# **Soles For Jesus Newsletter**

## January 2024



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,

Sometimes one photo or video can bring me right into the middle of an African village and my heart bursts with joy. When I saw the video clip below, I had to watch it again! Thanks to the help of Mercy Air in Mozambique, 600 pairs of shoes were packed tightly in helicopter with а printed in literature their language. Guess what happened once the chopper landed? They were greeted with this song and dance and it was auite the had these celebration! Never people seen a helicopter before and why was it coming to their EHC village? Our Ministry Director, Pastor Godfrey, shares our burden for those who are hard to reach and he's embraced this opportunity to bring the love of Jesus and shoes to them, even if there are no roads.

#### **Quick Links**

<u>Our Website</u> <u>Donate Now</u> <u>Contact Us</u> <u>Email Us</u>

# Save The Date!

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15TH ANNUAL

LUNCHEON

**NOVEMBER 9, 2024** 

**BROOKFIELD CONFERENCE CENTER** 

Mark your calendars and tell

vour friends! On November

9th, we will be hosting our

15th Annual Soles For Jesus

But it doesn't stop there. The crowd listened carefully to his message about a Savior who loves them so much that He did something even greater than sending a chopper. He sent His only Son to die on a cross for their sins and all we have to do is surrender our lives to Him and receive His free gift of salvation. Next they extended an invitation to wash their feet, just as Jesus did for His disciples before He went to the cross. The love of Jesus was experienced by all and many came to know Him as their Lord and Savior. To God be the glory!

One year ago, I shared about this exciting new partnership to reach even more people by air. Mozambique has seen many challenges in recent years from floods to cyclones which have made harder it even for motorbikes and cars to reach them. However, the Gospel can't stopped and the Lord be continues make to а way. flights Several more and outreaches were done to close out the year and we praise Jesus for making way! а

Thank you for your kingdompartnership and please let me Luncheon & Auction. This is going to be an exciting event as we celebrate this milestone for the ministry and we cannot wait to see you there!



Highlight Video

## **Benin Mission Trip**

The Benin Mission Trip shipment is on its way! Our Team SFJ Mission (top photo) can't wait to share these shoes with God's love also Mav. We in had a volunteer group join us from Calvary Chapel in Racine (bottom photo) who was able to pray once more over the shipment and see the shoes leave our warehouse. Thank you for partnering with us in prayer to see these shoes reach many for Jesus!

View more photos HERE.

know how we can pray for you. We believe in the power of prayer and we'd love to stand in faith with you. Just as He provides helicopters and shoes in Africa, He will make a way for you and nothing is too difficult for Him!

In Christ alone,

Diane Studer Founder/Executive Director Soles For Jesus



*Click to VIEW video from Mozambique* 

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

**Evangel Assembly Of God, Milwaukee-** We are thankful for the shoe drive held at Evangel Assembly of God. They delivered a great load of shoes



Prayers, Love & Shoes for Benin!

# Report From São Tomé

Our Ministry Director, Pastor Carlos, recently distributed 450 pairs of shoes in Santa Catarina, which is in the northern part of the island of São Tomé. Santa Catarina is a community populated by Angulares, a people who have traditionally been closed to the Gospel and can be aggressive. But, thanks to God and shoes opening the door, Pastor Carlos and his team reached the community and started inviting people to come and hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

that will make a difference in so many lives. Pictured is Zoe who was on our last mission trip to Botswana and also led the shoe drive, while Joyce and Cordell (who lead SOS Volunteer Events) helped her unload. They all know the impact of shoes to help share the Gospel in a powerful way. God bless you all for your compassion!



Thank you Zoe & Evangel AG.

**Emmaus Fellowship, Colorado** We appreciate Leslie for coordinating a shoe drive at Emmaus Fellowship and for the shoes shipped boxes of to Wisconsin from Colorado. We're so grateful for your partnership to impact lives in Africa!

When they began to share the Word, the peace of God came upon many people and children. Young people led the way and nine teenagers gave their lives to Jesus along with dozens of children who accepted Jesus as the Lord and Savior. To God be the glory!

Please take time today to pray for these young people and that they will continue to grow in the Lord as they are being discipled.

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



May God Bless these new believers!

**God's Love in Liberia** 

The Margins Ministry in Liberia continues to share God's love in such a beautiful way. We love hearing



*Thank you Emmaus Fellowship in CO* 

Monument, Miller West Special Bend thanks to Melissa for organizing a company wide shoe drive in her workplace Monument. at Miller We appreciate businesses who are passionate about giving back locally and globally. Thank you for your support!



Melissa delivering shoes.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church &School, WI Rapids - We arethankfulforthe

testimonies from our Ministry Director, Sister Jonel, as she shares the love of God with orphans, those who are disabled and many who are living in challenging situations. It was a joy for the people to receive the gift during shoes of the Christmas season. This gift was strange and shocking to they them because had never received new shoes before due to their harsh living conditions. The matron, Martha, was SO happy that she began to dance and praise God. She shared, "We strive and fight to find food first but today your team has answered two prayer requests as we were given shoes too! We will never forget this Christmas God is faithful and а provider!" Join us in that many will prayer so continue to come to faith in Jesus as shoes are being shared.

