

Caroline Goes to College

September 15, 2021

Her first week at Northeastern, Caroline settled into the dorm, scanned countless QR codes to learn about clubs and events...and went to church—accompanied by a group of girls she'd met through Cru *before ever arriving on campus*.

Not that long ago, most entering freshmen got dropped off, then stepped into the deep-end, to sink or swim. As life pivots from parental oversight to their own, those first few hours hold disproportionate sway. That's why Cru works hard to be a visible presence at Welcome Week activities. But now there's something else.

Back in March, Caroline, still a senior at her Delaware high school 😊, became part of Northeastern's Class of 2025 Facebook community, along with everyone else who'd received a letter of acceptance. When Caroline received a direct message from an upperclassman —offering congratulations, and mentioning how Cru had helped them—she took it as an answer to a long standing prayer: to find Christian community in college.

Thanks to social media and four Cru Boston upperclassmen who messaged every incoming freshman, Caroline, via Zoom: experienced worship night in May with Boston Cru students; participated in weekly large and small groups, meeting throughout the summer; and got a headstart on navigating college life at a virtual Q&A event for freshmen. She also began worshipping online with a Boston church. So that first Sunday, when Caroline and her five new Cru friends (pictured) showed up in person, the church leaders and service felt familiar. Though Food Truck socials, table surveys, and welcome gifts continue, social media has augmented Cru's ability to escort interested freshmen through that critical college pivot.



Prayer Requests:

-Please pray I lead the team leaders well.

-The Celebration of Life for my sister Ann will be in Maryland on September 26. Please pray for me as I prepare to share from God's Word at the service.

Our Cru campus teams are helping returning students reconnect with each other and together they are initiating a lot with new students like Caroline. As you can perhaps imagine, campus ministry is filled with many challenges and opportunities. May it all be to God's glory.

I cannot fully express the difference it makes having your partnership in the gospel. Thank you.

Because of God's love for us,

