

Behold,
BEHOLD,

WE COME TO
YOU,
FOR YOU ARE
THE LORD
OUR GOD.

- JEREMIAH 3:22



CHRISTIAN
UNION

2017-18
ANNUAL
REPORT







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Timeline

CHRISTIAN UNION TIMELINE

2017 - Launched Christian Union Day & Night

2016 - Launched Stanford Ministry

2014 - Launched Brown Ministry

2013 - Launched Penn and Harvard Law Ministries

2012 - Launched Cornell and New York City Ministries

2011 - Launched Columbia and Dartmouth Ministries

2010 - Launched Yale Ministry

2008 - Launched Harvard College Ministry

2002 - Launched Princeton Ministry

A Word

A WORD FROM THE FOUNDER & CEO

Let me begin by expressing my deep gratitude. You are making a deep and long-lasting impact for the Gospel. Christian Union's wonderful financial partners support the effort to bring godly influence to highly strategic places and to mobilize believers nationwide to petition God for His presence.

God is graciously renewing the institutions and industries which shape our society and define the terms of our daily lives. As godly influence works its way throughout society, everyone will be blessed. Seeds sown this year will bear fruit both now and over the coming decades. It is my pleasure to share with you what God was gracious to do through Christian Union in 2017-18 in its core ministries: Universities, Cities, and Day & Night.

In the Universities Ministry, we saw the Spirit of God breathe new life into nascent leaders as they put their faith in Jesus Christ during college. We saw the Spirit strengthen the faith and scriptural insight of many believing students. We saw the Lord use trials to test, refine, and mature many



into still bolder Christian leaders. We saw the overflowing love of God in the campus ministries serve as radiant lights on spiritually dark campuses.

In the Cities Ministry, we saw the wisdom of God on display by forging bonds between new and seasoned professionals who wish to be godly influences in their fields.

In CU Day & Night, we saw thousands of men and women accept our invitation to pray fervently for a widespread spirit of humility and obedience to God.

God bless you for making this report possible. Together, we serve the Lord by crying out in places of spiritual wilderness to "prepare the way of the Lord" (Isaiah 40:3).

Warmly in Christ,

A handwritten signature of Matt Bennett in blue ink.

Matthew Bennett, Founder and CEO





Vision & Mission

CHRISTIAN UNION VISION & MISSION

Picture it: the United States, a spiritually vibrant nation marked by Christian values permeating every corner of society.

This is the vision of Christian Union.

In pursuit of this vision of a nation that is spiritually and culturally flourishing, the mission of Christian Union is to develop and connect transformative Christian leaders.

Christian Union is dependent on the power of the Holy Spirit for resources and for spiritual equipping to do any good thing. The ministry is also dependent on the prayer, generosity, and support of a wide range of ministry partners who enable Christian Union to bring the influence of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to centers of culture.

Christian Union's strategy is to pursue three distinct forms of ministry: Christian Union Universities, Christian Union Cities, and Christian Union Day & Night.



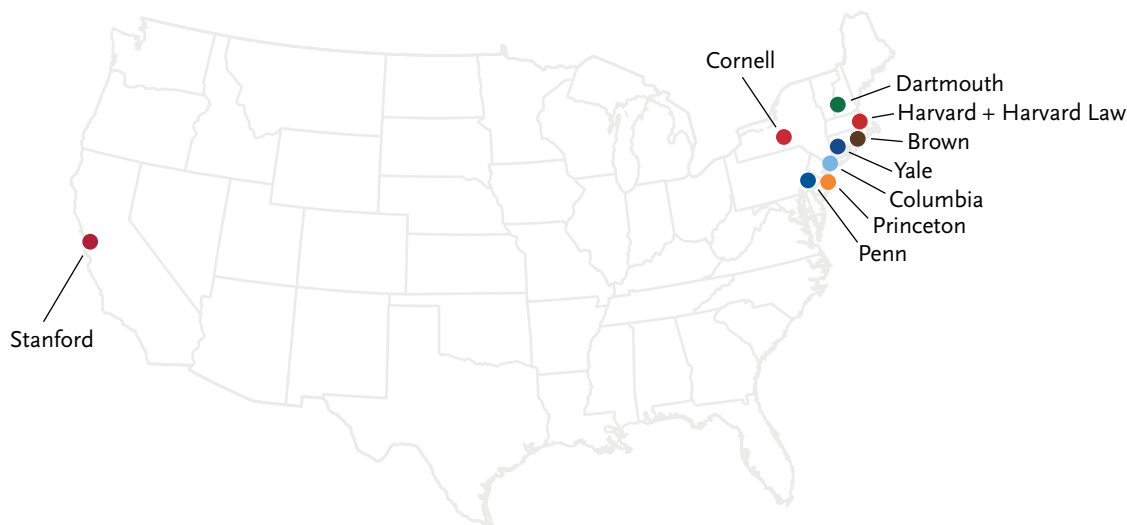
Universities

CHRISTIAN UNION UNIVERSITIES

CU Universities develops and connects transformative Christian leaders at some of the nation's most influential universities. The ministry encourages revival on campus, develops students as Christian leaders, and helps graduating seniors thrive in their transition from college.

The core elements of the Christian leadership development program are the same at each school and explained below. The ministry at each institution is grounded in seeking God wholeheartedly, with a strong emphasis on prayer. At the same time, each campus is distinct, imbued with students' gifts, personalities, and contributions.

Christian Union faculty bring professional and theological training to enrich students' spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and leadership growth. God uses the strengths of each team in distinct ways as He opens doors of opportunity for godly influence on each campus.



“Please pray that God’s Spirit would continue to awaken these students’ hearts—that they might see that God is calling them into something incredible—and that they might join Him ... Pray that students who are far away from God would come to Him, receive His forgiveness and follow after Jesus, wherever He might lead them.”

