



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

SAT, OCT 7: Albany Maritime Ministry to Host Volunteer Open House

(October 6, 2023) On Saturday, October 7 from 10am to 12noon, the Albany Maritime Ministry will be hosting a Volunteer Open House to recruit new volunteers and to educate the public on the Ministry's mission and activities.

Led by Rev. Kate Drefke, Pastor of Faith Lutheran Church (Troy) and Evangelical Lutheran Church of Poestenkill (Poestenkill), Rev. D. Lowell Chilton, Pastor of First Lutheran Church (Albany), and a volunteer board, the Albany Maritime Ministry addresses seafarers' spiritual, family, and material needs; advocates for seafarers' rights; welcomes seafarers aboard their ship when they cannot come ashore; collaborates with related agencies worldwide; and offers special programs and services, such as Christmas at Sea.

Albany Maritime Ministry, located at the William G. Hempel Seafarer Center in the Port of Albany, is an ecumenical association that welcomes seafarers that dock in the Capital District.

For more information and to RSVP, visit <https://albanyymm.us/howtohelp.html>

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With four transport modes -- ocean vessels, barges, freight railroads, interstate highways -- the Port of Albany is Upstate New York's largest public port/logistics hub and serves as a Port of Entry with on-site U.S. Customs office and bonded warehouse. The Port is open and active year-round and includes deep-water shipping access and approximately 450 acres of land on both sides of the Hudson River in three municipalities. The Port of Albany is located 124 nautical miles north of the Battery in New York Harbor. The facility is currently undertaking nearly \$50 million in maritime upgrades and investment as well as a \$700+ million Port expansion project. For more information, visit www.portofalbany.us.