



WISCONSIN BRANCH

Quarterly Newsletter

Relief for Human Need Worldwide

November 2023 - Volume 19 - Issue 3

I will not leave you as orphans. I will come to you. - John 14:18

MAUI, HAWAII

***When you listen without fixing, you are being a true friend.
When you take care of disaster needs, you are being a true Christian.***



Two containers of food and supplies were delivered to the Wailuku Union Food Pantry and the Westside Distribution warehouse.



THE WAY MISSION, WINGO KY

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life" John 14:6

The aftermath and recovery from the tornado...

"Just wanted to pass along a message to you and your group at OGT. We recently held our annual coat and blanket giveaway and free lunch, where we served many families with a warm help to the start of the fall season. Families are just now getting into permanent homes as these neighborhoods and communities are becoming more available after rebuilding from the tornado .What a blessing to be able to offer them some of the cleaning supplies and and household pantry items to get them started. We're very thankful for the last load of blessings received from your group.

Many of the Christian ministries we share with are a non-profit adult day care which doubles as a homeless shelter safe place, a local rehab men's and women's group for those released from prison. They in turn, have their own "giving back" program in which they gather and share clothes and items with others to give them a better restart. Many folks have no money, no family, no clothes, no second chances and no where to turn.

The relationships we have developed with our ministries are priceless. The hope and happiness in the eyes of the families and children is so special. What a blessing to all of us to message the Good News of Jesus Christ and be able to offer hope in difficult times.

Happy in His service,
Julie & Jeff Painter

WINGO, KY MISSION



OGT WAREHOUSE WESTFIELD, WI



*1st container from Westfield, WI
warehouse loads up and was
shipped to Lithuania*



2nd Container
Moldova



1st Domestic Load
Myra



*Brakebush Interns assist
sorting at Westfield
warehouse.*

PERU

...Following the trail from Westfield, WI to Peru

I'm **Maya Gomez** and thanks to **Patricia Waters** (my Mom) I met Orphan Grain Train and all the work they do for the people in need in the world. This is how the relationship of help to PERU begins. On my last visit I had the opportunity to meet all the volunteers who offer their time and selfless work to help others and thus be the Hands of God. This experience of conversations and helping them pack all the donations was wonderful because it allowed me to see the human side of the process.

Then I arrived at my country and opened the container, seeing smiles and gratitude on the people's face who received a jacket, or a quilt made me grow my FAITH for a world full of brotherhood and care for each other.

Everyone at the communities told me to send you their eternal gratitude and that all of you are in their prayers



PERU

(continued)

I'm **Edith Velasquez**, one of the community's leaders, and I'm going to tell the **Lizbeth Cardenas Arroyo's** story. She has 6 children and a husband who earns a minimum salary of \$300 per month.

As a woman, she struggles very hard to be a great mother, a friend, and a believer in God. She is extremely grateful to God for her children. Her family is the poorest in the community, her house is deteriorating because it is made of plywood. The home has two rooms, a small kitchen and a small living room. Every day her family suffers from the cold and dampness because her roof leaks a lot. In fact her little ones frequently get sick with pneumonia, cough or fever.

Every donation that arrives is prioritized to this family because of their needs. They live in the community of Jose Olaya, where they have not had running water or electricity for 23 years. They are not given title of ownership to the land where their home is built. There is constant high humidity, which is the reason we get very sick. Lizbeth loves, trusts and has a lot of faith that one day she will be able to change this whole situation for her children.

I'm sending pictures of them wearing all the clothes in the picture. She is extremely grateful for the help. She didn't have any money to buy clothes for her little ones. Lizbeth thanks God for you sending them to her, she prays for each one of you.



LIBERIA



Pastor Kollie of the Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church and School, Congo Town-Cotton Tree, Liberia, West Africa expresses his gratitude for eyeglasses, beans and rice, and all the supplies sent in the OGT container. Pastor Kollie oversees a school that has been supplied with desks and books by OGT and will soon be celebrating a 2023 graduation ceremony.

LITHUANIA



SAN BENITO, TEXAS



POTATOES, POTATOES, POTATOES!

