



Flying Angel

Caring for seafarers around the world



SPRING 2026

ANNUAL APPEAL

Dearest Friends,

Like the waves that continually reach Nova Scotia's shores, the needs for your financial and in-kind donations support never stop. Over the past year, your generosity helped our team respond to seafarers facing shipwreck, piracy, abandonment, isolation, and mental health challenges. Your support of the Christmas Shoebox Campaign also allowed the Halifax Mission to share joyful moments with the thousands of seafarers who find a home away from home here.

Two examples reflect the range of needs we meet. One volunteer chaplain was called aboard a vessel to bless a grieving crew after a young crewmate was lost overboard. On a happier occasion, another chaplain connected a ship at sea with a local church on Christmas Eve, allowing the crew in the middle of the Atlantic to join a live communion service and sing nine carols—reminding them they were not alone.

While dramatic events arise, our most frequent work involves helping seafarers coping with isolation and separation from family, as well as advocating for shore leave. Nearly 25 percent of seafarers never step on land during nine-month contracts. Ship abandonment in international waters also continues to grow, with over 40 incidents reported last year.

This past year was especially meaningful. Even when seafarers have but hours in port, our volunteers provided practical, emotional, and spiritual support using supplies, a mission van, and our building—made possible by donors like you. We also built a wheelchair-accessible ramp and installed industrial doors to meet accessibility standards. This year, we hope to install heat pumps to manage rising heating costs and harsh winters. Your support will help make this possible.

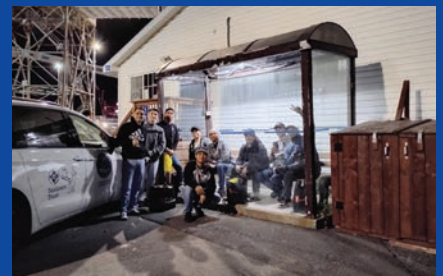
As a new year begins, the MtS staff, volunteers, and board thank you for sustaining us and ask for your

continued commitment to the men and women who rely on our mission. With your support, we can give back to the seafarers who deliver 90% of what we need. The waves never cease—and with your help, neither will we.

Gratefully yours,
Helen Glenn, Mission Manager



CMA CGM INNOVATION



AUGUSTA LUNA crew

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CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX INITIATIVE BRINGS JOY TO ALL

1077 shoebox gifts were assembled and delivered to 45 ships during the 2025 campaign. This is often the only gift a seafarer opens at Christmas. We were blessed to have Elf Jenn Vaters-Pace back this year to work her wrapping magic with care. Volunteers ensured the gifts were packed with love including personal cards from individual donors, church and community partners.



Marianne, Margie, Susan, Mary, Carol and Norman



Stuart, Elaine, Karen and Greg of Armdale Yacht Club deliver gifts



Sheila and Sibella Hulford with bags & suitcases full of shoebox items.



MV **Felixstowe**, heading to USA "we received your good gifts for the Christmas. It was a great surprise for us. Thank you everybody involved"



MSC **NISHAV** "Gifts of time, laughter, and love are the best kind of fullness. Thanks for sharing yours with us MtS Halifax. Thank you! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

MAY THE WINDS OF PEACE GUIDE OUR JOURNEYS, AND MAY EVERY WAVE BRING US CLOSER TO UNDERSTANDING AND COMPASSION. LET US STAND UNITED IN HOPE AND LOVE. TOGETHER LET'S SPREAD HOPE AND PEACE.

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Joseph Loot delivered to **ONE MILLAU & CMA CGM ENDURANCE** on Christmas Eve!



John A delivered Cobs bread & shoebox gifts to **CMA CGM CALLISTO**



John, Captain, Chief **SZARE SZEREGI**. This 180 metre vessel will load about 33,000 tons of wood pellets from Halifax Grain Elevator, from two NS producers for European markets.



