



Lighthouse Beacon

Volume 21 Issue 1

News from Lighthouse Harbour Ministries

Spring 2017

Bearer of Good News

-by Teus Kappers, Chaplain Emeritus

A few years ago my mother phoned me from Holland. It was the last conversation we ever had because she was very hard of hearing and, shortly after we spoke, passed away.

"What are you doing?" she asked. I didn't know if I should tell her the truth because my wife, Maria, and I were reading and tearing-up our love letters. They were not "X-rated" but we felt uncomfortable about the possibility that at some future date they might fall into the hands of our children or even grandchildren.

Well, I did tell my Mom what we were doing. To my surprise she said "That's a very good idea because when you were about 5 years old you found our (my father and her) love letters, wanted to play postman and delivered them throughout the neighborhood from letterbox to letterbox. You were the most popular child around!" After a short silence she laughed and said, "It doesn't matter anymore because all those people who received the *good news* are dead. I don't have to feel embarrassed anymore."

Now as believers and followers of our Lord Jesus we can be "postmen" and deliver the good news of the Gospel from ship to ship and person to person. We don't have to feel embarrassed because these are true Love Letters from our Lord Jesus to a dying world. Let's do it before it's too late.

Making disciples of all nations...right here in Vancouver!

- by Bill Wong, LHM Director and Volunteer

Prior to my retirement from secular employment, I spent over 25 years as an engineering consultant, managing projects at marine terminals all over the world, including many of the large terminals right here in the Port of Vancouver. With God's leading, through my association with Lighthouse Harbour Ministries (LHM) I now get to go back to these terminals with a Kingdom purpose!

Although I have known about and supported LHM for a number of years, I had not actually served with the ministry before February of 2016. Since then, God has given me the opportunity to serve Him among the seafarers, as a volunteer chaplain, a couple of evenings per month at the North Vancouver Seafarers Centre. On an average evening, about 30-35 seafarers visit the Centre. They come to use the free Wi-Fi, computers and phones in order to contact their family members back home. However, from time to time, we do get



Bill ministering to Burmese Seafarer

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Prayer Porthole



Please petition the Lord with regard to the following:

- Praise Him for Creation (Ps. 92:1-5).
- For M., a Muslim seafarer from a restricted access Island, to meet Jesus and accept Him.
- That O and M, two Turkish seafarers, would learn the truth about Jesus and trust in Him.
- That S from a restricted access nation would be confronted by Jesus and trust in Him.
- For spiritual maturity of R, a young Filipino seafarer leading a fellowship group aboard.
- That a Chinese cadet, J, would understand the Gospel clearly and receive it fully.
- For an Indian captain, M, to renounce philosophy and be moved to repentance and Jesus.
- For several Thai seafarers, who received Gospel materials, to read and digest them.
- That a Filipino chief cook, R., would truly come to Jesus and share Him with others.
- For the Lord to bring more Muslim seafarers to Lighthouse in order to hear the Gospel.
- That A., a young Christian Filipino cadet, would be bold for Jesus and protected from evil.
- For the Lord to raise up more ship visitors in Vancouver and Prince Rupert to share His good news among seafarers.
- For an Indian Muslim Bosun, A, to see Jesus and put his faith in Him.
- That, A, a Chinese cadet (met 3 times by an LHM worker) would open his heart to Jesus.

Who is like you, O LORD?" (Ps. 35:10)

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the opportunity to bear witness to Jesus among the seafarers—either one-on-one or in a group. Sometimes we also pray with them before they return to their ships.

Together with one of LHM's staff chaplains, Paul, I have also been visiting the cargo ships during the daytime. We board the vessels in order to meet the crews and share the Good News, hand out Bibles, pray and invite them to come to the Seafarers Centre in the evenings. Most of the seamen are from countries such as the Philippines, China, India and the Ukraine. I have found that when we take an interest in the lives of the seamen by asking appropriate questions, most will open up and chat with us about their understanding of the Christian faith.

