

2025 HIGHLIGHTS



GROWPOINT CHURCH



A LETTER FROM PASTORS JOSH & SUMER SMITH

"I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me."

John 15:1-4

Our Heavenly Father desires fruitfulness. In fact, he expects it. In John 15, Jesus makes this beautifully simple: the only way to be fruitful is by remaining in Him. We have a tendency of confusing fruitfulness with growth. Don't get me wrong—growth matters, but growth and fruitfulness are not synonymous.

In 2025, GrowPoint experienced meaningful growth. We stepped out in faith to plant a church in South Lorain. We saw the highest level of small-group involvement in our history. We launched a Life Pacific University Micro Campus to intentionally equip those called to ministry. People said yes to Jesus and followed Him in water baptism. All of this is true—and all of it is worth celebrating.

Yet, alongside these visible milestones, there was another kind of fruitfulness that emerged last year—one that sits at the very heart of what matters most to our Heavenly Father, the Gardener.

This fruit grows only from remaining in Jesus. It looks like joy and peace entering homes. It looks like marriages being restored. It looks like people choosing to live transparently with other Jesus-followers—remaining in spaces where they are fully known and deeply accepted. Growth requires nurturing and patience. Fruitfulness requires pruning and trust.

One of my favorite statements about GrowPoint came this past year: "GrowPoint is a church that actually matches its values." God's Word. Intentional Presence. Humble Confidence. Goodness & Kindness. Joy & Laughter. Unending Pursuit.

Simply put, these values are the fruit of following Jesus. So let us continue to remain in Him—trusting God every step of the way, and always staying willing to be pruned by the Master Gardener. This pattern will be essential for this next year, as we strive to live as Citizens of Heaven.

SNAPSHOT

49

PEOPLE BAPTIZED



631+

WORSHIPED TOGETHER WEEKLY

 **GROWPOINT**

255

SERVED
ON A
TEAM

34

NEW
MEMBERS



\$17,681

TO SPONSOR KIDS &
YOUTH SUMMER CAMP





57
DECISIONS FOR JESUS



**GROWPOINT
SOUTH
LORAIN**
LAUNCHED ON
AUGUST 31, 2025



LIFE PACIFIC UNIV. MICRO CAMPUS
5
FULL TIME STUDENTS

18
BABY DEDICATIONS



OUR VALUES

But speaking the truth in love,
let us grow in every way into Christ.
Ephesians 4:15

God's Word

John 1:1 lays it out plainly for us, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The Word is eternal. The Word is life. Transformation comes when the Word is embraced. This explains why God's Word is our first value!

Intentional Presence

This value confronts the cultural norm of passivity. When you are in public, intentional presence is being aware of the people around you, and understanding that you can interrupt their day with peace, love, joy, and kindness. When you come to church, intentional presence is demonstrated through an eagerness to let God speak to your heart and through serving your church family.

Humble Confidence

God detests arrogance; and He is also grieved when insecurity diminishes our life. Humble confidence is the framework we should live from. Humility acknowledges that God is God, that He is sovereign, that He is all-powerful, that we are nothing without Him. When we see who He is, and then who we are in Him, then we live in confidence; humble confidence to be more accurate.

Goodness & Kindness

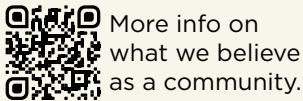
With a world full of movements, we believe that a movement of goodness and kindness will bring about the greatest change. A life that is lived for Jesus should emanate these virtues.

Joy & Laughter

Nehemiah 8:10 gives us the reminder that "...the joy of the Lord is your strength." We also gain some joyful wisdom from Proverbs 17:22, where we read that "A joyful (laughing) heart is good medicine..." When our heart is filled with the presence of Jesus, we are literally filled with joy and laughter.

Unending Pursuit

This means that we never stop craving Jesus. When we pursue Him, we are changed, and we grow. Ephesians 4:15 explains this virtue with incredible precision: "Speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into Christ." When you say yes to Jesus, you say yes to a life of pursuing Him. (It is worth explaining that He is always pursuing you.)



GrowGroups

295 people participated in a GrowGroup this year! GrowGroups are how people connect. They're places to show up, talk honestly, and grow alongside others. We've seen that the most meaningful growth happens when people aren't trying to do life on their own.

