



Lighthouse Beacon

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News from Lighthouse Harbour Ministries

Fall 2014

Men's Disappointments are Often God's Appointments

by Teus Kappers

Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for wholeness and not for evil, to give you a future and hope." (ESV)

As part of my Dutch military service in 1969 I requested that I be attached to the military police and serve in Suriname (a former Dutch colony). For me, it would have meant a two year adventure away from home. I passed my medical and other tests and was liked because of my size (201 cm). (Actually, because men who were over 200 cm were rejected, I cheated a little by not standing straight when I was being measured (making myself 199 cm).)

I waited for my "number to come up" early in 1970. However, instead of being chosen for the military, I was informed by the Ministry of Defence that, as part of the "baby boomers," I and a few hundred other men were randomly excused from joining up. Unlike most men, I was disappointed because I had been looking forward to an adventure.

Although I did not know the Lord Jesus when my military service was excused, He knew me and had plans for my life. For, only a couple of weeks after that time I found myself watching a TV program with Billy Graham speaking and, after hearing the Gospel clearly presented, I was "hooked." The Lord Jesus Christ became my personal Saviour.

After coming to faith in the Lord, a life-long adventure began. Within a few months of my profession of faith I enrolled at the Bible College of Wales, visited with sailors for the first time onboard a ship and came to meet Maria, my wife for the past 42 years and counting. My original disappointment has turned out to become the greatest blessing I could ever have wished for or imagined.

God is so Good!

His blessings and plans are perfect.

Rhapsody of the Seas

by Grant Sandeman-Allen

Today (August 28, 2014) was the last day that the cruise ship *Rhapsody of the Seas* will be in Victoria for this season. It was a very exciting day but also a sad one at the same time. It was sad because my good friend Lizhao (Lee-Chow) was busy working in the ship's gift shop and could not come ashore to see me. However, it was positive because just after noon I received a text from Lizhao that two of his friends, Yuan and Yun, would be able to come off the ship. About a half hour later they arrived at the ministry tent and, at their request, I took them to see the Parliament buildings. We saw the buildings and grounds and they took lots of pictures of the flowers and architecture. After the Parliament buildings we saw other sights in Victoria and while doing so they repeatedly said that they wanted to stay in Victoria because "it's so beautiful."

As the time drew near for the crew to be back aboard their ship the Lord impressed upon me to the idea of giving my two companions a gift, since it might be the last time that I would ever see them. Although I had intended on bringing some Chinese-English New Testaments with me, I had forgotten to do so. However,



Reflections of Summer—Victoria Lighthouse Ministry (VLM)

From the Chaplain

-by Cecil Kleu

As we rush headlong to the finish of the 2014 cruise ship season, I am struck by God's faithfulness, caring, provision and, especially, for the Gift of salvation through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

VLM has new directors, volunteers and furniture, among other things, and I am grateful for the assistance provided to the Mission by many parties who gave of themselves to serve the ship's crew, and especially our Lord.

We have many vivid sunshine memories to carry us through the grey winter days while we look at a wet piece of tarmac [where the crew tent stood] that was, for a moment, witness to the Grace of God!

*"...open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light."
(Acts 26:18)*



Thanks to the Lord

-by Volunteer Virginia Ramiro

I thank the Lord for the opportunity to be a part of the VLM. Thanks especially to Chaplain Cecil for his big heart and love for the sailors. Many of them are taking advantage of the free WiFi and care provided to make them feel comfortable as we share with them the Love of Christ, pray as the Holy Spirit leads and point them to Jesus. I believe that as we pray for the sailors' Salvation and as they view the materials we give out, the Holy Spirit will guide their hearts and minds to the truth of the Gospel.

I remember one seafarer who, after watching the Jesus Film with one of his crew mates, Ernest, wanted the video too. Wow!!! Thank you Lord. This is amazing.

Fellowship on Board

-by Arnel Manuel – Crew Member and Christian Fellowship Leader

Our Christian Fellowship on the *Westerdam* praises God for the blessing and caring that we receive everyday. Our ship sails to ports of call in Alaska and to Victoria and Seattle. On board, our fellowship meets every Sunday at 11:00 pm with 10 regular members; it is increasing by the grace of the Lord. We continue to invite fellow crew members to attend the Fellowship and experience grace and salvation through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We would like to thank VLM for the hospitality and sacrifice that makes our port of call not only enjoyable but refreshing. The Ministry serves as a monument of hospitality. VLM provides a comfortable place for mariners to go during their free time ashore. Most importantly, VLM gives free Christian pamphlets, bibles (in our own language), words of encouragement and good advice.

