



Northwest FOCUS

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

SEPTEMBER 2023

The Value of Fellowship

Several NICE Missionaries met together with other Pastors and wives at the Ashland Bible Church in Ashland, Oregon for the Southern Oregon IFCA International Pastors Fellowship. This opportunity for fellowship, prayer, some laughs, a few tears, and lots of encouragement has been a hallmark of the Mission since its beginning in 1958.



The founders of NICE recognized the great value of fellowship among its workers, and made every effort to foster retreats, pot-luck lunches, conferences, and other occasions where mutual "building up of one another" would be possible. The sense of "family" within NICE continues to be a priority, since a number of the missionaries minister alone or in remote areas. The area fellowships, organized by the Pacific Northwest Regional of IFCA International, have proved very beneficial.



Roy

Former NICE Director, **Roy Sprague**, had the privilege to travel to Ashland to minister the Word on Sunday, then attend the lunch on the following day. He said, "Just as the Apostle Paul, the leadership of NICE desire that through times of gathering together, the NICE missionaries would have 'their hearts encouraged, being knit together in love.' (Colossians 2:2). Being able to see these dear servants of the Lord, and fellowship together has certainly encouraged my heart!"

At the lunch meeting, long-time NICE Church planter, Field Director and Board member, **Garland and Roberta Shinn**, reported how their ministry has changed with aging. They do continue to make phone calls and other contacts for counsel and prayer.



Garland & Roberta

Stan and Virginia Poeschel serve in Northern California at Happy Camp Bible Church. They were rejoicing that God has brought new people to the church, some of whom help in their 6 ongoing Bible studies. The Poeschels were especially praising God that their son has returned to the Lord after almost 40 years of drifting.



Stan & Virginia

Former NICE Board member **Dan and Cheri O'Donnell** are grateful for the privilege to serve at Calvary Crossroads Church in preaching, teaching and music ministry - and Cheri being in charge of the nursery. They asked for prayer for their grandchildren to walk with the Lord - as did a number of others!



Dan & Cheri

NICE Board member **Nate and Muriel Shinn** hosted the time of fellowship. They praised God for new families attending at Ashland Bible Church, and are looking forward to their All-Church Retreat!



Nate & Muriel

Thank you for partnering in prayer and support of all the NICE ministry - throughout the 6 states where the Mission serves!

"For we are laborers together with God!" (1 Corinthians 3:9)

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