

# Ship Ahoy!

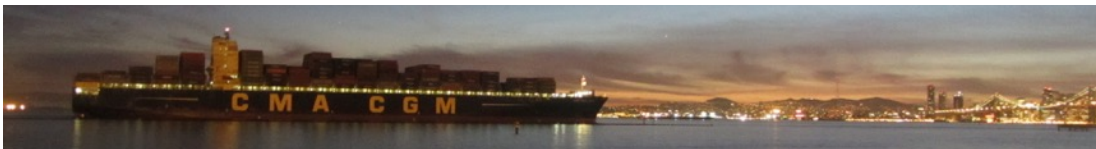
Newsletter of the Seafarers Ministry of the Golden Gate



## We Still Need the IMC!

Chaplain Jamieson Prevoznak recently visited a ship and the Ukrainian

seafarers about told him that all ports had a seafarers center like the International Maritime Center (IMC) and mission like we do here at the Port of Oakland. *"We are so glad that the Seafarers Center is here for us, for many places do not welcome us this way..."* Seafarers visit ports all over the world and these ports do not offer the care and hospitality that we do here. We have one of the best seafarer centers and missions in the world because of your dedication to this mission. Chaplain Jamieson also ministered to a crew of a ship at Schnitzer Steel (a bulk carrier terminal for collecting scrap metal). The crew from China and Vietnam was desperate for contact from the outside world. He cared for the crew and visited the ship for 4 days straight, as part of the mission to care for the seafarers and offer them the love and care of Jesus Christ in any way we can. These instances remind us that the IMC and SMGG are still needed more than ever.



## SEA SUNDAY July 10th at 4 PM at the IMC

Join us in remembering the Seafarers who serve around the world, and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice as we spend time in worship and song. Chaplain Jamieson Prevoznak will lead the service with sermon and scripture reading to celebrate the work of seafarers, their sacrifices and to commit to a better life for them. This service will be followed by an **ice cream social** at the International Maritime Center (IMC), address 4001 7th St, Oakland, California 94607. Everyone is invited, and we will have tours of the Center following the service.



## SMGG Assumes Operation of the IMC from SCI

Since Feb. 2016, when the Seamens Church Institute (SCI) ended funding for the operations at the IMC, SMGG has been funding daily operations and staffing of the IMC as we worked hard to search for global partners to continue the ministry. Effective July 2016, SMGG is assuming daily operations of the Center to ensure that the doors remain open and available for seafarers visiting from around the world. Stay tuned! We hope to share exciting news in the days ahead about our programs and efforts, to keep our ministry partners, friends and supporters informed. Keep up with us at our website [www.smgg.org](http://www.smgg.org)



## FAREWELL Event for Jania Billups on July 7th at 6 PM at the IMC

For the past 19 months, we have relied on the steadfast presence and efforts of SCI-Bay Area Staff member Jania Billups at the IMC. Since January 2016, Jania has helped keep the Center running smoothly as SCI and SMGG have been working through the logistics of transition. We have Jania for her faithfulness and hard work. We wish her all the best in the days ahead during this transition period. Jania Billups (right) with Chaplain Jamieson Prevoznak (left) at the Swedish Pancake Breakfast event on April 16, 2016.



## SISTER OKEREKE AND CAPTAIN PETER PARRAVANO VISIT THE IMC

SMGG Board member John Claassen and Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) staff Robert McKoon introduced AOS personnel Sister Okereke and Captain Peter Parravano to the Center on June 2016. Sister Okereke is a native of Nigeria and part of AOS Nationwide with responsibility for immigration policies, multi-cultural liturgy and ministry to immigrants. She visited with some seafarers at the Center from the ship Cosco Thailand. Captain Parravano is a National Board member of AOS and a commercial fisherman working in Half Moon Bay. John and Bob informed both of the activities of SMGG and AOS at the International Maritime Center (IMC) and how the ecumenical ministry provides sacred hospitality to the seafarers who visit the Port of Oakland. The group is pictured below.



## CHRISTMAS is Coming!

Soon, you will be  
receiving  
information about  
our Christmas at Sea  
program!

Please continue to support the ministry by giving online via PayPal at our website ([www.smgg.org](http://www.smgg.org)) or send your donation to SMGG mailing address above.)