

Seminarians learn about port, and maritime ministry

Preparing for the future of seafarer ministry is always a major concern at Seamen's Church Institute. So we were delighted to provide five first-year students from the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Philadelphia with a field work assignment.

"I discovered the ministry . . . to be such a positive thing, just what the church should be doing, caring for God's beloved children in a time of real need," said Susan Loney of Wilmington, DE.

"I was impressed to learn of the advocacy side of SCI's ministry, helping crew members often confined to visiting ships," said Kerri Walsh of Medford, NY.

"We sometimes think of malls as the 'religion' of the marketplace," said Daniel Spigelmyer of McClure, PA. "It's neat to see malls as also a focus for ministry -- places SCI takes seafarers who need a little respite away from their ships."

Alexa Epstein of Philadelphia, PA, remarked about "the complexity" of life on the waterfront. "All the different goods that come through the port, and all the agencies that are part of the work -- the ministry of SCI brings a humanizing dimension."



Aboard the Maple Mighty docked in Camden.
Pastor Bill Rex, SCI Lutheran chaplain, seminarians Daniel Spigelmyer, Susan Loney, Rachel Anderson; Kerri Walsh,
Alexa Epstein; and Fr. Von Dreele.