Dear Tessa,

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT
Special Volunteer Edition!

Orphan Grain Train is powered by its volunteers, and there is no better volunteer than Elfie Eberle, the founder and Branch Manager of Maryland Branch for 16 years. Prior to that she was a volunteer in the New York Branch of OGT for 11 years...so this remarkable lady has given 26 years to the Orphan Grain Train mission.

When her daughter Lisa was a volunteer missionary in St. Petersburg, Russia in 1992, Elfie and her husband Bill visited and she first heard about Orphan Grain Train. She was told by the OGT pastor in St. Petersburg that there was a great need for pediatric wheelchairs. When she called Pr. Ray Wilke, the founder of OGT, to say that she had found much needed medical equipment, he told her it would only cost $5,000 to ship a container and get the equipment to its destination. When she asked where she was going to get that money, he told her "The Lord will provide." He was right, and the New York branch was launched!

When Elfie isn't busy with Orphan Grain Train, she enjoys painting, reading, gardening, crafting, and cooking. She is blessed to be able to spend time with her family (they all live within 10 minutes) including 5 grandchildren.

In Elfie’s words, "It fills me with joy when I think of all the people that are helped by the ministry of OGT and experience the love of Jesus in tangible form. I thank God that he has allowed me to be a part of a ministry that brings out the best in people and helps people with their most basic needs."

At the Maryland branch of OGT, we are all grateful to Elfie Eberle for all she has done, and continues to do, to further the mission of Orphan Grain Train. We wish Elfie, the Lord's good and faithful servant, well as she steps aside as Branch Manager.
A TIME OF TRANSITION
FOR ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

We are all in a situation which we could not have imagined a few months ago. It feels surreal. My prayer is that you are all safe and well. My daily prayer is, as I know is yours, that the Lord will guide us to a resolution of the Coronavirus.

It is also a time of transition in Orphan Grain Train, Maryland branch, and it is a joyful transition. The Lord has provided a new leader for the Maryland branch in the person of Jeff Piegols, newly retired from working for the Dept. of Defense and on fire for the ministry of OGT. Jeff has been volunteering at OGT for some time. He is a self-starter, hard working, compassionate, and a man of deep faith. I am so pleased to tell you that he will be assuming the position of Branch Manager on June 1, 2020.

Jeff and I have talked about the best method of transition. I will step off the OGT Board until sometime in the Fall of 2020 to allow Jeff to establish his leadership. Jeff has invited me to return to the Board which I am happy to do. OGT is in my blood and I will continue to work in this ministry of caring. I am not leaving! I look forward to many years of working with you to meet the needs of those in need.

It has been an honor and delight for me to be the Branch Manager and work with some of the most compassionate people in the world who tirelessly labor, taking the love of God in tangible form wherever it is needed most. The Lord has blessed OGT in miraculous ways! May he be praised!!!

See you at the warehouse!

Together in His service,
Elfie

A FIRST STEP TO
RE-OPENING THE
WAREHOUSE

Recently a group of volunteers came to the warehouse in Millersville to help

THE GENEROSITY OF THE
ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN
FAMILY

The coronavirus has negatively affected all facets of our society, including Christian charities. In response, the Maryland branch sent out a plea on April 15 to the friends of OGT for a special contribution to
repack 96 boxes (3-1/2 pallets) worth of towels, wash cloths, and bedsheets. This repacking will enable OGT to rearrange an already full warehouse to ship items to Nicaragua in June.

assure that we will continue to be able to ship humanitarian aid. Three of our wonderful volunteers offered to provide a matching grant of up to $4,500.

Less than three weeks later, a total of $5,709 has been received. With the matching funds, the total amount to date equals $10,209! These resources will go a long way to ensuring that medical equipment, school supplies, clothes, and solar lights will reach those who are in critical need.

It is with immense gratitude that we are overjoyed with this display of generosity and, yes, love. This is a marvelous testimony to the power of God and the recognition that our family of volunteers and donors is extraordinary.

Thank you for your continuing support!

DONATE TO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

MAKING MASKS, SCRUB CAPS, AND HEADBANDS

Orphan Grain Train’s volunteers have not been idle these last few months while staying at home due to restrictions from COVID-19. OGT volunteers have made close to 3,300 face masks for distribution to hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living facilities, essential businesses, and organizations including Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services, Lutheran Mission Society, The Food Project and Judy Center (a learning hub program for supporting families in need). The Food Project is a subsidiary of local nonprofit UEmpower of Maryland that brings resources to underserved communities. This project continues to help people and touch lives all over our community, and beyond.

A parent sports a new face mask, thanks to the Judy
A doctor at University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center
Young people involved in The Food Project in Baltimore in
MUCH NEEDED AID REACHES KONGOR IN SOUTH SUDAN

The following photos were sent to Orphan Grain Train by Rev. Mark Diing with the Episcopal Diocese of Kongor in South Sudan, and also by Pastor Stephen.

They show a recently received container of humanitarian aid being received and unloaded. The supplies had to be transported across muddy, impassable roads to reach their destination and the waiting hands of those in desperate need.

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Visit our website
WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE RE-OPENING OF THE OGT WAREHOUSE AND THE ABILITY TO ACCEPT DONATIONS AND RESUME THE MEDICAL WALK-OUT PROGRAM!

WE HOPE TO SEND OUT DETAILS SOON, AND WE WILL ALSO POST INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.