

LIGHTHOUSE

A LETTER FROM NEW PRESIDENT OF LIGHTHOUSE YOUTH MINISTRY

Dear Congregational Leaders,

11/1/2021

On behalf of the Lighthouse Youth Ministry Board of Directors and the youth in our program, I would like to thank you for your continued support and share with you some important information about our ministry.

In 2021, we were able to restart in-person activities. Youth are coming together to share in many fun activities that have built relationships. They have had the opportunity to work in missions this summer. They have continued to grow in their relationship with God. We are sad to report that Erica Brooks, our youth director has submitted her resignation to better focus on her work at Vineyard and her new marriage! We will continue our current scheduled activities through the end of December, and we will be transitioning to monthly events for January through May 2022 that will be led by the board and volunteers from our partner congregations.

The Lighthouse Board is using this time of transition to better understand the needs of the youth in our community and the dreams and expectations of our partner congregations. We feel this is imperative to building a stronger foundation and to better plan for programming and staffing needs as we grow into the future. We are in the process of securing experts in the areas of youth ministry and community needs assessments to ensure that this process is done well. Once this process is complete, we will start our search for a new program director.

Lighthouse was born in 2017 when lay leaders and pastors from five congregations dreamt together about providing a vibrant Christian youth ministry in our community. Four years later, despite a global pandemic, five pastoral transitions, two youth director transitions, and a steep learning curve, we have been building the roadmap that others will certainly follow if we are successful! That is exciting stuff!

In the coming weeks you will be receiving an invoice for Lighthouse 2022 dues. We ask that you include us in your 2022 budgets and assist us with identifying members of your congregation who can serve as board members, youth reps, or other volunteers. We ask for your support as we survey and interview our youth and members. But most importantly, we ask for your prayers that we can continue to grow to become the vibrant youth ministry we all dreamt of connecting youth to their faiths in meaningful (and FUN) ways!

Sincerely, Alexandra Pieper (President of Lighthouse Board of Directors)