

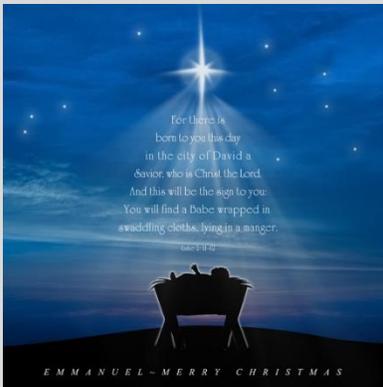


Orphan Grain Train †

## Good Tidings

News -for and about -  
OGT Maryland

December, 2020



For there is  
born to you this day  
in the city of David a  
Savior, who is Christ the Lord.  
And this will be the sign to you:  
You will find a Babe wrapped in  
swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

EMMANUEL - MERRY CHRISTMAS

### SPOTLIGHT

In this month of celebration of Jesus Christ's birth, it seems only appropriate to put HIM in our "spotlight." Without Jesus, his miraculous birth, and his ultimate sacrifice for us, we would not have so many people doing so much good work throughout the world.

Born in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago, Jesus was the embodiment of love and sacrifice and gave the message of peace, brotherhood and humanity, which guide billions of people all over the world to this day. The deeds and messages of Christ are recorded in the

New Testament of the Bible.

In our role as volunteers for Orphan Grain Train, we serve as hands and feet for Jesus, spreading his message by word and example.

We wish you a blessed and joyous Christmas filled with peace and love!

### ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN COAT DRIVE 2020

Thanks to our donors, we were able to collect and distribute **806 winter coats** prior to Christmas this year! In addition we collected belts/suspenders because often homeless people are wearing clothing that don't fit properly and the addition of a belt makes quite a difference. We received coats from community organizations, small businesses, a school,

church groups, and individuals. Coats were distributed to the needy through inner city churches, a Baltimore City elementary school, Helping Up Mission, Linda's Legacy, and a state agency in West Virginia. Several hundred more coats will be given out in January. What a wonderful Christmas present to those needing the gift of warmth this season. Thank YOU for caring and sharing.



Orphan Grain Train will be taking a Christmas break from December 20 through January 3rd. We wish you a joyful and safe Christmas. This has been a difficult year for everyone and we hope and pray that 2021 will bring you peace, comfort, and good health.



## A VERY SPECIAL PERSON

Many of you who visited the warehouse in the past remember a gracious lady sitting at the front desk. She greeted folks, recorded their volunteer hours, and in addition ordered warehouse supplies. She always had a warm greeting and her name was BEVERLY McCARTHY. Bev loved Orphan Grain Train very much. Prior to her death on November 19th, she expressed her wish to donate to OGT in her will. Bev bequeathed \$50,000 to Orphan Grain Train to be used for shipping costs, internationally or domestically, to further OGT's mission. There are no words to express our appreciation for the gift of knowing and working with Bev.

## THANK YOU TO OUR RESTAURANT "PARTNERS"

We held two restaurant fundraisers in October and November of 2020. We are grateful for the support of [Brian Boru](#), and [Hellas Restaurant and Lounge](#). Both are local, independent restaurants and they were excellent fundraising partners



## THANK YOU [CHICK-FIL-A!](#)

In December, Karen O'Kane, Marketing Director of Annapolis Chick-fil-A, brought a treasure trove of donations to the OGT warehouse. Included were boxes of children's books, toys, and totes. A special donation included 100 handmade no-sew blankets, crafted by 150 volunteers. The volunteers were part of the November Passport to Serve project, sponsored by Chick-fil-A of Annapolis, Severna Park, and Crofton. Children at an orphanage in Cameroon will certainly be blessed by all these gifts.

## Supporting the Katherine Mueller NET Research Fund

There is a local pilot project to build awareness and funding for pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumor Net (pNETS) cancer research. This is a rare type of cancer and Severna Park native Katherine Mueller has been in a multi-year battle. [Click here](#) to learn more about how you can help!

