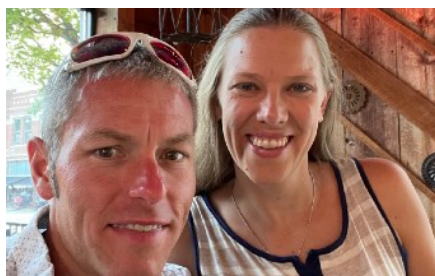
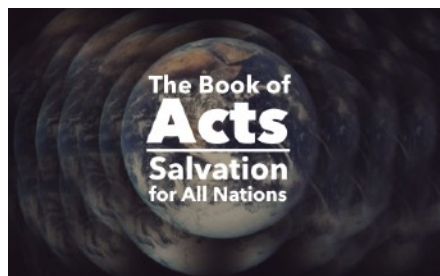


New Beginnings

September 2021



Nick & Amy Modrzejewski
 Missionaries on the campus of University of Illinois with Illini Life Christian Fellowship



Semester Begins Back In Person

Hello! We hope this finds you well as fall rolls in. Today marks 2 weeks of classes here at U of I. We are so excited to have students back in person on campus. We've taken time as a family to get out on the Quad together to meet up with students, or just to walk in the evenings. Nathan enjoys all the green space to run around in, and our hearts are lifted seeing campus filled again.

Amy has continued to engage with an undergrad small group that meets on Tuesday nights, while Nick leads a leadership development time for our staff and interns on Friday afternoons. Amy has had the chance to befriend several young women hungry for community as they've uprooted from their home countries to be here in the US for school or traveled across country to the cornfields of Illinois. Nick is enjoying working with our leaders teaching basic hermeneutics and inductive bible study skills.

This past Sunday was our third IN-PERSON, ON-CAMPUS worship service since March 2020 when Covid shut campus down. Returning to our usual lecture hall for a worship service was quite emotional and very encouraging. We've been averaging 50 people in person and a handful on our YouTube Livestream each week as we teach through the book of Acts.

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Where We Live

Summer Church 10 Weeks of Provision

During Summer Session here at U of I we hosted a regular mid-week worship service. It was our return to an in-person worship service as a church. We gathered for 10 weeks in a row on Wednesday evenings in the backyard of one of our Elders. The Lord provided beautiful weather, no rain, and even mild temperatures and shade each week.

Our primary goal in this time was to help the church get reacquainted with in-person service and community — singing together, praying together, and fellowshiping afterward. While service lasted about an hour each week, many stuck around to play volleyball, eat watermelon, play games, or just be together for hours.

In addition to our Wednesday service, another one of our Elders and his family hosted a neighborhood cookout weekly. They live across the street from us and we enjoyed seeing our church family, neighbors, and friends all gather and meet one-another. Our students routinely brought roommates and friends as we enjoyed each other's company late into the evening.

There certainly is a hunger to be together after a season of screens and isolation. We're so thankful for the Lord's provision in allowing so much space for that this summer.

Prayer Requests

- For Amy, Nick, and Nathan to be a light for Jesus to those we meet as we are present on campus.
- Praise for the opportunity to be back on campus for worship services again.
- Praise for so much space and good weather to be in community as a church this summer.

