



(903)-721-0332

Confirming the Churches
world evangelistic work of Al Parr
Greensboro Road Church of Christ
P. O Box 233
Jonesboro, AR 72403-0233

www.greensbororoadchurchofchrist.com



(870) 932-1911

March-April Report

April 30, 2013

Return to Home Page at www.acts1541.org

Dear brethren, family and friends,

Your faith, health and well-being are always on our minds, and, along with your support of this work, are constantly in our prayers of thanks to God in Heaven. Without the prayers and material support of the saints of God the work of the church anywhere on earth would not be possible. Without your particular prayers and support of this work some churches would literally weaken and die in their communities. Thank you, and may God richly bless you.

You are probably aware that you did not receive a report last month. I did not forget you. As the elders and I considered my schedule, we agreed that a report every other month would be more appropriate to the current conduct of the work of confirming the churches. If you want a more frequent update, there are at least three good ways to get that. First, you can log into the web site (www.confirmingthechurches.com) and click on the “report” link at the top of the page. Most of what is there are these regular written reports, but occasionally there may be other postings if a significant development warrants it. Second, I encourage you to “like” the Facebook page, “Confirming the Churches.” When possible, I post daily (weekday) comments there relative to the work that I am committed to do. Sometimes there are more than one daily post on different specific topics. The third option for between-reports updates is direct, personal contact. My e-mail is always posted under my signature in these reports, and my cell phone number is under my picture in the letterhead. You won’t offend, distract or disturb me at all if you call or write.

The month of March was given almost entirely to moving: first my daughter’s family and then myself. I returned to Detroit from India on the morning of Saturday, March 2, and before I could unpack the bags the Hazel Park church asked me to give them a report on the month-long trip. It wasn’t the smoothest organization of material I’ve ever done, but I did assemble enough pictures and decipher enough of my daily notes to tell them the highlights during the Sunday evening assembly. Monday began a nearly month-long affair with cardboard boxes and cleaning supplies.

Sasha and Angela moved on March 23 into their new house an hour’s drive further north, and on the 25th I drove back toward Arkansas to pack out of my storage shed for the move to southern Michigan. With the gracious and efficient help of brothers from three different churches we loaded a small semi-trailer and turned it over to the freight company for transit to Saline, just south of Ann Arbor, Michigan. I arrived with my pick-up load on Saturday, and the trailer arrived on Tuesday. We got it unloaded in just a couple of hours, but even now – after 4 weeks – about half of the boxes have yet to be unpacked.

Before agreeing to the 1-year mission with the Saline church I had already committed to lectureships in Pennsylvania and Arkansas in the early spring. While getting partially settled in to the house and acclimated to the church I was also preparing for those trips. The 20th Southeast Pennsylvania Annual Lectureship was held in Pottstown April 21-23. I preached Monday on the book of Psalms (audio online at <http://www.coventryhillscoc.org/media/audio/Lectureships/2013/Lesson%2010.mp3>) and Tuesday on the gospel of Mark (audio online at <http://www.coventryhillscoc.org/media/audio/Lectureships/2013/Lesson%2017.mp3>). Videos should be available online by the time you receive this report. Follow the links at www.coventryhillscoc.org. To write this report I have taken time out from final preparations for the trip to Arkansas, with stops on the loop through Illinois, Alabama and Indiana.

The January report mentioned a pending visit with the church in Saline, Michigan. As mentioned above, I have moved to the city to help the church, whose situation fits the description of our work. A little over a year and a half ago the church suffered a major emotional and physical setback when a preacher whom they had worked with for some time as one sound in the faith began preaching sectarian doctrine. Many members left in the midst of the turmoil, and the

work of the church came to a nearly complete halt. Only since the first of this year have the remaining members begun to pick themselves up and get back to the work of the church. They asked me to help with training and guidance in local evangelism and faith-building edification. We have agreed to a one-year mission together with opportunities for me to be away to help other churches for short terms.

Since arriving in Saline I have preached on the restoration principle, the distinctive church, the “first works” of a Christian, moving on from disappointments, benevolence, attendance, morality and forgiveness. I have had meetings with several individuals and families regarding the work of the church and how to do it. One brother is using my unpublished manuscript, “Introduction to Old Testament Books,” in teaching from the minor prophets, and several home-based Bible studies have been scheduled. I have met with one brother several times per week for training in personal evangelism, and a group of three of us began a once-monthly Bible study in a private dining room in a local restaurant. We anticipate this outgrowing that room very soon. Another family started a quarterly Bible study in their home just before my arrival, and many are looking forward to attending the second session in mid-May. The church is very serious about evangelizing their community, and is doing a great job of preparing themselves to do it well.

Saline is now the base of our mission work. I work with the church here when I am not helping churches in other places. If you know of churches that need up to two weeks of help in evangelism, edification or leadership training, please encourage them to contact me, or tell me how I may contact them. There are still churches in two other states discussing among themselves what they think they want help with most.

Thank you for your support of this work that has been dear to my heart for over 40 years. I pray daily that my efforts might be worthy of your confidence. Please pray for the life and the strength of the Lord’s church in our generation. May God bless you as only He can.

In His service,

A. L. Parr
alparr@acts1541.org

Contributions:

Greensboro Road church	\$250
Egypt church	\$100
Harrisburg church	\$100
Nettleton church	\$200
Drucilla McIntire	\$ 15
Central church, Shawnee OK	\$200

(Make checks payable to Church of Christ and designate For: Al Parr mission work, and mail to the Greensboro Road church address in the header of this report)