



## Orphan Grain Train +

### Good Tidings

News -for and about -  
OGT Maryland  
May, 2025

## Bidding Farewell to our Leader

Saying Goodbye is never easy, and this is certainly the case as we bid farewell to Bruce Coonrad. For the past four years Bruce has served as the Manager of the Maryland Branch of OGT. During his tenure, he has given selflessly of his time and talent in keeping our Branch running smoothly. It's true that Bruce has had many dedicated volunteers to ensure that the work got done, but Bruce's leadership was essential in making sure it all got done efficiently and in a timely manner, even if that meant completing the job himself! His love of God and love of neighbor (both near and far) was always apparent. Everyone who worked with Bruce can surely attest to that. While we will certainly miss Bruce and his wife, Martha, we wish them well as they begin their new adventure in moving to North Carolina to be near family. Bruce has agreed to stay on as a member of our Board of Directors and for that we are most fortunate and most thankful!



Bruce and Martha will be at the Warehouse on Saturday, June 21st, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Volunteers and supporters who would like to say goodbye are welcome to stop by during that time period, talk with Bruce, and have a little something to eat.

## Final Message from Bruce

Dear Friends of OGT,

I want to convey my appreciation for your support of me as Branch Manager of OGT for the past 4 years. At the board meeting yesterday I resigned from my position. This was a hard decision but as I stated at the meeting, it was not fair to you or to my wife to try to split my time as I am working to move to North Carolina.

My position remains open while the search committee continues to seek to fill it. I feel OGT Maryland is in a good position financially and with wonderfully capable personnel to continue serving and helping others.

With Tony as the Operations Manager and Irene handling administration you-all won't even know I am gone. It has been my privilege to work with such dedicated servants of the Lord, and I will miss you-all.

**I know one day we will all be together again. My words to you-all are the same as I know the Lord would say "Well done my good and faithful servants. " Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you.**

**Bruce**

## **Annual Pastor's Brunch**



**Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Pastors' Brunch was held on Thursday, May 1st. Twenty people were in attendance, with 7 churches represented. We were also happy to have 2 guests from Thrivent-Liberty Team with us.**

**The Brunch was our way of connecting with local church pastors and mission boards and letting them know of our ministry. After a meal (that started with an Oysters Rockefeller appetizer!), Branch Manager, Bruce Coonradt, shared what we do. Following this, Admin Ass't, Irene Giguere, distributed gift bags and talked about ways we can partner together to serve those in need. Those who weren't familiar with our Warehouse were invited to stay for a Warehouse tour.**

## **April 12th - Super Saturday**

**What happens when 21 members of Lighthouse Church of Glen Burnie, 12 student workers, 5 first time volunteers and 10 OGT members get together? LOTS!! This brigade of volunteers came together on Saturday, April 12th. They packed 109 boxes of clothes (a possible record), cleared and mulched all the flower beds and sorted over 2 pallets of sports apparel. Thanks to our OGT crew for planning and supervision, Lighthouse for designating us as one of their service projects, and all those who blessed us with their gift of time.**



## **Two Special Packing Days in May!**



The inventory in our warehouse was getting pretty low and we prayed that donated goods would come in. Apparently, we prayed too hard! In a matter of a week, Standard Textile delivered 14 pallets of goods and two churches blessed us with an abundance of clothing. We put out a call to our volunteers to come sort and pack on two consecutive Saturdays in May and they didn't disappoint! 30 volunteers showed up the first day and 28 on the second. A

total of 261 boxes were packed. Thanks to all the volunteers who came out on such short notice to help put a sizable dent in our donation pile! OGT volunteers are the best!

## Thank you, Thrivent Members

Thanks to all of the Thrivent members who recently designated their Choice Dollars to go to the Maryland Branch of Orphan Grain Train. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, as it allows us to continue to carry out our mission of serving the needy here in the US and around the world!



