

# The Anchor



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## My First Month at Reserve

The Reserve center has gotten some much-needed repairs recently. While the center was temporarily closed, we were able to repair the floors in the main room, renovate the bathrooms (especially the floors), and do some heavy-duty cleaning. Thank you to Koran Baptist Church for sending mission teams to help with some of the heavier work.

The first seafarers came in on April 8, 2011. The crew was from the ship *Spar-Capella*. They wrote a sweet comment on the board: "Nice place, more than satisfied with the service," although at that time the place was still "under construction."

So far I have had 110 seafarers from 13 ships in the center. The majority was from China, the Philippines, and India; the rest came from Eastern and Middle Europe, Ukraine, Russia, and Myanmar.



Koran Baptist men's mission group renovated the bathrooms.

The most recent was a crew from Ukraine; their young captain came here with his people on three days. He called me Mama Else since he was at the age of one of my sons. I like to be a mama for the nations when they can see Jesus in me and through me.

From all seafarers I received very positive and pleasant feedback about the center and the service provided to them. They loved the place and called it "like home" besides their business with phone-calls, internet, or just relaxation with games or listening to music. They liked to shop here for jackets, jeans, shoes, underwear, T-shirts and hygienic articles, especially body wash and shampoo. Free Christian music CDs, the blessing bags with free hygienic articles, and the *Jesus* movie are the absolute favorites of them. Thanks to generous donors, we can give away for free or sell everything at low prices which helps the seafarers. With some groups I traveled to New Orleans for shopping; the van is a blessing to be able to provide this service.

The problem still is that only a few ships' crews have the information about the center that it is open. They do not receive the information about it at the terminals where they anchor and load or unload. I distributed flyers about the

Else Miklavcic



Koran Baptist Church mission group helped tremendously to get the center ready.

ministry at every terminal that I found but it seems the flyers do not make their way to the ships' crews. The most came or called because they knew the center was here.

Since the average number of costumers is low, the workload for me as all-rounder for service, cleaning, baking, cooking, driving, and outdoor work is manageable. I have some telephone numbers of volunteers that I can call in times of need, but so far I had only one occasion to ask for urgent help. All I wish is to figure out better ways to come in contact with the ship-crews because the capacity of the house and of my service would be higher and the needs of the seafarers are definitely a given. May God's love shine on them through everything that we can provide for them, even if we cannot always preach the Gospel in words to them.

Save the Date!

Global  
Fest 2011

September 30, 2011

## Yes, We Do Make a Difference

Sometimes in ministry you feel as though you are not making a difference, then someone will send you a letter, a note, or email that changes everything. I wanted to share a few that I received. The first one is from a friend on the Norwegian Spirit. A very devout Christian from Poland, he is one of the photographers on the ship.

*I wanted to say thank you Global and how you help us, and thanks to Norman and Priscilla. It has been a great pleasure to meet Norman and Priscilla at the Norwegian Spirit. I remember the first time when I met Norman, he came to me with one piece of candy.....just his smile can brighten your day..... someone who really cares....*

*Later I met Priscilla in crew mess, her warm heart and openness brings peace and comfort. Their ministry and service doesn't have only spiritual background which is very important but also their service is helping to take care of many things - has huge impact on our performance at work with NCL. We are very grateful to Norman and Priscilla for their work and just for being with us every Sunday. Their presence brings love – the visible love of God. God Bless!*

The next letter is from one of the waiters who is the worship leader on the Norwegian Spirit. He just went home for vacation and will be returning to the Spirit in two months. He wrote,

*Greetings Rev,*

*It's Easter Sunday and I really enjoy been in Church today, it was a real blessing. May the Lord continue to bless you and your wife, you two are doing a great work. It may at times go unnoticed by the crew and everyone onboard but God recognized what you are doing.*

*Many thanks to you both for all the help and support you gave to me in the ministry and all what you have done extra for us onboard. may the lord bless you richly. best regards*

Finally, the last email is from one of our friends on the m/v Marchaser, a ship which comes to port each week. We have really gotten to know this crew well. This is a letter I received from a deckhand.

