



## Mid-Atlantic Branch Seeks Warehouse

*New space is needed to continue operations.*

In mid-August we lost our warehouse and vacated the premises resulting in the temporary stoppage of all work. Since we were expecting to sign a new lease this came as a shock without warning!

We are now seeking a new base of operations. We need 5,000-7,000 square feet of space, access to bathrooms and a garage door or loading dock. Our ideal location is Wilmington, DE, but we are also looking in West Chester, PA and other locations in the Delaware Valley. A vacant school, retail shop, grocery store or warehouse are all suitable candidates. Our budget is limited because almost all funds go toward shipping. To date, several properties have been reviewed, but none offer either affordable rates or feasible locations. Do you know of a property for rent, sale or lease, or even available land on which to build? You may hold the answer to our prayers.

**Please call Cliff Kraft at (610) 420-0380 with any information.**

Beyond our regular contact lists we have posted our need on OGT's MAB web page, in e-mailed newsletters for local area LCMS and

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## Shipments Outlook

*Shipments are determined by specific requests from our destination partners. Here are the latest updates.*



Our contact at the Christian Center Grace and Truth in Puerto Rico, Pastor Ruben Correa, forwarded letters of appreciation for our March 16<sup>th</sup> shipment. An excerpt from one of the letters reads: "Dear Pastor Correa: May the peace of God be with you and your church! The donation of clothes, supplies, and items of first aid received benefited many people lacking resources and it was a great incentive to

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## Boscov Partnership Blossoms

*Multiple fund-raising events increase awareness.*

As a charity registered with the Friends Helping Friends event we were invited to join Boscov's Back-To-Class Bash, held August 25<sup>th</sup> throughout the retail chain. In Exton we educated parents and children about our mission, selling Boscov shopping passes as they enjoyed fun school games, free school items and treats. Because Orphan Grain Train helps children, we received a donation of school

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Rob Hall at Boscov's Back-to-Class event

Orphan Grain Train Mid-Atlantic Branch

## Warehouse Dismantled

*MAB leaves work place after twelve years.*

Our last sort-and-pack day concluded on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Days later, supplies and equipment were readied for storage. On August 1<sup>st</sup> eleven volunteers efficiently packed a POD unit with items for long-term safe-keeping: tables, chairs, tools, pallets, watermelon



Team POD

bins and apple boxes. Household goods we cannot use were given to Habitat for Humanity in Kennett Square, PA.

Disbursement of all other warehouse materials began early on August 4<sup>th</sup>: unused KAH supplies were transported back to their warehouse in Broomall, PA, and Tim Shepps, our supplier of sorting barrels, is storing them for us. At mid-day, a dozen faithful volunteers loaded a rental truck with the remaining bags of clothes, pallets, and unshipped labeled apple boxes. We are so pleased when the New England Branch graciously agreed to take our inventory. Before leaving the work crew enjoyed an alfresco lunch complements of Cliff Kraft!



Hydraulic gate lifts boxes

We are very grateful for the many volunteers who have dedicated their time, prayers, and gifts to God's work through Orphan Grain Train. Please continue praying for God to guide us to a new facility. ■



New England truck-loading team

## Boscov Partnership Blossoms

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Cliff Kraft, Jessica Blasco-Regional Public Relations/Special Events Manager, and Exton store manager Don O'Connor

supplies collected from the Exton store; we were thrilled! For their contribution we gave them our Certificate of Appreciation. We look forward to collaborating again on Friends Helping Friends Day in October.

For the third year MAB is selling 25% discount shopping passes for this event. We're off to a good start, selling passes at the June LWML convention and more at the Back-to-Class Bash. But to fully maximize an anonymous **grant-matching offer of \$2,000** we need *your* help. Will you spend \$5 to buy a pass and help people in need?

On **Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>** you can shop from 8am to 11pm at any of Boscov's 46 locations in Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Ohio, and Connecticut. We are 'going all out' and manning tables in seven area shopping malls — Neshaminy, Coventry, Exton, and Granite Run in PA; and Concord, Christiana and Dover in DE. Mark your calendars for a fun day of discount shopping and let's meet the 2018 fund-raising challenge!



For more information or questions call event coordinator, Sandy O'Hedy, (302) 270-0362. ■

## Mid-Atlantic Branch Seeks Warehouse

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LWML Districts, and through our friends at KAH and Thrivent. Since the warehouse is closed we can NOT accept any in-kind donations (clothing, shoes, medical equipment, etc.) until further notice. However, our branch is active — your financial support is requested!

