



Ministry Update for the Browns
November 2016

TRICK OR TREATING ON THE LAWN!

Always a Charlottesville favorite, the annual Trick or Treating on the Lawn is an event that attracts thousands of families as the men and women who live in the academic village rooms open them up for local trick or treaters. It is a blast to see southern hospitality at its finest at Mr. Jefferson's University. This year we brought our boys (aka Iron Man and Marathon Man) to gratefully collect OVER FIFTEEN POUNDS OF CANDY!

Our students support this endeavor, too! Cru women, through our women's ministry KALEH, have started a tradition of dressing up as Disney Princesses and handing out candy, while our men, through our men's ministry WAM, have continued a longstanding tradition of carting a Viking Ship to the Lawn, dressing like Visigoths, and both handing out candy to kids as well as play fighting them with foam swords. It is a great way for us to love our neighbors, and our Viking Ship always seems to make an appearance on the UVA website's homepage!



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DOWNTOWN WITH THE BROWNS



GROW...GO: THE STORY OF CVCC

One of the hallmarks of Cru is "Grow where we are, go where we're not." Scripture is robust with passages that encourage both growth and going. At UVA and PVCC we are growing in many ways. We are developing students in their faith and endeavoring to get them to "taste and see that the Lord is good." We continue to love our students and our staff and are enjoying the Lord's favor at both schools.

But there are more students at schools in Central Virginia who are hungry for the gospel. Within 50 miles of us there are students longing for fellowship and community — but more than that, they are longing for a place to learn about Jesus Christ.

Recently we decided to take a trip to Lynchburg, VA (home of Liberty University — largest Christian college in the world) to spy out the land (like they did in Numbers 13) at a small community college called



Central Virginia Community College. Our staff team took surveys and interviewed the students to get a feel for the spiritual climate of the school. There, we found out that there were only ten student groups for over 4,000 students and not a single Christian group. In a span of less than two hours we amassed **over forty contacts** that indicated that they were interested in Christian fellowship. We decided to hold an interest meeting the next week. The story continues...



Intern Evan sharing about Christ with a CVCC student

A STUDY ON WHAT NOT TO DO



Though we usually try to be as professional as possible, something about putting together this interest meeting seemed fated at the start — we were never able to confirm a room for our meeting, we emailed out interested students the wrong date, we forgot our Cru banner, and we had no signs made to direct students to where we would be meeting. What that reminded us is the fact that the Lord doesn't need us to do for Him, only to be surrendered and watchful for His Spirit. We saw **twenty people** come to our first meeting, and several want to commit to attending Winter Conference! It is amazing to see the Lord create something from nothing. There are already students that are planning events, trying to setup bible studies and thinking about how to reach their campus. You could say that they've caught on to the vision of Cru: *Movements everywhere so that everyone knows someone who truly follows Jesus.*

Our intern, Mike, playfully remarked that the day had been a case study on what NOT to do to launch a ministry. We agreed, but also agreed that we knew that the Lord had revealed His power through our weakness. We are so excited to see how He will lead us at this new satellite campus!

PRAY FOR THE BROWNS

- Pray for students to be excited to build the new Cru ministry at CVCC and that we will be wise about how we resource it!
- Pray for our students at UVA and PVCC to experience rest and meaningful times with family during their Thanksgiving breaks.
- Pray for our continued dependence on the Lord in all things and particularly in holding to the vision God has given us for UVA, PVCC and CVCC.

Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples! — Psalm 96:3

Love in Christ,

Andrew, Jena, Olivia, Logan and Samuel