#### **Soles For Jesus Newsletter**

#### June 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,

As we celebrate our nation's independence next week, I pray that we never forget how blessed we are to live and worship in freedom. May we also never forget that Jesus died for all people and we have a responsibility to share this freedom and the Good News of the gospel with every tribe and tongue. As I watched the short highlight video (below) from our recent trip to Benin, I am amazed at how the Lord continues to make a way for His Word to go forth and for lives to be set free. "It is for freedom that Christ has set you free." Galatians 5:1

The cost of following Jesus is much greater for many of our brothers and sisters across

### **Quick Links**

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# Thank You For Strolling!



We want to thank each person who attended our *Stroll For Soles* last Saturday! We also sincerely thank each Event

the globe. I was reminded of this while reading testimonies from the field where new believers were being baptized at night. For many, following Jesus can cost them everything - including their freedom, family, livelihood and even their lives.

When we were in Benin last month, we went to a village built during the era of slavery. It was a place to escape from the soldiers who sold people to Portuguese slave traders. Those who reached the village found freedom and its name, Ganvie, "we means are saved!" The slave trade stopped many years ago, but the descendants of the Tofinu tribe continue to live here. It was an amazing experience for our Benin Team to see lives set free in Jesus, as "whoever the Son sets free is free indeed!" John 8:36

Thank you for your kingdom partnership and may God bless you!

In Christ alone,

Diane Studer

Sponsor for your support in making it a great success. We hope that you enjoyed the fun day as much as we did! What a joy it is to celebrate all that God is doing to advance His Kingdom through Soles For Jesus. To view more photos from *Stroll For Soles 2024*, click <u>HERE</u>.



# Stroll Across America Challenge

We are so grateful for our friends around the United States who strolled along with us this year from their home states! Please continue sending your photos to <a href="mailto:Info@SolesForJesus.org">Info@SolesForJesus.org</a>. Thank you for your support - near and far!

# Founder/Executive Director Soles For Jesus



Click to watch Benin Highlight Video! (Full video released at Annual Luncheon)

# Shoe Drives & Special Thanks

Discover Church Shoe Drive & Serve Nights - We were blown away by the grand total of this shoe drive, as they collected 2,024 pairs! Discover Church also brought two big groups to serve in our warehouse this month. We are so blessed by your Kingdom Partnership and thank you for touching 2,024 lives with God's love in 2024!



Great to see you strolling in Florida!

## Mark Your Calendar! 15th Annual Luncheon & Auction



Ticket sales go **LIVE** on **August 15th at 8am**, so mark your



Discover Church Serve Nights.

First United **Methodist** Church, Green Bay- This youth group and church did it again! For the 15th year in a row, Youth Pastor Pat & Jen Heil brought their students to in warehouse, serve our along with a trailer full of donated shoes! We can't thank them enouah for impacting over 10,000 lives with the love of Jesus through the shoes they've collected over the years!

calendar! We are thrilled to be celebrating Soles For Jesus' 15th year and this year's event will be extra special as we honor this milestone with an exciting recording artist and speaker (to be announced soon). You will be sponsor a table or able to purchase your seats on our website or by calling 414-365-1392. Tables are assigned in the order they are purchased, so be sure to act fast. We are very excited for you to join us!

## **Event** Sponsorships:

Sponsorships are available now for this year's event. Invitations will be printed soon and we'd love to add your name to the cover as a Platinum or Gold Sponsor. As an event sponsor, your name or business will be recognized through printed social media material, company signage, as well as honored at our event. If you'd like to be an Event Sponsor, please contact Diane for more info at DStuder@SolesForJesus.org.

Auction items: We are grateful extremely for every business and individual who donates to our silent auction! Fun packages like weekend vacations, getaways and gift



Great job and well done, friends!

#### St. James Rummage Sale -

Thank you to our dear friend, Roberta, and the volunteers of St. James Catholic Church for donating shoes from their annual Thrift Sale. Each pair will impact a life in Africa and God bless you all!



Thank you, friends of St. James!

**Thank You, Loos Family -**We appreciate Cindee and
Ashley Loos for delivering

sports/event baskets, and tickets are all great items for We bid on. quests to appreciate creative ideas for services, items, or 'experiences' (ex: boat tours or gourmet dinners). Your name and item listed in will be our event program will and we acknowledge your taxdeductible donation after the event. For more info or to donate, please contact Nicole at NJenkins@SolesForJesus.org.

