

The Harvester

Dan & Heather Litchfield
Thrive Maine

February 2025



Answered Prayer

Praise God for Ethan Allen applying to join staff on our Taos, New Mexico team! Ethan has served with Adam, our NM team leader, on a few ministry projects and will be joining us on the Camino mission trip this summer.

We also praise God that our son, Micah, will be interning with Thrive this summer here in Maine. Micah has witnessed and helped with ministry since he was born and has been taking classes toward a ministry degree for the past two years from New England Bible College. A creative thinker, Micah has strong social skills and a love for people and for the Lord. He will be getting his medical certification alongside our new staff next month and is eager to begin white water rafting training with Thrive this August.

Meeting God on the Mountain

This past week Thrive led the annual overnight Katahdin ascent. Dan was unsure how it would be since his Achilles surgery and back problems in the spring. But he still has his hiking strength and God blessed the group of 11 men with the best weather perhaps every recorded for February on Mount Katahdin. The theme of the ascent was “how to lead at home.” The staff explained that contentment is humility plus gratitude. Following Jesus’ model, they addressed ways to cultivate and express gratitude and love at home. All the men—believers, new believers, and a non-believer—raved about the hike. One man met Craig afterward to say how much he loved it and was making changes at home in response to what he learned on the trip. Another participant called Dan the day after their return to talk about the trip. This man has since expressed a desire to volunteer or join Thrive part time!



“And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”

- John 17:3

That All the World May Know

“And he said to them, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.’” –Mark 16:15

The photo above is of Caleb, our oldest son, serving in the Camino house, a hostel in the little town of Ligonde, Spain, along the famous pilgrimage hike, the Camino de Santiago. He and I led a mission trip of college students there ten years ago, and now I am excited to be going back this June with Caleb (who turns 22 next week) and our two youngest kids, Micah and Aliza. Our family and our New Mexico team will serve their together, housing, feeding, and sharing the Gospel with the many pilgrims on the trail. Though we can only house so many each night, about 600 hikers pass through every day, stopping to refill water, rest, and chat. Many are on a spiritual quest but very few know Christ. It is an opportunity to care for these weary sojourners and to share the Gospel, pointing them to Jesus, the only one who can truly give them life.

Prior to this in April, our coworkers are leading a Thrive mission trip to Costa Rica with Filter of Hope for over 40 of their church members. And, we will be partnering with Filter of Hope again in November as we lead a parent-teen mission trip to the Dominican Republic. If you, or parents and teens you know, are interested in coming and in learning to live more missionally as a family, please contact us through ThriveMaine.org.

Between all these trips, our daughter Emma, who flies home for college spring break tonight (Hooray!), will be going on a three week mission trip to India this July. We are all excited at the opportunity to be God’s witnesses not only here in Maine, but also “to the ends of the earth.”

Please pray with us each week

Sunday

That our staff team would be faithful to Christ and His Word.

Monday

For the Moms' “Thrive at Home” program we are creating, and for its fruitfulness at our home church where we will first implement it

Tuesday

For our March marriage retreat to lead couples into deeper trust in God and to overcome obstacles in their marriages

Wednesday

That God would provide year round housing for interns

Thursday

For the family expeditions that we are each starting: to be effective in building a legacy of faith

Friday

Pray for Ben, who recently heard the Gospel on a Thrive trip, to put his faith in Christ

Saturday

For the Lord to continue to raise up new staff to join Thrive