

CRU at UNC

JOSH AND ERIN SMITH JAN 2023

Changed Lives



A consistent thing I've prayed for over the last 20 years of ministry at UNC is changed lives. My life changed during freshman year. I've seen God do it year after year in countless students. AnneLiya (pictured below in the teal shirt- with her Bible study) is one of those stories. She is a sophomore and now a leader with us, praying to see more changed lives. Here's a bit of her story, in her own words.

"The beginning of the semester comes around, and all of us in Cru know the drill: it's time to awkwardly stand at tables and ask people to fill out surveys while hurriedly trying to explain Cru before they walk away. Sometime people ignore us. But sometimes, they pause on their way to class or the dining hall and ask to learn more.



When I was a freshman, someone faithfully stood behind one of those tables, and because of her, I was able to join a Bible study with some amazing girls. Because of them, I was introduced to the larger Cru community. Because of them, I can ask questions to explore the Bible, and to draw closer to God. Because of them, I can walk on campus and, in a mass of strangers, find the faces of other believers. Because of them, I can see God.

Outreach in Cru can be awkward. It can be scary. It can make you feel really small and vulnerable. But I'm so thankful for all the people who brave those feelings. I'm so thankful for that one girl who stood in the pit behind a table, who stood where I could find her."



Prayer requests

-Praise- Josh and I celebrated 14 years of marriage in January! We celebrated with dinner and a UNC game.

-Pray for us as we follow up from **survey tables**. We had about 150 people interested in talking more! Pray we can listen well and have opportunities to point students to Christ.

-Nationally, Cru has the hope of reaching more campuses, especially smaller ones that may not have many ministries. Last year our team began ministry at **Sandhills Community College**, about an hour from UNC. There is now a Bible study of 8 students! We went recently for a semester kick off (our team is pictured right). Pray for SCC!