



WISCONSIN BRANCH Quarterly Newsletter

Relief for Human Need Worldwide

July 2022 - Volume 18 - Issue 2

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

CRISIS IN UKRAINE THE WAR CONTINUES

This year on February 24th, Russia invaded the Ukraine causing a refugee crisis that is hard to fathom. Millions have fled their country; many are displaced; and many because of health, age, and various other reasons have had to stay in place, bunkering down in their basements, bomb shelters, and/or just trying to find a safe haven. Tens of thousands have been either killed or hurt. So much destruction, sadness and heartache.

The Orphan Grain Train has been trying to help since the very start. Wisconsin had sent a container to the Ukraine in November that arrived at the port the week the war started. This particular container just happened to be filled from front to back with medical items for Smolin Ministries. God was way ahead of the war and was providing before the war had even started!! The port was bombed and closed soon after the container arrived. After many prayers and figuring out logistics, they found out the container survived and were able to pick it up. After which they immediately shared the contents with hospitals and families in desperate need. We thank God for His protection of this container and the contents within!! OGT has been sending containers and air shipments to the Ukraine and neighboring countries of Ukraine who are all helping to manage the refugee crisis. Wisconsin's airlift was filled with hygiene, medical, blankets, baby formula, diapers, major medical, boots, new underwear and socks, food, and so much more. Two sea containers are planned and ready, one hopefully will be leaving Wisconsin by August 10th with another to follow soon after. Wisconsin also sent a container to Latvia, some of which was used to help refugees in need there. I can't say it enough, but thank you to our generous OGT family and friends for helping us to make these loads happen!!

There have been so many delays and cancellations. Please continue to pray that God will clear the way for more needed supplies to get into the Ukraine without delay and for the funding to ship and buy the extra necessary items. We want to thank our generous donors, volunteers, and supporters that have given and worked so hard to make these precious relief shipments possible!! We have been filled with awe and brought to tears by the love and generous support from so many around our state and country! We could not do what we do without you!! Please continue to pray for the people of Ukraine and the relief workers there; for God's protection, strength, and encouragement in the face of such pain and suffering; and for His mercy, grace and presence to surround them all.

We will continue to keep you updated on the current needs and prayer requests as we get them from Vitaliy and his team in the Ukraine. Right now, we are currently collecting the following items for Ukraine: new socks and underwear for all ages, long underwear for all ages, baby diapers, adult incontinence, hygiene items (from the OGT hygiene kit list only), blankets (new or lightly used), winter coats and boots for all ages, and winter gloves, mittens and hats for all ages. Our mission leader Vitaliy has shared that winter is going to be unbearably hard for those left in Ukraine's war-torn areas, for they will have no electricity. These items will help immensely. Thank you again for all the support you have given!! We have an amazing OGT family, and we are so glad you are part of it!!! We thank the Lord for each one of you!!

God's richest Blessings to you all!!!
Together we change lives forever!!

In His Faithful Grip,
Cathy



More photos from Ukraine on pages 1-2





The Holidays at MANNA FROM HEAVEN



Cars lined up waiting to pick up boxes of food, clothing, toys, etc. for the holidays (below).



THANK YOU

from
Appalachia

I just wanted to thank you for a wonderful Christmas dinner. It was so good. Thank you!

I cannot thank you enough for everything that you do for the people of Appalachia. I found myself thinking about what I would have done this year for Thanksgiving and Christmas if it hadn't been for your giving out food boxes for Thanksgiving. I can't tell you the relief that I felt knowing that I had something to put on the table for dinner, something for my family to eat. Our groceries have started to cost too high, so I have to pick and choose what I get from the store. I have to choose things that I can make do with, and for Christmas you fed my family again. And I can't thank you enough also for the clothes, the coats, the gifts for my family. They were so appreciated and my family had a wonderful Christmas because of you and all that you do. I hope and pray that the year 2022 has a better outlook for the people of Appalachia. We all need prayer and hope for a better year and hope and prayer for the months to come.



I just wanted to say how much we appreciate your giving always. The food helps us out through the month and holidays. Our children loved the coloring book and crayons and toys they received also.

Without Manna From Heaven I know without a doubt that there would be a lot of hungry citizens in the south.

I also want to thank all of the volunteers for all the hard work and dedication that made this hilly season a little brighter.



Dear Orphan Grain Train,
Greetings to you.

The children are ministered to
and have prayers before the meal
starts.

In Gorom, we have been
helping children but mothers and
fathers are also hungry. We have
not been able to help parents
because the meal wouldn't be
enough.

