



Ruskin Pastor Loses His Voice. Literally.

Tampa Bay E.N.T.'s Dr. Daniel Vincent Helps a Pastor Get His Voice Back Just in Time for Easter

TAMPA, Fla. –April 2, 2015 – Pastor Barry Rumsey delivers at least three sermons a week and also sings during Sunday services.

So when the 58-year-old very literally lost his voice during a sermon in July, he was worried. After three weeks with no improvement, Rumsey's primary care doctor sent him to Tampa Bay E.N.T.'s Daniel Vincent, M.D., fellowship-trained Laryngologist and board certified E.N.T. surgeon, specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of voice and swallowing disorders.

"It was very difficult not to be able to communicate," Rumsey said. "Here I am a pastor of a church who couldn't speak. I also was concerned that at 58, after 35 years in the same profession, there wouldn't be a lot of demand (in the workplace) for someone my age."

Dr. Vincent examined Rumsey, and ultimately decided on laryngeal surgery on Jan. 26.

"His was a very unusual case," Dr. Vincent said. "A small scar band had developed on his vocal cords, essentially paralyzing about a third of his vocal cords."

After surgery, Rumsey wasn't able to speak for 10 days. He had to learn how to push on his diaphragm to help the words come out.

He remembers the night his voice fully returned. It was Valentine's Day and he was standing in the church parking lot with his wife and visiting missionaries when his wife suddenly interrupted: "Your voice just came back!"

"It was like a switch had been flipped," Rumsey said. The tone and quality of his voice were missing, and then all of a sudden it was back. "I went for six months unable to sing," Rumsey said. "I missed that as much as speaking and teaching."

Rumsey is now back to preaching and singing – just in time for Easter Sunday.

Tampa Bay E.N.T. offers a wide range of ear, nose and throat services for patients of all ages, including conditions related to sinuses and allergies, voice and swallowing, facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, hearing and balance.

For more information about Tampa Bay E.N.T., go to www.TampaBayENT.com or call (813) 879-8045.

About Tampa Bay E.N.T.:

Tampa Bay E.N.T. has served the Tampa Bay community for over 40 years. From pediatric allergies to fitting hearing aids, our caring and experienced physicians specialize in ear, nose and throat care for the entire family using comprehensive, state-of-the-art technologies. We have six convenient locations throughout the Tampa Bay area to best serve you and your family.

###