



CELEBRATING THE JOURNEY

One thing that we often celebrate at The Lighthouse is new beginnings. Even when hard days come, we are reminded of Christ's promise that His mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23). There are several celebrations that we want to share with you in this newsletter, the first being the journey that has brought Lorenzo and Virgie Carter to us. Their story is mangled with years of addiction, pain, and relapse. Yet even through all of this pain, they can see the hand of their Savior working behind the scenes at every step. It is a celebration of hope and a new journey full of promise!

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son... Romans 8:28—29

Broken and sad is how Lorenzo describes his heart condition as he arrived at The Lighthouse this past July. He had turned his back on God and his wife for a substance, leaving him feeling empty and his relationships broken and hurting. But God, being faithful, began to move in big ways where there seemed to be no way out. He first opened the door for Lorenzo to come and stay at The Lighthouse. He then made it possible for Virgie, Lorenzo's wife, to move to Fort Wayne, find employment, and an apartment right around the corner from our new Community Center. With Virgie close, she began investing in Lorenzo's restoration again. This new beginning made it possible for Lorenzo to have another chance to restore his broken relationship with Virgie as well as with God. What a cause for celebration!

Not only is God working in their lives, together they share with others about their journey and the transforming message of the gospel. Lorenzo accepted a position at The Lighthouse as one of our Care Managers, and Virgie just accepted a position with us at our new Family Thrift Store, which is opening in a few months! Celebrate with us over the work that God is doing through lives surrendered to Him.



WE ARE EXPANDING

Another journey that The Lighthouse has started is the opening of a second Family Thrift Store! With tough times looming, many people in our community are struggling to survive. The tough times bring many to our door seeking food, clothing, counseling, financial donations are down as come. This increased need—and ing our team to the limits. So we something about it! Once again, new store is located off of Lima for The Lighthouse to “fund” our-increased opportunities for employment for those in our program as well as bring in the funding to meet the additional needs we are seeing. It is amazing to see the doors God is opening as we continue to support and minister to those in our community. Stay tuned for more details, and plan on joining us for our Grand Opening!



THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES

In the summer of 2016, The Lighthouse was gifted with our first Life Recovery Home. This humble 6-bed home served as our first residential facility, offering housing to men who struggled with life-altering addiction. Little did we know just how big that first gift really was. It allowed The Lighthouse to grow and flourish into what the ministry is today! God used the faithful gift of another to launch the ministry of The Lighthouse. We want to celebrate how God has used 3221 McCormick Ave. over the last seven years of ministry.



Our McCormick residence has served as a place of refuge for many. This small residence has allowed us to minister to the needs of the men in our program and their families by sharing the life-transforming hope only Christ can give—in a place where they felt safe and secure. That is something to celebrate! Most recently, our McCormick Ave. house has served as our graduate home for men who have completed our 6-month work program; it was designed to give our graduates additional time as they prepare to transition back into society independently.

As The Lighthouse continues to grow and our services have expanded, we see God taking us in new directions. With the launch of our Community Center last fall, we see God wanting us to focus on the area around East State Blvd. In wanting to use our resources to the best of our ability, it is time to close the McCormick Ave. home and move our graduate program to our Hobson Rd. location. This will enable us to be more focused on a targeted area of our community, while still offering extended residential housing that the men of our program need. We are truly thankful for the gift of the McCormick Ave. home and have seen how God has used it to serve many men and their families. Celebrate with us as one chapter of our journey closes and another starts.