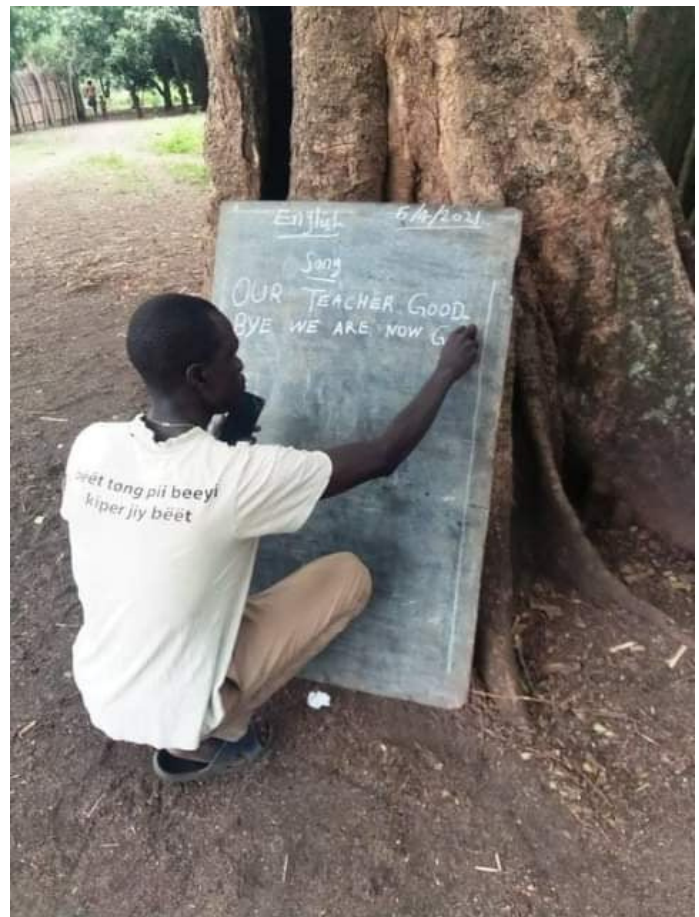
The UN in South Sudan is
projecting hunger increase due to
people not cultivating prevented
by insecurity and floods this year.
So our meals will, Lord willing, save
lives in months to come during the
rainy season.

May God bless you,
William Okweari

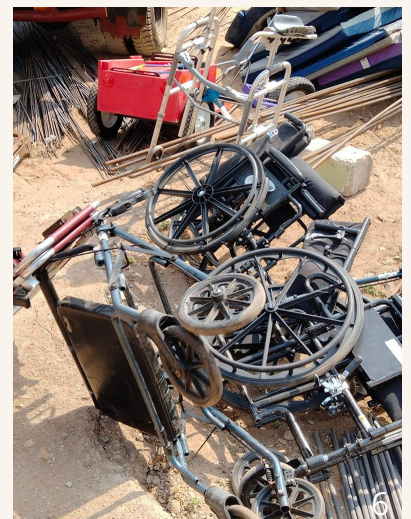
SOUTH SUDAN



School Time



Load Arriving



SOUTH SUDAN CONTINUED...

Dear Orphan Grain Train,

I received these picture this morning from Pochalla, South Sudan. This man has been a paralytic since birth. We do not know the cause, but we suspect polio. He has received this wheelchair from OGT, and he is using it and has been able to get off the floor for the first time since birth. It's a miracle and at the same time touching.

Thank you very much for your help,
William Okweari



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTORS

"HOW DO GODS LIVE?"

Graciously, of course; especially in this hurting world.

Grace, mercy and peace to you through Jesus Christ. AMEN

In John 10 Jesus quoted Psalm 82 as part of our Law, God's Law. It has the authority of Scripture which cannot be broken! Jesus came to authenticate it; to make it true and prove it to be true.

We might not always think about the Psalms that way so it is a good thing Jesus spoke this way and made it so clear for us.

Psalm 10:34-36 says, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I said, you are gods'? If He called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken—do you say of Him Whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?"

Our God came as the Man, Jesus Christ, to be the fulfillment of the Law for us. He is the One Who completes the Law for mankind. And He tells us what it means.

Jesus tells the people who were ready to kill Him that it is right to say what the Bible says; "You are all gods." So they should not try to kill Jesus when Jesus says, "I am the Son of God," or "I and the Father are one."

Later, in John 17, Jesus prays to our Father in heaven for us all to be one with God in the same way that Jesus is one with the Father. When we are Baptized in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we are baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus and we are 'children of God'! Together with Jesus. "You are all gods."

God created mankind to be with Him forever! Praise be to God, He makes that possible even though we have fallen into sin. God is so gracious that He gives us a new life in Jesus even though our first life has been ruined by our sin.

Psalm 82:6-7 says, "I said, 'You are gods, sons of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince.'" Now Jesus tells us we will also be raised from the dead by the grace of God through faith in

Jesus. That is the very reason Jesus came to be one of us human beings.

Some people are still not understanding God's Holy Scripture. Some still want to kill those who say they are gods. They don't want us to claim that we are children of God. Christians are persecuted and even killed today in many places around the world. We may face more and more persecution for being Christians. Don't let that get in the way of being God's person, a friend of God, a servant of God, like our Savior, Jesus, Who served our God by setting His glory aside and becoming the atoning sacrifice that takes our sin away. We are one with our suffering Savior. That is part of being gods.

