

J A N U A R Y 2 0 2 2

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# Harvester

Offering outdoor experiences so that people may know Christ and live like Him



**THRIVE**  
ADVENTURES

Dan & Heather Litchfield

## New Name!

Last year we discovered that “Thrive Adventures” is used by an adventure tourism company and although we are .org and they are .com, it has caused confusion. So, for months we have been deliberating over what new name to use that would maintain our identity, keep our logo, and satisfy all our staff. I am overjoyed to announce that we have a solution! “Thrive Adventures” will be officially renamed “Thrive” and will be distinguished by our various locations. So, we will be ThriveMaine.org, our New Mexico team will be ThriveTaos.org, etc. Each team will have its own web page with a link to our overarching platform of ThriveNational.org. Our email addresses will change to reflect that as well. In the process, God has opened doors for expansion and for a means to direct locals to our state specific offerings, while maintaining the unity of our ministries. People can still give to Thrive or Thrive Adventures. Future editions of the Harvester will highlight these updates. Thank you for praying with us over this!



## Practical Play

Many of us lead small groups at church, at home, or at work with little actual training for the job. When the group goes off on a tangent, has moments of awkwardness, is unenthusiastic, disconnected, or otherwise “stuck,” what should the leader do? Small groups are the best place to practice living out the Word of God, and when small groups learn to function as the Body of Christ, they are a place of growth and a light to others. Our first Small Group Leaders Training included 16 people from 5 churches around Maine. We emphasized the role of a leader, how to create an environment for growth, and skills like asking good questions. We pray that God will magnify these training and tools for the growth of His Kingdom statewide.

## Upcoming Events, Praise & Prayer

### Family Fishing

Feb 19<sup>th</sup> we are hosting a family ice fishing day. Please pray for our witness to the lost and for families to reconnect.

### Women's Event

Feb 4-6 is our first women's retreat at the Pond house. Pray that attendees will draw near to God and be changed.

### New staff

We have four people considering joining Thrive. We know them and think they would be a great addition to the team!



## The Pond House

Last March we broke ground on our new camp property in Clifton. Our goal was to build a year-round place that could house groups and be a family retreat for both Thrive and ourselves. Though small, we designed a house with multiple rooms and bathrooms that could support marriage retreats, men's and women's get-aways, youth events, and leadership weekends. The location is ideal—on a quiet pond perfect for canoeing and paddle boarding, and just minutes from some of our favorite hiking and rock climbing sites. As we have finished the building we've realized that it is more of a pond house than a camp. With the

help of a few friends and family, Dan has built a beautiful house from the ground up. As soon as the first toilet was installed, we packed up and headed the 50 minutes out to spend the night. 😊 We are now days from hosting our first retreat there, and I have almost finished painting the cabinets. Dan is working on the stair rail, doors, and bathroom light fixtures. Then we will have done everything but the kitchen sink (literally!) We look forward to offering two venues for events, and to having housing for winter groups. We pray the Lord will bless the property and use it for His Kingdom. We invite you to visit or come on a Thrive event there!



In loving memory of Grampa John Golding, who passed away this week at age 93. We'll miss your spunk and stories, Gramp.

## His glorious grace

“What is the Gospel?” I asked the students in the World Missions class I was teaching. “That’s a good question; I have no idea,” said one teen. She and her sister had never heard how sin entered the world, or how Jesus came to redeem us. They listened with rapt attention and left with some verses to look up on the internet. I am excited about what God will do in their hearts in the weeks to come. Please pray for their salvation and the other students in our homeschool co-op who do not yet know Christ, but who hear the Good News and are immersed in the Body of Christ every Thursday at co-op.