Thank you for your support!



## **Shipment To Burundi**

Our 7th shipment of shoes to Burundi is on its way! We thank God for each person who has donated shoes and helped pack these 8,000 pairs. We could not do this without your faithful join support. Please us praying for our EHC Ministry Burundi, Director in Pastor Evariste, and his team as they

communityshoes from a wide rummage sale northern Wisconsin. their We enjoyed visit and giving them a tour of our warehouse. God bless the Loos family for all of their View more photos HERE. support over the years!



Thank you, Cindee and Ashley!

**Community** Crosspointe **Indiana** Church, We enjoyed hosting this youth group from Indiana! They delivered over 200 pairs of shoes and helped pack them for our next shipment to Africa. They served with the love of Jesus and many lives will be blessed because of them!

prepare to share the Gospel and distribute these shoes. We pray God's blessings over them and that all of their efforts are fruitful.



Blessings to Burundi!

# Students in São Tomé and Príncipe say "Yes" to Jesus!

Pastor Carlos, our EHC Ministry São Director in Tomé and Príncipe, recently visited school in Santo Antonio. This is area heavily affected an by poverty and many parents do not have resources to provide for their children. The ministry team shared God's word distributed shoes, along with



Thank you, Crosspointe Community!

Martin Family Dentistry, Sussex - We are so grateful for local businesses like Martin Family Dentistry that are passionate about giving back. They collected a full bin of shoes for Africa that will impact many lives. Special thanks to Scott and Carole Grennier for coordinating this shoe drive and delivering the shoes!



Martin Family Dentistry impacting Africa!

Bible study materials from World Missionary Press. Pastor Carlos shared, was a verv fruitful event where we shared the Gospel message with the children and over 100 students accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior!" Afterwards, many parents came to thank the ministry team and were also hearing interested in more about salvation in Jesus Christ. God continues to do great things here and this is just the start!

"All your children shall be taught by the Lord and great shall be the peace of your children" – Isaiah 54:13

View more photos **HERE**.



God is moving in São Tomé & Príncipe!

**Shipment Arrives in Mali** 

**St. John Vianney -** This great group of students from St. John Vianney Parish & School in Brookfield joined us in the warehouse for their lune Serve Event. We appreciate their compassion to give back to the community with the love of Jesus!



Thank you, friends from SJV!

### **New SOS Leader!**

We are thrilled to welcome newest SOS Leader, Patricia McCollum, to the SFJ Team! When you visit the warehouse to volunteer at a Sort & Organize Shoes (SOS) Event, our SOS Leaders share the mission of SFJ and guide you through the process of packing shoes for Africa. They are a very important part of and our team we are

After travelling over 5,000 miles, our shipment to Mali has finally arrived! Our EHC Ministry Director in Mali, Pastor Elise, is eager to begin shoe distributions and share Gospel hope with the Malians. We are believing with him for a great harvest and that many will come to know Jesus through the gift of these shoes!

View more photos **HERE**.



Shoes and God's love to Mali

### **Discipleship in Cameroon**

As a result of a recent shoe distribution in Cameroon, family with 12 children is now being discipled as desire to know more about Jesus. When their children arrived home with new shoes in hand and incredible story about salvation in Jesus,

thankful for each one who commits to leading one event per month.

Patricia has been involved with Soles For Jesus several years and she has coordinated a number of shoe drives at Discover Church in Oak Creek. She also volunteers in the warehouse, sorting and packing shoes to be shipped. Patricia is a mom and a teacher who leads well we look forward having her smiling face in the warehouse, spreading JOY of Jesus with all of our volunteers and visitors!



Welcome, Patricia!

parents went to meet those who had distributed the shoes so they could learn more. Our EHC Ministry Director, Brother Laurent, took this opportunity to Gospel share the with the well, who parents then as decided that their entire family would begin attending meetings to study the Bible so they can learn more. Please keep praying for this family and many like them, who are placing their faith in Jesus Christ.

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



The love of Jesus in Cameroon!

