



# Soles For Jesus, Inc.

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March 2018

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



Dear Friend,

*"He is no longer here; He has risen just as He said!"* I am so grateful that we get to celebrate this miraculous truth in just a few days (from Matthew 28:6). Jesus defeated sin and death once and for all—and we have this important message to share with the world!

One place that is in desperate need of His resurrection power and love is a center for street children in Burkina Faso. Several hundred boys and girls live here, and the leaders have not been open to the sharing of the Gospel. However, when our partners arrived with shoes for all of their kids and teens, **God lifted all of the barriers!** They were given permission to speak freely and many received salvation in Jesus, as the Holy Spirit moved in truth and power! One young man was on the streets for years after he was forced out of his home and he shared, *"How wonderful it feels to have a Father who understands and sees me."* He continues to grow in his faith with a Bible group that now meets at the center. To God be

## Quick Links

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[Our Website](#)  
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## We LOVE Our SOS Leaders!

We are so grateful for our Soles For Jesus family and these are some of our favorites! Our fabulous SOS leaders host volunteer groups in the warehouse to Sort & Organize Shoes for shipment to Africa, and it was our privilege to honor them this month. We missed those who could not make it, and please let our leaders know how much you appreciate them when they're leading your next event. They are a huge blessing and we could not do this without them!



*Thank you SOS Leaders!! (Not all are pictured.)*

the glory!

Thank you for your commitment to helping people turn from death to life. I'm so thankful that He also did this for you and me, and I praise the Lord for these testimonies of new life! I pray God's blessings over you, as you celebrate His resurrection.

In Christ alone,

Diane Studer  
Founder, Executive Director



Street kids in Burkina Faso receiving Jesus and shoes!

**Registration is OPEN!**  
**Saturday, June 23, 2018**



**Register Now**

**EXCITING UPDATE!** Chipped timing is now available for 5K runners! We are excited to be working with a local race company to use the latest chipped technology to capture all 5K runners exact time and place. This provides an

## Volunteer Of The Month

We are thrilled to honor Michelle Novak as our March Volunteer of the Month! Michelle serves on our board of directors and volunteers at our Annual Fashion Show Luncheon and Race For Soles event as well. She also traveled with SFJ to Zambia in 2014. Michelle heard about SFJ from our founder, Diane. *"As she shared the vision that the Lord gave her and as doors opened up for the ministry, I could not help but be excited about the opportunity to see the hearts of people awoken to the Gospel through a pair of shoes. It seemed almost too simple and something we all take for granted in the U.S. I have a teenage son right now who is obsessed with shoes, and as I look at the abundance of shoes he has collected, I think of all the young and old men in Africa who I met. They were so honored to receive one pair of shoes! Only the Lord could use such an obvious tool to draw people into knowing His great love for them. Soles has done much more than providing shoes to many nations in Africa. The ministry has gathered leaders in villages, pastors in churches, politicians, businessmen, corporations, and every day people together to help advance God's kingdom on earth. I am so grateful to share in the work of the ministry by being a part of Soles For Jesus."*

Michelle has great advice for those thinking about getting involved. *"You can contribute to this ministry in many ways. You can email or call the office to volunteer for a SOS event, donate services or goods to a fundraiser, give a donation, become a monthly donor, or host a shoe drive. These are all ways to help support the mission of SFJ and to help get shipments of shoes to Africa. I would also encourage people to pray about being a part of a future missions trip. Going to Africa was one of the sweetest experiences of my life. I loved meeting members of the church body and visiting the villages to wash the feet of the men, women and children. I know they were all delighted to receive a pair of shoes, but my heart rejoiced seeing so many people receive the love and message of Jesus Christ. 'See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we shall be called the children of God!' 1 John 3:1."*

Thank you, Michelle, for your servant's heart and for all that you do for SFJ. We are so grateful for you and pray God's abundant blessings over you and your family!

opportunity for those who wish to compete, and we are thrilled to offer this new feature.

Each participant can choose to walk or run a 2 mile or 5K course, and you can also invite family and friends to join you! The event will start and end at the campus of Waukesha County Technical College, and you'll enjoy a scenic route through the streets of Pewaukee. The morning will also include medals, prizes, refreshments, exciting games, a kids race, and a special appearance by Roscoe, the Milwaukee Admirals mascot! This event is for families and individuals of all ages.

**This year we are excited to offer a discounted rate for TEAMS of 8 or more!** Click the purple button for more info.

**Early Bird Discounts** are also available, so be sure to sign up today! Register online or call us at 414-365-1392. All proceeds from this event will advance our mission of sharing shoes and the love of Jesus in Africa.

**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 out more about event sponsorship, contact Mark at 414-365-1392 or [Mellefson@SolesForJesus.org](mailto:Mellefson@SolesForJesus.org). Thank you for your support!

