

# The Harvester

Creating opportunities to  
experience the Gospel so people  
may know Christ and become like  
Him

November 2023



## Prayers of the Saints

Please pray for a series of facilitator trainings we are hosting for the Hermon Baptist Church on Thursdays

Please pray for our weekly marriage group and for friends whose marriage we are helping mediate next week

Pray for God to bring who He wants to attend our spring mission trips and for discernment in planning

Please pray for our older neighbor John who recently came to Christ. His wife, Pam, just passed away.

Please ask the Lord to fully provide for Jessica Loose, who is raising support to join our team

## Thank you.

Every Monday morning Dan and I go for a prayer walk and give thanks to God for you, praying for His blessing upon you, for your spiritual growth, for His strength and discernment as you face challenges, and for your joy in relationships. Dan and I have been in ministry for over 25 years and some of you have been supporting and praying for us that entire time. Many of you have supported us through our moves as the Lord has called us to serve around New England, and you have supported us in the growth of our family from having babies to sending kids to college. Five years ago we began Thrive and you transitioned with us. We have never been alone. I am brought to tears by that. Thank you. Thank you for praying, giving, and loving us. Thank you for making this ministry possible, for upholding us when it is hard and rejoicing with us when God makes a divine impact. We rejoice over you!



## Spring Mission Trips

Much of our recent planning has been for two mission trips we are leading in the spring: a young adult trip to Costa Rica in March and a parent-teen trip to the Dominican Republic in April. Learn more at [ThriveMaine.org](http://ThriveMaine.org) and join us!



## Marriage Retreat

We try to make our spouse become like ourselves, but marriage is not about making us the same; it is about making us united.

“I plan to make time to talk with my wife; not just wait for it to happen.”

“I’ve learned how grateful I should be for my spouse and that I should tell him that more.”

“I want to be less controlling; to trust my husband for leadership.”

These are some of the responses from participants on last week’s marriage retreat, “The Journey to Oneness.” We host these retreats at our camp, a place from which we

can hike, climb, paddle, and be in God’s beautiful creation. It is also a home with a big, noisy table for meals, a warm wood stove and couches for relaxing, and a full game closet for entertaining! In that special spot, participants begin to feel like family. It is the place where we bear our hearts, pursue God together, and take time to play. That is what we did last weekend. The five couples who attended worked through real issues with their spouses using new tools

for communication. They even helped Dan and I work through our own conflict as we modeled communication. ☺ They connected over times of confession, remembering how they fell in love and sharing what they see in each other. They learned to ask for help and found support in real time from the other couples present. We always leave exhausted and thankful. Please pray for these couples as they love each other and strive to reflect Christ.

## The Dream Team

There are now seven of us on our staff team here in Maine, plus eleven children. This picture is from a recent corn maze team building night and it represents the joy I feel over working with this faith-filled group. I can get bogged down in my part of ministry, or just in life. Our pastor recently left so church life has been challenging, which

makes me all the more thankful for my teammates. Keith is analytical, Angie is playful, Joe is decisive, Shawna is optimistic, Craig is resourceful, and Dan is steady. All of them love the Lord. Our retreats and staff meetings have shown that we are better together—more gifted and more



able and more delightful as a Body. What’s more, our kids love being with each other. Thank you for praying for our team. These new staff have revived us all!