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December 2019



Dear Friend,

Thankful and expectant. That's how I feel about this decade coming to a close and a new one beginning! Last week I snuck away for some time to pray and seek the Lord for this next season, and He led me to this verse. "Look at the nations and watch - and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told." Habakkuk 1:5

Wow! This is so exciting! He is doing a new thing in the nations and He is inviting us to be a part of it. I am humbled in the presence of our Mighty God and say, "Yes!" to all that He has planned.

As I watched the video below I am in awe of Jesus. He is the only One to be praised for 500,000 lives touched by His amazing love. And as we stand on the cusp of 2020, I am consumed with an urgency to press forward because so many more people need to hear. THANK YOU for your loving support and hold on - because the best is yet to come as He is doing a NEW

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Happy New Year!



We want to take a moment to wish you and your loved ones a blessed and Happy New Year! We are believing great things for you in 2020, and we are excited about all that He has in store! This is our prayer for you:

"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your thing!

With love and joy,

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



CLICK on this image to watch the VIDEO.

Season of Giving!



Thank you to each person who has already given a gift this season! We are so grateful for your generosity and kindness. There is an exciting opportunity to be a part of what the Lord is doing to reach every home on earth.

To read more about the direction we are going in 2020, click **HERE.** To ensure 2019 eligibility for your donation, please remember:

 Donations made by Credit or Debit Card must be completed before plans succeed." Psalm 20:4

10 Pics for 10 Years!

We are celebrating all that God has done over the past 10 years and looking back at some of our favorite moments. Here are 10 of our favorite pictures and it's hard to choose!

Do you have a favorite picture of SFJ? It could be a photo that you took, or one that you saw us post over the years. We would love to see the moments that have touched your heart over the past 10 years, and we'd like to share some of these photos on our social media. Please send them to Kris at: kmonteen@solesforjesus.org.



- midnight tonight.
- You can donate online at <u>SolesForJesus.org</u>
- Mailed checks must be postmarked by today. You can also drop off your donation at our office until 5pm.

Thank you and God bless you!

Meet our Newest State Rep!

We are so excited to introduce our newest State Representative from North Carolina, Brooke Rawls!

Brooke and Bobby have two kids: Larkyn (13), and London (9). After cofounding a successful

clinical pharmacy service company, Brooke was able to retire in 2015 and focus on her passion for serving others.

While cleaning out her children's closets one evening, Brooke wondered how their outgrown shoes that were still in great shape could be used by others. She did a Google search and found Soles For Jesus!

"I thought about how washing and covering one's feet gives endurance to the soles - and that one soul can serve another soul! When I looked up North Carolina, I was surprised to find that no one was representing this beautiful mission yet. Without hesitation I reached out to SFJ and asked how I could serve their mission in my state," Brooke shared.





Celebrating 10 years of sharing God's love!

Testimony from Lesotho

"I knew nothing about God's love until He introduced Himself to me with a pair of shoes. This kind of love is worth my life and today I feel worthy to start a new life for Jesus."

These are the words of Sello (below) as he spoke with great emotion about his newfound faith in Jesus. He has been walking on the shoes held in his hand for a long time (you can see his fingers through the large hole in the sole). He shared that he was doubting his life and existence but **God's love rescued him at just the right time** when Pastor Josias came to his village to wash his feet and give him shoes. Praise the Lord for loving us and meeting us right where we are!

Please keep Sello's family in your

Thank you, Brooke, for joining our Soles For Jesus Team! We're so thankful that SFJ will be represented in the great state of North Carolina and we're excited to see how God blesses this partnership!

Shoe Drives & Special Thanks

Waukesha County Technical College, Pewaukee -

515 pairs of shoes were donated by the students of WCTC in Pewaukee! Thank you, Sarah, for organizing this shoe drive and for bringing volunteers to serve in our warehouse!



WCTC students delivering and packing shoes.

Oak Creek Assembly Of God, WI - We are overwhelmed with JOY by the 2,313 pairs of shoes that were donated in just a few weeks by the families of Oak Creek Assembly Of God Church! Special thanks to Aaron and Patricia for all of your help and for delivering the shoes. Thousands of people in Africa will be impacted by God's love and we sincerely thank each person at OCAG who gave or helped with this shoe drive!

prayers as they grow in Christ, and also for Pastor Josias Mohanoe and his team as they faithfully bring His love to every person and home in Lesotho!



Sello is now walking in Truth and in his new shoes!

Cabo Verde Distribution Update

We received the following testimony from our partner, Emanuel, in Cabo Verde. He is very excited to share what God is doing here.

"Using the church van, we made a distribution schedule in different villages and communities. On December 9th, we were with a team in a village called Gil André. We arrived by surprise in this village that is very poor. When the people saw us they could not believe what was happening. We got out of the van and started sharing the Gospel with everyone and praying for their needs. As we distributed the shoes everyone became so



Aaron and Patricia delivering the shoes to our warehouse.