EF AVA with Nathan



FEDERAL TOKORA



PICTOR crew receive Cobs Bread and gifts delivered by volunteer Nathan



Mike Cudjoe and wife Jo



Rob and Kevin deliver gifts from Ecum Secum

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MTS HALIFAX PROVIDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES ONBOARD THE CMA CGM J. ADAMS ON NOVEMBER 18.

Volunteer Deacon Art Mitchell, Father Ayodele Ayeni and Joseph Loot celebrated Holy Mass and blessed the crew cabins, bridge, engine room, galley, and recreation room. Shortly after the vessel departed Colombo and entered the Indian Ocean, a young cadet was lost at sea. Despite an extensive 72-hour search, the seafarer was never recovered.

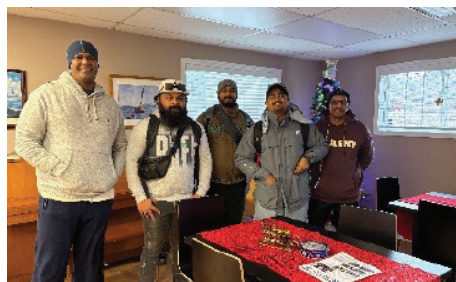


CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE, HOLY COMMUNION AND NINE CAROLS

The inclusion of IT INTREPID into the local service on Christmas Eve at the Church of Our Saviour using Team Meets was a real felt blessing. The ships crew were able to participate in the 1.5-hour service. The program was sent to the ship along with the words for all 9 carols so they could participate at sea. The God that we worship is an omni-present God who is everywhere knowing the hearts of the faithful wherever they are. The ship was truly present throughout the service and participated with our local congregation in every way, being away from their families. Having the IT Intrepid participating in the fullness of the service from my perspective was more than providing a service to a ship at sea, it was what they brought to us in their known presence in spirit and participation, that distance is not a barrier for God who is all about unity. – Rev'd Andrew Cooke



Crew of CMA CGM TITAN had a good rest with recreation at the Mission after a month-long journey from Sri Lanka.



Volunteer Bill Blackmore and CMA CGM AMBITION crew

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200 MISSIONS IN 50 COUNTRIES – SERVE SEAFARERS WITH COMPASSION, FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT!



While visiting the MV Meridian Ace at anchorage in Panama, Fr. Ian Hutchinson-Cervantes of the Seafarers' Mission learned that the captain was desperate to provide Christmas gifts for his crew but had been unable to make it happen. Fr. Ian reached out to Rev'd Josh Messick in Baltimore, (left photo) USA who coordinated the delivery of 25 Echo Shows for the crew. In turn, Rev'd Josh alerted Helen Glenn, in Halifax, that the vessel was heading to Canada. When the Meridian Ace arrived, volunteer Captain Jim Calvesbert visited the crew (top right) with an abundance of cinnamon rolls, blueberry and cranberry scones, and delectable homemade bread from Cobs Bakery. While some of the 24 Indian crew members were repatriated, the ship continued its voyage bound for Japan. It is remarkable how small the world becomes when we are directly connected with colleagues across the globe, continuing this beautiful chain of care. In lieu of shoeboxes, the crew were overjoyed to receive alternative gifts given from the hearts of many. Hallelujah!



After a long journey from Colombo, Sri Lanka, the crew of the **APL ESPLANADE** (below, far left) were blessed with shore leave. Mission volunteer watchkeeper Caroline hosted some crew at the Mission centre while Ship Welfare Visitor Joseph drove another group, including the master, for sightseeing to the Citadel and the **TITANIC** grave site, then to pick up provisions. The ship departed for New York after a much-deserved break in Halifax.