Are you following Soles For Jesus on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram? Connect with us and join the conversation about the Race For Soles 2018 at #RFS2018.



*The Novak family at a Race For Soles Event.*

## Shipment To Guinea

We are very excited to send a shipment of shoes to the West African nation of Guinea for the second time. Pastor David, who is the leader of Every Home for Christ in Guinea, is a great partner with a passion for reaching his nation with the life changing message of the Gospel. This shipment is scheduled to arrive at the end of April. Please pray for the transportation and clearing process to go smoothly, and that people will be receptive to the truth of God's love.

You can view more pictures of the shipment to Guinea [HERE](#).



*8,000 pairs of shoes ready for their long journey to Guinea.*

## Shipment To Swaziland

We are excited to share that our joint shipment of shoes and Gospel booklets has been safely delivered to our partner Joseph in Mbabane, Swaziland. We are so grateful for the strong partnership between Soles For Jesus and World Missionary Press which allowed us to



**Click on image to view highlights from last year!**



**Thank You 2018 Gold Sponsors!**

## **Shoe Drives & Special Thanks**

**Easter Egg Hunt & Shoe Drive, WI** - It was an honor once again to be a part of the 4th Annual Strassburg Easter Egg Hunt and Shoe Drive! Kids and families enjoyed games, prizes, treats and an egg hunt! Thank you to Amanda and Joel for hosting such an incredible event and to each person who donated shoes as well. We appreciate your continual love and support, and we are praying for the safe arrival of "Baby S!"

send this shipment together.

Joseph shares his greetings and gratitude for everyone who helped make this shipment possible. He has great plans to spread the Good News to the hard to reach areas of his nation. So many people still need to hear the Gospel and his team is excited and committed to meeting their physical and spiritual needs. Please pray along with us for a great harvest in Swaziland.

To view more pictures of the shipment to Swaziland, click [HERE](#).



*Unloading shoes and Gospel booklets in Swaziland.*

## **Testimony From Burkina Faso**

On January 15, 2018, the EHC ministry team traveled to Signoghin to distribute shoes in collaboration with the local church in this village. It was an unforgettable moment for everyone involved. Evangelist Ousmane preached to the crowd and he was overwhelmed by how the Lord blessed this event. Children and adults joyfully stood in the sun, waiting for their turn to receive a pair of shoes and a Gospel booklet. Parents were very grateful for shoes for their children, especially since the distribution took place right before school resumed again. God's love was present in a powerful way and this was a wonderful way to start 2018.

View pictures of the Burkina Faso shipment [HERE](#).



4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Shoe Drive. (Roberta Pratt Photos)

**Milwaukee Sting VBC, WI -** Thank you, Milwaukee Sting 11 Gold, for hosting a shoe drive and for collecting so many shoes! We appreciate your desire to help the people of Africa, and we wish you all of the best with the rest of your volleyball season!



Thank you volleyball girls for giving back!

**Connor, WI -** A big Thank You to Connor for collecting shoes at his school! Connor chose SFJ for his service project and he also shared a presentation with his school. A total of 104 pairs were donated, and we are so thankful for his heart to serve the people of Africa!



## Shipment To Lesotho

*"I am Ts'oani Maekisa and for a very long time I could not afford a pair of shoes for myself. Life has been a difficult journey for me, but I thank God for the gift of shoes I was recently given. I want to give thanks for the ministry team who visited me and shared the Gospel and to the people from America who generously helped send shoes to my village."*

Josias, our partner in Lesotho, also shares his sincere thanks for all of the prayers that are so important when doing ministry for the Lord. Please continue to pray for this nation!

To view pictures of the shipment to Lesotho, click [HERE](#)



*Ts'oani is very grateful for the gift of shoes and the Gospel.*





*Connor with the shoes that he collected at his school.*

**Dan and Aimee, WI** - We are so blessed by Dan and Aimee who drove from Appleton to transport shoes from their church and fitness center. They also volunteered in our warehouse to sort and pack them for Africa! We are so blessed by your ongoing support and we appreciate you two!



*Dan & Aimee serving in our warehouse.*

**Cornerstone Church, MN** - Thank you Cornerstone Church in Austin, MN for inviting Diane to speak at your Annual Women's Missions Brunch. We are so honored to be included in such an incredible event and we're blown away that you all donated over 1,000 pairs of shoes and also gave a generous offering to help send them to Africa! Thank you for your ongoing love and support of Soles For Jesus. We thank the Lord for our Cornerstone Family, and we pray God's abundant blessings over you all!

