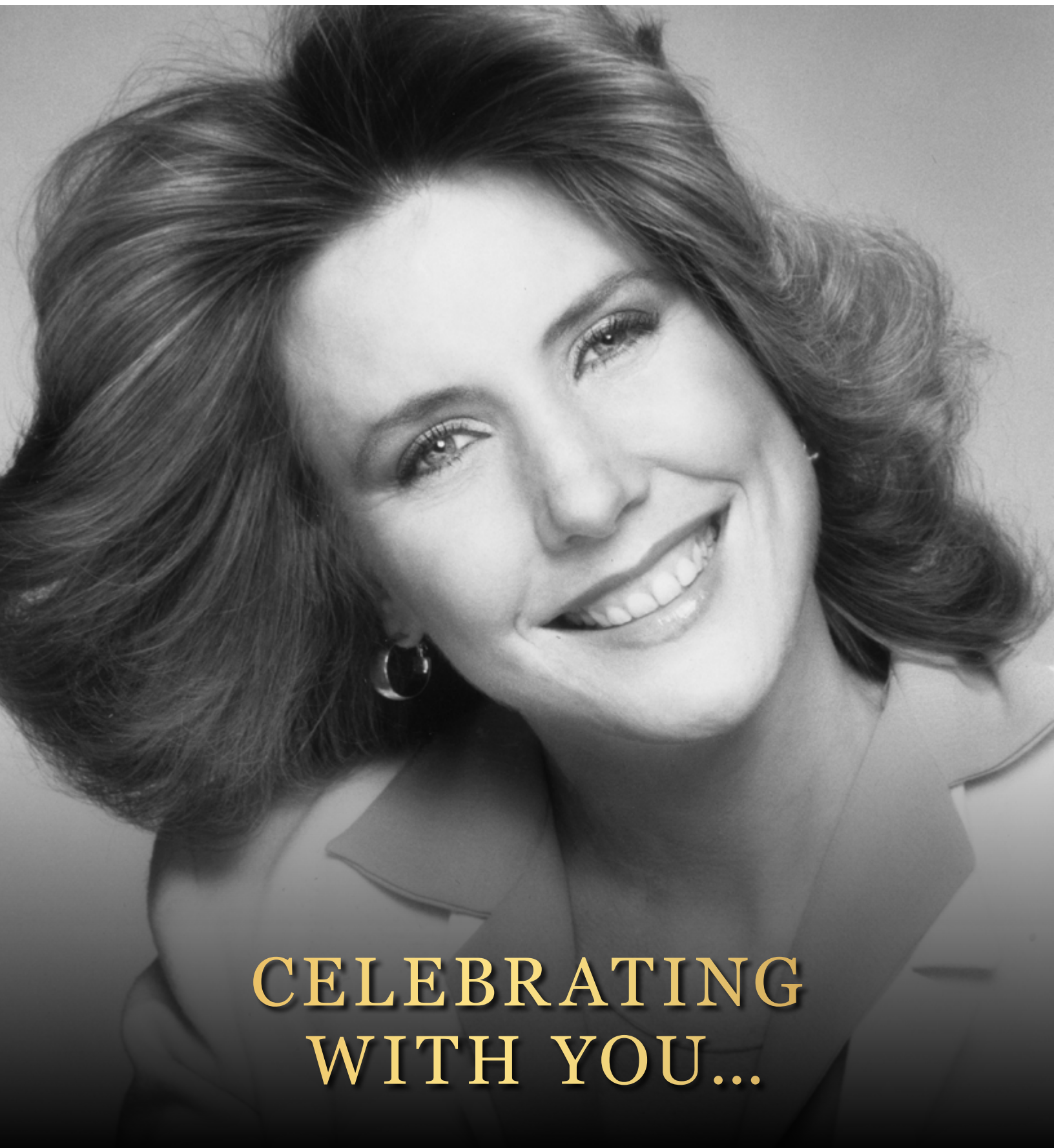


JULY 2019
ministry news



**CELEBRATING
WITH YOU...**

from^{the} heart



It's no surprise that I love horses, like this friendly fellow Ken and I met last summer at our Family Retreat in New Mexico. Just spending time with this gentle gelding brought back a flood of horseback-riding memories. I used to love saddling up and running my horse through his paces. Often, I'd be preparing him for endurance races at horse shows. And always, I had my eye on a trophy!

I run a different race now. No more reins...instead, I hold a joystick. And my saddle is a wheelchair. But the race is still about endurance, and as a quadriplegic, I've been running it for many years. I still put myself through the paces with disciplines like praying hard, reading the Bible earnestly, and making the most of every opportunity to serve Christ. The last five decades have shown that I "run in such a way as to win the prize" (1 Corinthians 9:24).

