Soles For Jesus, Inc.

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March 2016

www.SolesForJesus.org

Dear Friend,

I have an exciting invitation to share with you today! One week ago, the Lord spoke to my heart to bring a team to Kenya at the end of this year. And here I am, one week later, sharing this incredible trip with you and the opportunity to join me! Over the past 48 hours, I watched Him piece together the entire trip and I'm extremely excited about what He has planned for us. We will leave on December 26, 2016 and we'll return on January 3rd, 2017. If you'd like to make an eternal impact as we bring in the New Year, pray about joining me. I've had a desire to serve the Lord in Kenya for several years, and this is truly an answer to prayer!

This trip will fill up fast, so if you're prayerfully considering traveling with us to Kenya, please let me know soon by requesting an application at <u>Info@SolesForJesus.org</u>. A short video is attached below, to provide a sneak peek at the work that we'll do in villages, sharing the love of Jesus. We will also partner with other organizations in Kenya, doing feedings, etc. and we'll enjoy a safari together as well! Please pray along with me, as we watch the Lord build His team once again. (Learn more about this trip here: <u>Kenya Mission Trip</u> Invite.)

Thank you for being a part of what the Lord is doing. This would not happen without so many faithful volunteers, supporters, prayer partners, leaders, and more! What a privilege it is to be His servant, as He continues to lead and guide our every step.

Sincerely in Christ, Diane Studer SFJ Founder/Director

Quick Links

Email Us Our Website Donate Now Contact Us

SFJ Across the USA

It's incredible to see people getting involved with SFJ nationwide! The states shaded in blue below, represent people who are collecting shoes or hosting SFJ events for those in need in Africa. Organizing a shoe drive or event is easy and fun! To learn more about how to get involved and to see what promotion material is available, click <u>HERE</u>. We appreciate the support!



States that are currently collecting shoes for SFJ.

Chick-fil-A Night

Take a night off from cooking and join the SFJ Team for dinner at Chick-fil-A in Brookfield on **Thursday, May 26th.** 20% of the sales from purchases from 5 to 8pm will be donated back to SFJ. You can dine-in with us or you can take



Click on this video for a sneak peek of a shoe distribution in Tanzania.

Sign Up Today



Online registration is now open! Use this link to <u>Sign Up</u> now and invite your family and friends to join you for a 5k or 2 mile run or walk on **Saturday, June 25th.** The event will start and end at the beautiful campus of Waukesha County Technical College and we'll enjoy a scenic route through the streets of Pewaukee. The morning will also include medals, prizes, refreshments, exciting games, and the opportunity to meet players from the Milwaukee Wave soccer team!

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 find

advantage of the drive-thru, just mention SFJ with your purchase. We look forward to seeing you there!



Diane with her daughter, Adriana, at Chick-fil-A.

Mustard Seeds of Milwaukee

Corley, from Mustard Seeds of Milwaukee (MSOM), recently stopped by to hear Diane's testimony and the inspiration for Soles For Jesus. MSOM's mission is to find and share, "Real people. Real Testimonies. Real stories of God." Corley explains, "My goal is to draw an awareness to Christianity and God. I want to get people engaged and talking, about Him! My hope is to plant even the smallest seed in non-believers, or grow a tree for those that are on the journey already." In the feature, Diane shared the story of how SFJ got started. To read Diane's testimony, head to Mustard Seeds of Milwaukee's Facebook page by clicking <u>HERE.</u> Corley, we love how you are sharing Christ's love. To God be the glory!



Diane Studer in the warehouse of SFJ.

out more about event sponsorship, contact Mark at <u>414-365-1392</u> or <u>mellefson@SolesForJesus.org</u>. Thank you for your support of Soles For Jesus!