Groups meet in homes, on the GrowPoint Campus, and around the community, creating space for people to build real relationships in everyday settings while choosing to invest time in growth, conversation, and connection.

GrowGroups aren't about programs or meetings—they're about people growing together.

45
TOTAL GROUPS

Rooted Groups

103 people completed the **Rooted Experience**, a 10-week journey exploring seven rhythms of discipleship from the New Testament. Rooted challenged participants to step out of their comfort zones, deepen their connection with God and strengthen relationships within the church community.



“Amanda Weekley

Joining a group felt like a last attempt to find community. Instead, it became a turning point—leading to real connections and a sense of belonging I hadn't expected. My hope is that others who join a group for the first time experience the same thing.



A COMMUNITY
COMPELLED BY
GRACE TO GROW



More info on
GrowGroups



GrowPoint Ladies

In 2025, our theme *All Things Beautiful* shaped the year as women explored how God redeems what feels broken and transforms it into something beautiful. The year culminated in a powerful Ladies Retreat in Amish country, where women gathered for a weekend of rest, renewal, and reflection. Guided by guest speaker Gretchen Abney of Life Pacific University, women were encouraged to see God’s beauty at work in every season of life. From shared meals and laughter to worship and teaching, 2025 was a year marked by connection, growth, and the beautiful work God is doing among the women of GrowPoint.

Ladies Gatherings

76 attended *Ladies Thursdays Together* gatherings.

91 attended this year’s Ladies Retreat.

161 ladies joined a GrowGroup.



GrowPoint Guys

GrowPoint Guys groups exist to cultivate authentic spiritual growth as men grow into Christ—because brotherhood is the aim. Through Rooted and devotional groups, men build a strong foundation in Scripture, prayer, and honest conversation that shapes how they live, lead, and love. In both intentional gatherings and relaxed spaces, men find community, accountability, healing, and purpose as they become rooted in Christ, renewed in character, and released for God’s purposes.

50+ attended a guys event on average this year.

107 guys joined a GrowGroup this year.



GrowKids

Throughout the year, **396** kids joined us on Sunday mornings, filling GrowKids with worship, laughter, and an unmistakable love for Jesus.

It was a truly incredible season in GrowKids as we celebrated growth not only in attendance, but in the spiritual lives of our children. Watching kids deepen their understanding of Jesus and seeing families take meaningful steps together in their faith was a joy beyond words.



100+ GrowKids Team adults and teens faithfully served each week in our nursery, Walkers, Pre-K, and elementary classrooms. Their dedication helped create safe, welcoming environments where children were known, loved, and cared for.

Families connected far beyond Sunday mornings, with **250 adults and kids** attending our Family Fun Nights, where they gathered in age-specific groups to build relationships, share laughter, and grow together in faith. Another **70 kids and families** joined our Summer Hangouts, spending time together at parks, the zoo, and SplashZone as they continued building meaningful community in fun, everyday spaces.



Family discipleship remained at the heart of GrowKids throughout the year. On Sundays, kids across all age groups learned the same biblical truths in age-appropriate ways, and families were encouraged to continue those conversations at home through Family Devotions available on the GrowKids website.



More info on
GrowKids



The Clair Family

We really appreciate the emphasis on Bible verse memorization, family-centered events, and intentional opportunities for our kids to build meaningful relationships. We also value the thoughtful message structure that aligns with the adult services, allowing families to continue faith conversations at home and intentionally partner with GrowKids in building their children's faith.

GrowStudents

2025 was a year of movement at GrowStudents—not just in what we did, but in who our students are becoming!

We witnessed a powerful shift as students moved from simply talking about faith to actively living it out. This year, we leaned into what it truly means to follow Jesus, inviting students to shape their lives around His ways, His heart, and His example. Together, we practiced the rhythms of Jesus, learning how faith isn't just something we believe—it's something we live.

That transformation showed up in tangible ways. Students stepped up to serve, both through GrowStudents-led outreach opportunities and by noticing needs and responding on their own. We also made a significant shift in our Sunday night gatherings, creating separate Junior High and High School spaces so students could engage more deeply through age-appropriate teaching and discussion. The result has been deeper conversations, stronger community, and students who feel seen, challenged, and equipped.

More than anything, 2025 reminded us that God is at work—forming disciples, stirring compassion, and calling students to live boldly for Him in their schools, homes, and communities. We are so grateful for your prayers and support that make this ministry possible. We celebrate all that God has done this year and look ahead with great expectation for what's still to come.