How do gods live? We live by grace. God is gracious enough to give us life even though we die, He is gracious enough to die in our place so that we can be forgiven of all our sin. He makes us gods even though we die, and we act like gods when we are gracious like our God.

In another place Jesus says, "Be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect." (Matthew 5:48) and "If you would be perfect...come follow Me." (19:21)

We need to be perfect and Jesus makes us perfect through His sacrifice. Now our lives are a sacrifice to God because He has shown us that grace is the way to live as gods. In God we are perfectly gracious even unto death (we forgive as we have been forgiven). Then, because Jesus has risen from the dead, we will, also, and we will continue being gods with God forever.

Following Jesus means suffering with Jesus as we show His grace to those around us.

We thank God for the opportunities OGT gives us to tackle some of the suffering of this world as His servants and we tackle it graciously (and as gracefully as possible).

*In the Name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN*

Pastor Meier

COLLECTING KITS for ICE CREAM

THANK YOU!!!
St. Martin Lutheran
School Student
Council

The St. Martin Lutheran School Student Council sponsored a collection event for the St. Martin Lutheran School and Church to collect items to make kits for Orphan Grain Train. We had a competition between the upper grades to see who could collect the most items. The eighth graders won ice cream sandwiches by collecting the most items. We were able to compile fifty-eight complete kits and two full boxes of extra supplies for Orphan Grain Train. We are so thankful for those who helped us in this effort.



SPECIAL NOTES

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

Orphan Grain Train is in need of baby clothing and children's shoes (sizes INFANT through children's LARGE) new or lightly used.

Camp LuWiSoMo

Upcoming Events

Aug. 13 - LuWiSoMo Family Day

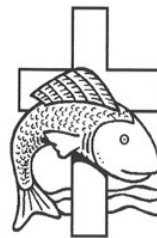
Sept. 13 - Cracking Clays for LuWiSoMo

Jan. 8-13 - Winter Joyful Hearts

*see website for Summer Camps

*see website for Fall Work Days

www.luwisomo.org



XXVIII ANNUAL FISH BOIL

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
210 S. Charles Street
Westfield, Wisconsin

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2022

Serving 4:30-7:00 pm



Proceeds to go to the Orphan Grain Train (Wisconsin Branch) to help people in need

Menu:

Fish (Cod), Potatoes, Onions, Cole Slaw, Beans, Bread, Beverage, Dessert

TICKET PRICES:

Adults \$10.00 — Child (6-12) \$3.50 — Under 6 Free
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW! Call (608) 296-2088 for tickets.

Tickets also available at the door.
(Carry Outs Available)

This ad made possible by BMO Financial Group, American Family Insurance, Pace Chiropractic, National Exchange Bank, Pioneer Power & Light Co., Westfield Electric Co., Ramotar, D.D.S., all of Westfield, and One Community Bank, Oxford. Supplemental Funds have been applied for from Thrivent Financial!

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN WISCONSIN BRANCH OFFICERS:

Cathy Robinson
Branch Manager
608-697-6858
800-933-2121 ext.1706
cathy@brakebush.com

Marilyn Mueller
Branch Treasurer
715-678-2709
mamu@tds.net

Pat Waters
Warehouse Inventory Manager
608-296-5138
plwatersotr@yahoo.com

Tricia Grimm
Purchasing Agent
715-540-0773
dtgrimm@tzn.net

Dennis Andreasen
Asst. Branch Manager South
608-768-7543
dbandreasen@rucls.net

Cindy Braatz
Branch Secretary
715-842-7320
cindy.braatz@agcountry.com

Rita Woller
Public Relations
715-675-7188
rswoller@yahoo.com

Allie Sherron
Media Director
608-617-9125
ansherron@gmail.com

Wayne Flanagan
Asst. Branch Manager North
715-842-4204
Sanflan73@gmail.com

Ida Frizzell
Corresponding Secretary
715-824-3780
frizzell@wi-net.com

Pastor Bruce Lamont
Pastoral Advisor
715-849-2441
bruceblamont@gmail.com

Linda Isberner
Administrative Secretary
800-933-2121 ext. 1202
lisberner@brakebush.com

Chuck Tesnow
Asst. Branch Manager
715-213-4175
edelweiss@tzn.net

Larry Reidenbach
Logistics Manager
608-617-6593
ljrwis@gmail.com

Pastor Mark Meier
Pastoral Advisor
608-341-6017
meierfam@gmail.com

Brakebush Brothers
Attn: Linda Isberner
N4993 6th Drive
Westfield, WI 53964-9511



Relief for Human Need Worldwide

Orphan Grain Train

N4993 6th Drive

Westfield, WI 53964-9511

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

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN MISSION STATEMENT

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.

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!