

Lifehouse 2017: A Year in Review

It has been an exciting and productive year for Lifehouse student ministries and those connected to it. We are looking forward to another full year of Christian experiences as we reach out to bring the Gospel to all those around us. We are planning a mission trip to Mexico, a Leadership Retreat to Dallas as a follow up to the Birmingham trip from this past year, service projects, street reaches, and many other evangelistic events. We will be hosting our third annual "Man Up" conference this year for young men to help them understand what it means to walk out your life as a Christian man. We will also be hosting a "Kingdom Sisters" conference for young women this year as well. We want to reach out to these amazing young women of Christ and encourage them to stand firm in their faith.

Last year was filled with many successes. We wanted to share them with you.

- ⇒ Fifteen seniors connected with Lifehouse graduated in May and are attending colleges in and out of state, playing college sports, beginning new careers and walking out their faith with a passion they discovered here.
- ⇒ Over thirty students, in grades 7-12, attended our Winter Chill camp in the Family Life Center over the MLK weekend. Students studied the lessons from the 2016 National Youth Gathering, "IN CHRIST ALONE." several students committed their lives to the Lord that weekend.
- ⇒ About fifteen students attended a leadership retreat with Pastor Amos and Carol to the Lone Oak Duck lodge. They began setting a firm foundation for Lifehouse Student Ministries and its future.
- ⇒ In July, twenty-nine students attended the Black Ministries Family Convocation in Birmingham, Alabama. Two of our students were chosen to serve on the Youth Advisory Board for the ministry.
- ⇒ Over forty students participated in our Fall Retreat held in the Family Life Center in September. The theme was "Faith Catches Fire". Students showed their passion for Jesus and how much they want to have their faith to be on fire for the Lord.
- ⇒ On the school scene, over 200 students at the Hot Springs High School and 250 students at Hot Springs Junior Academy successfully completed the Choose the Best program taught by Pastor Amos. The course teaches character education, social skills, drug and alcohol awareness, and abstinence education. This is the 6th year Pastor Amos has taught the program in Hot Springs School District.
- ⇒ A new course, "Keeping a Clear Mind", was introduced and taught at Langston Magnet Elementary to about sixty fourth grade students. Pastor Amos and Carol taught students about making Better Choices to become a Better You.
- ⇒ Pastor Amos was asked to be a member of the National Youth Gathering Executive committee for the 2019 Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He has also been invited to train churches on youth ministry throughout the LCMS.
- ⇒ Our Sunday morning bible study has expanded to offer classes at all levels for students. We are getting ready to confirm several senior high students that have been faithfully attending Sunday morning classes for the past four years. Our average attendance in Sunday morning classes about fifteen to twenty students.
- ⇒ Wednesday night Lifehouse after school program has been averaging about forty students after school and grows to roughly seventy for dinner and Lifehouse Live. Throughout the year, over 150 different students attended Lifehouse on Wednesday nights.
- ⇒ Over twenty families participated in the Family Dynamics and Relationship classes held on Monday nights. This class is for families struggling with their children in the home and is often court ordered. We discuss commitment, communication, honor and trust, family relationships, expectations and consequences, and family faith values and traditions.
- ⇒ And so much more...

We want to thank everyone who contributed to our ministry this past year.

Without your supports, our students would not be where they are now. We have been truly blessed.

We wish each and every one of you a HAPPY NEW YEAR! We can't wait to see what God has in store for us in 2018.