# **Meet One of Our Ministry Directors**

Meet our Every Home for Christ Ministry Director in the Cabo Verde Islands, Pastor Emanuel Tavares Lopes Monteiro. He and his wife, Diva, have three

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

Join us by volunteering at a 2-hour SOS Event! You and your friends can help Sort Organize Shoes and at our Milwaukee warehouse to prepare help shoes for shipment to Africa.

orientation before each event. Please contact Yenh at (414)365-1392 or Yenh@SolesForJesus.org to sign-up for a date and to reserve your spot(s).

#### July

Wednesday, July 3rd, 1-3pm Monday, July 8th, 12:30-3pm Tuesday, July 9th, 12:30-3pm Wednesday, July 10th, 12:30-3pm Thursday, July 11th, 12:30-3pm Saturday, July 13th, 9-11am Monday, July 15th, 9-11am Thursday, July 18th, 1-3pm Saturday, July 20th, 9-11am Thursday, July 25th, 9-11am Thursday, July 25th, 1-3pm Saturday, July 27th, 9-11am

#### August

Thursday, August 1st, 1-3pm Saturday, August 3rd, 9-11am Wednesday, August 7th, 1-3pm



children: Emanuel son and daughters Raquel and Jael. Emanuel identified has several rural communities in New volunteers are always Cabo Verde where he and his welcome but you must sign- team seek to establish churches. up! We will have a brief He shares that these areas of greatest need are often the most challenging to reach, and so they continue to pray for new strategies to mobilize Gospel resources to these villages.

> Pastor Emanuel understands personally how sharing message of Jesus can spread like wildfire to change entire families and communities. He shares that in 1997, "I heard the Gospel for the first time from a Brazilian missionary, and at that time I received a Bible. From then on, I desired to seek God more and was baptized a few months later. My parents threatened to kick me out of the house, but God helped me to stand firm. After a few years, my entire family converted to

Saturday, August 10th., 9-11am Wednesday, August 14th, 9-11:30am Saturday, August 17th, 9-11am Monday, August 19th, 6-8pm Tuesday, August 20th, 3:30-5:30pm

Saturday, August 24th, 9-11am Saturday, August 31st, 9-11am



Thank you to Urban Poiema Church along with Denise & friends!

SOS: "Business Hours" Volunteers can also come during weekdays to pack shoes (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm). Come and sort shoes when it fits your schedule, and feel free to bring vour friends! Training will be provided 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 at your work, school, church, or community?

Christ: my brothers first and then my parents. I praise God for His grace and His immense love!"

Pastor Emanuel asks us to join him in prayer for the following:

- For the successful completion of his wife's education as well as construction of a school for children from poor families in their community
- Additional workers to expand the reach of the Gospel
- The health of his family and Emanuel's mother

# Where in the World is Cabo Verde?



Volunteering together to organize and pack shoes for Africa is a rewarding, 2-hour, team building opportunity for youth and adults. Please contact

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

#### **Shoe Collection Sites**



We are so thankful for our Shoe Collection Sites throughout Wisconsin and across the United States that collect shoes year-round! We are always praying to expand our reach across the state and nation, so if you are interested becoming in Collection Site please reach out for more information by calling 414-365-1392 or by emailing Info@SolesForJesus.org.

The nation of Cabo Verde (Cape Verde) is made up of ten islands located off the western point of mainland Africa. The islands were previously uninhabited until colonized by the Portuguese in the 15th century. The nation gained independence from Portugal in 1975. Due to limited natural resources, the economy is mainly focused on services. The total population of the Cabo Verde Islands is about 484,000 people of mixed African and European heritage, with the majority identifying as Roman Catholic.

While Cabo Verde is known to be one of the most developed and democratic African countries, EHC Ministry Director Emanuel Monteiro Pastor describes the effects of recent events local on families. "Unfortunately, the issue of Covid-19, the war in Ukraine and almost 3 years of drought have greatly affected the people in the acquisition of food. Many families are in a food crisis with rising prices, rising anxiety, depression and suicide. Many divorces have also taken place in the midst of this."

We give thanks for the faithful work of Pastor Emanuel and his

Click on the map above to VIEW the current list of Shoe Collection Sites and find one in your area!

team to bring the love of Christ to those who are hurting, and we pray alongside them for redemptive healing.

# Your Donation Impacts Lives

### Or By Mail:

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

www.SolesForJesus.org