



Northwest *FOCUS*

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

MARCH 2021



Showing Love to a Lost World

Pastor and author, Alistair Begg stated, *"The ministry of Jesus was one of involvement not detachment; and therefore we must face the fact that we cannot minister to a lost world if we are not in it."* The challenge of late has been how to be in the world ministering and sharing Christ when the world is wanting to keep its distance from one another! NICE missionaries have risen to that challenge!

waiting for someone else to take the initiative. Introduce yourself, share information and ask questions. 4. Gather contact information. Collect names, phone numbers and email addresses of those living near you and express how you want to help people connect in times of need. 5. Give. Be the neighbor who offers to help ... with a tool or a cup of sugar. 6. Get creative. Consider what makes your neighborhood unique and how you can love and serve your neighbors. 7. Go before God. Be in prayer for your neighbors. Ask for specific concerns for which you can pray.



NICE Field Director Roger Hayden is Pastor at **Cambridge Bible Church, ID.** Each year, he and his wife, Emily plan a Valentine Dinner as a means of outreach. The church family are encouraged to invite unchurched neighbors, friends and family to a local restaurant. Roger is MC for the evening, with a special speaker sharing the gospel. Roger explained, *"We usually have about 30% unsaved in attendance. While the meal is usually a prime rib dinner, we also do a number of ridiculous Valentine/romance things with chocolate and nonsense gifts. We prioritize the speaker's time, allowing about 25 minutes for a message related to the Valentine's theme but with an evangelistic emphasis. The evening is geared towards a celebration of God's bringing romance and marriage into humanity's sphere -- done with a lot of fun, food and fellowship without forgetting Christ and our faith in Him."*

Hobart Community Church

has had a weekly Community Dinner as a means of outreach. With the dinners on hold for now, they opened their food pantry to distribute food to those in need. Pastor Rob Morris commented, *"We can't do the Monday Night Dinners right now, but we don't want all that food to go to waste! A number of folks who would come every week for a free meal are struggling, so we are taking bags of food to them."* This attitude of meeting physical needs as a means of sharing Christ has flowed downstream from the pastor and church leaders to the congregation. One Elder shared, *"The church Elder and Deacon Boards were concerned that folks in the community were being overlooked due to the health restrictions. But upon investigation, we were amazed and blessed to hear of 16 different church family members meeting needs on their own initiative ...delivering food, shoveling driveways, calling to check on shut-ins, writing notes of encouragement. This is what the church is about! Showing God's love to those around us as an intentional practice."*



NICE Minister at Large, Roy Sprague recently gave the church family at **Wishkah Valley Community Church** a list of **7 Simple Ways to Show Christ's Love To Our Neighbors:** 1. Greet people. Say hello as you walk or work in your yard. 2. Go out front. Be intentional about spending time in the more public parts of your yard or building. 3. Go first. Often people are

Thank you for your partnership in sharing Christ's love in Northwest communities!

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