



Northwest FOCUS

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

MAY 2024

What Are They Doing Now?

Sometimes people wonder what happens when a NICE Church Planter or Missionary Pastor retires. That's a good question! So we asked 7 of our NICE retirees what God has given them to do in their retirement years. Oh my, what a thrill to discover how God is using them for His glory!

Dan and Donna Bong have conducted Bible studies in several assisted living and care centers, and their "primary ministry at this stage of life is prayer on behalf of their family, for people with physical disabilities, and numerous pastors and churches."



"We were asked by Kendall Chapel to fill the pulpit on a regular basis in 2022, which we did for almost a year," stated **Bill and Sharilyn Peters**. "We're now attending Bible Studies at our son's church, and I'll begin teaching the Adult Sunday school class next month."



"We count every day a blessing as we continue to serve our Lord in whatever way He can use us!"

David and Nancy Martin replied, "We have ministered at Rock Island Community Church, filling the pulpit and leading worship, and now we serve regularly at Grace City Church, as prayer group leaders and providing music for our "senior group" Bible study. We count every day a blessing as we continue to serve our Lord in whatever way He can use us!"



"God is so very good. He has allowed some of the losses in our lives to cause us to depend on Him day by day, and actually moment by moment," noted **Jon and LaDonna Vietti**. They both lead Bible studies and Jon teaches the Adult Sunday school in their local church.



Matt and Judy Hallson have "recently been privileged to teach a men's breakfast, preach in several area churches, counsel hurting families, conduct a funeral, and meet with a young man for discipling."



Linda Ott and her husband, Larry ministered with NICE from 1984, pastoring churches, counseling and serving in the NICE Office. Though Larry is with the Lord, Linda continues to encourage and communicate with NICE's widows, as well as hosting and leading a weekly Ladies Bible Study. She commented, "I consider it a great privilege to encourage our NICE Widows! They appreciate knowing someone is thinking of them and praying for them."



Jerry and Laura Conklin have been "blessed with many unique opportunities in which to serve the Lord. Laura's seven-year battle with cancer has opened many doors for ministry, and her example in trusting Jesus amidst her trials has served as an example to so many." Jerry added, "I serve as the hospice chaplain for the County Health District. Laura's battle with cancer, and my role as caregiver, have worked to provide opportunities to speak of Jesus. I've been blessed to witness some trusting in Jesus before their death, and I've had occasion to comfort many with truths from God's Word. For several years I've been writing a daily devotional blog that God has blessed. These daily devotionals go to several churches and other folks as well. The blog is at: looking2jesus.blog .



These servants of Christ are retired, but they're continuing to be used in many lives for the glory of the Lord. THANK YOU for your prayers and support of NICE in the on-going work of reaching people and planting and establishing churches.

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