



# Merry Christmas

Peter, Kyle & Jessie, Don, & Nancy Thompson - 2022



## CHRISTMAS 2022

***Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause GREAT JOY for all people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2: 10-11***

Our pastor recently asked us to think about something that has given us JOY in the past year. He also asked us to think about how we can bring JOY to others during this holiday season. Here are some moments of JOY in our family.

Nancy's mom, who lived in our home the past three years, blessed us with her steady, joyful spirit and love. We were very sad when she passed away this spring, but it gave us a special peace and JOY to remember her at her April memorial service in Oklahoma. Betty Shellady was 97 when she went to be with the Lord. Many family members and friends attended her service at Central Christian Church. We still miss her, but we treasure the cheerful memories of her life, every day.

Another life-changing event in the past year was Don's retirement from 43 years at Pepperdine. The tributes and receptions given by his colleagues and the administration were memorable and touching. It gave him great JOY that 45 students and friends attended his Malibu retirement party in October.

It is also very special to us that our children, Peter, Kyle and wife Jessie, live in Southern California. It gives us great JOY to see Peter playing guitar on the church praise team and to see Kyle and Jessie flourish in their careers of teaching philosophy and giving music lessons. Our family JOYFULLY celebrates special occasions together throughout the year.

How can we bring JOY to others this holiday season? Music and good wishes help. Don participated in two choirs this fall, and their five performances during the Christmas season were awesome. Music is a joyful gift that Peter, Kyle and Jessie share with others. Nancy likes to send cards and gifts to friends, relatives, and to her five sponsored "children" around the world. Sharing with others brings JOY to them and to us.

May God bless you with Peace, Good Will, and GREAT JOY this holiday season. Blessings to you and your family.

Merry Christmas

Don & Nancy Thompson