– Justin Doyle, Ministry Fellow

Christian Union at Brown University

STUDENTS IN BIBLE COURSES:

CU'S FIRST YEAR, 2002-03: 3

CU'S FIFTH YEAR, 2006-07: 100

CU'S TENTH YEAR, 2011-12: 580

2017-18:

1,273

555
FRESHMEN IN
BIBLE COURSES

40
MINISTRY
FACULTY

5,529
HOURS
MENTORING

EVANGELISM
CONVERSATIONS

1,054

HOURS OF
PRAYER
16,435

DAYS
FASTING
1,160

BOOKS
DISTRIBUTED
2,619

INVOLVED
NEW BELIEVERS
103

12,868
ACTS OF KINDNESS

IN 2017-18 CHRISTIAN UNION UNIVERSITIES:

Connected Freshmen Quickly

Freshmen in Bible Courses: 555

It is critical for freshmen to be plugged into a thriving ministry as they begin their college career, so they can hear the Gospel, study God's Word, receive mentoring, and grow as godly leaders. Christian Union faculty and upperclassmen prayed for new students, met as many as possible, and put on over 150 events within a few weeks. This year, a record number signed up for Bible courses.

Lead Students into Scripture

Students in Bible Courses: 1,273

Each Christian Union Bible course is comprised of 8-10 students, studying Scripture together in-depth. Feedback from students includes comments like these: "Christian Union Bible courses have given me a deeper understanding of the Gospel and how to live it out." In 2017-18, Bible courses included: Philippians—short, but rich in theology and the call to discipleship; The Seeking God Lifestyle; Sex

& Spirituality; Romans—Paul's magnificent treatise on God's saving and transforming grace. Seniors studied the biblical view of vocation, employment, and financial stewardship in preparation for their next season of life.

Deployed Excellent Ministry Faculty

Ministry Faculty Employed: 40

Christian Union ministry faculty (directors, ministry fellows, and teaching fellows) have a challenging call at these campuses: to instruct, mentor, and inspire students of high intellectual ability, where many know little-to-nothing about Scripture. Ministry faculty must pivot from sharing the Gospel with non-believers to helping Christian students deepen their faith and apply it to their lives.

Currently, 95 percent of Christian Union's faculty members have earned seminary or other graduate degrees; many blend professional and ministry experience. One ministry fellow said, "It is unspeakably rewarding to see students grab hold of the Gospel, apply Scripture to their lives, and grow in their understanding of the story of redemption."

Mentored Students to be Godly Leaders

One-on-One Mentoring: 5,529 hours

Ministry fellows met with students one-on-one to discuss their lives, spiritual growth, and what it means to be a Christian leader. At Brown, Nicholas Chuan '18 shared, "The discussions kept me thinking about my faith and challenged me to hunger for the Word." At Yale, Derek Kao '18 said, "Having [the ministry director] as a mentor helped me understand how to treat others as God wants me to treat them."

Fostered Seeking-God Lifestyles

Prayer: 16,435 Hours Fasting: 1,160 days

The ministry taught and modeled Christian behaviors that have become neglected in the West: large intake of Scripture; repentance; humility through fasting; perseverance; promptly obeying the Spirit; and extended times of gathering with fellow believers. This year, as every year, freshmen went through a Bible course dedicated to unpacking these elements that are so helpful to developing fervency, tenacity, and persistence in seeking God.

Presented Engaging Speakers

Leadership Lecture Series Meetings Held: 176

Christian Union's undergraduate ministries hosted their own weekly leadership lecture series, where spiritual vitality and intellectual engagement converged. Along with worship, speakers included ministry faculty or guest speakers, leading Christian scholars, authors, ministers, and professionals. The ministry also hosted (or co-hosted) Christian guest speakers to engage the wider campus in thought-provoking topics.

Crafted Compelling Outreach

Acts of Kindness: 12,868 Books Given Out: 2,619

Engaging secular campuses with the Gospel requires creativity, energy, and wisdom. The ministry increased evangelistic activities on campuses and saturated them with more than 231,967 exposures to the Gospel. Outreach ranged from thought-provoking lectures to acts of kindness and service. Inviting students to text questions about Christianity, to receive a snack and personal response, opened many doors, giving rise to hundreds of face-to-face conversations about



faith this year. Wonderfully, 100 students who had come to Christ during college remained engaged and growing.

Provided a Permanent Witness

Christian Union's ministry centers played a vital role in bringing the Gospel and Christian resources to these leading campuses. With growing challenges to Christian student organizations at some of these institutions, ministry centers support uninterrupted Gospel proclamation on campus.

Brown | The Adoniram Judson Ministry Center at Brown is used for a variety of Christian activities, including meals, Bible studies, prayer, training, and administrative work. As students finished up finals before the holidays, the ministry celebrated with a family-style dinner. Students from all Christian Union Bible courses filled the center with laughter, seated around a large dining room table, enjoying one another and the God that had so graciously provided.



Columbia | This fall, God provided for the acquisition of a ministry center at Columbia University. The ministry was already engaging more than 200 students but severe lack of meeting space was a major obstacle. A rare opportunity to acquire a property immediately adjacent to the campus arose, and a generous outpouring of \$1.3 million from ministry partners—combined with additional funds and a large mortgage—made the purchase possible.

Cornell | The John R. Mott Center provides living space for Christian students who host Bible studies and other gather-

ings. Students routinely gathered there to worship in song, prayer, and Scripture readings. When inclement weather made it impossible to conduct the leadership lecture series, students gathered there for impromptu worship and prayer.

Princeton | The Robert L. Melrose Center (left) felt like home to many students. The center hosted Bible courses, prayer, meals, and more. A Princeton Reunions brunch was held on site, and ministry faculty had long-awaited office space to meet with students, prepare for Bible courses, and conduct mentorship appointments.

Yale | The generosity of several donors provided resources to transform the grungy basement of Christian Union's James W.C. Pennington Center at Yale into a warm and useful space. The renovations proved vital to the freshman outreach and to welcoming new students throughout the year. One student said it, "instilled a greater spirit of hospitality." It served as a new go-to for students for Bible courses, prayer, and more. "As much as I love Yale," another student said, the ministry-provided space was now "an oasis."

Created a Flourishing Network

Attendance at Nexus: 278

Nexus: The Christian Union Conference on Faith and Action drew students from Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, University of Pennsylvania, and Yale. Students connected through worship, prayer, sharing, and collaboration. The conference encouraged attendees to see the vocational potential of their future field, to be godly leaders, and to seek God wholeheartedly. Breakout sessions included Christian professionals in diverse fields, such as medicine, law, business, and the arts.

Learn more about Nexus on page 34.

Transitioned Seniors Well

Graduating Class of 2018: 569

Senior Bible courses delved into vocational and financial topics. Senior send-offs included retreats to address common transition issues, including finding a church, cultivating Christian community, and generosity. The class of 2018 was the ministry's largest graduating class to date.

