



Northwest *FOCUS*

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

APRIL 2018



Centering on the Savior at Easter!

Our NICE Missionaries and Board Members make every effort to use the time prior to Resurrection Day, and Easter itself, to point people to the Savior, to captivate their hearts and lives to pursue Christ-likeness. Many of them have traditions that are followed each year. But they are intentional traditions, used to reach people; and used to center on the Savior.

Sunset Bible Church is where NICE Missionaries **Roy and Elvia Sprague** attend when they are not themselves involved in Sunday ministry. Pastor **Jay Mosser** emphasizes "The Lamb Who is Worthy" on Palm Sunday; "The Lamb Who was Slain" on Good Friday; and "The Lamb Who is Worshipped" on Easter Sunday.

Judi Allen, the wife of NICE's Western Washington Field Director, Bob Allen, has prepared a booklet entitled *IN STEP: An Easter Journey*. **Roy and Elvia Sprague**, and others of the NICE Family have been walking the path to Calvary and the resurrection with our Savior by reading the events of each day leading up to the crucifixion and resurrection; and discovering challenges to Christ-likeness.

Pastor **Dave West** (Carson Bible Church, WA); Pastor **Gary Taylor** (Nehalem Valley Bible Church, Vernonia, OR); and Pastor **Rob Morris** (Hobart Community Church, WA) take part in an Easter Sunrise Service in conjunction with other local churches. The attending pastors share the portions of the service, and are encouraged by the joy of worshipping, praising and fellowshiping with others of like faith prior to their own individual Easter services.



Hobart Community Church, WA

Meals are always a draw to those in the community! And for those from a church, the fellowship time is ideal in getting to know newcomers and encouraging them to stay for the Easter service. Pastor **Jeff Mullins** (Canaan Community Church, Rainier, OR); Pastor **Nate Shinn** (Ashland Bible Church, OR); Pastor **Rob Morris**; and Pastor **Gary Taylor** all have a special Easter breakfast served at the church. Pastor **Gary Taylor's** church has also held a Seder meal every year, as an important outreach event. Pastor

Gary commented, "We have had as many as 50 attend. It's an important part of our Easter week celebration and our year for that matter. We have a booklet that we use, put out by a Christian Jewish person, to go through the meal which describes the elements as they pertain to Christ. We try to make it as authentic as possible with the exception of not reclining at the table!"

The resurrected Savior changes lives, and sharing what He has done encourages others! Pastor **Beau Floyd** (Emmaus Road Church, Idaho Falls, ID) is having a special Palm Sunday service, then on Easter they will have an Easter Brunch followed by a testimony service, sharing what Jesus Christ is doing in the lives of the church family.

Throughout the NICE Family, this Easter will be a prime opportunity to reach neighborhoods and touch lives with the gospel! And as hearts respond to the Spirit of God, you have had a part in that through your prayer and support! We value your partnership with us; please continue to uphold the mission in prayer, this Easter and on through the year! Happy Resurrection Day! He is risen indeed!

So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. I Corinthians 3:7