



Successful Reopening!

With safety measures in place, MAB is up and running.

In mid-June an MAB re-opening team met twice to create a healthy work environment plan for volunteers. As a result, face masks, sanitizers, and gloves were obtained and work stations spaced to ensure physical distancing. With precautionary measures in place we announced our reopening July 1st. Now three months later we can happily report that God has graced us with success! Not only have all our volunteers adjusted well, but new blessings unfold every day – donations are coming in, new recruits are joining up, new heavy-duty fatigue mats make working a joy, and we found a peaceful outdoor venue for devotions and lunch. Best of all, we shipped our first container of the year! Special thanks go to our landlord for one month of free rent (!), and to the Chester County Chamber of Commerce that offered subsidized cleaning supply kits. After months of quarantine separation, our safeguards now allow us to work in step together, renewing our relationships and strengthening our resolve to help others in need. Praise God! ■

Shipments Outlook

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

In July we said, “If the Lord wills, we will adapt to our new work mode with ease, and send another shipment soon!”

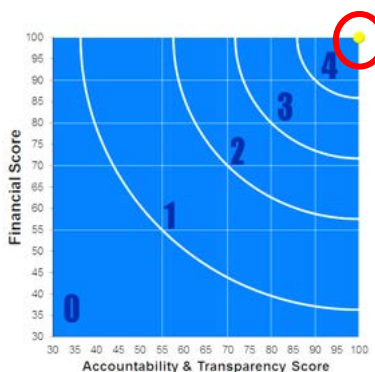


Our prayer was granted August 21st when we loaded the first container of the year for the Republic of Georgia. We were blessed with 22 volunteers who came out for a dual work day – some to load while others sorted and packed. While one team filled the container with 1,200 boxes of winter clothing, shoes, linens, and medical equipment, a second team packed 35 boxes for a future shipment. 30 bicycles and over 70,000 Kids Against Hunger meals (thanks to Heather Griesser and her awesome team!) completed the shipment. Nice work, everyone!

(Continued on page 3)

Seeing Stars *OGT scores best rating.*

OGT has earned ‘4 Stars’ from Charity Navigator every year for the past twelve years, but *this* year we achieved a **100% perfect score** in all metrics. It doesn’t get any better than this! Over 98% of all financial donations received directly flow to those in need while less than 2% go to administrative and marketing costs. Also, because OGT does not accept government funds, we can freely share the Gospel of Christ along with relief supplies



that meet real needs. More good news – GuideStar, Charity Navigator's evaluation partner, awarded OGT the Platinum Seal of Transparency for voluntarily and publicly sharing how we measure progress and results. What does all this mean for our supporters? You can give with confidence knowing your donation dollars help spread God’s message! ■

Mid-Atlantic Branch

Donations Needed!

Materials in high demand for future shipments.

Clothing donations are the main staple of all our shipments. We always need clothes of any size, for any season, for men, women and children. For the last several months we put donations on hold, but now we ask that you check closets for outdated or outgrown items and consider giving them to MAB. For a refresher on what we can and *cannot* accept please see the enclosed *Considerations for Donors* list or download it at www.ogt.org/branches/mid-atlantic. The warehouse is open to receive on Wednesdays from 10 am to 2:30 pm and Saturdays from 9 am until noon on October 10th and 24th, November 14th and December 12th. Questions? Contact **Rob Hall at (484) 459-9217** or **Roger Hazzard at (302) 883-1760**. Please help us fill another shipment before year's end.



Packing children's blankets.

Many thanks to the supporters who made deliveries since we reopened: Dot and Don Burhans, Susan Bell, and Chris Gasslein. Special mention goes to Kim and Greg Robinson who drove all the way from St. Peter Lutheran in Lambertville, NJ! Thanks also to the Maris Grove Project Linus crafters who gave us another 300 children's blankets, to Tom Fuesler, who just finished his 161st bike for MAB (!) and to the packing team at KAH Philadelphia for their ongoing meal donations. ■

LHM Interviews OGT President

Lutheran broadcast tells our story.

Orphan Grain Train founder, Rev. Ray Wilke, was featured on Lutheran Hour Ministries August 4th. As a guest on their **"ACTION IN MINISTRY"** series, Pastor Wilke spoke about OGT's early years, his personal mission to help others, and OGT's aspirations for the future. Listen to the interview [HERE](#) or go to LHM.org and search Media—Podcasts—Action in Ministry. His words will bless and inspire. ■



Double Blessings through Boscov's

Two ways to shop and support our branch .


'Friends Helping Friends' is Back — Boscov's Department Store has changed October's fundraiser event to keep everyone healthy and safe. This year there are no paper shopping passes to buy ahead of time from volunteers or at the stores; rather, **the discount will be applied when you checkout and tell the sales associate to use OGT Mid-Atlantic as your charity.** This year the event is extended to *two* days, and many more items, such as cosmetics, home decor, and domestics, will sell at a higher discount than previously.