Supported & Connected Alumni

CU Alumni (from All Ministries): 2,297

To support the increasing number of Christian Union alumni, the ministry invested in a growing alumni engagement program, which included reunions programs at Princeton and Harvard attended by nearly 200 alumni.

Christian Union Cities, currently in New York City, continued to help new alumni make the transition from college to life in the city and entry into the workforce.

Christian Union Cities tailored ministry offerings to the realities of graduate school and the marketplace. The ministry connected alumni and encouraged intentional steps to influence their new spheres with a transformative, godly presence.

Learn more about Cities on page 37.



CHRISTIAN
UNION
AT BROWN

2014

YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

113

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

1,340

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR

Brown

God was stirring passion for Himself and the Gospel on College Hill. For the first time, the ministry engaged all four classes: freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and the first-ever graduating class of seniors. These are the students who helped to launch the ministry at Brown, and they have seen it take root and engage their campus with the Gospel. In the fall, mighty outreach efforts to connect with incoming freshmen had an exciting impact: one event drew 80 students.

In the fall, the ministry hosted students off campus for a wonderful fall retreat, featuring evangelistic training, apple picking, and the best of New England foliage. Back on campus, there were a number of ministry events in addition to the weekly leadership lecture series—which also grew its attendance this year. For example, the ministry co-sponsored a Science & Faith outreach event in December. The event entitled, “Are We More Than Our Genes?” attracted 200 attendees. A professor of Biomedical Sciences at Cornell University, and a professor of Biblical Worldview and

Exegesis at Northeastern Seminary, Rochester, New York, discussed what it means to be human. Most attendees had no other connection to the ministry other than the friend who invited them.

In the winter, Christian Union faculty led a workshop on how to study Scripture, using Genesis 1 as a case study.

A record 30 Brown students attended Christian Union’s Nexus conference. One student, Emily, who helped to lead prayer at the conference, returned to campus fired up about seeking God and creating spaces at Brown for the Christian community to seek God together.

In the spring, the Spirit strengthened partnerships with other Christian organizations that resulted in joint worship and outreach. For an outreach event, students delivered cookies across campus in response to texts they received with a question about God and/or faith.

“The class of 2018 was our first class. As freshmen, they trusted God with a vision of a community yet to be formed. They risked time, energy, and resources to gather friends for Bible courses, retreats, campus outreach events, and more.

“God rewarded their faith and used them, to encourage Christian students and to bear witness to the hope of the Gospel to the wider Brown community.”

– Justin Doyle
Christian Union
Ministry Fellow

Columbia

“Thank you for your prayers and support. We continue to thrive because God has graced us with many faithful partners in ministry.

“Although it was bitter-sweet to bid farewell to seniors, they are prepared for Christian leadership in whatever vocation they find themselves in.”

– Bryant Parsons
Christian Union
Ministry Fellow

In the fall, outreach to incoming students resulted in a record-breaking 76 freshmen joining Bible courses. Praise God for three students who accepted Christ as Savior. Another 14 students, who came to Christ previously, remained engaged and growing this year.

A Thanksgiving event connected hundreds of Christians from various campus ministries. Christian Union students provided the food and orchestrated activities. God blessed the time as the Christian community at Columbia was strengthened in its faith and forged deeper bonds.

The ministry’s weekly leadership lecture series brought in excellent speakers and provided a venue for worship. Also, the ministry hosted a successful outreach at which biologist David Lahti addressed, “Did Evolution Kill God?” Lahti challenged the idea that science and faith must be at odds. More than 150 students were in attendance—many of whom were skeptics of the Christian faith.

During February, Christian Union faculty and guest speakers presented a series on relationships. The series kicked off with a talk on “the art and science of biblically faithful, romantic relationships,” looking closely at the Song of Solomon. Students were challenged by the wisdom of conducting relationships God’s way.

That same month, 50 Columbia students attended Nexus. Their engaging team of four took third place in the conference’s SpokenWord competition.

In the spring, the ministry hosted noted Christian philosopher James K.A. Smith, who gave several lectures and engaged students in lunch discussions. His focus stemmed from his book *Awaiting the King: Reforming Public Theology*, which explores a Christian approach to politics. Hundreds of students attended, and his engagement with non-Christian students prompted some to question the merits of a secular worldview.



CHRISTIAN
UNION
AT COLUMBIA

2011

YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

180

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

1,500

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR



CHRISTIAN
UNION
AT CORNELL

2012

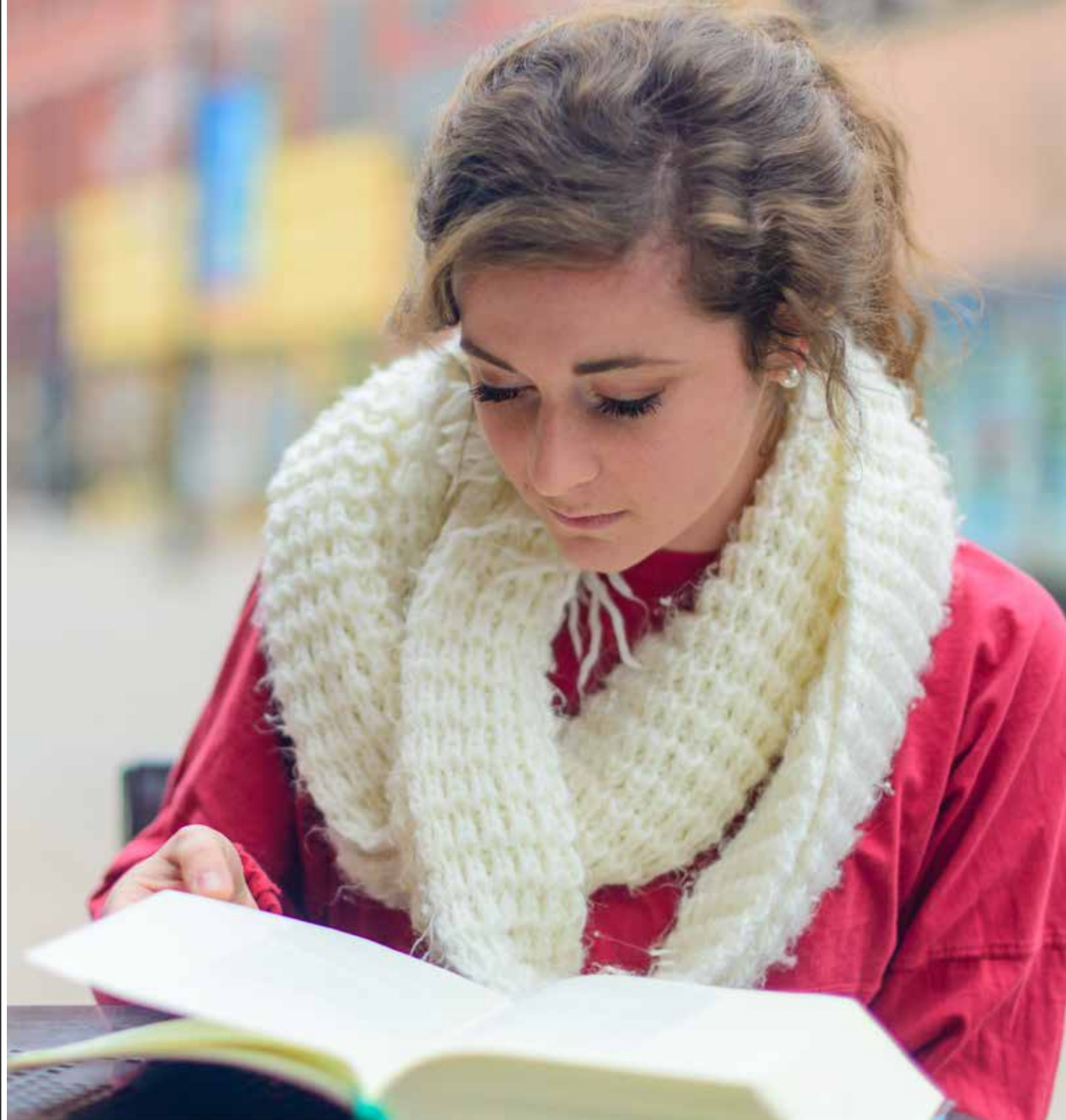
YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

