

JODY KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL

The ministry of Jody & Trisha Kennedy

Jody Kennedy International News February 16, 2022

Our COVID Journey

Many of you have followed our COVID-19 experience through the Caringbridge postings (<u>caringbridge.org</u>). It has been a year of prayer, healing, celebration and miracles. Jody ended his hospital stay of 3 months and we spent another 6 weeks in Charlotte until he was released to travel to Texas to begin outpatient physical and occupational therapy.

We have to give a tremendous thank you to our Samaritan's Purse family, especially our dear ones in Operation Christmas Child. While we were "stuck" in Charlotte, they provided much prayer, comfort and physical support to us both. They were instrumental in helping us get back to Texas.

We returned to Texas May 1 of last year and I began visiting doctors, undergoing tests and going to physical therapy. We are so very grateful for all the prayers that have been so important and the many encouraging comments on <u>caringbridge.org</u> and cards and letters.

We had wonderful and tearful reunions with our families and friends upon returning to Texas. Our daughter, Sara, and her family came from overseas for a wonderful visit where our granddaughters reminded us of all the joys of being grandparents. As soon as I was able, I happily spoke at churches that invited us to share what God had done. Below are links to some recent testimony.

Christ Fellowship Baptist Church, Lake Bridgeport, TX (click here)

Calvary Baptist Church, Midlothian, TX (click here)

Retta Baptist Church (click here)

Operation Christmas Child, Charlotte, NC (click here)

While I have more work to do to get back to nearly full strength, we were able to return to ministry work last fall. We were taking every possible precaution against COVID but that did not deter us from serving with our full energy and enthusiasm.

Our first opportunity was to serve with the Franklin Graham's Route 66 God Loves You Tour which took us from Springfield, MO to Oklahoma City and then Amarillo. What a joy and privilege it was to serve as chaplains at those amazing rallies where the gospel went out and reached thousands.

During Thanksgiving week we served as crisis response chaplains in the New Orleans area where many are still suffering from the damage done by Hurricane Ida. We ministered to homeowners and Samaritan's Purse volunteers and shared Christ with dozens.

We prayerfully decided to not return to Charlotte for 2021 where we for many years served on staff at Operation Christmas Child. We plan to return in the 2022 processing season as God allows. We received an invitation to go to Charlotte for a couple of days in December where we saw many of our dear OCC family, both past and present. It was thrilling to share the testimony of God's love and care while I was so sick and while I am recovering.

One of our dearest OCC family recorded our testimony and posted it on YouTube. You can watch it at this YouTube link (<u>click here</u>) or the link in the list above.

With this new year comes new challenges, but we know more than ever that the Lord will have his way in us when we yield to His way and will. We are planning for a busy spring of ministry around the United States. As international travel re-opens we will be ministering wherever God leads us. We especially want to return to Nicaragua to see our dear ones there and encourage our partner churches.

Keep praying!

Jody and Trisha



Visit jodykennedy.org

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