### UPDATE ON THE LUCI LIGHT PROJECT



We have updated information on the Colburn Brothers Luci Light Project to collect funds for small solar lights called Luci Lights. They will be sent to countries where there is no energy grid. The total collection through November is an astonishing \$5,000. We will be able to give grand totals by mid-January that will wrap up phase one.

**PHASE ONE?** We never expected to have a phase one or a Phase two, but here we are! OGT was contacted by Anne Arundel County Public Schools requesting information for students seeking volunteer hours and how to become involved with OGT. Trey and Travis Colburn presented various ways to get involved with OGT.

Please pass this information on to anyone who'd like to share the gift of light. Go to [www.OGT.org/Maryland](http://www.OGT.org/Maryland) and click the "[Donate to Maryland](#)" button. Put [Luci Light Project/Colburn](#) in the comment

### FOUR SHIPMENTS OF HUMANITARIAN AID TO SOUTH SUDAN



On November 20, Orphan Grain Train shipped yet another container to South Sudan - which makes four in the past year.

When there is so much need in the world, why so many shipments to the newest country on the planet? The answer is simple; the need is existential. The flood waters keep coming and Pastor Stephen reported the following: *The streets are nowhere to be seen. I heard some people drowned just inside the town, and people are afraid of crocodiles. Some people are seriously injured by iron particles, stones, broken glass, and so forth inside the water.* The displaced people are now living in squalid, congested conditions in a few dry portions of roadways, schools, hospitals, government buildings, and public squares, among others.

In response to this horrendous situation, we did what we do best - provide as much humanitarian aid as we could muster. Items included almost 400 boxes of clothes, 125 boxes of linens and blankets, 27 boxes of clothes,

section. Or mail a check to OGT at P.O. Box 1741, Millersville, MD 21108.

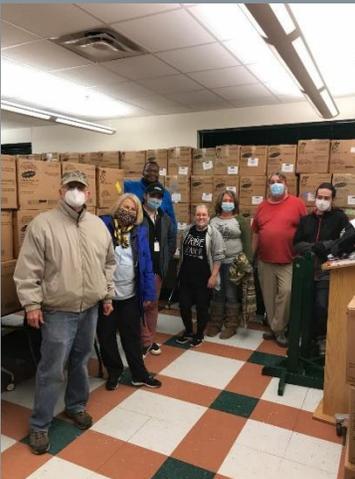
In addition [Environmental Auto Service](#) is offering a vehicle cabin sterilization free of charge (\$50 value) with a \$10 donation to the Luci Lights Project. Call Steve at 410-987-5546 to schedule an appointment.

school desks, chairs, and bicycles. These resources will not address all of the issues facing people in the township of Bor, but we pray that they will alleviate some of the misery facing these resilient people. Please place these beleaguered folks in your prayers.

DONATE TO OGT

## ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN TAKES WINTER CLOTHING TO PEOPLE IN NEED IN WEST VIRGINIA.

On December 2nd, Steve and Linda Zahn took 500 boxes of winter clothing and 250 coats to Braxton County, West Virginia. The clothing was given to Child Protective Services, to serve the district of Braxton County, Lewis County, and Upshur County. Children from birth to 18 years of age are served by this agency, and Adult Protective Services helps the elderly.



Success as we finish unloading 500 boxes of winter clothing at Braxton County High School where it will be stored and sorted.



Children removed from their homes by Child Protective Services often have only the clothing they are wearing at the time, and are in need of additional items quickly.



This winter clothing will serve children, and elderly folks in need in Braxton, Lewis, and Upshur Counties in West Virginia

[www.ogt.org/md](http://www.ogt.org/md)

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Call us at 410-544-1621

Visit our website

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

*May your holidays be filled with peace, joy, and good health! Best wishes for a safe and prosperous new year.*



**THRIVENT**®

Be Wise With Money™