



Soles For Jesus, Inc.

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Milwaukee, WI 53224
877.314.SHOE (7463)



March 2015

www.SolesForJesus.org



Dear Friend,

Spring is here, and after a long winter it's exciting to see flowers beginning to bloom. At Soles For Jesus, springtime also means another trip to Africa! In just a few weeks, our mission team will board several planes to distribute shoes and the Gospel in Burundi. We can't wait!

I'm thrilled to share a quick story from the other side of the world with you.

In Lesotho, Pastor Busaka was on his way to share the Gospel in one of the most remote villages. As he was traveling, he encountered a young herd boy named Lephoi, who was looking after his father's cattle. Pastor Busaka was so moved by his youth and bravery, that he asked



the boy if he could pray with him for his safety. Lephoi agreed, and so he prayed a simple prayer. Then Pastor Busaka began to share about the love of God, and how He has a plan for each of His children. As the Holy Spirit moved in his heart, Lephoi's face lit up with joy and he received Jesus as his Savior! Pastor Busaka reached in to his supply of shoes that he was taking to the village and found just the right pair for the young boy. As Lephoi placed his foot in the shoe, he pulled out a colored picture that read, "Jesus loves you!" Lephoi will never be the same after being overwhelmed with the love of God that day. Thank you for donating shoes, hand-made pictures, funds, time, prayers and so much more to help us reach people just like Lephoi. It's such a

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In Loving Memory of Rev. Anacleto Luis Ferrao

It is with great sadness that we share about our dear brother, Anacleto Ferrao, who went home to be with Jesus on March 6, 2015. Please keep his wife, Carmelia, their children, and family in your prayers. Anacleto has been an incredible and loving support to us, since we joined the EHC family five years ago. He and Carmelia hosted us in their home on two trips to Mozambique. Our hearts are deeply grieved at this loss, and yet it's a tremendous gain for heaven. Anacleto's assistant, Godfrey, will serve as the interim national director. Please also pray for strength, wisdom, and guidance as Godfrey and the team begin shoe distributions next month. See photos [HERE](#)



Anacleto with our recent shipment of shoes.

great privilege to share the greatest story that's ever been told!

May you also experience the fullness of His love and joy, as you celebrate the miracle of His resurrection this Sunday.

Sincerely in Christ,
Diane Studer, SFJ Founder/Director

Sign Up Today!



2015 **RACE - FOR - SOLES**
FAMILY FUN RUN
5K RUN/2 MILE WALK

Register at www.SolesForJesus.org // **SATURDAY, JUNE 13**
8:30am - 11:30am
WCTC in Pewaukee

SPONSORED BY:  AMERICAN IMPORTS
AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SPECIALISTS

Register Now

Invite your family and friends to join us for a 5k run or 2 mile walk on **Saturday, June 13th!** You can register online or call us at 414-365-1392.

The event will be held at the beautiful campus of Waukesha County Technical College where we'll enjoy a scenic route through the streets of Pewaukee. The morning will also include medals, prizes, refreshments, exciting activities, and games. By signing up and having fun, you are helping to touch lives in Africa. This event is for individuals and families of all ages. For more information, head to our website [HERE](http://www.SolesForJesus.org)

Sponsorship Opportunity- Do you know of an individual, business, or organization that would like to help sponsor the Race For Soles? There are several options to choose from, and it's a great opportunity to promote your business to all of our participants. To find out more about event sponsorship, contact Mark Ellefson at (414) 365-1392 or mellefson@SolesForJesus.org. Thank you for your support of Soles For Jesus!

Are you following Soles For Jesus on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)? Connect with us and join the conversation about the Race For Soles 2015: **#RFS2015**

Shipment to Guinea-Bissau

Praise God for a shipment of shoes leaving our warehouse, traveling to Guinea-Bissau! Please pray for Julio and his ministry team as they prepare to receive this shipment next month. Pray for villages to welcome them and for people to feel love and compassion through the Gospel message. See photos of this shipment [HERE](#)



Diane and Brittney standing with the shipment before it left our warehouse.