24 students committed to growing deeper through intentional discipleship in small groups.

43 students stepped beyond the church walls to serve our community through multiple outreach opportunities.

10 students publicly declared their faith and commitment to follow Jesus through baptism.

82 students and leaders experienced a transformative week at Summer Camp, encountering God in meaningful and lasting ways.

“The Gallo Family

GrowStudents has been great for our boys and family. Our boys have gone out of their comfort zones in ways we never imagined. From going to camp and loving it, to meeting new friends, to serving in GrowKids, and praying out loud in small groups. Attending GrowStudents is something they look forward to every week. It's never a struggle, in fact, they're telling us let's go so we can get there! The excitement they have for GrowStudents, their leaders, and their friends is something that can't simply be put into words. We're blessed to be part of a great community for our boys and our family!



More info on
GrowStudents

GrowPoint South Lorain

On August 31, 2025, **GrowPoint South Lorain officially launched**, marking a long-awaited answer to years of prayer, discernment, and faithful obedience. God has graciously opened the door for us to begin building a gospel-centered church community in the heart of South Lorain—a neighborhood rich in diversity, resilience, and growing spiritual curiosity. One of the most beautiful things we continue to witness is a hunger for Jesus among children, which has shaped our heart and mission from the very beginning.

Through our ongoing partnership with **Stevan Dohanos Elementary School**, adopted by GrowPoint in the spring of 2022, God has established a steady and trusted presence in this community. Over the past three years, consistent love, service, and faithfulness have led to opportunities to host an after-school Bible Club and gather weekly for Sunday evening worship within the school. These rhythms have allowed relationships with families to deepen and hope to take root. As we look toward 2026, our prayer is to continue walking boldly in God's mission—believing to see lost souls redeemed, broken lives restored to a new identity in Christ, and a community transformed from merely surviving in human strength to thriving in the life and power of Jesus.

2 children were baptized, celebrating new life and public faith in Jesus

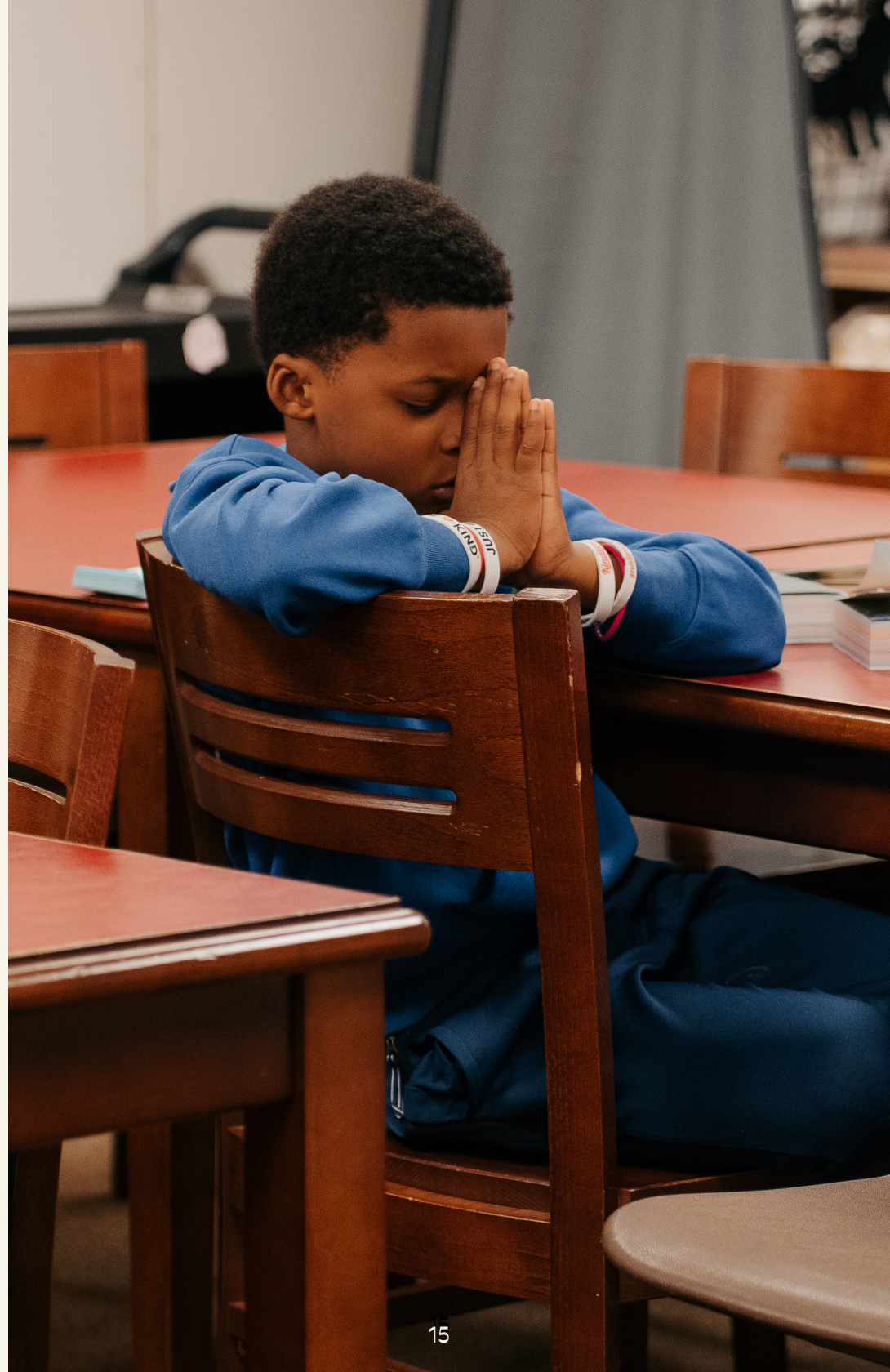
800+ people were served through Trunk or Treat outreach

