

# Nightwatch News

August, 2025

## Strength in weakness

By Deacon Frank DiGirolamo, Executive Director



I ran into my friend, "Mitch," at our Dispatch Center the other night. He was sitting at a table, waiting for the van to take him to our men's shelter.

He smiled, invited me to join him, and proceeded to talk about his day. It was a hot one! He had been in an altercation. Mitch is physically a formidable presence, but he is also a most gentle soul. **"Sometimes people mistake my kindness for weakness,"** he says, sharing how people often try to take advantage of him.

Mitch sighs and ponders, **"You just gotta forgive people and love them. Tomorrow will be a better day."**

Wow. On a hot day, when he has likely walked about ten miles, Mitch can see the big-picture and seems to be in a very healthy place, despite how others may perceive him. He realizes that others often see him as "weak" and has gathered the strength to forgive them. If love and forgiveness are "weak," then count us in too!

Scripture tells us that God's strength is made perfect in our weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9) God's loving power is revealed when we acknowledge our own limitations.

Grateful for this good word from Mitch. Wishing you God's strength through weakness. ●



## NIGHTWATCH

Serving the night community in the name of Christ

## The Lord is my shepherd

By Sharon Hamill, Street Minister

As a new member of the Street Ministry team at Operation Nightwatch, I've had the gift of spending one evening a week at our Donna Jean's Place Women's Shelter. **From my very first visit, I was struck by the quiet grace among the women toward one another, and even toward me, a new face in the room.**

Despite the exhausting days they face, navigating a city full of barriers and demands, there's a profound gentleness that settles over the shelter at night.

Stephanie (one of the overnight staff) offers a warm welcome that sets the tone. Donna Jean's is truly a place of rest.

As I sit with the women, listen, and sometimes pray, I am constantly moved by their resilience. Each carries untold stories and strength. One evening, before leaving, I asked if I could share a verse. "The Lord is my shepherd," I began, and to my surprise, a few voices quietly joined me. **Psalm 23 rose softly in the room, a shared memory and a sacred moment.**

In this space, I see the tenderness of the Good Shepherd so clearly. He is near. And I trust He is bringing rest, real rest, to His daughters. ●



Sharon Hamill, Nightwatch Street Minister

## Save the date!

Join us for our annual fundraising dinner

## Lighting the Path

Thursday, October 16

More details to follow!

## Volunteer Orientation

Friday, August 8

5:30 pm

Come on in, take a look around, and hear about all of our volunteer opportunities.

If you have time, stay and serve dinner with us!

RSVP required:  
michelle@seattlenightwatch.org



# Memorials & Tributes

## Memorials

Bill Branom	Ron Kimble	Paul Robbert
Mary Branom	Carl & Heather Craven	Jo Alexander
Charley Bush	Al & Maxine Lobb	Dick Shipe
Ginny Larkins	John & Jody Fenlason	Gary & Theresa Shipe
Craig Davis	Elmer Molzahn	Stephen Shipe & Marta Pasztor
Bruce Davis	Sherianne Caldwell	John Snypp
Robert Domzalski	Lorraine Molzahn	Dian Snypp
Mark & Lisa Domzalski	Jacob Lalander	Mary & Greg Speltz
Tony Domzalski	Jana Lalander	Martha Cohen Roe
Mark & Lisa Domzalski	Mia Lalander	Clio Thomas
Marie Erickson	Gunnar & Mildred Nordstrom	Mike & Sandy Birdsall
Judy Hurley	Bert Nordstrom	Jennifer Wei
Gus Hartman	Bud Palmberg	Anthony Chang
Robert & Roberta Brown	Anonymous	Leo Werlech
Mary Ellen Ingersoll	Robert & Nellie Porter	Bob Kessler
Jim & Jan Sullivan	Bob Porter	Mary Wooldridge
Margaret Iwamoto	Mike Potts	Holly Boone & Pat Braus
Steve & Chris Murphy	Catharine Fletcher	
Dean & Hattie Kimble		
Kathy & Jared Greiner		

## A refuge

### By Tonette Winston, Director of Housing & Shelter Services

Opening the women's shelter was an amazing feat. We know that we are providing a much needed service to the women who join us each night for emergency shelter. Still, it is often a challenge to prioritize needs in our limited space.



We often have more questions than answers as we go through the many tasks of managing the shelter. We do our best to position CPAP machines near beds as we assist women who have sleep apnea. Others suffer from mental health issues or need referrals due to substance abuse. **Our staff must be prepared to assist with a wide array of needs – and do so with grace.**

We continue to focus on inclusiveness, safety and creating a sense of community for those who are undervalued. The outcome for us is simple - we meet people where they are and nurture relationships in an attempt to restore hope. Working with our guests and helping them take steps to a better place keeps us rooted. It's how God loves us all!

**Recently, in the middle the night, a mother "Helen" and her adult daughter "Ava", escaped domestic violence, and found refuge at Donna Jean's Place.** Through our case manager, they connected with a local domestic violence nonprofit organization. As a result, they found transitional housing.

Please join us in prayer as we support folks through their journey and pray for a sustainable outcome. ●

## Tributes

Daryl & Elsie Miller  
Rick & Lorri Reynolds  
Phyllis Knoll  
Sara Hwang  
Ann Sakaguchi  
Paul & Tina Miller  
Andy Sells' birthday  
Joy Lauderbaugh  
Denny Shaw  
Carol Sue Janes

## 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
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Lotion
- Soap & body wash
- Deodorant
- Men's new athletic socks
- 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](mailto: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

**Mailing address:**  
PO Box 21181  
Seattle, WA 98111

206-323-4359 Administration  
206-860-4296 Senior Housing  
206-329-2099 Shelter Dispatch

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[www.seattlenightwatch.org](http://www.seattlenightwatch.org)



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