Girl Scout Troop, WI - We want to thank a local Girl Scout Troop for wanting to make a difference at Christmastime. Their leader, Stacey, found our website and clicked on, "Take Action" and read the page, "Ideas for Involvement." She loved this idea of decorating shoes to send to Africa and shared it with her troop. Thank you girls for making these beautiful shoes, and many kids in Africa will be smiling and dancing in them soon!



Beautiful shoes decorated and donated by Girl Scouts!

Palisades Lutheran Church, CA- We are extremely thankful for churches who partner with us year after year! Thank you, Palisades Lutheran Church, for your

happy that they asked God to bless us because they really needed this kind of help. Then the village leader invited us to come back and explain more about the Bible! Praise the Lord! We are making plans to return very soon. Please keep these dear people in prayer."

View more pictures of the Cabo Verde shipment HERE.



People in Gil André after receiving shoes and the Gospel.

Sao Tome Distribution Update

Jose, our partner is Sao Tome, recently shared the following testimony with us.

"Pantufo is a very crowded neighborhood and alcoholism is a serious problem. The people of this area are disorganized, and it's very difficult to evangelize and to gather the people to listen. So our shoe evangelism team went to share the good news of the Gospel in this neighborhood. We used some simple visual tools to help explain God's love and plan of salvation and we were so happy they were listening and open to

8th consecutive shoe drive! Special thanks to, Jan, for organizing this shoe drive for many years and helping to spread our mission to share God's love throughout Africa!



Shoe drive at Palisades Lutheran Church in California.

Jazzercise in Brookfield and Kewaskum - We appreciate businesses who partner with us! Many thanks to Jazzercise in Brookfield and Kewaskum for doing a shoe drive this month. We are touched by your compassion and many people in Africa will be greatly blessed by your gifts.



Shoe drives at Jazzercise in Brookfield and Kewaskum.

the message. At the beginning of the day there were mostly young people who came and many of them accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior! Praise the Lord for this hard ground beginning to break! More adults shared Jesus and shoes with them. Thank you SFJ for these shoes that helped open the door! We will continue evangelize this area that salvation and deliverance will come everyone in Pantufo."

View more pictures **HERE**.



Young people celebrating Jesus and their new shoes.

Ghana Shoe Shipment

We are thrilled to be sending a second shipment to the nation of Ghana in West Africa! Our partner, Ebow, is very eager to start distributing shoes in strategic locations throughout the nation. There are approximately 9.5 million people in Ghana who are in need of hearing the Gospel. Sharing physical gifts with people has proven to be a successful way to open hearts in communities where Jesus is not known. Please

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 to sign-up for a date and time to come and volunteer.



hank you, Mercy Hill Church, for serving with us!

JANUARY

Saturday, January 4th, 9-11am Saturday, January 11th, 9-11am Thursday, January 16th, 6-8pm Saturday, January 18th, 9-11am Thursday, January 23rd, 9:30-11am Saturday, January 25th, 9-11am

FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 1st, 9-11am Thursday, February 6th, 9-11am Saturday, February 8th, 9-11am Tuesday, February 11th, 6-8pm Saturday, February 15th, 9-11am Saturday, February 22nd, 10-noon Saturday, February 29th, 9-11am

*You can choose your own date to serve! To learn more about this, read below.

be in prayer for the Lord to bless each person who will be receiving the gift of shoes and that they'll choose to open their hearts to His perfect plan of salvation!



Our final shipment of 2019 is on its way to Ghana with love!

Volunteer Of The Month

We are thrilled to honor Cynthia Zeckmeister as our volunteer of December! Cynthia learned about Soles For Jesus a few years ago from a friend. As she was preparing for retirement one year ago, Cynthia prayed about where the Lord would lead her to serve, and the become more actively involved in SFJ. Since then, Cynthia has participated in SOS Events in our warehouse donation boxes at the City of Brookfield Farmers Market and Cycle Bar in Brookfield. Cynthia also facilitates the shoe collection site at World Impact Ministries and will be on our Mission Team to Botswana in 2020. During her

"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 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 work, school, church, your 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 Yenh@SolesForJesus.org or 414-365-1392 to set up your volunteer group.

time volunteering at the Brookfield Farmers Market, Cynthia has had the opportunity to share the hope that Jesus and shoes offer with market customers, and some have volunteered at SFJ as a result.

Cynthia has great advice for anyone considering volunteering. "It is not about how you volunteer or the frequency. It's about saying, 'Yes!' one time and letting the Holy Spirit lead you from there. Shoe sorting is a fun place to start, and it's also a fun team building event. The packing process is easy and training is provided."

Thank you, Cynthia, for all you do for SFJ and the Lord's Kingdom. We pray God's blessings over you and can't wait for you to join us in Botswana!



THANK YOU!

Thank you for helping us share Jesus and shoes with more than 500,000 people! Each one matters to Him and it's such a privilege to share Hope in Jesus Christ.

God bless you for your support this year and we believe that the Lord will bless you according to His Word. "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done." Proverbs 19:17



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

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