



Dear Friends,

It is exciting to see all that God continues to do in Eswatini. Last year, I was able to bring a mission team to serve the Every Home for Christ team led by Pastor Joseph in Eswatini. Ongoing ministry and discipleship in these villages has not stopped, and the Lord is doing an incredible work! I just read through their reports and testimonies and praise Him for the harvest. This is why we partner with men and women of God who are leaders in their country and deeply committed to discipleship.

When I saw this photo below, I was so blessed by the joy on her face. Jesus made her life brand new, and now she has hope for her future! Several baptism photos were included in these reports, and my heart was moved as I took in each one. Seeing my brothers and sisters in Eswatini choose to follow Jesus in water baptism is the fruit of discipleship, and it brings me great joy! The reports also shared a testimony of one man inspired by the Ethiopian eunuch who said in Acts 8:36, *"Here is water; what can stand in the way of me being baptized?"*

Pastor Joseph shared that the baptisms took place in a small pond near a new church plant. This is exciting to see the fruit of their efforts reaching further and into more communities with great spiritual and physical needs. New

Stroll For Soles! June 13, 2026



believers in this area are so encouraged, saying they feel the dedication of the church's commitment to nurture and strengthen their faith journey. The church leadership expressed joy in seeing ministry efforts expand beyond one location, and we praise God for answering all of our prayers to grow His Kingdom in Eswatini. To God be the glory!

I want to sincerely thank you for your faithful prayers and support. It takes many hands and hearts, and we continually see God's wisdom and favor guiding us. If you would like to get involved this year, please reach out! If you are out of state, I would love to hear from you. We are currently praying for additional State Representatives who can be a voice for the ministry. We do all of the work from our home office and you simply help spread the news! If you'd like to hear more, just reach out and we can set up a call. It is a joy to link arms with so many of you. May God bless you.

In Christ alone,

Diane Studer
Founder/Executive Director
Soles For Jesus



Water Baptisms in Eswatini

Calling for State Representatives!

We invite you to lace up your sneakers and join us on **Saturday, June 13th** for our annual *Stroll For Soles* event at our NEW location, Lisbon Community Park in Hartland! This is a fun celebration for the whole family, as well as a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the impact of shoes and the Gospel across Africa. Choose a one or two mile route (both are stroller and wheelchair accessible), followed by a delicious lunch under the giant canopy tent and fun for all ages!

Registration begins on **March 19th** for individuals, families, and teams, so be sure to take advantage of the *Early Bird Pricing* while you can! Your registration includes t-shirt(s), food truck lunch and shaved ice treat, parking, and access to all activities.

Sponsorship Opportunities: Gold, Silver, and Bronze sponsorships are available now! Click [HERE](#) to learn more about this great opportunity to support the mission of Soles For Jesus. We appreciate each business, church and individual who helps to make this event possible. For more information, please contact Diane at Dstuder@SolesForJesus.org.



**Be a voice of change
in your state!**



We are prayerfully seeking individuals from across the country who believe in our mission and would like to help spread the word! Your voice in your home state can mobilize support, organize local shoe drives, and bring hope to people in Africa. We are so grateful for the wonderful State Reps who are already on our team and we would love to expand our reach. If you are interested in having a conversation to learn more, please email Diane at DStuder@SolesForJesus.org. You can make a kingdom impact from your home, and we'd love to hear from you!



Arrival in Cote D'Ivoire

We rejoice to see our shipment at the Port of Abidjan and we thank God that Brother Lolo has great plans to spread the Gospel and share these shoes with many! This is our first shipment to this nation and we have great faith to see God move powerfully here. Please pray as he is finalizing the transport to his office before he can begin outreaches.



1st shipment to Cote D'Ivoire!

Shoe Drives & Special Thanks

Des Moines Christian School - What an incredible day at Des Moines Christian School in Iowa! Diane had a wonderful

time sharing about Soles For Jesus as DMCS kicked off their 7th Annual Shoe Drive in a special chapel service. Since 2020, they have collected over 11,500 pairs of shoes! Special thanks to our Iowa State Rep, Shawn Thacker, for faithfully delivering these gifts of love to us in WI every year. We are grateful for this amazing Kingdom partnership and may God bless you all!



Thank you DMCS and Shawn!

