

November 24, 2024

Christmas Appeal

Dear Friends of Shalom,

As I begin by saying hello; It is also a fitting time to say goodbye.

My journey as Shalom's Executive Director has come to the time for me to start a new chapter in my life. Even though it's tough to think of leaving a position I have so enjoyed, I know the benefits will stay with me for as long I am on this earth. I have acquired new-found strength, knowledge and many friends along the way. But with sadness in my heart, I am also blessed with joy knowing that I am leaving behind a strong and vibrant ministry that allowed me to play this leadership role, work that was impossible without my "back up" and son, Mark, who remains a strong advocate of this ministry. However, the true success belongs to the volunteers and the support partners that have served this important ministry; all who have joined with me by bringing their talents and skills that were the real building blocks of "Dining with Dignity."

There is a quote (by the missionary Jim Elliot) that I remember as I step away: **"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose."**

As I pass the reins on to new leadership, I do knowing I will never lose the relationships, friendships, and memories I have gained over all these years of being part of Shalom Ministries.

And as this chapter moves to another, it seems that my timing is fitting; we're entering the joyous holiday season, including the celebration of the birth of our savior Jesus Christ.

Once again, I ask that you continue to support this vital ministry with whatever you can afford to give to help those vulnerable and needy people that we serve; not just for the help to pay our expenses, but for your prayers and remembrance of the success story of "Dining with Dignity."



*Rev Dale Cockrum with
Executive Director Tim*



*Guests Receive last year's
Thanksgiving Feast*

If you are able, please give generously. **Your financial donation, sent today, will be a blessing!** Your check may be sent to Shalom Ministries, PO Box 4684, Spokane, WA 99220, or online: www.shalommeal.org

Wishing you ---a **Joyous Christmas Season!**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Swartout".

Tim Swartout, soon to be Past Executive Director