137

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

1,704

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR



Cornell

With nearly 15,000 undergraduates alone, Cornell is a large ministry field. Students involved in Christian Union grew in their love for God and outreach to peers. The ministry hosted an acclaimed hymn writer and singer which drew over 200 students. Then, students distributed 1,000 copies of the Gospel of John on Ho Plaza. In December, students delivered spiritual conversation and hot sandwiches to nearly 200 curious peers. In May, Christian student organizations partnered to deliver more hot sandwiches and respond to 372 spiritual questions.

The ministry also hosted an apologist from Ravi Zacharias International Ministry who addressed “Is Christianity Intolerant?” attended by about 75 students.

To show God’s love, students regularly gave away hundreds of hot or cold drinks on campus and cared for peers weighed down by stress. Recipients expressed curiosity and

gratitude. Meanwhile, in Bible courses, students grew in their understanding of Jesus by studying Romans. A course made up of female athletes began with eight and grew to 21 women. In a fraternity-specific Bible course, a student said, “This is astonishing. We deserve God’s just punishment, but instead He graciously gives us the gift of righteousness in Christ!” Another added, “This is almost too good to be true. And yet it is true!”

In the spring, Christians from across the campus committed to 40 days of prayer. A sophomore who took part, Adrienne, (*pictured, left*), reflected: “I now see just how important prayer is.”

As the year concluded, a freshman shared, “The depth of friendships and the importance of God’s Word to the life of [Christian Union] have been such a blessing to my walk with the Lord.”

Bible courses gave 145 students amazing exposure to the living Christ through the pages of Scripture.

“Please pray that joy would mark their obedience, their minds would be renewed according to God’s holy standards, and their love, faith, and hope would be sustained by our faithful Lord.”

– Geoff Sackett
Christian Union
Ministry Fellow

Dartmouth

Praise God for the six students who made decisions for Christ this year.

We bid farewell to a vibrant senior class. Ministry Fellow Julia Carlisle prayed for them: “We pray the Lord would use what they have learned during their time with Christian Union at Dartmouth to serve the Church and love the world with the Gospel.”

Dartmouth’s sophomore summer kept things active with a book discussion on *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*. Ministry Fellow Chase Carlisle assembled a theological reading group to discuss Old Testament themes in *Dominion and Dynasty*.

As the close of the academic year drew near, upperclassmen worked hard to reach out to the Class of 2021. The ministry hosted several welcoming events. At one, while most ate and made introductions, Christian Union Ministry Fellow Chase Carlisle found himself engaging a group of freshmen with substantive questions about Scripture. “It was like a mini Bible course, right there,” he said of responding to their queries. Each of them signed up to take a Bible course.

In November, a team of seven student leaders in the ministry wrote and shared devotionals in the weeks leading up to a Thanksgiving celebration event. Topics included: Finding

Peace in Trusting God; Feeling Grateful; and Responding to Grace in Faith. Students then put on a large Thanksgiving dinner event, which included students sharing powerful testimonies and making a Gospel presentation.

At the January winter conference, the ministry took students to a scenic location for teaching, worship, and relationship building. Students heard the call to be ambassadors of Christ. Another emphasis was learning to slow down in Scripture, feasting on the Word of God, and paying attention to the Holy Spirit. One attendee, Robert, Class of 2020, shared, “I had the opportunity to meditate on and seriously take in a passage of Scripture that I had always read on a very cursory level. It was one of the most powerful moments of Scripture reading I’ve ever experienced.” Melanie, Class of 2021, said that the spiritually focused weekend “put things in perspective for the rest of the term.”



CHRISTIAN
UNION
AT DARTMOUTH

2011

YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

147

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

1,076

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR





CHRISTIAN
UNION

2008

YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

151

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

1,804

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR

Harvard College

Harvard College Faith and Action (HCFA), the student-run organization that Christian Union resources, turned ten. It was a year of challenge and spiritual growth.

In August, 60 upperclassmen went on retreat to focus on the Lord and prepare to welcome freshmen. The Spirit moved powerfully, filling them with boldness. On campus, a staggering 80 freshmen attended the first welcoming event. The ministry put on an outreach event every day until classes began. HCFA co-president Scott Ely '18 shared, "There is an exciting degree of openness among freshmen to ask deeper questions, and willingness to explore Christianity."

The fall conference emphasized looking to God for the filling of the Spirit, in order to be emptied in love, service, and sharing the Gospel. An insightful teaching on the Holy Spirit kept students in conversation late into the night. Three students gave their lives to the Lord in one night.

