

The Harvester

So that all may know Christ and be like Him



New staff class: Jason, Austen, Micah, and Emma (Ethan and Julie too)

Training to Thrive

We are excited to be graduating our first new staff training class: Jess, Craig, and Shawna are just weeks from becoming senior Thrive staff! They have all completed their required medical certification and Jess and Craig are pursuing their Maine Rec Guide license, which will be a huge help to our team. And now we have a fresh staff training class with three new summer staff, a volunteer, and two full-time staff. As the Leadership Development Director who gets to oversee weekly training, I am thrilled about these new teammates and all of the talents, energy, and ideas they bring to Thrive!

THRIVE CALENDAR FOR JULY

ACADIA PADDLE

July 7 is a kayak trip on God's glory and July 22 we will lead a kayak trip for a leadership team about trusting God in trials

BASE CAMP

We are hosting Thrive's national conference July 9-13. Pray for faith, wisdom & refreshment for all our teams

PARTNERSHIPS

July 24 we will raft with a Bangor church and July 28 we will take an outing club canoeing, all to address pursuing Christ as a lifestyle

Prayer Requests:

Discipleship

Pray for discernment for our staff as they disciple others locally.

Austen

Just passed his raft guide test. Hooray! Pray for him, **Jason**, and **Micah**, that God would bear fruit through their witness and work.

Emma

Is currently raising support and must reach 100% before reporting. Pray for God's provision.

Ethan

Just moved to his new staff location in Taos, NM. Please pray for community.

Growth

Praise God for new staff! Pray for more laborers to reach new locations.

Virginia comes to Maine

This month we hosted a youth pastor (our friend John), his staff, and their juniors and seniors for a week of training, and team building.

We were so impressed with the kids from this group. They quickly melded into our family, sharing honestly about their lives as they wrestled over leaving for college or dealt with parents' recent and startling divorce. These young leaders were preparing to facilitate Bible studies and small groups back at their youth group or at summer camps. They were eager to serve, and many of them had been leading groups already. They were full of enthusiasm, whether sea kayaking on a perfect sunny day or rock climbing in the rain. They loved the paddle boarding afternoon where they were left to lie back and float on their own spread out across the lake, just *being* in God's presence and talking to Him. They engaged in the small group training and debriefs, even when it meant owning sinful thoughts and fears that



affected the group itself in the moment. And they were thankful— something we too rarely see in the teens we've served. One of the boys sought me out to say, "You have taught me more in one hour than I learned in two weeks of training at my summer camp." And in a thank you note left on our kitchen table, one of the girls wrote, "Your strength in Christ and love for others abounds in everything you do... This week has pushed me toward pursuing ministry in my career one day!" Praise God!

Please pray for these young men and women to grow in faith and the knowledge of Christ more and more, to abide in Him, to bear fruit as they serve, and to be a light to the world.

FATHER-SON INVESTMENT

Joe's Father's Day backpacking trip was a grand success: the boys left motivated to walk with God steadfastly even if they were less enthused about ever backpacking again. The trail was long and arduous, but it was perfect for the topic of the weekend, which was perseverance, and how following Christ sometimes means doing hard things. This group has been meeting for four years now, and in that time two of the dads have passed away. These boys know what it looks like to walk through hardship and trials, and they have experienced loss together. As these boys finish high school, please pray for them and for the next group of dads and sons to invest in.



These VA girls befriend their lobster right before Dan's lobster eating demonstration. (Grin.)