



Spring 2023

# Newsletter

Volume 01 | Issue 01 | Illini for Christ

## *Hello!*

Welcome to the NEW Illini for Christ newsletter. Here you will find highlights for Illini for Christ alumni and supporters of our ministry work.

Illini for Christ is a college-age and young adult ministry based in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois and sponsored by the Philo Road Church of Christ.

Illini for Christ has a Restoration Movement heritage, specifically the acapella Churches of Christ. We keep this heritage with us as we attempt to approach God and others with humility and grace.

If you would like to subscribe to our newsletter, subscribe on our NEW website, [illiniforchrist.com](http://illiniforchrist.com).

## *Inside This Issue*

### **Caring for Kenya Review PG. 2**

From robotics to eyeglasses, we count the 2022 Caring for Kenya trip a success!

### **Social Media Changes PG. 3**

Stay up to date on all the most recent Illini for Christ events and activities.

### **The Pavilion Service Project PG. 3**

“Just no socks.” See what the group collected for a local mental health clinic.

## *Caring for Kenya Review: 2022*

This past summer, a small team made up of Illini for Christ college students and long-time supporters of Caring for Kenya conducted a mission trip. There they engaged in several ways, but here are a handful:

1. Simple robotics were introduced to a class of young students.
2. Eyeglasses were handed out to elderly individuals.
3. Meals and time together were shared.
4. Great hospitality was shown by Kenyan brothers and sisters.
5. The good news of Jesus was shared in and celebrated.

We are happy to hear about the good experiences that our Illini for Christ students had!

Know of someone  
coming to UIUC?  
We would *love* to  
meet them!

## Coming Up: Spring 2023

Gulf Coast Getaway in Panama City Beach, FL

Each January, we attend a campus ministry conference called Gulf Coast Getaway. It is a great opportunity to energize us for the upcoming semester to *begin* strong as people of faith.

Spring Service Project

To continue serving our community, we are planning on having a spring service project. You will find information about this service project in our Fall 2023 Newsletter!

## *Social Media Changes*

We are getting back on social media! In 2023 expect to find us on Instagram and revamped on Facebook. In addition to those shareable platforms, you will be able to find information at our new website. The easily memorable URL is below, be sure to check us out!

Not sure where to find us? Find our handles below!

Facebook: Illini 4 Christ

Instagram: @illiniforchrist

Website: [illiniforchrist.com](http://illiniforchrist.com)





## Changing Ministry Roles

This past January, Richard Miller decided to retire from his role at the Philo Road Church after a combined 24-years with the congregation. In August, Jonathan (or Jon) Smith was hired by the congregation to serve as the Evangelist. Part of his responsibility is to coordinate with current and future college students.



Did you know, the University of Illinois is a [top 10 engineering](#) and [top 5 accounting](#) school?



Nine science faculty members have [proved their influence](#) through their publications as of 2022.



UIUC is a [NCAA Division I university](#), with 19 combined men's and women's athletics teams.



Do you know of someone considering UIUC? Send them our way! Contact Jon Smith to find out more.

## Fall 2022 Service Project

One of our students, Leah Riedel, organized a clothing drive at the Philo Road church. This was coordinated with The Pavilion Behavioral Health System (previously Carle Pavilion), to provide winter clothes to the patients who are currently at The Pavilion.

The church collected and distributed X amount of clothing items including winter coats, shirts, pants, and underwear.

Rooted in the mission of the Philo Road Church of Christ to “Love God. Love Others. Live Christ,” We are always looking for opportunities to serve our communities.

How can we serve yours? Is there a service project you would like to partner with us in?

## How you can support Illini for Christ:

1. Pray. Please pray for us as we try to engage with individuals at the U of I and the Urbana-Champaign community.
2. Increase Awareness. If you know of anyone thinking about attending the U of I and they might need a faith community, let's connect!
3. Donations. If you would like to contribute to Illini for Christ, please make checks out to “Philo Road Church of Christ” with “IC” in the memo line. You can also use the church website. Go to “Giving” and choose “Campus Ministry.”

Want to learn more about Illini for Christ? Please contact Jon Smith at [jonglen25@gmail.com](mailto:jonglen25@gmail.com) or call the Philo Road Church of Christ at (217) 344-1659.