



HADDINGTON HOUSE

Haddington House Newsletter April, 2020 Number 39

BACK ON CANADIAN SOIL AS OF SUNDAY MARCH 21ST

Dear Friends,

Thank you very much for praying for the winter months and in particular (given the world situation) the last couple of weeks. We arrived back earlier than planned (in order to follow government and airline orders), and by God's grace we made it back into Canada before midnight on Sunday March 21st. It was tricky to prepare to come home as we tried to find a flight path still open to us, packed up as quickly as possible, finished teaching, and said as many good-byes as we could.

In the end, we were allowed to leave Johannesburg and pass through Frankfurt with a final destination of Toronto. We are self-isolating now for 14 days in Ontario, so we can spend these next two weeks marking exams and starting to do some writing - will try to take advantage of this quiet time in a productive way. Thank you to all those who emailed words of encouragement the last couple of weeks. It was most appreciated.

It will be very interesting to do a comparison of previous pandemics throughout history and today's COVID-19. Nevertheless, in the midst of these unusual days, may the Lord bless each of you as you carry forth with His work and labours. Psalm 16

In the Lord,

Jack Whytock

REPORT ON WINTER TEACHING AND MINISTRY

We thank the Lord for the five in-class courses we were able to teach at Dumisani in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. Despite the challenges of the last couple of weeks, the term was completed and exams were conducted. There was certainly a rich variety of courses this past term: Christian Ethics, African Church History, Advanced Research and Writing, College-Level English, and Research & Library Skills, plus Jack participated in the Term One Chapel series on the theme "Obedience in the Christian Life". Also, the library needed to be reassembled following the installation of a new floor that was completed during the Christmas holidays. Unfortunately, the large donation of books that was being shipped did not arrive so obviously these could not be catalogued. We suspect everything being shipped is at a snail's pace now, especially as this shipment would likely have had to go through Hong Kong or Singapore on route to Dumisani.

Our Christian Leaders' Workshop on March 6th was on the theme of Church Revitalisation as it relates to three sub-themes—Leadership, Children, and Prayer. The graduation and awards recognition ceremonies took place on March 7th with a record 31 graduating. The good news was we did have all our books arrive from the UK for our graduates to receive; we also managed to take all of the books for the Workshop in our suitcases.

Between the two events, March 6th and March 7th, we managed to distribute almost 1,000 copies of various new books. Also, the Dumisani Library Booksale went very well this term with about another 1,000 books sold.

UPDATE ON THE AFRICA TEXTBOOK PROJECT

The chapters for the Africa Textbook Project have been laid out and now signed commitments have started coming back from contributors. We hope that all writers will be signed on over the next few weeks. Also, we managed to get some of the research started for the chapters that we will be doing for the book. There were particular manuscripts in the Eastern Cape that we were looking to find and after many weeks of persistence, and finally at the 11th hour, they were found.

PUBLIC LECTURES AND TALKS, SPRING AND SUMMER

Due to the situation with the coronavirus and public meetings we will need to monitor when and where we might be conducting public lectures and talks in Canada this spring and summer with Jack and a visiting speaker from Northern Ireland. When we know more, we will post this on our website and send out communications.

COMBINED JOURNAL FOR 2019 AND 2020 AND SPRING DISTRIBUTION

The latest journals have now arrived back from our printer in Manitoba. We will work towards as much hand delivery as possible and overseas distribution may need to wait as no doubt overseas mail will now be very slow.

PRAYER POINTS FOR SPRING AND SUMMER

1. Pray for the spring distribution of the latest Journal.
2. Pray with a spirit of thanksgiving for the ministry labours of Term One at Dumisani. May the literature distributed continue to be well used over this coming period of uncertainty.
3. Pray for the spring and summer lectures that we will see the Lord's will done through these.
4. Pray for all contributors to sign and return their commitment forms for the Africa Textbook Project so that these may be presented to the publisher.

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