## Shipment to Ukraine



On May 15th, a 40-foot container was packed with 21,271 pounds of goods and is now making its way to Ukraine to support the children and community of the Bible Orphan Ministry in Zhytomyr. This ministry is directed by Alla Vasylieva who came and spoke to us at the warehouse last fall about the six orphanages that she manages in Ukraine and the needs of the children. This shipment contained clothing, shoes, hospital equipment, medical supplies and durable equipment, hygiene supplies, sewing machines and supplies, fabric, dry food, and more. We would like to thank everyone who donated items for this shipment, as well the loading team who made this gift to the children of the Ukraine a reality. And of course, we appreciate all the volunteers who tirelessly picked up, boxed, washed, repaired,

sorted, packed, inventoried, and organized all that was shipped. This mission indeed takes a village!!!



## Large Donation from Standard Textile



Standard Textile recently sent us 14 pallets of linens, blankets, towels, scrubs, hospital gowns, and men's and women's clothing. They have been very generous to us in the past, but this shipment far exceeded previous donations in volume. These items will be sent to the needy here in the States, as well as all the countries we serve. We sincerely thank Standard Textile for supporting our mission over the years through their generous donations.

## Donation of Hand-Crafted Desks



Calvary United Methodist Church of Annapolis recently donated 23 folding student desks. The design makes it easy to stack and ship!



Ten of these desks were included in the recent shipment to Ukraine. The remainder will be sent to Liberia at a later date.

## Lab Equipment Delivered to Local Schools

### St. Mary's High School STEM Program

Several months ago we picked up lab equipment from AACC and we delivered the items to two local schools - The Naval Academy Primary School and St. Mary's High School. Pictured here are students of St. Mary's STEM Program using some of the equipment. Their teacher was elated to receive this donation!





## Restaurant Fundraisers

Thanks to all of our supporters who helped make our recent fundraiser at Ellie's Place a success. The fundraiser brought in \$500!

### *Mark Your Calendars ...*

On May 28th we will be having a special fundraiser at Cafe Mezzanotte in Severna Park from 4:00 - 9:00 PM with availability of outdoor seating. See the flyer below.

Please join us! You are sure to have a wonderful time while supporting our OGT mission.



## Upcoming Fundraiser



**Wednesday, May 28**

**4:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

**760 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park**

**410-647-1100 – [www.cafemezz.com](http://www.cafemezz.com)**

**CAFÉ MEZZANOTTE Fundraiser,**

**15% of sales (dine-in and carry-out) will benefit**

**OGT MARYLAND BRANCH**

***Orphan Grain Train-Maryland Branch, is a 501©(3) organization, and an all-volunteer ministry to the needy. The Maryland Branch operates from a 6,300 square foot warehouse that allows collection and distribution of goods to those in need in this country and throughout the world. This outreach includes natural disaster relief, and an active Medical Walkout Program with medical equipment available at no cost to people in our community.***

**[www.ogt.org/md](http://www.ogt.org/md) – Warehouse location: 621 East-West Blvd.,  
Millersville MD, 21108**

***Mailing address: P.O. Box 1741, Millersville MD 21108 - 410-417-9674***

## REFLECTION FOR TODAY



***It does not make things easy,  
it makes them possible.***

***-Luke 1:37***

## JOIN US IN PRAYER

**Please remember our OGT community in your prayers!**

- Our Volunteers
- Our Donors and Supporters
- Recipients of our humanitarian aid

**Continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine,  
Israel and Palestine and for an end to these wars.**



## USED PRINTER CARTRIDGE PROGRAM



**Orphan Grain Train accepts your used printer cartridges as part of a recycling program that provides funding for OGT. Please continue to bring your depleted cartridges to the warehouse when you come to volunteer, donate, or visit.**

## VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Orphan Grain Train is always looking for new volunteers. Many opportunities, both large and small, are available. For more information, please call 410-417-9674 or stop by the warehouse any Monday or Tuesday morning (9:00 - noon), Tuesday evening (5:00 - 7:00 p.m.), or the second Saturday of each month (9:00 - noon).



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**Warehouse Location:**

621 East-West Blvd.,  
Millersville MD 21108

[Donate to Orphan Grain Train](#)

**Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 1741  
Millersville MD 21108

**Email:** [md-orphangraintrain@ogt.org](mailto:md-orphangraintrain@ogt.org)

**Maryland Branch Phone Directory**  
410-417-9674



[Visit our website](#)

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**Contact us for details on our  
Medical Walk Out Program  
including donations and availability.  
410-417-9674**

