



Lighthouse Beacon

Gospel Light for Seafarers John 8:12

Autumn 2021 News



A Divine Encounter

Sometimes I am asked if, as a port chaplain, I meet particular seafarers more than once. Actually, for many reasons, multiple meetings are quite rare. For example, ship traffic volume is significant in Vancouver with nearly 1,500 bulk and break-bulk cargo ships arriving in port in 2020, an average of about four ships coming and four departing every day. In addition, typically the ships are at berth for only three to five days.

For a port chaplain to have repeat visit with a seafarer, many events must occur including: the seafarer's presence on a ship in Vancouver; the chaplain's presence on that ship when it is at berth (not at anchor) and at a terminal the chaplain visits; the seafarer being on board (not ashore) when the chaplain is visiting and the seafarer being available (not otherwise occupied). Humanly speaking, the probability of all of the foregoing events happening is quite low. However, with God nothing is impossible; all of our encounters with the seafarers are divine appointments, orchestrated by the Lord Himself.

On an evening not long ago, I was serving at the North Vancouver seamen's centre when no seafarers visited. I felt the Lord telling me to visit the Cargill Terminal where two ships were docked. Another chaplain had also encouraged me to visit a struggling seafarer who was aboard
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“I tell you the truth, whoever hears My words and believes Him Who sent Me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life” (John 5:24)



Jesus underwent a test, similar to that of Israel in the wilderness, in which he was “tempted by the devil” (Matthew 4:1). However, His test would last forty days and end victoriously, showing Him to be the true Israelite who “lives on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD” (Deuteronomy 8:3). Matthew (4:4) and Luke (4:4) recount how Jesus resisted the temptation to assuage His own appetite (1 John 2:16) by supernatural means. Instead, He relied steadfastly on His Father to provide food for Him (John 4:34). Thus, He is “our great high priest, who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, ... who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet He did not sin” (Hebrews 4:14-15).

Significantly, Jesus continues to be “the (true) bread of God... that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world” (John 6:33). The Lord Jesus is unequivocal about this: “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world” (John 6:51).

After boarding the lone ship docked at Kinder Morgan Terminal recently, the Lord gave me an audience for Him with the captain, the chief cook, the assistant cook and the bosun (last three shown in photo above). Now He, “the living bread,” will accomplish His desire and achieve His purpose in sending His word (Isaiah 55:11).

E V E N T S

40th Anniversary Celebration
-Postponed-
New government virus-related regulations have caused Lighthouse to postpone the scheduled October, 2021 event. Please pray for a suitable future date.

Christmas Event
Sunday
December 5, 2021
6 p.m.
(on-line)
Please look for link at: www.sealight.org or
FB: Lighthouse Harbour



Serving Seafarers

Presently many seafarers want to visit local restaurants or shop but are unable to leave their ships because of the virus. So, at times the seafarers ask Lighthouse chaplains for help with obtaining certain items. For example, several Chinese seamen recently asked me to bring them chicken from KFC. Although the restaurant was an eight kilometre drive from their ship (and it was rush hour) the trip was worth the effort as the crew was very pleased to receive the meal. Another crew I met had an extensive shopping list: a guitar, whey protein powder, an espresso machine, a 220-110 volt converter, and an iPhone. Due to the statutory holiday being observed on the day we met, however, I could only get one of the items. Many other seamen are happy to receive toques knitted by LHM volunteers (see the photo).



Perhaps the time spent shopping for crews reduces the number of ships and seafarers that are reached through direct Gospel ministry. But, our volunteer time is committed to God and we trust Him to use it for His glory and His kingdom. I believe God is directing our steps, so if it takes time to serve seamen by shopping for them, then it's for God's glory.

I am reminded of Jesus ministry. He showed His care for people by addressing their physical requirements. He proclaimed the kingdom of God (eg: Mark 1:15; Luke 8:1) and also took time to meet people's needs: healing (Mat. 15:30-31) feeding (Mat. 15:37) and companionship (Luke 19:5, 24:15), for example. This is how we can look to Jesus as a model and apply LHM's mission statement every day. I'll think of this the next time a ship-bound seafarer asks for chicken or an espresso machine.

-by Allen Jones

“The Light appeared; we have seen it and testified to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and has appeared to us.” (1 John 1:2)

(from page 1)

one of those ships. So, I went to the ship and, shortly after boarding, heard someone call my name. A young Indonesian seafarer then approached me and told me that he, Paul (chaplain) and I had met over eighteen months before, while he was a cadet on board. He is a Christian and was really glad to see me. A



picture of the three of us on his cel phone confirmed our previous encounter. He also told me that he was grateful to the Lord for a recent promotion he had received.

Because this young brother was quite busy we only spoke briefly. He did tell me that he was having a bit of a rough day so I prayed with him to encourage and support him. We also exchanged contact information to help us connect in the future. Considering that I was not originally scheduled to serve that evening, having switched with another volunteer, I can truly say that my meeting with this brother was a divine encounter arranged by the Lord. PTL!

-by Bill Wong



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:

- ✂ Thanksgiving for wonderful responses from seafarers to the Gospel message.
- ✂ Thanksgiving for increasing numbers of seafarers who are being vaccinated.
- ✂ For more seafarers to be able/willing to attend the two centres.
- ✂ For the Holy Spirit to open the eyes of seafarers from restricted nations to Jesus.
- ✂ For faithfulness to Jesus to always be paramount in the outreach among seafarers.

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.

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.

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Canadian Centre for
Christian Charities
ACCREDITED MEMBER

Soon to Come:
"There will be
no more
night."

(Rev. 22:5)