

Celebrating  
**45** yrs

# RESCUE & RECOVERY

DECEMBER 2022  
MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
REPORT

## IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS



We are so thankful for the volunteers who make Christmas at Lighthouse Ministries a joyous time of year. The decorations are a huge encouragement to many of the men, women and children who are a part of the Life Learning Recovery Program.

From all of us at Lighthouse Ministries,

*Merry Christmas*



## HOLIDAY MEALS AND FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Thanks to your generous support, Lighthouse Ministries and our more than two-dozen ministry partners were able to distribute almost a thousand Thanksgiving food boxes and turkeys to those in need in our community. We had a great time with the many volunteers who helped pack and distribute the boxes. Special thanks to our Food sponsors, **Publix Supermarket Charities** and **Team Pouncey Foundation**.

Your generosity also enabled us to host two special Thanksgiving meals at the Men's Gospel Rescue Mission for more than 280 people, as well as distributing meals to

seniors at local retirement homes.

This month we will be giving out Christmas food boxes, as well as providing toys for more than 758 children (a record number) so that families in need can provide a Merry Christmas for their children.

More importantly we are able to communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the poor and at-risk population of West Central Florida. We, and those we serve, give thanks to God and to you for your faithful giving!



# WORKFORCE HOUSING PROGRAM

Affordable workforce housing has long been an issue in Lakeland. It has also been an issue for our residents as they look to find a place to live after our Life Learning Recovery program.

"We have a huge housing shortage in Lakeland, Polk County, the state of Florida and the whole nation," Ben Stevenson, executive director of the Lakeland Housing Authority, said. "For every 10 families that need an affordable housing unit, there's only three units available." Lakeland Ledger - 01/30/21

To address this issue Lighthouse Workforce Program provides the support our residents need to move into permanent housing. During the program, participants are mentored by multiple Lighthouse Team Leaders and their case manager to continue their spiritual and emotional growth. While working a full-time job and saving appropriately for the future, program participants are led to the financial and emotional stability needed for independence and



readiness for a move to permanent housing.

Jim is using his skills to assist with the scheduling of our donation pick-ups. Paul is continuing to grow in the Lord while assisting in the Hydroponics garden and learning many new skills as a part of the Lighthouse maintenance team.

Donnie has taken up a lead role in the kitchen, preparing meals for our residents and guests.

Jyssika is continuing to walk in freedom from addictions, learning to trust God and raising her young son.

Tashika earned her GED while a part of the Life Learning Recovery program and is continuing her education while working full time.

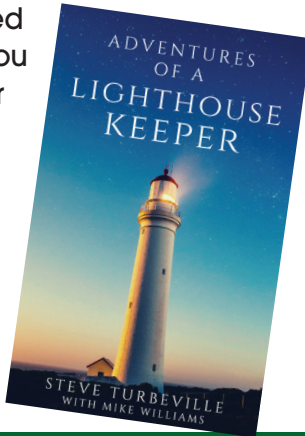
Deirdre has been a part of the program for a while now and is continuing to study God's word and make wise decisions.

Your generosity is truly giving dignity and a better quality of life through the power of the Gospel!



## Get your FREE copy of the devotional book "Adventures of a Lighthouse Keeper"

An exciting ride through the history of Lighthouse Ministries. You'll be inspired to believe God can use you to be a Lighthouse in our community!



Scan the QR code to request your copy.

Giving Hope That Changes Lives  
**LIGHTHOUSE ministries**  
**WEEKEND OF COMEDY**

MIKE WILLIAMS  
 TIM BOYD  
 JON FONTANA  
 DARREN STREBLOW  
 ROBERT G. LEE

MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTER AT  
[www.LIGHTHOUSELAUGHS.com](http://www.LIGHTHOUSELAUGHS.com)

**VICTORY CHURCH, Lakeland - FRIDAY, JANUARY 20 - 7 pm**  
**BEIT TEHILA CHURCH, Brandon - SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 - 11 am**  
**GRACE POINT CHURCH, Plant City - SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 - 11 am**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Haines City - SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 - 6 pm**

FREE EVENT - YOU WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRIES!



Steve & Bonnie  
Lighthouse Ministries

Thanksgiving and Christmas are special times of year. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior we rejoice with the angels declaration, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

*Merry Christmas!*

## CELEBRATING THE IMPACT - Thanks to you! THROUGH NOVEMBER 2022

<b>219,767</b> Nutritious Meals Provided	<b>7,390</b> Individuals Served
<b>43,143</b> Nights of Shelter	<b>119</b> Community Homeless Housed or Stabilized
<b>664</b> Homeless Sheltered (Non-Duplicate)	<b>3,877</b> Gospel Communications
<b>118</b> Life Learning Residents Served	<b>181</b> Faith Decisions



For more information on the ministries of Lighthouse go to  
[www.lighthousemin.org](http://www.lighthousemin.org)  
**863-687-4076**



Your generosity creates Rescue and Recovery environments for at-risk people where they can experience dignity and a better quality of life through the power of the Gospel!