

New Beginnings

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



A New School Year Fall Outreach

Hello! We hope this finds you well as fall weather begins to settle in across much of the midwest. As always, the early signs of fall are entwined with the excitement of a new school year here at the University of Illinois.

It's been two full weeks since students began moving back to campus and just over a week since classes resumed. In those two weeks, we've had a chance to meet and survey just over **160** students who were interested in finding a church home here on campus. Some of those surveyed were new to campus as Grad and/or transfer students, but most were freshmen. **2** Freshmen were so excited to meet us and hear about our heart to share Jesus with campus, they jumped in and started helping right away!

As the initial excitement of campus move-in settles down, our leadership team is spending time calling, texting, and personally inviting all 160 of those surveyed to attend a small group, come to service on Sundays, and/or to meet up for coffee and a conversation.

It's an exciting time with so many new friends to meet and opportunities to share Jesus with love and grace.

In just the first week of classes we've had **11** opportunities to share the Gospel. As our team gathered with other campus ministries over lunch today, we all reflected on how refreshing the spiritual climate is right now on campus. Many in this incoming class appear open to an invite to church and interested in learning about Jesus. Pray that spirit continues and God grows it and uses it for His glory.

We also invite you to pray for our Sunday teaching where we're spending **7** weeks unpacking parables of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke. Nick is having a blast teaching these passages and preparing our developing teachers.

Lastly, pray for our **5** small groups, 3 focused on undergraduates, 1 focused on graduate students, and 1 that meets off campus to equip and disciple leaders. Pray these communities would be a welcoming and Jesus-centered place for new students to plug into and grow in their faith.

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Where We Live

Prayer Requests

- Pray the spirit of openness and interest continues.
- Pray for God to use our 7 weeks in the Gospel of Luke to boldly proclaim the truth of the Gospel.
- Pray for our 5 small groups to be welcoming and Jesus centered communities for new students.

