



May 2023

Ya'll are invited to our Fish Fry!



You read that correctly. Our Indiana Branch Orphan Grain Train in Jonesville invites you to a **Volunteer Appreciation Lunch Open House on Saturday, June 17**. Come join the OGT Board for lunch between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. We ask you to please RSVP so that food preparation can be made accordingly. You may call the warehouse number, 812-405-2045, or email your response to indianaogt@gmail.com to let us know you are coming.

We want to celebrate the many hours of service that our volunteers have given and for the many, many folks who have so generously made donations of clothing, furniture, housewares, and appliances, as well as donated financially. All of this has allowed OGT to help people in need get a "hand-up and a foothold" on life once again.

Our Lord Jesus directs our hearts and eyes to see those in need around us and respond as He has first done with us—in love and mercy.

Remember to mark the date now—**Saturday, June 17!** Hope to see you there. **Please RSVP soon.**

These kids get it!



These young people from Immanuel Lutheran School in Seymour gathered up Christmas supplies and filled more than 100 boxes for children around the world. We are not sure where the boxes of OGT Christmas gifts went, but we can be sure that some boy or girl had a gift box this year that helped make Christmas a bit more special because of some who cared.

Also, the Sunday School children from Emanuel, Dudleytown, gave their Christmas Eve offering to OGT to help fund transportation costs.

Hearts growing in the love of Jesus find ways to help others. Thank you to both groups for doing and sharing as the Lord has given to you.



Harold Mathews, from Immanuel Seymour, loaded his pickup with cleaning supplies bound for Selma, Alabama, for tornado cleanup. Helping load was

Colin Scheidt. The scrub buckets were filled by the Seymour Zone LWML as a project to celebrate the 80th birthday of the LWML. Thank you to all who were involved in some way to make this happen.



Latvia 2023! The group from Toyota Materials and Handling was here on a beautiful February morning to fill the container with winter and summer clothes, medical equipment, and bikes. Part of the load will be trucked to another location for Ukrainian refugees while the remaining will be used by the ministry of Fonds Saules Kalns. Thanks to these willing workers for a job well done!



Mowing service!

After many years of mowing grass at OGT, Dave Murphy is retiring his mower and we thank Dave for his time serving in this way. Now Bob Judge has stepped forward and offered to mow grass at OGT.

Thank you, Bob, for answering a need and may the Lord bless your time as you serve by mowing.



Welcome our newest board members:

Earl and Arlene Ayers are members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Brownstown, and recently said "yes" to serving on the OGT Board. Earl has been helping out with restoring and refinishing some of the donated pieces of furniture in need of repair. Arlene helps take the sorting load off our regular Wednesday guy, Greg, by filling bunkers in the back warehouse. These bunkers are filled with toys and household items that are delivered to our southern border ministry partners and Kentucky outreach partners.

High School Senior Projects

Liam and Jazzmyne are two seniors who chose to repair and refinish furniture so that OGT could donate upgraded furniture items to local people in need. Below are two examples of the work that each of them did. Thanks to both for your time and help.





And two more Seniors completed projects

Brody Voss, senior at Columbus North, finished up his “Ingathering” for OGT and delivered 6 pickup loads of clothing to the warehouse. This helps build up the unsorted clothing inventory... which means our volunteers won’t be drawing unemployment benefits!!



And, Luke Chandler, a senior at Columbus North, completed his “Ingathering” of clothes, plus a check to OGT to help offset transportation costs. He brought in 22 large Menard’s boxes of sorted clothes and a check to OGT from the auction he hosted in conjunction with Mensendiek Auction, Jonesville.

Angels Unaware.....

