Thank You!
Every morning when I wheel up the ramp at our Joni and Friends International Disability Center (IDC), I bypass my office and head for the volunteer area. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday are when Irma and Christian (her son who has Down syndrome) come in to volunteer during the summer. I simply must drop by their work table to give greetings, sing a song, or get a hug from my handsome young friend who loves to roll up his sleeves and help.

Christian so enjoys his humble work of folding newsletters and putting stamps and labels on envelopes. It’s simple labor, but it’s needed and valued. What thrills me most about Irma and her son is that they not only volunteer at our home office in California, they also serve at Family Retreats, helping other families like themselves. As a 21-year-old, Christian knows he has a responsibility to reach out to other young people with disabilities. I love that about him! This young man with intellectual disabilities told me, “I like volunteering. It’s special because I get to help other people and tell them about Joni and Friends.”

I always say, “It isn’t disability ministry until the disabled are ministering!” It’s exactly what Irma and Christian are doing – they are great examples of Colossians 3:23-24 as they work with all their hearts for the Lord Jesus.

There are all kinds of ways you can serve too! You can pray and give financially. But you can also volunteer with us, whether at a Family Retreat, on a Wheels for the World outreach, or at your nearest Joni and Friends’ area ministry office. As you do, be encouraged by Colossians again, for “you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward, for it is the Lord Christ you are serving.” There’s no greater incentive to volunteer than that!

God has given each of you a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts.

1 PETER 4:10

Making memories that will last a lifetime, Christian (left), with his Mom, Irma, and Dad, Randy, at Family Retreat!

Talent Show Night at Family Retreat is always a joyous event for families and volunteers to watch! Christian and his Short-Term-Missionary (STM), Hudson, are all smiles as they perform! Mother and Son Shine for Jesus through Service.
THANK YOU FOR INVESTING IN THE
Next Generation of Passionate Christ Followers!

*Cause 4 Life Internships*

Your prayers and financial support for our *Cause 4 Life* Internship Program are transforming lives of this next generation! You are equipping students to become leaders in disability ministry! And in turn, these interns are changing lives by living out the Gospel through their service.

Your faithfulness to come alongside this next generation is having a tremendous impact in churches and communities worldwide. Our *Cause 4 Life* interns advocate for justice, freedom, and equality for people living with disability. Thank you for leaving a legacy by investing in the next generation of passionate Christ followers!

*Continued on next page...*
Q & A with *Cause 4 Life* intern, Huntington, shares about her transformation.

Has your internship with Joni and Friends equipped you to better serve people living with disability in your community and/or place of calling?

Yes! This internship has equipped me in so many different ways. It has prepared me to help grow my churches special-needs program and will help me when I become a special-needs teacher. This internship taught me more than I could ever have imagined, and I am so grateful for the opportunity that I was given.

What was most impactful from the international mission trip?

The most impactful thing to me was the home visits [in the Dominican Republic] and how welcoming the family was and how they just wanted company and anyone to talk to. We sang all together in a few of the houses and it was just amazing. Also the respite and seeing some of those families that you visited get to come to church... and to see the joy on everyone’s face.

What was the most important thing God taught you during your internship?

The most important thing God taught me was to go out and bring in everyone (Luke 14), to step out of my comfort zone, share the Gospel, and help those in need.

A home visit in the Dominican Republic. Our *Cause 4 Life* interns travel internationally and serve by sharing the love and hope of Jesus through word and deed.

Joni and Friends President, John Nugent, shares an inspiring message from his heart to our *Cause 4 Life* interns, thanking them for their service and encouraging them to press on!

Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young... 1 TIMOTHY 4:12

Cause 4 Life intern, Huntington, shares “...God taught me to...step out of my comfort zone, share the Gospel and help those in need.”
Give a Memorable Gift this Season

Hope Builders Wall

- Honor your parents, siblings, or children
- Give in memory of a loved one
- Recognize someone’s milestone event

Giving to Joni and Friends in the name of another will make an eternal difference by sharing the love and hope of Jesus with children and families living with disability.

All Honor and Memorial gifts of $500 or more will have the honoree’s name permanently inscribed on the Hope Builders Wall—located at the Joni and Friends International Disability Center in Southern California.

To give a Hope Builders gift to Joni and Friends, please call 818.575.1762, or visit joniandfriends.org/hopebuilders

Encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:11

Reduce Your Taxes, Increase Your Impact!

Give a Gift Through Your IRA

Meet Jen, a 71 year old faithful friend who wants to make a gift to support our Wheels for the World program.

Since Jen is over 70 ½, the IRS requires her to withdraw her required minimum distribution (RMD) from her IRA.

Jen knows her IRA rollover gift must be received and processed at Joni and Friends by December 31st.

Note: This information is not intended as tax, legal, or financial advice. Please check with your financial advisor to determine how a charitable IRA rollover gift will impact you.

For more information, please contact Degna Horton at 818.575.1762 or visit joniandfriends.org/plannedgiving/ira-charitable-rollover.
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AMMAR WALCOTT  Pamela Monetti

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Every birthday for Joni is a miracle milestone. Learn how you can celebrate with Joni by honoring her and the ministry for her birthday!

http://joniandfriends.org/birthday
Countdown to Christmas
Order Your Christmas Cards Today!

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$12 BC31

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5 1/4” x 7 3/4” • Foil Detail on Exterior • 15 Cards • 16 White Envelopes

You’ve Waited All Year for This!
Special-Anniversary Joni 2020 Planner

Available exclusively from Joni and Friends.
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$16 CP2020

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