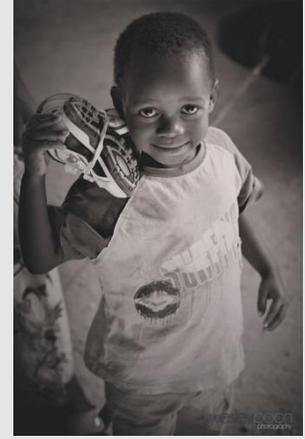




# Soles For Jesus, Inc.

8480 N. 87th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53224

877.314.SHOE (7463)



January 2017

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



Dear Friend,

Thank you for praying for our mission team, as we brought in the new year by serving in Kenya! I'm so grateful for the amazing team that the Lord assembled from GA, IA, MN and WI. This was the first time that my family joined me in Africa, and they loved it! Look at the smiles on each of these faces. There is nothing like serving the beautiful people of Africa, and it'll change you forever! Highlights for the team included washing the feet of widows and orphans, praying over villagers and pastors, seeing people of all ages accept Christ as their Savior, finding the perfect pair of shoes for each person (including a girl with six toes), and serving a meal after we completed each shoe distribution. Every day was full of God's presence and there were so many powerful exchanges of His love. To God be the glory!

Being in Africa always renews the vision of what He's called us to do. Bishop Mulea (who is pictured with our team below) affirmed that these shoes are "door openers" in sharing the Gospel and he asked us to please send more. Thank you for standing with us, as we continue to bring the Good News to the hard to reach places in Africa. On behalf of the thousands who we just met in Kenya, I thank you and pray God's blessings over you! "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord and He will reward them for what they have done." Proverbs 19:17

You can view more pictures of our trip to Kenya [HERE](#).

In Christ alone,

## Quick Links

[Email Us](#)  
[Our Website](#)  
[Donate Now](#)  
[Contact Us](#)

## Happy Birthday, SFJ!



To God be the glory for seven years! We sincerely thank each person who has been a part of this amazing journey. Sharing the Gospel message with foot-washing and the gift of shoes is such a powerful way to demonstrate His love, and we look forward to

Diane Studer  
SFJ Founder/Director



Team Kenya, January 2017

## Thank You for Helping us Reach our Goal!



Last month, we shared about an urgent need in Liberia and Malawi, and asked for help in raising the funds to send shoes to both countries. We are so thankful to report that we reached our goal of \$24,000, and we'll be able to send a shipment of shoes to both Liberia and Malawi! Our National Partners from both countries have strategic plans for their nation, and requested a shipment of shoes to accomplish them. They have experienced how effectively the gift of shoes demonstrates the Gospel message, and there are new villages that the Lord has urgently asked them to reach. In Liberia, Pastor Holder has committed to reach 5,000 homes per month and 60,000 homes this year with the Good News. Our partner

all that lies ahead! We have only just begun, and there are so many more people who need to hear the Good News.

## Shoes to Africa since 2010

Since our very first shipment in 2010, SFJ has sent **320,000 pairs of shoes to Africa!** To view the shoe distribution photo albums, visit our [Facebook page](#). We continually receive stunning photos of people with inspiring smiles and shoes on their feet! See more about where we go [HERE](#).



## Save the Date!

Mark your calendar and invite your friends and family to our fourth annual Race For Soles on **June 24, 2017, at 8:30am!** We look forward to sharing more details with you soon.



The starting line at the 2016 Race For Soles.

## SFJ T-Shirts for Sale!

A new shipment of shirts just came in! Wearing SFJ apparel is a great way to help spread the word about our mission. Not to mention, you'll look great wearing it! These t-

missionaries are ready to work and we are excited to send these shoes to them. Please pray for them as they go out into these villages and share the love of Jesus!

## Volunteer of the Month

We are thrilled to honor Erin Blum as our Volunteer of the Month for January! Erin began volunteering in 2012, when her school hosted a shoe drive. She heard about the 2014 mission trip to Zambia through our newsletter and felt God leading her to go. She was also part of the team that went to Kenya last month. "I didn't know what to expect, but I knew God had plans for me and I needed to trust in Him. Serving on the ground in Zambia and Kenya was an amazing life-changing experience," Erin said.

Erin also coordinates events with her Kohl's Volunteer Program, where groups of volunteers come to the SFJ warehouse to Sort & Organize Shoes (SOS). To recruit volunteers, she shares her stories and pictures of children and adults receiving their shoes, which pulls on many heartstrings to volunteer. Thank you for being such a great blessing, Erin, by serving both here and in Africa! We pray God's blessings over you, as you continue to serve in His name.

shirts are unisex and true to size, and we have sizes S-XL in stock. (We're also able to special order XXL.) These shirts are a very comfortable blend of cotton and polyester and come in Indigo, Turquoise, or Cardinal. Choose your favorite color and style for only \$20, and place your order online at this [LINK](#), by phone at 414-365-1392, or by visiting our office.



