



Dear David,

I blinked, and it's already past time for a mid-semester update! It's crazy to think that we're coming up on the end of my first year here in OU already - God has been so gracious to me in that time! I'm loving the way our RUF here is developing and it's such a joy to get to walk with these students, to teach them God's word, and to point them to Jesus. We've continued to experience growth this semester as new students start to plug in to our ministry, and I'm also seeing existing relationships with students grow even deeper, as they embrace God's call to "Exhort one another every day, as long as it is called 'Today,' so that no one will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." Check inside to see more about what's been going on this semester and how you can be praying for and supporting us!



LARGE GROUP

This semester I let our Leadership team pick from a few options of what they'd like to learn more about, and they chose Jesus in the Old Testament! It's been so much fun getting to walk them through the stories of the Old Testament and showing them how, according to Jesus, they're all actually about the gospel! If you'd like to get a taste of what a large group at OU is like, you can find all of our sermons on our [brand-new podcast!!](#)



SMALL GROUPS

This semester, several of our upperclassmen have jumped in to help lead small groups so that we can offer more throughout the week, making a way to accommodate busy schedules! One group is covering Tim Keller's book "Every Good Endeavor," studying how our faith impacts our careers, another group is studying the songs that we sing in large group, unpacking the theological depths hidden in some of our hymns, and I'm leading a group through the book of Romans (or whatever theological questions they happen to have that night, which with our group is a lot!)



WINTER RETREAT

A few weeks ago we go to take 15 students to a lakehouse (generously provided by an OU Alumn) for our first ever winter retreat! OU students are very achievement oriented and often push themselves beyond what they can handle, so the focus of the weekend was studying what the bible has to say about friendship and rest. These weekends also end up bonding students greatly - several of the kids who came went from being "on the fringe" of RUF to feeling like RUF is their home!







COMMUNITY BUILDING

In the short space of two semesters, we've built a really tight community! "I knew RUF was going to be a place where I could grow in my faith," one of my students told me the other day, "but I didn't realize it was also going to be the place where I met my best friends!" Students are getting to taste the reality of John 13:35 - loving Jesus means loving his people!



Prayer Requests

- Pray that God will continue the growth we're seeing - both in the depth of our student's love for Jesus and RUF's reach across campus!
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to draw new students in to our group, will develop men and women who love Jesus and want to serve in His kingdom!
- Pray that we'd get a female intern this upcoming year!

Financial Update

Thanks to the generosity of so many of you, we've made a lot of progress! When I came in to this position, the OU account was bringing in just about \$12,000 annually - now we're up to about \$95,000! While that means we still have about \$55,000 to raise in recurring support in order for our ministry to be financially sustainable in the long run, it's been amazing to see the generosity of our God through the generosity of his people..

- Pray that God will continue to provide for us financially!
- Pray that as a staff we will not merely be servants at the table, but also guests; pray that we would drink deeply of the gospel ourselves!

Our next goal is to raise an additional \$25,000 per year in monthly support - we can do that with just 25 people giving \$100 per month! Would you prayerfully consider being one of those people?