Are you following Soles For Jesus on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>? Connect with us and join the conversation about the Race For Soles 2016: **#RFS2016**

Shoe Drives & Special Thanks

Easter Egg Hunt & Shoe Drive- Families and kids of all ages had a great time at the Strassburg's annual Easter celebration and shoe drive last Saturday. Amanda and Joel had 2,400 eggs ready for the kids to hunt, many items to raffle, delicious food, crafts, prizes, and their guests donated hundreds of pairs of shoes. Thank you, Amanda & Joel, for your ongoing support of SFJ, and for making this event such a huge success!



Everyone had an amazing time at the Strassburg's farm!

Upward Basketball at Spring Creek Church-We are grateful for our ongoing partnership with Spring Creek Church. Earlier this month, there was an Upward Basketball day where participants collected shoes and raised funds for SFJ. Diane Studer was also thrilled to share with the athletes and their families at their awards celebration. A special thanks to Pastor Mike Poelzer for organizing this event.

Shipment to Zambia

We are thrilled to send a 40-foot container to Zambia with our partners, <u>World Missionary Press</u>, <u>Inc.</u> This container is filled with Gospel literature and 8,000 pairs of shoes! We're thankful for every hand that helped make this shipment possible. What a blessing to partner together to meet the spiritual and physical needs of people in Zambia. Please join us in prayer for a quick and smooth delivery. View pictures of this shipment <u>HERE</u>.



Shipment to Tanzania

This shipment has arrived! These are the shoes that our mission team will help distribute in May. Yohana, 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. View pictures of this shipment HERE.



Pastor Komba and a member of his ministry team with the shipment of shoes.

Shipment to South Sudan

18,000 pairs of shoes are in the hands of our partner in South Sudan! This is the first 40-foot



Upward athletes and families at the awards ceremony at Spring Creek Church.

Milwaukee Parkside Elementary School of the Arts- Student council members from Parkside Elementary School of the Arts hosted a shoe drive. Together, they collected and delivered over 700 pairs of shoes this month. Awesome job guys! They also stayed and volunteered at a SOS Event in our warehouse. They thought it was pretty cool that their hands were the last ones to touch the shoes before being shipped to Africa. Thank you for your hard work, kiddos!



Student council members who helped collect shoes from Parkside Elementary.

Kamryn- This sweet girl, Kamryn, lives in Ohio and decided to collect shoes for her birthday instead of receiving gifts. Her mom, Brooke, said that the shoe drive was a great success and that they enjoyed working as a family to help those in need. Kamryn, we love your compassion for helping others. Many blessings on your birthday!

container that SFJ has shipped to Africa. These shoes will be shared in refugee camps and remote villages, where thousands will receive this gift and hear about Jesus. Please pray for Fermo, and his ministry team, as they go and share the Good News of Jesus in this nation. View pictures of this shipment HERE.



Our ministry partner in South Sudan, Fermo, with the shipment of shoes.

Distributions in Botswana

Shoe distributions are going well in Botswana. Over 800 people received their first pair of shoes in Thswaane Village. Amen! The village people were thanking Tanga and his team for showing them the way to salvation. Please pray for physical and spiritual needs to be met in Thswaane, and for more lives to be brought into His Kingdom through these distributions. View pictures of this distribution HERE.



People responding to the gift of salvation.



Kamryn, excited to fill the box with shoes!

International Masons, Inc.- We are thankful for members of the International Masons and Order or the Eastern Star, Inc. They recently had a convention here in Milwaukee, and picked SFJ as their charity, collecting shoes and raising funds for those in need. We appreciate the ongoing support of Deleta Lofton-Wheeler and Deborah Henderson who helped organize this shoe drive. Thank you!



Diane with the members who hosted the shoe drive at the Hilton Hotel in Milwaukee.

