



INCREASE

He must increase, but I must decrease.

~ John 3:30

Winter 2017

From the Executive Director

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On this side of 2017 I pray you are reflecting back on the celebration of Jesus' birthday in 2016, truly thinking you were able to honor and glorify Him through the season! Jesus is our only hope as we move to advance His kingdom in 2017. We intend to do just that in the ministry of Increase.

I want to let you know that it is overwhelming to experience your support. We feel your prayers daily as we tackle the tuff stuff in the broken and hurting lives of the youth that we connect with weekly. I also want say thank you to the financial support that the ministry continues to receive making it possible for us to meet needs.

Please lift up in your prayers a building for this ministry to meet in regularly. Other prayers are needed for people to obey God's leading them into becoming involved physically with the ministry. I believe that God has already called people to serve in different forms of the ministry; we just need to connect with them.

I am super excited to say we will be doing our second annual Zook's pie sale! Be sure to check out how to order yours in this flyer.

May you have a blessed day!

Ron Peters

Board of Directors

Chairman:

Pastor Jason Smith

Members:

Dominick DiBella

Pete Kingsley

Executive Director:

Ron Peters

Vision Statement

Our vision is to increase positive Christ-centered relationships for youth, increase understanding between youth and their community, and increase opportunity for youth to hear, encounter and have a life changing revelation of Christ's sacrifice while participating in a youth center where youth can be themselves.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to reach the youth of the Lampeter-Strasburg area, and beyond, with the life changing peace, hope, and love of Christ through the power of His Holy Spirit.

Zook's Chicken Pie Sale...and YOU!

Would you like to partner with INCREASE and help sell pies that are so yummy they sell themselves?



Contact Ron at 717-575-8353 if you would like a Zook's Chicken Pies (and apple dumplings-yum!) order form to share with work, church, a Bible study or Sunday School class, family, friends, or your neighbors. You take down the orders, collect payment (cash or checks made out to "INCREASE") and return all by Saturday, March 18th to Ron or mail to INCREASE, 334 Hilltop Road, Strasburg PA 17579.

Pies are available for pick-up on Wednesday, April 5th between 6-7pm at the Jaycee Park Barn (218 Miller Street). All items are packed frozen and ready for you to deliver! Consider joining IN! Thank you!



Greetings,

As we look out at what's going on in the community around us, we can't help but see that there are many who are in need. We see those who are struggling with sickness, with abuse, with addictions, and with poverty. Amidst all of these sufferings, many are struggling with their identity and the validity of their Creator. There are many people around us who need to hear about the peace and comfort of our Lord and they are looking for it in all the wrong places. At Increase we see how real the struggles are for the young guys and girls of the community who attend and our hearts are burdened as we hear their hearts cry out. God has called a group of people to speak truth into their lives in hopes that they come to realize what their true identity is in Jesus Christ and we are thankful for the time and energy they put into the lives of those who need encouragement.

We have a group of volunteers who have heard God call them to action and they have responded. Each week they are confronted with a different challenge and uncertain what kind of situation they will be facing next. I was reminded of the story of Philip and the eunuch from Ethiopia in Acts 8: 26-40. Philip was told to go out to a desert with no other instructions except for how to get there. While there, the Spirit spoke to Philip again and told him to, "go near and overtake (or join with) this chariot". v.29 The eunuch in the chariot was reading words from the prophet Isaiah and Philip asked him if he understood what he was reading. The eunuch responded by asking, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" v.31 God called Philip to a specific task and even though he wasn't exactly sure about what was going to transpire, he still trusted and obeyed the voice of God. Because of his obedience, the life of one person was changed when presented with the truth of the Gospel.

Our vision is to see young people come to the understanding of who their savior is and in order for that to happen, we must take every opportunity God gives us to guide them in the right direction. We thank all of you who are helping us do just that with the support you give through time, money and prayer. We pray that God continues to reveal Himself to you on a daily basis and that each one of you continues to submit to what God is calling you to do. We serve an awesome God!

Blessings,

Pastor Jason D. Smith

Chairman of the Board



Becca, Zac, Remi and Lauren at WinterJam

WinterJam, held at the Santander Arena, Reading PA on Thursday, January 19th was an incredible evening of Christian music-from every style you can imagine; along with challenging and motivating speakers offering the HOPE of Jesus to the youth attending!

Attending WinterJam can be a youth's life changing event. It can feed a weary believer's soul. And it can fuel our fire to follow HIM.

INCREASE meets weekly and ALL youth 6th to 12th grade are invited to join us. There is no cost to our regularly scheduled nights. We meet every Thursday night beginning at 5:30pm. Your generous support will go a long way in helping us fulfill our mission.

Mail your donation to:

Increase, 334 Hilltop Road, Strasburg PA 17579

**FIND US
ON THE WEB**



Jesusfreakyouth.org
Click on the Increase tab

As a teacher and retired school teacher, I have always been interested in working with children and teenagers. Several years ago I learned about a Strasburg youth group and I started attending meetings. I eventually became a staff member at weekly gatherings with students. I've always enjoyed the games, Bible studies, and special events the students and staff were involved in. I am presently enjoying being involved with INCREASE. It's very gratifying to see young people grow and mature emotionally and spiritually. INCREASE has a strong foundation in the Bible studies and a dedication to the nurturing of the youth. I have found that there is a great need for teenagers to have a place to meet in a wholesome, positive, stable atmosphere where they can share experiences.

Kathy Skewis

