

# “HUME’S HAPPENINGS”

1<sup>st</sup> January 2023

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Greetings brethren ,

Thank you for your support , it is very much appreciated . Following is my report for **December** 2022 .

## **SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS .**

Many years ago an American preacher was working in Australia and a young Australian man who wanted to be a full time preacher in Australia asked this U . S . preacher , *“What can Australian preachers do to improve the spiritual and numerical growth of Aussie congregations”* ?

The U . S . preacher replied , *“They need to focus less on issues and more on teaching about Christ”* . This young Aussie told me about his conversation and I thought about it seriously , resulting in me compiling a **fifty lesson series** on “Jesus Christ” .

I have taught this series twice now over the past ten years ( the fifty lessons takes me about two years to teach ) and the Eastside brethren have prevailed on me to teach it again .

To give you an idea what this series involves, I have attached a list of the subjects covered.

### INVITATION TO YOU .

If you would like me to email any/all of these lessons to you, for you preach/teach them, or for your personal study, or just to see what I preach, just let me know and I will send them to you immediately.

### GUEST PREACHER .

On December 17<sup>th</sup> **Phil and Lindy Dow** drove the three hours plus (roadworks) from our capital city (Hobart) and stayed overnight at my home. Phil preached a very good sermon at Eastside next morning, before driving back to Hobart Sunday afternoon.

Phil and Lindy are members of the “Mornington Hill” congregation having its origin about two months ago, with the amalgamation of the **Lindisfarne** and **Eastern Shore** congregations.

Mornington Hill is a wonderful congregation with its members always displaying a Christlike attitude toward other Tasmanian churches and brethren

### GRAHAM WALL WORKSHOP .

Graham Wall is a wonderful young “up and coming” preacher who is in demand by congregations throughout Australia. He phoned me this month and confirmed that he will arrive in Launceston on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April to teach seven classes for the Eastside members on the subject of “Local church evangelism”.

## HIP REPLACEMENT .

My rescheduled hip replacement is to happen on **January 18<sup>th</sup>**, so I have less than three weeks to wait now. As I stated in November's report, it was to be done last month, but a Covid test as they were wheeling me to the operating theatre was "Positive", so they sent me home and rescheduled the operation.

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY .

On 20th December Jackie and I attended the end of year (for grades 1 - 5) and grade six graduation assembly at the school where we meet for church services. This assembly is attended by state and Federal politicians, business leaders, prominent members of the community, and many parents and friends of the students.

Each year at this assembly, Jackie and I present an award each to a student, with the award winners and presenters listed in a nicely printed official program. Our awards in the program state, "*From the members of the Eastside church*" (not from the Eastside church).

These awards are not paid for out of the church treasury, but from private contributions of the Eastside members.

Every year at the assembly, some politician or business leader will ask the Principle of the school, "*What is the Eastside church of Christ, where are they located*" etc, and the Principle will introduce Jackie and I to the person and we have opportunity to tell them all about the church.

This year I had a conversation about Eastside with a Policewoman who was there to present an award from the Tasmanian Police Force.

## **BENEVOLENCE BASKETS .**

On the morning of the school assembly Jackie and I delivered the last two washing baskets of groceries ( for 2022 ) to the Principle of the school , and he gave them to two needy families that he chose .

This year we distributed six ( 6 ) grocery baskets . This program has no connection with the work of the Eastside church or the treasury of the congregation , but rather is an initiative of our individual members .

Each Tuesday evening when brethren come to our home for dinner before the 7pm - 8 pm Bible Class , they bring items of groceries and place them in the washing baskets .

When these two baskets are overflowing , Jackie covers them with colorful see - through paper , each with a card that says , "*From the members of the Eastside church"* ( not from the Eastside church ) , and we deliver them to the Principle .

Jackie then buys two new baskets , places them in our lounge room where the brethren can see them , and the process starts again .

## **LESSONS TAUGHT BY ME AT EASTSIDE IN DECEMBER .**

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 .

- December 4 - *"Who really killed Jesus"* .
- 11 - *"He could not save himself"* (**Matt 27 : 42**) .
- 18 - *"He could not save himself"* (**Matt 27 : 42**) .
- 25 - *"Crucifixion from a medical point of view"* .

## SUNDAY SERMONS .

- December 4 - *"The challenge of contrary winds"* .
- 11 - *"Holy Spirit baptism"* .
- 18 - **Guest preacher - Phil Dow** .
- 25 - *"Do not be fearful"* .

## MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

- December 6 - Viktor taught **Acts 10** .
- 13 - Viktor taught **Acts 11** .
- 20 - Viktor taught **Acts 12** .
- 27 - Viktor taught **Acts 13** .

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

## **REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES .**

### **Set up school :**

Jackie and I arrive about one hour early on Sunday morning along with two other members and we set up an “auditorium” in the gymnasium of the Ravenswood Heights Primary School .

### **"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