



Confirming the Churches
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September - October Report, 2020

Dear brothers, sisters, family and friends,

Once again we are blessed to come to you with a report of our good health. That seems to be what is on everybody's mind these days. Sybil had some sinus misery through most of our trip and a week after, but we have had no Covid-19 symptoms. I went to the Danville VA medical center for recommended abdominal ultra-sound. After 65 years of age men who have ever smoked are recommended a screening for abdominal aneurism. I smoked for about a year after I got out of high school in 1967. There is no sign of any health issue from that.

In our last report we said that we knew no one who had been infected. That's no longer the case. Our son Will is engaged to be married. His fiancee's sister and mother were infected at a high school homecoming event. The mother's infection was fatal. Please pray for the surviving family of Samantha See of Gladewater, Texas. She had entertained us in her home back in the spring, and impressed us greatly with her faith, kindness, and hospitality.

September 10 was the 50th anniversary of my baptism into Christ. It is a date that I always acknowledge with gratitude to the Lord, and to his servant Chuck Carter who taught me "the way of God more perfectly" when he found me preparing to be a Methodist preacher.

With summer travel curtailed by coronavirus restrictions I had opportunity to spend more time writing and recording. More on that below. With the extra time at home we completed some minor remodeling and landscaping projects.

A year ago we planned a vacation to San Antonio, Texas to celebrate our 5th wedding anniversary this fall. By the end of September we thought that it was safe to travel in the RV. We stopped in few commercial campgrounds on this trip, but isolated ourselves mostly in state and national parks. Sybil was invited to teach in a ladies day program in Missouri at the end of that trip. That gave us opportunity to spend four days with long-time friends, the extended Cozort family. Keith preaches in Mountain Grove, Missouri where his wife is also a great "servant of the church" (Romans 16:1). His brother Kevin and their mother live in nearby Cabool and also are faithful servants of God, Kevin is an excellent teacher of an adult Bible class.

Churches and Schools. On Sunday September 6, with David Reeves out of town on his job, I taught the adult Bible class in Lincoln. My lesson was one of my favorite subjects: how God preserved His promise through all the centuries to bring the Christ into the world. On many occasions Satan threatened to end the family line through whom Christ was prophesied to come. God prevented every attempt.



The church in Ibrahimpatnam has begun assembling again. Some are still not able to be in groups, but most are assembling. The elders and preachers are caring closely for the home-bound. Sister Rajeswari, wife of the preacher, N. Vijaya Rao (at left), has mostly recovered from Covid-19 but is slow to regain her former strength and stamina. The other family members who were infected had minor cases and are fully recovered. With the help of contributions from you we have sent over \$3,700 to the church in Ibrahimpatnam during these two months for the relief of those suffering illness and hunger due to loss of jobs and for the continuing operation of the church and school under these difficult circumstances.

Krishna River Preacher-Training School is continuing its full schedule, as all the students live in the dorm next to the classroom. My Skype class with them on September 20 was taken from II Chronicles 35:6 - "Prepare your brethren, that they may do according to the word of the Lord." The October 18 lesson was from Acts 18:24-27. That passage illustrates seven characteristics of the successful

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

preacher. He is [1] eloquent, [2] mighty in the scriptures, [3] instructed in the way of the Lord, [4] fervent in the spirit, [5] speaking and teaching diligently the things of the Lord, [6] speaking boldly, and [7] willing to be taught more perfectly when he is in error.

A section of our mission web site has been updated to describe the work of Krishna River Preacher-Training School. Please visit <http://www.acts1541.org/KRPTS.htm> and help if you can. Of course, if you have any questions or concerns I will be glad for the opportunity to supply whatever information may be lacking.

Also for the work in Hyderabad there is an online information page. The Lincoln church has enthusiastically responded to the plea of brother T. V. Samson Raj (at right) who preaches there. On October 18 I gave the church a PowerPoint-aided report on the many projects that Samson directs. That report has been uploaded to: <http://www.acts1541.org/reports/Report%2018October20.m4v>.



Literature. During our trip we were able to speak with church leaders in Atlanta, Waco, and San Antonio Texas. In each place, and in Mountain Grove, Missouri and back home in Springfield, Illinois I delivered our mission introduction packets. This packet is an envelope containing copies of 10 of our tracts and the promotional brochure that explains our work. It is not a request for support, but an inquiry for churches we may be able to help.

The “one cup” misunderstanding still plagues churches in southeast India. Brother T. Prasana Vijaya Kumar, with whom I worked on my first mission to India in 2006, has made a new translation of our tract “10 Observations of the ‘One Cup’ Doctrine.” It has a more appealing and readable appearance. We should have several thousand copies of that printed in the Telugu language in early November. All of the tracts we had printed in Ibrahimpatnam in July and August have been distributed in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

“A Teacher’s Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews,” which I first had printed in English in India six or seven years ago is now being translated into Telugu. During this year there have been several requests for it specifically. Of course there is always a demand for biblically sound literature in India. All of our translators are hard-working gospel preachers who translate when they can. It takes time. Now there is also the fact that printers are short-staffed and have trouble getting supplies, so printing is delayed even when text is ready. “Introduction to Old Testament Books” is still waiting for a printer in Hyderabad.

Two new tracts were printed in English here in Lincoln in these months. The “pocket tract” was revised and reprinted in quantity, and my popular sermon “Seven Truths the Wise Acknowledge” is now in tract form. Both of these are evangelistic in nature.

**Confirming
the
Churches
Bible Class**

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Free Bible study and teaching literature for mission churches

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Online Teaching. “Confirming the Churches Bible Class” continues on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 central time on two Facebook pages. You may find it on Confirming the Churches and on Skyway Publishing. The daily Facebook “Video Short Commentary” was suspended beginning September 7 so that I can concentrate on finishing the commentary on the epistles to Timothy and Titus. I will occasionally be posting that 5-minute video, but I don’t plan to resume daily posting before the book is finished.

Eleven correspondence students submitted a total of 45 lessons. There were not many questions in this period but several answered incorrectly regarding the place of the Old Testament today. I send previously prepared explanations for such frequent answers.

Thank you for your support. We pray daily for your faith, peace, and good health.

In His service,

A. L. Parr
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www.acts1541.org
www.youtube.com/c/AIParr_CTC

<u>Contributions received September 1 - October 31:</u>	
Lincoln Church of Christ	\$2,400.00
Egypt Church of Christ	\$200.00
Harrisburg Church of Christ	\$200.00
Mall City Church of Christ	\$300.00
Mountain Grove Church of Christ	\$250.00
Elizabeth Williams	\$100.00
Doug & Kathy Adams	\$400.00
Dave & Melissa Reeves	\$75.00
Various who handed me cash	\$60.00
Book sales	\$40.00
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