



# Northwest FOCUS

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

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## The Bigger Picture!

"Extraordinary moves of God begin with ordinary acts of obedience." Those words by Christian musician, Toby Mac, also describe how God has been pleased to work through IFCA International and Northwest Independent Church Extension. Taking a step back to see the bigger picture reveals God's work through the inter-connection of these two organizations, as they respond in obedience to the Lord's directing.

In 1930, when IFCA International began, its purpose was to provide an organization for independent Bible-believing churches and individuals. Every effort was made to guard the autonomy of each local church, but the members soon felt the Lord leading them to work together in certain aspects of Gospel outreach - such as church extension. In 1951, a Church Extension Council of IFCA leaders began to facilitate the planting of new churches, and the establishment of existing churches. This resulted in Church Extension missions being formed in several geographical areas of the United States. The IFCA Pacific Northwest Regional took a giant step of vision and faith in 1958, and began the ministry of planting and serving churches that we know as Northwest Independent Church Extension. Throughout its 64 years, the Mission has been used of God to plant 104 new churches and to serve and help establish another 114 churches; all in obedient response to the Lord's leading!



Jay & Kathy Mosser

Current PNW Regional President, Jay Mosser stated, "One of the values of attending the IFCA International conventions is the opportunity to see the bigger picture and the value of our church extension agencies. NICE was birthed by IFCA pastors here



Annual PNW Tuesday night of the Convention Ice Cream trip!

in the Northwest, and there is a synergistic relationship between NICE and IFCA -- that is, we need each other. It is for good reason that I heard once again at the IFCA International Convention that NICE is seen as a model of a strong church extension agency working hand in hand with the regional churches. We have much to be thankful for here in the Northwest!"

Several NICE missionaries attended the Convention, held this year in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Their impressions held some common themes. Katherine Rodgers shared, "The friendships you develop are such a great encouragement and last a life time. You may not see each other but once a year, yet it's as if you just saw them yesterday!" Robert

Zink mentioned, "I have one man in particular in which this is our time every year to maintain informal accountability, specifically with regards to our roles as husbands and fathers. With poignant questions, we dive deep into each other's lives and spend time in prayer."

Mark Organ stated that a high point was "to see so many faithful believers in all stages of life and ministry coming together for worship and mutual encouragement." Bethany Zink noted that "being at the convention gave me a broader view of how God is working in different areas around the world, of which NICE is a part. I think it is easy to get focused on our area of ministry; it is encouraging to see other areas where God is working and to recognize that the ministry of NICE and IFCA are a part of a bigger whole."



Robert & Bethany Zink

The growth and development of NICE is a part of the "bigger picture" of IFCA International that God is using throughout the world! And you are also a part of that "bigger picture" through your partnership with NICE!

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