Shipment to Swaziland

8,000 pairs of shoes are traveling to Swaziland! We are looking forward to seeing what the Lord will do through Joseph (EHC National Director) and his team, as they share these shoes and God's love in this nation. We pray for God to give them wisdom and favor, and for hearts to be opened to Jesus in each village and place they visit. See photos of this shipment [HERE](#)



The Maersk Vallvik that is carrying 8,000 pairs of shoes.

We Love Our Leaders!

We had a great time of fellowship with our SOS (Sort and Organize Shoes) Event Leaders! If you have volunteered in our warehouse, these faces may look familiar to you. These men and women give their time each month to serve and lead volunteers in our warehouse. With hectic schedules, it's rare to have everyone together at one time, so this was such a treat! We are incredibly thankful for each of these individuals and their hearts for Jesus!



SOS Event Leaders (not pictured: Kris Jansen, Terri Mitchell, Jamie Thomas and Julie Soyka.)

Shoe Drives- Special Thanks!

Spring Creek Church- We are grateful for our ongoing partnership with Spring Creek Church (SCC)! Diane had the opportunity to join them for their shoe drive this month. SCC has been a huge supporter of SFJ over the years. Thank you Pastor Chip and everyone who donated shoes, and the funds to ship them to Africa. May God bless you all!



Distributions in Burundi

We are just one month away from shoe distributions in Burundi! Thousands of people will soon receive shoes and hear the Gospel message from our ministry team. Evariste, our EHC partner, is keeping this shipment safe in storage until our arrival. Thank you for keeping all who receive shoes, as well as the SFJ team, in your prayers. We are thrilled for this opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this nation. See photos [HERE](#)



Distributions in Tanzania, Kenya, and Liberia

Shoes and the Gospel are being shared in these nations! Please pray for a spiritual awakening for these countries and for adults and children to realize their need for a Savior. Please also pray for good health and safety as ministry teams travel village-to-village doing shoe distributions.

We are excited to share photos and updates with you on social media as we receive them. Thank you for your prayer support!

Volunteer of the Month

We are thrilled to honor John Thierfelder as our Volunteer of the Month! John first got involved with Soles for Jesus several years ago, through his service group at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Pewaukee. John is a team player. He has helped with a wide range of events at SFJ including, SOS Events, our annual



Diane Studer and Pastor Chip Bernhard at Spring Creek Church.

Family Life Community Church- We were thrilled to have Family Life Community Church in Washington participate in hosting a shoe drive. The ladies collected shoes at a recent women's gathering. Shawn Zieglmeier, the organizer of the drive, said a service project like this is easy, and that it's wonderful to see so many lives impacted in Africa through SFJ. We are grateful for every hand that participated in this effort!



Shawn preparing the shoes to be shipped from Washington.

Slinger Elementary School- We are thankful for Slinger Elementary School (SES) who participated in collecting shoes for our friends in Africa. Students at SES learned that children in Africa often can not attend school without a complete uniform, which includes shoes. Because of their help, more children in Africa will be able to attend school when they receive this gift. Students and staff enjoyed this project so much that they want to make it an annual event! A special thanks to Amanda Coggins for organizing the drive and for delivering the shoes to SFJ.



Amanda and her helpers delivering shoes to SFJ.

luncheon, and now he is actively involved in planning the Race For Soles. We appreciate his willingness to step in and help where it's needed.

Q: Why did you find it important to get involved with SFJ?

A: Over the years, I have wanted to find ways that I could serve God, but life seemed so often to get in the way. The first time I worked at SFJ, I had a really wonderful time working with the other volunteers. But once I began to hear the SFJ story, I realized what a wonderful thing the organization is doing - providing individuals with a basic necessity while at the same time introducing them to their Savior. Working with SFJ gives me the feeling that I am really making an impact.

You are a great blessing to us, John! Thank you for the time and energy that you invest into this ministry and for giving back to others.

Meet one of our Partners

Meet our Every Home for Christ ministry partner, Joseph Gule. Joseph serves the Lord as a leader and evangelist in Swaziland, along with his wife, Zama, and their five children. His goal is to mobilize 250 church leaders for house-to-house evangelism, and he hopes to organize a prayer team of 300 young people. Joseph shares that it's incredible to see churches opening their doors for shoe distributions. Some people are stepping in to a church for their first time. Praise God for this opportunity!