For over twelve years we shipped aid to the needy from our Wilmington location. We thank God for this opportunity to serve Him by serving others and now await direction from the Holy Spirit to begin a new chapter. ■

## Shipments Outlook

(Continued from page 1)

continue working for the benefit of the social networks. You can be confident that your help was given to the people who meet what is needed. Cordially, Pastor Ramos” We were glad to help Hurricane Maria victims!



Richard Klepps and Cliff Kraft

Using our \$5,000 grant from LWML Eastern District, we joined with the New England branch to ship a container to Pampali Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia. Richard Klepps brought 316 readied boxes from Connecticut and – combining them with over 880 MAB boxes of clothes, bedding and accessories, plus medical equipment and bicycles – we filled the container to the rafters. Special thanks go to Calico Home in Glen Mills, PA, for donating 87 bolts of home décor fabric! We have only gratitude for the 22 volunteers who came out to load the July 13<sup>th</sup> container – our last from the Wilmington warehouse. (See photo, front page.)

Sandra Koch of Help For Haiti, Inc. was thrilled with the June 2<sup>nd</sup> shipment of food which reached her compound in early July. She wrote: “Last month we shared peanut butter with the orphanages, this month is spaghetti & Prego sauce that was so wonderfully sent to us from the Mid-Atlantic branch. This a real treat for the children... I am trying to stretch out these unusual donations that are so appreciated... Please tell them THANK YOU!!! ■

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Packing last-minute boxes for Latvia



Enjoying pasta and Prego in Haiti

## Board Secretary Retires

*Board members celebrate a job well done.*



Recording Secretary, Pat Dorler, announced her retirement at the July board meeting. Pat initially offered temporary assistance “just to help out,” but stayed on faithfully for over ten years. She kept meticulous notes, ensured a date and time for every meeting, and of course, prepared the mandatory pot of coffee! Pat will always be welcomed at our board meetings as a member-emeritus. We will miss her and wish her God’s blessings in the future. We welcome Pat’s replacement, Scott Weaver, fellow Concordia Lutheran Church member. ■

## ELCA Packs KAH Meals

*Lutherans come together to feed Haiti.*

On Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) met at Messiah College near Harrisburg, PA, to help the hungry (right). Partnering with Kids



Against Hunger they assembled 140,000 meals. These, combined with KAH meals previously packed at St. James Lutheran, NY, and Princeton, NJ, totaled over 185,000! Special thanks go to Colleen Hoffman who ran the ELCA event, and to Deacon Marsha Roscoe for photos.



MAB used its \$5,000 grant from LWML Chesapeake District to add cases of JIF peanut butter, pasta, Prego sauce, and Spam to the shipment. Rob Hall handled all the local logistics for this Haiti container *and* drove MAB’s food to Harrisburg for loading. Thank you, Rob! ■



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Mid-Atlantic Branch

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### *Our Mission Statement*

In loving response to Christ, the Servant, the Orphan Grain Train movement encourages and enables God's people to share personal and material resources in bringing Christ's name and character to needy people, both far and near.

### *Mid-Atlantic Branch Purpose*

To build a Christ centered team who can use their God-given talents to be a blessing to others through their service in the Mid Atlantic Branch of Orphan Grain Train fulfilling the Mission Statement of the OGT movement.

Genesis 12:3 - "I will bless those who bless you ... and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

*"I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you." John 14:18*

## did YOU KNOW?

- **Meet our Communications Partner** — Linda Knoll, secretary at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Malvern, PA, edits and prints all our newsletters and correspondence. We could not send out communications without her!  

- **OGT is Growing** — Guinea is now the 68th country to receive OGT aid. Our 27<sup>th</sup> branch, Michigan, just opened in August. Last (fiscal) year OGT shipped over \$45 million dollars' worth of aid and food worldwide, \$6 million more than the year before.
- **Staples Card rewards You**— When you use the enclosed **MAB Staples Rewards** card you could save up to 70% on your purchases. Thousands of items are eligible for discounts. So enjoy the discounts while supporting MAB. Keep Staple-ing!

## what's AHEAD...

### **Our Future is in God's Hands**

We are confident that the Lord has a purpose for us. While we do not yet know His plans, we trust God to guide us toward a future that abides by his will and brings hope to those in need. Please join us in prayer for the Lord's help to continue our mission of providing "Relief for Human Need Worldwide."

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Romans 8:28.



*To God alone be the Glory!*