

# Change Boston & Beyond

Brian & Malisa Ellis – Serving with Cru

November 3, 2025



## Changed Lives at Dartmouth College

Once a year, Malisa and I gather all of our interns from across New England for 24 hours of outreach and bonding. We travel together to one of our campuses and come alongside the local team to do a bunch of evangelism together. This year's trip to Dartmouth College was all-time! We had over 300 students connect during our outreaches. And hold the names Pratap, Emma, and Alex in your head for a moment.

This story is going to end well. But that's not how it started...

Saturday and Sunday, October 18th and 19th were picture perfect fall days in New England. Peak foliage. Great days to be outside doing outreach. But our outreach was on October 20th. And on October 20th in Hanover New Hampshire it was pouring buckets rain. I was so disappointed.

Ruth and Jerry Swift, our volunteer team leaders at Dartmouth College, had been working for weeks to set up outreach opportunities for our interns. And all of them were outdoor outreaches. At 9 AM, we made a hasty pivot inside and got everything set up. I'll be honest. When we got it all set up, it looked kinda

lame. A mediocre sign pointing to a scooter giveaway. A bunch of staff and interns standing around tables in a stuffy wood paneled room. And it felt like: is this going to be a dud? Will any students come?

What began as a trickle of students soon became a stream and over the course of the morning we exhausted our 100 cider donuts, had over 330 students enter our scooter raffle, and began having a ton of gospel conversations with students.

I think having multiple outreaches happening all at the same time was an accidental genius move. We gave away cider donuts and apple cider. We raffled off an electric scooter. We



**Staff and Interns praying before the outreach at Dartmouth (scooter in the back to give away)**



**Dartmouth students and Cru interns asking the question: "What's your perspective?"**

had a station to paint pumpkins. We had students share their worldview using a tool called “Perspectives”. The different tables that appealed to different students and we got to share the gospel with lots of them.



**Here Malisa and I are with our staff and interns for a quick training before the outreach.**

Our interns and staff along with a bunch of Dartmouth students really stepped up. We got into tons of spiritual conversations. And we went for it sharing the gospel. **And we saw 3 students: Pratap, Emma, and Alex accept Christ.** Let’s put that in context. Malisa asked Jerry, who’s been on campus here since the 90’s, if he remembers a day where 3 students trusted Christ at Dartmouth. He laughed and said, “I don’t remember a semester when 3 students trusted Christ, let alone a day!”

And as we went around the table in our debrief at the end of the day, it felt like a holy moment.

In the week since, Jerry and Ruth have had sweet follow up meetings with those 3 new

followers of Jesus - so would you pray for Pratap, Emma, and Alex? Ruth was telling us yesterday that Emma has read nearly half of John’s gospel and has been trying out prayer for the first time. God is at work. And not just at Dartmouth. These are just 3 of over 57 students who have started following Jesus this fall across New England.

What can God do in 24 hours with a bunch of staff Cru staff and interns and partners like you praying? Well, I would say a lot! Thank you for partnering with Malisa and I as we keep pointing people to Jesus.

Loving our adventurous Lord,

*Brian & Malisa*

### **Would you pray:**

- For Pretap, Emma and Alex
- For Jerry and Ruth and the Dartmouth Cru students as they follow up with the 300+ who entered to win the scooter – many are interested in knowing about Jesus
- For Malisa and Me as we keep sharing the gospel – that the Word of God would take root in students’ lives
- For me as I get ready to go on a scouting trip to Marseille, France. More info to come. For now, pray from November 16-21.



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