Captain Mike on ZIM CHINA



Rita delivers gifts to LARS D crew

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17TH ANNUAL MTS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Traditionally known as the official kick-off to Christmas at the Port of Halifax was successful despite inclement weather on December 4. In addition to celebrating our community STARS, the luncheon brought together the Mission's sponsors, patrons, donors, and friends. These mission partners tirelessly support the well-being of seafarers and recognize the invaluable contribution of Mission volunteers to the operations of MtS Halifax. While Edmonds Landscaping has been the Presenting Sponsor for years, this was the first year they were able to attend. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a smashing success! Check out photos: https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/3nqln7f7yzz6i32q88v63/ADbBHc6f3OBn7D_w7nWo2-4?rlkey=hqqk4kfbfh-b0iej5x56u7h5jo&e=1&st=f2ae125r&dl=0



Their Honours, Bishop Sandra with MtS Halifax volunteers



Sarah & Lynn Edmonds, Bishop Sandra Fyfe, Helen



Lieutenant-Governor of NS, The Honourable Mike Savage, ONS



The East Coast Carollers with Their Honours & Helen

Congratulation to winners:

- Dieter Gautschi won the beautiful Kiln Art Stain Glass Lighthouse.
- Kim Smith, Vice-President, F K Warren won the Mike Cowie House Concert.
- Kevin Cahill, won the lovely print donated by Frame Plus Art.



Emmerson visited during March break seen here with watchkeepers Mel, Rita and Trinity.

LONGTIME COLLEAGUES RENDEVOUS AT MISSION AFTER TEN YEARS



Manuel with young son and Glenn to the right. Manuel is a former seafarer who now lives in Halifax. He reconnected with Glenn at MtS Halifax. They haven't seen each other since they went to sea over ten years ago. What a joyous reunion!



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MTS 2025 CAR RALLY

Many thanks to Sandra and John Attersley for organizing this year's MTS Annual Car Rally, which took place on November 8. We also thank our 29 teams who participated and our very generous sponsors who provided financial support and team prizes (you can see them all listed on the Mission's website). This year, teams travelled along the South Shore, solving clues and visiting various places such as the Maritime Painted Saltbox Art Gallery, Sea Port Gifts & Treasures and Cosby's Concrete Creations, ending up at the fabulous Quarterdeck on Summerville Beach. Despite our fall weather being so lovely, unfortunately our Car Rally took place on the one Saturday it rained – we're talking major down pour! However, it did not dampen any-

one's spirits and all were able to warm up and enjoy an amazing buffet dinner, followed by a Live Auction and the awarding of prizes for everyone, plus our Rally winners. Word of our Car Rally has spread to Saint John and we were delighted to have the COO (now retired) of Port Saint John, Andrew Dixon, and his wife Barb, participate this year. Our Sponsor of the Year was the Halifax Harbour Pilots Corporation. A total of \$6,260 was raised for the MtS Halifax - thank you all for your support of the Car Rally.

We are in need of organizers for next year's Car Rally. Please contact Elaine Selig (through the Mission) if you would like to plan the route and/or if you would like to contact our sponsors for support and prizes.



1st Price - Paula Ringer & Karen Soeder



2nd Place Winners - Tracey Nelson & Kenzie MacNeil



3rd Place Winners - Dale Black & Jim Lambe.jpg



Appreciation - John & Sandra Attersley, Peter Selig



Sponsor of the Year - HHPC - Jim MacKelvie, Colin Millar, Ian Wallace



T-Shirt Contest Winner - Anthony Steele with Sandra Attersley



At Least You Had Fun Winners - Lori & Jim Papadopolous



COO - Port Saint John - Andrew Dixon & Barb Dixon

The Mission to Seafarers works worldwide in support of seafarers who have been mistreated or abandoned. Please keep the seafarers in your prayers.

Please Donate

Website: www.missiontoseafarershalifax.ca

Mail: Mission to Seafarers Halifax
P.O. Box 27114, NS B3H 4M8

Drop in: 844 Marginal Road.

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ICMA INTERNATIONAL WORLD CONFERENCE, NAVIGATING CHANGE



The International Christian Maritime Association (ICMA) unites 27 Christian charities serving seafarers, fishers, and their families through 725 missions in 80 countries. As a Board Member of the North American Maritime Ministry Association (NAMMA), and on behalf of MtS Canada, I was grateful to meet global colleagues to share challenges, best practices, and prayer, strengthening our shared commitment to seafarers. Now in my 14th year with the Mission to Seafarers Halifax, the experience was deeply enriching. <https://www.icmagroup.org> | <https://namma.org> Special thanks to Fr. Ricardo Rodríguez-Martos Dauer and the team at Stella Maris Barcelona for their warm hospitality. During our stay, we engaged with volunteers and seafarers and enjoyed the beauty of the Port of Barcelona. Reconnecting with long-time colleagues and forming new friendships made this a truly meaningful gathering for me, representing MtS Halifax and MtS Canada.



