



Lighthouse Beacon

Gospel Light for the Seafarers John 8:12

Summer 2021 News

Brief, Memorable Encounter in North Vancouver

Earlier this year, as I boarded a ship at berth in North Vancouver, I asked the Lord to open the eyes, ears and hearts of the ship's crew, so they could see, hear, understand, believe and receive "the true light that gives light to everyone" (John 1:9). I asked this, drawing strength from Paul's Ephesians 6:19 prayer, that "words may be given to me so that I [would] fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel."

Once onboard I discovered that almost everyone on deck was occupied with duty-related tasks. Only one young seafarer, Ian, who recorded my visit in a log book, was able to chat for a few fleeting minutes.

During our conversation, I explained to Ian how God had shown His love for him, in that Christ had died for him personally (Romans 5:8). This young man's countenance then changed and tears welled up in his eyes. He subsequently described to me, animatedly, his desire to have the verse John 3:16 (or perhaps Romans 5:8, after I had shared it with him) tattooed on his arm. Shortly after this he explained the reason for this desire.



Two weeks prior to our meeting, Ian had suffered a horrible accident in which he had fallen into one of the ship's cargo holds and found himself being crushed under the weight of the load. His coworkers managed to extricate him, but not before he had suffered broken ribs and other injuries. At this point in our conversation, a vehicle arrived to take Ian to see a doctor so that his injuries could be properly assessed. If serious, repatriation to the Philippines might occur.

Once Ian was whisked away, I called two of Ian's shipmates over and shared Tagalog Gospel literature with them. I also asked them to join me at "God's throne of grace... that [Ian] may receive mercy and find grace to help [him] in [his] time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

A seafarer's life is fraught with danger. May "[the LORD] guide them to their desired haven," so they may "give thanks to the LORD for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for mankind" (Psalm 107:30-31).

By Rob James—Director and Ship Visitor (Rob is the person on the extreme right in the picture above).





Answer to Prayer?

On a ship I visited recently, COVID restrictions prohibited me from entering the accommodation area. However, I was able to speak with a Korean sailor on the ship's deck. I gave him a Korean Gospel of John and, through limited English and sign language, he told me that he knew about the Bible. He lowered his hand to imply that as a young boy he had learned about it; then, he started to sing a hymn in a strong voice. Although I recognized the tune of the song, I could not figure out which hymn it was. He agreed to sing it again and to allow me to video record it. I had my wife listen to it



and she identified it as the hymn 'All glory be to God.' The sailor became a bit emotional and sat down after he had sung. As I was leaving, I saw him looking through the Gospel of John I had given him.

This made me wonder if he had a praying mother and father at home. Or, perhaps a Sunday School teacher who had prayed for him.

I pray that, if others have been praying for this man, I have been an answer to their prayers in bringing the Word of God to him again. Please also pray that he would read the Gospel and believe.

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9

- By Ray Hanna, Senior Chaplain

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ..." (Col. 4:2-3)

LHM in Port Moody—Joel Palit-ang, Chaplain

At the easternmost end of the Burrard Inlet, in Port Moody, B.C., is Pacific Coast Terminals (PCT). At PCT, cargos such as sulphur, potash, canola, and ethylene glycol are loaded aboard ships for ports around the world. This facility has welcomed chaplains from Lighthouse Harbour Ministries (LHM) for several years.

My visits to the terminal have provided many opportunities to meet sailors from Myanmar, South Korea, Ukraine, Philippines, India, China and other lands. Thus, I keep a supply of Gospel materials in many languages with me. The close proximity of PCT to my home has enabled me to invite some sailors to my residence (although, not during the virus restrictions), or drive them to a local mall, etc.



God has opened the door for His Word to be shared with sailors in the Port Moody area and at LHM we feel privileged to be able to do this. However, there is currently a need for more volunteers to join in this work. If you live in or near Port Moody and might be willing to visit ships at PCT to share the Gospel with seafarers, please contact LHM and become an answer to the prayer of Matthew 9:38!



Capt. "Black Sam" Bellamy

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For Those in Peril on the Sea

- by Teus Kappers, Chaplain Emeritus

Occasionally LHM workers get prayer requests asking for "protection". A seafarer may express a concern such as: "Our ship has to pass through pirate infested waters."

Pirate problems are real and have been through the centuries. Last year alone there was a twenty percent increase in piracy attacks around the world. One hundred and thirty five attacks happened off of the coast of West Africa. One hundred and thirty sailors were abducted and seriously mistreated, some were killed; most of them experienced release but shipping companies paid millions of dollars in ransom money. Last month I watched a news report that showed fifteen Turkish sailors coming home after ransom had been paid for their release. One can imagine how relieved their families were to see their husbands and sons again.

Very recently I read an article about a pirate ship wreckage that had been found on the East Coast of the US; it was about three hundred years old. The ship was the famous "Whydah" that had gone down in a terrible storm, with all men lost. Its captain was the notorious "Black Sam" who had taken over the ship after a mutiny on a British vessel. His nick names "Robin Hood of the seas" and the "Gentle Pirate" came as a result of the mercy he extended to the crews of the ships he captured (one hundred and fifty three in

all). He also became the wealthiest pirate in history with millions of bounties to his name. Black Sam's relatives are still alive in the UK and they will see if bone fragments found in the wreck will match the DNA of the Samuel "Black Sam" Bellamy family.

So here is our prayer request: Please pray for those in peril at sea; those facing terrible weather conditions or piracy or any other trial as they travel the oceans of the world.

Paul stated that Jesus had sent him: *"to preach the Gospel—not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power."* (1 Cor. 1:17)

40th Anniversary

2021 marks the 40th year that Lighthouse has been serving the our faithful Lord among seafarers.

An anniversary dinner is planned for October 7th, 2021—6 p.m. at Bethany Baptist Church.

Reservations can be made by contacting 604-593-7129 or info@sealight.org



Prayer Porthole

"I call on You, O God, for You will answer me; give ear to me and hear my prayer." (Ps. 17:6)

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

- ✂ Praise the Lord for continuing access to seafarers aboard their ships.
- ✂ For the salvation of Burmese seafarers in the midst of very difficult times in their nation.
- ✂ For seafarers to be vaccinated for health and better access to them.
- ✂ For Board and staff to be given wisdom regarding future initiatives for the Ministry.
- ✂ For younger workers to join the Ministry in Vancouver and other ports of the world.

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

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

- Cash, cheque, credit card, PayPal
- Automatic debits to bank account
- Planned giving through wills, charitable bequests.
- **New:** e-transfers. Please send to: info@sealight.org

For on-line giving, please visit LHM's secured web site:
www.sealight.org

For more information, please feel free to contact the Ministry.

Thank you for considering LHM.



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Canadian Centre for
Christian Charities
ACCREDITED MEMBER

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.

Soon to Come:

"The will see His face, and His Name will be on their foreheads"

(Rev. 22:4)