14 students received winter coats and cold-weather apparel

5 families were blessed with Thanksgiving meal boxes

150+ cups of coffee were served to parents during morning school drop-off

Children consistently outnumber adults at Sunday gatherings, affirming the missional call to reach the next generation.



Missions & Outreach

As we reflect on 2025, we are grateful for all God has done through GrowPoint. It was a year marked by faith, obedience, and a shared commitment to live out our calling through Intentional Presence and Strategic Partnerships—loving people well and reflecting the heart of Jesus in our community and beyond.

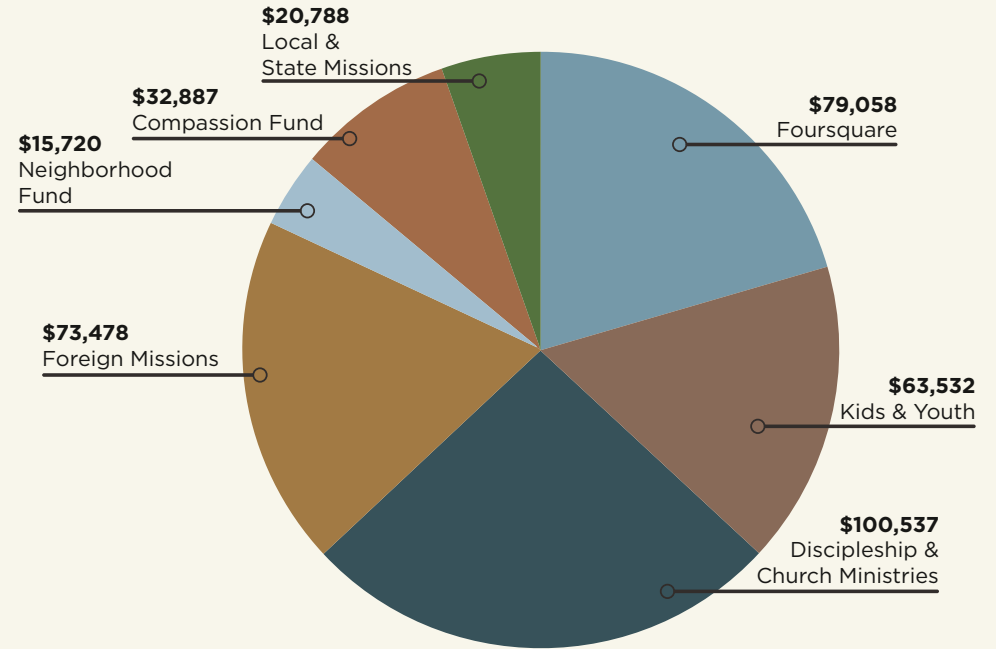


Our ongoing partnership with **Stevan Dohanos Elementary School** allowed volunteers to serve weekly through classroom support, appreciation meals, and gifts for teachers and staff. We also remained actively engaged at home by serving as a voting location, supporting local youth athletics, partnering in disaster relief efforts, and meeting tangible needs throughout the year—from moms in crisis and homeless men to veterans and families in our city.

