



Cru@CSU 2013

Fort Collins, Colorado • July 14-20



Thank you for partnering with Cru

both prayerfully and financially as staff members prepared for the movement's biennial staff conference, Cru@CSU, in Fort Collins, Colorado.

The gathering gave staff a chance to connect with God, one another and Cru's goal of carrying the gospel across the globe. Over the summer, they also took part in leadership development training, which prepared them for their personal ministries.

All of this was made possible with your help.

GROWING

Cru held its staff conference from July 14-20, on the Colorado State University campus, where the event has taken place for nearly 40 years. More than 4,500 people came. Attendees heard from speakers such as pastor Alistair Begg, Lisa Harper of Women of Faith, and James White, senior vice president of leadership development for the YMCA of the Triangle Area.

Staff members attended ministry times for their specific areas of involvement. The conference focused on

asking God to direct Cru's ministry and emphasized how to respond to today's ever-changing culture. "Bringing everyone together creates a sense of energy and a re-focus on our particular mission," said Mike Adamson, Cru's director of communication.

Michael Cook, who is on staff with Cru's Military Ministry, said the event provides a unique worship experience. "Everybody has the same heart and passion for God," Cook said. "It's amazing."



LEARNING

Seminary Courses

Cru used lecture halls on the CSU campus for many of its Institute of Biblical Studies (IBS) classes this summer. Staff members are required to take a set of core graduate-level courses, which cover Bible topics and theology, as a foundation for their ministry. “I’m an MTL, so for me, taking classes helps me communicate

the Bible in an ever-changing culture,” said Chris Warren, the missional team leader (MTL) at the University of Arizona.

New Staff Training For five and a half weeks

in June and July, Cru held training for the 180 new staff members who joined the movement this summer.

As part of the training, participants took graduate-level Bible and theology classes and learned how to engage ministry partners to meet their expenses. New staff member Meghan Kollbocker said her biggest takeaway was relational growth. “Being here with a ton of other people who are doing the same thing has been energizing,” Kollbocker said.



WORKING

During the weeks leading up to the staff conference, Cru based its conference



production, operations and program teams at CSU. About 120 staff members and college students served throughout the summer.

Robin Ronk, director of Cru’s Info Center in the Durrell Center at CSU, said being on the staff conference team allowed her to help other people within the movement. “My ministry passion is serving our staff,” Ronk said.

SERVING

Cru had many chances to give back to the community. The conference team served by mulching and weeding at City Park in Fort Collins. College students from the Foot of the Rockies Summer Project volunteered and held an evangelistic outreach at the Estes Park Marathon. Many staff children, grades 7-12, spent a day initiating spiritual conversations in Denver, Boulder, Aurora and Estes Park while others served a nonprofit located near Denver.

LIVING

Staff members settled down all around Fort Collins during Cru’s conference, staying in local apartments, hotels, and CSU residence halls. Over the summer, many families stayed in Ram’s Village, an apartment complex near the CSU campus. “It works great for families because there’s so many of us in the same area,” said staff mother DeAnn Gerard, who stayed at Ram’s Village. “It’s instant community.”

TEACHING

Kids Care & Camp

Cru’s summer child care program for staff children sixth grade and below took place at two Fort Collins elementary schools. Each week, children took part in

a Bible-based curriculum. By the end of the summer, more than 800 children will have come through the program. “[I hope] that they come away closer to Jesus,” said CSU child care co-director Jan Vescovi.

