Maynard Kach
Mike & Carol Sandsmark
Jamie Kieserman
Margaret Snowden
Lily Koeplin
Carey Armstrong
Rev. Frank & Elizabeth Lawler
Tad Higginson
Man Lung Li
Shutye Yung
Rick Reynolds
Dick & Carol Grieves
Doug Hart & Carole Powell
Linda & Mike Martin
Joy Okazaki
Ann Sakaguchi
Joy Okazaki
Denny Shaw
Carol Sue Janes
Volunteers of Nightwatch
Frank Lawler

“The Fathers”

By Rev. Michael Cox, Street Minister

Samuel has been sleeping in front of the school for at least four years. When I see him, he is always friendly and chatty.

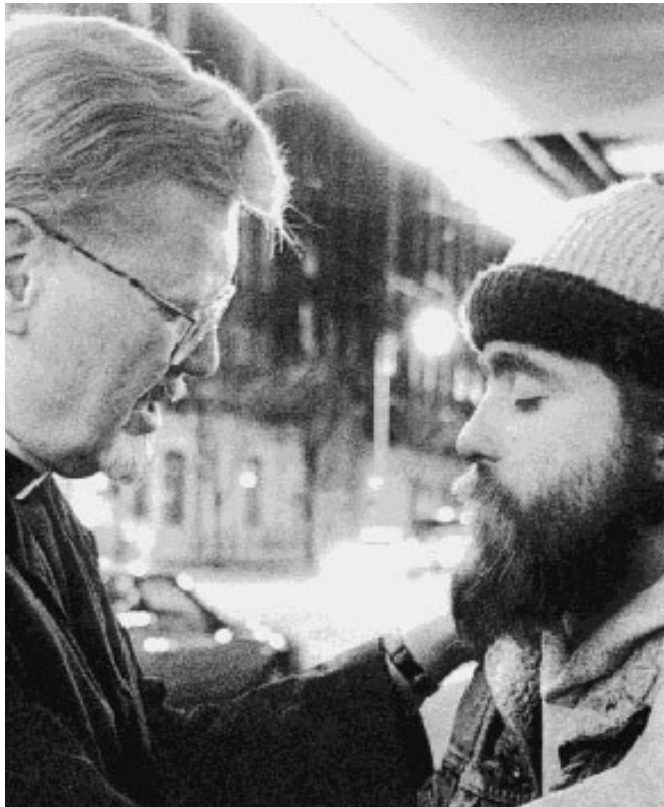
He calls me and the other street ministers “The Fathers.” As a street minister for Nightwatch, I wear a clergy collar. Sometimes people assume I am a Catholic Priest. I will try to clarify, explaining that I am a Protestant Minister, but people usually glaze over with boredom during my explanation.

The awkward conversations around my “get up,” as one case manager from the county called it, are worth the moments of pastoral care and therapeutic relief that the clergy collar invites. **Those holy moments on the street have helped lead to an apartment for Samuel!** I recently went to visit him.

Spending time with Samuel in his apartment brings both of us great joy. After showing me his DVD collection and refrigerator, we pray. When we’re done praying, Samuel takes me down the elevator, leads me through the lobby and opens the door for me. We hug and he says, “Thanks Father, tell the other Fathers I say hi!”

Your prayers and support allow us to interact with thousands on the streets each year. We are humbled by your generosity.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you (John 14:1-2)?” ●



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
- 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://bit.ly/ONWlist>

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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