



Dan & Heather  
Litchfield  
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# The Harvester

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2 Peter 3:18

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*“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”*

## July Prayers

### Week 1:

For faithful, humble, adventurous, skilled staff to join our New Mexico team

### Week 2:

That our marriage adventure weekend would meet real needs in the couples' lives, bring healing and hope, and recommit husbands and wives to the Lord and each other.

### Week 3:

For Maine believers to be bold & steadfast

### Week 4:

For the father and son rafting trip July 25<sup>th</sup> and fishing Aug 1-2<sup>nd</sup>

## Thrive National: Rejoicing and Requests

Our Thrive National Staff meeting brought together all three of our teams in New Mexico, where our Taos team resides. What a blessing to be together as a staff family- a reunion we delight in each year. We began in celebration of what the Lord has done over the past five years: developing a ministry of 13 full and part-time staff in three locations, raising \$100,000 for our North Carolina team, giving us a name and a brand, and more importantly using Thrive events to bring people back to church, or to inspire them to attend for the first time, a husband on a marriage retreat crying for the first time in four years, youth learning how to find verses in a Bible, couples confessing to each other, leaders reconnecting with the Lord, the Gospel message declared, women admitting that they have never felt so safe in a group, fathers talking to their sons about Jesus... we have so much to praise God for. He has blessed us, led us, and worked through us in accordance with His grace. And what is on the horizon? We want to reproduce fruit in participants, aiming for both their personal growth and their fruitful impact on others. We hope to begin leading mission trips, and by God's grace, partnering with churches to reach out to and meet spiritual and felt needs in their community. We are also trusting God for help with media and marketing. Please pray with us!



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## Small Group Leader Training

The philosophy of facilitating. How to create an environment for growth. Facilitating skills. These were the main themes of our small group leader training last week. Our desire is to share what we have learned through years of facilitating small groups in the hopes of equipping church leaders and lay people to minister more effectively and build up the Body of Christ to maturity and effective witness. Overall, there is a lack of community within the church in New England and

that is even more apparent in younger generations. Yet, it is our community that God intends to use to build us up, to sharpen one another, to reflect Him to the world, and to experience the fullness of Christ. If we can help leaders create godly community that is living in the grace and truth of Christ and practicing Biblical principles in real time, then their light in turn will shine more brightly, and by God's grace, reach every corner of our world. That is not *our*

plan; it is *God's* mandate to we, the church.

The participants who attended this past training came from a variety of churches and embodied those in positions of leadership in homes, co-ops, the church, and other ministries. Please pray for them as they strive to apply some of the concepts they learned, and pray that God would use them as catalysts for building one another up into Christ.



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## (Lots of us) Living at the Pond House

One of our great joys is hosting people in our home, and a lot of that tends to happen in the summer! This month we have been blessed to host Jade, the kids' childhood friend and daughter of our hearts.

Days after her departure our new staff family, the Kettlers, came from Kansas with their four children to give them a taste of what they will be moving to once they are fully funded. All eight of our kids spent hours swimming, canoeing, having water fights, and playing yard games, and then

wrapping up the nights with family charades and card tricks. Happily, they are now much more excited about their cross-country move! ☺

Currently, we are now delighted to be hosting the Kidd family, dear long-time friends and former ministry peers from our days with Cru. Kelly joined Thrive staff part time on June 1<sup>st</sup> as a support coach for new staff like the Kettlers. We adore she and John and their two girls and their visit has involved water fun, rock climbing, prayer, and late night heart-to-hearts.

*This summer we are renting our home in Mount Desert and living at our camp to fund college for two kids. We are grateful for God's provision and that we can serve Him from both locations.*

