

The Harvester

So that people will know Christ and live like Him

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Galatians 1:3



Christ in the Canyons

Jesus often got away to be in the wilderness with the Lord. What better place for students to do that than in a slot canyon? This month Dan joined our New Mexico Thrive teammate Adam Simpson in Utah where they led students on a week-long adventure canyoneering, rappelling, and drawing near to the Lord. Together they focused on the spiritual disciplines of silence and solitude to really hear from God and on building grace and truth relationships that reflect Jesus and lead to growth.

Dan was so encouraged to be with Adam and see what he is doing in New Mexico with college students. Partnering with Momentous, Adam has a terrific discipleship program with gap-year students who want to devote time to spiritual growth. Adam and his wife Tracy have been spearheading Momentous and Thrive and are in real need of more staff. Please join us in praying for God to provide others to join their team—perhaps some of the students who have been part of the discipleship program. We pray for staff who have a heart for building God's Kingdom and for using outdoor experiences to reveal spiritual truths and put the Word to practice.

Prayers

April 14-21 we will be flying from Portland to Panama for a parent-teen mission trip. Please pray:

For our partnership with Filter of Hope, that we will serve & encourage them

For God to bear fruit through our witness, that we will proclaim Him boldly & people will put their faith in Jesus

That we—especially the teens—will return with a heart and a vision for living missionally and that we will impact our own communities with the Gospel



We have been working on updating our website with videos and testimonies. Please check it out and pass it on!
Thrivemaine.org

Abiding.

“I’ve been on my own... exhausting myself but not relying on God.”

“I now recognize that the earthly troubles are not stopping. But God is saying, ‘I am enough for you.’”

“I feel really rested, refreshed. I came here feeling my circumstances were greater than I am able to take on, and it’s true because God will take them on... I was able to let so much go. The main rebuke God gave me was to delight in Him more. God is so good... I definitely needed this.”

These are a few of the comments from the eight women who attended our Rest & Renewal weekend this month. I love how God speaks to us when we truly stop to be still and listen. And yet we so rarely do that. This weekend was a time for women to be together in the very present company of the Savior, to confess and to pray, to listen, and to read the Word, and to be immersed in creation and in the company of the saints. From empty-nesters to moms with small kids, to single women, we all had in common the burdens of the world and a love for Christ. What a relief to come together and be with the One who has overcome.



Above, our quiet time paintings
Below, “tunnel vision” keeps us from seeing God’s work



A Theme of “Surrender”

I grinned as the group muscled up to push our truck down the road. The students had just spent time inspecting my vehicle to learn all they could about it and now they were taking it for a spin...by pushing it. The parallel to our spiritual life was that we have a lot of knowledge about the Holy Spirit and we have access to the power of the Spirit, yet we tend to push in our own strength rather than depending on Him. How silly to push my truck from place to place when it is perfectly able to haul me and all twelve students farther and faster. Why do we not depend on God’s power and how do we access it? What are we trying to accomplish on our own? These were some of the topics we wrestled with at the retreat we led last weekend for the UMaine Navigators group. God calls us to surrender, yield, die to self so that He can live in us. Pray that these motivated, faith-filled student leaders will do just that.