

“HUME’S HAPPENINGS”

1st October 2020

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Greetings brethren ,

Thank you for your support , it is very much appreciated . Following is my report for **September 2020** .

CORONA VIRUS UPDATE .

My island state of **Tasmania** is doing better than any other state in Australia , we have gone another month with **zero** cases of people being infected . Our borders are still closed to all the other states and to overseas arrivals .

Because of our Corona - virus free situation , the Lindisfarne congregation in our Capital city (Hobart) contacted me and requested that I resume my rostered trips to preach for them . I am expecting similar calls from other Tasmanian churches .

PREACHED AT LINDISFARNE .

Last Sunday (27th September) I preached for the Lindisfarne congregation . Jackie and I drove the two hours plus to Hobart on

Saturday and stayed overnight with brethren, then returned home on Sunday afternoon. We always receive a warm welcome with lots of hugs, although at the moment despite our virus free status our state Government suggest we limit our contact to "elbow kisses".

I preached on the **23rd Psalm**, and have attached my sermon for your perusal.

I am next scheduled to preach at Lindisfarne on the **29th November 2020**.

SURPRISE MEETING

Prior to Lindisfarne's worship beginning a middle - aged man approached us very excitedly and introduced himself as a brother in Christ from Western Australia.

He said he visited Hobart (our Capital city) several months ago on holiday, Corona - Virus hit Australia, state borders were closed, and he has been stranded on our island ever since, unable to return to his home state.

He said he was so excited because over twenty years ago he visited Jackie and I in our home and had life long memories of the wonderful time he spent with us. The awful truth is that Jackie and I have no recollection of having ever seen him before !

Over the past forty years, we have had 100 plus U.S. brethren stay in our home, about 50 people from overseas, and several hundreds of brethren from every state in Australia.

We have lists of names, but because we did not take photographs of every visitor, we have trouble matching faces to those names.

We were pleased to "meet" this brother (again) and issued an invitation for him to visit us while was "marooned" in Tasmania.

SURPRISE EMAIL .

Two days ago, I received an email from the above mentioned brother, who said he would like to visit and stay with us, beginning from Saturday 17th October.

He revealed that he was a schoolteacher, and said that during his enforced confinement in Tasmania, he had come to love our state so much he would like to live here and find employment in a Tasmanian school.

When he stays with us, he would like to investigate the opportunities available for him to begin work in one of my city's schools. If he is granted a teaching position, he would place membership at my home church (Eastside).

STEVEN SCHILLER PREACHED .

About two years ago, one of our Eastside members (Steven Schiller) began preaching at Eastside once a month. He preaches for us either on the first Sunday in the month. or another Sunday if I am away preaching somewhere in Tasmania.

DVD NEWSPAPER ADVERTS .

In last month's report I said as a follow up to the Correspondence Course adverts we placed in our city's newspaper (20 people enrolled), we have ordered a series of similar adverts but this time offering free DVD's.

After the first DVD advert, we have had 5 people request DVD's. We have three more adverts to come, two weeks apart, over the next six weeks.

COMPUTER HYMNAL TRANSFORMATION .

We are into our third month now of singing hymns in Eastside's worship using a "paperless hymnal" based on SHEPHERD - STEVENS *"Hymns for Worship"* songbook .

The Eastside members have become so accustomed to having the hymns projected onto the huge front wall screen where we meet , that they often remark that they do not want to return to using the Hymn Books for Sunday worship (we still use them for our Tuesday night Bible Class) .

When it comes to myself and other Eastside men praying , leading re the Lord's Supper , taking up the contribution , and preaching , I have learnt how to incorporate large brightly coloured images of "praying hands" , Lord's Supper emblems , contribution plates , and a preacher behind the pulpit , into the hymnal presentation , with the appropriate brother's name (changes each Sunday) highlighted in large block letters under each image .

In addition , I have my power point presentation inserted into the program after the contribution image and before the closing hymn and prayer images .

Because I am "up the front" and facing the congregation (leading the hymns) I have witnessed an amazing improvement in the quality of Eastside's congregational singing .

Because the members are all looking up at the words on the screen , instead of heads "bowed" reading a hymn book , their voices are louder and sound much more enthusiastic , being projected upwards toward me . The difference has been dramatic .

SUMMING UP THIS MONTH.

Despite our Corona - virus free situation , we are still limited by Government regulations from many social and very large gatherings , thus I have spent most of my time each day confined to my office .

I have been able to achieve a lot in the way of preparing new sermons , Bible Classes , and bound booklets . Jackie and I are looking forward to when we can resume our activities with community organisations and my preaching regularly at other Tasmanian and mainland churches .

LESSONS TAUGHT BY ME AT EASTSIDE IN SEPTEMBER .

Most of my Bible class and sermon subjects take several weeks to cover due to the nature of the Eastside members who need constant repetition , detailed explanations , and mutual discussions among brethren re personal applications of Biblical principles in their lives .

Also , I encourage members to ask questions re anything they do not understand or even something that is a side issue to what we are actually studying at the time . Thus it is very rare for me to ever complete a lesson in one Bible class .

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS .

September 6 - *"The Mosaic period of time"* .

13 - *"The Mosaic period of time"* .

20 - *"The Mosaic period of time"* .

27 - Preached at **Lindisfarne** .

SUNDAY SERMONS .

- September 6 - **Steven Schiller** preached .
- 13 - *"The 23rd Psalm"* .
- 20 - *"What is conversion" ?* (Part one)
- 27 - Preached at **Lindisfarne** .

MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

- September 1 - Viktor taught **Matthew 4** .
- 8 - Viktor taught **Matthew 5** .
- 15 - Viktor taught **Matthew 5** .
- 22 - Viktor taught **Matthew 6** .
- 29 - Viktor taught **Matthew 6** .

Following is a repeat of the items that form the basis of my activities each month .

REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES .

Set up school on Friday afternoons at 4pm for Eastside's Sunday meetings . It takes Jackie and I about one hour to carry all our chairs , presiding tables , lectern , speaker's stands , audio sound equipment , hymn books , Sunday School items , power point projector , etc from our storeroom and set up our "church auditorium" .

"Friend day" lunch at our house for brethren and visitors after Sunday worship on the second or third Sunday in the month .

Midweek Bible Class : Continues to be at my house .

Study periods : Preparing sermons and Bible classes for Eastside's meetings .

Lesson booklets : Ongoing typing , photocopying , stapling , and binding of new and replacement booklets for requests , and for display at our church meetings .

Study packs : Ongoing photocopying , stapling , and packaging of these as time permits .

Letterboxing : Jackie and I make every effort to continue this project on a weekly basis , but often a lack of time does not allow this to happen .

Thank you once again for your wonderful support, please visit us if you ever get the opportunity to do so,

Yours in Christ,

Barry Hume .

P . S . "THE 23rd PSALM"

I have attached another one of my sermons
for you to see how and what I preach