



Soles For Jesus, Inc.

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www.SolesForJesus.org



Dear Friend,

"The Lord will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And those who know your name will put their trust in you; for you have not forsaken those who seek you". Psalm 9:9-10

We are living in perilous times and many people are hurting and afraid. But let me remind you today of the Good News that never changes! Jesus is our **refuge** and He has defeated the power of darkness. He is our eternal Hope and it's a privilege to share this with our world!

I was so blessed by this photo from our ministry partner in Burundi. Last Sunday these new believers were baptized after going through discipleship classes. SFJ has a strong relationship with Rev. Evariste and we've sent six shipments and 48,000

Quick Links

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Join Us In Prayer For Our World

In this time of uncertainty, we know one thing for certain - that God is in control and has us all in the palm of His hand. Please join us as we pray for all who have been affected by the coronavirus. Let's lift them up to the Lord, along with all essential workers serving on the front lines. We pray for God's divine healing throughout the world, and that more people will turn to Him for salvation and lean into Him for strength during

pairs of shoes to date. He continues to reach new territory each time with the Gospel, and the EHC discipleship program for new believers is incredible! What a privilege to partner with those who are on the front lines, especially in times like these.

Thank you for your faithful support and prayers. I encourage you to call upon the Lord today, and be confident that you are safe in Him. *"The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe."* Proverbs 18:10

In Christ alone,

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



We rejoice as we welcome these new believers into the Kingdom!

Shoe Drives & Special Thanks

Brand new shoes from Oregon! - We are so grateful for these brand new shoes from Heather in Oregon! These spectacular "light-up" Skechers will be a bright blessing to many children who will receive them in Africa. God bless you for your generosity, Heather!

this time.



Support SFJ While Shopping Online

Since we are all doing more online shopping these days, did you know that you can give to SFJ while purchasing from Amazon?

"Amazon Smile" will donate a portion of your purchase(s) to SFJ and it's very easy to set up. Click on the image below to get started!

Thank you for your support & happy shopping!

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make
a donation to:

Soles For Jesus, Inc.

Get started

amazon smile

Testimony From



Boxes of new "light-up" shoes from Oregon!

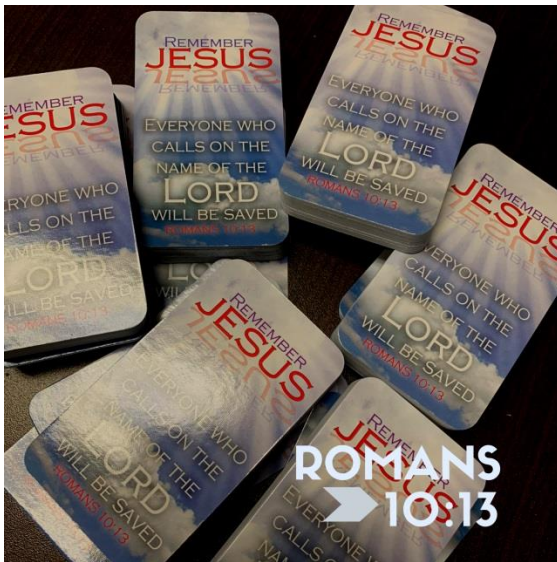
Scripture cards from Jesse - We are so thankful for Jesse, who watched the Fox6 news segment of SFJ, and wanted to join in the effort by sending encouragement with the shoes. He shipped a box of 1,000 scripture cards from Romans 10:13 to bless many in Africa who will hear of God's love at each shoe distribution. Thank you, Jesse!

Guinea

David, our ministry partner in Guinea, shares that when his team was in the village of Boké they distributed shoes at two schools in the presence of the parents and government officials. They shared the message of salvation in Jesus Christ and distributed shoes to everyone present.

David reports, *"There was sheer joy on the faces of everyone that day and it will be remembered for a long time."* He also shared that so many people in this village do not have the resources to buy shoes, so the surprise blessing of receiving a quality pair is something they could not have imagined. He also says, *"The word of God has been sown in the hearts of these people, especially the children who are the future of this village. This was a wonderful opportunity for opening the doors of evangelization in this village."*

View more pictures [HERE](#).



Scripture cards to place inside of shoes!

Jaskowiak Chiropractic, WI - Nearly 500 pairs of shoes were recently delivered from Jaskowiak Chiropractic. Their business is open and they wanted to do something positive during this time, so they encouraged their clients to donate shoes! What a great turnout that will impact many lives in Africa. We're so grateful for businesses who partner alongside us in this tremendous way. Special thanks to Vicki for making two trips because of the overflow in her vehicle.



God is moving with joy in Boké Village.

Testimony From Benin

Pastor Avla shared the following with us after one of their shoe distributions in Benin. *"We were in Pobè for the distribution of shoes and the sharing of the Gospel to orphans, poor families and a youth soccer team. There was great joy throughout the village for this act of love. The soccer coach, Mr. Salifou, said, "I am a Muslim, but this gift of shoes has touched me deeply and I now see Christians in a new light. Blessings to everyone involved in this project."*

"In Benin, this kind of love and kindness by Christians is making a big difference for the Kingdom of God. We greatly appreciate our partnership with SFJ, and for helping us demonstrate God's love to people who are



Shoes piling up at Jaskowiak Chiropractic.

Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School -

We want to thank the Koepke family for their Thrivent Action Team support. Jill and her twin boys organized a shoe drive at KMLHS and also donated a \$250 Thrivent Action Team grant to help ship their shoes to Africa. God bless you all!



Thank you Koepkes & KML for your support!

"Safer At Home" Shoe Drive by Gina -

so open for the Truth."

View more pictures [HERE.](#)



The children showing off their new shoes.

Testimony From Lesotho

Rev. Josias, our partner in Lesotho, sent the following testimony to encourage our supporters. *"I am Maleeto, and I humbly want to say, "Thank you" for the gift of salvation and the shoes I received. Soles For Jesus does the greatest work ever, sharing the message of Christ to people and letting us know of His love for all mankind. I have never heard the Gospel explained the way I did when the shoe distribution came to our village. Thank you to all who sent us these shoes."*

View more pictures [HERE.](#)

We appreciate the great support from determined and generous people who want to make a difference while we are, "Safer at Home." Gina shared about her shoe drive on social media, letting all of her friends and family know that she'd keep a box at the end of her driveway, as long as the weather was dry. Her family pitched in and they were all excited to see the shoes pile up every day! Thank you, Gina and family, for giving hope to many in Africa by your kindness.



Shoe Drive



Gina's family collecting shoes at their home!

Volunteer Opportunities

Important SOS UPDATE:

At this time, all SOS events have been suspended. **Once we begin Phase 1 of the "Badger Bounce Back," we can re-open SOS Events with groups of 10,** and we'll be prepared with safety measures to do so. At that time, we pray that you'll be able to sign-up and join us again soon.



Sister Maleeto with her new shoes.

Meet One Of Our Partners



Meet our Every Home for Christ ministry partner in Botswana, Tanga Chawora. Tanga has a beautiful testimony of how God transformed his life. During a rough upbringing, Tanga turned to smoking & alcohol and by the age of 16, he was an alcoholic. He was deep into the African religion of ancestor worship and he supported himself by working in farms and doing illegal gold panning. One evening, as Tanga was out drinking with his friends, they heard a gospel crusade nearby and decided to see what the noise was about. "The

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, volunteers from World Impact Ministries and Evangel Assembly of God!

"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

message was clear, and it sounded as though the preacher was speaking to me alone. All I remember is seeing myself in front of the pulpit with my eyes filled with tears and my hands up in the air surrendering to Jesus," Tanga shared. From that day on, Tanga has lived for Jesus.

Tanga shared a **powerful** testimony from the first shipment that SFJ sent to Botswana in 2015. *"We had very few volunteers for our first distribution, but a young man who was a non-believer offered to help us. Little did we know that throughout the day Christ was also touching this young man. The event marked the beginning of his new life, from being an African witch doctor to becoming a born-again Christian!! His life is a testimony of how Soles For Jesus is transforming lives in Africa. He is now serving with Every Home For Christ.*

One of Tanga's goals is to mobilize the whole church leadership in Botswana for the great commission by reaching every home in Botswana. He wants to use the partnership with SFJ so that people feel the love of Jesus, thereby embracing the gospel. He also wants to

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 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 or 414-365-1392 to set up your volunteer group.

Join Our Prayer Team From Home

We would love to have YOU on our prayer team! Please send us an email at info@SolesForJesus.org, and we will 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

develop an evangelism team that will go door-to-door and reach all of Botswana in the next five years. The Bible verse that encourages him is Psalm 118:18, *I will not die but live and declare the works of the Lord.*

Tanga asks us to pray for the following:

- Health and safety for he and his wife, Fungai
- That the Lord will sustain him and give him wisdom to lead others in his leadership responsibilities
- Tanga and his wife are longing to serve the Lord with their own resources. They started a few businesses and ask for prayer that they grow so that they experience financial independence
- Pray that God may touch the lives of many people through the ministry. Tanga's desire is to see all of Africa being set free from the bondage of sin through the message of the cross.

Volunteer Of The Month



Your Donation Impacts Lives

Donate Online Now

OR

Mail Your Donation:

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We are thrilled to honor Shawn Thacker as our volunteer of the month for April! Shawn and his family live in Des Moines, Iowa and he first learned about SFJ through his Dad, Craig, who traveled to eSwatini with us last year. After seeing the great impact this mission trip had on his Dad, Shawn was inspired to get involved. Since then, Shawn has hosted several shoe drives and has driven the shoes up to our warehouse from Iowa.

Being involved with SFJ has impacted Shawn, and he shares, "You start out because you want to help others, but the Lord is working in your heart the whole time, too! Then getting to know Diane and meeting Mark and some of the others who run SFJ was even more inspiring. The passion they have for the mission and the humility with which they serve, how could a lover of Jesus not be inspired by them?"

Shawn has great advice for anyone considering hosting a shoe drive. *"Just do it! I was a little nervous the first time. Could I share the mission effectively? Would the drive be successful? But I quickly*

realized that it's not about me or anything I do or don't do. Just set it up. If given the opportunity, share why it matters to you from your heart and let God and the mission inspire people to support it."

Shawn and his wife, Amy, have four children, ages 4-11. While most of his time is spent with his family, he also enjoys reading, driving his 1966 Mustang, and he's also an avid CrossFitter.

Thank you, Shawn, for all that you do for SFJ! We appreciate you and pray blessings over you and your family!



The Thacker Family