

Friend Ships

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September 2026 Activities Report

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your consistent, loving support to our operations. In October we celebrate the 41st anniversary of Friend Ships! Thank you, Jesus for 41 years of your overwhelming love, kindness, provisions and opportunities. It is such an honor to serve You Lord! It is an exciting



time here at Friend Ships. The Health Center in Syria has been operating with medical personnel and activities for children. We are so grateful for the opportunity to help this war-torn community. The Doctors see patients Sunday through Thursday and then make house visits into the community where there is special sharing of ideas and relationships being built.

Our new ship, MV John Henry, is in the shipyard for routine care and maintenance. The Lord has made a way for us to obtain this useful, all-aluminum vessel, formerly employed to service oil rigs in the Gulf of America. The ship is fast, efficient, has a shallow draft so that we can approach smaller ports and islands with limited water depth and a large, open back deck that will allow us to load and off-load quickly. John Henry is fully operational, ready to use and will soon be fresh out of dry dock. Thanks to some very special friends, the paint and decals for the new name and port have been donated and soon, new wood for the back deck will be too! As a crew/supply ship, the vessel is equipped with a passenger room to transport 64 workers out to the rigs. We plan to convert this area to additional housing so that church teams may join us on the field and will soon have a rear loading ramp and a landing pad to accommodate our Bell 206 jet helicopter. We are already working on two international missions for the ship and crew and will keep you updated with photos and details as soon as things are finalized.

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We had an awesome team from Victory Sulphur Church come to Port Mercy and refurbish two of our mobile medical units so they are ready to go aboard ship. They did a fantastic job!



The Port Mercy team has been visiting some of the weekly recipients of food from our StoreHouse One program and are encouraged by the beautiful ministry taking place in addition to meeting physical needs. Here are how some of them utilize the food we provide. Open Door Church cook and serve a meal for the needy Monday through Friday. They set out food for people to shop as they have need, take food boxes into the community and have a men's discipleship program. Everything free of charge, with prayer and ministry! Another recipient sets out the food for elderly people in a low-income neighborhood. People come to pick up and pray over the food as they help one another shop and some prepare meals for the area's homeless. The Way is an amazing facility that has a one year Christian based program for men rebuilding their lives from addictions. They provide meals for the men and also send teams to help the community. The Salvation Army here in Lake Charles houses men and women, veterans and families. They provide food for the people being housed and also serve dinner Monday through Saturday and two meals on Sunday for people in the community. They offer church services and one on one ministry.



Friend Ships has exciting opportunities for volunteers, long term, short term and teams-aboard ship, in the Middle East or at home base Port Mercy in Louisiana, collecting and distributing food to people in need and supporting the Friend Ships international operations. There is no charge to participate. We are also offering a three month session of Sea Hawks, our training program for young adults, in the summer of 2027. If the Lord is calling you into His service, check out Friend Ships. More information on our website at www.friendships.org.

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8