

8480 N. 87th Street Milwaukee, WI 53224

877.314.SHOE (7463) 414.365.1392



May 2020

www.SolesForJesus.org

Dear Friend,

"And the Gospel must first be preached to all nations." Mark 13:10

There hasn't been a more exciting time in our lives to share salvation in Jesus! More than ever I feel His call to the great commission and the harvest is so ripe. The testimonies that we are receiving from the field are fueling our fire to keep pressing on!

Twice a year we reach out with a special giving opportunity, inviting you to be a part of what He is doing in the nations. Here is a recent **letter**_that shares more about how the Lord has positioned us to make a Kingdom impact as COVID-19 affects villages. He has prepared us for such a time as this and it's such a privilege to respond with His love. When I reflect on how the Lord

Quick Links

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Welcome Back Volunteers!

We are thrilled to share that our office and warehouse are both OPEN! We've missed our volunteers and we are so excited to welcome you back. SOS events will resume in June with a simplified process so we can catch up with packing the many shoes that have been donated during this time.

Phase 1 of the 'Badger Bounce Back Plan' allows groups of 10, and we will continue to adhere to our state guidelines by practicing social distancing, moved during the Ebola crisis in Africa, I'm grateful that SFJ is ready to serve again during this global pandemic as He is gathering the harvest.

Thank for being faithful, you especially during this time. The Lord always makes a way for His Word to go forth and I'm so blessed by your commitment to the Lord and SFJ. Next week volunteer groups will return to the warehouse and I can't wait! We have new safety measures in place as we accept groups of 10 (for now) and you can give us a call or email if you'd like to sign-up. May the Lord bless you abundantly!

In Christ alone,

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

*YES, I'd like to help share salvation in Jesus!



Shoe Drives & Special

handwashing and sanitizing before and after events.

We have lots of shoes to pack, so please see the SOS section of the newsletter (below) with dates and times available to come and help us get these shoes ready for Africa! Please make sure that you sign-up ahead of time since we are capping groups at 10 for now. The need for shoes in Africa is greater than ever, as people need to cover their feet for health and safety.

Thank you for your faithful support and we can't wait to see you back in our warehouse!



Testimony From Lesotho

Our partner, Josias, asked us to share the following testimony with you to express the eternal impact of shoe distributions in his nation.

"I thank the Lord for the shoes I recently received. When I heard about the shoe distribution, I only came for my personal needs. I did not realize that I needed more

Thanks

Thank You, Mailing Volunteers -These fantastic volunteers worked hard from their homes SO to complete an important mailing project for us! We are blessed by these great friends and their faithful support to give of their time so generously.



amazing mailing volunteers!

Heil Family Shoe Drive - Green Bay, WI - We want to give a very heartfelt thanks to the Heil family for faithfully collecting shoes for us every spring! Since they couldn't hold their shoe drive at their church this year, they invited their community and church to their home for a "Drive Up Shoe Drive!" What a great idea! We're honored and blessed by their faithfulness in serving year after year!

than material things in my life. COVID-19 virus led me to focus only on myself and how empty and hopeless I felt. When Pastor Josias explained the gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, I realized that I had deeper needs. I am so happy to know that God loves me so much that He sent His Son to save me from sin. He is showing me how to really live. This pair of shoes has brought me more than I could have imagined! God bless all who helped bring salvation to me and my village. We will never be the same again!"

View more pictures HERE.





Thank you, Heil family, for the great shoes!

Julie's Shoe Drive - Brookfield, WI - Thank you, Julie, for organizing an, "At Home Shoe Drive" in the Brookfield community! We're blown away by the multiple shoe deliveries she has made to our warehouse as the collection box by her mailbox continues to fill up. Even in the midst of challenging times, we're encouraged to see neighbors coming together to change lives!

Testimony From Guinea

Our partner, David, sent us the For Jesus for standing with us. This year with the COVID-19 virus things are very difficult villages, but we were still able to do small distributions. These shoes we received in the name of Jesus have become a tool for us to reach highly Muslim villages. At one distribution we encountered people voung wanted to know more about Jesus and the Bible. We praise God for this breakthough in their lives and we will continue to seek more souls for the Kingdom of God once we can hold large gatherings in our nation. Thank you for helping us to reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

View more pictures <u>HERE</u>



God is reaching people with His love.

Testimony From Benin



Julie's neighborhood filled this box many times!

SFJ in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel - What a wonderful article in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel featuring our friend, Roberta Pratt, and her shoe drive! Our sincere thanks to the Sussex community in collaboration with the Sussex Optimist Club and Luther Manor for donating over 250 pairs of shoes. You can read the full article <u>here!</u>

JOURNAL SENTINEL



Roberta's shoe drive is in the news!

