

Soles For Jesus, Inc.

8480 N. 87th Street Milwaukee, WI 53224 877.314.SHOE (7463)



July 2015

www.SolesForJesus.org



Dear Friend,

We are so blessed by our partners in Africa! I just received a report from the EHC National Director in Guinea-Bissau, Julio, and I am blown away by his dedication in sharing God's love in hard to reach places. Julio shared, "We traveled by ship to Bolama Island to reach people in great need. While we were there, 556 people received their first pair of shoes, and half of the people made a decision to follow Christ!"



Praise the Lord! This is why SFJ exist, and the testimonies of new life in Christ never get old. Local pastors will continue to disciple the lives that were changed by the Gospel message, and the gifts of shoes. In these photos, you can see the boat that carried Julio's team and the boxes of shoes, as well as some lives that were deeply touched by the love of Jesus.

Thank you for being a part of the incredible things that He is doing. At our board meeting last night, we prayed over the shipment that just left for Guinea, which is 85% Muslim. This is a new open door and we are believing that His love will sweep over this region in a powerful way. Please pray along with us!

Sincerely in Christ, Diane Studer SFJ Founder/Director

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Mission Trip Invite - Tanzania 2016

We are now accepting applications for our mission trip to Tanzania, which will take place in May of 2016. This team will visit villages, put shoes on feet, and share the love of Jesus! For more details about this mission to Tanzania, click HERE. This trip will fill quickly and the deadline for applying is Friday, August 28th. Contact Brittney at Bciciora@SolesForJesus.org to request an application. We are excited for what God has in store and we're praying for the Lord to build this team! To view a photo album from our last mission trip to Zambia, click HERE.



SFJ Board Member, Michelle Novak, putting shoes on feet in Zambia.

6th Annual Fashion Show Luncheon & Auction

SAVE THE DATE: Nov. 14, 2015



The 2015 Fashion Show Luncheon & Auction will take place on **Saturday, November 14 from 11am to 2pm** at the **Italian Conference Center** in Milwaukee. This is going to be a beautiful and fantastic event that you do not want to miss!

Tickets will go on sale **Thursday, August 20th at 9am**. Tables are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis and seats are limited, so be sure to act fast. You don't want to miss out on this unforgettable time!

Further details will be emailed to you after you register, including check-in time at 10:45am. We look forward to seeing you there!

FS Event Sponsorship: Gold and Silver Sponsorships are available for this year's event. As a Sponsor, your name or business will be recognized through printed material, social media, company signage and verbally honored at our event. You'll also receive one stage-side table, with seating for ten guests, to enjoy lunch. If you're interested, please contact Diane Studer at Dstuder@SolesForJesus.org for more information.

Auction items: We are extremely grateful for those who donate items to our silent auction! Fun packages like weekend get-aways and vacations, gift baskets, sports tickets and suites are all great items for guests to bid on. We also appreciate creative ideas for services, items or 'experiences' (ie: boat tours or gourmet dinners) as donations. Your business and item will be listed in our fashion show event program and we will acknowledge your tax-deductible donation after the event for 2015 tax purposes. If you are able to donate, please contact Brittney Ciciora at Bciciora@SolesForJesus.org. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

We are excited to share this video, highlighting the SFJ Fashion Show this past November. A special

Ideas for Involvement!

We are extremely grateful for those who help collect shoes and also raise funds to send them to Africa. **Shoes and funds** are two key needs that we have, and we're often asked for creative ideas to help engage a group. Click **HERE** for some easy and fun ways to get everyone excited and involved!



Two girls hosted a lemonade stand to raise shipping funds.

Shipment to Guinea

We are thrilled to share that the shipment for Guinea will be leaving today! We love seeing how God continues to open new doors. This is the first time that SFJ will be sending shoes to Guinea. Please join us as we pray for this shipment. Pray that it makes its way safely into the hands of Maxime, our National Director of Guinea, and pray also for him and his ministry team. We look forward to sharing pictures with you.



SFJ Board of Directors posing after praying over the shipment: Diane, Kent, Michelle, Jason, and Jen.

thanks to Kris Jansen for putting it together! To view the video, click below.