May the blessings of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all! Thank you.



Prayer Porthole



Please petition the Lord with regard to the following:

- Thanksgiving for His wonderful Gospel.
- That the Holy Spirit will grow, bless and protect J., a new Christian Filipino seafarer.
- For the Lord to open the eyes of a young Turkish cruise ship waiter to Jesus.
- That a seafarer, M, from a restricted nation would open his heart to the Lord.
- For the Lord to help S., a Sri Lankan seafarer who is claiming refugee protection.
- For the Lord to call more labourers to serve with LHM.
- For the Lord's wisdom for all at LHM.

Rapsody (cont'd from page 1)

God had already accounted for my memory loss as I found some of these in the crew tent! So just as my friends were getting ready to return to the ship I quickly wrote notes in each of the New Testaments and signed them. The girls accepted them and said, "Wow, a New Testament. Thank you!" It was now time for them to leave so we went out to the dock behind the ship and Lizhao called me on my cell phone. We could see each other but only talk and wave to each other one last time. It was a sad moment but at the same time a very happy one because through this one friendship God had brought the gospel to 4 others (two from a previous visit).



Grant and Lizhao

I said goodbye to Yuan and Yun and then waved to Lizhao until he had to go back to work. I kept a close eye on the Rhapsody and when I saw the lines being released I went out to take some final pictures of her sailing away. To my delight Yuan was on the back deck, in her uniform, waving to me. The tears welled up in my eyes once again as the ship slowly moved out to sea.



Yuan and Yun
in front of the
Rhapsody of
the Seas

The next day I received several emails from Lizhao saying how much our friendship had meant to him and how much God had blessed him and his friends through Victoria Lighthouse Ministries. I have all of their email addresses so I will be maintaining contact with them wherever they are in the world. I will continue to follow-up with several of the crew since they have New Testaments that are tied to many wonderful memories of Victoria.

Great Opportunity

Bible Study Guides for Seafarer Evangelists

LHM is blessed to periodically meet Christian seafarers who are sharing the Good News of Jesus among their crew members. However, often these faithful believers are poorly equipped with regard to Bible study materials. Therefore, LHM would like to provide sets (8-10 copies plus leader's guide) of *Christianity Explored* study materials to as many of these crew members as possible. These courses are excellent for inquirers and are available in simple, easy to understand English. The cost per set is approximately \$40.

If you would be interested in supporting the cost of one or more of these "kits," please send your donation to LHM marked "**CE Bible Studies.**"



Tagalog New Testaments Needed

As many of LHM's supporters know, the largest group of seafarers that the Mission ministers to are from the Philippines. Traditionally Lighthouse has maintained a good supply of Tagalog (the national language of the Philippines) New Testaments to distribute to the seafarers. Over the years thousands of these Scriptures have been given out free of charge to Filipino crew members. Only the Lord knows how many of these have made their way back to the Philippines and into the hands of the family and friends of seafarers.

At this time Lighthouse has almost completely exhausted its supply of Tagalog New Testaments and needs to order more. If you are interested in participating financially in this project, please mark your donation "Tagalog New Testament Project." Your support for this endeavour is much appreciated.

"Your Word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens." (Psalm 119:89)



Dwarfed by a berthed cruise ship, VLM's Victoria crew centre shines Jesus' light at Ogden Point.

Contributions toward the Lord's work at Lighthouse Harbour Ministries can be made by:

- Cash or cheque
- Visa and MasterCard
- Automatic debits to bank account
- Post-dated cheques
- Planned giving through wills, charitable bequests, life insurance etc

For more information regarding any of the above, feel free contact LHM at (604) 988-5084 or email: info@sealight.org. If you have access to the internet you can also donate on-line via our secured web site at www.sealight.org.

Thank you for considering LHM.

Lighthouse Harbour Ministries

Our Mission

To love and honour God by serving the seafarers of the world in Word and deed.

Port Chaplain

Teus Kappers

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LHM Stewardship Policy:

Spending of funds is confined to board approved programs and projects. Each restricted contribution designated towards a board approved program or project will be used as designated, with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the board, the remaining restricted contributions designated for such program or project will be used where needed most.



CANADIAN COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN CHARITIES



Canadian Bible Society
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LHM and CBS
—partners in Ministry

**"...there before me
was a white horse,
whose Rider is
called Faithful and
True."**

Revelation 19:11