I had seen a couple of pictures on social media of people making their daughters' dresses from their husbands' dress shirts and thought, "I could do that with the men's dress shirts that are donated to OGT but too soiled to ship." I just looked at the pictures and then cut to match the picture. One of the photos showed laying a little girl's dress over the shirt and cutting, and that is sort of what I do. There were always the sleeves left over and I wondered how I could use those for something. I saw a picture in a Christmas catalog of a set of pajamas for a little girl and her doll which gave me the idea of making a doll dress from the sleeve of the dress shirt. So I googled free patterns to sew dolls and found a number of them. I tried three different patterns of the dolls, all were similar, just a bit different size. My parents taught us many times there is another use for things, and think before you throw them out. In my retirement, I have been able to re-purpose many things like making these dresses and dolls along with quilts, pillowcase dresses, and children's shorts.

Rita
Dear Orphan Grain Train WI,
Thanks again for your support of this mission.

Blessings, Chris
Dear Orphan Grain Train WI,

The potatoes arrived about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon. We were able to give away 14 pallets of potatoes here at the ranch. We were also able to send a portion of the potatoes on to another ministry called Living Stone Ministry out of Laredo. And some potatoes were sent down to a ministry in Roma.

My friend Rick Caywood was also here, and he received part of the load. The potatoes that left with Mr. Rick were delivered to the people about 10 o'clock this morning. We were completely out of potatoes by 11:30 AM. We just want to thank you for all you've done and pray that you will be blessed! Thank you so much!

Lori Mercer
Cornerstone Children's Ranch
(September 18, 2020)
Dear friends,

The chairs y’all sent are going to good use in the Sierra of Coahuila! God is good, and serving Him is our joy. We have been able to help three new ministries in hard to reach places since February.

Food has been of so much help. The distribution supported 2000 families.

I will update you with more pictures soon.

If you would like to, you can keep up with our live site at Lutheranmission.org

Blessings!

Yael
SCARS

“Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ After He said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord” (John 20:19b+20).

How many of you have scars? There's always a story behind the scars, whether it's a scar from surgery, skin cancer, or an accident. The scars of Jesus also have a story behind them, and the disciples knew it all too well. They had seen Him crucified, with nails in His hands and feet. They had seen the wound in His side from the spear. They knew that their Lord was dead and buried, their hope was lost. But then Jesus appeared to the disciples and showed them the scars in His hands and side that identified who He was. It was only then, that they were “overjoyed” when they “saw” the Lord. Instead of chastising them He then sent them to proclaim the good news of His forgiveness.

The story is told of a family whose house caught on fire. They thought everyone got out safely; but when it was discovered the baby was missing, the mother went back into the fire for her daughter. She pushed away burning wood and finally reached into the cradle for her baby and got her out safely, but her hands were badly burned in the process. For years she went about the house with her hands covered, which embarrassed the daughter. Her friends made fun of her mother’s gloved hands. In fact, the girl became ashamed of her mother.

Then one day the daughter walked into her mother's room unexpectedly. There sat her mother with her hands uncovered. They were scarred and ugly. She quickly tried to cover them, but it was too late, her daughter had seen them. In disgust, the daughter said, “Mother, those are the ugliest hands I have ever seen.” Finally the mother felt she must tell her daughter about her hands.

“When you were a small baby, a fire destroyed our house. You were in your cradle and I had to fight my way through the flames to save you. I wrapped you in a blanket but my hands were badly burned. The doctors tried to repair my hands, but this is the best they could do. I know that you are ashamed of my hands, but these hands were scarred for you.” The girl took her mother's hands and buried her face in them and cried saying, “Mother, I'm so sorry. Forgive me! Those are the most beautiful hands I have ever seen.”

There was a story behind that mother's scars that changed her daughter's heart. We too know the story behind our Savior's scars. We know that He was scarred for us. He was scarred because of our sins, for the times we have been ashamed or denied our Lord. He was scarred for the times when our words or our actions left scars on others, even those we love. He willingly took the scars in love for you and me. Knowing His story, that He died for our sins, and knowing the rest of the story that He rose again to save us from the fires of hell, our hearts have been changed. We will not be ashamed of the scars, because they are beautiful to us.

The story behind our Savior's scars motivates us to share the good news of His love with others, because like the disciples, we are sent. Despite our past failings, our Lord entrusts us with the greatest responsibility in the world, to share the good news of His forgiveness with a scarred world. One way we can do that is through our work with OGT. Through our efforts we pray that by God’s grace and the work of the Holy Spirit, people will “See the Lord” through our labor of love. So may we continue to use our gifts and talents for this worthwhile mission, because Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!

Pastor Lamont
Dear Orphan Grain Train,

May the Rock of our salvation and Redeemer Jesus Christ continue to keep us strong during this difficult time of our lives. We truly believe in Him that we will overcome this Pandemic and share the story with our children and grandchildren.

Here are some pictures that I got from the last containers shipped to us from OGT Wisconsin Branch.

Have a Blessed Day,
Pastor Kollie
This letter is written to you on behalf of the head and management staff of kindergarten “KHUTHKUNCHULA”: for appreciation and for sending so many gifts and useful things. Our kids are really happy and grateful.

... Thank-you letter from the head of Tbilisi Elderly Home Mrs. Darejan Tomadze: Representatives of the organization Association of People with Disabilities, Women and Refugees visited our elderly home on February 10, 2021. They delivered to our institution items which are so essential for the people living in our Home: clothes, linen, diapers, medical inventory. The items, they delivered to us made our elder people too happy. They had chance to choose the items they were in need of. In behalf of the Elderly Home and elders living here, we express our gratitude to you and hope, our cooperation will continue.

THANKS from All of Us!

To Our Precious Orphan Grain Train Team,

Linda, myself, and our OGT board would just like to say "Thank you!" to everyone for hanging in there with us through the covid crisis this last year and a half. It has indeed been a crazy time!!

We did have to shut things down for a few months, but then we slowly all came together, one way or another, and started things back up. You have all been such a blessing and encouragement to us with your stories of how even when our OGT work shut down, you were all still busy at home: collecting, sewing, knitting, fund-raising, packing, boxing, saving, and organizing things for the future start-up!! What the enemy meant for evil, only made us stronger and pray harder!! We have been blessed with a team that sticks together, prays together, and works things out for the Glory of God together; and because of that, we have still been able to get more than half our loads out!! Praise God for His faithfulness!! That is why we are thanking you all again for standing strong through this tough year!! May God bless each one of you!!

In His Faithful Grip,
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In loving response to Christ, the Servant, the Orphan GrainTrain 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 Allie Sherron by phone or email. If you prefer to send by mail, please contact Linda Isberner.

Linda and Allie's contact information can be found on page 10 of this newsletter.