

J U L Y 2 0 1 8

the

Harvester

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“Why Pray?”

That is the title of John Devries phenomenal 40-Day booklet on prayer. Devries points out that not praying is like pushing your car past a gas station because you ran out of gas and don't have time to stop to fuel up. It is ridiculous! “Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me (Jn 15:4.) I highly recommend this inspiring quick read! The kids and I read it this spring and loved it. We keep going back to it and find ourselves praying expectantly and eagerly for each other and for our neighbors, our state, and our world. –And for you!!

We are dependent on the Lord for everything, yet I try to take the control—and with it, the worry—of the growth and success of my children, the care of my home, the building of relationships, and the fruit of ministry. The Lord is graciously calling me back to my knees, remembering that the bulk of the work must be done there, through Him, or not at all. Please join us in prayer for one another to reflect and be empowered by Him.



Heart and Home

Two deer just came jogging through the yard while my youngest kids were out there practicing archery. Only in a national park would an animal be so bold! ☺ We have loved living up here in Mount Desert, and the July weather has been picture perfect for home building projects and family fun. We have been blessed to have time this summer to settle in, cultivate friendships, invest in a new church family, and discover other homeschool families. We are also itching to do more.

Our pastor estimates that of 12,000 permanent residents on the island, only about 250 of them are evangelical Christians. We have been told again and again by local believers that God is up to something and that our coming has confirmed that. It is a bit daunting to be considered an answer to prayer, but God has clearly moved us here, and I believe He has a reason beyond what we can envision. I pray that we will be wrapped in His Word and filled with His Spirit to be ready for the ministry He has called us to now with Lifelines and this September as we begin the ministry

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of Thrive. As we prepare to finish out our last month with Lifelines, we have been planning for the Acadia Women's Expedition. I am excited about the nine women that are coming on our expedition and about the programs we will use surrounding our theme of "eternal perspective."

As for Thrive Adventures, we have established a logo and are working on the website and brochures that we will use to communicate the ministry. Our goal is to be up and running as soon as we wrap up with Cru. Already a couple of local businesses have invited us to "advertise" and to use their space for ministry. We have also secured insurance for all our outdoor activities at a remarkable rate. God has even led us to some good deals on outdoor equipment so that we have enough kayaks and gear of our own to take people on trips this fall. We get more and more enthusiastic as God puts each piece in place.

Our Lifelines teammates, meanwhile, have been moving to Portland and are also feeling at home and hopeful about ministry there. Although Dan and I are leaving Cru staff, and our beloved Lifelines, it seems more like God is expanding the territory and influence of the Body of Christ.

A Month of Prayer

July 29-Aug 4 Please pray that God would make our family and team effective witnesses for Christ—that we would be yielded to God, bold in sharing the Good News, and that we would be filled with love and compassion for all those in our path.

Aug 5-11 Pray for the college students who are going on or returning from Cru summer projects; that they would become spiritual leaders, filled with faith, and steadfast in their love for God and His Word.

Aug 12-18 Pray for our Acadia Women's Expedition. Students arrive on the 9th and leave on the 19th. Pray that God will keep us safe and will instill in us an eternal perspective so that our lives and choices reflect our desire to store up treasures in heaven and not on earth. Please pray that God will use us all to share His message and will transform our hearts to be more like Him.

Aug 19-25 Please pray for our transition from Cru staff to the new ministry of Thrive Adventures. Pray that Lifelines would continue to impact college students for Christ and pray that God would also use Thrive to offer life-giving relationship with Jesus and one another.

Aug 26-Sept 1 We officially begin Thrive Adventures on September 1st. Pray that we would be submitted to Christ as a ministry, that God would use us to change lives and build His Kingdom, that groups would contact us for development, and that God would provide the resources we need to serve well.



Dedicated to Jim Doenges

We mourn the loss of our spirited friend and co-worker Jim Doenges, Lifelines staff in Colorado, who died last week while hiking on his own in Scotland. Please pray for our Lifelines family and especially for Teresa, his wife, as we celebrate and grieve.