We have met a few Muslim seafarers, who come from countries which are normally closed to the Gospel. In fact, Paul says I seem to be a magnet for Muslim seamen because every time I go on board with him, we encounter at least one. We praise God for these divine encounters! They may be the only opportunities we have to meet and discuss the Bible with Muslims.

In closing, I want to say that it's amazing to see how God can work in our lives when we are obedient to His calling. I am grateful to the Lord for the opportunities to plant seeds and sometimes water them, allowing Him to make them grow!



The Clear Gospel—by Ray Hanna, Senior Chaplain

While visiting a ship recently, I met a Filipino Chief Officer (C/O) who told me he was a Christian. His statement seemed to surprise the ship’s Second Officer (2/O) who was also present. I asked the senior officer if he would explain to the 2/O what he meant by declaring he was a Christian. He got kind of flustered, however, and finally told me that he believed the Bible but, also added, that he was not a preacher and could not tell me how to get to heaven. At that point I felt that I didn’t want to leave the C/O without possibly helping him to understand what a Christian is.

In an effort to understand what the C/O believed, I asked him if he believed salvation was by God’s grace alone but, unfortunately, did not understand his answer. I then inquired about which Church he attended but was not familiar with the one he identified. Still trying to help, I attempted to share some verses with him (Romans 6:23 and John 3:16) but soon realized that he wanted our discussion to end. So, I left him a gospel tract and suggested he pick up a New Testament at our centre that night. At the time of this writing I am still hoping to get back on the C/O’s ship and speak with him privately.

I share the above story with you because at Lighthouse we meet many people who claim that they are going to Heaven but are unsure of this and unable to explain what it entails. My prayer is that at the Mission we do not confuse the Gospel, nor add to it, nor take away from it, but that we preach the word of God faithfully. I pray that we would speak less from ourselves and use the Word of God more. We want seafarers to have the assurance of salvation from the Bible and, although we are not their judges, ensure that they are building their lives on the solid foundation of God’s Word. I am thankful that God knows the hearts of the seafarers and is working in their lives to bring them to repentance and faith in the only Saviour: Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 10:14 How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him Whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?

Titus 1: 12 In hope of eternal life, which God, Who cannot lie, promised before the world began.

Q: Why would a seafarer want to sleep in one of these?



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Ship Quiz/Game:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. What ship do you find in the country? | Township. |
| 2. What ship is the most romantic? | Courtship. |
| 3. What ship applies to your guests? | Friendship. |
| 4. On what ship did Einstein travel? | Scholarship. |
| 5. What ship belongs to the "bench"? | Judgeship. |
| 6. What ship belongs to the Church? | Worship. |
| 7. What ship is most hated in this country? | Dictatorship. |
| 8. What ship is the best to educate? | Apprenticeship. |
| 9. What ship is needed for certain political parties? | Leadership. |
| 10. What ship belongs to the white collared man? | Clerkship. |
| 11. What ship belongs to the English nobility? | Lordship. |
| 12. What ship is shared with someone else? | Partnership. |
| 13. What ship is bought and paid for? | Ownership. |

Submitted by Mr. Jim Kempster—LHM supporter.

Lighthouse Harbour Ministries

Our Mission

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

Senior Port Chaplain

Ray Hanna

Chaplain Emeritus

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.

Drawing Near!

2017 Spring Luncheon

Saturday, May 6

12 Noon

Broadway Church

2700 East Broadway, Vancouver

Freewill offering

"The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation."

(Psalm 118:14)

To reserve: Please call 604-988-5084 or email: info@sealight.org

Contributions to 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, please feel free to contact LHM at (604) 988-5084 or email: info@sealight.org. If you desire to donate on-line, please visit the Mission's secured web site at **www.sealight.org**.

Thank you for considering LHM.



CANADIAN COUNCIL of CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

Soon to Come:

"Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He will live with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God."

(Revelation 21:3)