

# CRU at UNC

JOSH AND ERIN SMITH

SEPT 2024

## 6 week sprint



### Prayer requests

-Pray for **western NC** in the aftermath of the hurricane.

-Pray for **continued freshman involvement**. Pray specifically for more guys to be involved. Pray those we have met would plug in and grow.

-Pray for **Bible studies**, that those would be transformational to students. I am leading an upperclassmen study again this year- we're studying Joshua.

-**Praise**: The kids have had a wonderful start to school! We are so thankful for their teachers! They've also been busy with sports (cross country and swim for H, soccer for A).

Something I've learned in my years of college ministry is the first 6 weeks of the semester are always absolutely packed. From training leaders to moving in freshmen to starting up Bible studies, it's a full on sprint! Here's an update of just *\*some\** of what God's been doing!

**Leadership retreat:** The week before classes started, 30 leaders joined our staff team at the beach. We prayed together and planned for the start of the semester. This year we have four student interns, who are seniors that come to our staff meetings and help give input into shaping the ministry. During the retreat they requested time to share their vision of what they want to see God do through Cru at UNC. It was so encouraging to see their initiative and faith!



**Survey tables:** One of the early ways we connect with people is through survey tables on the first day of class. We give out drinks (iced coffee was a hit this year!) and people can fill out a survey if they want to get connected or talk more about spiritual things. We had 400 people fill this out this year! Many of them have come to our Bible studies and large group. And some have met with our staff and student leaders where we are able to share the Gospel.

**Bible studies:** This year we have revamped these by doing them different nights of the week instead of by dorms. We are also having staff help with each freshman study so we can have more of a connection with underclassmen. After a few years of little freshmen involvement, this year we have had many new faces around and are so thankful. (One freshman study, pictured above)

**Fall retreat:** Our 6 week sprint was capped off with Fall Retreat. We had lots of fun time in community (our kids loved canoeing, pictured above) and time hearing from the RUF director at NC Central. Some new students joined us- one who had not been to any Cru events yet!