



Northwest FOCUS

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

DECEMBER 2022



Partnership for the Gospel!

Each year, NICE Executive Director, Bob Rodgers, chooses a theme for the coming year. This theme reflects the Mission leadership's vision and goal for the coming year. In 2023, the goal and vision of NICE will be to focus on "Strategic Partnerships". That means the mission will be cultivating partnerships with like-minded churches and organizations for the furtherance of the gospel, and producing healthy churches. The key verse chosen is from Philippians 1:3,5, "I thank my God ... because of your partnership in the gospel."

Each November and December, a number of our NICE missionary pastors and their church families have been doing just that! They partner with Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, sometimes called the Shoebox Ministry. Shoeboxes are filled with toiletries, school supplies and toys, and are shipped around the world to be given to children in need. Before the boxes are shipped out, OCC includes a clear gospel explanation inside of each box.

NICE Missionary, Ed Studtmann said, "Christmas gifts mean a lot to the givers and those who receive them. The added fact that the child will hear a clear message of the Gospel adds extra value to the effort of love."

Bob Allen, NICE Church Team Missionary commented, "This participation engages our people more than any other ministry at the



Packing party results at Hobart Community Church, WA, where Rob and Ruth Morris, and Bob and Judi Allen serve.

church. We have a garage sale every summer to raise money for shipping the boxes. We also have several of our young people who begin writing personal notes in the spring to be able to include in the boxes."

NICE Inland Northwest Field Director, Roger Hayden added, "This ministry gets our people involved, and helps make the afflictions of others more real."



Packing party at Wishkah Valley Community Church.



Pastor Caleb and Kassie Small and two church leaders at Wishkah Valley Community Church, Aberdeen, WA.

According to OCC's records, for every 5 boxes handed out, 1 child makes a decision to trust Christ as Savior. This year alone, several churches associated with NICE have sent off over 1000 boxes! Do the math! That means that these relatively small, rural churches have had a part in reaching over 200 children for Christ! NICE's missionary pastors are making a difference around the world! And your commitment and support of the Mission makes you a partner in reaching lives for Christ world-wide!

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