

HALVORSEN MINISTRY UPDATE



Cru Boston Metro's Fall Retreat 2019

Although the warmth of the summer has been late leaving the Northeast this year, the rush and excitement of college ministry in the Fall has been well underway. THIS is our most critical time of ministry every year. Our hearts' desire is for every student to be invited into a caring community that loves Jesus. And in an age of busyness but yet a thirst for rest, Cru Fall Retreat is an awesome place to experience both rest and the love of Jesus in community. An old teammate of mine, Brian, shares about his time at Fall Retreat last weekend:

"I sat down for breakfast this morning with a group of students at our Fall Retreat. The conversation ranged from chemistry and physics problems (with Elaine from MIT) to blind auditions and discussions about microtonality (with the musicians at New England Conservatory of Music). Even after the conversation, I'm still not sure I understand microtonality.

"But here's what I do understand: this is a remarkable group of people. For at this table are strong Christians, new Christians, and not-yet Christians. My friend Andrew (strong believer) invited my friend 'Ying' (new believer) and she invited 'Susie' (not yet a believer) to come to the Retreat. Each of them is here for the weekend with enough space to make friendships and connect with God.

"These little moments are repeating across the retreat center right now as over 250 students from 20 campuses across Boston (Harvard, MIT, Brandeis, Boston College, Boston University, etc.) are here. The students are from across the country and across the world (dozens of countries represented).

"And they are from across the spectrum of spiritual experience. For many, this retreat serves to bolster their faith in Jesus and keep them following him through their time in college. But there are also many here who have not yet put their faith in Christ."

We have constantly seen that the journey to Christ in the Northeast can often be a long one. People need to belong in a Christian community before they decide to follow the new reality that Christ offers them. Pray that relational roots that have begun to form this weekend at the Fall Retreat would strengthen and bear fruit!

Thank you for joining with me in bringing new Cru staff to mission fields like these.