

# THE HARVESTER

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## “AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES” - GOD

We never know who God will put in our path. At the end of October it was ladies from the UMaine women's retreat for a long weekend of relational programming. Most of the girls were isolated, introverted and had just met each other. In fact they are the only group I have ever known to do a scavenger hunt in complete silence! But by Sunday after lots of games and programs (including the one bottom right where they ate an entire meal with their hands tied to their neighbors)

and discussions about dependence and God's design for the Body of Christ, the women had begun to open up. They started to share their fears and loneliness and verbally committed to trying to connect and support each other back on campus. This was especially encouraging to two exchange students from England, one of whom was a non-believer.

The following weekend our team took a fraternity repelling. Among the group was the former student

body president as well as a transgender student. Few, if any, were believers, yet while standing at the top of the cliff, God directed a conversation related to fear and faith, striking a chord with one student who was in tears, and another who eventually backed away from the edge and walked to the bottom. So many of these students are lost and broken – it is a privilege to introduce them to our Savior and see their expressions begin to move from doubt to hope.

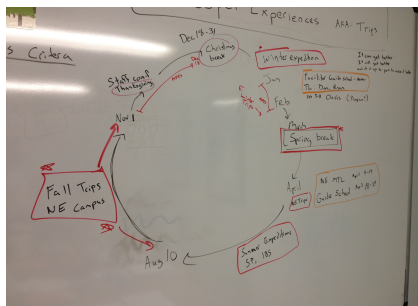
## PURPOSEFUL AND PERSEVERANT PRAYER

Would you join us in praying regularly and specifically for three things?

1. For God to add more Lifelines staff: we pray for 70 in the next two years
2. For new referrals and contacts as we continue the process of support raising
3. For God to raise up one million disciples across U.S. campuses by the year 2020



## THE CIRCLE OF LIFE AND MINISTRY



Doug, my first director, used to remind me, “You can’t do it all, Heather.” I feel like that is a lesson we are still learning. This fall has been a whirlwind, with both or one of us gone every weekend except two since mid-August. Yet it has been a terrific season of ministry, and amazingly, of homeschool. Meanwhile, I am learning to give thanks and to be content in all circumstances – which I am even, at times, successful in! Dan has

recently moved from HR to National Field Director for Lifelines, which he loves. He actually leaves tomorrow for a scouting trip to the Carolinas to determine where to place our next resource team. My role overseeing facilitator training is ramping up even as our campus duties are dying down with the approaching break. In the on-campus lull, we will recommence our support raising efforts until January when Dan goes to New Zealand to meet with Cru staff abroad about establishing a Lifelines team there. He will return in time for our big Feb and March events: facilitator school and a women’s spring break trip to the Everglades, themed “Seeking Paradise.”

*This issue of the Harvester is dedicated to Sandy Williams, pastor for more than 36 years, faithful mentor, and longtime friend. Thanks for being so influential in my salvation and in our spiritual formation. We love you. Congratulations on your retirement!*

## A WORD OF THANKS

It seems too cliché to say that “we couldn’t do it without you” but truly we could not. The fact that you even read our newsletters is so encouraging, and I am convinced that much of the success of our ministry and our own family health is due to your prayers. I know the food on my table is thanks to your support, and I am humbled that through your job and generous giving, we are able to do our job. I pray that you would experience great rewards for your part in this Lifelines ministry that we do together. In the words of Boaz, “May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge” (Ruth 2:12.) Happy Thanksgiving!

## AEE CONFERENCE

At the end of October I had the chance to attend the Association for Experiential Education national conference in Oregon. My goals in attending were two-fold: to assess where we are as a ministry in light of the professional industry, and to learn new practices to then share with our team and in the facilitator schools. It was quite something to be among 600 people who all want to play games as a teaching tool! ☺ I did come away with some great new ideas and with some valuable connections to students and instructors from Christian colleges that we hope to partner with in the future (perhaps in recruiting new graduates to join us too!) However, the biggest encouragement was to see that we are really good at what we do. By God’s grace and gifting, we are in my estimate, among the top experiential educators represented at that conference. This is important as we strive to represent God in both heart and skill. We will pursue accreditation through AEE and continue to build relationships there. Come join us at facilitator school!!

