

From Ship To Shore

October 13, 2002

Dear family and friends,

Well, my departure date is rapidly approaching – 6 days from the time I am typing this letter to be exact! I wanted to take the opportunity to send a note to everyone before I head out this coming Saturday.

As the time to leave has gotten closer, I have become more and more excited to join Mercy Ships. I fly to Tyler, TX for one week of safety training, and then fly to Wilmington, NC to meet the *Caribbean Mercy* (my new home!). Up until Christmas the ship will tour parts of the U.S., specifically Savannah, GA and Gulfport, Miss. I'll be spending Christmas in Gulfport – my first Christmas away from the appropriately snowy Northeast! In the beginning of January, we will set sail for the Dominican Republic for 3 months. I am so excited to see so many new places!

God has been amazing in preparing me for the adventures that lie ahead. He has shown me a side of Himself that I had not seen before – Provider! Thanks to all of you who responded to the promptings on your heart to help out financially. I understand David's thankfulness as he prayed, "And now I have seen with joy how willingly Your people who are here have given to You" (II Chronicles 29:17).

I'd like to ask you to keep me in your prayers as I take this new step. Please pray that I would have an open mind and not allow my own expectations to hinder myself from experiencing all there will be to experience! I want to be receptive to all that the Lord desires to teach me. I will keep you all in my prayers as well!