

CRU at UNC

JOSH AND ERIN SMITH

UNC-CHAPEL HILL

SEPTEMBER 2021



Kicking Off the Year

Anyone who works in campus ministry will tell you- the first 6 weeks of the school year are no joke! We hit the ground running in August and it has been such a packed, exciting time to meet new students and reconnect with those already involved. Here are some things God has been doing this fall:

- we're able to be on campus in person! (Last year students got sent home after 6 days so we do not take this lightly)
- we gave out 250 subs to new students at our Freshman picnic
- every year we set up survey tables throughout campus. Interested students can fill them out to get more information about events, Bible studies or to talk more about the Gospel. We had 800 people fill those out this year.
- we have weekly meetings each Thursday (and in the Greek system every Tuesday). This semester we're doing a series called *(Mis)Understanding Jesus*, looking at less familiar passages from the Gospels.

Praise God for his work in students' lives this semester!

Pray for the Smiths

-Praise for our **fall events** going well and for the opportunity to meet so many new students!

-Pray for the students that came to **Fall Retreat**. Pray what they heard about God would take root and cause life change.

-Pray for **creative ideas** to keep meeting new students. One thing we are doing is trying to launch a Bible study at a community college nearby. Pray for that to gain traction.

-Praise that **Harrison** (4th) and **Allie** (Kindergarten) have transitioned well to school. They have teachers they love and are so excited to be back!

Abide

September 24-26 we held Fall Retreat in Fayetteville, NC. After having to cancel it last year, it was so sweet to be back at the camp. 100 students attended this time! We had a local pastor come speak and the weekend was centered around John 15 about abiding. Students spent time hearing more about Cru, summer missions opportunities, discussing scripture in small groups and having a lot of time for community building. Josh and the kids were able to come along and the kids had a blast. One afternoon there was a slip n slide kickball tournament, see picture (above left) of Harrison living his best life. This weekend is always so significant to get new students plugged in!

