

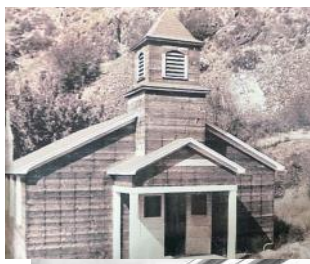
Northwest FOCUS

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

JULY 2023

70 Years of Faithfulness

Bob Rodgers, NICE Executive Director, and his wife, Katherine were privileged to visit the first church that requested help of NICE after its founding. Loomis Community Church, Washington, was celebrating their 70th Anniversary on June 11. Individuals had begun meeting in 1889, and the church was incorporated as Loomis Community Church in 1953. Contact was made with Northwest Independent Church Extension in 1959, requesting help in finding a pastor. The Director at that time, Henry Boyd and his wife Margaret, responded to the need and came to serve the church as pastor. Bob was thrilled to see events come full circle, as he heard stories of the early days from visitor, Bill Gillette, Henry Boyd's grandson.



Spanish church who had used the facility for 10 years. This connection with the community and the world has been a means of outreach over the years. Keith commented, *"One important element of the church's ministry is its impact on missions. We support several missionaries and share prayer updates from them on a regular basis. Also, the church has opened its doors to a number of community meetings and contributed to the annual local Loomis meal. The church has been made available for many funerals over the years, as well as hosting a Vacation Bible School program each year. We also have several seasonal visitors who call this church their home, even though they are only able to attend on a temporary basis. It has been exciting to see the Lord's great faithfulness at work in this church and its people!"*



Bob gave a message on the 70th Anniversary Sunday, leading the congregation in *"Celebrating Faithfulness"*. God's faithfulness was proclaimed with the key verse Psalm 89:1, *"I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever; with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations."* The faithfulness of God's people was highlighted, mentioning how NICE has served the church over the years through a number of its personnel: Bill and MaryJo Stoliker, Matt and Terri Sconce, Vern and Ann Fenton, Bob and Janice Haskell, and currently Keith and Claudia Singer.

From its beginnings, NICE has served local Bible churches. Loomis Community Church is a clear testament to the guiding verse that was chosen by the first Board of Directors in 1958, *"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake"* II Corinthians 4:5.



Reflecting on the early years, Henry Boyd once stated, *"We had a vision and burden for getting the gospel message to the unreached areas of the Pacific Northwest. You know the starting of churches is a pioneer ministry, and we need more people to get this vision and reach out to needy areas!"*



Pastor Keith Singer challenged the church family to stand firm in proclaiming the Gospel message. He reflected later that one of the highlights of the day was the special music presented by several members of the

Top to bottom:
Loomis Community Church early years;
the Boyds at the church;
Loomis Community Church currently;
Bob Rodgers;
Keith and Claudia Singer

Pray for the Singers and Loomis Community Church as they continue to share Christ with their community; and for Bob and Katherine Rodgers as they seek to help other churches and communities who need strong Bible preaching churches and pastors!

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