At the first leadership lecture series, 160 students heard about faith marked by imagination and dependence on God. Over the semester, students heard a variety of topics, including: "Advice That's Better than 'Follow Your Passion;'" and "Justice: A Discussion on Race, Poverty, and Abortion." A film director (and Harvard alumnus) urged them to be a creative force in the film industry. "Christianity is the fullness of what it means to be human," he noted.

HCFA put on its first Mission Week, culminating in nearly 150 students hearing a Gospel presentation. Over winter break, many students began reading Romans, eager to begin their next Bible course. In the spring, the Harvard administration placed HCFA on administrative probation for one year in response to HCFA's commitment to biblical sexual orthodoxy and its affiliation with Christian Union. HCFA's co-presidents shared, "Our goal ... is that Christ and the Gospel would increasingly be exalted on Harvard's campus."

"God has been at work in many tangible ways. Our students' imaginations have been stretched by witnessing God take difficult circumstances and redeem them for His purposes ...

"Please pray that God will continue to exercise His perfect sovereignty over the situation at Harvard and that His will would be done on earth as it is in heaven."

– Don Weiss
Christian Union
Ministry Director

Harvard Law

“Coram Deo Law was perhaps the best and certainly the most impactful part of my law school experience.

“The spiritual growth and relationships I formed in the Bible courses and other events far surpass the elements of burglary and how to Bluebook.”

– Bryce Jensen
(HLS J.D. 2017)
Attorney,
Parsons Behle
& Latimer

Harvard Law School is the oldest continuously operating law school in the United States, and one of the most renowned educational systems in the world. Christian Union’s ministry, Coram Deo Law, imparts biblical teaching, mentoring, and leadership development to its promising students. Having graduated nearly all the students involved in the ministry the previous spring, to begin legal careers across the country and around the world, the ministry faced the challenge of engaging a new cadre of students. Remarkably, from a student body of less than 1,000, the Lord brought 17 new students into the ministry this year.

Bible courses on Philippians examined the example and power of Christ for living in a manner worthy of the Gospel. In weekly lunch discussions, law students explored pressing legal issues from a biblical perspective. In the spring, the students grew in their knowledge and love of the Lord Jesus Christ by studying His “I am” sayings in the Gospel of John.

This school and campus presented unique challenges, so we have all the more reason to give thanks to God for His work among these exceptional students. They connected and cared for one another within Bible courses; a significant development given the law school’s overall culture. They were eager to serve the Lord by loving others and extending the common grace of God. They proved eager to advocate for the most vulnerable. Josh Craddock made waves with an article in the *Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy* that robustly asserted constitutional protections for unborn children.

In May, graduates moved on, some into practice at high-powered law firms; others into public positions of policy-making; still others to influential non-profit organizations. Kelsey Curtis ’18 spoke for many of these students when she said, “Whatever I do, I want to do it for God and with an attitude that would be pleasing to him.”



CHRISTIAN
UNION

2013

YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

13

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

215

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR



CHRISTIAN
UNION
AT PENN

2013

YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

109

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

653

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR



Penn

In the fall, student leaders launched Fasting Friday and fasted for more than 80 days collectively. One of the organizers, Tommy Kumpf '20, said, "It was amazing to see my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ get closer to God." Another student called it "liberating." The fruit of fasting included boldness in outreach and inviting non-believers to Bible courses, increased faith, and greater spiritual vibrancy.

The weekly leadership lecture included talks by Christian Union faculty and diverse guest speakers, from a pastor to a fighter pilot. Christian Union formed an exciting partnership with Collegium Institute to explore faith and reason through pivotal Christian writing and classical texts.

Bible courses engaged 110 students, a record for Christian Union at Penn. Fourteen students who had come to Christ in college remained plugged in and growing. Mid-semester, the ministry partnered with other Christian ministries for

a night of united worship. On Fridays, the ministry positioned a table on Locust Walk to offer prayer and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. The ministry also worked to connect Bible courses to service projects in the city.

In January, God's Spirit was moving! Students showed a greater hunger for God's Word and a strong desire to conform their lives to Christ. Over a dozen male students created an accountability group to spur one another on to sexual purity, some were also fasting regularly.

Students shared the Gospel in a variety of ways, such as free hot apple cider and conversations about Jesus. Students led a 24-hour prayer event and took part in an evangelism seminar. Those who attended the Nexus Conference were encouraged to bring their faith to bear in all areas of life, and to develop leadership skills in order to give God glory and meet human needs around the world.

"Christian Union's leadership training and mentorship developed my abilities not only as a leader, but as a Christian, as well."

– Tommy Kumpf
Class of 2020

Princeton

“What a privilege it was to walk alongside students this semester as we studied Philippians, a book characterized by joy, friendship, and living for Jesus.”

– Kevin Antlitz
Christian Union
Ministry Fellow

The ministry sought to help students go deeper with Jesus Christ and one another. There were 340 students in Bible courses; more than 800 hours of mentoring; daily prayer; weekly speakers; and many other initiatives. The ministry rejoiced over the growth in student prayer. In the fall, students welcomed freshmen with such energy they shattered the goal of freshmen in Bible courses. Studying Philippians, students learned to ‘advance the Gospel together through joyful imitation.’ Creative campus outreach included such efforts as “Hot Dogs, Hot Chocolate, and Hugs.”

The ministry’s first lecture speaker dispelled the notion you must “survive on your own” at Princeton. Other speakers included a professor in the Religion Department at Princeton; Dr. Russell Moore, the Director of the Southern Baptists’ Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission; and ESPN sports analyst Rece Davis. Another guest speaker provided evangelism training. A special series on Christianity and culture focused on Christian ethics the first semester and Christian-

ity and the arts the second semester, bringing in renowned artist Makoto Fujimura. On the fiftieth anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s assassination, the ministry hosted leading African-American scholars Jemar Tisby, Lisa Fields, and David Hooker.

In January, students experienced the much-loved, spiritually invigorating Ski Safari. The speaker highlighted how the Gospel helps us to understand community, mission, and suffering. A student who attended shared: “God spoke to me ... showing me how He wanted me to surrender more and commit myself to serving Him.”

Nearly 50 students went to Nexus. And back on campus, they continued in daily prayer and sharing Christ. Students hosted a 5K run that drew 130 participants to raise support for refugees. Praise God for 15 students who came to faith in Jesus Christ. Five students were baptized, and many more students took huge strides to conform their lives to Christ.