Pastor Weber writes that everyone was very grateful for the donated potatoes! The distribution went well and helped many families in need. We thank the OGT and the potato farm very much.

CORNERSTONE CHILDRENS RANCH QUEMADO, TX



Backpack distribution in Quemado and Mexico. Hamburgers and fun with the kids and Acunia.



UKRAINE

"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

Vitaliy and Natalia Smolin



The **Smolin's Open Door Foundation** has partnered with Orphan Grain Train to supply local churches, hospitals, hospices and other organizations around the Ternopil region and Ukraine supplying baby diapers, adult diapers, baby formulas, medical supplies, clothing and food. The information on this page is based on the smolinministries.org website. Please feel free to check out their website for current information.



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTORS

DOOR OF HOPE

In Johannesburg, South Africa, there is a small metal door painted white in the side of a tiny mission church. This door is changing lives. On it are painted the words, **“Door of Hope.”** That is exactly what it is for various babies within the city. On average some 40 to 50 babies a month were being abandoned on the streets to die of exposure or starvation.

That was before the mission installed their door to a baby bin, allowing mothers to anonymously deposit their unwanted babies and have someone love them and care for them. Now the mission is saving over 100 babies a year. What an incredible door!

You and I know of another incredible door that takes in the unwanted, saves lives, and brings hope. That door is never locked, but always open. It's open day and night, sunshine and storm, in good times and bad. That door is found in a person, because that door has a name, it's Jesus. He is the door of hope that opens to God's presence. Jesus said, “I am the door, whoever enters through me will be saved and go in and find pasture” (John 10:10).

This is the main teaching of our faith, that Jesus is only door to salvation to all who believe in Him as their Lord and Savior. Some may think, “That is very narrow-minded thinking.” But the greatest mind that has ever been or will be came up with this profound plan. Jesus is the “open door” for all who have offended God, for all who have sinned against his commands, which includes all of us. He is the exit from the prison of sin and entrance into abundant life. He is the only door out of spiritual darkness, and the only door leading in to where we find light and joy and freedom through His sacrifice on the cross.

Jesus is the door of hope that all people in this world need, and Orphan Grain Train is a wonderful mission that can help point them to his door, so that by God's grace they too can experience abundant life in Jesus through the forgiveness of their sins. Wherever relief supplies are distributed throughout the world is an open door for the Gospel. What an open door ministry the Lord has given us to help those who are in need, so that by God's grace, their spiritual needs can be met as well. To that end, may God bless the use of our time, talents and treasures for this worthwhile mission, as we seek the abundant life that Christ has given us. To God be the glory!

Pastor Bruce Lamont

SPECIAL NOTES

Please remember when you have OGT coming to pick up a load, make sure you have a few people to load up the truck.

OGT is in need of children's shoes and clothing (sizes INFANT through children's size 12) new or lightly used.

Another item we are really low on is hygiene kit supplies, like towels, bar soap, toothbrushes, combs, bandaids, and nail clippers.

Thank you for your support!!!

So...What's Sewing? BY RITA WOLLER

In January the Wausau Packing station received a box of beautiful dresses from Hope Church in Edgar.

What a wonderful gift for children in need. The need is great, pick a pattern you love and sew, sew, sew!



ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN WISCONSIN BRANCH OFFICERS:

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Relief for Human Need Worldwide

Orphan Grain Train

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ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN 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. Sometimes that character expresses itself as a word well spoken, sometimes as a bandage well applied, and sometimes as a child well fed.

If someone you know would like to receive this newsletter, and is not on our address list, please let Linda Isberner know. If you wish to have your name removed from the address list, please also let Linda Isberner know. Thanks!

If you have an article or picture you would like to include in the next newsletter, please contact Chris Vander Velde by phone or email.

If you prefer to send by mail, please contact Linda Isberner.

Linda and Chris' contact information can be found inside this newsletter.

WISCONSIN - ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

**is an option for your
THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS!
Thrivent Choice Dollars need to be
designated by March 31st on a yearly basis.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!