

Northwest FOCUS

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

DECEMBER 2024

Snapshots from the Album

During the holidays, as families gather, it's not unusual to look through old photos, reliving memories and adventures. Walk down memory lane with us, with a few "snapshots" of NICE holiday history.

November, 1962

Assistant Field Director, **Don Strunk** wrote to Dick Schwab: *"On the way back from south Oregon, I picked up a Ray Thomas. He has a fifth grade education and is now an unemployed dish-washer. I used I John 5:12 in my witness to him. He said he wanted Christ; prayed, wept and rejoiced. Could you call him? He cannot read, but God loves the poor and values their souls!"*

December, 1962

Director, **Don Strunk** wrote: *"In the past weeks, I have received correspondence from two small churches for help; four pastors for assistance; and three NICE missionaries with needs. Pray, the burden is heavy! Pray with us for the needs of 1963, or 'On Your Knees in Sixty-three!' P.S. A 15 year old boy was saved last night in our Bible Crusade with Roy Sprague. Trusting the Lord for more!"*

November, 1963

NICE Board President, **Noel Olsen** wrote: *"In Psalm 116, David relates, 'I will offer to Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving.' In our personal experience we should be thankful for the privilege of sharing liberty through the person of Christ! As a mission, we thank God for new candidates to this whitened field of all of Judea. We praise the Lord that the director's salary has averaged \$243 per month since May!"*



Pictured, top to bottom:
Noel Olsen, Dick Schwab, Don Strunk
Don & Joanne Strunk and family
Roy & Elvia Sprague
Earl & Shirley Brubaker

December, 1967

Director, **Don Strunk** wrote of stomach flu, a fire in his brother's home, a gall bladder attack, and milking cows. He closed with *"we had a thankful Christmas, and are looking forward to an adventuresome 1968! Our special guide verse for the new year is Psalm 19:14, 'Let the words of my moth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.'"*

December 1970

Director, **Roy Sprague** wrote, *"As we face 1971, may we suggest as a verse for the year, II Corinthians 2:14: 'Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by us in every place.' May we learn this verse, claim its promise, accept its challenge, and to its purpose uphold one another in prayer daily!"*

December, 1971

Director, **Roy Sprague** wrote, *"This past year has been the most blessed in our lives and ministry. What God has been pleased to do has been above expectation! Six new churches started; Youth Corps teens led over 70 other teens to Christ; God has continued to bring financial support for the Mission; and we have that peace of the Lord, knowing we are where He wants us to be."*

December, 2009

Director, **Earl Brubaker** wrote, *"We praise the Lord for the privilege of being involved in the lives of our NICE family. Pray for our pastors and churches in which they serve that they will be able to share the true meaning of Christmas effectively in their communities. **May you have a joyful Christ-centered holiday time!"***

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