From Broken Shoes to Renewed Hope

Brother Emanuel and his EHC team met Mr. Ramos, a man from Guinea-Bissau who went to Cabo Verde with hope of finding work, only to find himself living on the streets after discovering his documents were fake. He was found wearing torn shoes, and when they offered him two new pairs, his joy was overwhelming. He immediately removed the old shoes and put on the new ones. In that powerful moment, the gospel was shared, and Mr. Ramos opened his heart to Jesus. The team also reached a group of children who gather daily at the same place to play soccer, sharing shoes, food, and the life-changing love of Jesus Christ with them.



Sharing shoes and Jesus' love in Cabo Verde

Marquette University High School - We enjoyed having the students of Marquette University High School join us again this year for their Freshman Retreat. We love seeing the next generation serving Christ, and together they packed over 630 pairs of shoes!

Arrival in Benin



Thank you for serving, Marquette HS!

Fox Point Lutheran Church - We are grateful for Fox Point Church and their wonderful faith community. Their recent shoe drive collected 478 pairs of shoes, along with some funds to help ship them to Africa. It was such a joy to have them pack shoes with us. We love this photo of one boy who organized his own shoe drive with his family and friends. Fantastic teamwork and we are so thankful for your support!



Thank you, Fox Point!

Germantown Senior Center - Over 200 pairs of shoes were delivered to our warehouse from Germantown Senior Center's recent shoe drive! We are so blessed that all ages enjoy participating in our mission and want to help make a difference. May God bless all of the seniors who contributed to impact lives in Africa.

We are grateful that our shipment has arrived in Cotonou, Benin! We are excited for the lives that will be blessed not only through the gift of shoes but also through the love of Jesus. Please join us in praying for Pastor Sunday Avla and his team as they faithfully and strategically distribute shoes and the Gospel to those who need them most. May God bless the people of Benin as many lives continue to be transformed by Jesus!

View more photos [HERE](#).



Unloading thousands of shoes in Benin

Thank You



GERMANTOWN SENIOR
CENTER

Great job, Germantown Senior Center!

God is Moving in Sierra Leone

We are thrilled to share an exciting update from Rev. Lionel and his team in Sierra Leone as they launch a new outreach to maternity and children's hospitals. Rev. Lionel led visits to three major medical centers in Freetown earlier this year, bringing joy and blessings to newborns and their mothers through shoes and prayer. What a beautiful demonstration of bringing hope to those in physical pain and to witness healing for their souls! God is mending lives and we're so thankful for the ministry happening in Sierra Leone.



God is bringing hope and healing!

Volunteer of the Month

We are thrilled to honor our February Volunteer of the Month, Jim Langford! Jim has been a wonderful supporter of Soles For Jesus for many years. His commitment to the SFJ mission, along with 42 years of fire service and other

community involvement, has blessed many people, and we are grateful for his faithfulness to the Lord's calling.

For Jim, SFJ is about far more than shoes. It's about meeting a real, everyday need while also sharing hope, grace, and the love of Jesus with families who may be receiving their very first pair of shoes. That combination—practical help paired with spiritual encouragement—has deeply shaped his faith and perspective.

Over the years, Jim has found many creative ways to support our mission. He shares, *"If you're a yard sale junkie, you'll often see a whole lot of kids' and adults' shoes. Ask the owner if they would be willing to donate them to SFJ at the end of their sale. Be willing to go back and get them."* Jim also encourages people who desire to get involved with the ministry to consider donating funds for shipments, as well as praying for the volunteers, mission trips, and especially the shoe recipients in Africa.

In addition to the time he gives to SFJ, Jim also serves on his local food pantry board. He and his wife, Bette, just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They have been blessed with two adult children and three grandchildren. His grandson, Luke, has even stepped in to help with packing and shoe pickups. Thank you, Jim, for sharing your servant heart. As you continue to follow God's leading in your life, we pray His many blessings over you and your family!



Jim & Bette Langford

Bringing Joy and Blessings to Uganda

Joy continues to spread across villages in Uganda as Sister Doreen and her team share shoes and the hope of Jesus with families in need. Children, parents, and elders alike are receiving these gifts with smiles and gratitude. Many who have felt lost or broken are now feeling seen, cared for, and encouraged. Each pair of shoes is a reminder of God's love in action, and we celebrate the lives being uplifted through this outreach, while praying for continued joy and lasting impact in these communities. Celebrate with us what God is doing and join us in prayer as this mission continues to grow and bless even more lives!



God is moving in Uganda!

