

J U N E 2 0 2 4

the

Harvester

Dan & Heather Litchfield with Thrive Maine, creating experiences for others to know Christ and live for Him

Night Hike

What are the big decisions you are facing in life right now? How do you know God's direction for your life? For young adults those are loaded questions and are just a few of the ones we discussed while cooking popcorn in the dark forest near the end of a night hike. We had given the group a destination but no directions in an area heavy with short trails and intersections. They would have to decide which paths to choose to find their way to the goal. How they determined where to go was much like life. Some did what seemed easiest. Some just followed others. Some strategically scouted ahead. Some relied on past experience. Some asked for help. How often do we plunge ahead without consulting the Word, our map, or praying and listening? Pray that these men and women will do so.



Trailblazer Days & Men's Events

Weekly throughout June Shawna led mom's trailblazer hikes and swimming days while Craig led men's hikes or rock climbs. What a joy to see these highly relational new staff friends serving the community and pointing people to Christ. Craig was especially overjoyed to connect with a young man through the testimony of his own young adult years and how God saved him from self-destruction.

Above, kids learn about building on the foundation of God's Word by building (and destroying) various foundations. Shawna's creativity with kids is unsurpassed and Moms have relished connecting heart to heart with other moms.

Save the Date!

New Mexico

Our NM team is back from Patagonia and building the ministry in Taos. Pray for fruit and more laborers.

Night Hike

This month's night hike is about priorities. Pray for many to attend and draw near to God.

Young Adults

July 26-28 we will host 20 young adults for a retreat. Pray for community & spiritual growth.

Base Camp

Annually, all our Thrive teams meet together for encouragement, direction, spiritual refreshment, and planning. This month we convened in North Carolina near our Asheville team.

Family Values

As our president, Dan brought us back to the basics of our shared values of transparency, courage, growth, and outdoor experience. Every night different staff members share how their year has been—both joys and struggles. We spend the morning in the Word together and then focused on tasks and planning, followed by afternoons hiking or swimming. It is a time of deep connection as a staff family living, playing, working, and eating together. Many of these people we have served with for years both with Thrive and with Lifelines when we were on staff with Cru. I love spending time with them and am grateful for opportunities to get to know our new staff too. We left filled with gratitude and hope, excited for what God will do in the coming year.

Staff Kids

There are 14 Thrive staff members and 26 staff kids, with two more due next month! I cannot mention Base Camp without talking about how many—and how awesome—the kids are. They are determined to always be part of Base Camp despite the cost. ☺ They all play and adventure together no matter the age span, big kids helping younger ones. They also all cook a meal for us and they have weighty debates of their own about church, evangelism, and predestination. It is a joy to watch these disciples grow up together!

Moving Forward

One of my main projects has been revising our training manual for new staff and ongoing development for senior staff. This is something I have used extensively on our own team in training our intern, Carley, and the Ketters. Jessica Loose will soon be back from maternity leave to also begin training. Following Base Camp, Keith proposed (hooray!). We are praying for more staff. We have new international opportunities too.

Carley props up Aliza with Micah on the drive to NC