CHRISTIAN
UNION
AT PRINCETON

2002

YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

335

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

7,156

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR





CHRISTIAN
UNION
CARITAS

2016

YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

26

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

165

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR



Stanford

Christian Union Caritas ministers to students at Stanford. In just its second year, the ministry faculty and a growing core of students were blessing Stanford. Over the summer, many of these students committed to read through the New Testament together in 90 days. When school commenced in September, they welcomed freshmen and helped to plug them into Christian community during the pivotal first few weeks of college. Most crucially, they prayed for each of the 1,700 freshmen by name during the first four weeks of the quarter. Bible course enrollment grew from one course last year to four courses, totaling 25 students. Some of these students were exploring Christianity for the first time in this setting. The ministry commenced its weekly leadership lecture series, Venture, enjoying guest speaker Nancy Ortberg in the spring.

In January, the ministry took students off campus to worship, refresh, and connect with one another on a Mammoth

Ski Trip. In February, 12 students flew cross-country to join peers involved in Christian Union ministries at eight other campuses at the ministry's Nexus conference. At the conference the students even fielded their first SpokenWord team. On the athletics front, Christian Union's much-loved ministry director at Columbia stepped into an exciting new role on the West Coast, focused on bringing one-on-one discipleship and mentorship to Stanford athletes. The Lord is opening doors to connect with more athletes through these relationships.

Students grew tremendously in their prayer life together, and they were quick to pursue spiritual and intellectual growth. Each student involved with the ministry received a copy of *The Reason for God* by Tim Keller, and as the academic year turned into summer, student leaders began reading *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

“Students can find themselves hanging on desperately to the weak branches of achievement, drugs and alcohol, the culture of reckless relationships, and many more.

“Our goal is not to strengthen their grip on a weak branch, but to guide them to the One whom Isaiah calls ‘the branch of the Lord ... beautiful and glorious,’ and find in Jesus the true object of faith, even with our feeble grasp.”

– Garrett Brown,
Ministry Director,
Christian Union Caritas

Yale

“I don’t know if I can overstate the role of Christian Union in my faith and growth.”

– Dillon Miller
Class of 2018

The Yale student body showed a heightened level of spiritual interest, and Christian Union met this openness by making Jesus Christ known in a variety of ways. In the fall outreach to freshmen, the response was especially strong; they comprised 40 percent of Bible course enrollment. Praise God for the ministry’s largest freshman class ever.

In October, the ministry hosted renowned apologists Ravi Zacharias and Abdu Murray. They addressed 650 attendees on the inseparable nature of truth and freedom, and discussed how to navigate a “post-truth” culture in order to live in the real freedom of Christ. “Pilate asks the most important question of his life,” Zacharias said, “but did not wait for an answer. He said, ‘what is truth?’ and turned around and walked away. Don’t make that mistake.”

In December, the Christian Union faculty became an official chaplaincy of the university. At Yale, this status

facilitates meeting students in residential college areas and provides other practical benefits for ministry on campus. Meanwhile, students exuded a godly presence in their spheres of influence, from athletics, to academics, to theatre, and more. Within the ministry, students spurred one another on to seek God with energy and love. They wrote devotions for the Advent season which they shared online. Students also met in prayer groups and organized many acts of kindness to show God’s love to their peers, from hot drinks, to roses for Valentine’s Day, to cards at Thanksgiving. In the spring, the leadership lecture series hosted an excellent semester-long series on the “Idols of Yale.”

We give thanks that one student put his faith in Jesus Christ as Lord, and three student leaders were baptized in the spring. One of these students was Haley Hegefeld ’20. She shared, “Christian Union has taught me to look continually to Christ as the model of a leader.”



CHRISTIAN
UNION
AT YALE

2010

YEAR MINISTRY
WAS LAUNCHED

62

STUDENTS IN
BIBLE COURSES

822

HOURS IN PRAYER
DURING THE YEAR



At Nexus, Roland Warren, Princeton '83, Penn MBA '96 (*above*), President and CEO of Care Net, accepted the CU Christian Leader of the Year Award. This award is given each year to a person striving to make an impact for Christ in his or her sphere of influence, no matter the cost.

February 23-25 marked the dates of Christian Union's Nexus 2018 Conference in New Brunswick, New Jersey, which brought together 278 students from the nine campuses where Christian Union operates. Stirring plenary speakers and a slate of excellent seminars, panels, and breakout sessions unpacked what it means to live wholeheartedly for God. Student had access to a 24-hour prayer room, and each campus fielded a team for an electrifying night of SpokenWord, showcasing the power and insight of dramatic arrangements of memorized Scripture passages.

The theme, "Turn the World Upside Down", was inspired by Acts:17; local authorities were alarmed by the boldness of the early apostles in sharing the Gospel, particularly how they upset the status quo. Building on that, students were urged to define personal significance as the degree to which they follow the Lord's calling. Students were intensely engaged with every angle of the question: "Do you want to turn the world upside down?"

Plenary speakers were: Christian Union Founder and CEO Matt Bennett; David Bryant, founder of Concerts of Prayer International and Proclaim Hope!; Roland Warren, president and CEO of Care Net; and Nancy Ortberg, CEO of Transforming the Bay with Christ. One student shared, "Now I am inspired to share [the Good News] with others. Nexus gave me the tools to do that effectively."

Special Thanks to Nexus Sponsors

- Grace & Mercy Foundation (Platinum Sponsor)
- Alliance Defending Freedom (Gold)
- Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (Bronze)
- Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Bronze)
- Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Bronze)
- Praxis Academy (Bronze)
- Mont Lawn Camp (Bronze)
- Love & Fidelity Network (Silver)
- NYC Leadership Center (Silver)

BREAKOUT SESSIONS INCLUDED:

Apologetics

Being a Christian in Secular Academia

Being a Light in Greek/Eating Clubs

Bold Christians in the Workplace

Christian Leadership on Athletic Teams

Essential Discipleship

Evangelism and the Gifts of the Spirit

Powerful Prayer

Responding to the Transgender Moment

Social Justice and Christian Witness

Student Leadership Challenges
and Best Practices

Transforming Culture

Transitioning /Post-College Life



TO GOD BE THE GLORY FOREVER AND EVER! AMEN.

