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*Confirming the Churches*  
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### *May-June Report*

June 25, 2013

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Dear brethren, family and friends,

May the Lord our God bless you with peace and joy in your fellowship with our Savior Jesus Christ and all those who are faithful to Him where you live and around the world. Remember that this report is now bi-monthly. The previous report, at the end of April announced the plan to send bi-monthly reports through the postal mail, and to post interim updates on the web site ([www.acts1541.org](http://www.acts1541.org)) and on the Facebook page "Confirming the Churches."

During the first week in May I returned to Arkansas, with stops on the loop through Illinois, Alabama and Indiana. The church in Harrisburg, where I preached for over four years until beginning this mission work full time, scheduled a homecoming weekend lectureship with former preachers proclaiming the gospel to a nearly packed house of current and former members. The theme of the lessons was the family, both physically and spiritual. I preached during the Bible class hour on Sunday morning on the topic, "Brotherly Love: The Tie That Binds." Preparing the lesson was a great delight to me personally, and having the company of the Harrisburg church for several days was a renewed joy.

Making the road trip from southern Michigan to northeast Arkansas in one day is not impossible, but is also not especially comfortable. As my mother lives about half-way between, and has "room in the inn," it is an added bonus that I am able to spend some time with her in Lincoln, Illinois when I go back that way. When in Lincoln on a Sunday or Wednesday is has always been a comfort and a pleasure to meet with the church in that city, but that was not my lot on this trip. Since coming to Michigan last November I have made several trips back to Arkansas and Texas. Always I have gone south through Illinois, and back north through Indiana, where I spend time with my brother and his wife near Indianapolis. On this trip I also made a side trip to north Alabama, where Chris' brother and sister live, because I had some things to deliver to them after sorting through more of Chris' things.

As the Harrisburg lectureship did not include Sunday evening, I was able to be in the assembly of the Greensboro Road church, and to meet with the elders both before (in the conference room) and after (with preachers and wives in a restaurant for supper). The elders presented an idea for expanding the scope of this work in the near future, and at this point we are still in the logistical planning stages. I am excited about the potential opportunity. It would be the same work that has always been planned, but on a wider scale.

Saline, Michigan is now the base of our mission work. We're about 40 miles west of Detroit and 6 miles south of Ann Arbor. I work with the church here when I am not helping churches in other places. In May and June I met with preachers in person and otherwise five other Michigan churches. I have gospel meetings scheduled in two churches in July, and am to speak on the Michigan Lectures in August. If you know of churches that need up to two weeks of help in evangelism, edification or leadership training, please encourage them to contact me, or tell me how I may contact them.

In addition to working on lessons for the upcoming gospel meetings and lectureship, I have preached during these two months on evangelism, the soul of man, victory over temptation, the church, the truth of the Old Testament, the nature of God, care against apostasy, the books of Zechariah and Revelation, and have begun to teach the Wednesday night class on the life of Christ. For years I have used the evening assembly on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of a month to answer questions that Christians have asked. On June 30 the questions regarded fasting, cremation and whether there are degrees of reward and punishment. The Saline church web site ([salinechurchofchrist.org](http://salinechurchofchrist.org)) has audio files of all my sermons since arriving here.

On May 20 I began a weekly personal evangelism training and encouragement class in my living room. It has met every Monday night with as many as twelve in attendance. We seldom have as many as 30 in any of the regular

assemblies, so this class is a large percentage of the church. Students are encouraged to name a person they want to lead to Christ, and to pray for that person daily. The class prays together for all of them each week. We're memorizing scripture, the location of Bible teaching on particular topics, and how to use the various teaching aids available to us. I have written a tract which they are handing out to people in the effort to motivate people to study the Bible with a Christian.

Thank you for your support of this work that has been dear to my heart for over 40 years. I pray daily that my efforts might be worthy of your confidence.

I still need an additional \$200 per month in regular personal support. Please pray for that, and for the life and strength of the Lord's church in our generation. This report is later than I like them to be; I have had young grandchildren in the house for the past two weeks, then the whole family. I'm tired, but it's a great kind of tired. May God bless you as only He can.

In His service,

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Contributions:

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| Greensboro Road church | \$500 |
| Egypt church           | \$200 |
| Harrisburg church      | \$200 |
| Nettleton church       | \$400 |
| Drucilla McIntire      | \$ 15 |

*(Make checks payable to Church of Christ and designate For: Al Parr mission work, and mail to the Greensboro Road church address in the header of this report)*