

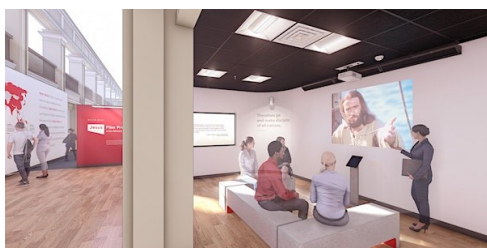
## The Riedy Reader November 2022



If this little graphic of a moving truck looks familiar to you, it might be because you remember our September 2019 Riedy Reader announcement about FamilyLife moving to Florida. It is hard to believe that more than THREE years have passed since then! In our personal world in that time: we have had one child graduate from high school, two graduate from college, a marriage and two grandkids, and a cross country move. In our ministry world, we have sold a building built specifically for FamilyLife, lost about 40 percent of our staff through retirement or leaving staff, spread many remaining staff throughout the US in local field positions, and reoriented those of us who moved to Florida from a Headquarters to a Support Center. Oh, and of course affecting both worlds was COVID.

The transition to Florida was always intended to be in stages and phases, to help keep interruptions to ministry to a minimum. At this point, though, I think we can officially say that FamilyLife is resettled and it is a good time to give an update about our new home. The most encouraging news that we can share is that our staff numbers have recovered from the transition! We are back to pre-move levels and continue to add staff. Part of this is a direct result of our move to Florida, in that we have had a number people transfer from other divisions of Cru. Another big factor is the increase in local field positions allowing staff to stay in their hometowns and areas of current influence while also joining FamilyLife.

Our new support center here in Florida has been a bit of an adjustment—like moving from your own home into an apartment building. An apartment has many more opportunities for connections with others but can feel crowded and impersonal. We have a wing in one of the Cru buildings that is designed to highlight FamilyLife and it is beautiful (come on down, we'd love to show it off!). However, there are many ministries housed in the three Cru Lake Hart buildings and very few designated desks. The idea is to mix and mingle with a variety of staff but it can give that 'apartment feel'. The positive side of this has been a greater opportunity to work with other Cru divisions to reach every home for Christ.



Another positive of our new 'apartment living' on the Cru Lake Hart campus has been a greater awareness and connection to Cru history and other ministries. A great example is the **Jesus Film Project® Tour**. This interactive, walk-through exhibit showing how the JESUS film came to be and how God is enabling Jesus Film Project to create films and short films that help you share the love of Jesus in almost any language.



Eric had the opportunity to go visit Michigan in late October to attend a funeral, visit partners, and attend a church missions conference weekend. The conference was a wonderful time to see the work of God through a variety of missions throughout the entire world. The theme, **Younited in Mission**, encouraged the congregation to learn about missions and how they might be more involved.

The event included the chance to host a display table to highlight each missionary and ministry in attendance. From Muslim outreach, to Campus, to German translation, to

Downtown Detroit, to FamilyLife... and so much more. God is at work. Eric was able to catch up with several long time friends and partners, and share the ministry with others throughout the weekend.