Volunteer of the Month

We're excited to honor Rachel Sawyer as our Volunteer of the Month! Rachel first heard about SFJ five years ago through a friend and she has been involved ever since! She shares, "Being part

Distributions in Mozambique

Our partner in Mozambique, Godfrey, shares this story from one government leader who attended a recent shoe distribution. Jasse said, "The work that this ministry is doing is highly commendable. They are practicing what they preach about God's love, and they're trying to address the physical needs by giving out beautiful shoes to the poor in our communities." Please pray that future distributions continue to be successful and that God's love will touch each person who receives a pair of shoes. View pictures of this distribution HERE.



People trying on their shoes for the first time.

Distributions in Guinea-Bissau

In Julio's recent report, he shares a word of thanks from Mutaro, "Shoes of this quality are not available here in our villages. I am extremely happy about these shoes because I do not have the money to travel to a far away city to buy shoes for my family. Thank you for these special gifts!" Please continue to pray for God's glory to shine through as the Gospel message is heard in Guinea-Bissau. View pictures of this distribution HERE. of an organization that fulfills a great need and affords the opportunity to meet others who want to make a positive and life-changing difference are some of my favorite parts about leading events." Rachel leads SOS Events each month in the SFJ warehouse, where her warm and welcoming personality helps volunteers feel right at home. We are grateful for Rachel's kindness and servantheart, which are clearly an overflow of her love for God and His work. Thank you Rachel, for your faithful leadership over the years. We thank God for you!



Our Volunteer of the Month, Rachel Sawyer!

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

April

Saturday, April 2, 9-12pm- FULL Wednesday, April 6, 12:30-2:30pm- FULL Saturday, April 9, 9-11am- FULL Monday, April 18, 6-8pm- FULL Tuesday, April 19, 9:15-11:15am Saturday, April 23, 9-11am- FULL Saturday, April 30, 9-11am

May

Saturday, May 14, 9-11am Thursday, May 19, 6-8pm Saturday, May 21, 9-11am Thursday, May 26, 10-12pm



A crowd gathering to hear about Jesus and to receive shoes.

Meet one of our Partners

Meet our Every Home For Christ ministry partner, Nicholas Mulea. Nicholas serves the Lord as a Bishop in Kenya. He oversees many churches and strives to raise and develop more leaders through church planting. His ministry goal for the year is to evangelize, so that



thousands more will give their lives to Jesus.

Please pray for good health and protection for Nicholas, his wife Jeniffer and their five children, Diana, Ane, Ruth, Grace and Joy. Pray that every person reached through the gift of shoes and the Gospel will grow in grace to spiritual maturity.

Thank you for the Shoes Received this Month!

Aaron Downing, WI Behling Family, WI Brookfield Christian School, WI Buege Family, WI Cargo Services, Inc., IN Carol Becwar, WI Darlene Kraft, WI Darlene Liston, WI Debbie Raab, WI Dr. Comfort, WI Eileen Weltcheff, WI Eli Cianciola, WI First UMC, IN

*You can choose a different 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 <u>Mellefson@SolesForJesus.org</u> or <u>414-365-1392</u>, and please let us know 48 hours in advance that you're coming.

SOS Group Event: Schedule a special date to host your own 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). Please contact Brittney, our SFJ Office Manager, at <u>Bciciora@SolesForJesus.org</u> or <u>414-365-1392</u> to set up your volunteer group.

Donate Online Now

Your Donation Impacts Lives!

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

Gina Kurtz, WI Grace Fellowship Church, IN Jason LeClair, WI Johann Mejia-Ott, MD Journey Church, WI Lake Country Lutheran HS, WI Liberty Christian Academy, OH Margaret Sutton, WI Milwaukee Wave, WI Neat Repeats, WI New Apostolic Church, WI New Balance, IL NEW Life UMC, IN Performance Running Outfitters, WI Plymouth Wesleyan Church, IN Rachel Hilt, WI Roberta Pratt, WI Sarah Langjahr, WI SCC Upward Basketball, WI Starbucks (124th & Capitol), WI Sussex Outreach, WI WAC- North Shore, WI WAC- Wauwatosa, WI

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