Rev'd Eric Phinney, Regional Director, Canada; Helen Glenn, Manager, MtS Halifax, Marsha Clyne, Regional Fundraising Manager; Dr. Desai Shan, Assistant Professor, Memorial University

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ICMA INTERNATIONAL WORLD CONFERENCE, NAVIGATING CHANGE



Deacon Ricardo Rodriguez-Martos & Jeronino Dadin, Stella Maris Barcelona



CASA BATLLÓ GAUDI



SAGRADA FAMILIA



Our welfare teams in the Middle East remain operational, and we continue to support abandonment cases, arrange for emergency deliveries and provide remote welfare assistance where physical access is not possible. Our teams are on the ground in the UAE, Bahrain, Cypress, and Aqaba (Jordan) ready to provide practical and emotional support when you need it most. Email: crewhelp@mtsmail.org.

Managing Distressing Events booklet, a practical resource offering guidance for navigating crises can be downloaded. Booklet: <https://bit.ly/41869yz>

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THE REVEREND JUDITH ALLTREE PRESENTED 2025 PETER G. BERNARD, Q.C. VOLUNTEER AWARD



For her invaluable service to seafarers through her longstanding work with the Mission to Seafarers across the country, Rev. Judith Alltree has exemplified lifelong servant leadership. Her recognition celebrates years of quiet, compassionate service — visiting ships, supporting crews, and being present when it matters most. The ISSC Board of Directors established the Peter G. Bernard, K.C. Volunteer Recognition Award in 2015 to recognize Peter's remarkable contribution to the Society as a member of the Board from 1977 to 2014 — an extraordinary 37 years of service. This annual award honours individuals who generously dedicate their time to supporting the welfare of seafarers. Rev'd Judith Alltree recently retired as Regional Director of Canada since 2019.

Rev'd. Alltree was the first Canadian to be nominated and shortlisted for the 8th Annual Mission to Seafarers Awards in 2025, an international crew-welfare awards event held in Singapore. Although she did not receive the final award, organizers were delighted that she attended, noting that the nomination itself was widely regarded as an honour. The above photo is of her sister Cheryl and Judith at the big Gala for the Mission to Seafarers Seafarer Awards 2025 in Singapore.

Regional Director, Rev'd Eric Phinney had the privilege of being in St. John's, Nfld on February 25th for the soft launch of the new Mission to Seafarers, Nfld. Seen here with Station Manager Morgane Sheppard.

Approximately 40 people that represented local marine industry at the highest level were engaged in this celebration.



Staff and volunteers are grateful for the resources and support of the Halifax Mission to Seafarers Board of Directors. Rev'd Heather MacEachern, Karl Risser, Captain Jim Calvesbert, Ric Hattin, Sandra Attersley, Bishop Sandra Fyfe, Bud Streeter, Dylan A. F. MacDonald, Captain Tony McGuinness

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MASTER MARINERS OFFER THANKS FOR SERVICES, SUPPORT AND CARE!

Dear Helen,

Good day on behalf of crew AS Felicia would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year filled with success, good health and happiness. We would like to thank you sincerely for the lovely Christmas gifts. Your kindness and generosity are truly appreciated and mean a great deal to all of us.

Many thanks, best regards,
Captain Mikhov, Sergiy,
Master, AS Felicia

.....
Hey Helen,

Your leadership steers the seafaring club to make waves in the community. Grateful for your passion and dedication. Wishing you a year of smooth sailing and fair winds!

Ancel Rodolph, Master Mariner

.....
Dear Helen,

Thank you so much for your support and care during the difficult times of our lives as newcomers. I'm now proud to be an experience captain in the Canadian market, serving with gratitude.

