

Update from Missy.....Post-Christmas and New Year's, and a rundown on the season ahead in the states before returning to the ship this July 2019.



I am thankful to the Lord for the time I have had to spend with my whole family since I've been back from the ship, all of us getting together on the 22nd of December for family Christmas, my parents and I for a very relaxing Christmas day, then a nice evening New Year's Eve with dear ship friends and their family.

Back in the states just over 8 weeks now....some reflection on that time.....

RE-ENTRY, CULTURE SHOCK, TRANSITION, DEBRIEF.....and "it's NORMAL" these are not words you would normally use in your everyday language, but words that have become very familiar to me these past weeks and are part of everyone's overseas mission life.

I'm on a journey, that's challenging but going well, walking through the process of each of these words practically, some the process longer than others, with a trusted, experienced friend.

But it's all normal, necessary, and healthy to making a good transitioneven if it's just a few months back in your passport country....it's been over 8 years since I lived more than a few weeks in the states

I highly recommend a book "**Burn-Up or Splash Down**" by Marion Knell if you are on this journey too!!



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Special time in Texas at the ISC....11th Jan to 2nd Feb....just a few days remaining



The couple on the right of me.....that's the family I have been staying with. The ladies on the left of me were visiting....I served with all of them on the Africa Mercy!



Season ahead these next months of furlow.....a little glimpse into my flexible "desire to follow the Lord's plan" plan.....

My top priority is to rest.....not working.....learning how to do that well.....having a proper break and returning to the ship refreshed, with renewed vision and strength for an exciting season ahead

Will continue to do some speaking while I am back.....rotary, my supporting churches, ladies groups, and possibly a nursing school

I am slowly connecting and getting involved at my church.....prayer group, small group, volleyball, and meeting regularly with 2 friends to start.....maybe ministry with Burmese refugees

Studying French more seriously

Equipping myself more with tools for Christian leadership, management, mentoring, and coaching....to take back to the ship with me....still exploring what that will look like

Time in Texas.....what I was up to....

Reconnecting with good friends from the ship, some key people I wanted to meet with talking about member care and building relationships with many I have worked with for years via e-mails and conference calls...it's been so good to be face to face....sowing into relationships for the future

Working with HR dept. here on part of the staffing for the Senegal field service A good portion is done!

New Ship Global Mercy.... planning for the OR dept. and Hospital.....details and timeline for starting up...exciting

Prayer requests these coming months:

- **Care for myself well**
- **To embrace all that God has in this season ahead here**

