



# Soles For Jesus, Inc.

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January 2020



Dear Friend,

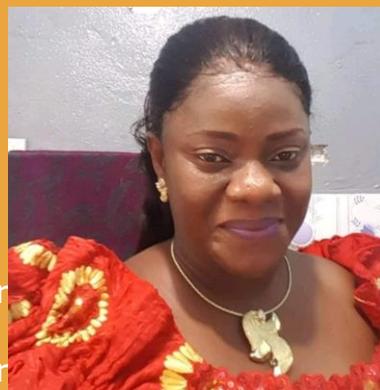
It's a brand new year to share the life-changing message of Jesus and we are excited! During our first staff meeting in January we dedicated another year to the Lord, and invited Him to remain in the driver's seat in all that we do. Jesus said, *"I am the vine; you are the branches if you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit."* I believe that we will see a great Kingdom harvest as we remain connected to the Vine.

I just received amazing reports from Nigeria and my heart is soaring! About 18 months ago, we sent our first shipment of shoes to Nigeria and the Lord opened incredible doors there. So we were happy to send another shipment a year later and we just received testimonies about the

## Quick Links

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## Meet One Of Our Partners



Meet our  
Every  
Home for  
Christ

(EHC) ministry partner in Liberia, Rev. Jonel Clark Weeks. She is faithfully serving the Lord in her native country and has a strong desire to fulfill the OIKOS vision of reaching every home in her nation with the Gospel.

Jonel was led to Jesus as a

powerful ministry happening in many places, including the prisons. The employees and residents are so open to the Gospel and God is moving! Nigeria has many challenges and it's a miracle that the Lord helped another shipment of shoes and the Gospel to reach such a place of need. Our ministry partner, Pastor Afam, was able to wash the feet of men and women who have never seen love like this. He shared that Jesus paid the price on Calvary and that our debt was paid in FULL! Many accepted Jesus as their Savior and at the end of the day they captured this short video below to express their thanks (most faces are protected for privacy).

I'm so humbled that we get to share His love in this way. Thank you for helping inmates in Nigeria find Jesus, along with so many others. It's going to be a great year and I'm so thankful for your prayers and support!

In Christ alone,

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

teenager during an evangelism outreach and she's had a desire to reach people with the Gospel ever since. She has served in many ministry roles over the years and is currently the EHC Zonal Director of the Anglo-West Zone of Africa. Jonel shared with us how she's seen first-hand what a blessing it is for people in Liberia to receive a pair of shoes, especially at the Ebola victims' orphanage, which was full of children who lost their parents to the outbreak. She also shared this testimony, *"Through the evangelism outreach and the shoe distribution, a notorious armed robber's chief (the head leader of the criminals in the Thinkers Village) surrendered to the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ! Now he serves as an usher in this village church."*

Jonel asks us to pray for the following:

- Health, favor and protection for Jonel & Verney and their children, Varnettie & Varney Jr.
- Continued passion for Jonel to win souls through evangelism, discipleship and prayer.
- The provision of motorbikes for the team to expand their evangelism reach, especially to areas that don't have roads to reach by car.
- Success for the Liberia EHC team in the OIKOS initiative



CLICK on this image to watch the VIDEO.



At the end of 2019, we shared about an exciting opportunity to link arms with the EHC vision to reach each home with the Gospel in the next 20 years. We are thrilled to announce that you helped us reach our goal! With grateful hearts, we thank each person who gave a gift. We are so excited to partner with this OIKOS vision, bringing the news of salvation in Jesus to the ends of the earth. Please keep this in your prayers as we are already seeing many respond to Jesus. Thank you for your partnership and to God be the glory!

## Shoe Drives & Special

as it enters year two of the effort to reach every home in Liberia. The focus this year is in Montserrado County.

- Deliverance for those battling substance abuse and other addictions in Liberia.

## Testimony From Liberia

Bomi County, Liberia, is a highly Islamic area and many of the people here are also involved in traditional African religious ceremonies. When the EHC ministry team arrived, Chief Nyankun was present to meet them. He was amazed that his community was selected for the distribution of Gospel tracts and shoes from Soles For Jesus. Chief Nyankun also commented that he wondered how they knew that the people of this area really needed the gifts of shoes and the Word of God. Most of the residents live on an income that is below the poverty line. He shouted joyfully, *"Your shoes and message have come at just the right time!"* He praised God for the SFJ organization and he ran door to door shouting, *"God has seen our sufferings and blessed us."*

Many residents ran out to the town square to hear more about Jesus and to be a part of the distribution. The shoes were used

## Thanks

**Living Word Lutheran High School, WI** - Thank you to all of the students and faculty for another incredible shoe drive at Living Word Lutheran High School! We're beyond blessed by your support to make a difference in Africa!



Living Word  
Lutheran  
High School



*Students delivering their shoes to our warehouse.*

**Bethesda Elementary School, WI** - Special thanks to these awesome students from Bethesda Elementary in Waukesha, WI, for collecting shoes with their Student Council. Thank you to the students, families and staff for such great teamwork!

as a platform for the Word of God to more than 807 people. This has led to the establishment of a Christ Group of 39 new believers!

View more pictures of the Liberia shipment [HERE](#).



