



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

Autumn 2019

Testimony of Seafarer/Evangelist Jackson Domingo

When I was twenty-three years old I started to share [with seafarers] my testimony ... about how Jesus turned my life unto His Glory. My first Ministry onboard [a ship] was not easy because my Captain was not a Christian and [I] even experienced persecution. [I] just prayed and cried in my cabin. [During] that time I acted as Third Officer onboard, promoted by His [God's] favor from cadet to officer, even though that

I'm not prepared and well experienced. [B]ut then I believed that God would supply all the wisdom and knowledge that I needed both for ministry and work on-

board. I call this a *Faith Climbing Mountain* [because] normally I would need to be an Ordinary Seaman first and then an Able Seaman [before becoming an officer].

[During] the first ship ministry I started I proved that God is always with [a person] even in the toughest and impossible mission. [This was true because as a new Christian] my knowledge of the Bible was limited... but the blessings really unlimited. I disembarked from that ship with a bad record from the Captain, but on my second ship I was assigned the job of the Second Officer. I believed that if God promotes you, nobody can stop it, even though that you say that you are not ready... HE can supply everything.

My vision is to plant a Church on every ship that I board and to make disciples who could also make disciples so that ships that are sailing could be Churches on the Oceans.

I remember the passage in Luke 5 vvs. 1-11 which tells [of Jesus calling the first [disciples] who were fishermen (seamen); they left [everything] and followed Him. JESUS saw the hardship of a seaman, working day and night, and their stress and longing from being far away from home. The Lord also saw their failures. JESUS loved the seafarers and taught them about the Kingdom of Heaven. He showed them the power of God: that they can be victorious [through] being with God. Simon understood that he was with God and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I

am a sinful man!" But Jesus said to him, "Do not fear; from now on I will make you a fisher of men". For me, the phrase "do not fear" means *do not fear because you are forgiven*. As seafarers we are not only meant to catch fish (or dollars) for our

family but God has chosen us to catch men, especially seamen.

Being with Jesus means L.I.F.E.: having eternal life and a life full of grace and (L)ove, He becomes your reward, for in Him nothing is impossible; He says (I) am your reward. Having Jesus means having the (F)ruit of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Lastly, [being with Jesus] means (E)ndurance which makes you thrive or develop.

I'm [now]...working as a Chief Officer and Pastor on bulk carriers and with humbleness [I] have just upgraded with [a] captain's license, by God's favor.

Thank you very much ... to all the Lighthouse Harbor ministry for the materials you supplied especially for the Bibles you shared. GOD BLESS you everyone.



Jackson with on-board discipleship group



Surprise! – You Have Around 2,600 Possible Guests Coming...

If someone were to tell you that it is very likely that over two thousand people would soon be visiting your home, you might feel a bit overwhelmed. This scenario actually occurred for Lighthouse recently.

In late August, a Lighthouse chaplain learned that two cruise ships would soon be in the drydock, just across from the North Vancouver seafarers centre. A carefully planned, significant renovation of the smaller of the two ships, MS Regatta, would be carried out by approximately 1,700 tradesmen who would be housed aboard the second ship, Grand Classica, their floatel (floating hotel). The Regatta would have a crew of around 300 on board and the Classica about 600. Altogether approximately 2,600 people would soon be present near the seafarers centre.

Over the next two and one half weeks, the North Vancouver seafarers centre was, to state it modestly, a very busy place. Seafarers and tradesmen crowded into the North Vancouver Centre to purchase SIM cards (data enabling mechanisms for cel. phones) until the supply ran out. On one night early in the docking of the ships over seventy people showed up at the centre!

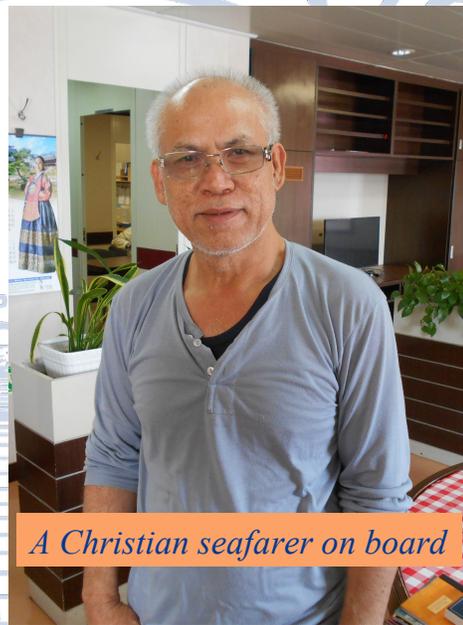
After the SIM cards sold out, ministering to the seafarers improved with several seafarers returning again and again to the Centre. Some good contacts were made with sailors from Central and South America, India, Philippines and Indonesia, for example. The Good News of Jesus was shared and Christian caring was extended to many. Finally, several on board ship visitations were made on the Classica by some of the LHM chaplains and an evening of Gospel ministry in word and song occurred in the ship's beautiful theatre.

The Lord provided a wonderful opportunity to share His Word with many seafarers (and tradesmen) and we give Him all the glory for His great goodness!

A Port Chaplain's Reflections (Based on Psalm 107:23-32)

by Bill Wong, Director and Volunteer Chaplain

After reading Psalm 107:23, "Others went out on the sea in ships; they were merchants on the mighty waters," one might wonder why people go out on the sea in the first place? Well, people have gone to sea for many reasons including a sense of adventure or challenge, but the majority are there for the money.



A Christian seafarer on board

From a commercial perspective, roughly 90% of the world's goods are transported by sea. Without shipping, the bulk transport of raw materials, food and manufactured goods would simply not be possible. However, how often do we think of or pray for the seafarers who live and work on those ships? The reality is that these courageous men and woman are part of an invisible workforce that's almost forgotten by society.

