



# Northwest FOCUS

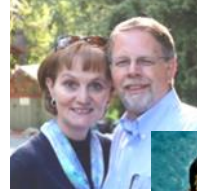
God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

JULY 2019



## Ordained ... All To His Glory!

Through the years of NICE's ministry, its leaders have had the responsibility and privilege of training men to serve as Church planters and Pastors. Part of this equipping for ministry is guiding them through the ordination process. Ordination is the public recognition by men of God that an individual has been called of God to the Gospel ministry and that he is capable of handling accurately the Word of God. The candidate for ordination studies and prepares to be examined by godly men in an Ordination Council, who then recommend him for ordination to the church or group where he is currently ministering.



Brubakers and Rodgers  
Then and Now!

Roy Sprague recently recalled that over the years he had had the joy of participating in the ordination of 61 godly men. Among those were former NICE Executive Director, Earl Brubaker and current Executive Director, Bob Rodgers. Roy added, *"At the time of their ordination, only God knew that Earl Brubaker and Bob Rodgers would become the Executive Directors of NICE in the years ahead. But both of these men were committed to the authority of Scripture, and they demonstrated this as they answered questions, and expressed their doctrinal and ministry beliefs to the men on the examining council."*

In the equipping of men for ministry, part of the joy of the ordaining, or examining council is to encourage and challenge the younger men, as well as to ask questions concerning their position on Biblical belief, ministry perspective, and practical approach in dealing with specific situations. This can understandably be a very daunting, stressful time! On



Keith & Claudia Singer,  
Nathan & Brittany Lundgren

one occasion, the candidate for ordination was asked the question, *"Do you believe in the present day ministry of the Holy Spirit?"* To which the candidate responded, *"I certainly do! And I've been praying for His help for the past hour."*

The examining council will often recommend areas of further study for the man being ordained, thus seeking to encourage his continuing growth and development in Biblical knowledge and ministry effectiveness.

In recent months, two NICE Missionary Pastors, Keith Singer and Nathan Lundgren have been examined and approved for ordination. They serve the growing congregations at Loomis Community Church, WA and Valley Bible Church, Kooskia, ID. NICE Executive Director, Bob Rodgers says that every aspect of watching the development of Missionary Pastors is gratifying. There is great joy in watching the Lord call young men into the ministry. There is the delight in having a part in their development by providing mentoring and hands-on ministry experience. Then there is the deep satisfaction of seeing them serving in a church, and being recognized as qualified for ministry by other godly men. You can only say, *"Praise the Lord!"*

NICE is committed to fully equipping and training its missionary pastors. Roy Sprague stated, *"This has truly been an awesome opportunity! Because in His wisdom, God takes men with a great heart for Himself and His Word, and molds and makes them into effective servants for His glory and kingdom!"*

Dr. Charles Swindoll echoed this thought when he said, *"In Scripture, God never extends a call for leaders; He always asks for servants who will obey and follow Him. Then God, in His wisdom, places His servants in positions of leadership as He chooses - all to His glory."*

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