Soles For Jesus Newsletter

July 2023



Soles For Jesus 8835 W. Heather Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53224 877.314.SHOE (7463) 414.365.1392 www.SolesForJesus.org



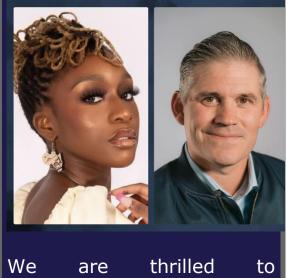
"...Whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me."

Dear Friend,

My photo book from our Botswana Donate Now trip just arrived and as I page through it, my heart still is soaring in praise. I often tell our mission teams that when we go to Africa we are in "miracle territory". It's amazing what God will do when we choose to set aside all of our distractions and come with a heart full of faith in **Luncheon!** who He is. One of these incredible moments happened in Mokgenene. We had been serving the village all day when suddenly an entire school showed up. 425 kids with their Head Master and teachers had walked over an hour to reach us! But it was late in the afternoon and I wondered if we'd have all of their sizes left. I was also concerned that we didn't have enough time left to serve them all, since we needed to start serving the village meal soon

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Exciting Announcement for our 14th Annual



before our long drive back.

However, we knew this was a chance for us to pray and believe that God could provide for ALL of them. So in faith, we started praying over each student and shoeing each foot. Little did we know that God was doing а miracle... and after 90 minutes had passed, my son announced that only 20 children were left! We looked at each other in utter amazement! How did we serve all of those kids already?! Then we ministered to the teachers last, who confirmed that their entire school of 425 students was served and that they will never forget how God's love was shown to each one.

We gathered the shoes that were left —and just like the baskets full of bread and fish after Jesus fed the crowd, there were bags full of shoes left! We were all in awe of what God had done and we celebrated by providing a large feast for the village to enjoy. On our way home and just before Lord provided sunset, the а beautiful rainbow in the sky without any rain and you can see below how dry it was. It was a beautiful reminder of His promises and I'll never forget how deeply He cares and provides for

announce that**Blessing**AnnatoriawillbeperformingLIVEandTannerPeakewillbe thekeynotespeaker atourLuncheonandSilentonNovember11th.

Blessing Annatoria is а Zimbabwe-born singer from England who was crowned winner of The Voice UK at only 18-years-old! Her debut album titled *Count My* Blessings was released in 2021. Blessing is passionate about using her voice to praise God and share the Gospel through her music. Her incredible talent continues to establish her songs on the UK Singles and Charts we are SO excited to have her join us this year!

It is an honor to welcome Tanner Peake, President & CEO of Every Home For Christ, keynote as our speaker. Tanner spearheaded the launch of EHC's OIKOS Initiative in 2019, with the of goal reaching every person on earth with the Gospel message in this generation. He was appointed president the orphans, widows and children. "Jesus said, "let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them for the kingdom of heaven belonas to such these." as Matthew 19:14

Thank you for being a part of August 17th! what God is doing and I pray that you will join us as we celebrate together in November. Our 14th Annual Luncheon & Auction is going to be special and you can read more about it here. I invite you to join me and to mark your calendar to get your table or seats on August 17th!

Sincerely in Christ,

Diane

Studer

Founder/Executive Director Soles For Jesus



in 2022 and his heart is for helping people encounter Jesus through his daily work at EHC.

Tickets Go LIVE 14th Annual Luncheon/Auction

Event tables and seats will go LIVE on August 17th at 8am, so please mark your calendar! You will be able to make your purchase on our website or by calling 414-365-1392. We are so happy to share that Lance Allan will be returning as our Emcee. We look forward to seeing you on November 11th Brookfield at the **Conference Center!**

EVENT

SPONSORS:

Sponsorships are available now for this year's event. As an Event Sponsor, your name or business will be recognized through printed material, social media, company signage and at our event. If you'd like to be a Sponsor, please contact Diane for more info at DStuder@SolesForJesus.org

An amazing day ended with a rainbow!

<u>Shoe Drives & Special</u> <u>Thanks</u>

Jim & Jenn, Nebraska State Reps. - What a delightful visit from our Nebraska State Reps, Jim and Jenn! We were excited to show them our new office and warehouse since they last visited and to help them unload over 450 pairs of shoes! They have been collecting shoes and serving as state reps for several years. May God continue to bless this great family for impacting lives in Africa with His love!



Thank you Jim & Jenn, Nebraska Reps!

