

## Lighthouse Excited to Announce New Football Coach

Lighthouse Christian School explored every corner of the nation to find its next football coach, Jason Smith from the Tampa, FL area. After reviewing the qualifications of several candidates and an exhaustive interview process, it was evident that Coach Smith has the tools to fill several roles on campus.

**Jason Smith will serve as Assistant Athletic Director and Director of Student Discipleship as well as Head Football Coach and Head Track and Field Coach.**

Smith has over two decades of coaching experience as an assistant and head coach in both 8-man and 11-man football. Over the last 5 years, his teams have enjoyed a 35-14 record with 2 Division Titles and 2 State Championships! Coordinating the offense, his 2020 team ranked #15 in the nation in 8-man rushing yards and #10 in Florida across all classifications of 8-man and 11-man in scoring. His expertise on the field and collegiate connections will prove to be motivating and inspiring for both current and future Lions!



Smith has also served as the Director of Operations and Director of Strategic Partnerships for the SSAC, the largest independent high school athletic association in the state of Florida with over 200 teams. Through this opportunity he has managed organizational growth, promotional initiatives, and operational strategies.

Furthermore, Coach Smith has developed youth programs. Lighthouse will seek to start Lighthouse Youth Sports for elementary students to get involved in various sports throughout the year, including football. This experience will engage the community and give Lion cubs the opportunity to start playing together at an early age, leading to middle school and high school sports.

Jason Smith was a 4-sport athlete in high school (football, wrestling, basketball, track and field) and went on to play football at the University of Central Florida before a career ending injury. After college, Smith served as an associate pastor, planning and leading services as well as coordinating community service initiatives.

“After an interim year we felt it was critical to find the right person to lead our team on the field as well as develop the character of young men off the field,” Lighthouse Athletic Director Daeqon Montreal said. “It is an added bonus that he has developed feeder youth programs, run camps, disciplined youth, pastored, and operated an entire state association.”

Head of School, Stephen Denny noted that “Jason Smith is a well respected leader on and off the field in Florida. He will bring a certain toughness to Lighthouse from his experience over the years. We are blessed to add him to the team!”

*Lighthouse Christian School is a discipleship school, committed to the spiritual, intellectual, physical, social and emotional development of students. The purpose of the school is to provide a Biblically-integrated instructional program in a disciplined environment that encourages spiritual commitment and academic excellence.*