For many seafarers, working on board ships is the means whereby they support their families back home, but this choice comes at a price. Often, they are far away from their loved ones for up to nine months at a time, a big sacrifice, especially if they have young children who they will not see grow and develop. Family occasions will also be missed; not just celebrations but the normal day-to-day living which we sometimes take for granted. For these seafarers, they must choose between life at sea or at home. If they choose the sea their fellow crew members become their family.

Verse 24 reads, "They saw the works of the LORD, His wonderful deeds in the deep". The seafarers have a special opportunity to witness the works of God – the manifestations of His power seen only at sea. None is more serious than when they encounter bad weather. Verse 25 reads, "For He spoke and stirred up a tempest that lifted high the waves. They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths; in their peril their courage melted away. They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their wits' end. Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distress."



Regatta (l.) and Classica (r.) in Drydock



“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

(2 Cor. 4:18)

Some seafarers I've met have recalled their experience of stormy weather – “There were massive waves at least 30 feet high, breaking over the bow of the ship, and sometimes over the bridge, which can go on for days. It's scary and not pleasant!” No matter how large or safe a ship is meant to be, it's tiny and insignificant compared to the sea.

Verses 29-32 read, “He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. They were glad when it grew calm and he guided them to their desired haven. Let them give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for men. Let them exalt Him in the assembly of the people and praise Him in the council of elders.”

To finish, we know there's one true companion for the seafarers: our Lord Jesus Christ. He's the only one who can calm storms on the seas and on the *sea of life* and bring the mariners to that “desired haven.”

The Good News is that on the cross Jesus dealt with the pain, stress, sin and sickness of all humanity, once and for all. In doing so, He offers everyone who trusts in Him eternal life. Everyone needs to know this, including seafarers.

Sharing the Good News of Jesus is the role of Lighthouse Harbour Ministries. Everyday, LHM chaplains reach out with the love of God and the Gospel to seafarers aboard ships at the Port of Vancouver. Let's remember that Jesus didn't just calm the storms on the lake and see His disciples swiftly to shore in troubled seas. He dealt with the storms of life on the cross and secured for us a desired haven with Him – forever!

A Rich Day On-Board

by Allen Jones, Director and Volunteer Chaplain

Recently I had an amazing day of visiting ships. I met seafarers from different parts of the world who needed to hear the gospel or be encouraged in their faith. The following is a quick overview of some of the crew that I met.

Charles is a Filipino Ordinary Seaman (O/S) working on his third contract. As a Christian, he was very pleased to receive a New Testament; you can see this from the picture to the left of this article.

Edward is a Russian cadet. He told me that it is hard to keep one's faith when everything aboard a ship is solid and real. I responded to him by mentioning that Jesus resurrected bodily (solid and real), that God is working today and that he should consider our unlikely meeting.

Jerome is a wise seafaring Christian from the Philippines who hurt his back two months ago when lifting a heavy weight. Although he saw a doctor in Asia, his condition remains poor and he has been ordered to return home before his contract is finished. We discussed several faith issues and prayed together.

On a ship with an Indian crew, one of the seafarers said that he didn't believe in heaven or hell. Since the Bible reveals that they do exist, his doubt is actually related to Biblical truth. He and two of his crew listened carefully while I told them about Jesus' resurrection, His claim of being the way, the truth and the life and what these things reveal about

who Jesus is. It felt like a holy moment had occurred and I also shared with them Rev 3:20 from the Bible. In addition, I said that God wants a relationship with them through Jesus Christ and they have a decision to make. I gave them New Testaments and pray that the doubting fellow will read his and that God will open his mind to understand the truth.



Charles with “new” New Testament

2019 Advent Breakfast

December 7th

8:30 a.m.

Bethany Baptist Church, Richmond

Call or email to reserve: 604-593-7129 or
info@sealight.org



Prayer Porthole



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

“Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD; O Lord, hear my voice.” (Ps. 130:1-2)

- Praise God for answered prayer regarding a Sri Lankan refugee seafarer.
- For God’s guidance for a Christian Filipino chief officer.
- For the salvation of two cruise ships crews that came to North Van.
- That a Bengladeshi officer would read John’s Gospel and come to Jesus.
- For encouragement of a Filipino captain who is experiencing depression.
- That new ministries in Halifax and St. John would expand their outreach.
- That the entire LHM ministry would always remain focused on Jesus.
- For the Lord’s harvest among seafarers to be plentiful.

Halifax NS and St John NB update

by Ray Hanna, Senior Chaplain

My wife, Ruth, and I had a great visit to Halifax and St. John in July. We visited old friends, made new ones and connected with some local Christian brothers serving in ship ministry. We were also able to inform people about the purpose of the Vancouver Lighthouse ministry and the great opportunity for Gospel ministry in their cities that ship ministry provides.

I visited a ship in Halifax with two local volunteer chaplains, Bob and Bill. On board, we met a chief cook who said to me, “I know you, we met in Vancouver.” Eventually, I did remember some of the details of that meeting. Another crew member also told me that we had met. On a ship wall a small *John 3:16* poster which I had previously posted was evident. It is great to see the Word of God in public places.

Those who are involved in the eastern ship ministry are telling others about it and interest is growing. Ongoing, I reports from the Maritime workers that inform me of Divine meetings. What a privilege it is to tell others about the great Gospel opportunity ship visitation affords and then to see them witness it firsthand.

Please pray that more believers would visit ships in more ports.

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.



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

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:

“I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.”

(Rev. 21:22)