Elise's Graduation Shoe Drive-We thank Elise, a graduate of Arrowhead High School, for asking guests to bring shoes to her

AUCTION: Thank you for supporting the success of our event by donating goods and services to be included in our Silent Auction! We appreciate every individual, family, and Your business and item will be listed in our event program and will we acknowledge vour taxdeductible donation after the event. If vou are looking for donation inspiration, check out this Auction month's Ideas List below! July's list features tickets to exciting events coming up during the holiday season. If you like would to make а donation of any kind or fulfill an item on this list, please contact Nicole at NJenkins@SolesForJesus.or <u>g</u>.

party. Elise collected over 100 pair of shoes and we're thankful that she included us in her graduation celebration! Many lives will be touched because of her kindness.



Congrats and thanks, Elise!

Divine Redeemer Church, WI-We thank all of the families at Divine Redeemer Church & School in Hartland for collecting over 246 pairs of shoes at their recent drive. Special thanks to Anne Marie for coordinating this effort and partnering alongside us to see God's love reach Africa!



Click <u>HERE</u> to view July donors.

Update From Benin

We are grateful for Pastor Sunday, by who God's grace has been working as our Ministry Director both in Togo and Benin. Recently he was ministering in a village called Gbegoudo where people many gathered God's to hear word. After sharing the Gospel of salvation and distributing shoes, his team prayed with many that were touched God. by Thev recognized their sin and wanted to receive Him as their Lord and Savior. The shoes that Pastor and his team brought also provided



Thank you, Divine Redeemer Church!

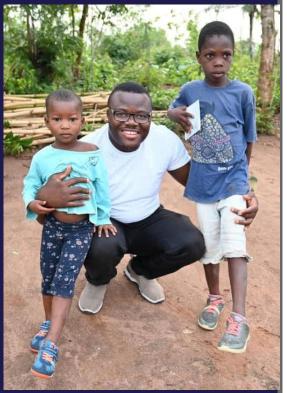
Mrs. Lake Country, WI - Thank you, Laura, for organizing a shoe drive that collected over 500 pairs of shoes from your friends and family. We appreciate your heart of gold and keep shining brightly!



Thank you, Mrs. Lake Country, WI.

a lot of joy. During the rainy season many children suffer without shoes and they came at just the right time to make going to school much easier. Please pray with us, as this village continues to be discipled as new followers of Jesus.

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



Pastor Sunday ministering in Benin.

Testimony From Liberia

Our Ministry Director

in

Reams, Iowa Melissa State **Rep-** We sincerely thank our Iowa State Representative, Melissa, for collecting 315 pairs of shoes for Africa! We also greatly appreciate our local friends, Kathy & Bill, for taking a road trip to pick them up and deliver them to our warehouse. Many hands and hearts make this ministry possible grateful and we're for each person who works alongside us!



Great team work by Melissa, Kathy & *Bill!*

Mandy Taylor & "Girls on the Run"- We are so proud of these young ladies for collecting shoes with their club, "Girls on the Run" at Prairie Lane Elementary School. Special thanks to Mandy for coordinating the drive and to her husband, Don for delivering them. They collected over 450 pairs and

Liberia, Sister Jonel Weeks, shared several powerful testimonies with us. While in Gballah their town ministry team met a 67 vear old Muslim man who testified that he had never experienced the kind of love expressed by Jonel's team and it deeply touched his heart. His eyes were opened to the truth and he knew that he was loved by the Living God. Sister Jonel ministered God's Word from Acts 1:8 and Daniel 12:3 while he listened. He shared that this was the first time he encountered the genuine love of a Living God that was healing his brokenness. He had expected the team to only have shoes for the non-Muslims, but actually all were served with God's love. He was so touched by the gift of shoes for the entire village that he donated land to build a new church! May God continue to bless this new church in Gballah and may the love of Jesus be known by all.

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

we're thrilled for the many kids and adults in Africa who will receive these great shoes.



"Girls on the Run" collecting shoes!

Volunteers of the Month

It is an honor to celebrate Steve & Sue Klinger as our Volunteers of the Month! While our partnership began with the Klingers as business, it didn't take long for them to become dear friends of the ministry! Steve & Sue live in Indiana where Steve works for an shipping international freight company. As Steve shares, "SFJ was first a client of ours and we arranged some of the first full container shipments to Africa. We then attended the annual luncheon where we heard Diane's testimony and decided to host a shoe collection at our church. This



Salvations and joy in Liberia

Testimony From Mali

This testimony is from Adama Mariko, a small boy from Sirakoro Meguetana Village in Mali. "I thank God and the Soles For Jesus organization for giving me a of shoes and for pair teaching me about the love of Jesus. I have been walking barefoot for three months now. All of my friends had shoes except for today God me, but answered my prayers with a distribution of free shoes for our whole village! I am very happy to have shoes on my feet and a new purpose for living in my heart."

