



Douglas Dispatch



October 2008AD

Psalm 103.1-2 "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits," ESV

G'day!

We are excited about what the Lord is doing. The contrast could not be more stark between those who are panicking as they look at the world's economic troubles vs. the overflowing peace, satisfaction, comfort, and hope we feel in the Lord's ministry. Yes, the economic trouble has pinched us too, but that is only a temporary, earthly, thing. The joy of the ministry and a life of service for our Saviour will last forever!



Glorious Hope Baptist Church is now officially on its own!!! With the conclusion of the weekend's celebrations we have said goodbye and God bless. We are confident God will bless. The church has been making one mature step after another. It is no accident that God has us leaving the church plant now. His good timing is always best.

Last week the church did a spring break kid's club and had a high of 31. Of these, the children from our church could be counted on one hand. We are grateful for the wonderful opportunity to reach out to the unsaved, hurting, broken, and dysfunctional within the community God has placed the church in. Another exciting aspect of it all was that we, the Douglas family, really did not do much at all. The church had charge and charge they did.

With any step forward there are also challenges. We learned late last week that the school we have been using will close by the end of the year and the land sold off to developers. This could make things very hard on the church. It is impossible to find something close by that the people from the community without a car could walk to at a price the church can afford. Pray that the church will handle this challenge well. Pray that God would give them some or all of the school buildings to continue to meet and minister there. Pray that both the church and community would see this as God's provision and perfect timing.

Barb and I celebrated our 23rd anniversary a week ago. We didn't do much special other than have a big seafood lunch. (I preached that morning, so it makes celebrating harder.) We actually hope to have a bit more special time about 2 months late as we spend a few days in Honolulu on our return stateside. 23 years of wonderful marriage! It really has been fabulous.

Our children are counting the days till they are done with the school year. Amy only has 30 till she graduates and Luke has about 38. We fly out of here on Dec 4 so the school year will be cut a bit short, but they don't mind one bit. HA! Next year we will once again have them taught through Distance Education. They will have a teacher here who assigns the work and grades it after they complete it. Mum and Dad just have to make sure they get it done. That will be a challenge when they have hard questions, but the internet can be a good thing.



Spring is in the air. The daytime temps are rising, and the weather is getting more pleasant with each passing week. With the switch to daylight savings time this month, the evenings have enough daylight left to get out and enjoy them. The spring would be a good time to get everything in order before a good furlough. We plan to rent our house to a friend while we are away. That will be a help to her and us. As always there are a number of little projects that should be finished off first, and then there is the packing everything away.



We would ask that you pray for us as we set up meetings for furlough. We have a large amount of support to raise and do not want to take a Long time to do so.

We want God to direct us to the churches that are (or will be) interested in our ministry. If you or your church are not currently part of our support team and would like more information, please contact us to see if we can arrange a meeting to update you on all the good things God is doing in Australia. Our heart is here. Our desire is in church planting. We want to be about the work of the ministry that God has for us. Yes, we also need to be reporting to all our current supporters and we are still working on the schedule for that. You can get the current details on the last page of our web site.

Thanks for your prayers and support! In His service,
Matt, Barb, Amy & Luke Douglas

Please visit our web site for more up-to-date information on our ministries: www.abwedouglas.net

If you receive this in paper and would rather have email or download it from the web please send us your details

Praise: Graduation of GHBC; Successful kid's club outreaches; Family blessings in Australia

Prayer: GHBC going forward in our absence; Furlough schedule; Finishing term well; Big support shortfall

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