## Meet One Of Our Partners

Meet our Every Home for Christ ministry partner, Nicholas Mulea. Nicholas serves the Lord as a Bishop in Kenya and also as an EHC Zone Leader for East Africa. 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 along with us for good health and protection for Nicholas, his wife Jennifer and their five children, Diana, Ane, Ruth, Grace and Joy. We love this family and we pray all of God's best for them!

## Thank You For The Shoes Received This Month!

- Anytime Fitness-Germantown, WI
- Bavarian Soccer Club, WI
- Brooke Bogenschneider, WI
- Brookfield Christian School, WI
- Christ Alone Lutheran Church, WI
- Christ our Savior Lutheran Church, IL
- Class A Fitness, WI
- Colour Tube, WI
- Connor MacLeod, WI
- Cordell & Joyce Gholson, WI
- Cornerstone Church, MN
- Dan & Aimee Vechart, WI
- Eisenhower School, WI
- Falls Busy Beavers, WI
- Flaydia Armon, WI
- Grace Lutheran Church, WI
- Harley Davidson, WI
- James & Rachel Bonner, WI
- Jennie Duty, WI
- Jennifer Koehl, WI
- Jim & Jill Koepke, WI
- Joel & Amanda Strassburg, WI
- Kent & Wynne Loehrke, WI
- Krystal Melybe, WI
- Mary Ellen Simeth, WI
- Milwaukee Parkside School of the Arts, WI
- MKE Sting Teams: 18 Black & 11 Gold, WI
- Neat Repeats, WI
- Princeton Club, WI
- Robbin Lawrence, WI
- Roberta Pratt, WI



*Diane speaking at Cornerstone Church in Austin, MN.*

**Milwaukee Parkside School of the Arts, WI** - We adore these beautiful smiles and K5 students who collected shoes at their school. Thank you for wanting to help impact lives in Africa, and we appreciate you so much!



*K5 students having fun collecting shoes for kids in Africa!*

**Jill Koepke, WI** - We are so grateful for Jill! While she was shopping for her family, she noticed children's shoes were on clearance and she filled her cart for Soles For Jesus! Many little ones in Africa will be so blessed by these beautiful new shoes. Thank you for your kindness, Jill, and for being a blessing to SFJ once again!

- St. Marcus Church, WI
- Sussex Hamilton High School, WI
- Vickie Heinrichs, WI
- WCTC, WI
- Wisconsin Athletic Club-North Shore
- Wisconsin Athletic Club-Wauwatosa

## Where In The World Is Mozambique?

Mozambique is located on the Southeast coast of Africa. It has a population of 29 million, and its capital is Maputo. The country has a tropical climate with two seasons: a wet season from October to March and a dry season from April to September. The official language of Mozambique is Portuguese, however there are over 58 dialects spoken there. Mozambique was under Portuguese rule for over four centuries, and finally gained independence in 1975, after fighting for it for 10 years. Though free, Mozambique was then plagued by a civil war from 1977-1992, which resulted in an economic collapse and widespread famine. The country has since seen economic growth, yet remains one of the poorest and underdeveloped countries in the world. It ranks as one of the lowest in human development, average life expectancy and measures of inequality.

SFJ sent shipments of shoes to Mozambique in 2011, 2012, and 2014, and a mission team traveled there in 2013, to wash feet, distribute shoes and spread the Good News. We deeply love the people of Mozambique and we pray for God's hand of blessing and favor to be upon them.



Mark and Jill with the new shoes she donated.

## Volunteer Opportunities

**SOS Events (Sort & Organize Shoes)** Join us as we gather at our 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 sign-up for a date and time to come and volunteer.

# THANK YOU



Lighthouse Youth Center & New Song Church at a SOS Event.



Mozambique, Africa

## 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 from the comfort of your home!

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





## **April**

Thursday, April 5th, 6-8pm

**FULL**

Saturday, April 7th, 9am-12pm

**FULL**

Saturday, April 14th, 9-11am

**FULL**

Tuesday, April 17th, 6-8pm

Saturday, April 21st, 9-11am

**FULL**

Saturday, April 28th, 9-11am

**FULL**

Monday, April 30th, 6-8pm

**FULL**

## **May**

Saturday, May 12th, 9-11am

Wednesday, May 16th, 6-8pm

**FULL**

Saturday, May 19th, 9-11am

Wednesday, May 23rd, 6-8pm

Thursday, May 24th, 9-11am

Thursday, May 31st, 6-8pm

**\*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, please 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 Ellefson at [Mellefson@SolesForJesus.org](mailto: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 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,

## ***Your Donation Impacts Lives!***

**Donate Online Now**

Or

### **Mail Your Donation:**

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

2 hour, team building opportunity for youth and adults (12+ years). Please contact YenH at [Yenh@SoleForJesus.org](mailto:Yenh@SoleForJesus.org) or 414-365-1392 to set up your volunteer group.

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