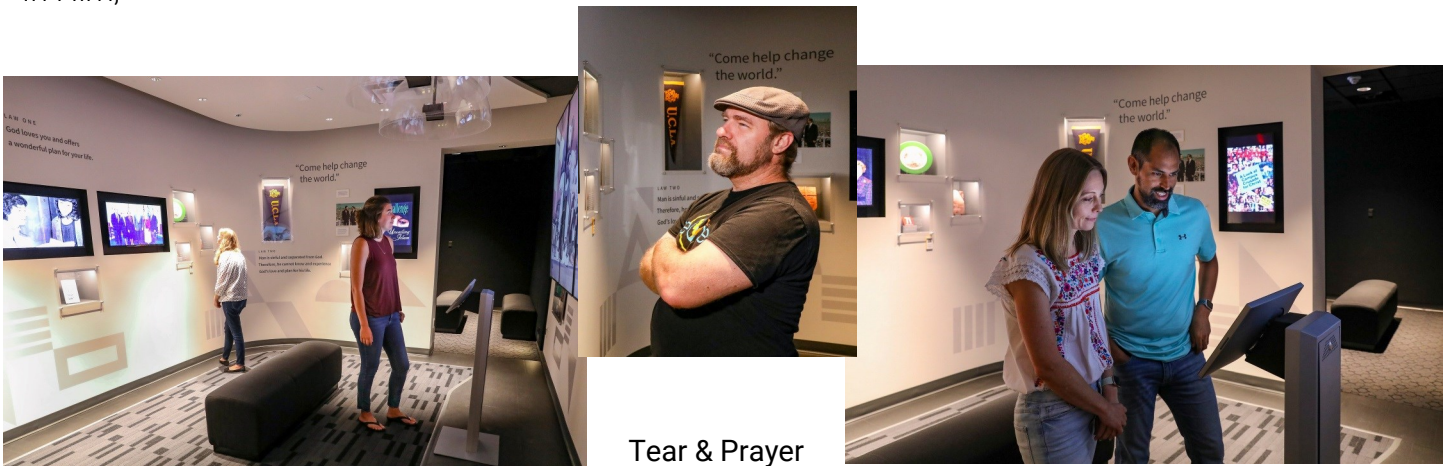
I think my favorite place to take visitors, though, is the "Journeys of Faith". The exhibit displays some of the history of Cru in an interactive and interesting fashion. A small theater is tucked into the back which shows a 15-minute film narrated by the Douglasses sharing the history and mission of Cru. For Eric and I, we don't really have a history with Cru as much as with FamilyLife so it is a neat opportunity to get a bigger picture. For example, did you know that Cru was behind "I Found It", a huge media campaign in 1976 where Cru published the slogan on bulletin boards, bumper stickers, and pins with this slogan to help start gospel conversations all over America? You can see examples of "I Found It" materials, early tracts, and many other gospel tools. I think what I like best is that it is not designed to glorify a person, but rather how God used that person to start a movement. Consider this quote from Louis Estrada who coordinated and implemented the exhibit:

tions all over America? You can see examples of "I Found It" materials, early tracts, and many other gospel tools. I think what I like best is that it is not designed to glorify a person, but rather how God used that person to start a movement. Consider this quote from Louis Estrada who coordinated and implemented the exhibit:

*"At first we planned to recreate his office, but as we thought and prayed, it seemed like the biggest tribute to Bill and Vonette would be to help someone take another step in their spiritual journey. The story of Cru is about the journeys of faith of one couple, but also our staff, donors, and volunteers. My prayer is that going through the exhibit, people will be challenged to consider their next step in their journey of faith. Bill Bright was an entrepreneur, and that spirit runs throughout our DNA as Cru. We are showcasing how Cru has continued to push the boundaries using the most current technology of the time to reach the world for Christ."*

Now that really is the point after all—whether through family, athletes, college students, or the many other divisions of Cru—reaching the world for Christ wherever we are!

In Him,



Tear & Prayer



**Praise** for Amanda receiving a great internship offer from Caddell Construction with a placement in Florida-she will be less than 2 hours from us!

**Praise** for a strong end to the Weekend to Remember season-we have 8 locations on 11/18-11/22 alone! MD, CO, NY, ID, PA, TX, WA, and VA-WOW! 3 locations in Dec. (IA, CA, SC) then off until Feb.

**Pray** for the Douglass family, Steve Douglass, former president of Campus Crusade for Christ/Cru, passed away 10/29. He had been struggling with cancer, & two weeks ago had an adverse reaction to his treatment that ended in organ failure.

**Pray** for a strong season of year end giving for both FamilyLife as a whole and our personal support

Pray for the Riedy Family  
serving with

 **FamilyLife**  
A Cru Ministry

1036 Drift Creek Cv., Orlando, FL 32828

abcdefamily@comcast.net

Eric Cell: (734) 377-3379 Deb Cell: (734) 658-3516

http://abcdefamily.net Cru Account # 0592655

1036 Drift Creek Cv, Orlando, FL 32828 \* (734)377-3379 - Eric \* (734)658-3516 - Deb \* abcdefamily@comcast.net \* <http://abcdefamily.net>