

# New Beginnings

October 2019



## Nick & Amy Modrzejewski

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

### i·life Fall Semester Retreat & Small Groups

Hello All!

It's been awhile since we had a chance to write you. The Fall Semester is always one of the busiest times of year for us. We are meeting new students, reconnecting with returning students, and resuming normal church rhythms. This year is no exception.

Nick continues to oversee our content and teaching for our Sunday morning service. We began the year focusing on the Sermon on the Mount and are now in the middle of a series called "Heroes of the Faith," focused around Hebrews chapter 11.

Our small groups are off to a great start this year, welcoming our returning students and reaching out to new ones. Currently, we have 8 active small groups in Illini Life, 6 of which are focused on students and meet in the dorms for easy access to new comers.

Each year we go on a retreat together as a church. It's usually about 1 month into the school year once we've had chance to build relationships with new students and settle into the campus routines again. This year we had 95 people at the retreat, 18 of which we new to Illini Life this school year.

### An Update Church Leadership

In an unexpected turn of events this Fall, Nick has found himself as the sole pastor of Illini Life for the short-term. His co-pastor has stepped out of leading temporarily to address some things that have come up.

A pastor of the church at Ball State University has stepped in to help Nick shoulder the burden of leadership through weekly phone conferences. This has been a great help, but day-to-day pastoral leadership responsibilities all rest on Nick currently.

All this has meant Nick has had less direct student interaction this Fall than in years past, but he still prioritizes being at our student small group and at our Coffee Tent to do outreach each week. Amy has been deeply involved in student ministry this semester. She continues to disciple 2 young women who lead our student small group. She often brings Nathan along to meet new students and attend outreach events.

Despite a busy season with lots of extra responsibilities, we are encouraged in the Lord and thankful to be doing ministry together as a family. We hope you'll pray with us for Illini Life and our leadership needs.

### Prayer Requests

- For Amy, Nick, and Nathan to be encouraged in the Lord and fruitful in ministry.
- For God to work quickly in the situations pulling Nick's Co-pastor away from ministry.
- For all the new students we've been meeting to come to know Jesus if they don't already, or to grow deeper in their knowledge and love of Him.

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