



To: Parents and Adults of The Lighthouse Church Youth

From: The Lighthouse Church Elders

Date: January 2, 2022

Subject: Youth Ministry at The Lighthouse Church

We recently received notification from Pastor Jeff Savage that he has accepted a position at Edgewater Alliance Church in Edgewater, Florida (his letter to the parents/adults of Lighthouse students is attached). While we are deeply saddened by Jeff and Leah's decision to leave The Lighthouse Church, we are grateful for their willingness to serve our youth over the years throughout the ministries of The Lighthouse Church and are likewise supportive as they move toward God's continued calling on their lives.

We know that much emotion is involved in change especially when it concerns someone who has served as a leader, mentor, guide, and friend. We also are aware of the significance of the youth ministry to your child as well as the community. On **Sunday January 16<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm** we want to meet with you and your child at The Lighthouse Church to talk about the youth ministry going forward.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please reach out to us at [elders@tlccma.org](mailto:elders@tlccma.org).

Sincerely,

Dave Sonntag  
Bob Standeven  
Micah Wenker

## **To all Parents & Adults of Lighthouse Students,**

In mid-November I was invited to apply for the position of Family Pastor at Edgewater Alliance Church in Edgewater, Florida (another church in our denomination The Christian & Missionary Alliance). I was offered the position in December and prayerfully accepted it. Both myself and Leah had sensed the Lord moving us to consider what our next assignment would be and have been committed to simply praying and trusting God through the process.

I have had the privilege and pleasure to serve as one of your pastors for 10 years now and it truly has been the most life-giving and life-changing decade of my life. I have cherished the opportunities to minister to you all, to invest in the lives of students in Cape May County, to work with incredible staff and volunteer teams, and to grow as a follower of Jesus. Lighthouse will always hold an incredibly special place in my story, and God has used many of you to show me what it looks like to be a real follower of Jesus. You were the church that gave a 22-year-old kid fresh out of college a space to serve Jesus. You let me try crazy ideas, fail, grow, learn, preach, lead, pray, guide, and so much more. You truly are the church that God used to launch me into a lifetime of ministry and for that I will be eternally grateful.

We are excited for the next assignment God has for us and yet this decision comes with an almost overwhelming amount of emotion. I am thankful to my very core for the time, opportunities, investment, and love I have received and shared as a part of The Lighthouse Church family. Words don't quite do justice to the gratitude and love I have for the people of this church who have cared for me, Leah, and our girls. As well, the generosity, guidance, discipleship, prayer, grace, encouragement, and friendship given to us have all been true gifts from the Lord.

## **As far as the transition for Lighthouse Students,**

Pastor Gary Hrynoveski and our youth worker Anna Johnson will take over leadership of the ministry alongside our incredible team of adult volunteers. A meeting will be scheduled for both you and your students to attend to ask questions and be aware of what the ministry will look like moving forward. I will do everything in my power to ensure a smooth transition and ask that you give grace to both Pastor Gary and Anna as they take over. Rest assured that LIFE Conference this summer is still happening for our students and I will again say there is no better investment you can make in the life of your student than to send them on this trip.

Thank you for your trust and support of our student ministry. It's all about Jesus, and I know that He will continue to do great things.

Heart ready, trusting in God.

- Jeff Savage