

# Soles For Jesus, Inc.

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Milwaukee, WI 53224  
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May 2015

[www.SolesForJesus.org](http://www.SolesForJesus.org)

Dear Friend,

I just heard from our ministry partner in South Sudan, Fermo, who shared about one of his field workers named Geoffrey. While Geoffrey was asleep and alone, his hut was set on fire and it burned to the ground. The organizers of this crime didn't like Geoffrey's preaching of the Gospel, and had been monitoring him carefully. They knew that he was sleeping inside, so they padlocked his door and set his thatched roof on fire. Praise the Lord for His faithfulness, as Geoffrey's oldest son was sleeping in a nearby hut and heard his father screaming. His son broke the padlock and pulled his father out, as he was overpowered by the smoke and suffering from minor burns. Geoffrey is pictured here before his home burned down.



Would you please pray for our partners in South Sudan, and help us send a shipment to encourage them? We are in the midst of raising funds to ship to this nation, and this reaffirmed the need to send it ASAP. I'm still amazed that the Lord has opened the door for us to share shoes and the Gospel in South Sudan, and I invite you to be part of this incredible harvest! You can read more about this opportunity and

## Quick Links

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## Special Giving Opportunity

We are thrilled that the Lord has opened the door to ship to South Sudan and Guinea! These two nations have been plagued by poverty and oppression and they've been closed to us—until now!

**We need to raise \$19,000 by June 20<sup>th</sup>** in order to send these shipments this summer. Would you prayerfully consider making a donation to help us reach these mission fields with the love of Jesus and shoes? They are ripe for the harvest! You can view a recently mailed letter explaining this need [HERE](#).

Thank you to each person that has already given to this project! We couldn't do this without your generosity and prayer support.

## Shipment to Botswana

Our shipment to Botswana just arrived in the Port of Durban! This is our first opportunity to send shoes to this nation, and we praise God for open doors! Please pray for God's favor as the container goes through customs, and for our EHC partner, Tanga Chawora, and his ministry

find a giving link on the right side of this page. May God bless you for your partnership!

Sincerely in Christ,  
Diane Studer  
SFJ Founder/Director

## Sign Up Today!

Now is the time to sign up! Invite your family and friends to join us for a 5k run or 2 mile walk on **Saturday, June 13th!**

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, watch this short video!



We are looking for volunteers to help with face painting and creating balloon animals. If you or anyone you know is interested, please give us a call. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

team as they begin distributions in the coming weeks. View pictures of this shipment [HERE](#).



*The Maersk Vallvik that carried 8,000 pairs of shoes.*

## Distributions in Guinea-Bissau

Shoe distributions will soon begin in Guinea-Bissau! This is the second shipment that we have sent to this nation. Please pray for Julio and his ministry team, as they share the love of Christ with those in need. Pray that each person who receives shoes will be receptive to the Gospel message of Jesus. See photos of this shipment [HERE](#).



*Julio with the shipment of shoes.*

## Distributions in Liberia

The reports that we have received from our EHC partner, Sydney, are powerful! This nation is starting to see a breakthrough after months of fighting Ebola. Sydney shares, "We served in a

## Meet our Fabulous Intern!

We are thrilled to welcome Katherine Lewis to the SFJ team! Katherine just finished her sophomore year at Concordia University Wisconsin, where she studies Business Management and International Business. During her freshman year of college, she cofounded the Volunteer Club on campus, a group of students who give back to their community through volunteer work. This spring, the Volunteer Club visited SFJ and helped pack shoes for Africa as part of a SOS event. Upon learning about the SFJ mission, Katherine knew she shared our passion for changing lives in Africa with the love of God. She is excited to be a part of all that we do here and we know that her spiritual gifts will be a great asset to our team. If you stop by SFJ this summer, be sure and introduce yourself to Katherine and help us welcome her to the team.



## Shoe Drives- Special Thanks!

**Grace Lutheran School-** We are thankful for our friends at Grace Lutheran School in Menomonee Falls! This is their fourth year organizing a shoe drive with SFJ, and each year they come up with a new and creative spin to collecting shoes. This year, students participated in a "Soles For Jesus Week." Each day, there was a fun theme to help with raising shipping funds. For example, there was a "No Shoes Day," where kids were given the opportunity to take their shoes off in class if they donated one dollar. "Mystery Socks Day" and "Safari Dress Up Day" were also a big hit with the students. Thank you to everyone who participated in this drive. Grace Lutheran School is a great blessing to SFJ!

village that had been greatly affected by Ebola. When we brought out the shoes, the people in this village began to express their gratitude, saying, 'These people have given us the best shoes that we cannot buy for ourselves.' Responding to the altar call, the entire village surrendered to Jesus!" View pictures of this shipment [HERE](#).



*Children celebrate receiving shoes in Lofa County.*

## Distributions in Swaziland

Shoe distributions are going well in Swaziland, and people are committing their lives to Jesus Christ! Please continue to pray for Joseph and his team, as they share shoes and God's love in this nation. We pray that spiritual and physical needs will be met with each person they serve. See photos of this shipment [HERE](#).



*An Every Home for Christ team member helping put shoes on feet.*



*Students participating in "Soles For Jesus" week.*

**First United Methodist Church and Preschool-** This is the fifth year that First United Methodist Church and Preschool have participated in hosting a shoe drive. It's great to see young kids and adults working together on the same project. A special thanks to Jennifer Heil for organizing the shoe drive over the years and for helping deliver the shoes to Milwaukee! A loose coin offering was taken at the church and it will be donated to SFJ to help with shipping funds. What a blessing! Friends, we are grateful for your partnership!



