Nightwatch News Thanksgiving, 2023

Home for the holidays?

By Deacon Frank DiGirolamo, Executive Director



Her handshake is intense. It's chilly. She's wearing gloves. But she holds onto our hands like she's clinging to a life raft, and looks into our eyes to make sure that we can see her.

We talk with "Beth" every week. She's from out of state. Her mom is there, struggling with an illness. She has a young son back home. Amazing reasons to get back. Alas, the pressures of the sex trade keep her from being able to seriously entertain the option. At least not yet.

The holidays bring up the sentiment of going home. We are hoping that this can become a reality for Beth.

She seems weary in life. Her eyes open wide when home is discussed.

Every week, she engages with us until we bring up the offer again to help her get home, whenever she is ready. She is comforted to know the offer stands.

Thank you for your support in making our ministry with Beth and others possible.

Lord, you offer us a home, in the midst of weariness. When we find ourselves clinging to hope-filled relationships. Thank you for your standing offer of rest. (Matthew 11: 28) •

Speaking of being "back home," I am thrilled to announce that Rev. Rick Reynolds has rejoined Nightwatch as a street minister. This is a win for all.

You will enjoy his article below!

Welcome back, Rick!

Glimmer of hope

By Rev. Rick Reynolds, Street Minister Executive Director Emeritus

Standing by the door of a neighborhood pharmacy, "Nick" was shivering under his clear disposable plastic poncho. We were both soaking wet. The rain was pounding down.

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We chatted about the lousy weather. "You got a dry place?" I asked quietly.

"Not really," Nick answered.

"Don't give up, Brother."

I could not do much at that moment. But something inside me glimmered. Maybe Nightwatch could use another part time street minister. Maybe I can still be of use at my advanced age. Maybe I need Nick as much as he needs me. That day I emailed Michael Cox and offered myself for 12 hours a week. **We have to do something.**

Thank you for the opportunity to serve once again.





NIGHTWATCH

Serving the night community in the name of Christ



Sock Drive Open House Sunday, December 3 12:30–2:00 pm Collect new, men's athletic socks and bring them in. Hope to see you there! More details: seattlenightwatch.org/sock-it



Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Kay Abe Norman Abe All who died living unhoused this year Donna Jensen Molly Bosch **Bill Branom** Mary Branom Monica Brown Robert & Roberta Brown Charley Bush **Ginny Larkins** Elizabeth Colehour Elizabeth Hansen Jan Creason Gary Crevling Robert Domzalski Mark & Lisa Domzalski Pat Domzalski Tony Domzalski Mark & Lisa Domzalski Pat Domzalski Susan & Leslie Dozsa Les Dozsa Keith & Kay Forbes Linda & Mike Martin Tara Gary Molly Bosch Chris Graff Norma Jean Hanson C.H. Penelope Toland Mary Ellen Ingersoll Jim & Jan Sullivan

Isolation

By Rev. Michael Cox,

weekly meal on Capitol Hill.

Director of Outreach Ministry

People from all walks of life make their way to our

Tonight, a man came for the first time. He is always

am not a Catholic priest. I have invited him at least

walking his tiny dog and refuses to believe that I

soaking wet from the rain, sharing how he got on

a dozen times. As he approaches the dinner

the wrong bus and got lost after his doctor's

appointment, dinner church becomes a literal

Paul Jacobson Sr. Paul & Carole Jacobson Rebecca Christianson Joan Jim Pitman Dean & Hattie Kimble Kathy & Jared Greiner Ron Kimble Carl & Heather Craven Dick Lamb Mark & Judy Larson Al & Maxine Lobb John & Jody Fenlason Marc Loewisch Mike & Margaret Quinn Elmer Molzahn Sherianne Caldwell Gretchen Monteith **David Monteith** Dave Moulton Fva Mader Gunnar & Mildred Nordstrom Bert Nordstrom F.P. Penelope Toland **Bud Palmberg** Nancy & Jeff Davis Chrisi & Michael Dotson Jeunai Emery Robert & Nellie Porter Bob Porter

Mike Potts **Catharine Fletcher** Frances Revnolds Todd Cusick Sheila Liddle Coleen & Jason Marta Ann Sakaguchi Judi Selset Miq Romero Molly Bosch Dick Shipe Christine Elson Gary & Theresa Shipe Clinton & LuElla Snow Lisa & Jim Lady Greg & Mary Speltz Jack & Sheila Giesler Dominic Sweet Molly Bosch Alex Tolliver Molly Bosch Coty True Ben & Flo Curtis Zollie & Sylvia Volchok **Cindy Monsen** Glenn & Shirley Weed Cynthia & Jim Weaver Leo Werlech Theresa Werlech Gary White Lisa Connollev Mary Wooldridge Holly Boone & Pat Braus

Tributes

Molly Bosch Bridget Bosch Emily Meeks St. Marks' Cathedral Nathan Hautala Toni & Robert Hautala Patti Hoss Vince & Wendy Hoss Nicholas Emily Janiszewski **Rick Reynolds** Dick & Carol Grieves Doug Hart & Carole Powell **Bob Power** Lynn & Nancy Walker Margey Rubato Mark Dalton Ann Sakaguchi Sharon & Ron Hirata **Denny Shaw Carol Sue Janes** Staff of Belltown DSHS office Mark Dalton Don Stevens' birthday Joy Lauderbaugh

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Shopping LIST

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

- Cookies and pastries
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Razors
- Toothbrushes
- Lotion
- Soap & body wash
- Men's new athletic socks
- Beanie hats & warm gloves
- Wash cloths & towels •
- Twin sheet sets, new or clean

Twin blankets, new or clean

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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life raft. My friend "Donna" asks me if I know of any good places to sleep tonight. I know from experience that she doesn't feel safe in shelters, so I suggest the well-lit, covered

Donna is always positive and smiley. She tells me that her day was lovely because she got to eat breakfast and dinner. Beaming, she shares that when she comes to the dinner, she gets to meet new people and be around friends. She says that being seventy years old and homeless can be pretty isolating.

courtyard across from the school. After some discussion, she knows exactly where it is.

She thanks me for the food and tells me that, "your food is from love and is a gift from the heart. When the gift is given from the heart it's eternal." Donna hugs me and thanks me for welcoming her. For making her feel like a "normal Christian."

These last few months have been a lesson in trusting the Lord. In believing that he wants his house full. That in the face of dehumanizing isolation, the love of Christ, "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (1 Corinthians 13:7 NRSVUE)

God heals isolation with community. Thank you for being part of our healing community.

