

New Beginnings

July 2026



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



Summer's End Fall Preparation

As July draws to a close we begin to shift our focus from summer rhythms and outreach to preparation for the fall semester. U-Hauls and packed mini-vans are a common sight at this time of year. Summer leases are ending and student housing is being prepared for move-in a few weeks from now.

We have continued to faithfully gather as a church community all summer, with a goal of reading through all 4 gospels while Nick and others teach through key moments in the life of Jesus. It has been a sweet time as a community to encounter Jesus in the Word and be transformed by Him. We've also had the opportunity to welcome new individuals to the campus community, inviting them to church and to serve with us in reaching out to campus. It has been a fruitful and refreshing summer season of ministry here at U of I.

In two weeks we'll gather for our last service of the summer to share a meal together and allow anyone who has memorized a passage of scripture from one of the four gospels to share it. This was a challenge we set before the church at the beginning of the

summer and many have taken us up on the call to memorize God's word.

Shortly after, Nick will gather our staff team and this year's student interns to pray for the coming school year and begin our fall outreach push. For a number of years now we've invited students to return to campus early and be here with us when official campus move-in begins. We call it Mission(IL) a missions trip to the Illinois campus. Planning for this began back in April and we have 2 solid weeks of events and outreach initiatives over move-in week through the first week of classes. We invite you to pray with us for a fruitful Mission(IL) and Fall Outreach.

The start of the Fall Semester also means the start of the school year for our own kids. Lately our super social daughter has been asking to go to pre-school to see all her friends. Our son has been practicing his math and continues to be a voracious reader. While the summer has been a ton of fun and allowed lots of family time, we are all ready and preparing for the upcoming change in routine and schedule. We invite you to pray for our family's transition back to school as well.

Prayer Requests

- For summer services to wrap up well and be a blessing to all in Illini Life.
- For Mission(IL) preparation and outreach to be fruitful.
- For our family to transition well back to school year rhythms and schedules.

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Where We Live