Captain Amir

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION AT MTS HALIFAX



Packing crew volunteers Aurora, Carol, Bud and John

.....
Our MtS take out luncheon last November was the success it was thanks to the professional assistance of 'Team Marriott' (below), Susan and Norman Picton working their magic (photo bottom left), and the support from the rest of our great Volunteer Team and steadfast patrons.



Joy and steadfast luncheon patrons



Susan, Jamie and Norman in kitchen



Sarah, Debra and Jaime, Team Marriott

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



- **April 13 – April 19:** Toast to Spring On-Line Auction
- **April 30th & May 28th:** Take out luncheons resume.
- **June 25th:** International Day of the Seafarer. All invited for the Proclamation and flag raising at Grand Parade at 9am. Our Fil-Cad friends will be offering an authentic Philippine luncheon.
- **July 12th:** Sea Sunday. A day dedicated to remembering and supporting seafarers and their families. Some churches may adjust the date to suit local schedules, but the primary focus remains on honoring seafarers and raising awareness of their vital role in global trade and travel.
- **September 9:** MtS Halifax Annual Golf Tournament, Avondale Golf & Country Club, 1PM SHOTGUN
- **December 9:** Annual Christmas Luncheon at Kenneth Rowe Hall, Pier 21

MtS Halifax VOLUNTEERS - TRULY THE BACKBONE TO OUR MISSION

John Attersley
Bill Blackmore
Captain Jim Calvesbert
Reverend Andrew Cooke
Mike Cudjoe
Nancy Eisener
Miriam Forbes
Trinity Gadway

Maxime Gauvin
Ryan Grant
Howard Gray
Jack Hall
Palma Heming
Rita Karsten
James Kennedy
Dianne Lavoie-MacDonald

Joy MacDonnell
Deacon Art Mitchell
Captain Michael Montgomery
Captain James Parsons
Susan Picton
Norman Picton
Captain Andrew Powell
Captain Peter Randall

Caroline Scott
Mel Stewart
Captain Colm Stockdale
Bud Streeter
Carol Streeter
Glenn Taylor
Pat Thompson
Aurora Ulloa-Parsons

Grateful thanks to our sponsors!

AON
Associated Cargo Specialists
Atlantic Towing Ltd.
Atlantic Container Line
Atlantic Pilotage Authority
Atship Services Ltd.
Blue Water Agencies Ltd.
Canadian Steamship Lines
CN
Cobs Bread
Colley Motorships Ltd.
Edmonds Landscape &
Construction Services

Federal Fleet Services/ASTERIX
F. K. Warren Ltd.
Flying Angel Fund
Freight Checkers Union 1341
Halifax Grain Elevator
Halifax Pilots Corporation Ltd
Halifax Port Authority
Horizon Maritime Services
ILA 269 Halifax Long
Shoreman's Association
Inchcape Shipping Services
International Sailors' Society
of Canada

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Maritime World Logistics
Marriott Halifax Harbourfront
Metcalf & Company
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MtS Canada
NAMMA
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Partner International Inc.
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Sea1 Offshore
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The Company of Master
Mariners
The Shipping Federation of
Canada
TK Foundation
UNIFOR Marine Workers union
Wallenius Willhelmsen Logistics
ZIM Integrated Shipping Services



MISSION TO SEAFARERS HALIFAX

P.O. Box 27114 Halifax, NS B3H 4M8 Canada
Tel: 902-422-7790 Fax: 902-420-9786
Website: www.missiontoseafarershalifax.ca
Location: Opposite Pier 24, Ocean Terminals
We are open 9:30-5:30. LATER WHEN SHIPS ARE
IN PORT. Closed Sundays.

Helen Glenn, Mission Manager
Tel: 902-456-1658
Email: hglenn@missiontoseafarershalifax.ca
Joseph Loot, Assistant Manager
Tel: 902-989-3388
Email: jloot@missiontoseafarershalifax.ca