## Shipment to Swaziland

Our EHC Ministry partner, Joseph, and his team are just beginning the process of distributing the shoes they received in December. They ask that we pray with them for the hearts of those receiving shoes and that everyone will hear the Gospel and respond to the love of God. You can view pictures of the shipment to Swaziland [HERE](#).



*Joseph Gule (left) providing shoes to a young boy in Swaziland.*

## Shipment to Guinea Bissau



*Erim Blum at a shoe distribution in Kenya.*

## Shoe Drives & Special Thanks

**Shepherd of the Hills in Pewaukee, WI** - Diane had the opportunity to share at Shepherd of the Hills for all 3 of their services. We are so grateful for our 7 year partnership with SOTH and were thrilled to be there!



*Jen Hanson and Diane Studer*

**Grace Lutheran Church & School in WI** - Jennifer Miller spoke at Grace Lutheran School in Menomonee Falls this month as they're doing another shoe drive! We are so thankful for their

Our partner, Julio, and his team are making final preparations to reach the Gabú, Bafatá, Quinara and Tombali regions of Guinea Bissau. These are the areas where they will focus their ministry throughout 2017. Please pray for a great harvest of souls, and that many will come to know Jesus as Lord. View pictures of the shipment to Guinea Bissau [HERE](#).



*Sharing the Gospel in Guinea Bissau.*

## Shipment to Lesotho

A shipment of 8,000 pairs of shoes has arrived in Lesotho! These shoes will be shared in remote, mountainous areas that have not yet heard of God's love. Josais, our ministry partner, sent a note of thanks saying, "A very warm and special greeting from the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho! We are so excited to greet you in Jesus' name. I am so grateful for your generosity and support. We really thank God for this opportunity to serve our nation. God bless you." You can view pictures of the Lesotho shipment [HERE](#).



*To travel 152 miles in Lesotho, it will take almost 5 hours due to the roads and the mountainous terrain.*

## Shipment to Uganda

partnership over the many years, and for the thousands of pairs they've donated over the years, along with the funds to send them to Africa.



*Jennifer Miller speaking at Grace Lutheran School*

**Gretchen & Jill Gutenberger in WI**— We appreciate Gretchen & Jill Gutenberger for delivering the shoes from their first drive! This mother-daughter duo had so much fun collecting shoes. Thank you, Gutenberger family, for your monthly support as well!



*Gretchen & Jill Gutenberger dropping off shoes.*

**C.E.L.A in WI** - Diane enjoyed sharing with the students at C.E.L.A.'s chapel this month. We are excited about the plans they have for their shoe drive, including decorating canvas shoes and making pictures to tuck inside each pair. They're also hosting a fundraiser to help ship their shoes to Africa!

We are excited to announce that the shipment of shoes to Uganda is on its way. It left the port of New York on January 14th! We are excited to hear the stories of how God is going to use these shoes to touch people's lives. Please pray for the safe arrival of the shoes. You can view pictures of the Uganda shipment [HERE](#).



*Our first shipment to Uganda is on its way!*

## Meet One of Our Partners

Meet our Every Home For Christ ministry partner, Fermo Ogilla Utong. Fermo serves the Lord as a leader and evangelist in South Sudan. Jesus Christ revealed himself to Fermo when he needed him the most. "I was depressed and lonely, resorting to drinking and smoking to escape the pain. A local pastor recognized my distress and gave me a Gospel booklet. For weeks I could not think of anything else and I ended up giving my life completely to Christ. I was instantly healed of depression and my salvation affected my brothers so seriously that two of them also became Christians! This gave me the courage to proclaim Christ boldly." Fermo uses literature from our partners at World Missionary Press to evangelize home to home, telling everyone about Jesus.



Please pray for Fermo, his wife Sarah, and their four children.

**Thank you for Seven Years!**



*Diane speaking at C.E.L.A.*

**Team Kenya Meal Sponsors** — Special thanks to the generous people who made it possible for us to feed each village and orphanage during our Kenya Mission trip! We appreciate each of you: Becky & Steve Thomas, Wendy Painter, Erin Blum & church, Jessica Broberg, Kristen Lubenau, and Jeanie Mantz!