*Dear Sir,*

*First of all, I would like to give thanks to all of staff and founder of the Global Maritime Ministries because you give a lot of time to us, specially with the crew of Marchaser. And I know you spend more time to all of us rather than to your family. I really really appreciate all you've done to me and the crew of the Marchaser. And no words can I express my feeling, how much happy, when I meet all of you in this ministries. I don't know all of you, but I know God send you all to help all seafarers. You give a lot of privileges to us when we go ashore you always*

*Norman Mangum*

*here to drive me and all of us, wherever we go. Also in buying a phone card you provide us. Your group is a connection to our family. And all you've done to us, will give more back to your families. Hopefully in my next contract is here again to meet all of you. Thank you very much to this gift last Christmas. When I take my vacation, this May 26, 2011, I will tell to my family how warm you welcome us to your ministries. I know we have a different religion, but the purpose of our God is the same. Because he connect me to your ministries. Godspeed to all of you and to your family. Hope you understand my English, I am not good to speak in English, but I always try to speak and write English to show to all of you my warm thank you. Thank you, Sir Norman, Sir Tom, Sir Philip, Sir Ben, Sir Ron, and the rest of the guys work in this ministries.*

While we don't do this ministry to receive words of affirmation, it is always a blessing when the seafarers let us know that they appreciate the work we do. Join us in praying for the many men and women whose work takes them away from their families. Pray also for the staff as we minister to the seafarers and show them the love of God through our actions and our words.

**(Editor's note: the letters from seafarers were not edited, and their names have not been included for security reasons.)**

## Thank You!

Great progress is being made to complete the second floor of the ministry center in New Orleans. The floors are being installed and are almost completed! They look fantastic and make the area look so much better. We are expecting our first group to stay upstairs in July.

We must say a very special thank you to Rev. Freddie Arnold, Dr. Tobey Pitman, and Mr. Jim Wilkinson for all the hard work and time they gave to install the floor. They did a great job!



**In Memory**

**In Memory of:**

Mr. Allen Huff  
 Mr. Riley McDaniel  
 Dr. C.H. Melton  
 Mr. Keith Robinson  
 Mr. Tony Slabinski  
 Mrs. Catherine Vandercook  
 Mr. & Mrs. Benton Windham

**Given by:**

Mrs. Joy Scriber  
 Mrs. Barbara McDaniel  
 Mrs. Vera Melton  
 Mrs. Joy Scriber  
 Rev. & Mrs. Norman Mangum  
 Dr. & Mrs. Dan O'Reagan  
 Ms. Pamella Windham

**In Honor**

**In Honor of:**

Mr. & Mrs. Ed. Ficker  
 Rev. & Mrs. Norman Mangum  
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Turner  
 Rev. Philip Vandercook

**Given by:**

Rev. & Mrs. Lew Miller  
 Mrs. Marjorie Winstead  
 Rev. & Mrs. Lew Miller  
 Ronald Prince Chapel Sunday  
 School Class

**Building Fund / Square Foot Fund**

Mr. & Mrs. Carroll Holmes  
 Mrs. Hazel McDaniel  
 Rev. & Mrs. Lew Miller  
 Dr. & Mrs. Dan O'Reagan  
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Prince  
 Ronald Prince Chapel SS Class

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Tubbs  
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Turner  
 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Turner  
 Mr. Jim Wilkinson  
 Mrs. Betty Verzwelt

**2011 Statistics**

(through May 2011)

<i>Ships visited</i>	135
<i>Seafarers contacted</i>	5,279
<i>Port workers contacted</i>	377
<i>Countries represented</i>	82
<i>Seafarers visiting center</i>	3,156
<i>Professions of faith</i>	4
<i>Evangelistic presentations</i>	137
<i>Scriptures distributed</i>	124

**2011 Budget Requirements**

<i>Budget needs</i>	\$ 125,000.00
<i>Budget income</i>	\$ 111,391.60
<i>Building LOAN balance</i>	(\$ 335,693.11)
<i>"Pay off the debt" pledges (\$1,000)</i>	14

**COFFEE FUNDRAISER**

You can support the ministry and enjoy your morning coffee! We will receive \$10.00 when you purchase two bags of Kouba Coffee.

