

New Beginnings

September 2026

Reason to Believe

Thursdays
12-1
Union Basement

Is there a...
Reason to Believe?

Give me a...
Reason to Believe!

Can I...
Reason to Believe?

What is your...
Reason to Believe?



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



Fall Semester Gospel Sharing & Retreat

Hello! We hope this finds you well as September draws to a close. Here at Illinois the weather has shifted and the leaves are beginning to change. Fall is upon us and we are now 5 weeks into the fall semester.

As we kicked off the school year and began meeting new students, we set an ambitious goal as a church of sharing the Gospel 100 times before the semester's end. This felt like a stretch goal for us as we have never reached that number in a single semester before. Our team is passionate about sharing Jesus with campus though so we are leaning into it and seeking to make the most of every opportunity.

We adopted a new spiritual conversation survey for the month of September and used that during our weekly evangelism time. We started a new weekly apologetics initiative we are calling "Reason to Believe" where students can ask their questions about God. We have focused our outreach efforts at our weekly Free Coffee Tent to invite those stopping by to connect with us as a church beyond just free coffee.

As of today we are at 36 Gospel presentations and on track to reach our goal. It is so exciting to see the whole church investing and owning this goal, not just our staff

team. Student interns, student leaders, lay elders, and recent graduates are leaning in with us. The numeric goal is less of the point in our minds; the lives that encounter Jesus and can be transformed, and our church getting excited about sharing the Gospel are the real point.

We invite you to pray for God to use these initiatives and this goal to reach this campus and change students' lives.

Speaking of changed lives, this coming weekend we have our annual Fall Retreat. Nick has been planning and working on this with the church leadership for several months. We are excited to see it come together. Our theme for the weekend is Romans 12, which is all about living a life transformed by Jesus. We are calling it "How to thrive, not just survive."

Right now we have around 50 people registered for the retreat.

We invite you to pray for God to use the retreat to call all of us into deeper relationship with Him and deeper devotion and commitment to living a transformed Gospel-centered life.

Prayer Requests

- For gospel sharing opportunities and to reach our goal of 100 shares this semester.
- For more and more of the church to participate in sharing Jesus with the campus.
- For Fall Retreat to run smoothly and change lives.

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Where We Live