Volunteer Opportunities
SOS (Sort & Organize Shoes) Events

Make a difference by volunteering at a two-hour SOS Event! You and your friends can Sort and Organize Shoes at our Milwaukee warehouse to prepare them for shipment to Africa. New volunteers are ~~always welcome, but you must~~ sign-up! We will begin each event with a brief orientation. Please contact Alexandra at (414) 365-1392 or Aroque@SolesForJesus.org to reserve your date and spot(s).

March:

Thursday, March 5th, 4-6pm	OPEN
Saturday, March 7th, 9-11am	FULL
Monday, March 9th, 9-11am	OPEN
Thursday, March 12th, 10-12pm	OPEN
Super Sat., March 14th, 9-11am	FULL
Super Sat., March 14th, 11:30-1:30	FULL
Super Sat., March 14th, 2-4pm	FULL
Tuesday, March 17th, 6-8pm	FULL
Saturday, March 21st, 9-11am	FULL
Wednesday, March 25th, 6-8pm	OPEN
Friday, March 27th, 9-11am	OPEN
Saturday, March 28th, 9-11am	FULL
Tuesday, March 31st, 6-8pm	OPEN

April:

Saturday, April 4th, 9-11am	OPEN
Tuesday, April 7th, 6-8pm	FULL
Wednesday, April 8th, 6-8pm	FULL
Saturday, April 11th, 9-11am	FULL
Saturday, April 18th, 9-11am	FULL
Tuesday, April 21st, 6-8pm	OPEN
Saturday, April 25th, 9-11am	FULL
Wednesday, April 29th, 6-8pm	OPEN

****Choose your own date to serve by emailing us!***

“Business Hours” SOS: Volunteers can come during weekdays to pack shoes (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm). Come and sort shoes when it fits your schedule. You are welcome to stay for an hour or more. It’s entirely up to you and you can bring friends! Training will be provided and SFJ leaders are 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 two-hour team building opportunity for youth and adults. To sign-up your group, contact Alexandra at Aroque@SolesForJesus.org or (414)365-1392.

Meet One of Our Ministry Directors

Meet our Every Home for Christ Ministry Director in Benin, Pastor Sunday Avla. With a deep passion for evangelism, Pastor Sunday is devoted to seeing lives transformed by the power of Jesus Christ.



Alongside his wife, Véronique, he leads both his family and ministry with strong faith in the Lord’s calling.

Before coming to Christ, Pastor Sunday lived without true peace or purpose. Everything changed when a friend invited him to church. As he heard God’s Word preached, he felt the Lord speaking directly to his heart, revealing his need for salvation. That day, he accepted Jesus as his Savior—a decision that transformed his life. Today, he joyfully shares that Jesus truly changes lives, holding fast to his favorite verse, John 3:16.

One current initiative, “*Jesus in the Area*,” brings worship leaders and gospel singers into neighborhoods for outreach events that combine praise, worship, and preaching—trusting that worship helps open hearts to Christ.

He has also witnessed how simple acts of love can break spiritual barriers. During a shoe-distribution outreach in an animist village, the son of a fetish priest was deeply moved by the compassion shown to him and gave his life to Christ. Moments like these affirm Pastor Sunday’s belief that practical love, empowered by the Holy Spirit, leads souls to Jesus.

Employer Matching Opportunities



Did you know that your gift to Soles For Jesus could go twice as far? Many employers offer matching gift programs that double — or even triple — charitable donations made by their employees. A quick request to your HR department could turn your generosity into twice the impact, providing more shoes and hope to those in need. Consider reaching out to your employer today!

Please join us in prayer for the following:

- For the protection of the Lord to be upon Sunday, Véronique, their two children (Zoé and Edudji), and the entire EHC Benin team.
- Provision for the ministry to be able to reach more people in creative & effective ways
- For a great harvest of souls across Benin as the Gospel is boldly proclaimed

Where in the World is Benin



Originally known as the Kingdom of Dahomey, the nation of Benin is a coastal country in West Africa. Benin is approximately the size of Ohio and is home to over 14 million people, many of whom reside near the southern coast. Porto-Novo is the official capital city of Benin, while the government and economic center are located in nearby Cotonou. Previously a French colony, French influence remains strong in Beninese culture, and French is the primary language spoken by most people.

Benin is also widely considered the birthplace of Vodun (voodoo), and it is estimated that up to 40% of the population continues to adhere to Vodun practices in some capacity – as a primary religion for some, while others attempt to blend it with Islam or Christianity. We continue to pray for the people of Benin, that the true Gospel may shine brightly and win hearts for Jesus Christ.