

## April 24, 2022 Southern Wisconsin Cru Ministry Update

Dear Partners,

Despite the snow this week, we've had a good, active spring.

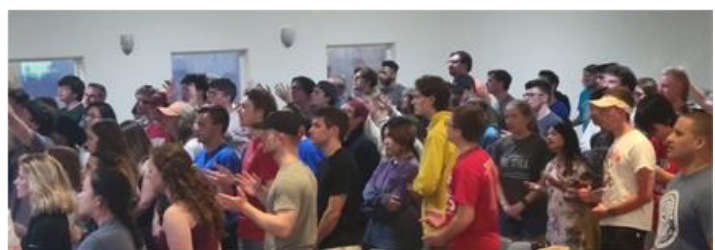
During the two separate spring break weeks in March, students and staff journeyed to Texas for community and service.

Partnering with non-profits and government groups, we worked hard to make a difference in people's lives while learning new skills like laying sod, putting up drywall, and painting buildings and outdoor murals.

Many also ventured out in Galveston to have spiritual conversations with strangers for the first time. This often feels scary at the start, but, like normal, we had such great responses from the people we met.

Each day, students would return from a few hours of meeting people with encouraging stories about the conversations they had.

By the end of the week, many people from other groups were hearing the good reports and opted to join us for some of these planned outreaches.



During the week leading up to Easter, we created a buzz all over the UW campus to help students pause and consider the significance of the resurrection. We tried to saturate the campus in prayer and Easter awareness. We chalked sidewalks and classrooms and handed out 5,000 plastic easter eggs filled with candy. Inside there was an Easter verse, message, website, and information about the week's activities.

When the weather cooperated, we placed large boards on campus with the questions "Who is Jesus?" "What do you think about the resurrection?" "Why does Easter matter?" And "What questions do you have about God?" This slowed people down, allowing time to comment and converse. Most wrote that they were excited for Easter and recognized Jesus' important roles. We were glad we were also able to engage respectfully with people uncertain of faith or holding views contrary to the biblical perspective.

We also hid a \$500 egg on University of Wisconsin property to generate interest. We shared daily poems with cryptic clues (see them at [badgercru.com/easter](http://badgercru.com/easter).) Some felt a \$500 prize was excessive, but we wanted to do something to get people talking, and this certainly did.

The Daily Cardinal wrote one article when the scavenger hunt launched followed up by a humorous parody piece later in the week. People were seen hunting at night with flashlights and messaging Instagram for hints. In the end, two junior guys deciphered enough information and texted a photo of themselves with the winning egg.

On Thursday, Jeff Hardin, a prominent biology professor at UW gave a presentation with Q & A on why he believes in the resurrection and why it matters. Everyone I talked to that night, whether a Christ-follower or not (yet), seemed to enjoy the night and walked away with ideas to ponder.

Thanks for partnering with us as we seek to lift Jesus' name up all year long, knowing that Easter matters every day, forever.

*Scott Roe*

**The Southern Wisconsin Cru Staff Team**