Shoe Drives - Special Thanks!

The Brock Family - We are thankful for the Brock Family who drove up from Morton, Illinois to deliver over 600 pairs of shoes from their shoe drive. Steve and Sally have adopted four of their five children. Two of their kids, Olivia (pictured below) and Katie, were adopted from Ethiopia. SFJ is meaningful to their family because the girls remember not having shoes when they lived in Africa. This year, their family teamed up with Grace Girls Club (a group of 1st-4th grade girls from Grace Church in Morton, IL) to collect shoes, bind them together, and put notes in several pairs. Olivia spoke to the Grace Girls Club about what it's like to not have even one pair of shoes. This was eve-opening for them and they decided to make the shoe drive annual event! an



The Brock Family dropping off shoes at SFJ: Olivia, Sally, and Steve.

Shipment to Tanzania

8,000 pairs of shoes have made it to Tanzania! Our EHC partners will store this shipment safely until our mission team arrives in October. Please pray for the safety of these shoes as they are stored. Pray that God's love will be shown through the distribution of these shoes and that many will come to know Jesus Christ. View pictures of this shipment HERE.



The Tanzania shipment at SFJ before it made the journey to Africa.

Distributions in Botswana

Shoe distributions have begun in Botswana! We praise God for the people who have declared Jesus Christ as their Saviour! Please pray for our partners and their ministry team as they continue distributions. Please pray for wisdom and guidance as they travel village to village. View pictures of this shipment HERE.



An EHC team member unloading shoes from the shipping container.

St. Martin Lutheran Church - A group of middle schoolers from St. Martin Lutheran Church in Clintonville, WI did a shoe drive. When they delivered the shoes, they stayed and volunteered in our warehouse. In fact, they did a mini mission trip to Milwaukee, volunteering at a number of non-profit organizations. They did an awesome job helping us with various projects. Thank you for your help!



The boys and their leader working hard in the warehouse.

Harley-Davidson Motor Company - The workers at Harley-Davidson in Menomonee Falls are getting new steal toe boots this fall. They have reached out to SFJ and want to donate their used shoes to those in need in Africa! We are excited about this new partnership and we know that these shoes will be greatly appreciated in Africa.



Xcel Sports - Xcel Sports is a ministry of Appleton Alliance Church that uses sports, fitness, and the outdoors to connect people with God and one another. They are currently hosting their 4th SFJ shoe drive and they have already collected nearly 400 pairs of shoes! Our partnership with Appleton Alliance Church continues to be a tremendous blessing!

Distributions in Liberia

We continue to pray for distributions in Liberia. Our EHC partner, Sydney, has sent reports with his sincerest gratitude. His stories continue to move us, as this nation was severely affected by the Ebola virus. Praise God for His grace! Pray that future distributions continue to be successful and that God's love will change each person who receives a pair of shoes. View pictures of this shipment HERE.



Villagers in Lofa County praise God for Hisgrace.

Distributions in Swaziland

Shoe distributions are going well in Swaziland! In a recent report, our ministry partner, Joseph, wrote about one women who said, "Lord Jesus, really who are you, because you never stop doing things for me?!" This is the power of Christ that we hope every individual experiences upon receiving a pair of shoes. Please pray that the Gospel continues to be heard and people continue to turn their lives over to Christ. Pray for the spiritual and physical needs of each individual to be met. View pictures of this shipment HERE.



Feet are washed and shoes are given.



SFJ collection box at Xcel Sports.

Volunteer of the Month

Randall Marker, a member at the Wisconsin Athletic Club (WAC) in Wauwatosa, has been donating shoes to their SFJ collection box for months. He thought that sending shoes to Africa was a great idea, and wanted to more about learn mission. Being recently retired, Randall has been looking for volunteer work, so he reached out to SFJ



offering to use his own van to pick up shoes at collection sites. We'd like to honor him by making him our Volunteer of the Month! When asked what his favorite part about volunteering his time at SFJ is, Randall responded, "Just knowing that I'm helping out is a great satisfaction. There are so many people in need of just the simple items that we in the USA take for granted." We couldn't agree more and we're so grateful for Randall and his willingness to lend a helping hand.