-CAL. 13

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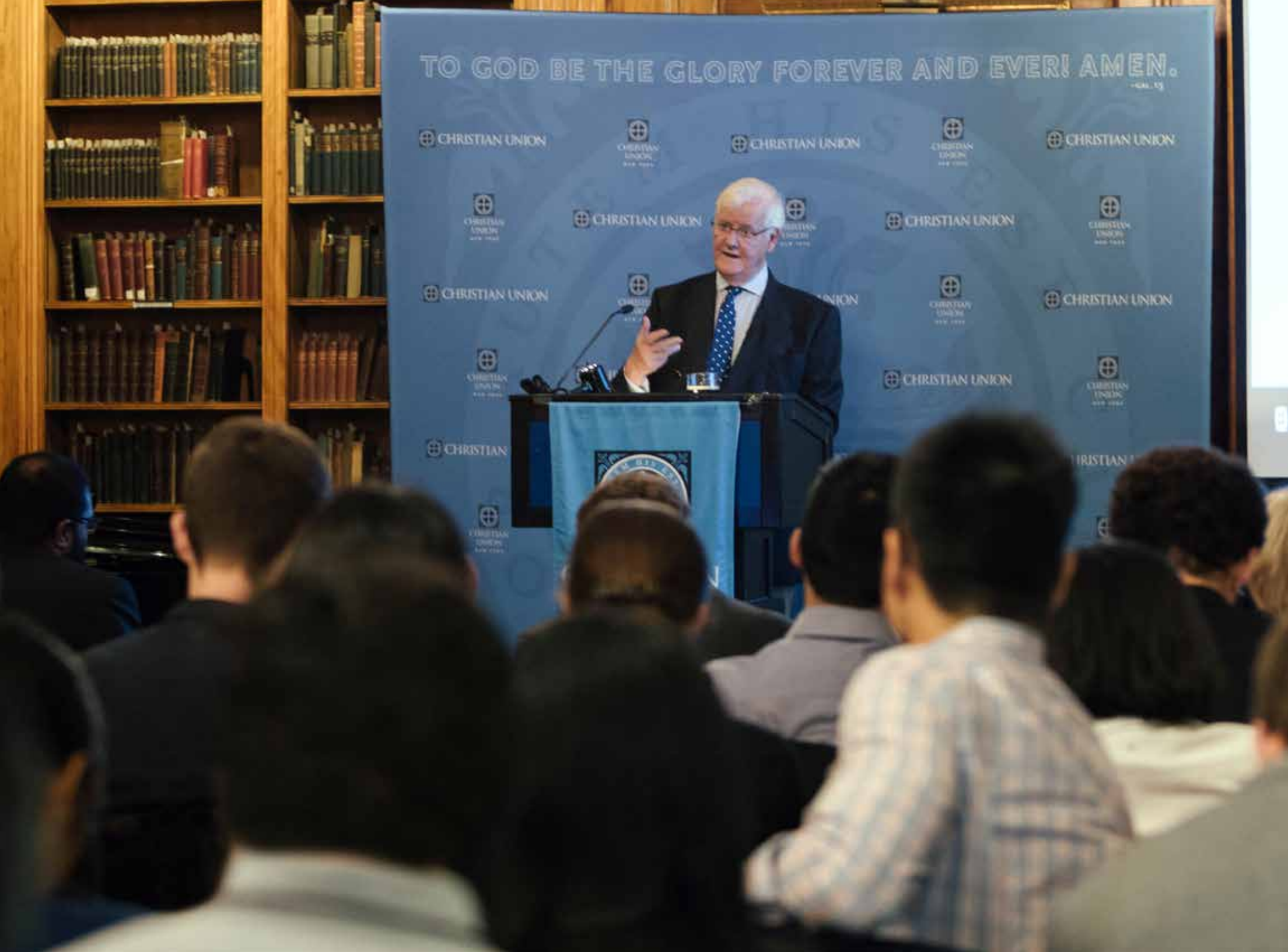
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CHRISTIAN UNION



This year, the Lord worked through the CU Cities ministry to deepen and strengthen the growing network of Christian professionals and graduate students in New York City.

Many of those involved in the ministry had experienced Christian Union in a collegiate setting. Now in a very different season of life, they needed personal spiritual development to fit work (or graduate school) schedules, and the encouragement of men and women, including those in their field, seeking to walk faithfully with God.

Over the summer months and into the fall, the ministry welcomed recent graduates and helped them to make the post-college transition well by connecting with churches and a CU Cities network of believers. The Cities program encouraged them to become a redemptive, and God willing, transformative, presence in one of America's most culturally influential cities.

New and returning participants had opportunities to join Community Groups and sign up for mentoring relationships.

The Cities ministry regularly offered compelling salons and forums and other opportunities for participants to grow in their understanding of spiritual and cultural topics. The series encompassed an extraordinary range of topics this year. These events and ensuing conversations, held in community, often helped attendees clarify important issues and choices in their own fields and to move toward action and involvement as Christians.

The following are highlights from the speaker series.

The fall salon with Phyllis Crosby and Sam Lawson Johnston explored the theology of space: the meaning of flourishing, meeting the needs a community, and revitalization.

In January, author Jay Jakub, Director of External Research at Mars Catalyst, explored a form of capitalism called ‘Economics of Mutuality,’ which focuses business on the needs of others rather than on maximizing shareholder value.

On February 15, Ken Fish led two salons. At the first, he addressed why the Kingdom of God remains relevant today. The second salon explored the question of “Supernatural Christianity: What Is It? How Do I Live It?”

In the spring, Paul Horrocks led a salon in March titled, “Excellence in Technology: Leveraging Prayer and Biblical Examples to Build Great Products.” Jeff Smith, founder of Generosity NY, spoke at a salon on March 29, titled, “Faith in Giving: A Paradigm Shift for the City.” Dr. Stamenka Antonova led a salon at the Met on “The Cradle of Early Christianity: Ancient Mediterranean Culture and Religious Art.”

Forums included the February appearance of Os Guinness to discuss “The Reformation at 500: The Forgotten Secret of

American Freedom.” Dr. Guinness made a compelling case for the importance of covenant, freedom, and the impact of the Reformers on culture.

In April, Christian Union partnered with The Trinity Forum to co-host an evening of rich conversation centered on the off-Broadway production of *Babette’s Feast*, a timeless tale of lavish generosity and community-transforming grace. Abbie Killeen, producer of *Babette’s Feast*, sat down with world-renowned artist, writer, and culture shaper Mako Fujimura to examine important themes from the play in the context of the New York City theater scene and the nation’s current cultural climate.