Not that angels are unaware, but I’m sure many times you and I are. On January 27, I had my “angel unaware” moment while taking a trailer load of food, supplies, clothes, and bikes to *Manna From Heaven* in Myra, KY. As I was nearing Lexington, my phone guidance said there was an hour and a half

stoppage on I-64, and would I like a detour route, to which I quickly responded, “yes!” Unbeknownst to me, the wreck involved a freak ice storm that had just passed over Lexington and had created some terrible driving conditions. My detour took me right into the teeth of the iced roads. For the next hour and a half, my knuckles stayed white and glued to the steering wheel. At long last I was about to make it onto Citation Blvd. As I started my turn onto the four-lane highway, I noticed my lane was totally iced over. Slowly, I inched my way forward, but the slight uphill grade and lack of speed left me sitting on the highway spinning my wheels and getting nowhere. As I was wondering what to do, a “lady” and her dog came walking out of the grassy median and across the highway. She looked at me and I shrugged my shoulders with the look of utter desperation. She came alongside the passenger window and then motioned me to put it down. She calmly said, “I will have the people behind you back up so you can angle into the other lane where the traffic is moving. Then I will stop traffic in that outside lane so you can get there and get moving again.” And she did! After that, all I could do was wave a “thank you” as I pulled out and headed east.

Why was there a “lady” and her dog out walking on a normally busy highway in the middle of an ice storm? Who has the awareness of what to do and to do it with such authority in an emergency situation? Only the Lord knows, but I am truly grateful for this “angel” and her help on that icy morning. And, yes, I made it down to Myra, delivered the load without further incident, and then made it back home again without any problems. Thanks be to the Lord who is in control—always!

Signed, Gene, who is much more aware of angels among us!

OGT Wish List

1. **Prayers of the faithful** that OGT Indiana continues to serve the needs of those less fortunate, and remains true to the Lord’s challenge defined in James regarding the care of widows and orphans, as well as the words of the Lord who calls us to clothe the

naked, feed the hungry, care for the sick, and visit those in prison.

2. **Drivers and those willing to assist** in picking up donations, especially appliances and furniture. Please call 812-405-2045 to add your name to the OGT list of volunteers.
3. **Volunteers** willing to share a couple of hours a week or every other week or whatever fits your schedule. The basic days for sorting and packing items are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Other times can be scheduled whenever OGT members are available.
4. **Receptionist** on Thursdays to answer the phone, help direct people, and be a smiling, welcoming face for those who come.
5. **A bike repairman** – this prayer has also been answered and Lance has offered up his service after his retirement is in effect. Thank you, Lance!

Email your newsletter? If this is something you'd like, please email indianaogt@gmail.com and let us know.

For Your Information

OGT is here to receive your donations in a couple of ways.

1. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, donations can be delivered through our drive through where folks will be on hand to help unload.
2. On days OGT is closed there is an enclosed trailer on the East side of the building near the overhead door. It is unlocked so that your donations can be put inside.
3. OGT has two 18' trailers that are used to pick up the larger donations of appliances and furniture. Please call the warehouse number, 812-405-2045, to make arrangements for a pickup. Wednesday and Thursday mornings are the usual days available for pickups.
4. A special OGT box is available in the coat room at St. Peter's Lutheran, Columbus. Items can be brought and placed in the box when you come to worship.

OGT Board Members are Earl and Arlene Ayers, Elinor Brown, Jan Buss, Al and Marge Lazzell, Jerry and Carol Maley, Charles Meier, Irene Shireman, Vaughn Sylva, Gene Wint, Pastor Bauman, and Branch Manager Gene Ernst.

These folks serve as volunteers along the myriad of other volunteers who sort, pack, load trailers, and help with pickups every week. Volunteers are indeed the heart of Orphan Grain Train. Say a prayer of thanks for them and for what they are doing and have done for 25 years at OGT Indiana Branch.

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Orphan Grain Train is a 501c3 Nonprofit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world. Orphan 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.

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Orphan Grain Train
209 Jackson, Jonesville IN 47247
812-405-2045
indianaogt@gmail.com
Visit www.ogt.org/indiana

OPEN HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

AND please remember to RSVP about the Open House Volunteer Appreciation Meal on **June 17 from **11-1 p.m.****

Thank you and on behalf of the entire OGT Board, we hope to see you there as we celebrate and remember 25 years of OGT Indiana Branch.

Serving the Lord with you,

Gene Ernst, Volunteer Manager

