

BEACON

the newsletter of the Henrichs family



For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the Lord pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.

Psalm 135:5-6

DEAR FRIENDS,

For several months I have had to stay at home and work in my office. But a few weeks ago, God moved the port authorities to allow port chaplains to visit ships again. I am so glad to be able to go and meet seamen again – even if that means that I have to wear a mask and gloves. The seamen are mostly very happy to see us. God is at work in the lives of these isolated men and women. He is in control of the circumstances. Please pray that the Lord will give me and my team boldness to clearly proclaim the good news of the gospel as we visit the ships again.

OPEN DOORS IN TIMES OF CORONA

My good friend and brother Ed messaged me through Facebook that his ship was coming to Rotterdam. Ed is a very faithful believer who leads Bible study groups on every ship he works on. On his current ship there are six seafarers in his group. One of them is a young cadet from India who comes from a Hindu background. He seems to be very open to learn more about Jesus. But like many Hindus, he regards Jesus as one of his many gods. Ed found it very difficult to clearly show him that he must accept Jesus as the only God and Savior. I was able to meet Ed at the bottom the gangway as I was not allowed to come on board. We had a great time of fellowship and prayer on the quayside. I also provided him with some good literature and Bibles for his study group. Please pray for Ed and for the cadet. It is our desire that the cadet would come to saving faith in Jesus Christ.

A PASTOR ON BOARD

On a big bulk carrier, I heard from several crew members, that the Filipino captain was conducting a Bible study every Sunday. During my first visit, I was not able to meet the captain, because he was too busy. But the chief mate asked me for ten Bibles for the Bible study group. Thanks to God's wonderful timing, I was able to visit ship again before they sailed and this time I was able to meet Bob, the captain. After talking for a few minutes, he was overjoyed to discover that we were brothers in Christ! I was able to give him some good study material for himself and he was eager to stay in contact with me. Please pray for Bob in his role as a pastor on board.

A RETURNED BIBLE STUDY COURSE

Recently I received an email from Steve. Steve is a seaman from India. I think that I visited one of his previous ships during Christmas several years ago. I gave him a Bible study correspondence course. Now he wrote to me, sending me the finished test results.

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Aside from the fact that he got a very good score, he indicated that he had come to faith in Jesus Christ through the study of the Bible! God's Word is so powerful.

He wrote: "This Bible study correspondence course helped me to spend time with and think about our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. I wish to continue these courses on the ship and at home." I have sent him the next course to continue his studies. Please pray that Steve will grow in the faith and be a witness to his crew mates and family.

FAMILY NEWS

We are very glad that the government has relaxed many restrictions, so that Kerstin's parents were able to come and visit us for a few days. Kerstin and the kids are doing well. Kerstin has resumed her day care. The kids are back in school every day and they enjoy that. Our church is starting to host services again. It is so good to have those personal encounters with people again. We are so thankful that the Lord is allowing life to go back to "normal" a little bit more. He is truly great and in control of all aspects of our lives.

Thank you so much for supporting us in prayer and in so many other ways. We hope that all of you are doing well by God's grace! We are so blessed that you are our friends! Please feel free to reach out to us and either write or call. Let us serve our great king!

Yours in Christ

FELIX, KERSTIN, JAKOB, EMILIE AND HANNAH



PRAYER CORNER

Thanks:

- that we can visit the seamen on the ships again
- for brother Ed and his Bible study group
- for being able to meet Bob
- for Steve's conversion
- for our new board member Ernst who I will introduce in my next letter
- for your support and friendship

Please pray for:

- the believing seamen
- wisdom for Ed and Bob who serve as pastors on their ship
- that Steve will grow in the faith
- travel restrictions for seamen to be lifted
- for boldness and clarity in proclaiming the gospel



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