



Confirming the Churches
 world evangelistic work of Al & Sybil Parr
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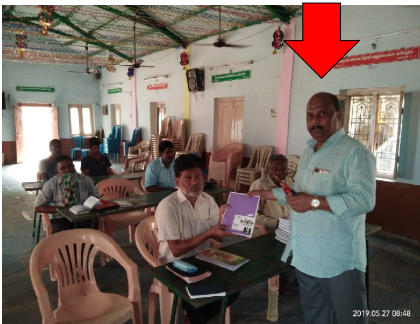
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November - December Report, 2019

Dear brothers, sisters, family and friends,

Back home from our summer travels we have focused in these last two months of the year on preparations for next year's work. We have been preparing literature and vehicles, and have discussed with churches our schedule of visits.

We realized through 2019 travels that the fifth-wheel RV was just too big for our current and projected need. Something smaller would make for easier and more economical travel. More camp sites are available to small vehicles, so in some cases we would be able to get closer to our work. In addition, the truck had been behaving erratically since the major rebuilding after last May's incident in southern Illinois. It was seven years old and had been put back together with somebody else's seven-year-old parts. We felt safer thinking about long trips in a newer truck. We got a good price for the Chaparral and traded it for a Reflection that is ten feet shorter. We can pull that with a smaller truck so we traded the Ram 3500 for a Ram 1500. While the weather was warm enough we spent almost two weeks setting up the Reflection for our use, then we closed it up for the winter.



N. Vijaya Rao, the preacher for the church in Ibrahimpatnam annually conducts "32 days' gospel meetings" in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. This schedule begins December 1 and concludes January 1. In November we printed 8,000 Telugu-language tracts in Ibrahimpatnam for these meetings. Our brother has reported 108 baptisms through December 29. In December we sent 200 tracts to Saline, Michigan. Approximately a dozen tracts replenished the supply in Lincoln's tract racks.

The November 24 Skype class with Krishna River Preacher-Training School was "What God Hath Done," a lesson from Ephesians 2:1-10. Being conscious of what God has done for us should motivate us to be more diligent in praise and service to Him. The same class had been taught earlier that day as I substituted for David Reeves, who was out of town. The December 29 class - again for both Lincoln and KRPTS - was "Run With Patience." It was a study of the point being made in Hebrews 11:1 through 12:13 - that we should be patient with God through life's trials, and live faithfully as we consider the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus.

Krishna River Preacher-Training School has lost \$700 in monthly support as of the end of December. We have built a web page to describe the work and the need. One church and one family have already committed enough one-time support to meet expenses through the end of February. Your one-time or short-term contribution would be much appreciated in both the U.S. and India, but we really need a long-term sponsor. Please look over the web page (acts1541.org/KRPTS.htm) and pray about this effective work. If you can help, or know someone who might, please contact us according to the header of this report - or we can put you in direct contact with the director of the school, N. Suvarna Prasad. Thank you, and may God bless you.

**Krishna River Preacher-Training School
Ibrahimpatnam, Krishna Dt., A.P., India**

In September, 2019 the elders of the Indianapolis Church of Christ asked my service as the administrator of creating and conducting a school for the training of preachers and Bible students. Together we developed a plan for such a school a conduct and curriculum appropriate to the customs and laws of that region. Local Christians arranged for facilities and staff. I designed the curriculum and schedule.

The school began on September 8, 2016, my work fund provided the entire financial resources for its first year of operation. Since 2017 we received almost no outside funds to faculty support and student rooms and board. With the loss of 2019 the school is experiencing the loss of \$700 month to support leaving them with only occasional one-time contributions. As of this writing (December 26, 2019) no contributions have been received enough to meet the budget through February, 2020.

The school is under the oversight of the elders of the Indianapolis Church of Christ, and is directed by N. Suvarna Prasad. One other preacher completes the full-time faculty, and others teach occasional courses from time to time. I teach electronically without remuneration. As of this date, I have sent 49,9000 Bible lessons. Also, I teach live via Skype once each month.

The links below lead to various documents and pictures/videos which present facts of the school and church which might be helpful to your understanding of the need and worthiness of the school. Please ask alparr@acts1541.org (800-479-1234) if you need more information. Core business may be sent to our sponsor, 1 Lincoln Church of Christ, 629 Park St, Lincoln, IL 62656, or - can describe how to send directly to the Indianapolis church.

