



Greetings in the spirit of Christ as we celebrate His birth and revelation as God's Son!

A month ago Ardyth spent a little time in the ER after waking up with strong atrial fibrillation one morning. They got it under control and after several visits to her cardiologist adjusting her medicines, she has come out with much more energy—she feels a few years younger. Because the watchman device was implanted two years ago, she did not have the danger of stroke that accompanies fibrillation. Even with some little glitches, we give thanks for good health.

Thanksgiving was spent with Dean's in-laws. Our hosts, Abby(Dean's sister-in-law) and Justin have a 9 month old son, Ryan who had a liver transplant at 6 weeks, He really enjoyed playing with Dean's son, Caden, 6. We gave thanks for Ryan as he is a healthy, growing, active boy.

Lowell continues to live in New Mexico, writing computer programs. He was here for Thanksgiving.

Dean and Loretta have sold their house and are now renting a second story apartment near where Loretta's parents live. Caden is in first grade.

Naomi and Darren are both working, he printing can and bottle labels, she in an Aldy store. Dirk is living at home and attending Austin Peay University as he starts studying mechanical engineering. Bethany is now married to Robert, a fellow Air Force Military Policeman. Danielle is nearing the end of studies to work in nuclear propulsion for the Navy.

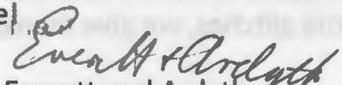
Ministry to Chinese Students and Scholars continues to reach out. They ask many serious questions wanting to know more, and often we are explaining what it means to follow Jesus as Lord, and the blessings that brings. Each year is a little different, but we keep seeing some accepting Christ before returning to China. Pray for them as they integrate into churches there

and for continued contact through email. It is going well—a few scholars baptized, many interested and attending churches regularly.

Everett continues voluntary ministry to ship crews. They look to us for information about the ports they are in and for help in contacting home, so we often carry international phone cards, sim cards so they can use their cell phone here and now we have internet hot spots they rent so they can sit on the ship and use their laptops to talk with and see their wives, children and parents in their home country. Even as we help them communicate with loved ones, we help them in their communication with our Lord. That ministry is changing in Seattle with city changes. We now have people using native languages for crews from China (2 dialects), Philippines, Latin America, Greece, Russia and Ukraine. Maritime Ministry is becoming more united, I, Everett, a Lutheran, drive into the Episcopalian Center, go inside, get a key & drive out to the dock in a Catholic van. Even working together we are still looking for more financial support. I go there one day a week, and I find gangways higher on the newer 8000 TEU (twenty foot containers) vessels (55-58 high steps). Even those on the 5500 TEU vessels seem higher—but unless it is real steep (45 degrees plus) I make all 58 steps without pause for breath until at the top.

We pray that each one of you may experience the wonder of the angel's announcement: "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" This is the first public announcement of the great Epiphany, the revealing of God's great purpose through Jesus, bringing peace and goodwill to our hearts through His life, death and resurrection. And then the words of Simeon in the temple when he held the infant Jesus: For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel."

Let us truly sing glory to God for showing us His grace, His goodwill toward us. Live in His peace!


Everett and Ardyth