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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lighthouse of SWFL Hosts Acclaimed Speaker Michael Hingson

(North Fort Myers, FL) – “As a community, we need to teach our visually impaired members to really become independent,” international hero, author, and visually impaired speaker Michael Hingson told 50 attendees at a special event held on May 2, 2019 at the Lighthouse of SWFL.

Co-hosted by the Lighthouse of SWFL and Cypress Lake United Methodist Church, the event’s speaker brought energy and enthusiasm to a multigenerational crowd of clients, staff and business people.

Michael Hingson, blind since birth, shared his personal story of escaping the 78th floor of Tower One of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 with his guide dog Roselle. Encouraging both sighted and unsighted members of the audience, Michael’s message of living a life of independence resonated when he declared, “There’s nothing blind people can’t do!”

Lighthouse staff instructors Roselyn Batista and Stacy Landau, both visually impaired, enjoyed Mr. Hingson’s story of his parents giving him the freedom to figure out how to do things his own way, with no limitations, a very similar parallel to what the Lighthouse teaches its clients about independent living skills.

Cypress Lake United Methodist Church is a multigenerational church in south Fort Myers with a United Methodist heritage. Led by senior pastor Thom Shafer, traditional worship services are Sundays at 8 and 11 am with a contemporary praise service at 9:30 am. For more information visit www.cypresslakeumc.com or call (239) 482-1250.

Lighthouse of SWFL is a United Way partner agency serving individuals with blindness and vision impairment in Lee, Glades, and Hendry counties. The mission of the Lighthouse of SWFL is to enable people of all ages living with a visual impairment or blindness to remain independent, active, and productive in society. Lighthouse of SWFL, a nationally accredited agency, is funded by the Division of Blind Services, United Way, Lee County Government, and other private donors. For more information about Lighthouse of SWFL, visit www.lighthouseswfl.org or call (239) 997-7797.

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