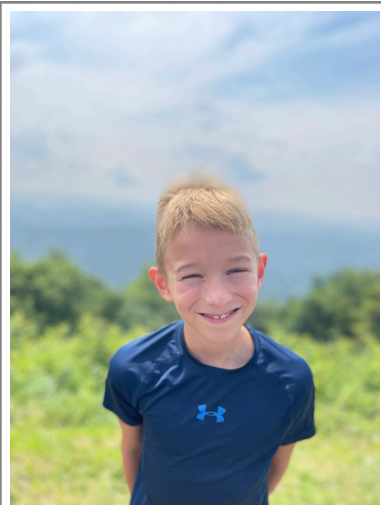


CRU at UNC

JOSH AND ERIN SMITH

UNC-CHAPEL HILL

SUMMER 2021



Pray for the Smiths

-Praise that Harrison just celebrated his **10th bday!** The pic above was taken on a trip he and Josh took to the mountains recently.

-On August 6th our staff team will head to the beach for **Leadership Retreat**. Pray for the few days we have together to train and equip students as they lead this year (about 50 will be joining us.)

-Pray for these **fall events** specifically: Survey Tables (August 16), Freshman Pizza Picnic (Aug 16), first Bible studies (Aug 18), first weekly meeting (Aug 19) and our Block Party social (Aug 20). It'll be a busy first week!

Summer in Chapel Hill

Hello from Chapel Hill! We have had a great summer that has somehow flown by. In just a few weeks BOTH of my kids will be heading off to school- Allie starting Kindergarten and Harrison in 4th grade. During the summer we got to spend a week with Josh's parents who visited from KS, logged lots of hours at the pool, did tennis practice and art camp and spent a week in TN!

This summer we were also able to host students at our home for Bible study. This is one of my favorite things to do with Cru- having students over, cooking for them, and watching them interact with my kids. This summer we studied Philippians together. Each week 8-10 students were able to join us. A main theme of this book is "Gospel over Self." We talked about how Paul exemplified this and were challenged to think about how to live that out ourselves.

What stuck out to me most in our study was the verse, "forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil 3:13b-14). The race we are running is difficult. It involves straining and pain. But we look ahead to the hope we have in Christ, who actually gives us what we need to run well. In the backdrop of a difficult year, this was a timely passage to reflect on with students. Pray the students that joined us this summer would continue to be plugged in and grow with Cru.