17 GrowPoint members traveled to **Central America** to serve alongside Foursquare pastors, sharing God's Word, hosting medical clinics, and ministering to children. In addition, **GrowPoint gave \$18,500 in medical and construction supplies** to support the local church, with excitement to return in 2026. We also continued to support ministry partners and missionaries around the world through faithful financial giving.



Through everyday acts of service, community celebrations, and the Neighborhood Fund awarding three Micro Grants, GrowPoint continued to live out its mission—expecting God to open even more doors as we move forward with gratitude and hope.



\$386,000

TO REACH, TEACH AND DISCIPLE PEOPLE

The Neighborhood Fund goes toward reaching and sharing Jesus with Lorain County

The Missions Fund goes toward sharing Jesus around the world through Foursquare Missions International.

The Compassion Fund goes toward helping the emergency needs of our GrowPoint Family.



Learn more about outreach & ministry partners

Finances & Facilities

At GrowPoint, we've seen firsthand how generosity brings joy and freedom into our lives. Jesus teaches us that giving is a gift and blessing in itself, and as we live that out together, we're witnessing God's faithfulness in powerful ways. Our generosity in financial giving reflects a deepening trust in God's care and provision, growing out of thankful hearts for the life, hope, and salvation we have in Jesus. Giving invites us to live with peace and confidence, knowing we don't have to carry our worries alone. It's one of the ways we step out in faith—investing in God's work, serving others, and trusting Him to bring the fruit.

We are incredibly grateful to share that, through God's provision and the faithful generosity of the GrowPoint family, **we closed out 2025 in the BLACK** with every need fully met. Praise God—what a blessing! Your steady, prayerful, and sacrificial giving made this possible, and we are truly thankful. Our Church Advisory Council meets regularly to carefully and prayerfully steward our church finances, ensuring that every decision reflects integrity and honors God.

Everything we do flows from our desire to help people know Jesus and experience His love. God uses our generosity to extend that love beyond our walls and into our community. One truth we continue to be reminded of at GrowPoint is this: God is never outdone in generosity—He always provides in ways that exceed our expectations.

GIVING

\$790,573 total tithes

\$740,763 total expenses

\$49,810 surplus

COMPLETED IN 2025

\$91,524.92 paid in full!

- Boiler & Plumbing Repairs
- Tree Removal
- New Internet Network
- New Carpet in the The Point and Office Wing
- New Cross Tower Light
- New Parsonage Windows
- New Balcony A/C

NEEDED FACILITIES PROJECTS

- New rooms for adult groups and gatherings
- Fix and expand parking lot
- New Projectors for the Sanctuary and Point
- Improvements to GrowKids Rooms
- Drainage for the front yards

Church Membership

What is church membership and why should I be interested?

1. Membership reflects what the church is.

Church is not meant to be a pile of dismembered body parts, but rather a body knit together... working and growing together. (Romans 12:5)

2. The Bible teaches covenant community.

There is no such thing in the New Testament as a church without some recognition of belonging — of membership in community... partnering together with Holy Spirit to grow and serve others.

3. People need church membership.

People need membership commitment because they need to be connected to a Christian community. This is not just for the sake of the faith community, but also for the sake of the individual. Followers of Jesus need a place to serve fellow believers and the community.

4. Church Voting

According to the Foursquare Bi-laws, as a church member you are eligible to vote at the annual congregational meeting. Members vote to ratify Advisory Council Members, agree upon larger building projects, etc.

How do I become a member at GrowPoint?

We would love to talk more about membership with you at **Let's Talk GrowPoint**, a course that will go through everything you need to know about GrowPoint before making that commitment.

Let's Talk GrowPoint is required for anyone pursuing church membership but is also open to those who would like to simply learn about GrowPoint more in-depth.

Session dates and registration for **Let's Talk GrowPoint** can be found online at growpoint.church/nextsteps.



Learn more about membership