He specifically asked for prayer for these things:

- Please pray for my family. We currently rent an apartment and it is very expensive. My dream is to build a home for my family and meet their needs each month.
- Pray for God's protection over our office staff and board members, that they will have the passion and strength they need for ministry.
- Pray for more church partnerships in our country.
- Pray for every individual who receives Jesus, that they will continue seeking Him, and that they will share their experience with others.

Shepherd of the Hills Pewaukee- We appreciate our friends at Shepherd of the Hills Church in Pewaukee! They organized a shoe drive and collected over 600 pairs of shoes! They also raised the funds to help ship the shoes to Africa, and they brought a group of volunteers to SFJ's warehouse to pack the shoes for Africa. Thank you for your efforts and generosity!



A group from SOTH volunteering at a SOS Event.

Volunteer Opportunities

SOS Event (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 volunteer, please contact Brittney at bciciora@SolesForJesus.org / 414-365-1392.



We enjoyed having a group from Kohl's Corporation volunteer at a SOS Event this month!

Thrivent Financial



Are you a Thrivent Financial Member? If so, we'd like to chat with you about a unique opportunity. Please contact Mark Ellefson to learn more at 414-365-1392 or mellefson@SolesForJesus.org. We are grateful for our partnership with Thrivent Financial!

Thank you for the Shoes Received this Month!

Allo! Chocolat, WI
 Amanda Coggins, WI
 Barb Janssen, WI
 Brad Kollath, WI
 Brandon Lange, WI
 Brookfield Christian School, WI
 Christ the King Lutheran Church, WI
 Daisy Troop, WI
 Divine Consign, WI
 Donna Mrugala, WI
 Erin Blum, WI
 Family Life Community Church, WA
 Felicia Gessner, WI
 Friends of J. Hanson
 Grace Lutheran Church & School, WI
 Jackie DeCleene, WI
 Jamie Cottrell, WI
 Jamie Thomas, WI
 Jamila Hudson, WI
 Linda Peschal, WI
 Loyola Academy, IL
 Marilyn & Ralph Leach, WI
 Messmer Prep, WI
 Neat Repeats, WI
 Oakwood Church, WI
 Patricia Smith, WI
 Providence Christian Academy, GA
 Rachel Castillo, WI
 Rita Hahn, WI
 River of Life Church of God, WI
 Screaming Tuna, WI
 Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran, WI
 Slinger Elementary, WI
 St. Paul Lutheran, WI
 Stacey Seim, WI
 Starbucks (124th/Capitol), WI
 Sussex Outreach Services, WI
 Tamiko Perryman, WI
 Vickie Heinrich, WI

April

Wednesday, April 8th, 6-8pm-FULL
Friday, April 10th, 9-11am
Saturday, April 18th, 9-11am-FULL
Saturday, April 25th, 9-11am-FULL
Tuesday, April 28th, 12-2pm

May

Saturday, May 2nd, 9-11am-FULL
Saturday, May 16th, 9-11am-FULL
Tuesday, May 19th, 12-2pm
Saturday, May 23rd, 9-11am-FULL
Thursday, May 28th, 6-8pm
Saturday, May 30th, 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 details, contact Mark 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). Contact Brittney to set up your volunteer group. bciciora@SolesForJesus.org / 414-365-1392.

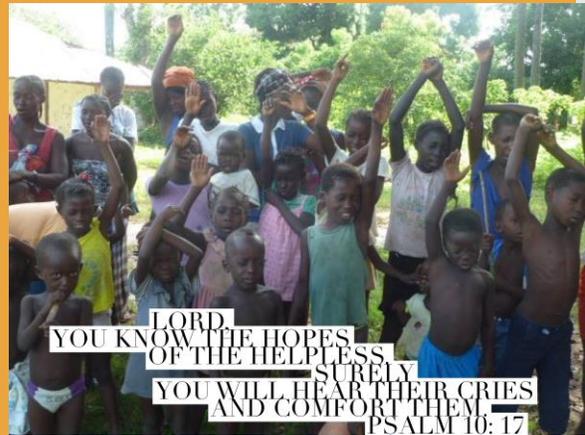
WAC- North Shore, WI
WAC- Wauwatosa, WI
Waukesha First, WI
Yenh Mikolajewski, WI

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