Also in April, Christian Union New York partnered with Generous Giving to host a Journey of Generosity retreat. Attendees explored generosity and its power to bring joy, freedom, and purpose. Young professionals engaged through dialogue, storytelling, and prayer.

CU Cities Conference



In June, approximately 100 attendees gathered at The Union League Club, in New York City, and Nyack College for the two-day event, which featured acclaimed speakers, seminars, dynamic worship, and networking opportunities. The theme was “Turn the World Upside Down,” based on Acts 17:6. Plenary speakers included Os Guinness and theologian Bishop Claude Alexander. Breakout sessions explored how to apply Christian principles to a range of fields.

Attendees were encouraged to pursue spiritual growth and their fields as a vocational calling, especially as they grow in influence. One speaker observed that the Lord blesses His followers with opportunities to serve as connections of

influence for Gospel advancement. Whether in graduate school or as a working professional, believers are called to be faithful in their work assignments, while reaching out to others with godly love.

The conference also explored the past revivals and the social impacts that transpired when communities were “overwhelmed by the grace and presence of God.” “Revival is about presence,” noted conference speaker George Otis, Jr., an expert of revivals and producer of the *Transformations* documentary series. “Change must be evident—not only in the inhabitants—but in the fabric of [a culture’s] institutions.”

The conference concluded with a special dinner and book launch of Dr. Kenneth Barnes’ *Redeeming Capitalism*.

Washington, DC

The year ended with exciting steps taken to establish a volunteer team in Washington, DC, to begin Christian Union’s second city ministry.



The Greatest Move of God in History?

Imagine the greatest revival this nation has ever seen.

WATCH VIDEO



Day & Night

CHRISTIAN UNION DAY & NIGHT

When Christians seek God in extraordinary ways, sweeping transformation is possible. Christian Union Day & Night calls Christians to seek the Lord fervently for national spiritual renewal. First, the ministry mobilizes thousands of Christians to pray for sweeping spiritual transformation in America. Second, every 8-12 weeks, Day & Night coordinates a movement to mobilize believers and promote revival.

Christian Union Day & Night also emphasizes the crucial role regular fasting plays for believers in cultivating humility and as they seek God. In January, 1,000 participants took part in a 10-day fast. One participant shared, “Let me tell you, being hungry reminds me why I’m hungry! Souls for Christ! Lord, give me hunger for souls for You.”

In May, 2,000 believers joined in The Great Experiment. For the 31 days of May, individual participants and small groups committed to:

Spend 30 minutes, morning and evening, reading the Bible and praying (Luke 18:1-8); Consciously repent of all known sin and put away everything that may hinder devotion to Christ (Hebrews 12:1,2); Seek God in the morning for the thing the Holy Spirit most desires to do, write it down, and follow up that day (Psalm 143:10); Share Christ every day and speak about Christ publicly (Acts 1:8); and (for groups), meet once a week for encouragement and accountability and stay in touch during the week (Hebrews 10:24-27).

The ministry reinforced these practices with daily video devotions and blog posts that inspired participants to be steadfast in their pursuit of Christ. The Christian Union Day & Night Facebook page grew to 100,000 likes, helping to expand its reach. Encouraging metrics included an increase in the size of the prayer team from around 6,000 people to 14,000 people. There was also an increase in participants in Day & Night from nearly 6,000 people to 20,000 people.

One participant wrote in to share this:

“Thank you for encouraging us to pray for our community, region, and country during this month. I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit giving courage to speak out, pray with greater faith, and witness God’s supernatural interventions.”



Thank You

WITH GRATITUDE TO GOD FOR YOU



Christian Union was blessed by the financial support of alumni, churches, foundations, friends, ministry faculty

and staff, parents and grandparents, and students.

Whether you made a gift this year to support the ministry at your alma mater, sponsored a Bible course, funded Christian Union's overall mission to Universities, Cities, and Day & Night, responded to the urgent request for a new ministry center, or generously supported another designation close to your heart, you made it possible to bring the Gospel to places that have gone without it for too long.

We are grateful for financial partners who set up their gifts to recur automatically, providing a dependable stream of funding for ministry work. If you made a gift of stock, or included Christian Union in your estate plans this year, we are also deeply thankful for your provision.

Students in the ministry are expressing themselves through their support as well. Although just on the cusp of graduate schools or careers, 69 seniors made a financial pledge or gift in order to pay it forward to future students in the ministry.

Alumni of Christian Union are including the ministry in their missional giving. This year 145 Christian Union alumni gave \$306,149. Other alumni of these institutions, many having attended before Christian Union was established, provided generously to support this ministry.

The BridgeHead Foundation provided a crucial \$700,000 matching gift to acquire the ministry center at Columbia University. Foundation Trustee, and Christian Union parent, Peter Cline explained the foundation and ministry "share a common desire to enable Christians to impact the leading cultural centers of influence."

"We love Christian Union because, through our partnership, we are equipping students who will inevitably be leaders for years to come."

– Kurt and Danita Parker
on why they encouraged their church, Harborside Christian Church, where Kurt is senior pastor, to partner with Christian Union.

Financials

Income and expenses for the year ending June 30, 2018

INCOME

Donations—Temporarily Restricted	\$2,335,251
Donations—Unrestricted	\$3,746,634
Other Income	\$1,207,309
<hr/>	
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,289,194
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EXPENSES

Programs	
Christian Union Universities (CUU)	
Brown	\$469,576
Columbia	\$939,213
Cornell	\$553,601
Dartmouth	\$463,454
Harvard College (Undergrad)	\$790,565
Harvard Law School	\$254,364
Princeton	\$1,149,011
Penn	\$406,630
Stanford	\$601,549
Yale	\$468,283
Christian Union New York	\$258,179
Christian Union Day & Night	\$277,760
Conferences	\$316,690
Christian Union: The Magazine	\$228,600
Grants	\$182,595
Ministry-wide Programs and Services	\$2,049,199
Sub-Total Program Expenses	\$9,409,269
General & Administrative	\$785,417
Fundraising	\$1,617,118
Sub-Total Fundraising and G&A	\$2,402,535
<hr/>	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$11,811,804
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Financial Partners

Thank you for your faithful support of Christian Union. God is changing lives and stirring up hearts to seek Him, because our partners in ministry are ever interceding for us and generously providing the resources for ministry.

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