## **New Beginnings**





May 2019

# Nick & Amy Modrzejewski

Missionaries on the campus of University of Illinois with Illini Life Christian Fellowship

### i·life Semester Wrap-up Celebration & Baptisms

Hello! As we write to you the school year here has wrapped up and students have scattered to their summer internships, home, Leadership Training with Collegiate, or settled in for summer classes. As has become our tradition here in Illini Life, we ended the school year with a service focused on celebrating the work of the Lord in our midst this school year.

We **reflected** on our time together this school year, **sent** off the 26 graduates to their next chapter of life, we **prayed** for the 9 students heading to Estes Park, CO for Leadership Training, **remembered** Nick's ordination as a pastor in Illini life, and **baptized** 12 students. Afterward students and families enjoyed a picnic lunch. It truly was a celebratory time. We are so grateful for the lives God has been transforming through this ministry and thankful to be a part of it.

One such story is our friend Val who has been leading our dorm Bible Study and reaching out to Brielle (top left photo). They've been study buddies for exams, gone shopping together, hosted movie nights, and talked about Jesus a lot. As Brielle has begun to grow in her faith and make it her own, she decided to get baptized on Celebration Sunday and invited her family to be with us for it. We were so excited for her and them.

### **Summer Church** Being Refreshed

Summer classes here at U of I are generally more limited and quite a bit smaller. There aren't a ton of undergraduate students around campus these next few months, but there are a handful and it's a common time for new graduate students to move to town and begin their programs.

It has been a value of Illini Life's to offer a mid-week church service for students still on campus and to refresh and encourage the staff and few families that are part of our church. This summer we begin "Summer Church" on Thursday, May 30th. We are looking forward to a change of rhythm and chance to meet with students while on a less busy schedule over the next 2 months.

In addition to a midweek service, some generous church members host a weekly cookout. The church, our neighbors, and friends are all invited and it's been a great place of encouragement, refreshment, and outreach for us.

Amy, Nathan, and Nick will be in Champaign this summer helping with summer services and caring for our church family. We look forward to lots of time playing outside with Nathan - one of his favorite things!

### **Prayer Requests**

- For the 9 students at Leadership Training to grow in their relationship with God and ability to lead others.
- For Summer Church to be a refreshing and encouraging rhythm for us.
- For Amy, Nick, and Nathan to enjoy the summer in Champaign.





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