



Northwest *FOCUS*

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

FEBRUARY 2019



Teamwork for the Glory of God!

Since the Mission's beginning in 1958, the Board of Directors of NICE have been men of God with a heart for Church Planting, and with practical experience in ministry. In 2019, the following men serve on the NICE Board:

- Bryan Austring, Helvetia Community Church, OR
- Toby Beck, Evergreen Bible Church, WA
- David Erickson, Faith Community Church, WA
- Matt Hallson, River Valley Bible Church, ID
- Charlie Olson, Southwick Bible Church, ID
- Bob Rodgers, NICE Executive Director
- Max Snook, Community Bible Church, OR
- Roy Sprague, Board Member Emeritus
- Gary Taylor, Nehalem Valley Bible Church, OR

NICE Board President, Toby Beck, recently stated, *"Serving on the NICE Board gives us a strategic opportunity to help the gardening effort that NICE is undertaking. The Pacific Northwest is our plot, and Bob Rodgers is the primary gardener. We Board members get to advise and encourage him as he seeks to help ideas for new church plants to germinate, get church seedlings planted in new areas, tend small or vulnerable church plants throughout the 7 state garden, and serve more mature churches to make them as healthy as possible."* This is a daunting task! But by God's enabling grace, AND the faithful service of the NICE Missionaries, AND the consistent support and fervent prayer of many individuals and churches – PRAISE GOD, there have been 218 churches planted and served in the Mission's 60+ years of ministry!

The investment of their time by these men *"provides opportunity to strategically work together for the reaching of communities with the Gospel – places that might otherwise be overlooked,"* stated Bryan Austring. Matt Hallson commented, *"We are so blessed to have the privilege of interviewing young men and women who desire to plant churches."* And Max Snook added, *"It's a thrill to see these couples stepping out by faith into the ministry!"*

God blends these men into a unified team to *direct the work of NICE. Gary Taylor noted that his "greatest blessing, besides just the fellowship enjoyed, has been to see how this diverse group of men work together for the glory of God, and arrive at unified decisions, some of which have been quite difficult."*

As the Board meets for discussion and evaluation of every aspect of NICE's ministry, every one of the men expressed their desire for and need of consistent, fervent prayer. Charlie Olson stated, *"Please pray for God to give wisdom to the Board members. Whether it is interviewing candidates desiring to serve, setting budgets amid a decline in income, or determining the best wording for policies and directives, we need God's wisdom to make wise decisions so the ministry may increase, resources will be used to their best potential, and God will be glorified."* *"We need wisdom, great, deep, profound wisdom to guide and support our missionaries and churches. We need ideas, creative ideas, to generate enthusiasm in the churches we serve,"* added Max Snook.

The ministry of NICE is truly an endeavor of team work – and you are part of that team through your support and prayer. Will you uphold the NICE Board in prayer daily? Matt Hallson urged *"people to pray that we hold unswervingly to, and apply the Scriptures to everything that NICE does as a Mission, with a spirit of humility, and for the glory of our amazing Savior!"*



NICE Board at their Annual Board Planning Meetings

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