...we do it to get a crown
that will last forever.

I CORINTHIANS 9:25

It's why I rendered this beautiful painting of a galloping horse that you see on the back page. The inspiration for this watercolor came from Hebrews 12:1, "Let us run with endurance the race God has set before us." And the race God has called us to run is *far* from over – Lord willing, I'll keep running, growing and serving my Savior for many years to come!

Joni and Friends, in celebration of our 40th anniversary, is also running in such a way as to win the prize. Our ministry is poised to keep growing and serving countless more people with disabilities for decades to come. And *you* are part of this glorious race! With your prayers and gifts, you are helping *thousands* of disabled people and their families find Christ their Prize. So, keep up the great pace, friend. Together, let's make Joni and Friends our enduring legacy as we serve Christ by serving the "least of these" for years to come!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Joni".



...40 YEARS of MINISTRY!



WHERE IT ALL BEGAN...

Joni's Reflects on her time
with Billy Graham

“Looking back over the last 50 years, many highlights include Billy Graham Crusades. Back in the 70's, Ruth Graham read the Joni book and told Billy that he should invite me to speak at a Crusade. So, in October 1976, I shared my testimony at Pontiac Stadium near Detroit.

Sharing my story in front of 80,000 people? I was breathless! But I had been asking the Lord to give me opportunities to tell my testimony, and I wasn't about to blow this one! I shared Romans 8:28 and how God had fit my broken neck into a glorious plan – a plan to make me more like Jesus. That was the first of 12 Billy Graham Crusades in which I shared my story.”

THE MINISTRY LEGACY CONTINUES TODAY THROUGH YOUR FAITHFULNESS!



≈ **1979**
The doors of Joni and Friends open in the offices of World Wide Pictures in Burbank, California.



≈ **1982**
On July 3, Joni marries Ken Tada.



≈ **1989**
Joni speaks to over 100,000 at the Billy Graham Crusade in Budapest, Hungary – Billy Graham Evangelical Association (BGEA) underwrites the transport of hundreds of people with disabilities to the Crusade.



≈ **1976**
The *Joni* book is released and becomes a #1 international best-seller.



≈ **1979**
The Billy Graham Evangelical Association (BGEA) releases the *Joni* movie – eventually more than 250,000 people will pray to receive Christ through the film.



≈ **1982**
Joni's five-minute daily radio program, "Joni and Friends," goes on the air in May.



≈ **1986**
Joni and Friends holds disability workshops at Amsterdam '86 where more than 10,000 evangelists are exposed to the idea of disability ministry.



≈ **1990**
Joni and Friends hosts more than 110 disability ministry leaders from 44 countries at Joni and Friends' International Congress on the Church and Disability held on the campus of Calvin College.



≈ **1991**
Joni and Friends organizes its first international outreach to disabled people in Romania. Joni and Friends holds its first *Family Retreat* in Pennsylvania.



≈ 1992
Joni helps lead the first *Wheels for the World* outreach to Ghana.



≈ 2000
Groundwork is laid for the *Christian Institute on Disability*, the education center of Joni and Friends, as Joni actively campaigns against stem cell research.



≈ 2006
Joni is appointed to the Disability Advisory Committee at the U.S. State Department. Joni and Friends holds its first *International Family Retreat* in Ukraine.



≈ 2014
Wheels for the World delivers its 100,000th wheelchair.



≈ 2016
The *Beyond Suffering Bible* is released.



≈ 2019
Celebrating 40 Years of your faithfulness and ministry! You've partnered with us to reach the next generation with the love of Jesus for many years to come!



≈ 2000
Joni and Ken travel to China to begin opening doors for *Wheels for the World*. She then travels to Australia to serve as chaplain for the 2000 Paralympic Games.



≈ 2010
Joni and Ken visit a *Wheels for the World* Restoration shop in a U.S. prison. The inmates there restored donated used wheelchairs that are refreshed to like-new and shipped all over to world to those in need.



≈ 2007
In January, the Joni and Friends International Disability Center opens its doors, ushering in a new era of international outreach to families affected by disability.



Honor a Loved One, *Transform a Life*

We gratefully acknowledge contributions given in memory or in honor of loved ones to further ministry in the disability community. To give a gift in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, visit joniandfriends.org/donate or contact Joni and Friends at **818.707.5664**

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Run With Endurance

Brand-New Art Print with Bible Verse by Joni



Run With Endurance

This bold painting by Joni captures God's gift of power and majesty to the horse, reminding the viewer to "...Run with endurance the race God has set before us." Hebrews 12:1

16" x 20"

Frame not included

\$24 AP043

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