



## Confirming the Churches

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*October - December Report, 2018*

Dear brothers, sisters, family and friends,

Our most recent report was a three-month report (July-September) for the reason stated in it. Therefore we are ending 2018 with another three-month report. Our plan is to return to the bi-monthly schedule in 2019.

Since buying our house in Lincoln in September, 2017 Sybil and I have seemingly been “on the run” with legal and moving necessities in addition to the daily attention to our mission work. The 3-week trip to India was stressful to both of us (she stayed home managing things here, including the closing on the sale of the farm in northern Illinois. Knowing we needed the time away together we had previously scheduled a long trip through southern states with family and supporters, and some private vacation time. We left home with the RV on September 26 and returned home on November 2. The journey took us through fourteen states. Along the way we introduced the mission to leaders in twelve churches, leaving 93 pieces of literature (tracts, brochures, and books). At many campgrounds and restaurants we left evangelistic tracts and tried to interest people in Bible study, but none agreed to study with us, or with local Christians.

One of the highlights of the trip was a visit with supporters Elizabeth and Mike Williams in Grundy, Virginia. The mountain scenery from our campground and in the town was beautiful beyond description and the lunch-time visit was a great encouragement to us. Elizabeth operates a home-based business from which she sends not only to our work but to others, including Krishna River Preacher-Training School. Some of the most helpful support we receive is support that is sent not to us but to churches that we help with teaching and training. We can produce more audio, video, and print lessons – and focus more on church organizational issues – if we don’t have to concern ourselves with their financial needs. Together with loving souls like the Williamses we can do more to help the churches in need.



*View from our Virginia campground*



In Texas we visited with Larry Dominguez in the prison at Tennessee Colony. On previous trips to Texas we had tried to visit with him, but due to restrictions on him it was never possible. Larry was my correspondence student when we lived and worked with the church in Saline, Michigan. After studying for some months he obeyed the gospel. We have continued to correspond regularly for the past five years.

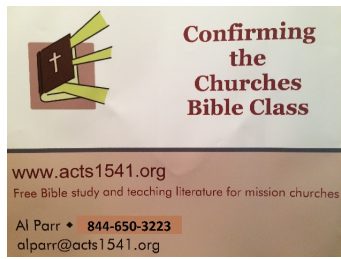
Through his personal Bible study and our discussions on it his faith has grown impressively. He wants to be a preacher when he is free to do so – even tries to teach fellow prisoners now. Though he is usually rebuked he perseveres in his own faith.

On December 9<sup>th</sup> I made a video call to KRPTS. Our time together was brief because of an unstable internet connection but I did hear some good news. The school had been featured in the Ibrahimpatnam newspaper for the good it is doing in the community: training men to preach the gospel and care for the poor widows and orphans. The brethren were excited that the community had heard of their work. All the men who graduated last year are still preaching the gospel in various towns and settlements. The cyclone that hit southeast India in December caused widespread flooding in Ibrahimpatnam. The students worked diligently to help the church and their neighbors with cleanup and providing basic necessities.



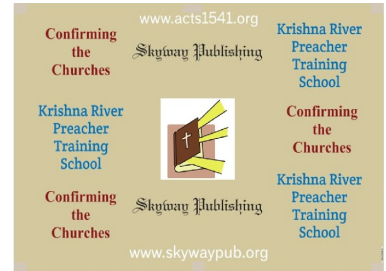
And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily (Acts 16:5)

I led singing for the Lincoln church on December 16, then we had the church at our house for lunch. The church has an afternoon assembly at 2:00 because many members are from other towns. It's easier for them to lunch in Lincoln then meet than to go home for lunch and return for an evening assembly. Some typically bring their lunch to the building, and others eat in local restaurants. Twenty one gathered around the tables in our "party room" downstairs for soups and sandwiches. Some had brought desserts, others drinks. We could have fed twice the number.



Confirming the Churches Bible Class finished the study of the epistle to the Ephesians on December 18. We suspended the class for the next two weeks (holiday Tuesdays) and plan to resume live streaming on January 8 with a 15-minute Tuesday morning class at 10:00 central time. The plan is to originate the stream at the Confirming the Churches Facebook page. You may watch that page for developing details.

This quarter we produced video Bible lessons for Krishna River Preacher-Training School. I recorded some new lessons but mostly edited previously-recorded lessons specifically for their use. I found that a 64-GB SD card would hold the largest number of files, so I loaded one card with lessons on Ephesians, Hebrews, the Holy Spirit, and the Minor Prophets. Not feeling comfortable with trusting the international mail I asked brother Jack Honeycutt to carry the card to India on his mid-January trip. At the end of the month I mailed to him the SD card with 76 video Bible lessons. Brother Suvarna Prasad plans to meet brother Honeycutt in Kakinada.



*One of the backdrops used in our videos*

Our publishing project for the first quarter of 2019 is the Teacher's Commentary on the evangelistic epistles (First & Second Timothy and Titus). The basic writing of that work is finished and I have been editing it for print. As I finish each chapter I have been sending that also to Suvarna for the school. Brother N.K.Y. Dass is preparing to teach that class in the spring. He has been very pleased with the help that this commentary is giving him.

There is always a need for Bibles in India. They are almost always available from printers, but funds for their purchase by the preachers are not often available. If you know anyone who can help at any time with this urgent need, please let me know. It would be ideal if one or more caring servants of God could send regular contributions (it is a constant need). The Bibles we distribute cost about \$3.00. Thirty dollars will provide ten Bibles and make many people very happy – plus it will allow them to read the Bible for themselves in their own language every day. Any contribution higher or lower will be helpful and appreciated.

The new web site for the Lincoln church didn't stay active long. The files were corrupted and the site will have to be completely rebuilt. When that is done I will announce it on the mission Facebook page.

"God Has Spoken" continues to appear in the Lincoln Courier every Friday. You may read each week's column at [www.acts1541.org/ghs.pdf](http://www.acts1541.org/ghs.pdf).

We pray for you daily, and for all the churches, that each Christian will be a glory to God and a light to salvation to all who meet them. Do you know small churches in difficult locations that we may encourage? Thank you for your prayers, words of encouragement, and material support.

In His service,

A. L. Parr  
**Confirming the Churches**  
[www.acts1541.org](http://www.acts1541.org)  
[www.youtube.com/c/AlParr\\_CTC](https://www.youtube.com/c/AlParr_CTC)  
[www.createspace.com/6798806](https://www.createspace.com/6798806)

<u>Contributions received October 1 - December 31:</u>	
Egypt Church of Christ	\$300.00
Lincoln Church of Christ	\$500.00
Elizabeth Williams	\$150.00
Grant Church of Christ	\$1,000.00
Book sales	\$35.00
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