

# New Beginnings

May 2022



## Nick & Amy Modrzejewski

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

### i-life Semester Wrap-up Graduation & Celebration

Hello! As we write this, the last of the students are moving out of campus housing and transitioning to their summer internships, apartments for summer school, or back home. On Saturday, like many educational institutions, the University held a graduation commencement that spanned 3 years of graduates. Those that graduated during the pandemic were invited to attend ceremonies in-person. It felt like an appropriate exclamation point on the transition back to normal campus life that this year has been.

Here in Illini Life we also took time to celebrate. We remembered and reflected on the work the Lord had done in our midst this year, looked to the future, and celebrated all of it. We celebrated the stories of life transformation shared on Sundays — our “My Story” segment. We celebrated the gospel conversations we had a chance to have through our weekly coffee tent. We celebrated the chance to worship together on Sundays in-person all year! Lastly, we celebrated the 7 graduates who we are sending off to their next chapter.

In so many ways this year has been a year of rebuilding for us. Rebuilding after the pandemic in re-establishing in-person meetings, and rebuilding our leadership core. We started the year with 2 small group leaders and we are ending with the potential for 8 next year! Praise God!

### Summer Church Pray for Outreach

As campus shifts to summer classes, we too are shifting to our summer rhythms in Illini Life. Next week we begin our weekly worship services held mid-week outdoors. We’ll be returning to the book of Acts for our study together to coincide with our focus on campus outreach this summer.

We hired two interns for the summer and, for the first time in a long time, we have fellow staff that will be here with us this summer. With a team of 5 staff we’ll be trying new ways of engaging with campus, seeking to take advantage of freshman visit days, and being present for early move in times for new students, internationals, and grad students. Our desire is for the team to innovate and respond to the accelerated social changes brought on by the pandemic as we seek to reach the next generation for Jesus.

We hope you’ll pray with us for fruitful outreach this Summer as we seek to build relationships for the sake of the Gospel.

Throughout the week we will be gathering for times of fellowship and fun as well to build up and refresh one another. We’ll share meals, play games, and host pool parties.

### Prayer Requests

- For Amy, Nick, and Nathan to be a light for Jesus to those we meet as we are present on campus.
- Prayers for a healthy pregnancy, Amy is due in early July.
- Praise God for raising up new student leaders.
- Pray for fruitful outreach and innovation this Summer.

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#### Where We Live

