

New Beginnings

May 2025



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

i-life Semester Wrap-Up Baptisms & Celebration

Two weeks ago the spring semester wrapped up here at Illinois. Graduation commencement happened and campus transformed seemingly overnight as student moved out of dorms and on to summer internships, programs, and a few to classes. Before that, we gathered one more time as a full church body to celebrate all the Lord has done in and through us this school year.

As part of the celebration we continued our tradition of a picnic lunch out on campus post service. It is always a sweet time of fellowshiping, reminiscing, and saying goodbye to those that are leaving for the summer or onto their careers.

The most significant part of our celebration that final Sunday is baptisms. Each year we offer a time for those that have put their faith in Christ to get baptized or those that have never taken this step of professing their faith publicly to do so. This year we had **8** students get baptized! It was such an exciting time to hear their faith stories and affirm them in their faith as a church community.

We invite you to pray for these **8** individuals to be strengthened in their faith and to continue to grow in their knowledge and love of Jesus.

Summer Service & Outreach

With the spring semester behind us it is time for summer rhythms here in Illini Life. This campus has never had a strong summer school presence, but we often have about a third to half of the church remaining here in Champaign-Urbana during the summer months. This year is no different.

This past week we kicked off our summer service and schedule. We meet mid-week for a worship service and teaching. We gather for cookouts and fellowship, Bible studies, prayer walks on campus, and outreach to incoming and current students each week.

This summer we are focusing on the book of Psalms as a church. Nick introduced the book as a whole and taught through Psalm 1. Each of the next 10 weeks we'll study a different Psalm in an effort to cover the variety of Psalms found throughout the 150 Psalter.

With that teaching focus we also challenged the church to read 2 Psalms a day to cover the entire book of Psalms this summer. For those hungry for more Psalms study, we are holding a party at the end of the Summer for anyone that memorizes a Psalm and recites it. Pray the Lord uses this summer of Psalms to bless and encourage us all.

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Where We Live

Prayer Requests

- Thank the Lord for the 8 students who were baptized!
- For summer outreach to be fruitful and encouraging.
- For our summer of Psalms teaching, reading, and memorization challenge.

