

Great Lakes Winter Retreat

Students today struggle with a sense of genuine belonging and feeling “seen” by those around them. They often put up a facade, even with friends and family. That’s why our theme for Winter Retreat was “Belong” which we unpacked in three ways: 1. Belong to the family of God through Christ 2. Belong in community driven by grace and truth 3. Belong to the greater purpose of building God’s kingdom.

It was a great weekend and a huge boost of momentum going into the spring semester! Pray for our students to stay faithful and continue growing as they get busy this semester. **Pray also for a growing desire to impact their teammates and friends with the gospel!**



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Another encouraging aspect of Winter Retreat was the main speaker, Jamie Borchik. He came to Christ almost 20 years ago at Miami (OH) while Jenny was Cru staff there. It’s encouraging to see a former student who is faithfully laboring for the kingdom today! The Saturday morning session was powerful as Jamie taught on 2 Samuel 9 and how we can move toward others in their sin and shame. It led to vulnerable conversations with our students about fighting to be seen and known in community.

Pray for Joost

Joost from Butler Soccer joined us at Winter Retreat, even though he’s been a Christian for only a few months. He grew up in the Netherlands and never heard the gospel until this fall. His teammate Nick is journeying with him toward knowing and following Christ. It’s a great example of what we labor and pray for — students multiplying their lives into their teammates!

As we celebrate this new brother, we know the enemy is not rejoicing. He will do whatever he can to discourage and distract Joost from growing in his faith. **Please pray for protection from the enemy’s schemes and a growing desire to trust and obey the Lord.**