We thank God and pray His

ministry has been a blessing to us as it's given us a way to meet other believers, and to use the shoe collection as an opportunity to witness to secular places where we place collection boxes".

Steve & Sue have since become our Indiana State Reps and have nearly a dozen collection sites in their local area! They continue to share the love of Jesus as they spread the word about SFJ to their community. "We have found that fitness centers are great places to place collection boxes, athletes because are alwavs changing shoes the moment they feel their shoe starting to break down. Those shoes still have plenty of life to give!"

We are so thankful for this incredible couple! Steve & Sue, we pray you are enjoying a wonderful summer outdoors on your bikes and spending time with your children and grandchildren. God bless you!

blessings over this young man in Mali. May he hear the voice of Jesus and follow him throughout his life.

"*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.*" – John 10:27

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



Finding new life in Jesus!

True Love in DRC

"I thought that the good life was to stick to the beliefs of my old religion since we were told that our old religion is the best and that it knows how to take care of people who are in need. Since I came to the refugee camp, I have not seen



Steve & Sue Klinger

Volunteer Opportunities SOS Events (Sort & Organize Shoes)

Join us by volunteering at a 2hour SOS Event! You and your friends can help Sort and Organize Shoes at our Milwaukee warehouse to help 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 <u>Yenh@SolesForJesus.org</u> to signup for a date and to reserve your spot(s).

anyone who showed me love like Soles For Jesus. After making the decision to give my life to Jesus Christ, I feel a new joy in my heart! I ask you to continue to carry me in your prayers so that God helps me not to forsake my faith and to not go far from his face. The shoes that I received from SFJ remain a treasure for me and I gave them the name, "True Love of God". For this is the me, expression of the love that I feel in my heart and I won't stop wearing them to show the world that Jesus loves me." - Abraham Mansour, **DRC-East**

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



Testifying of God's Love in DRC!

August

Saturday, August 5th, 9-11am Tuesday, August 8th, 6-8pm Wednesday, August 9th, 9-11am Monday, August 14th, 6-8pm Saturday, August 12th, 9-11am Saturday, August 19th, 9-11am Tuesday, August 22nd, 3-5pm Saturday, August 26th, 9-11am

September

Thursday, September 7th, 9-11am Saturday, September 9th, 9-11am Saturday, September 16th, 9-11am Tuesday, September 19th, 6-8pm Saturday, September 23rd, 9-11am Saturday, September 30th, 9-11am



Thank you, Grace Lutheran VBS!

"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 be provided and SFJ staff will be available to provide support. Meet One of Our Ministry Directors

Meet our Every Home for Christ



Ministry Director in Mali, Brother Elisé Dabou. Elisé shared with us the testimony of a local farmer from the village of Zogoué who recently received a pair of shoes. Mr. Lopo (pictured below) is 52-years-old and has several children. For many years he has carried concern over being able to provide adequate clothing and shoes for his children. He shares, "I thank God who led the EHC Mali team to our village to speak to us about Jesus by donating shoes to us. My heart is totally overwhelmed and I, too, have decided to be on the side of Christ". As Brother Elisé and his team continue to travel throughout Mali to share Gospel the with the unreached, finds he encouragement from Matthew 24:14 which says "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in

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 school, church, work, or community? Volunteering together to organize and pack shoes for Africa is a rewarding, 2hour, team building opportunity for youth and adults. Please contact

Yenh@SolesForJesus.org or by calling (414)365-1392 to sign-up.

Your Donation Impacts Lives

Or By Mail:

Soles For Jesus 8835 W. Heather Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53224 (414) 365-1392 the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."

Elisé asks us to join him in prayer for the following:

- God's and • grace protection him over wife, along and his with their two young children, as their home was recently burglarized. May their financial and material met, needs be and the may Lord strengthen each of be them to more determined in His work than ever before.
- For wisdom from God and strength to properly direct the operations of the EHC ministry in Mali (James 1:5)
- That the Lord will open the hearts of Malians to the Gospel message through the efforts of the EHC ministry in Mali (Romans 10:9)



Mr. Lopo of Zogoué

Where in the World is DR Congo?



The Republic of Mali is a nation of nearly 22 million people in West Africa. About 65% of the total area of Mali is covered by the Sahara Desert and it's one of the hottest climates in the world, with an average temperature of 95°F in April. Mali ranks among the

lowest countries worldwide for life expectancy and many people, especially children, suffer from malnutrition. An estimated 90% of the population is Muslim with an additional 5% of Malians practicing traditional African religions. Historically relations Muslims between and minority faiths have been cordial, however in recent persecution years of Christians in the northern parts of Mali has become a significant issue. We pray for peace and safety in Mali, with many hearts being opened to the love of Jesus Christ.

www.SolesForJesus.org