



Confirming the Churches

world evangelistic work of Al & Sybil Parr
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May - June Report, 2019

Dear brothers, sisters, family and friends,

Thank you for your prayers and frequent messages of encouragement. We love you and pray daily for your faith, health, and prosperity. While the world stands God wants the gospel preached and the church faithful to Him. That works right when each Christian does his part. Thank you for doing yours.

The gospel meeting with our home church in Lincoln, Illinois was an encouragement to the church. Several saints spoke of particular lessons helping them to understand certain points of God's word. Sadly, we did not have any visitors from the community, neither from neighboring churches. Every member distributed flyers and invitations to area residents. No hostility was experienced as we talked with them, but none chose to join us in the Bible studies. Preachers in two regional churches said that they had not seen our notices and did not know that we had the meeting scheduled.



The first weekend in June we participated for the third consecutive year in a 2-day meeting with the Mall City church of Christ in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Attendance for this one also seemed to be less than last year's, but only slightly. There were several who had not been with us in previous years. As last year I shared the preaching with Jay Tyler on the theme avoiding the modern apostasy. Roger Poe was the energy behind the planting of this church. He and his father, Paul, are the elders diligently overseeing the spiritual growth of the flock.

Following the Kalamazoo weekend I gave a mission report in Davison, Michigan for brother T.V. Samson Raj. Samson had spoken with the leadership there when he was with us last year. They subsequently decided to support his work so I offered to give them an update on some of the details. He is a hard-working Christian well worthy of support, and still in need of some. The church in Ripley, West Virginia sponsors the work.

Making a mission report in Kalamazoo

We had house guests from India again during this period. Brother Nagabhushanam Varikuti was in the country visiting with his son in Bloomington, and wanted to talk with me about evangelizing India. In May we went together to a gospel meeting in Taylorville, about an hour south of Lincoln, then he spent the night. We talked till late, then all the following day. That being Wednesday he went with us to the Lincoln assembly before returning to Bloomington. In June he wanted to talk some more, and wanted to introduce his wife to us, so the two of them came on a Saturday and stayed through Sunday with us.

The meeting in Taylorville was a cooperative effort of several regional churches of Christ. Last year a tornado had caused serious damage in the town southeast of Springfield. The Lakeside church in Springfield has coordinated relief efforts that are still ongoing. Preachers from those churches prepared a 2-day meeting to preach the gospel to the community where the church does not exist. Over 100 Christians from across central Illinois were present for the Tuesday night assembly. All those personally helped in the tornado relief were personally invited. Public promotion was in several forms. Some visitors were present Tuesday night; more were expected Wednesday. We are pleased to know that our brethren in this region care about serving God in spreading the word and caring for the needy.



Samson & Christina with Sybil and Al

Twelve Bible correspondence students submitted a total of 85 lessons in these two months. One person finished the 80-lesson program of International Bible Teaching Ministries (her second time to complete the entire 6-course program), and has asked for other courses she can study. I am developing my commentary on the epistle to the Hebrews into a correspondence course.

And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily (Acts 16:5)

Confirming the Churches Bible Class missed one week due to our travel difficulties but has continued every Wednesday morning (10:00 central time on the mission's Facebook page) on the subject of church problems of today already handled in the apostles' day. We have four more lessons scheduled in that series. Christians in various places have suggested other topics for later classes. Like preaching in the Sunday assemblies for the local church: there is never an end for topics to study.

The web site for the Lincoln church has been receiving some encouraging comments. I continue to add features and content almost every week. Visit www.lincolnILchurchofchrist.org to see what we have. Your comments for improvement are welcome. The newspaper column "God Has Spoken" is still in the *Lincoln Courier* each week. Each week's current article may now be seen under the "Articles" tab on the church web site.



They couldn't receive my video though I saw them.

Lincoln's preacher, Doug Adams, had persistent health issues through much of the spring. I filled in for him on four Sundays and two Wednesdays. He has been able to be back with us the past two weeks.

The monthly Skype classes for Krishna River Preacher-Training School were on May 26 and June 29. We talked again about the "one cup" controversy, and the role of baptism. As in the U.S. so in India: members of the church are beginning to teach that it has no role in becoming a Christian. We are translating my tract on the subject so that it can be distributed in Telugu.

Amazon has merged my self-publishing service, CreatSpace, with Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP). As I write this I still do not have access to my publishing account due to some confusion over email addresses. We have been working on it for over a week. It is presently not possible, either for you or for me, to order books from KDP. You can however still order through the shopping cart feature at acts1541.org/books for those books currently in print.

We mentioned last time a pending trip to Alabama. It was a very rewarding week, but a frustrating trip home. In southern Illinois we hit debris on the highway and cause catastrophic damage to the truck. We lost the entire transmission, transfer case, and drive shaft, had some damage to the engine and some serious underneath body damage. That was on May 10, and the truck is still in the shop. Repair estimates have exceeded \$15,000. The insurance company has agreed to pay all but \$300 of that and our deductible. But it means that we took the trip to Michigan without the RV, and have delayed our northeast trip. We had originally planned to visit churches in several northeastern states and Maritime provinces directly following the Michigan trip. We still haven't been able to set specific dates but we are anticipating departure for that area during the week of July 21.

Our health is still excellent. Our spirits are high and our energy is sufficient for the day. Thank you for your prayers and support. When we know when we can make the northeast trip we will be in touch with you regarding possible in-person reporting visits. May God our loving Father bless you with peace, hope, and good health.

In His service,

A. L. Parr

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www.youtube.com/c/AIParr_CTC

Contributions received March 1 - April 29:

Lincoln Church of Christ	\$400.00
Egypt Church of Christ	\$200.00
Harrisburg Church of Christ	\$200.00
Grant Church of Christ	\$1,000.00
Parkland Church of Christ	\$623.10
Drucilla McIntire estate	\$350.00
Elizabeth Williams	\$100.00
Anonymous	\$100.00
Book sales	\$60.00

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