

Prayers

&

Cookies



Call

212-677-4800  
(Extensions 1203 or  
1218)

Email

[cvr@sihnyc.org](mailto:cvr@sihnyc.org)  
[nfleeming@sihnyc.org](mailto:nfleeming@sihnyc.org)

Over 90% of world trade is carried by merchant ships, which translates to 1.25 million seafarers serving a world population of 6.7 billion people. Because a significant portion of ship cargos consist of grain and petroleum, the IMO\* recently hypothesized that without seafarers, half the world would starve and the other half would freeze.

1.25 million seafarers – 0.02% of the world population – dispersed throughout the global waters, go through life largely unnoticed. In a word, they're isolated, and our mission in a word is reconnection. We reconnect seafarers with communities ashore through pastoral care, hospitality, social assistance, advocacy and prayer.

With shortened ports of call and heightened port security, there's little opportunity for the community of faith to reach out to these seafarers in a "hands-on" manner.

So, Seafarers & International House is launching a new outreach program: *Prayers and Cookies*. A small task ministry at your church bakes cookies, and places them in a tin we supply with a short prayer or greeting you compose. Our port chaplains then deliver the tin to the merchant ship. Later, when the ship is out at sea and the crew has gathered in the mess room for a meal, they can enjoy your home-baked cookies and read your prayer or message.

It doesn't take a lot of effort or expense, but it means so much to the seafarer who would otherwise pass through the days and weeks and months virtually unnoticed.

Give us a call or an email message. It could be a great project for your confirmation class or youth group.