Avla in Benin sent the following testimony share with everyone who supports SFJ. "In the village of Akodeha, nearly some ungodly religious traditions. It is often difficult in communities like this to get the people to listen to us about the message of Jesus Christ. We spent many hours in praver about this place we brought the gift of shoes to help break barriers between us. We praise God that we were able to distribute the shoes and preach the Gospel to the whole village. We experienced breakthrough, and decided to start following Jesus that day! Shoes have been a great help to us in proclaiming the Gospel. Once again we the Lord for the ministry of Soles For Jesus and for helping us to share God's love."

View more pictures <u>HERE.</u>

Volunteer Opportunities

SOS Events (Sort & Organize Shoes) Join us as we RE-OPEN SOS Events! With new safety measures in place, we will gather in groups of 10 (for now) at our Milwaukee, WI warehouse to prepare shoes for shipment to Africa! New volunteers are always welcome, but you must sign-up! We will have a brief orientation before each event. Please contact Yenh at 414-365-1392 or Yenh@SolesForJesus.org to reserve your spot(s) and to sign-up for a date and time.

June

Saturday, June 6th 9-11am Saturday, June 13th 9-11am Tuesday, June 16th 9:30-11:30am Saturday, June 20th 9-11am **FULL** Thursday, June 25th 6-8pm **FULL** Saturday, June 27th 9-11am **FULL**

July

Saturday, July 11th 9-11am Tuesday, July 14th 9-11am Saturday, July 18th 9-11am Thursday, July 23rd 6-8pm Saturday, July 25th 9-11am





A mother & child returning home with shoes.

Meet One Of Our Partners

Meet our Every Home for Christ (EHC)



ministry partner in Niger, Ali Moussa Hamani. Ali met Jesus in 1993, when he was a college student. At the time he was a Muslim when a friend told him about Jesus and took him to church. That's where he learned that Jesus came to save us from our sins and the Holy Spirit convicted him. Ali accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior and he was called into full-time ministry. Events are OPEN for groups of 10!

"Business Hours" SOS: Volunteers can also come during weekdays to pack 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 and please feel free to bring friends! Training will he provided and SFJ staff will always be available to provide support. For more details, please contact Mark at Mellefson@SolesForJesus.org or 414-365-1392.

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, church, school, or community? Volunteering together to organize and pack shoes for Africa is a rewarding, 2-hour, team building opportunity for youth and adults. 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 an email to info@SolesForJesus.org and we will send you our prayer newsletter. You can join us in united prayer from the comfort of your home! Ali's favorite verse is Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Ali asks us to pray for the following:

- His wife, Hadiza, and their children Rachel, Dorcas and Débora
- Please pray for the blessing of God upon the ministry
- That Ali is able to reach 700,000 homes and have 100 new members added to his church community

Volunteers Of The Month

We are thrilled to honor Jim and Paula Sonntag as our May volunteers of the month! Jim and Paula learned about SFJ through our ministry partner, World Missionary Press, where they volunteer regularly.

"Our curiosity was aroused by what seemed to be a fantastic ministry idea, so we researched the SFJ website. We were so inspired and moved by seeing the love of God poured out in such a beautiful, practical way that we simply had to become involved! A few phone calls



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later, we excitedly found ourselves responsible for providing several shoe collection sites in our part of Indiana, which previously had none. Incredible!"

The Sonntags regularly drive up from Indiana to deliver shoes from these collection sites and they shared with us that it is a, "profound honor and 'joy unspeakable' to be a part of such a clearly God-inspired, God-sustained, God-glorifying work of love."

We love how Jim and Paula linked their volunteering to these scriptures in James 2:15-16, "Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes (shoes!) and daily food. If one of you says to him, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and wellfed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?"

"Volunteering with SFJ gives us a beautiful opportunity to dig in and see to it that as many needy, hurting feet as possible are provided with new shoes, while the even greater gift of the Gospel is given as well. If you're thinking about volunteering, it could just be the Lord personally inviting you to join Him in His work through SFJ! **RSVP with a 'YES!**"

We love and appreciate Jim and

Paula's hearts to serve God and His people and we are so grateful to have these wonderful partners in Indiana! Thank you, Sonntag family, for being great advocates and partners. We appreciate you so much and pray God's blessings over your family.



The Sonntag Family with Diane

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Remove my name from all future mass email communications:

Address postal inquiries to: Soles For Jesus, Inc. 8480 N. 87th St. Milwaukee, WI 53224