



# Soles For Jesus, Inc.

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March 2020

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



Dear Friend,

Since I wrote to you last month, much has changed in our world. Yet in the midst of this global pandemic our God is constant, and His Word never changes. I've found such peace in the promises of His Word and just being in His presence. Let's be committed in prayer for those who are working non-stop on the front lines, for our leaders and those who are sick and vulnerable.

A few days ago, I sent an email update to share a message of hope and how we are doing at SFJ. We were absolutely overwhelmed with the responses that we received! So many of you took the time to share encouraging messages, scriptures, prayers and many of you even asked what needs we have at this time. Our SFJ community is amazing and please know how blessed

## Quick Links

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

We are so grateful for our SOS Leaders who faithfully lead volunteer groups in our warehouse to Sort and Organize Shoes for shipment to Africa. It was our privilege to honor them this month at a special dinner and time of sharing. These men and women are a huge blessing and we could not do this work without them. May the Lord continue to bless each family represented here and we love you all!

we are to be loved, prayed for and supported by you. The Lord continues to shine His love and beauty through you, and it means so much.

SFJ was on the news! You can click on the [image](#) below to watch the segment from Fox6 News. Special thanks to Brandon Cruz for covering this story about the Sussex Hamilton Basketball Team who just completed their 5th annual shoe drive. It's exciting to see the many ways that people engage in the SFJ mission and a common one is through athletics. Many sports teams come to volunteer in our warehouse and also do shoe drives at their games and schools. This made me realize again how many lives are being touched both here and in Africa, and we are so grateful to each person who made this possible.

Our global SFJ family is in my heart and prayers, and please let me know if there is a specific way that we can pray for you right now. In every season He will be faithful, and He will continue to make a way for the great commission to go forth.

In Christ alone,

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



*Thank you SOS leaders! (Not all pictured)*

## **2020 Botswana Mission Trip Update**

Due to the global coronavirus pandemic, we must postpone our May mission trip to Botswana. While we are sad to wait, we will be patient and trust God's perfect timing. Please continue to pray for the beautiful people of Botswana, our ministry partner Pastor Tanga and our mission team. We fully trust Him and all that He has planned, even in this season of waiting.



Click on the image above to **START** the video.

## Save the Date! 11th Annual Luncheon & Silent Auction *Saturday, November 14th*

Mark  
your  
calendars  
and tell  
your  
friends  
about  
our 11th  
Annual  
Luncheon &  
Silent  
Auction!



You are invited to celebrate with us on **Saturday, November 14th**, at the Italian Community Center. We can't wait to share who will be joining us as our musical guest. This will be a special performance for all men, women and children - so stay tuned for more details!

If you'd like to be an event sponsor, please contact Diane at [DStuder@SolesForJesus.org](mailto:DStuder@SolesForJesus.org).



2020  
**MISSION  
TEAM BOTSWANA**  
*Team praying over the shipment  
(not all pictured)*

## Testimony from Sao Tome

Our partner in Sao Tome, Jose, asked us to share the following testimony. *"I am writing to share that since we partnered with Soles For Jesus in 2019, God has opened many wonderful doors for ministry in our island nation. By the grace and power of God, we are continuing to share the Gospel. When we return to visit the locations where we previously distributed shoes, we are able to see God transforming the lives of those who now believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior! I write to tell you this great news, but also to encourage you to continue in this great work for the Kingdom of God."*

View more pictures [HERE](#).





SFJ 10 Year Celebration & Luncheon

## Shoe Drives & Special Thanks

**Kettle Moraine Girls Basketball** - A very BIG thanks to this team for hosting a large shoe drive at their school and for coming to volunteer with us this month. Over 1,100 shoes were packed because of your time and service. The shoes and funds that you collected will impact lives and we appreciate your kindness and teamwork!



