

# Lucia's Prayer Letter – Sept 2021

Hello friends!

Welcome to the SEPTEMBER PRAYER LETTER (brought to you from: Freeport, Bahamas)! I apologize for the change in format - being on the ship, I have had to give up good internet connection, thus, I cannot access my usual formatting site. Please don't harbour any grudges ;) But without further ado.... THE LETTER

<IMG\_0537 2.jpeg>

## PRAYER

- For God to show me my place on the ship
- Praise God for keeping us safe
- For our food container to arrive soon

## TRAVEL

I'm going to be honest, my last day in Victoria was very tearful. I was TERRIFIED to leave home - to travel on my own!

The flights went smoothly, though with little sleep, and I met up with my second cousin, Zoe, and some new German friends, Benni, Lydia, and Evelyn in the Toronto Airport!

We got picked up shortly after arriving in Nassau and got 10min of beach time before making it to our new home.

## THE WELCOME

We were welcomed by some friendly faces upon arrival. I met a Canadian, named Monica Harder, who will forever be mistaken as my older sister, and Vale, my ship sister (person in charge of making me feel welcomed). Finally, after an exhausting trip around the boat, climbing up and down many flights of stairs, we found our new room!

I am in cabin 243, a modest little thing, with four beds (fully occupied), a sink, four closets and two dressers. I was surprised to find a welcome package on my top bunk, with a few snacks, some shampoo, deodorant and extra pillows from my ship sister! What a welcome.

## THE SHIP

The ship life has taken a lot of adjusting. It has a busy atmosphere, with many different cultures. You can be sitting at a table, listening to Dutch, German, Spanish and English all at the same time! Despite cultural differences, we are all brought together by our love for Jesus. Prayer is ubiquitous on board. We pray before and after meetings, passion groups, work shifts, and are encouraged to spend quality devotions time on our own, though some is scheduled in to our work hours. I've found that my prayer life and bible reading has improved significantly! (For example, I just attended a ship to ship prayer night)!

Some of my favourite things about the ship is ship families! I've been adopted to the Gomes ship family - that means I have 6 older brothers and sisters, and a mom and a dad. Thursday night is family dinner, so we eat together then and enjoy fellowship. I have also enjoyed a Zumba class, and a Swing Dancing group, which were both amazing. Among my family and different clubs, I am still trying to figure out my friend group.

**FUN STORY:** After a routine ship-wide covid test, there was announced a positive test, and we all had to rush into quarantine in our cramped cabins. We waited in anticipation for the results of a follow up PCR. Right before dinner, it was announced over the PA system that it was a false positive and we were free from the lock down (Praise God)!

## THE WORK

On Sunday I had my first shift in the Galley (that's ship for kitchen). I learned how to wash lots of dishes, really well. Yesterday we worked as a team making lasagna for 260 people! It is a quick-paced job, working with other people to get meals done and dishes washed in the for meals. It is really cool to be a part of a team so essential to the work of the ship.

Here is our fancy uniform!  
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Today I was sent on a missions team to help renovate an Emmanuel Baptist church, destroyed in tornado Dorian in August-September 2019. The roof had been ripped off and was in the process of being built. My job was to scrape paint from the walls so they could repaint the building. Hard work, with only one semi-functional pressure washer and a few small paint-scrapers, but rewarding nonetheless, as they were very grateful and wanted us to come back again tomorrow!

## FINANCES AND PRAYER SUPPORT

I don't need anymore help financially, God has provided generously. Thank you all. I DO still need prayer, (see the list above ). If you'd like more prayer items, contact me! The more prayer the merrier...right?

For more frequent updates you can follow me on instagram @lucia.harder or connect with me on WhatsApp at +1(778)350-7811

Thank you for following along!  
God Bless you.

-Lucia