LINKS/ISSUES	MULTI-ESS	REPORTS	FINANCIAL
Handbook	Interviews	Mt.22/Report	Start-Budget
Course List	First Ordinance	Mr. S. S. Report	1st class budget
	Skype Classes	Mr. S. S. Report	2nd class budget
	Director's Video		



Here N. Vijaya Rao is distributing Bibles at an earlier preachers' lectureship. They take them to needy saints in their home churches. As you know, there is always a need for Bibles in India. The need increases on special occasions, such as the 32 days gospel meetings in December. The Lincoln church in November contributed \$500 for Bibles for that particular work. A single Bible can be bought for less than \$4, so this was a considerable contribution. Thank you, brethren, for this loving support of your poorer brothers and sisters on the other side of the world.

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

God Has Spoken
(Hebrews 1:1-5)

Is the Bible alone a sufficient authority for the life of the church in this modern age? When Josiah restored the worship of God in Jerusalem (see II Chronicles 34) he set an example we should follow. God's word was a pattern that Moses was told to follow (Exodus 25:9, 40; 26:30; 27:8). That principle applies also to God's plan for man's salvation today (Hebrews 8:5). The specific elements of the plan are a pattern that must be followed by every person who wants the same result (fellowship with God) received by those who heard and obeyed the apostles of Jesus in the first century of the church (Romans 6:1-17). There's only one plan from God, and it's a pattern for everyone. Today, different churches preach different plans of salvation, church organization, church work, etc. We can be stubbornly defensive, or we can take a closer look at the pattern and be willing to make whatever changes are required. Which attitude will allow us into Heaven?

Josiah's contemporaries thought they lived in a modern age and the law was for generations past. God's word is final: it was once given (Jude 3) to be ever afterward obeyed (John 14:15). God has spoken to us today in Jesus (Hebrews 1:1-2), but Jesus hasn't spoken in almost 2,000 years. What was spoken was written. What is written is final. It's a pattern and an example given by God. Return to the Book.

Lincoln Church of Christ
869 Palmetto St.
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www.LincolnChurchOfChrist.org

FREE
Bible study
by mail or e-mail

In our previous report we wrote of the need for preachers in Riverview, New Brunswick and Houlton, Maine. It gives us great cause for rejoicing that definite plans are progressing for a qualified family to take on the responsibility in Riverview. We are not yet at liberty to give names or dates, but we do want you to pray that this transition is blessed by God for a long time to come.

The "God Has Spoken" newspaper column has been teaching the nature of the Bible as the only standard of authority in spiritual concerns. We continue occasionally to hear encouraging words from readers we meet around the county, though to this date there have been no indications of serious interest in Bible study. Still, we keep the idea before the readers of the Courier every Friday.

Twelve Bible correspondence students submitted a total of 114 lessons during November and December. Three of these students have asked questions beyond the lessons, and one has today confessed his faith in Christ. It is at this point that it becomes preferable to arrange for a face-to-face study with a Christian in the student's area. Sometimes there isn't one within reasonable driving distance. We can try to encourage a video chat from here and the student can be baptized by anybody, but there remains the matter of no local Christians for further edification and worship. That is one of the motivations of Confirming the Churches: we want to encourage and assist existing churches in the planting of new churches where souls are interested in God and His word. Your help is invaluable in that. We need your fervent prayers. If you could travel with us to some of these places the value of that help would be incalculable on earth.

Confirming the Churches Bible Class continues as a live-streamed 15-20 minute class every Wednesday at 10:00 AM on Facebook (Confirming the Churches page). The classes for December 25 and January 1 this time were prerecorded. Please tell others about this class and encourage everyone you know to study with us by this means. We are calling religious people to accept the Bible as the only source of spiritual truth and standard of conduct before God.

We have one mission trip scheduled to a northern city in January, but most of our winter work is online. We have daily correspondence with preachers and teachers around the world. Most of them ask for explanations of Bible passages. Many request copies of tracts or books. Most requests for literature come from India where we have three books and many tracts available in the Telugu language. We are able to fill these requests from Ibrahimpatnam and Hyderabad. We don't always know how much is sent, nor to whom. Also in the winter we are in correspondence with those whom we plan to visit in the summer. We are planning dates and teaching schedules, and also their requests for lesson on particular topics.

Thank you for your constant prayers and support. May God our loving Father bless you with peace, hope, and good health.

In His service,



A. L. Parr

Confirming the Churches

www.acts1541.org

www.youtube.com/c/AIParr_CTC

Contributions received November 1 - December 31:

Lincoln Church of Christ	\$1,500.00
Egypt Church of Christ	\$200.00
Harrisburg Church of Christ	\$200.00
Elizabeth Williams	\$100.00

Thank You for Your Support

Make checks payable to Skyway Publishing (our registered mission printing business) and mail to the address in the header of this report.