

# **“HUME’S HAPPENINGS”**

1<sup>st</sup> November 2019

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**North Beach church of Christ**

Greetings brethren ,

Thank you for your support , it is very much appreciated .

## **WHY THIS REPORT IS ON TIME .**

The reason this report is on time for once is because my daughter's husband ( Matthew ) has just been called ( Friday 1st October ) to Hobart to undergo a serious back operation on Tuesday morning the 5th October .

Because he almost an invalid ( he is only mid forties years of age ) he is unable to drive his car , and because my daughter cannot get leave from her work , he needs Jackie and I to drive him to Hobart on Monday , and bring him home later in the week .

It takes over two hours to drive to our Capital city , which does not do my back any good , so instead of taking him down on Monday and returning home the same day , then driving to Hobart again later in the week , we have devised a plan whereby we will stay in Hobart Monday , Tuesday , and Wednesday nights , then bring him home on Thursday .

We plan to get him settled into hospital on Monday, visit him on Tuesday evening and several times on Wednesday, then bring him home whenever he gets discharged (hopefully on Thursday).

This plan means I will miss Eastside's Tuesday night Bible Class for the first time in many years, but Jackie and I will attend a Hobart congregation's Wednesday night class.

#### WHAT HAS THIS GOT TO DO WITH MY REPORT ?

Well, we plan to stay overnight in brethren's homes, and with my laptop I will begin work each morning at 4am (as I do each day at home) compiling new sermons, Bible Classes, and text for my bound Lesson Booklets.

But because of daily trips to the hospital and invariable discussions and questions that occur whenever we stay with brethren, I am not sure how much time I will have in the next week or so to type and email my October report.

So, rather than be a week or more late, I decided to work on my report tonight and send it off to you now. Please keep Matthew in your prayers that this operation will relieve him of the chronic pain he has suffered for a long time, and hopefully enhance his mobility.

Now, following is my report for **October 2019**.

#### **GOSPEL MEETING .**

In the first week of this month, four of the five sessions of our Gospel Meeting were conducted with Steve Wilson, an evangelist from a Queensland congregation being the guest preacher.

The number of non-Christian visitors that attended overall were down on our previous "Meetings", because those that did attend a session only did so once.

I personally mail out over thirty invitations to close friends each time we hold a Gospel Meeting, and many of them attend most, if not all the meetings, but not this time.

We were blessed to have the usual car loads of brethren from the two Hobart congregations attend mainly the Saturday afternoon session.

#### SPECIAL MENTION - **LUKE & ROSIE MARSHALL**.

We were blown away by the fact that on **Thursday** evening this married couple (members of the Lindisfarne church where I preach every twelve weeks) packed their three very young children into their car around 4.15 pm, drove over two hours from Hobart to my home city Launceston, arriving about 6.45 pm.

They attended our meeting which began at 7 pm and did not end until 8.30 pm, Luke and Rosie chatted with us for thirty minutes, then departed at 9 pm for the return two hours plus trip to Hobart.

They would have arrived at their home around 11.30 pm, knowing Luke had to begin work at 6 am next morning!

Brethren, for a young couple on their own to do that displays great commitment, but to do it with three young children is amazing. Jackie and I have grown to love this couple dearly during the times I make preaching trips to our capital city.

#### FIRST TIME VISITORS.

A highlight of this Gospel Meeting was the attendance of a married couple in their early twenties, who attended the very last session. After the closing prayer I had a long discussion with them and since then they have regularly attended our Sunday Bible Class and Worship and also our Tuesday night Bible Class.

Last week the wife phoned to say that her parents from New Zealand were visiting them and would we mind if she brought her father and mother to our Tuesday night Bible Class .

It was great to meet her parents , and it was evident that her father "knows" his Bible , evidenced by his comments during discussions at the Bible Class .

### **SUMMER GOSPEL MEETING ?**

Steve Schiller , the man I mentioned in last month's report as having volunteered to preach at Eastside once a month , asked me to consider a summer Gospel Meeting ( the theme being "Faith" ) with him and I doing the preaching .

We will discuss this suggestion with the rest of the congregation and see what develops .

### **SCHOOL ASSEMBLY .**

This month Jackie and I received our annual invitation ( from the school where we conduct worship services ) to attend the school's end of year assembly , and present two awards to students from the Eastside members .

I take up a private collection from the Eastside members ( separate and apart from the church treasury ) and the Principle purchases two awards for Jackie and I to present at the assembly .

These awards are listed in the official program as being donated by "*members of the Eastside church*" , not from the Eastside church ( as a corporate body ) .

This assembly is attended each year by the mayor of Launceston , state and federal politicians , business leaders , and parents and friends of students .

Every year someone will notice "our" awards in the program and ask the Principle, "*Who is this Eastside church*" ? and the Principle will introduce them to Jackie and I, and we get to inform them of our congregation and New Testament Christianity.

This awards ceremony is just one of the ways we interact with non - Christians in an attempt to influence them for Christ.

### **MEMBER'S REQUEST .**

Shelly Petersen, one of our Eastside members has requested that I compile and preach a lesson on the "*man of lawlessness*" and following in **2 Thess 2 : 3 - 12** .

It never ceases to amaze me that even though I have compiled over five hundred sermons and several hundred Bible Classes, brethren still are able to request sermon topics that I have not specifically focussed on in detail (as opposed to generally referring to them in various sermons).

### **TRIVIA QUIZ - RETIREMENT VILLAGE .**

The Manager of a retirement village near our home phoned me this month, requesting that Jackie and I organise and conduct a trivia quiz night for the residents .

We are well known all over Tasmania for "our" Quiz nights for charitable and worthy organisations . We have conducted these nights over the last twenty years for many causes , from mothers who have lost babies at childbirth, to small country schools .

One time, we drove an hour to a tiny town with one shop (store) to conduct a quiz to raise finances for their little country school, so their students could go on an end of year excursion to the "big" city (my home town, Launceston).

When we arrived at the "town" I stopped at the one store to get a bottle of water and the owner was closing up the business, even though it was only about 5pm.

He sold me the water and said, *"You are lucky you caught me still open, I normally do not close for the day until 8 pm, but tonight I am going to a quiz night, and the whole town will be there"*.

I told him that my wife and I are going to the Quiz Night too, and later in the evening he laughed when he discovered that we were conducting the event.

It was a great night with all the farmers and timber workers from miles around getting straight off their tractors and shutting down their saw - mills and attending the Quiz Night to support "their" school, still dressed in their work clothes.

Through conducting these events Jackie and I have established hundreds of friendships, and had opportunity to talk to many people about New Testament Christianity.

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

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 .

- October 6 - Gospel Meeting ( Steve Wilson ).
- 13 - *"Joseph - a type of Christ"* .
- 20 - *"Joseph - a type of Christ"* .
- 27 - *"Passover Lamb - a type of Christ"* .

## SUNDAY SERMONS .

- October 6 - Gospel Meeting ( Steve Wilson ).
- 13 - *"His delight is in the law of the Lord"* .
- 20 - *"Recovering the spirit of worship"* .
- 27 - *"Dealing with dilemmas"* .

## MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

- October 1 - Gospel Meeting ( Steve Wilson ).
- 8 - Viktor taught **Ezekial 18 - 19** .
- 15 - Viktor taught **Ezekial 20 - 21** .
- 22 - Viktor taught **Ezekial 21 - 22** .
- 29 - Viktor taught **Ezekial 23 - 24** .

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 clear out the classroom 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 .     "IS GOD STRONG ENOUGH TO HELP ME" ?**

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