To place your order, simply go to: [www.leskouba.com/coffee](http://www.leskouba.com/coffee)

You will be asked to enter the following information:

Username: **shop** Password: **leskouba**

To be sure that Global Maritime Ministries gets credit for your purchase, enter **003-GMM-000** in the "smarter fundraising code" field.

Thank you very much for your support!

**Encouragement from Volunteers**

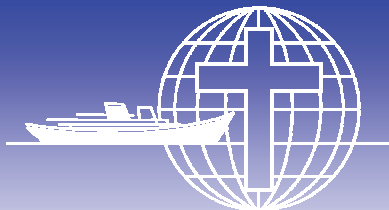
Amy Townsend

It's hard to believe that we have been in New Orleans for almost two years. During those two years, Global Maritime has become such an amazing part of our lives. I often get to witness Ron, Ben, Norman, and Philip minister to people from all over the world. Seeing the faces of seafarers light up when they feel the love of Jesus at work is amazing. There are faces and names of seafarers that will always be part of my life and my prayers.

But as I look back on the most memorable times we had at the center, the memories usually focus in on vol-

unteers that have encouraged us during this time. God uses the gifts of His people not only to minister to the lost world but also to minister to and encourage each other. And if you think that you don't have a gift that this ministry can use, you are wrong. We've shared experiences with youth groups and mission teams who stuffed newsletters, wonderful ladies who baked wonderful homemade treats, couples who pulled their RVs into the center and joined us on a daily basis, men who worked on the upstairs apartments, and many more. Recently, we had a ladies

luncheon at the center for all the female workers at the port offices. We had an great group of women from Woodland Baptist Church in Hammond, Louisiana, who made and served a great lunch. The port ladies were so thankful. One of them said, "It was such a blessing to have people who are willing to serve. Not many people are willing to do anything for others without no strings attached, but this place is such a wonderful ministry and has so many great people." So thank you to anyone who has joined with us in this ministry. You are a blessing!



# Global Maritime Ministries, Inc.

*Global Maritime Ministries exists to provide holistic Christian ministry by meeting the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of seafarers and maritime workers .*

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## Don't Neglect Praying for People!

The other day I was visiting with a Chinese man from a ship that comes in every four months. He is the chief cook on the ship, so since I love food, he is my best friend. We got into a conversation that evening about religion in his country. He expressed to me that he knew of some churches in his city and had been to them a couple of times. While discussing about attending church, I asked him if he thought he was a Christian. He told me he did not meet the requirements of being a Christian. I was curious by what he meant by requirements. He then proceeded to list that he had to go to church, read his Bible, make sure not to sin, etc. Knowing that I had heard a list like this before, I just plainly told him, "What ultimately defines you as a Christian is if you believe that Christ died for your sins and that through Him you can have eternal life. The rest of that stuff is an

outpouring of your love for him, but it is not a prescription on how to be saved." He seemed very relieved that I shared that with him and we carried out the rest of the night playing ping pong and talking about food. When I took him back to his ship I asked him, "Wong, how do you pray?" He told, "Ben, I think I pray when I read the Bible, but do not really know what's the right way. " I told him, "When I pray, I talk just like I am talking to you. God wants us to be like kids expressing their concerns to their father, because he cares for them. " He then said, "Oh, I understand." When we arrived to his ship I asked him if I could pray for him. He said sure and started to get out of the car to go back to the ship. I think he thought I would pray for him from a distance. I stopped him and said, "Wong, can I pray for you right here in the car." He looked at me and with a quick glance he said, "Why of course."

*Ben Niscavits*

I proceeded to pray and prayed for wisdom and clarity in Wong's relationship with Jesus, and I prayed that he would be safe and be a witness for Christ. After I said Amen, Wong slowly opened his eyes and said thank you with a passionate look in his eyes. When he got out of the car he waved back at me at least three times. That night I had a great reminder. In our busy lives we need to be able to ask ourselves every day, is what I am doing impacting God's kingdom? Am I willing to stop my busy life to pray with someone, regardless of what the situation is? Who knows the impact that prayer may have in Wong's life, but I pray as he continues to read through scripture that he will determine more and more each day that he is right with God and that he will grow in his walk with Christ. May God teach us each day that his kingdom is more important than our life.

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