

The Harvester

Dan & Heather Litchfield

Thrive Adventures: *to know Christ and live like Him*

Videography

One of our main objectives is to get the word out about Thrive and to use media to help others know Christ and live like Him. As a step toward that goal, Jeshua joined the Katahdin trip and created a video for Thrive. You can watch for yourself at <https://youtu.be/tfZpZwTpyZs>



Marriage

All around us marriages are crumbling. America exalts the flesh. The sinful nature corrupts. The institution of marriage itself is under attack. Our zoom marriage sessions this March on *the journey to oneness* were an attempt to remedy that. Praise God that the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Now we work on family & parenting.



Birthday Boy

This month, our oldest son, Caleb, turned 18. It really does feel like we have another man in the house. He will graduate on May 15th and leave for Cedarville University in August to study history with a minor in Bible. He is a joy and I already miss him!

Monumental Truth

“Discontent is fertile ground for sin,” Dan asserted, while leading a discussion on contentment following a winter hike up Katahdin. The guys endured fierce winds and arctic temperatures on Maine’s highest peak, sleeping on the snow, and chiseling their way through frozen snacks, while trying to cultivate the type of contentment Paul encouraged in 1 Timothy 6:8, “And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.” The guys debated how much is enough, and what godliness with contentment actually looks like. Of the experience, one man said “This is the best day of my life!”



Easter observed

In reference to the Jews, Paul says, *“Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.” (Rom 10:3,4.)*

The world is all about establishing its own righteousness, and we fall prey to this too. Whether it be about social ethics, political policies, Covid practices, or how to raise our kids, we forget that we are not the law makers. We want to be right, but we must turn to the Word to remember what true righteousness looks like, and then, we submit to God’s righteousness. That is what we celebrate each Easter—this offer of salvation from the wrath of God, by God, made righteous for God, that we might have eternal life with God. We do not celebrate our false, self-imposed righteousness that divides us from one another. That righteousness is inconsistent, constantly having to be re-earned. Instead, we rejoice in the ultimate righteousness from God that unites believers in Christ. That righteousness is not arrogant, since it does not come from us; it is compassionate in its humility. And by faith Easter has guaranteed it.

Choosing to Thrive

This winter we have done a number of programs for women on “How to thrive in winter.” Bangor’s Imago Dei ladies were our last group to experience the activity this year. Here were some of their responses:

- “The mental block is real, but you persevere.”
- “I want to reach out more to my sisters in Christ; less isolation.”
- “Winter does affect me spiritually without me being aware.”
- “I want to dig into God’s Word more.”
- “Fun and inspiring!”

Our goal is to help women see God’s plan for their continued growth and hope in the midst of the cold, dark months of winter. We want to spur each other on toward love and good deeds in every season, and especially in winter when encouragement is most needed and time is more abundant.

This was the first activity these ladies had done together since Covid hit last March, so it was also a time of reunion and building new friendships—another goal we have as we seek to build life-giving, Christ-like community.

Please pray for discernment as we are now developing programs for retirees on how to thrive in the senior years.

New Thrive Staff: the Ketters!!

This month, Craig and Shawna Ketter flew from Kansas to visit us, and I am happy to announce they and their four children will be joining our team! Craig leaves over 20 years of service in shipping to follow God’s calling. Shawna is a homeschooling mom who has developed an outdoor club with more than 200 members. Praise God with us and please pray for the sale of their home, their support raising, and their eventual move here.

