

## 2017 Heart for the Disabled



Join us as we celebrate, love, and encourage five special needs families selected for our "Heart for the Disabled" project. Our goal is to surprise each one of these families with greeting cards, notes, Bible verses, pictures, gift cards, drawings ... all to encourage them in the name of Jesus. Below are brief descriptions of each family and their needs.

Please mail all notes, gift cards, poems, etc. to:

**Attn: Heart for the Disabled**  
**Joni and Friends**  
**PO Box 3333**  
**Agoura Hills, CA 91376**

\* Checks can be made to JONI AND FRIENDS with the memo line HEART FOR THE DISABLED: (family name). We will then make a check to the family for the amount you specified.

### Randy, Monica, Chloe, Cara, and Micah



Randy and Monica are parents to three children, all of whom have disabilities. Both girls, Chloe and Cara, have mood and anxiety disorders. Their son, Micah, has cerebral palsy, is non-verbal, and uses a wheelchair and feeding tube. On top of this, Monica has been in and out of the hospital with an undiagnosed illness and her father passed away just last year. And what's more, the family was in a car accident wrecking their expensive wheelchair van, which was their only way of transporting Micah.

**Paul, Kristin, Theresa, Anneliese, Antoniete, Douglas, Dylan,  
Alyssa, Robert, Sophia, and Kristin**

Paul and Kristin have their hands full with 9 children. Their 2-year-old twins, Robert and Sophia, have multiple disabilities that require a lot of extra care. They also have two middle-aged sons, Douglas and Dylan, who are on the autism spectrum. These four and their parents, along with Theresa (17), Antoniete (14), Anneliese (12), Alyssa (5), and 1-year-old Kristin (not pictured) were all able to attend Family Retreat last summer. Their lives were truly changed. The entire family decided to follow the Lord because of their time at Retreat.



**Roger, Emem, Roger Jr., Moriah, and Joshua**



Roger and Emem are parents to a daughter, Moriah, and two teenage sons who have severe autism, Roger Jr. and Joshua. Moriah plays a key part in this family as she translates for Roger and Emem who are both deaf. This family has not had it easy. They were only able to attend Family Retreat 2 years ago, thanks to a generous scholarship. They were not able to attend last year. And last Christmas, they lacked resources to buy gifts for their children.

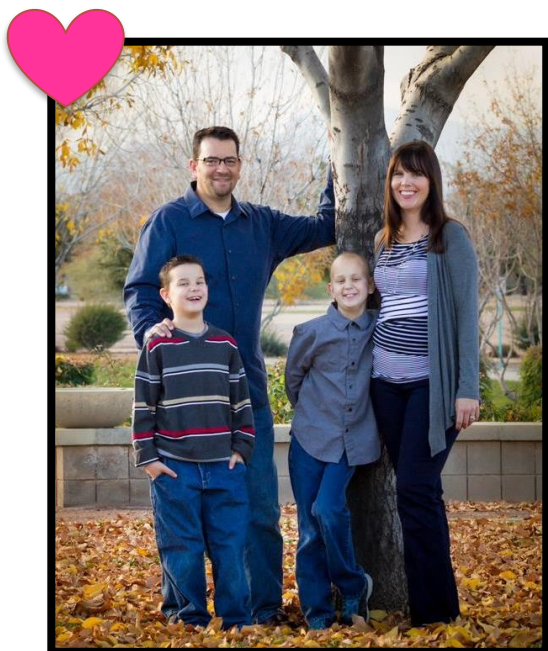


## Nick, Denise, Nathan, Jordan, Jady, and Ian

Nick and Denise have four children, Nathan (18), Jordan (16) who has autism and struggles with anxiety and depression, Jady (11) who has developmental disabilities, and Ian (10) who also has autism and ADHD. Nick and Denise have had to tag-team their parental responsibilities in the last year as Denise has been in and out of the hospital and Nick has been taking care of his father along with his own company.



## Damon, Barbara, Ben



Damon, Barbara, and Ben are truly missing their son and brother, Aaron, who finally lost his 8-year battle against brain cancer last October. Damon has been working extra hours to pay for hospital bills and Barbara spent most of her time in the cancer ward waiting room. And, even more, 9-year-old Ben has been diagnosed with autism. Although Damon and Barbara truly enjoyed having a date night at Family Retreat last summer, all of these things have really put a strain on their marriage.

In order to respect the privacy of each family, we cannot provide additional information, such as mailing addresses or phone numbers, of a specific family. Please note that there is no deadline for you to send your notes of encouragement. We will sort through the gift items and mail each family its package of cards and gifts — with the first package to arrive on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14.