



# Soles For Jesus, Inc.

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March 2019

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



Dear Friend,

There are only a few times in your life when you're blessed to know a hero of the faith. Nicolas Mulea was this kind of a man and it's my honor to share this tribute about my friend who taught me so much over the past ten years.

On March 8th, our beloved EHC Director of Kenya and East Africa, heard Jesus say, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Welcome Home!" I was heartbroken when I heard the news and yet I knew that his Savior called him home. I am forever grateful that the Lord allowed my family and our SFJ mission team to serve alongside Nicolas and Jenifer two years ago in Kenya. I was able to see this humble and powerful leader in action, as he was deeply loved and respected in his country. Nicolas had the biggest heart and a burning passion for going to the hard to reach villages to share the love of Jesus and reach the lost—and tens of thousands have been added to the Kingdom because of his obedience to the call.

## Quick Links

[Email Us](#)  
[Our Website](#)  
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## We Love our SOS Leaders!

We are so grateful for our Soles For Jesus family and love these leaders! 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. They are a huge blessing and we could not do this without them!

All of us at SFJ deeply love the Mulea family and ask you to please keep Jenifer, their children and grandchildren in your prayers as they mourn tremendous earthly loss. To God be the glory for a life poured out for his Savior, and I'm believing that the seed sprinkled and sown by Nicolas will continue to impact many generations to come.

In Christ alone,

Diane Studer  
Founder/Executive Director  
Soles For Jesus, Inc.



**Race For Soles / July 13, 2019**  
**Registration Opens in 6 Days!**



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

## Volunteer Of The Month

We are thrilled to honor Jean La Violette as our March Volunteer of the Month! Jean heard about SFJ during an event at her church and was touched by the mission.

*"It is so simple and easy, but it is a humongous blessing to the ones getting shoes. Shoes!!! Everyone has a closet full of them spilling out onto the floor. It's a win-win mission."*

Jean strongly believes in the mission of SFJ and works it into any conversation she can. She also joined Team Zambia in Africa last May, where she washed feet, distributed shoes, served meals and prayed over hundreds of people. We were so blessed to have her on our team and she touched the lives of many in Zambia.

Jean enjoys reading, writing, journaling, painting, gardening, sewing and crocheting, and also sews quilts for missions. Thank you, Jean, for being such a blessing to SFJ! We are so thankful for you and pray God's blessings over you!

Please mark your calendar and invite your family and friends to join us for a 5K or 2 mile run or walk on Saturday, July 13, 2019. We are excited to offer a discounted rate for teams of 8 or more as well as chipped timing for 5K runners!

**Online registration will go LIVE on April 4th!**

Watch your Inbox, go to [www.SolesForJesus.org](http://www.SolesForJesus.org), or call the SFJ office on Thursday, April 4th to register. **"Early Bird Rates" are available** for all participants, so act fast! You'll also get a **free** 2019 RFS t-shirt when you take advantage of the Early Bird Registration.

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. You can choose to walk, run or cheer on those who do! The morning will also include medals, prizes, refreshments and exciting games. There will be a special visit from Roscoe, the Milwaukee Admirals mascot, so you can have your picture taken as well.

**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 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 2019 at **#RFS2019**.



*Jean at an orphanage in Zambia.*

## Benin - Shipping Update

It is very exciting to send a shipment of shoes to yet another new African nation. Benin is a small West African nation of nearly 12 million people. Our partner, Avla has vision to reach the nearly 60% of the population that has yet to hear the Gospel even one time. He is thrilled to be able to distribute shoes to rural areas as an expression of God's love for them. He is sure that this physical act will also help people see the message of the Gospel in a whole new way and lead many to salvation. Please pray with us that God will do a great work in this nation.

You can view more photos [HERE](#).

Click on image to view highlights from last year!



## Shoe Drives & Special Thanks

**Spring Creek Church, Pewaukee -**  
We are so grateful for the outpouring of support through shoes and financial donations from this incredible church. They have collected 2,717 pairs of shoes during their spring shoe drive! This faith community has been partnering alongside us since the very beginning and we can't express enough our deep thanks for their faithful partnership!



*Diane sharing in the morning services at Spring Creek Church.*



*Shoes are ready to go to Benin for the first time!*

## Liberia - Shoe Distribution Update

Our partner, Jonel sent the following report of a recent shoe distribution.

*"The village just outside the city Buchanan has no church. It is easy to see the level of poverty in this village. Many children and adults walk barefoot every day and live in dirt houses. When we announced that we had come to distribute shoes free of charge, they burst into song, praising the Lord for remembering them. At the end of the distribution, mothers were seen dancing as they headed home with their children. Everyone was carrying a pair of shoes. A woman named Mamie Bah could not hold back her emotions, as she came dancing and rejoicing that she and her three children each received a pair of shoes. She exclaimed, 'The Lord has answered my*



Kids from Spring Creek Church on top of the giant shoe pile!

**Milwaukee Parkside School of the Arts-** We're so touched by the generous amount of shoes collected by the students, families and surrounding community at this school for their 4th annual shoe drive! Also, a special thanks to K5 teacher, Jessica for coordinating and delivering all these great shoes!



Thank you Milwaukee Parkside School of the Arts!

*prayer. My children have been going to school without footwear."*

View more pictures [HERE](#).