*After hearing the Gospel the crowd lined up for shoes!*

## Cabo Verde Distribution Update

In Cabo Verde, God used shoes as an instrument to bring many people to the feet of Christ. Our partner, Emanuel, shared the following testimony with us.

*"On December 15, 2019, we had the opportunity to baptize 29 people after the shoe distribution in the village! After they accepted Jesus, we began a discipleship group here and 4 months later 9 more were also baptized. We praise God for Soles For Jesus! It has enabled us in such a special way to touch people's hearts, put shoes on their feet, and above all, it provides an*



*The Student Council at Bethesda Elementary School.*

**NextGenCAM, WI** - We are grateful for businesses who partner with us to impact our world. Thank you, NextGenCAM and Comprehensive Counseling, for donating such great shoes for our next shipment!



*Thank you, Liz, for delivering these great shoes!*

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church-Muskego, WI** - Yenah was excited

*open door to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Two of the people that were reached through the shoe distributions have started a small Bible study group, and a new church has also emerged in the community of Achada Grande. Praise Jesus and may God bless you for your work!"*

View more pictures from Cabo Verde [HERE](#).



*A woman in Achada Grande receiving new shoes.*

## **Testimony from Guinea Bissau**

This testimony comes from a distribution in the south of Guinea Bissau in the region of Yousse. The ministry team was able to reach many people in this province by demonstrating the love of Christ and by sharing shoes and the Gospel with them.

to share in the chapel service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. We're so touched that they will be donating their 3rd quarter Missions Offering to help send more shoes to Africa!



*Yenh sharing in the chapel service.*

**San-A-Care, WI** - Thank you to everyone at San-A-Care for doing a shoe drive and for including a financial gift to help ship your shoes to Africa. We're so grateful for businesses who partner with us and God bless you all!

This is a very poor area with limited access to essential needs. Everything in this area has to be sent in from the Capital making the goods expensive, and most people live on less than a dollar a day.

*"My name is Nené Sambu and I am 27 years old. I thank God for this opportunity to be here among the people of God and to receive a pair of shoes. I have no way of earning the money to buy a pair of shoes like this. In the market a pair of shoes like the ones I received would cost almost \$50 US Dollars. God has been so gracious to me and my family on this day." View more pictures*



*All smiles after receiving an amazing pair of shoes.*

## **Guinea Shipment**

We started the year by sending our first shipment of shoes to the



Thank you San-A-Care!

*Thank you, Lisa, Matt and San-A-Care!*

## 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, Honey Creek Church, for serving!*

nation of Guinea. Brother David, who is our partner there, is very excited to begin distributing these shoes. He shared with us that when they are able to share gifts like these with people in the rural villages, their hearts are more open to hear the Gospel. Thanks to everyone who has come to help pack shoes in our warehouse over the past 6 weeks. These shoes that you prepared are now on their way. Please be in prayer for the Lord to bless each person who will be receiving them and that they'll choose to open their hearts to God's love and salvation!

View more photos of the shipment [HERE](#).



*Our first shipment for 2020 is on its way to Guinea!*

## Volunteer Of The Month

We are thrilled to honor Jenny Winkelmann as our volunteer of the month for January! Jenny is one of our SOS leaders and she

## **FEBRUARY**

Saturday, February 1st, 9-11am  
Thursday, February 6th, 9-11am  
Saturday, February 8th, 9-11am  
Saturday, February 15th, 9-11am  
Saturday, February 22nd, 10-noon  
Tuesday, February 25th, 6-8pm  
Saturday, February 29th, 9-11am

## **MARCH**

Saturday, March 7th, 9-11am  
Friday, March 13th, 6-8pm  
Saturday, March 14th, 9-11am  
Thursday, March 19th, 6-8pm  
Saturday, March 21st, 9-11am  
Saturday, March 28th, 9-11am

**\*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

brings groups from her church to volunteer. She also brought her daughter's Girl Scout troop to serve. After volunteering at a few SOS events and attending our annual luncheon, she wanted to be more involved.

*"I love that volunteering is something that I can do with my family and also something that our church and school can do. I have served with my kids, friends, co-workers and complete strangers, and each time I am reminded of what an amazing ministry Soles For Jesus is," Jenny shared.*

Jenny also enjoys the variety of ways that she can serve at SFJ. *"Whether it is collecting shoes, volunteering at a SOS event or leading one, or even just intentionally praying for SFJ, any of these things are so simple yet so impactful."*

Jenny is a part-time K3 teacher at Grace Lutheran School. Their family enjoys spending time watching and playing sports, as well as being active in their church and school. Jenny hopes to one day be able to take one or more of their children to Africa on a SFJ trip. Thank you, Jenny, for all that you do for SFJ. We appreciate you and pray a blessing over you and your family!

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.



*The Winkelmann Family!*

### **Shoes Sent to Africa Since 2010!**



Since our very first shipment in 2010, Soles For Jesus has sent over 515,000 pairs of shoes to Africa!

To view photo albums for each country and shoe shipment, visit our Soles For Jesus [Facebook page](#). We continually post inspiring photos and testimonies of lives being touched by God's love. Learn more about where we go **HERE**.

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