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

Quints who continue to deliver shoes from St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School in Wisconsin Rapids. They collect shoes year-round and we appreciate their partnership and support!



*Delivery from St. Paul's in WI Rapids* 

## **Volunteer of the Month**

We are thrilled to honor longtime supporter, friend and Terri our Mitchell, January as Volunteer of the Month! Diane and Terri connected over ten years ago, after meeting through a mutual friend and sharing about their recent trips to Africa. Terri began volunteering in the warehouse for SOS Events and also joined us on a mission trip by serving on Team in 2013



Demonstrating God's love in Liberia

# God is Moving in Mozambique

We are excited that Pastor Godfrey, Ministrv our Director in Mozambique, continues to partner with Mercy Air to fly shoes and the Gospel to remote villages. One Grandmother shared, "I want to dance and thank God for bringing these people to my village. They have so much love for us and my grandchildren and I are so grateful to receive shoes. This has never happened\_\_\_\_ in our village before and we are amazed they found us. I also want to thank Soles For Jesus for caring for us from so far away and we look forward to Mozambique. We are so grateful for Terri's ongoing commitment to the ministry and the various ways she has served over the We have vears. recently Terri welcomed back to Wisconsin and back to our team of SOS Leaders. She brings so much joy and enthusiasm to SOS Events as a natural leader with 30 years of experience coaching women's college basketball. Terri was the head coach at Marguette University for 18 years as well as former collegiate athlete а herself, playing basketball at Duquesne University. In her free time, Terri enjoys sports, staying active, traveling, and playing golf.

Thank you, Terri, for being such a special part of our SFJ family and may God bless you abundantly!

seeing our new friends again. We have hunger, poverty and many other challenges but these shoes are a great blessing that God has not forgotten us." – Granny Jasse

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



God's love can't be stopped!

## Meet One of Our Ministry Directors

Meet our Every Home for Christ Ministry Director in Ghana, Rev. Ebow Godsaye Simpson.

As an adolescent, Ebow was led to Jesus by a mentor during a difficult time in his childhood. "I was a bitter and angry young boy because I was mocked continually by my siblings for



"SFJ has had a profound effect on my life because it gives me an opportunity to share the love of Jesus not just in words but in action." - Terri Mitchell

#### **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

*my poor performance* in school. Though I was quiet and reserved, older an student decided to mentor It was through me. this relationship that he shared the Gospel with me and subsequently helped me grow to know and love the Lord." Just as his own life was changed by a great mentor, Rev. Ebow continues ministry to grow the in Ghana by being a place for discipleship teaching.

The team from EHC Ghana seeks to reach the poor and deprived needv in throughout communities their country. He recalls one such encounter with those in need after distributing shoes Asasekokor, а rural in farming village. "On our way back, we saw two children -one had slippers as shoes and the other had no shoes on her feet at all. We shared the message of God's Love in a simple way that they would understand and then blessed them with a gift of shoes. We were even able to select a pair of shoes that matched the color of the little girl's dress." We give thanks to God for providing us with

sign-up for a date and to reserve your spot(s).	opportunities to show love and dignity to all people of all ages!
<b>February</b> Thursday, February 1st, 9-11am <b>FULL</b> Friday, February 2nd, 1:15-2:15 <b>FULL</b> Saturday, February 3rd, 9-11am	Rev. Ebow asks us to join him in prayer for the
Saturday, February 10th, 9-11am	following:

- That his children who are studying abroad will continue to serve the Lord and walk diligently with Him during this time
- For new partnership opportunities with churches in all 16 regions of Ghana
- That God will provide the basic needs of those in Ghana during a time of rampant increases in food prices and costs of living

We pray God's blessing over Ebow, his wife Camilla, their three adult children (Kuby, Hallel, Kobby), and his team at Every Home for Christ Ghana.

# Where in the World is Ghana?

Thank you JML Realty Group for joining us!

**"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



Saturday, February 10th, 9-11am Tuesday, February 13th, 6-8pm **FULL** 

Saturday, February 17th, 9-11am Saturday, February 24th, 9-11am

Saturday, March 2nd, 9-11am

Saturday, March 9th, 9-11am

Tuesday, March 12th, 6-8pm

Saturday, March 16th, 9-11am

Saturday, March 23rd, 9-11am

Thursday, March 7th, 10:30-12:30am

March

and SFJ staff will be available to provide support.

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, building team opportunity for youth and adults. Please contact Yenh@SolesForJesus.org or bv calling (414)365-1392 to signup.



The Republic of Ghana is located in West Africa, along the shores of the Atlantic Ocean. It is bordered by the countries of Togo, Ivory Coast, and Burkina Faso. Lying near the equator, Ghana has a warm climate with coastal, forest, and savanna landscapes. Ghana is home to nearly 31 million people, and more than half of the population is employed by the agriculture, forestry, and fishing High-guality industries. cacao is a major export for the growing economy, along with mining of minerals such gold, diamonds, as manganese, and bauxite (an aluminum ore). Ghana has developed a strong education system and about 75% of

the adult population is literate. Religions of the area include Christianity, Islam, and mixed traditional practices. Please join us in praying for this nation as God is moving in exciting ways!

## Your Donation Impacts Lives

## Or By Mail:

Soles For Jesus 8835 W. Heather Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53224 (414) 365-1392

# www.SolesForJesus.org