*First United Methodist Preschoolers with the shoes they collected.*

## Volunteer of the Month

We are thrilled to honor Nick Kaun as our Volunteer of the Month! Nick first heard about SFJ in 2012 when he noticed a collection bin at his brother's school that said, "Jesus" on it. He shares, "I looked up Soles For Jesus online after I got home. I immediately was interested and wanted to figure out how I



could contribute. A few days later, I was at the office donating shoes and getting a tour around the warehouse." Nick has volunteered at a number of SFJ events including our annual luncheon, Race For Soles, and SOS events, where you will also see him participating as a leader beginning this month. When asked why he got involved with SFJ, Nick responded, "I love that I get to help reach people halfway around the world with this ministry. Something as simple as shoes, and something I think we all take for granted here, is imperative for people to improve their lives and just function daily." Nick, thank you for your leadership, enthusiasm, and support of Soles For Jesus!

## Meet one of our Partners

Meet Evariste, our Every Home For Christ ministry partner, in Burundi, Africa. Evariste's favorite Bible passage is Matthew 25:34-40. In this parable, Jesus talks about people being rewarded for the way they served a stranger in Jesus' name (as if the stranger was Jesus himself).

Evariste noted that this is the way he sees SFJ serving people in Africa. His encouragement to us (and to all who partner with the SFJ mission) is this, "Keep serving people and God will surprise you!"

Evariste oversees a few churches, and one was swept away by a devastating mudslide at the end of March. Please be in prayer for the people of Rutunga Village who were affected by this natural disaster. Please also join us in prayer for these specific requests that Evariste has shared with us:

**Green Bay Daisy Troop 4106-** These Girl Scout Daisies joined together to collect shoes for SFJ! They have been learning the difference between "wants vs. needs" and decided that they wanted to share their shoes with children suffering in poverty in rural Africa. Thank you so much, girls, for your generosity! Every pair of shoes that we send, opens the door to a changed life. Your gift is not only meaningful to us, but to the individuals who will receive them. Thank you Daisies for your hard work!



*Members of the Green Bay Daisy Troop 4106 with the shoes they collected.*

**Arrowhead High School-** The track team at Arrowhead High School did an awesome job with their shoe drive. Throughout their season they collected shoes and ended up donating nearly 600 pairs. Way to go! Thank you for helping us serve those in need with shoes and the Gospel.



*The ladies of Arrowhead High School's track team with the shoes they collected.*

- For God to put the right person in Burundi's presidential office this June.
- For the funds and resources to be able to rebuild our church in Rutunga.
- Protection and good health over my family (wife and children).
- That those who receive Jesus & shoes (in the coming months) will be passionate about their faith and share with others how it has changed their lives.
- For more ministry partners locally and internationally to help forward the mission of making His name known in Burundi.



*Evariste with his wife, Goreth, and their children.*

## Thank you for the Shoes Received this Month!

- Alo Taunese, WI
- Arrowhead High School, WI
- BCP Construction Inc, CA
- Bethlehem Lutheran Church, WI
- Bill & Kathy Smith, WI
- Brookfield Christian School, WI
- Claire Elliott, WI
- Colleen Boehn, WI
- Dahlongega Baptist Church, GA
- Delta Sigma Theta, IL
- Divine Consign, WI
- Dixon Elementary School, WI
- Erin Heidennan, WI
- Hamacher Resource Group, WI
- Janice Gorden, WI
- Jessa Hansen, WI
- Juanita Rush, WI

## 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 [bciora@SolesForJesus.org](mailto:bciora@SolesForJesus.org) or call her at [414-365-1392](tel:414-365-1392).

*We enjoyed having the Milwaukee Skyline Volleyball Club serve at a SOS Event this month!*

### June

Saturday, June 6th, 9-11am-FULL  
Thursday, June 11th, 6-8pm  
Saturday, June 20th, 9-11am-FULL  
Tuesday, June 23rd, 12-2pm  
Friday, June 26th, 1-3pm  
Saturday, June 27th, 9-11am

### July

Thursday, July 9, 6-8pm  
Saturday, July 11, 9-11am  
Saturday, July 18, 9-11am-FULL  
Tuesday, July 21, 12-2pm  
Friday, July 24, 1-3pm  
Saturday, July 25, 9-11am

### August

Saturday August 1, 9-11am  
Thursday August 6, 6-8pm  
Saturday August 15, 9-11am-FULL  
Saturday August 22, 9-11am  
Tuesday August 25, 12-2pm  
Saturday August 29, 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, please contact Mark at [mellefson@SolesForJesus.org](mailto:mellefson@SolesForJesus.org) or [414-365-1392](tel: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

Kat Fronek, WI  
Katie Hulce, WI  
KitPackers Resinlab, WI  
Kris Jansen & Bella Monteen, WI  
Lake Country Lutheran HS, WI  
Maple Grove Elementary, WI  
Maureen Patterson, WI  
Megan Williams, WI  
Michael Robinson, WI  
Milwaukee Audubon Center, WI  
Neat Repeats, WI  
Paul Rogers, AL  
Poplar Creek Church, WI  
Starbucks (124th/Capitol), WI  
Sussex Outreach Services, WI  
Taylor Oestreich, WI  
The Bonnell Family, WI  
The Mahnke Family, WI  
The Zylka Family, WI  
WAC- North Shore, WI  
Willow Creek Learning Center, WI

## Your Donation Impacts Lives!

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



**AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A GIFT,  
USE IT TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER,  
AS GOOD STEWARDS  
OF GOD'S VARIED GRACE**

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). Please contact Brittney at [bciciora@SolesForJesus.org](mailto:bciciora@SolesForJesus.org) or [414-365-1392](tel:414-365-1392) to set up your volunteer group.

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