*Celebrations underway after receiving shoes and the Gospel.*

## **Burkina Faso - Shoe Distribution Update**

Brother Lompo, our partner in Burkina Faso emailed this report to us recently.

*"Our evangelization team chose the village of Dialgaye as a focus of our ongoing efforts. The goal is to plant a church there and we used the shoe distribution as a means of preparing the ground for this effort. Dialgaye is a predominantly Muslim village and it can be difficult to visit some neighborhoods with the Gospel. The distribution of the shoes took place in front of the village chief's home. More than 400 pairs of shoes were distributed that day. The people were amazed that Christians came this time with gifts to help people instead of only with the Bible in their hands. Some people exclaimed: 'Today is different from other times. We have so many needs and today one of the great needs of this area was met. Thank God!' As a result of this distribution, there is now a place to worship the one true God in this village."*

**Concordia University, WI** - Mark enjoyed sharing with the students in the Community Engagement class at CUW in Mequon. We're so grateful for the many volunteer groups that come from this school to help pack and sort shoes. Thank you for inviting us to share more of our mission with all of you!



*Mark with students at Concordia University in Mequon.*

**Divine Redeemer, Hartland** - Thank you to the students and families at Divine Redeemer for collecting over 400 pairs of shoes that will surely be a blessing to many in Africa! There will be lots of kids and adults so excited to receive these gift of love and we are so thankful for your kindness and compassion!

View more pictures [HERE](#).



*The start of a shoe distribution in Dialagaye.*

## Meet One Of Our Partners

Dr. Cleopas Chitapa is the EHC Continental Director over all of Africa, and if you came to our



luncheon in 2015 you'll recognize him. Dr. Chitapa states that he is motivated to share the message of Jesus each day because he believes in the power of the Gospel to transform lives. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes." Romans 1:16

Please pray for Cleopas, Sarita and their children, and agree together for these needs:

- Good health, kids' schooling, their son with special needs, divine favor & protection for all, unity in marriage and traveling mercies.
- Increase in ministry coverage, as they want to reach more homes with



*Thank you for these beautiful shoes Divine Redeemer!*

**Brookfield Area Home Educators** - YenH enjoyed spending time in the classroom with high school students from Brookfield Area Home Educators. Thank you for the invitation to hear more about the Soles For Jesus mission and ways to get involved!



*Thank you Brookfield Area Home Educators!*

## Volunteer Opportunities

**SOS Events (Sort & Organize Shoes)** Join us as we gather at our Milwaukee, WI warehouse to

the Gospel.

- God's direction and provision in churches and ministries led by Cleopas & Sarita.

## Thank You For The Shoes Received This Month!

- DeSnoo, Julie
- Divine Consign, WI
- Divine Redeemer- Hartland, WI
- Dr. Comfort, WI
- Ehrgott, Rosemary, WI
- Eisenhower School, WI
- Evangel Assembly of God, WI
- Falls Busy Beavers, WI
- Gardell, Karen, WI
- Journey Church, WI
- Lake Country Lutheran High School, WI
- Lakeside Fitness Fit Body Boot Camp, WI
- Loos, Kayla, WI
- Lutheran High School Association, WI
- Milwaukee Parkside School of the Arts, WI
- Performance Running Outfitters, WI
- Princeton Club, WI
- Ronald Reagan Elementary, WI
- Simmons, Patti, WI
- Spring Creek Church, WI
- St. Luke's Lutheran Church, WI
- Wisconsin Athletic Club-North Shore
- Wisconsin Athletic Club - Wauwatosa
- YMCA-Rite Hite, WI

## Where In The World Is Malawi?

Malawi is a small country in southeast Africa, with a population of over 18 million. Over 1/3 of the country is taken up by Lake

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 Spring Creek Youth Group for serving with us!*

#### **April**

Saturday, April 6th, 9-11am  
Monday, April 8th, 6-8pm **FULL**  
Wednesday, April 10th, 3:30-6:30pm  
**FULL**  
Saturday, April 13th, 9-11am  
Monday, April 15th, 6-8pm  
Saturday, April 20th, 9-11:30am  
Wednesday, April 24th, 3:30-5:30pm  
Saturday, April 27th, 9-12pm **FULL**

#### **May**

Saturday, May 11th, 9-11am  
Wednesday, May 15th, 11-12:30pm  
Saturday, May 18th, 9-11am  
Wednesday, May 22nd, 9-11am **FULL**  
Thursday, May 23rd, 6-8pm  
Saturday, May 25th, 9-11am  
Wednesday, May 29th, 3:30-5:30pm

**\*You can choose your own date to serve!**

Malawi. The country is nicknamed "*The Warm Heart of Africa*," because of the friendliness of the people. English is the official language, though many different native languages are spoken. Malawi became independent from the United Kingdom in 1964, and is among the world's least-developed countries. The economy is heavily based in agriculture, with a largely rural population, and the government relies heavily on outside aid. Malawi has a low life expectancy, high infant mortality and a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS. Life expectancy is only 50 years. In January 2015, southern Malawi was devastated by the worst floods in living memory. These floods affected more than a million people across the country, including 336,000 who were displaced, according to UNICEF. Over 100 people were killed and an estimated 158,000 acres of cropland were washed away.

SFJ sent our first shipment of shoes to Malawi in 2017. Please join us in prayer for the lives that have been touched by these shoes and for those that still will be as distributions continue.



*Malawi, Africa*

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

## 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*



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