*Team Kenya serving the food provided by our meal sponsors.*

**Ben Baker & Sam Gauger in WI** - Thanks to Ben

These ladies from Shepherd of the Hills in Hubertus are very dear to our hearts! Sandy Gunderson and her fabulous friends have been volunteering monthly in our warehouse for almost seven years. They have touched thousands of lives in Africa with the love of Jesus, as they pack shoes in our Milwaukee warehouse. When Sandy's daughter, Jennifer Miller, returned from Ethiopia in 2009, she didn't expect how much this would change her life as well. SFJ began as a result of this trip and it answered Sandy's prayer of finding an organization that allows her the true satisfaction of being able to help others less fortunate, while sharing the Gospel. Sandy immediately rallied her church friends to come and serve with her. Penny Krist shares, "The few hours that we spend monthly at SFJ are so worth it when I see faces beaming with joy in the videos and photos from Africa." Cynthia Skaalen shares, "I'm amazed at the impact a pair of shoes can have and I want to support Soles in any way that I can!" Thank you, ladies, for faithfully serving in our warehouse, helping with mailings, attending our annual luncheon and supporting SFJ financially. Your support means more than you know and we pray God's blessings over your families and church!



*SFJ friends & volunteers from SOTH in Hubertus.*

## **Thank you for the Shoes Received this Month!**

- American Imports, WI
- Anytime Fitness, WI
- Arma Ezekiel Purdy, WI
- Bethesda Baptist Church, WI

& Sam from Brookfield East High School, for collecting over 200 pairs of shoes to send to Africa through their National Honor Society shoe drive at Brookfield Christian School. We are blessed by your hard work and service!



*Ben and Sam with the shoes they collected at BCS.*

## 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. Please contact us at 414-365-1392 or [Yenh@SolesForJesus.org](mailto:Yenh@SolesForJesus.org) to set-up a time to come and volunteer.

- Blessed Savior Lutheran Church, WI
- Brian & Noelle Stuelpner, WI
- Brookfield Christian School, WI
- Brookfield Congregational United Church of Christ, WI
- Brookfield East National Honor Society, WI
- Calvary Lutheran School, WI
- Cecelia Guerrero, WI
- Christian Life School, WI
- Cindy Buettner, WI
- Dave & Darci Hampson, WI
- Diane Bormann, WI
- Gail Stumpf, WI
- Harvard Bible Church, IL
- Jeremy & Cindi LaSage, WI
- Jeremy Hengst, WI
- Kim Musial, WI
- Kyle & Jen Hanson, WI
- New Balance, IL
- Performance Running Outfitters, WI
- Poplar Creek Church, WI
- Princeton Club, WI
- St. Jacobi Lutheran Church, WI
- St. Mark Lutheran Church, MO
- The Colour Tube, WI
- Wisconsin Athletic Club - North Shore, WI
- Wisconsin Athletic Club - Wauwatosa, WI

## Join our Prayer Team!

If you would like to be a part of our prayer team, email us at [info@solesforjesus.org](mailto:info@solesforjesus.org). We will send you our prayer newsletter, so you can join us in united prayer!

"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." Mark 11:24



Students from Brookfield Christian School packing shoes for Africa.

## February

Saturday, February 4th, 9-11am **FULL**  
 Saturday, February 11th, 9-11am **FULL**  
 Saturday, February 18th, 9-11am **FULL**  
 Thursday, February 23rd, 6-8pm **FULL**  
 Tuesday, February 28th, 9-11am

## March

Saturday, March 4th, 9am-noon **FULL**  
 Saturday, March 11th, 9-11am **FULL**  
 Wednesday, March 15th, 9-11am **FULL**  
 Thursday, March 16th, 1-3pm  
 Saturday, March 18th, 9-11am **FULL**  
 Saturday, March 25th, 9-11am  
 Wednesday, March 29th, 6-8pm

**\*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, please 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](mailto:Mellefson@SolesForJesus.org) or 414-365-1392, and please let us know 48 hours in



## Amazon Smile Program!

You can support Soles For Jesus while you shop year-round! Each time that you sign in to your [Amazon Smile](#) account, a portion of your purchase can be donated to SFJ.

**Shop at AmazonSmile**  
and Amazon will make a donation to:

Get started

**amazon**smile

It's the same Amazon site that you already know, and now you can help support our mission as you shop! To get started, click on the "Get started" link to sign in to your account and select "Soles For Jesus," as the charity you want to support. Thank you! To learn more, click here: [Amazon Smile FAQs](#)

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 us at [Info@SolesForJesus.org](mailto:Info@SolesForJesus.org) or 414-365-1392 to set up your volunteer group.

***Your Donation Impacts Lives!***

**Donate Online Now**

Or

**Mail Your Donation:**

Soles For Jesus  
8480 N. 87th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53224

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