*Kettle Moraine High School Girls Basketball Team*

**Portview Assembly Of God, WI** - We're so grateful to Liz for



*Sharing the Gospel with the next generation.*

## Testimony from Guinea Bissau

We received this testimony from our ministry partner, Julio. *"My name is Albino and I am forty-two years old. I was informed about a shoe distribution and I came to see whether I could get a pair of shoes. At first I thought it was just a joke because we hear many rumors of help, but they are often not true. When I arrived though, I saw that it was REAL, and I was amazed. After sharing the message about Jesus, the team organized things and it was very well done. When I was called to receive a pair of shoes, I could hardly believe it. There was no way I could afford a pair of shoes like the ones I was given. I thank God for these shoes and want to send my blessings to all those involved."*

View more pictures [HERE](#).

coordinating this shoe drive at Portview Assembly of God, and to everyone who donated shoes. These gifts of hope will bring encouragement and life to many who need them, along with the message of Christ. Thank you for partnering with us for the harvest!



*Collection boxes overflowing at Portview A/G!*

**Minerva Running Club, WI** - Thank you, Minerva Running Club, for doing a shoe drive for us. With these great running shoes we can provide quality footwear to protect feet and help people walk safely on rocky, dirt paths. Your support is changing lives in Africa!



*Touched by God's love.*

## Three Shipments Arrive in March!

This past month Botswana, Ghana and Guinea all received their shipments of shoes. We praise God for the safe delivery of each container of shoes. Some of these containers had various delays in the process, but all of them reached their destinations safely. Each of the partners send their deepest thanks and blessings to everyone who supports Soles For Jesus so these shoes could reach them. They promise to send testimonies of how God uses the shoes to reach the people of their nations with the Gospel message. Please pray for people's hearts to be open to God in these nations.

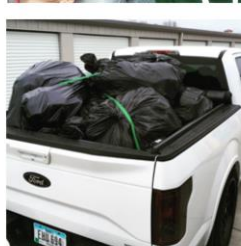


*Delivery of shoes from Minerva Running Club!*

### **Des Moines Christian School, IA -**

Over 2,500 shoes made the trip from IA, packed on these trucks by Craig and Shawn Thacker! Our very sincere thanks to everyone at Des Moines Christian School, especially the 3rd grade class for leading this effort. Thousands of lives in Africa will be impacted because of your generosity to make a difference!

*Iowa Shoe Drive!*



*Thank you Craig and Shawn for this great delivery!*

View more pictures [HERE](#).



*Praise God for His protection over 3 shipments!*

### **Testimony from Lesotho**

Our partner, Josias, sent the following testimony to share with our supporters. *"The Lord bless all those who have worked to send Gospel books and shoes to the Village of Ha Belo up in the highlands of Lesotho. On this day my heart was touched as I realized the depth of God's love for me. I never heard of Jesus as Savior. I did not know I could see heaven after all the bad things I have done. When the ministry team explained the Gospel to all of us who gathered that day, I knew I needed Jesus in my life. To know that God loves and forgives me is incredible. To also receive a much-needed pair of shoes shows me that*



**Ronald Reagan Elementary School, WI** - This is the 2nd annual shoe drive by teacher, Gary Hetzel and his wife Margaret. In just a few short weeks before their school closed, they collected over 642 pairs of shoes. Their school mascot used a competition to motivate students, and donated shoes helped them earn Scholastic book points to build their grade school library! We love these great ideas and we're so thankful to Gary and Margaret for coordinating this shoe drive. Our sincere thanks to all of the students, faculty and families for making this a great success!



Thank You  
Ronald Reagan  
School!

*Thank you, Ronald Reagan Elementary School!*

## Volunteer Opportunities

### **Important SOS Update:**

At this time, all SOS events have been suspended. We will notify everyone once we re-open these volunteer events, and we pray that

*God cares about every part of my life. From now on it is my intention to serve the Lord with all my heart."*

View more pictures [HERE](#).



