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January-February Report, 2022

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, family, and friends,

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The new year brought us enjoyable visits with family members from far and near. My sister Linda and her daughter Brandy came from Florida on January 1. My sister Karol and her husband Don of the Peoria area joined us at the house for a few hours. Brandy, who has been special to Sybil and me for years, stayed through the weekend. On Monday Linda returned for a visit with our brother Randy and his wife Diana from Indiana. Our cousin Betty from here in Lincoln joined us at home, then for lunch at Cracker Barrel Old Country Store. Our winter was mild, and we have continued in good health. Sybil and I both received excellent reports from health screenings.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

Lincoln. Sybil's class with the teen girls continues through Old Testament history. She is teaching them also the scriptural background to songs that we sing in worship. For fun and intellectual profit she has taught them simple greetings in nearly a dozen languages. It is clear in their interaction with others in the church that the girls are enjoying the class and are benefitting from it. My Wednesday class in The Revelation continues. The main focus of the study is to show the book's connection to the rest of the Bible. We have also made specific application of the instructions, promises, and warnings to the seven churches. We will be moving on to chapter four in March.

Ibrahimpatnam. Covid has been much less an active concern in the church recently. No new cases have been reported. Most of the Christians have returned to the assemblies. From pictures they send it appears that fewer than half are still wearing masks in assemblies. N. Vijaya Rao has continued full time in local and regional evangelism. He reported six baptisms. The church is growing and remains at peace in harmony with the word. On January 31 I spoke live via Skype to a preachers' lectureship assembly in Ibrahimpatnam. It was 11:30 PM Sunday here, noon Monday there. My topic for the 60 or 70 preachers was the encouragements the Lord gave to the seven churches in Asia (Revelation 2-3) in light of their various situations.

Krishna River Preacher-Training School. My Skype class on January 16 (17th in India) was "A Charge to Preachers," a lesson from First Timothy 1:18 through 2:6. Paul charged Timothy to hold the faith in good conscience and to pray that governments will always allow Christians to live in peace. The rationale for the charge is that Jesus gave His life for all souls everywhere (2:6). On February 20 my topic was "The Character of the Bible" from Psalm 19:7-10.

International Bible Academe. We are still seeking to replace some lost support for the "India Evangelism" work of T.V. Samson Raj in Hyderabad. I have been designing a web page for the purpose, and contacting churches. Brother Samson serves three churches (all of which he planted) ranging in size



New Bibles to new KRPTS students

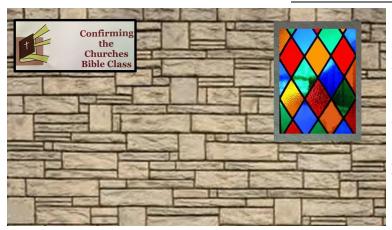
from 30 to 400. He oversees two preacher/teacher training schools and a large Bible correspondence study program. A leper colony and benevolence/skills training program are also directed by this nationally-known and respected evangelist. Watch the Confirming the Churches Facebook page for an announcement when the information page is published. Samson and I have talked by phone twice recently regarding his work and its support. He told me that he thinks that it will be possible for me to visit India in the spring of 2023.

Crown Point. In January we were called to fill-in for Wayne Ravesloot, who had been diagnosed with Covid. Fortunately it was a minimal case and he is back to his routine now. On the 23rd I preached "Excuses Philip Might Have Made" when the Spirit sent him to preach to the Ethiopian on the desert road. Attendance was down (even down to 1 for the Bible class) due to a 5-inch snowfall through the night and into mid-day. We were back there again on February 27 as brother Ravesloot was out of town. The Bible class lesson was "The Holiness of God." In light of questions arising out of the threat of war in Ukraine I preached "Christians and Soldiers," answering the contradiction some see between "thou shalt not kill" and the numerous records of Israel destroying cities and nations. Both of these lessons were recorded and uploaded to YouTube.

LITERATURE

Tracts & Books. Fifteen copies of "Must We Suffer" were added to the tract rack in Lincoln. The sample pack of a dozen assorted tract titles was given to contacts in three churches. Brother Adam Orsu in India wrote that "people everywhere are requesting that you write a tract about visions and dreams." That is planned for March publication. The versions book was delayed again by time demands elsewhere, and by technical issues with graphics. As I write this report there is very little yet to do on the book, but it is not possible to estimate how much time it might take to resolve the graphics issue.

ONLINE TEACHING



New Backdrop for the Class

Confirming the Churches Bible Class. We finished our study of First John on February 9. A lesson from Micah 6:8 was on Feb. 16. A lesson from Hosea 8:12 was recorded for Feb. 23 but Facebook refused to accept it on three occasions. It will be uploaded to the Confirming the Churches Bible Class play list on YouTube. Recorded new open for the class. These classes typically run 15-20 minutes online, but the process of getting them there requires over four hours for each one. Time in the recording studio can run to an hour. Editing and uploading are time-consuming endeavors.

Web Sites. Several dozen more videos have been added to the YouTube channel, including the entire series on the minor prophets and some sermons of past years.

Thank you again for your support. May God bless you every day.

In His service,

M2

A. L. Parr

Confirming the Churches

www.acts1541.org

www.youtube.com/c/AlParr CTC

Contributions received January 1 - February 25:

Lincoln Church of Christ \$1,600.00
Egypt Church of Christ \$200.00
Harrisburg Church of Christ \$200.00
Crown Point Church of Christ \$500.00
Elizabeth Williams \$100.00

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