



The Prodigal Returns...

One of my favorite stories in Scripture is the prodigal son. While there is much heartache and destruction, ultimately it is a redemptive story. At The Lighthouse, we meet men whose lives have been flipped upside down by the choice, like that of the prodigal son, to pursue worldly pleasures. This pursuit often leads to addiction. Vaughn Quinn's story is not so different. He too sought after worldly pleasures—which led him to be enslaved to his addictions—but, spoiler alert, his story has a redemptive ending too!

Vaughn grew up in a small Florida town with his single mom and older brother. When Vaughn was a young child, his mother insisted that he attend church. His grandfather was a missionary and pastor at one of the local churches in Cedar Key. Despite his mother's best efforts, when Vaughn was 13, he told his mother he no longer wanted to attend church. He was having more fun hanging out with his friends on the weekend. By the time Vaughn was in high school, he was regularly participating in underage drinking and smoking marijuana daily. After graduation, in an attempt to flee his small town life and pursue opportunities that would lead to his success, Vaughn moved to Las Vegas. Though his intentions may have been good, there had been no heart change, and Vaughn slipped back into old habits, which quickly escalated into the bondage of addiction. He found himself without a job, falling into self-pity, and highly addicted to stronger drugs. In an attempt to flee the mess he found himself in, Vaughn called his mom and returned home.

For the next seven years, Vaughn battled the chains of methamphetamines, marijuana, alcohol, and several other substances. He was a slave—in bondage to his addictions. His enslavement led to failed relationships, multiple jail sentences, ruined job opportunities, and lost custody of his daughter. Desperate to find sobriety, Vaughn connected with First Baptist Church of Cedar Key. He began to attend weekly services and attended a men's study. His journey was difficult, and during this time he found himself back in jail for 180 days. But the men of First Baptist Church (FBC) genuinely cared about Vaughn and continued to pursue him while he was in jail. Upon Vaughn's release, a deacon of FBC encouraged him to consider rehab. Tired of doing life his way, Vaughn surrendered his will to the Lord and said yes.

Never did Vaughn expect that saying yes to God would land him here in Fort Wayne, IN, at The Lighthouse. A bit nervous and uncertain of what to expect, Vaughn was met with love and open arms. In the span of the first 30-days, Vaughn learned much more about what it means to have a relationship with Jesus and how his addiction is sin. Invited to stay on for the six-month program, Vaughn continued to grow in grace and truth as he rededicated his life to living for Jesus. Upon his graduation from The Lighthouse, Vaughn held to the promise of Proverbs 16:3, "Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established." He took on two jobs, praying that God would place him in a role that would glorify Him. Seeing the tremendous growth in Vaughn and his dedication to sobriety, it was my pleasure to invite him to join The Lighthouse team as my Executive Assistant. He is growing and thriving in this role, using his testimony for God's glory. What a beautiful story of a life redeemed! Will you prayerfully consider how you can give to continue God's redemptive work at The Lighthouse? We can't do this without you! - God Bless, Dr. Brandon Bower



upcoming events

Through the month of February bring in your donations of canned goods and/or non perishable food items to Skyline Chili during regular business hours to receive a coupon for a FREE Skyline Cheese Coney.



save the date

Calling ALL Volunteers!

Join us for another fun-filled evening as we celebrate you!

The work we do cannot be done without you. Let us serve you and tell you, we think you're just "Ducky!"

April 24, 2025

6:00 p.m.

3000 E. State Blvd.
Ft. Wayne, IN 46805

Volunteer Dinner 2025

Our Volunteers
Are Just...

DUCKY!



The Lighthouse is excited to launch Biblical Counseling Training

- Join us the first Saturday of each month, beginning in February
- 1:00—2:30 p.m.
- The Lighthouse Community Center: 3000 E. State Blvd.
- Bring a Bible and pen, notes will be provided
- RSVP to Jordan Bradley, jbradley@lhfw.org

Welcome, Allison!—Volunteer Coordinator

Some of you may remember Allison's smiling face from our Family Thrift Store. Through a change in circumstances, God saw fit to place her at the Community Center as our new Volunteer Coordinator. She is now using her talents and gifts to direct and help others volunteer within our ministry. She is a great advocate, and we are excited to have her on our team.

Do you have a desire to volunteer? There are many opportunities for service, several of which happen behind the scenes to help keep the ministry running smoothly and efficiently. As we continue to look to Matthew 25 as our example, The Lighthouse has purposed to minister in these 5 areas: clothe the naked, house the stranger, feed the hungry, offer help to those who are in need through biblical counseling, and minister to those in prison through our prison writing ministry. Within these 5 key areas, there are many opportunities to volunteer. Will you prayerfully consider where you can best use your time, talent, and treasure within the ministry of The Lighthouse? Have more questions or want to get plugged in? Reach out to Allison at aclark@lhfw.org. She can't wait to connect with you!