*Pastor Josias in the village of Ha Belo.*

## Meet One Of Our Partners

Meet our Every Home for Christ (EHC) ministry partner



er in Mozambique, Godfrey Bhodyera. Godfrey grew up in a Christian home, where he participated in family

you'll be able to sign-up and join us again soon.

Once SOS dates resume, we will have a great need for volunteers and shoes, so please stay tuned and we'll email an update as well. Until then, please continue to gather your shoes and ask your friends and family to do the same. We look forward to having your group sign-up again soon!

### **SOS Events (Sort & Organize Shoes)**

We will let you know when we have new SOS dates, so you can gather with us 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.



Thank you, Marquette High School students!

**"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

devotions. To Godfrey though, doing these devotions were more about customs than a personal relationship with Christ. During his last year of college in 2006, Godfrey listened to a guest preacher during a midweek service. *"As he preached, I saw my life as formless and void. I really felt that I was not in the Kingdom of God. I felt so pained by my life. I started to reflect on my life and discovered that God had been protecting me all these years. I wept uncontrollably and I stood up and walked to the stage where the preacher was. There was silence in the whole room, and I asked the preacher to help me receive Christ. I surrendered my life to Christ that day and I promised to serve Him the whole of my life,"* Godfrey shared.

Godfrey's goals for the ministry are to expand to new areas and increase the capacity of their mobile Training Center so that many leaders will receive training. The bible verse that encourages Godfrey in ministry is Isaiah 43:19, *"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."*

Godfrey asks us to pray for



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!

We would love to have YOU on our prayer team! Please email us at [info@SolesForJesus.org](mailto:info@SolesForJesus.org), so we can send you our prayer newsletter. 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

the following:

- For the ministry to expand in Cabo Delgado, Maputo, Niassa, Nampula, Gaza and Inhambane. Cabo Delgado is the home of Islamic extremists and there is a political insurgency there. Pray that the Lord will provide all the resources needed to reach these people.
- Pray for the recovery and healing of the nation after Cyclone Idai ravaged Mozambique.
- Pray for more volunteers to come on board this year as Godfrey seeks to expand the work.
- Pray for God's protection on the volunteers who work in very dangerous places that expose them to malaria, waterborne diseases, etc.
- Pray that the Lord will use the shoes sent from SFJ to help bring healing and hope to Mozambique, which has been adversely affected by the 2019 floods that claimed many lives.

**Volunteer Of The Month**



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

**Donate Online Now**

**OR**

**Mail Your Donation:**

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(414-365-1392)

We are thrilled to honor Rebecca Thierfelder as our volunteer of the month for March! Rebecca is one of our SOS leaders who has volunteered at many of our events over the past five years. Her involvement with SFJ began when she volunteered at a SOS event with her Bible study group. Rebecca enjoyed her time and she shared, *"I felt connected with the ministry and had so much fun interacting with people that the time just flew by."*

Schedule conflicts prevented Rebecca from volunteering with her group the next several times, but God kept SFJ on her heart. Rebecca didn't know this at the time, but He had big plans for her life, both with SFJ and her future husband. *"One day when I was attending a Bible study leader training at church, I was seated at a table with a man who I knew to be our SFJ church representative. It just seemed natural to strike up a conversation with him about going back to SFJ. Little did I know then what plans God had in store for John and I based on this conversation. Before long, not only was I volunteering at SFJ, but John and I began the journey to a marriage partnership based on*

*God's plans for our service work. We have had so much fun leading our monthly shoe sorts and helping with the Race For Soles and Annual Luncheons. It's been so much fun bringing groups closer together over the mutual bond of shoes and Jesus."*

We love this love story! It's been such a privilege to witness God's plan unfold and see this wonderful couple come together. Thank you, Rebecca, for being a special part of our SFJ family! We greatly appreciate you and John and pray God's blessings over your marriage and family.



*Rebecca and John Thierfelder*

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*Address postal inquiries to:*  
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