

July 2020

JONESES TO COLOMBIA

Dear Family and Friends,

We recently returned from a fun time at the beach. We celebrated the 4th of July with family, and are looking forward to what the Lord has for us as we open Drive-In Park.

Halfway through June we spent five days at the beach in Pensacola, FL. Most of my immediate family was able to make it and we rented a really big house. We had so much fun there at the beach. We also went to the go-kart track in Gulf Shores, AL and went out to eat one night. We always have a great time with family and friends. Eri and I celebrated our 3rd Anniversary while at the beach. It is hard to believe that three years have already passed, but we are both very happy and feel so blessed. The past two years for our anniversary we traveled as our gift to each other, but this year due to the pandemic, we didn't try to make a trip happen. We were looking at visiting Niagara Falls, but, Lord willing, we will be able to make that trip soon enough.

As I am writing this, we are getting back to normal life after a weekend of celebrating July 4. Saturday we had a full day which started by barbecuing chicken over a pit with my dad, Josh, David, and David's son Kevin(14). It took us close to 2 hours, but the chicken was so very delicious! The afternoon was filled with 4-wheeler and dirt bike riding, zip-lining, shooting, frisbee, video games, swimming, and whatever else we wanted to do out at my parents' farm (It sounds a lot like a summer camp now that I think about it). We also enjoyed homemade ice cream in the afternoon before having dinner that evening followed by a little more free time before the fireworks. At dark we started shooting fireworks and everyone had a great time!. Overall, Eri and I had a really nice weekend. We love our US family!

We pray everyone is staying healthy and safe this summer. Unfortunately, we are still writing this in the States because we were unable to visit Colombia as I mentioned in the last letter. Things are still very restricted and it doesn't seem like they'll reopen the airports for international flights until after September. However, this is giving us more opportunity to work on the Park and prep for our events. We had a movie night scheduled for July 3, but due to a Covid scare and high chance of rain it was cancelled. Dad, Mom, Tim, Joe, Eri, and I are all working hard on the various aspects of prep involved for movie nights. Some of the things we have in the works are getting T-shirts designed and made, a new sign for the Park with new logo (see the new logo below), park rule signs, lanyards for volunteers, concessions trailer being outfitted and stocked, and gospel tracts that can be used to reinforce gospel presentations. We were blessed with more playground equipment, but we want to sandblast it and repaint it before moving it to the park. Along with these, we continue maintaining the grass and park equipment.

Who among us could have ever predicted the pandemic that we are facing at this time? What crazy days and times we are living in. Please join us in prayer for this pandemic to end. Pray for the leaders in our country and for our fellow countrymen that we all make wise, godly decisions. Pray for Colombian believers to stay encouraged and faithful during this long pandemic. (They've been in quarantine for more than three months and seen very little opening up in the last month.)

In Christ, Stephen and Erika Jones



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