



Lighthouse Beacon

Pointing
seafarers to
Christ, the
Light of
the world.
(John 8:12)

Good News of the Lord's Work at Lighthouse Harbour Ministries

Spring 2020

OUR HONEYMOON

- by Teus Kappers, Chaplain Emeritus

The dictionary says that a honeymoon is "an indefinite period of tenderness and pleasure."

Maria and I started our honeymoon on the 1st of September 1972 after a long, exhausting wedding day with family and guests from Germany, France, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Russia, Czechoslovakia, England and Wales. We had all gathered in the small-sized town of my birth, Harderwijk, Netherlands, to unite us together before the Lord. Following this, we at long last, were on our own in a small hotel in the middle of the Forest, just the two of us – or so we thought.

Early on the morning of September 2nd we sat at the edge of our bed praying together (our custom since we had dated) when suddenly we heard the flapping of wings. We opened our eyes and saw a perfectly white dove arriving at our window sill. I got up and walked slowly to the open window and cradled the dove in my hands; it was not scared. Together we stroked it and thanked the Lord for this wonderful sign He had given us: His presence with us by His Holy Spirit and our status as His beloved people.

Our experience with the dove also reminded us of the baptism of Jesus when the Holy Spirit had descended on Him like a dove and a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." (Matt. 3:17) We also realized that we were not just two, but three, just like that three-fold cord from Eccl. 4:12.

What has all of this to do with shipping? Well, you will remember that from the first

ship ever built (by Noah) a dove was released and finally returned with an olive branch in its beak. It had become time for the *Noah family* to get moving to take care of the earth and multiply on the face of it.

Maria and I can only say, "God is so good in blessing us, even in our old age. This is our "indefinite time of tenderness and pleasure."



Filipino Chief cook decorating cake for crew who celebrate *Julian Calendar Christmas*



All From the Lord

by Ray Hanna, Senior Chaplain

As I watched sailors having a good time at one of our seafarers centres, I praised God for the beautiful surroundings and the opportunity to invite these people in to have a safe, fun evening.

In the Centre, some of the sailors were on their phones talking to their families ("Like cold water to a weary soul, so is good news from a distant land." (Prov. 25:25)), others were playing pool, still others were having a fast game of ping pong or engaging in a basketball hoops game. All of them were having a great time. Noise from talk, laughter, groans of pain (from losing a shot) and shouts of joy (gaining a point) permeated the centre.

Of course, the best part of the situation was that there was Good News to share with the seafarers ("Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." (1 Timothy 1:15)). In presenting it, some listened closely and some didn't appear to do so, but all heard the Word of God.

As a result of our busy lives, many of us often neglect to appreciate the things we have. Although the sailors visiting the Centres can reflect this also, at this time I want to stop and **thank YOU**, our partners in this wonderful work of the Lord. First, we want to acknowledge that *all things come from the Lord* and then to thank you for your prayers and the support that has been provided in countless ways.

Our prayer is that the Lord will continue to use us in a mighty way to Sow the Seed of the Word of God.

Thank you

The Gospel: Bridging the Gap

by Rob James—Volunteer Chaplain

In the short time that I have been visiting seafarers on ships, I have found those who go "out on the sea in ships... merchants on the mighty waters" (Psalm 107:23) to be consummate professionals who are dedicated to the dangerous and vital work they do transporting most of the world's goods everywhere. Invariably, ships' officers, engineers and deck crew alike have been kind, courteous, hospitable and respectful. Even so, apart from the Lord Jesus Christ, all of us are equally as "dead in transgressions and sins" (Ephesians 2:1), being "without hope and without God in the world" (Ephesians 2:12). However, over against this hapless, universal human condition, salvation

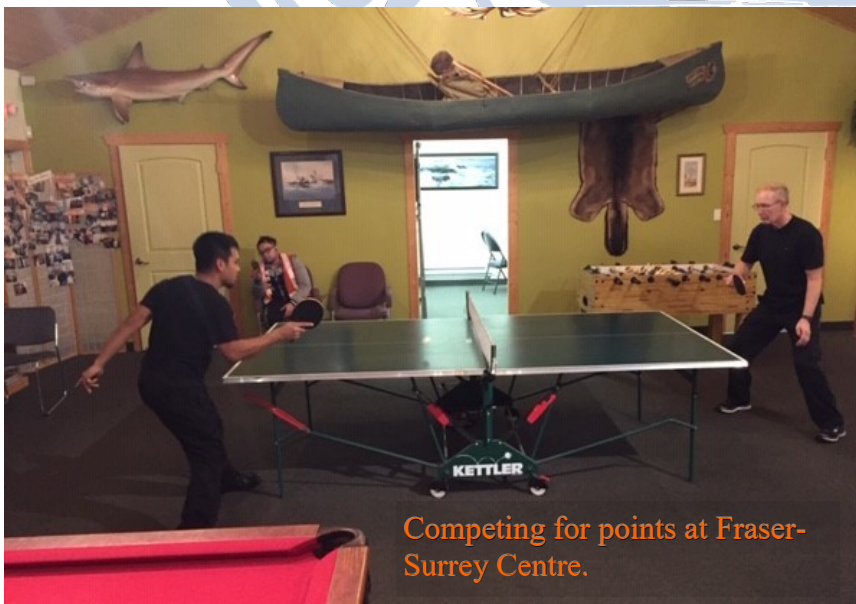
The Happiest Day for a Seafarer?