Volunteer Opportunities

SOS Events (Sort & Organize Shoes) Join us as we gather at the Milwaukee, WI warehouse to prepare shoes for shipment to Africa! New volunteers are always welcome and we will have a brief orientation before each event. To set-up a time to come and

Distributions in Guinea- Bissau

Distributions have begun in Guinea-Bissau! Our EHC ministry partner, Julio, shared his report with us saying that the people would have never thought they would receive such a blessing. "They praised the Lord for the precious gift they got," said Julio. Of all the people that heard the Gospel message, nearly half made the decision to follow Christ! Praise God for the children that were brought into His kingdom! View pictures of this shipment HERE.



Our EHC ministry partner praying with the villagers on Bolama Island.

Meet one of our Partners

Meet our EHC ministry partner in Ghana, Africa, Karl Menyah. Karl was raised by Muslim parents. By the grace of God, he came to live with his grandmother who sent him to a Christian school. His

teacher had a strong desire to convert all of his students and soon Karl turned his life over to Christ. Since coming to know Christ, Karl has devoted his time to spreading the Gospel around his nation. He has been inspired by Mark 16:25, "He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.'" We praise God for Karl and his undying devotion to serve God and his people. He has asked us to pray for the following:

volunteer, please contact Brittney at <u>Bciciora@SolesForJesus.org</u> or call her at 414-365-1392.



We enjoyed having Christ the King Baptist Church here this month!

August

Saturday August 1, 9-11am-FULL Thursday August 6, 6-8pm-FULL Saturday August 15, 9-11am Saturday August 22, 9-11am Tuesday August 25, 12-2pm Saturday August 29, 9-11am-FULL

September

Thursday September 10, 6-8pm-FULL Saturday September 12, 9-11am Saturday September 19, 9-11am Tuesday September 22 12-2pm Saturday September 26, 9-11am

*You can choose your own date to serve! To learn more about this, read below.

"Business Hours" SOS: Volunteers are welcome to come during weekdays to sort shoes (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm). Come and sort shoes when it fits your schedule. You can sort for an hour or a day - it's entirely up to you. Also, feel free to bring friends! Training will be provided, and SFJ staff will always be available to provide support. For more details about this opportunity, please contact Mark Ellefson at Mellefson@SolesForJesus.org or 414-365-1392, and please let us know 48 hours in advance that you're coming.

SOS Group Event: Schedule a special date to host your group! Are you a part of a sports team, small group, or club in your work, school, church, or community? Volunteering together to organize and pack shoes for Africa is a rewarding, 2 hour, team building opportunity for youth and adults (12+ years).

- For the health and well-being of his wife, Elizabeth, and their three grown children
- For continual growth in their outreach efforts from year to year
- That every believer will be involved in personal evangelism
- That 500 volunteers will be trained and mobilized to help distribute Gospel literature
- That every church in Ghana will work together in home to home outreach
- That training in the next few months will properly equip between 5,000 and 10,000 pastors and leaders in their communities for Jesus
- That his people will become disciples and the Gospel will spread rapidly

Thank you for the Shoes Received this Month!

Amy Carver, WI Austin & Annie Boswell, IL Christ the King Lutheran Church, WI Christian Life School, WI Dennis and Kandy Sager, IL First Christian Church, IL Girl Scout Troop 2045, WI Grace Church, IL Grace Girls Club, IL Karina Van Doren, WI Lori Salzburger, WI Poplar Creek Church, WI Schlitz Autobon Nature Center, WI St. John Vianney Church, WI St. John's United Church, WI St. Martin Lutheran Church, WI

Please contact Brittney, our SFJ Office Manager, at <u>Bciciora@SolesForJesus.org</u> or call her at 414-365-1392 to set up your volunteer group.

Your Donation Impacts Lives!

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Or **Mail Your Donation:** Soles For Jesus 8480 N. 87th Street Milwaukee, WI 53224 The Brock Family, IL
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