



SEPTEMBER 2022

God is so good!

As I (Clay) reflect on our fall semester so far, that's the thought that continually comes to my mind. Coming off of having Covid literally the week before school started and the first week being such a hectic, crucial time, I just remember hoping and praying that God would show up in my work on campus and in the work of my teammates.

And, per usual, God sure did show up! This update is dedicated to sharing some of the ways that we have seen God move on campus through the first 6-plus weeks of fall semester.



At Ohio University Lancaster, I am currently the only staff member able to go on a regular basis. With myself and only two student leaders, we have just been seeking to be faithful and build community on campus. Even with more than 130 positive responses to our questionnaire, we only had 2 of those people show up to our kickoff event. Needless to say, I had bought way too much pizza!! Thankfully we've since seen as many as 15 students attending our Bible study and 11 students are currently signed up for our fall retreat!!

Between all of our campuses, we managed to meet individually with over 300 students and see 17 of them trust Christ! I had the privilege of meeting up with 17 male students over the first two weeks of class and got to share the gospel with 13 of them, including several who had never heard it before! Our weekly worship gathering (180) probably averaged between 75 and 80 people last year. So far this semester, we've seen an average of 112 people come to worship and hear from God's word every Thursday night!

Last year, we had 129 students attend our fall retreat. So far this year, we've already seen nearly 150 students signed up with 10 days left before the retreat! Given that this is what many students describe as a turning point in their walk with God and the highlight of their semester, it's incredibly exciting to see such an increase.

We've seen an average of 181 students attending small group bible studies across all campuses!

God is on the move at Ohio University and other campuses in Southeast Ohio. We count ourselves privileged to participate in kingdom work that will have an impact for years to come!

Yours in Christ,

*Clay + Emily*

# Family Update

After months of training and hard work, Emily completed her first marathon in Dayton last month! She finished the 26.2 miles in a time of 5:15:57. She has also resumed her work coming off sabbatical for Creative1 Media, working on designs for a fall conference for Cru's high school ministry.

Elliott has returned to preschool and adjusted well to having this routine back in his schedule. We have also starting taking him to AWANA every Sunday night. He's been very excited about his memory verses and earning stickers for his book and patches for his vest.

Judah turned 2 years old at the end of August! Time flies, but he had a great time at a small gathering of friends and family. Unfortunately, since he has dealt with some more stomach issues again, but thankfully they are not nearly what they were when he had salmonella in the spring. Other than that, he has largely felt like himself and has been stringing together more sentences!

Both kids have been enjoying participating in ministry events when possible. They both attended the Cru tailgate party and "PaintPocalypse" (a social outreach event for first year students). They really seem to enjoy spending time with the students, and the students LOVE to see them.

I (Clay) have honestly not done anything terribly exciting, but have had a really fun semester. Despite the sprint that is the start of the fall semester, I have felt spiritually recharged and refreshed, and physically have more energy. I'm really excited to see what God has for the rest of this fall!



## PRAISE + PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise God for all that he has done so far this semester!
- That Judah's stomach issues would resolve and that we would figure out what's wrong in the coming days.
- Praise God for a successful beginning to the fall semester.
- Pray for our upcoming Fall Retreat, October 14th-16th. Specifically please be in prayer for -
  - Non-believing students, that they would want to come, and would accept Christ.
  - For Christian students, that they would experience life transformation.
  - For a good turnout and the Holy Spirit to move and work at Fall Retreat.