Several Filipino seafarers ready for transportation to YVR and the long awaited trip home. Contracts aboard are complete...smiles abound.

based solely on the grace of God revealed in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8, 9) is very good news indeed.

While every interaction with a seafarer – a word exchanged, a gospel tract imparted, a prayer presented to the Father – bears eternal significance, it's the personal connections, while presenting what the Apostle Paul called God's "incredible (or unspeakable) gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15), that excite me the most. One such encounter took place recently aboard a bulk carrier crewed by Chinese nationals. A young cadet escorted me in silence to the crew's mess room and I soon realized that his English wasn't much better than my paltry Mandarin. Nonetheless, I persisted, as did the young fellow, until what cannot be described fully with human words was, nonetheless, conveyed adequately and understood satisfactorily. (continued on p.3)



Competing for points at Fraser-Surrey Centre.



Lighthouse Spring Luncheon 2020

"Praise Awaits You, O God, in Zion."
(Psalm 65:1)

Saturday
May 23rd, 2020
12 p.m.

Bethany Baptist Church
22680 Westminster Highway
Richmond, B.C.
- Freewill Offering

Tickets:

T. 778-246-4156
E.: info@sealight.org

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles."

(Hebrews 12:1)

Over lunch, with his shipmates nearby, I presented the gospel to the new seafarer, using a Chinese-English New Testament, speaking the pertinent verses in English while he read them in Chinese script. His eyes sparkled, as the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God" (2 Corinthians 4:4) appeared to illuminate his mind and probe his heart. After we entered God's throne room awash in grace (Hebrews 4:16), exchanged contact information and snapped photos with his workmates, we made our way back to the gangway for my departure.

What happened next I did not see coming. The cadet embraced me vigorously in a bear hug for several seconds beneath the grey, overcast winter sky, sealing a connection I will not forget. I also learned that, following a long tradition stretching back countless millennia, today's seafarers endure prolonged periods of loneliness and deprivation, separated from loved ones and the familiarity of home and country. Our privilege and responsibility is to tell them that they are, in fact, not alone, for God, who in Christ became a sinless man and bore the sins of the entire world (John 1:14; 1 John 2:2), is with them. Moreover, he has prepared for us "a better country – a heavenly one" (Hebrews 11:16), an eternal home, and provided Jesus, the Master Mariner, to take us there safely (John 14:1-6).

January, 2020

Editor, Lighthouse Beacon:

Recently, while I was visiting seafarers on a ship, I distributed some toques to the men. I made sure the seafarers knew the hats were hand-made by ladies in the church. The seafarers take special note of the quality when I tell them this detail. One of them asked me to thank the ladies that made them and he was very sincere. So I am passing on his big THANK-YOU to everyone who knits toques.

- Blessings in Christ, Allen J.



THANK YOU!!!



Hello, I'm John Ray one of a seaman visited in Light House last night i wanna Thank you! for your wonderful gift and very accommodating personality i hope i gonna back to your place some day i wish you a good health and All the best.

Happy Newyear

From: M/V Kerveros
Dec 31, 2019

Grateful

After receiving a Christmas gift bag from Lighthouse, a grateful seafarer responded with a kind note and very colourful envelope. The Lord is Good!



Prayer Porthole



"Answer me when I call to You, O my righteous God." (Ps. 4:1)

Please praise/petition the Lord with regard to the following:

- Praise the Lord for His abundant grace toward the Ministry.
- For the Lord to move an Indian cadet to salvation in Jesus.
- That a Chinese captain would take his eternal life seriously and trust Jesus.
- For God to call an Indian chief officer to Jesus, for His glory.
- That an Indian electrician would move from respect to worship of Jesus.
- For a Russian third officer to read John's Gospel and be drawn to Jesus.
- For a Vietnamese chief officer to know Jesus and live for Him.
- That an Indian engineer would be moved to repentance and faith in Jesus.
- That Halifax and St. John NB ministries would be strong in the Lord.
- For the Lord to prevent coronavirus-related obstructions to His work.

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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Lighthouse Harbour



Halifax Seafarer Ministry News

Submitted by Bill Walsh, Volunteer Chaplain

It is a blessing to accompany Bob (volunteer chaplain) aboard the ships. There is a real unity between us and we work together as a team. Bob has *The Bible App* on his phone. So, I show the App to the different sailors and then I tell them that my friend Bob will show them how it works.

During the Christmas period we took Christmas cards aboard the ships and gave them to the sailors. Together, Bob, Dave (volunteer chaplain) and I wrote a little message in each card with one card

addressed to the ship's master (captain). We trust that every message of hope was an encouragement to the sailors.

To quote a familiar saying: *You can count the seeds in an apple but you can't count the apples in a seed.*

The picture above shows Bob (left) and me on board with the sailors and cards.

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.

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

Soon to Come:

"The city [new Jerusalem] does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp." (Rev. 21:23)