



The Beacon

Official Newsletter of The Lighthouse

July 2025 Issue #34

The Search for Love

A common thread between many individuals that we serve is their desperate pursuit of acceptance and love. Often times, they have looked for that acceptance and love in all the wrong places. Sam is no exception. At the age of 10, Sam lost his parents in a tragic car accident. Having only an older brother who was gone at the time, Sam was placed in foster care. Eventually, Sam was adopted by Karen. Looking back, Sam can now say that she loved him, but in the moment, as a young boy, Sam did not feel the love and acceptance that he was longing for.

At age 13, Sam had his first experience with drugs. By age 14, he was actively using. Sam admitted, "I used drugs out of anger, and I focused my anger on God. Drugs were a means of escape". Attracted to the wrong crowd at school, Sam was pulled deeper into darkness. As he began to find acceptance within his new group of friends, he adapted to a new way of living—one that included violence and theft.

Sam found friendships for a time; however, he quickly felt alone when his friends began facing jail time for their actions. His "family" had once again fallen apart. He became numb and cold—and his search for love continued. Sam, too, found himself in and out of jail. Eventually, he fell in with another group, and was introduced to drug trafficking. For the first time in his life, Sam felt that he was making it, but looking back, he knows that he was not. This was not the love and acceptance he was searching for.

Meeting his wife was a turning point, or so Sam thought. She fully embraced who he was and wasn't phased by the darkness. They clung to one another, fueling their lives with drugs. This season did not last long, however. His wife left with another man, and Sam reacted poorly. The consequences of his actions sent him to prison.

During his time in prison, Sam met Jesus. His search for true love had ended. But God wasn't done with him yet. After 3 years, Sam was released on parole and was encouraged to return to his home county and to go to a local homeless shelter, but Sam began looking for other options. He needed a **safe** place to go—one where he could grow in his newfound faith. As he began inquiring, another inmate, a former resident of The Lighthouse, recommended that Sam try The Lighthouse. Sam filled out the application and was accepted.

Sam has spent the past year with us at The Lighthouse, and we have seen tremendous growth. Recently, he chose to be baptized, showing others his commitment to follow Jesus. He has now graduated our program and is employed with The Lighthouse. When we asked Sam what his biggest takeaway has been, he said, "Love from God exists. People really care. Love is real." Sam's search for love and acceptance is over because he is a child of God! He is learning every day that there is no greater love out there!

Your support of The Lighthouse's work supports lives being changed! We can't do this without you.



Community Chapel Meal:
[www.signupgenius.com/
go/70A0F4CAEAB29A02-meal#/](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4CAEAB29A02-meal#/)

volunteers
NEEDED

Volunteer Form:
[www.hfw.org/contact-us/
volunteer-application/](http://www.hfw.org/contact-us/volunteer-application/)



LHFW.org
Phone: 260-255-6413





The Lighthouse Staff 2025

Our 2025 staff photo is a testament to God's faithfulness. He has blessed The Lighthouse with a talented team of men and women who desire to use their time and talents to help further His Kingdom. They serve and love on our community well, sharing the gospel as they live out being His hands and feet. Pray for our team as we continue in the work God has called us to. May He forever be glorified.



Every GIFT Matters

You are invited to attend our Annual Celebration and Night of Giving on Thursday, August 21st

Please join The Lighthouse as we celebrate God's faithfulness. You will have the privilege of hearing from one of our graduates and his mother as they share the life-transforming work that God is doing in and through their family. Enjoy live music as you partake in our savory hors d'oeuvres and dessert featured by Kate's Bakes. With much excitement, we will review what God has done, through His faithfulness, over this past year and give you a foretaste of what is to come. Lastly, you will have the opportunity to give towards one or more of our 5 featured sponsorships.

This event launches our year-end-giving campaign. We are asking you to step up and support our work, sharing the gospel with the least, the last, and the lost in our community. Every gift, no matter how large or small, truly matters. Please prayerfully consider a donation that will cover one or more of the sponsorships featured. We can't do this without you!

Receive your FREE tickets by registering at the link below or by scanning the QR code. Seating is limited!



lhfw.org/2025-annual-celebration-night-of-giving/

Register Here:

Scan the QR Code



Donate Here:



Unable to attend our Annual Celebration and Night of Giving, but still want to give? Visit the link below or scan the QR code to sponsor one or more of our 5 challenges from Matthew 25!

lhfw.org/2025-annual-celebration-giving/