

Winter 2023



#### Board of Directors

**Chairman:**

**Pastor Jason Smith**

**Members:**

**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.

# INCREASE

He must increase, but I must decrease.

~ John 3:30

## Greetings from the director...

This is the winter newsletter I am writing for.. But not sure it is actually winter, for today I believe the temps were close to 50 degrees again. Any way it is February and normally cold outside. As I reflect back on the last few months it is not hard to see God at work at Increase youth ministry. We have not taken a break and neither has He. We had our normal weekly meetings finishing up our study of Acts. We had our ski weekend cabin trip, and went to Winter Jam. The study of Acts gave the youth a visual of the first church, and helped them see the life of Saul/Paul and how God transformed him and protected him for God's purpose. The cabin weekend gave another great opportunity for youth to see how God helps them to overcome fear, from skiing to hiking in the unknown woods of northern PA. And Winter Jam did not disappoint. What a beautiful night of worshiping our Creator with music. We enjoyed 10 bands leading all different styles of music. This allows youth to connect with God and see where their music taste can be glorifying God giving Him praise.

I pray you have been feeling the presence of God in your life as well. It is very clear that He is still on the throne. I would encourage you to continue to pray more for an awakening in our community. We need the leading of Jesus more now than ever. We have the promise that we can walk in freedom through the power of Jesus. Pray that the Holy Spirit reveals the truth to people in your neighborhood, the people you work with, and the youth of our community.

Lastly, I want to thank you for all your support from the prayers that we feel on a daily basis to the financial support. And don't forget to listen for that still small voice that is calling you to become involved in Increase Youth Ministry.

**Thank You,**

**Ron**



## Youth Spotlight: Meet Sarah

Sarah has been an active member of INCREASE since the fall of 2022. Her friends, Bella and Faith, introduced her to INCREASE at our Lampeter Fair Booth and that weekend she volunteered with our Breakfast Banquet! She is in 11th grade at Lampeter-Strasburg High School where she feels supported by her teachers. Some of Sarah's interests include creating art, making crafts, and taking walks after school with friends. Sarah loves her family! Although her mom and dad are divorced, she still sees them as wonderful and amazing, spending time with both of them. She has one brother, two step siblings, and one half sister.

You can find Sarah with us on Tuesday nights for our Girl's Bible Study. Her favorite part is hanging out with friends, learning about God, and being in His presence. Sarah shared that her experiences with INCREASE have helped her realize that when she is in a bad place she can pray - God hears her! She is thankful for making memories with old friends and new friends. Her brother recently went into the military and she knows there are people who are there for her. She is also thankful for the opportunity to be in the presence of God. Sarah attended our Presidents' Day Ski Cabin weekend and had a fun time! She recognized and experienced God's help on the slopes. We are so thankful for her friendship and hearing her eagerness to talk with God!

**We thank God for Sarah!**

# PIZZA, POPCORN AND PIES!

**"What's for dinner?"** Need a quick, delicious answer to this question??? It is that time of year when you can support INCREASE and satisfy (almost) anyone's pickiest of eaters or save a time-strapped chef! You can also choose to provide a meal for a local family in need, here are the details:

Using the **enclosed order form and envelope**, or by ordering online at [increaseyouth.com](http://increaseyouth.com) (then mailing payment in) you can select from Countryside Pizza Kits, Emma's Popcorn, or Zook's Chicken Pies and apple dumplings. The pizza kits come with 2 homemade crusts, sauces, cheese and toppings for two amazing pizzas you can make right away or freeze for later. Choices are: cheese, pepperoni, breakfast (fresh bacon, white sauce, and cheese...add your own scrambled eggs), and NEW for this year (drum roll, please) Chicken Bacon Ranch-ye-haw! Emma's Popcorn comes in ½ gallon sized clear, plastic tubs of 10 different flavors to choose from. Zook's Pies are 6" or 9" chicken or beef and apple dumpling 2-packs (all items are pre-frozen). There is a 9" chicken pie you can order to support our local food bank-we'll deliver it for you!

Please kindly send your orders with payment on or before **Tuesday, March 21st to INCREASE**, 334 Hilltop Rd., Strasburg, PA 17579. Orders will be available for **drive thru pick up at Strasburg Jaycee Park Barn (218 Miller St.) on Thursday, April 6th between 6-7pm** unless other arrangements have been made by contacting **Karen Peters (717-471-0803)**.

## SKI WEEKEND CABIN 2023



## Sweet Frog GIRL'S NIGHT



Save  
**THE DATE!**

**May 19th**  
8:00 am

INCREASE

**Golf Tournament**  
Tanglewood Manor  
Golf Course

**THANK YOU** for all your support in regard to our fundraisers!

All proceeds support our Thursday evening property rental at Camp Andrews, fuel for the van, meals with the youth, event fees, and other materials.

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.

**FIND US  
ON THE WEB**  
[increaseyouth.com](http://increaseyouth.com)



**Mail your donation to:**  
Increase, 334 Hilltop Road,  
Strasburg PA 17579