



Soles For Jesus
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414.365.1392
www.SolesForJesus.org



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

Dear Friend,

Once a year I get to lead a mission team to serve the beautiful people of Africa, and once again the Lord has assembled an amazing team! We leave for Benin **today** and we are humbled to be His hands and feet in this incredible country. Would you please keep us in your prayers? God is moving and stirring hearts throughout Benin; and our team has been praying and preparing our hearts for many months with great expectancy.

This prayer of Moses is one that I live by, *"If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us from here."* The NLT translation says, *"don't make us leave this place."* In other words, if Jesus is not going with me, I'm not going! I will often speak this out to Him when I'm prayerful navigating a situation. "Lord, are you in this and are you

Quick Links

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Stroll For Soles 2024 is on June 24th!



Registration is OPEN for our Stroll For Soles which will take place

going with me?" Or is this a trap or time waster. I only want to go through the doors that He is opening and the paths where I can see His footprints so I can place mine inside of them. This is how I said yes to Benin because Jesus opened the door. Two years ago He spoke to my heart when I watched a video testimony from Pastor Avla and I knew that He was asking me to bring a team. Just as He opened this door, He will go with us.

Now that it's spring we are so excited for our summer stroll! This is one of my favorite events of summer and I really hope you can join us in person or from your own state. I'd love to see many of you there and we also have a goal of lighting up this map with friends joining us across the country and world! Your support means so much and you can read more about this event here. Where else can you stroll for 1 or 2 miles and enjoy delicious food trucks with great company? The donation to register is small and we did not increase it when we added food trucks, which are all included! I hope you'll join me and my family and we can't wait to see you there.

Sincerely in Christ,

Diane

Studer

on Saturday, June 24th @ 11am. This is a fun summer event for families and friends, and you don't want to miss it! Out-of-state friends: don't forget about our "*Stroll Across America Challenge*" (more details below)!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

In-person attendees: food trucks, t-shirts, parking pass, fun activities and games are all INCLUDED with your registration -- for no extra charge! Choose a 1 or 2 mile scenic route at Fox River Park in Waukesha to walk, roll, jog or push a stroller. Lunch and kids' activities will be waiting for you once you cross the finish line. Click the button above for more info and to register yourself, family or team!

Our Virtual Stroll Is Growing!

We are thrilled to welcome participants from

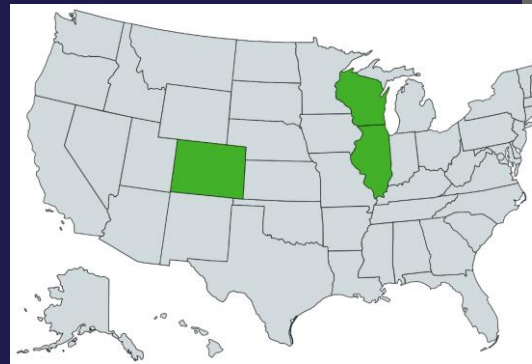
Founder/Executive Director
Soles For Jesus



Shoe Drives & Special Thanks

Portview Assembly of God-
Thank you to everyone at Portview Assembly of God for filling over 5 collection bins FULL of shoes! We are overjoyed and can't wait to see how God will use these shoes to bring great hope to many in Africa. We also thank Liz and Mark for organizing and making this awesome delivery!

several states to our our *Stroll Across America Challenge!* For all of our non-local friends, you can stroll with us from your own neighborhood in celebration of all that God is doing in Africa and invite your family & friends to learn more about Soles For Jesus. Help us fill the map this year by registering now to represent your state! Click the map below to sign up.



2nd Shipment to Congo

We are so thankful for our kingdom partnership with World Missionary Press, Inc. We just had another amazing shipment of 8,000 shoes and 1,224 boxes of Gospel literature (translated to French) head out to Congo! Keep



Thank you Portview A/G!

Footprints of Hope Event- We appreciate Sam for organizing the "Footprints Of Hope" Race/Walk Event in Illinois to benefit SFJ! Sam wanted to raise awareness and funds for our mission and we're so thankful for his support!



Footprints of Hope



"Footprints of Hope" in Grayslake, IL

Pennsylvania Shoe Drive- Thank you to Michele Wetten for

this precious cargo in your prayers. We are excited for how God is going to transform lives and hearts!

View more photos [HERE](#).



Prayers, Shoes & the Gospel for Congo

Testimony from Angola

We are so excited to be getting our first testimonies and pictures from Angola. This one comes from Cacolo in eastern Angola. Its population is poor, with difficulties in accessing potable water and other essential goods. Most residents are peasants with a very low level of education. They use animals as means of

organizing a shoe collection at Middletown Presbyterian Church and Rocky Run YMCA in PA! Over 542 shoes were collected and transported to our State Rep. Michelle Simon. We're grateful for the collaboration and support from this great state!



Thank you friends in PA!

Zion Lutheran Childcare- Shoe drives are for everyone -- big and small! These sweet little ones (& their families) from Zion Lutheran Church, School, & Childcare collected shoes to share with families in Africa in the name of Jesus! We thank you!



transport, and very few have motorcycles, which are used to transport people and goods. Our ministry Director, Emanuel, met with Maria, whose 8-year-old daughter is paralyzed. She said that by her own strength she would have never been able to buy shoes for her daughter. She was very pleased when she saw her daughter being fitted for the first time. Please keep Maria and her daughter in your prayers.

