

Then the angel said to (the shepherds), “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be **to all people.** ¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

Dear colleagues, friends and family.

Many are looking for world peace, but still there is war and conflict because Israel said “Give us Barabbas, crucify Jesus”. Peace is unity, not just a cease file. Unity is agreement, not just domination. Jesus was patiently waiting for Israel to acknowledge Him as their King. The New Testament concludes “Surely I am coming quickly”, Amen, Even so come, Lord Jesus.’ Meanwhile, Paul warns us ‘that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. ³ For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.’ (1 Thessalonians 5: 2-3). Therefore ‘Seek the Lord’ (Zephaniah 2:1-3).

We have had no major health issues but have slowed down a bit, both now 76 yo. Ellen had cataract surgery on both eyes and her right knee replaced. She is very pleased to be able to walk comfortably. Julie-Ann and family are well in Newcastle. Only Sterling is still at school. Lois and *Cookie* have joined us for Christmas. Kathleen and family are doing well in Hobart. Hannah has completed second year Uni with credits; Hyland has finished high school and Theo has finished primary school. Andrew is doing very well having addressed a weight issue.

We have continued teaching in Sunday School and Primary SRE at Cargo and Borenore. Arthur is still supporting ASReml and Echidna. It is a joy to witness the Lord working in some young lives.

We wish you all the best this Christmas and in 2026.

Arthur & Ellen

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