

Quarterly

# UPDATE

North Dakota Orphan Grain Train  
~ Mercy Meals ~

Fall 2020

## The Latest from Orphan Grain Train Headquarters

Our North Dakota branch of Orphan Grain Train (OGT) is making a difference locally and around the world. Did you know, we're a part of a bigger organization that's making an even greater impact? Here are some recent statistics to share about OGT:



### 5.4 million meals served

Last fiscal year nearly 5.4 million meals were shipped to starving people around the world.



### Cost vs Operations

Only 1.8% of every dollar spent goes for administration and fundraising. 98.2% goes to helping needy people in the US and worldwide.



### \$47 Million Dollars of Aid

Last fiscal year more than \$47 million worth of humanitarian aid and food was shipped to people in need in the US and around the world.



### 27 Branch Locations

Orphan Grain Train serves from 27 regional locations across the US who gather clothing and other relief supplies for destitute people around the world. They also raise money to send these relief goods and food where most needed.

Orphan Grain Train's national headquarters is based out of Norfolk, Nebraska. Dating back to 1992, the organization was founded following a group of Lutherans who traveled to Latvia and Russia on a church mission. Nearly 30 years later, OGT is a Christian volunteer network that ships donated food, clothing, medical and other needed items to people in 69 different countries, including the USA.



Loading OGT's very first container with quilts and clothes in the early 90's for Latvia, a country in the Baltic region of Northern Europe.

## Supplies needed!

### Items we are in need of are:

- bath towels
- washcloths
- cloth diapers
- bottles
- washcloths
- baby sleeper (newborn - 12 mo)
- toothbrushes
- combs
- pacifiers

We often get questions about what we can and cannot accept. Here are some of the most common:

### Can Accept

- furniture
- beds
- bed pillows
- pots & pans
- dishes

### Cannot Accept

- knick knacks
- holiday decorations
- decorative pillows

**Financial support** is always appreciated and needed at this time. It goes to cover expenses, including shipping costs.

## Update on Orphan Grain Train Shipments

Covid has impacted us in some ways, but “where there’s a will, there’s a way.” We have continued to receive supplies and support, enabling us to send off several important shipments recently.

### Republic of Georgia Shipment

Due to Covid-19, the loading date was changed last minute from Montreal Canada to go through New York instead. A special “Thank you” to our volunteers that stepped in at the last minute to pull everything together.

The shipment assembled in Jamestown, ND departed New York City and was delivered to the Port of Poti in the Republic of Georgia. The group that received the supplies is called Women for Justice. With a goal to assist socially vulnerable families, this group has 500 “Women’s Houses” throughout Georgia to help those in need. They especially serve orphanages

for those who lost their parents in war and others that are in need of food, clothing and essentials. Their mission is to help people to develop and to realize their full potential. One of the ways they do that is by providing informal education. They have helped more than 3,700 families in Georgia.

The container from OGT North Dakota included the following:

- Clothing, coats & shoes
- Accessories, like hats, scarves & gloves
- Hygiene kits
- Children’s items, like toys, high chairs, backpacks
- Sewing fabric
- Bicycles

### LALM Shipment

Dedicated OGT volunteer and board member, Kirk Rosin once again travelled with a truck full of supplies all the way from North Dakota to the U.S. and Mexico border. The load was full of mostly food: rice, beans, Mercy Meals, flour and cinnamon. It also included various medical supplies and equipment.

The items were taken to Laredo, TX and will be dispersed through the Latin American Lutheran Mission (LALM), whose goal is to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the countries of Latin-America.



Dedicated OGT volunteers packing the Republic of Georgia shipment

Shipment arriving in Georgia.

## Thankful for Grants & Support from LWML

Orphan Grain Train and Mercy Meals were chosen to receive funds from the North Dakota District of Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) for their mission grants for the next two years.

"We thank God for those grants as they will help us to pay for shipping the containers and getting supplies for Mercy Meals," said Sue Corwin, Orphan Grain Train Board Member and volunteer.

For more than 77 years, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.

Their primary focus is on:

- Nurturing Faith in Christ
- Making Our Faith Meaningful
- Sharing Encouragement

For more information, visit [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)



## A Tribute to All of Our Dedicated Volunteers!

We couldn't do what we do without our wonderful volunteers. From the regulars to one-timers, college students and retirees, we have a variety of volunteers that come together to make Orphan Grain Train function.

What does volunteering entail? Sometimes it's sorting donations, organizing supplies, packing boxes, loading shipments and the list goes on. In the end it means serving the Lord by helping those in need.

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness." - Philippians 2:4-7

Recently we were happy to have help from the University of Jamestown Wrestling Team, shown above. Several volunteers came together on Halloween day to help pack boxes and organize supplies. The Jamestown Rotary Club as well as regulars from Buffalo City Church have volunteered recently and we are so grateful.

Bring or send clothing and other in-kind donations to:

### The North Dakota Branch

103 4th Ave SE, Jamestown, ND 58401  
Mondays and Saturdays from 9am - noon  
To arrange additional drop off times, contact Tom Boerger at 701-320-3875 or Sue Corwin at 701-320-3259.

### Orphan Grain Train Headquarters

606 W Phillip Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701  
402-371-7393  
email@ogt.org  
Fax: 402-371-7350  
Warehouse/Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am - 4pm CST

To support the North Dakota Branch, send checks or money orders payable to:

North Dakota Orphan Grain Train  
PO Box 1546, Jamestown, ND 58402-1546

To contribute by credit card, visit [www.ogt.org/nd](http://www.ogt.org/nd) and click "Donate to North Dakota Branch."





North Dakota Branch

PO Box 1546

Jamestown, ND 58402-1546

## 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.

## What is Orphan Grain Train

Orphan Grain Train is a 501c3 nonprofit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and in 68 countries around the world. Grain Train volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, and other aid to meet real needs. The Orphan Grain Train movement is a loving response to Jesus Christ's example as a servant and His love for us.



## ND Branch Warehouse

103 4th Ave SE  
Jamestown, ND 58401

[ndakota@ogt.org](mailto:ndakota@ogt.org)

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

 Like us on Facebook!  
Orphan Grain Train, Inc.

## Branch Hours

We continue to be open Mondays and Saturdays from 9am to noon! Note, we are taking precautions due to the risks associated with Coronavirus. Masks are required. For additional drop-off and volunteer times, call Tom at 701-320-3875 or Sue at 701-320-3259.