On Wednesday and Thursday, October 14th and 15th you can enjoy a 20% discount (10% in a few departments) when **shopping in-store and online at www.boscovs.com.** MAB is a "registered charity"

in these Boscov locations: **Exton, Granite Run, Neshaminy, and Coventry malls in PA; Concord, Christiana, and Dover malls, in DE.** To receive your discount, mention OGT MAB when you checkout! (Online shoppers will also need to name one of the above store locations.) Boscov's will award the sale pricing and we will receive 5% back.

We need your help promoting this opportunity by 'word-of-mouth' and on social media. **Please forward this newsletter** and tell friends, family, church and work associates, "Shop Boscov's during Friends Helping Friends Days and choose Orphan Grain Train, Mid-Atlantic Branch as your charity of choice!"

 **The Wish List** — Help people in need by purchasing items from our new Wish List registry at Boscov's. We've selected the items most needed and placed them all into one convenient site. You will find new socks and underwear (think 'Undie Sunday') for men, women and children, and towels and washcloths for Hygiene Kits. You can shop the list in any store location or online; click [HERE](#) or visit www.boscovs.com and enter 'OGT MAB' in the gift registry. Purchase in-store or have the items shipped directly to us (our address is prelisted).

You can *double your donation* during Friends Helping Friends Days by buying items from the Wish List, saving 20%, and

(Continued on page 3)

"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work

(Continued from page 2)

crediting MAB with 5% of your sale! What could be better? The list will remain on Boscov's site for the foreseeable future; you can purchase on October 14th and 15th or whenever convenient for you. Won't you join us in this new endeavor? ■

Shipments Outlook

(Continued from page 1)

New recipient *NNLE Strong, United, Independent Georgia* serves 75,000 disabled, displaced, and socially vulnerable people in eastern Georgia. The container should arrive in time to help people during the winter months.



Loading boxes...

Chris Carstens, Norfolk Inventory Manager and shipments coordinator, emailed us: "I don't feel that COVID is hindering us at this time; maybe [earlier], but not now." Hallelujah! We can't wait to ship again soon. ■



...and packing more boxes!

How You Can Help

Join our mission!

- ◆ **Pray** that God would bless our Branch to be a blessing to others.
- ◆ **Shop** Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Days.
- ◆ **Purchase** Boscov Wish List items. 📦
- ◆ **Donate clothes** *in good condition* for men, women, and children.
- ◆ **Donate a bicycle** for us to refurbish.
- ◆ **Volunteer your time** at the warehouse, Wednesdays from 10am-2:30pm.
- ◆ **Give** online at www.ogt.org/branches/mid-atlantic or use the enclosed envelope.
- ◆ **Collect apple boxes** for packing donations.
- ◆ **Sew** pillowcase dresses or make Hygiene Kits and use Thrivent Actions Team dollars for funding.
- ◆ **Host a Clothing Drive** in your neighborhood and be the collection center. ■

*"Lord help us walk Your servant way
Wherever love may lead
And, bending low, forgetting self,
Each serve the other's need."*



*Lutheran Service Book
Hymn #857 v.1*



The Georgia packing and loading team enjoys some August sunshine after a job well done.

of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." 1 Corinthians 15:58



Orphan Grain Train
Mid-Atlantic Branch

89 Line Road
Malvern, PA 19355

Phone: 610-644-4508
E-mail: mid-atlantic@ogt.org
Website: www.ogt.org

Warehouse Location:
8 Federal Road
West Grove, PA 19390

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?

- **Stay Up-to-Date** — Go to www.ogt.org and find the Facebook logo at the bottom of our home page. You can click through to see  real-time photos, videos, news, and more.
- **A New Way to Give** — You can donate to OGT simply by shopping at AmazonSmile. Choose Orphan Grain Train at  smile.amazon.com and a portion of your purchase will help fund the national office that arranges all our shipments.
- **OGT is Growing** — Lincoln, NE, branch is scheduled for a grand opening this fall. Congratulations to the latest addition to our OGT family!

what's AHEAD...

- **LWML Grant** — Chesapeake District convention delegates will vote September 26th to approve a \$5,000 MAB grant for food and shipping costs. Please pray they vote "Yes!"

- **BOSCOV FHF Days** — Remember to shop in store or online October 14th and 15th. Save 20% on your purchases, name OGT MAB as your charity of choice, and help raise funds for our branch!

- **Annual MAB Fall Grant-Match** — Watch for your fall campaign letter and take advantage of this once-a-year-opportunity to double your donation.

To God alone be the Glory!