View more photos [HERE](#).



God bless Maria and her daughter!

We love these little ones collecting shoes!

St. John's Lutheran, Lannon- Our friends from St. John Lutheran's in Lannon arrived this month ready to volunteer their time and to deliver a donation of shoes for Africa! Thanks to this awesome group for your support of the ministry



Students from St. John's in Lannon

Volunteers of the Month

This month, we honor Earl & Kaylee Ziebell as April's Volunteers of the Month! Earl is on Team Benin and he & Kaylee have both been dear friends and supporters of the

Joy In Cameroon

"Imsha is a neighborhood located in the city center of Eseka, in the Central Region of Cameroon. This neighborhood houses a resident school for 55 deaf children. We had the goal to give each child a beautiful pair of shoes. Each made the choice of his pair of shoes and tried them on. To those children who could not put on shoes themselves, we helped them to do so. During the distribution, the children and all those present were filled with great joy, many nearly brought to tears. The children and their parents expressed their deep gratitude to us. The principal of this school was delighted to see the children of her establishment benefit from shoes and be suitably dressed in their uniform."

- Brother Laurent,
Ministry Director EHC

ministry for several years. In 2019, the Ziebells attended the Soles For Jesus Luncheon through an invite from friends at Brookfield Christian School. They shared that they were blessed by the event and found their hearts "excited to support the ministry after seeing the effect of people having a simple need met, like having their own pair of shoes and having the chance to hear the Gospel delivered in such a practical way!" For anyone considering the opportunity to get involved at SFJ through volunteering or hosting a shoe drive, the Ziebells' advice is simple: JUST DO IT! We love their family's enthusiasm for being the hands and feet of Jesus. Earl & Kaylee live on a farm in Sussex with their 6 children, 2 dogs, 5 cats, and 16 chickens! Earl tells us that Kaylee is a fantastic cook and baker, so we can imagine the wonderful fellowship they all share at the family dinner table (the humans!). We pray for God's continued blessing over this special couple as they celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this year.

Cameroon.

View more photos [HERE](#).



Joy in Cameroon

Shipment Arrives in Benin

Praise God! After 4 months, our mission trip shoes and supplies have officially arrived in Benin! Our Mission Team is very excited to distribute shoes alongside Pastor Sunday and share God's love in this nation!

View more photos [HERE](#).



Earl & Kaylee Ziebell

Volunteer Opportunities SOS Events (Sort & Organize Shoes)

Join us by volunteering at a 2-hour 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 Yen at (414)365-1392 or Yenh@SolesForJesus.org to sign-up for a date and to reserve your spot(s).



*Shoes have
arrived!*



Blessings to Benin!

Meet One of Our Ministry Directors



Meet our Every Home for Christ Ministry Partner in Benin, Pastor Sunday. The message of the Gospel was shared with Sunday as a young person, during a time when he says he was living a worldly life. Two months later after his friend first told him of Jess's love, that same friend also invited him to a youth conference. During that conference, as

May

Saturday, May 4th, 9-11am ****FULL****

Saturday, May 11th, 9-11am ****FULL****

Thursday, May 16th, 9-11am

Saturday, May 18th, 9-11am

Monday, May 20th, 6-8pm

Wednesday, May 22nd, 4-6pm

Saturday, May 25th, 9-11am ****FULL****

June

Saturday, June 1st, 9-11am ****FULL****

Saturday, June 8th, 9-11am

Saturday, June 15th, 9-11am

Saturday, June 29th, 9-11am



Thank you students from Heritage Christian School

“Business Hours” SOS: Volunteers can also come during weekdays to pack shoes (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm). Come and sort shoes

a pastor spoke, Sunday says *“I was finding myself in the word of God and, in fact, that pastor was preaching my life. Afterward, my friend took me to the pastor and he prayed for me. Two years later, I became a follower of Christ”.*

Today, Pastor Sunday shares the Gospel throughout the nation of Benin. By God’s grace, he and his team have a goal to start 20 new churches in unreached regions of Benin. He asks for prayers of peace and open doors to accomplish this. Even in challenging times, Pastor Sunday is encouraged by Paul’s words in 1 Thessalonians 5:24, which say *“The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.”*

As our Mission Team prepares to join Pastor Sunday and his team in Benin very soon, please join us in prayer for the following:

- Protection, safety, and good health for

when it fits your schedule, and feel free to bring your 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? 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.

each person on our U.S. team, as well as Pastor Sunday, his wife Veronique, their two sons, and the local ministry team.

- That many in Benin will hear the Gospel message and receive salvation in Jesus Christ
- That new Christ followers in Benin will be rooted in the Lord as they grow in faith

Where in the World is Benin?



Originally known as the kingdom of Dahomey, the nation of Benin is a coastal country in West Africa, bordered by the

neighboring nations of Togo, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and Niger. Approximately the size of Ohio, Benin is home to 13 million people, many of whom reside near the southern coast. Porto-Novo is official capital city of Benin, while the government and economic center are in nearby Cotonou. Previously a French colony, French influence remains strong in Beninese culture and is the primary language spoken among most people. Benin is also largely considered to be the birthplace of Vodun (voodoo) and it is estimated that about 1.6 million people in the country continue to follow Vodun practices. Additionally, many others blend these practices with other religions or tribal traditions.

***Your Donation
Impacts Lives***

Or By Mail:

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