



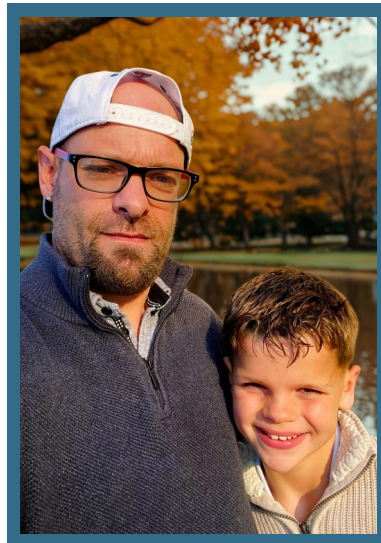
The Beacon

Official Newsletter of The Lighthouse

October 2025 Issue #35

The Importance of Fatherhood

This time of year I find that I often reflect on my dad. His life was marked by the gospel, and he lived sharing that hope with the least of these. Though he wasn't perfect, he was a good dad who loved the Lord and encouraged his children to do the same. Sadly, I cannot say that for everyone. Many of the individuals I meet with don't have the same experience with their father. Several have broken relationships, scarred by the effects of sin. Erickson's story of fatherhood is one example of many that I have heard over the years. The best part is, there is hope. When we trust in our heavenly Father, our lives are transformed for good. No matter our experience with our earthly father, our heavenly Father makes us new. Erickson's life is a testimony to that truth.



At a young age, Erickson made a profession of faith; however, his growth as a believer was stagnant. While having a loving father, he was raised in a home with worldly values. Erickson was taught to find fulfillment and happiness in wealth and possessions. He then carried this mentality into his adult life. Focusing on worldly values, he put off the things of the Spirit such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Instead, his life was wavering and unreliable. Then he became a father. For the first seven years of his son's life, Erickson continued to put off surrendering to Christ and pursued the things of this world. Erickson said, "Being raised to live with worldly values distorted my view of what being a father to my son looked like. I was a father who was present but not active in my son's life. I was encouraging and guiding him in the ways of this world, focusing on monetary wealth and possessions to validate his worth."

Erickson's choices led him to a life raging with sin and despair. It wasn't until Erickson came to The Lighthouse for help that he began to surrender his life to Christ. After completing the Anchored program, Erickson stated, "The Lighthouse helped me become a man who obeys my Savior. Having an intimate relationship with Him and His Word has transformed me into a more Christ-like father to my son." Erickson has actively taken on a new role in his son's life. Seeking to live like Christ, being led by the Spirit and guided by the Word of God, Erickson is thankful for the opportunity and desire to raise his son in the image and life of Christ, not the world. Praise God with me for His faithfulness! You too can experience His life-transforming power by trusting in Him. If you want to know more about having a relationship with the Father through His Son Jesus, I would love to connect and talk with you. Please join Erickson and me on Friday night for Community Chapel at 7pm. I look forward to seeing you there!

God Bless - Dr. Brandon Bower



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



save the date

Community Christmas Chapel

Date & Time:

Friday,
December 19th
7:00—8:30 p.m.

Location:

The Lighthouse
Community Center
3000 E State Blvd.

Join us for an evening of Christmas fun: fellowship, live music, cookies, hot chocolate, gifts, comedy and more!

Christmas Cookie Sign Up:



We are asking for 20 dozen Christmas cookies for our Community Christmas Chapel. If you love to bake and want to help provide cookies for the community, sign up by visiting the link below!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4CAEAB29A02-58567260-christmas>



Ways to GIVE This Season



Scan the QR Code below for the Reverse Advent Calendar.

This is a great family activity! Each day add an item to a box. On Christmas Eve donate the contents to The Lighthouse Food Bank.

lhfw.org/our-services/food-bank/advent-calendar/



Select from one or more of the featured 12 Days of Giving gift tags, anytime during the month of December, to support our work in the community.

Scan the QR code below to see the featured gift tags.

lhfw.org/donate/12-days-of-giving/



Looking to Matthew 25 as our example, The Lighthouse has purposed to minister through these 5 challenges: Take in the Stranger, Clothe the Naked, Care for the Sick, Feed the Hungry, & Visit Those in Prison.

Scan the QR Code below to sponsor one of the 5 challenges!

lhfw.org/giving-tuesday/

