



Northwest FOCUS

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

JUNE 2025



Double-Time For God!

Like many of the NICE Missionaries, Larry and Joann Thayer have faithfully served their Lord in the growth of the churches they have served, while at the same time working a secular job. But they are not part-time servants of Christ, rather they're doing "double-time" for God!



Larry & Joann Thayer

Larry recently stated, *"I was saved in 1973 after a traumatic event where some friends cared more about me than I did. Soon after this, the Lord brought Joann and me together and, in 1977, we were married. We were attending Carson Bible Church at the time, and the Lord used Don Strunk (former Director of NICE) to encourage us to attend Multnomah School of the Bible. I was working for UPS then. In fact, I spent 31 years in total with the company; 22 of those years driving and delivering packages!"*



Following graduation from Bible School, Larry and Joann were called to serve Little Church In The Valley in 1989, ministering there until God led them back to their home church as Assistant Pastor in 2001. When NICE Missionaries Dave and Glenda West retired in 2019, the church called Larry as Pastor. During these years, Larry continued to work for UPS until he retired from the company and



Larry & Joann Thayer; Glenda & Dave West;
Elvia & Roy Sprague

became a fireman and Chaplain for the Carson Fire Department.

The Thayers are a great example of the work God does through His servants who are called to work a secular job for the purpose of "making ends meet" for their family, and for the purpose of reaching people for Christ by planting, serving, and establishing churches. Truly, "double-time for God!"

Recently, NICE Director, Bob Rodgers and his wife Katherine were at Carson Bible Church to visit with the Thayers as Larry and Joann are now approaching retirement. Bob reflected, *"It has been a wonderful blessing for Katherine and me to partner with Larry and Joann in their relationship with NICE. They have certainly added a great dimension as members in the NICE family! Over the years, and even in our recent visit, it was evident that the Thayers are truly loved by their congregation. I believe a lot of that is due to their faithful, humble spirits reflected in their love for God and one another. They display an attitude of caring by reaching out to meet needs; to listen carefully to those with concerns and give wise, biblical counsel to any needing direction, help and hope in the situations life brings. They have a contagious spirit that draws people in, a remarkable gift indeed. They have shepherded well!"*



It's because of people like the Thayers that the on-going outreach of NICE continues to touch lives and impact communities for the glory of the Lord. And we thank God for you and your faithfulness to the Lord through NICE as well!

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