



November 2022

Greetings from OGT, Jonesville, Indiana!

"We have been hit hard! Our alert went off at 2 a.m. warning of flood waters. I went outside and checked but there was nothing. Twenty minutes later the water was coming over the threshold of our house." Ralph and Lois Tackett's home was damaged by the flooding, and their pickup was smashed up against a tree. *Manna from Heaven*, the ministry run by Ralph and Lois in Myra, KY, was also flooded. The ministry is a food pantry, clothing and furniture distribution outlet to churches and individuals in the area. The picture below shows their storage building after the 4' flood water had receded.



Thanks to the generosity of Indiana OGT donors, help arrived and the people of the Myra area were blessed. Ministry continues as the name of the Lord is raised up and praised! Thank you to all!



Through a collection center established in Columbus and a quick plea issued for cleaning supplies, water, and canned goods, Roger Neptune and I delivered two filled 18' trailers to them the following week.

Three weeks later Indiana Branch OGT delivered two large chest freezers, *Love the Hungry* meals, school kits, hygiene kits, shoes, clothes, a washer and dryer, and two electric ranges. The next picture shows a portion of the supplies delivered for the Saturday distribution by *Manna from Heaven* for the many folks devastated by the flooding.



But that's not all. On August 3 a third container was loaded and shipped to Romania for the Ukraine refugees. This one was a challenge due to many logistical issues but the Lord's will prevailed and after three months it was finally on its way. Word has been received that this container arrived and is helping Ukrainian refugees now! Praise the Lord for His continued mercy.



And speaking of logistical issues, a 48' trailer sitting on location in Jonesville is filled with goods for Haiti. It's getting closer for the green light to go. We're waiting for the *Denton Program*, which operates through the United States Air Reserve at Grissom AFB, to be cleared to land at the airport in Haiti once the unrest and violence settle down. At this time, we're number six on the shipping order. We keep praying for the final go ahead.

The tables and chairs below, donated by St. Peter's Lutheran School in Columbus, were part of the 53' trailer load delivered to *Ysleta Lutheran Mission*, El Paso, TX. *Ysleta* is about a mile from the Rio Grande border and has been experiencing the immigration crisis and is in need of all that we can send them.



Scrub buckets filled with cleaning supplies were assembled by the CIA (Christians in Action) 8th grade team from St. Peter's school. They were sent with

Greg and Thecla Patterson who drove to Florida to volunteer with *Samaritan's Purse* in helping clean up after Hurricane Ian. The supplies were delivered to a church on Sanibel Island. Thank you!



And finally, we are readying another load to the southern border, this time to Pavilion Ministries in San Benito, TX, under the leadership of Pastor Weber.

OGT Indiana has been busy these past months. Because of your support financially and with your donations of goods and with your prayer support we are able to keep going strong. Your continued support is appreciated and needed, so, **if you are able to send a donation** with the enclosed envelope, please do so with the knowledge that it is going to help many others in need. Thank You!

Bike repair Handyman needed!

OGT has a wonderful working relationship with Columbus Fitness and Bike Shop. They continue to provide bikes to OGT for fixing up and sending to people in various places like Myra, KY, and Riga, Latvia. There are always bikes in need of repair and maintenance. Many Thrivent Action Team Cards have been used to buy parts. If you know of someone who might be interested in working on bikes, please call the OGT office, 812-405-2045, and talk with Gene. Somebody needs that bike!

People ask- what do you need?

Easily 75% of OGT's donations and shipments are clothes of all sizes and styles, men's, women's, and children's, so please keep it coming.

Next on the list is good, clean, practical furniture. Number one request: mattress and bed springs; then, dressers, sofas, and recliners. Appliances are always in demand: washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves, and window air conditioners. Kitchen items of all sorts are needed, but especially silverware, pots and pans. Lamps come and go and the supply rarely keeps up with the demand.

And what are items we can't use? Some **unneeded items** include: old, large TVs; electronic equipment; typewriters; file cabinets; suitcases; desks (unless small ones for computers); books (except we do take Bibles and children's books); nothing broken, dirty, or impractical for people in need. Due to children who may have allergies, we are not able to ship stuffed animals unless they are new.

We want to give the best we can. The goal of OGT's giving is to help the person feel good about themselves in receiving items that are useful, clean, and that reflect our commitment of giving the best that can be offered.



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While you are looking at your Thrivent page, please check out the **Thrivent Action Team Card**. It allows you to request a \$250 Action card for a project of your choice. Some examples of card usage include: supplies of school items for school kits used here in the United States and overseas, buying bicycle parts for repairing bikes to be given away, and buying supplies for disaster kits that are put into 5-gallon pails for use after disasters, such as tornadoes and hurricanes. Check with OGT in Jonesville to find other areas where an Action Team card can be used.

When OGT isn't open...there is a solution!

On the East side of the warehouse is an enclosed trailer for placing your donations. Please put your items inside the trailer. **Please, please**, however, be sure to check the list of items that we are unable to use and adjust your donation accordingly. Donated clothes (no hangers please) in large plastic bags work best for storage in the warehouse. If you would like a receipt, please call and leave a message or leave a note with your address so a receipt can be sent. Thank you.

OGT Wish List

1. **Prayers** that OGT Indiana continues to serve the needs of those less fortunate, and remains true to the Lord's challenge defined in God's Word, the book of James, chapter 1 regarding the care of widows and orphans, as well as the words of the Lord in the Gospel of Matthew 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 help** pick up donations, such as furniture and appliances on Wednesday and/or Thursday. 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 to oversee.
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** for doing minor tune-ups, repair/replace tires, and make a bike ride well and look good again. Funds are available for the purchase of parts, tires, tubes etc.

Where does OGT stand nationally?



Charity Navigator ranks non-profit organizations. OGT, headquartered in Norfolk, NE, is one of 9,000 charities that accept only private donations and OGT has been ranked as **#6 out of the 9,000**.

The following bullet points are a tremendous tribute to the work and ministry of OGT for more than 30 years.

- ❖ 4 Stars- Highest Charity Navigator rating
- ❖ 100% for Overall Score and Rating for Financial, Accountability and Transparency
- ❖ Financial Performance: 98.2% of donations help those in need; 1.8% go to administrative and marketing costs.

If interested in looking at the rating, go to:

<https://www.charitynavigator.org>

What is Orphan Grain Train?

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.

Mission Statement

In loving response to Christ, the Servant, the Orphan Grain Train 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.

Email your newsletter?

If this is something you'd like, please email indianaogt@gmail.com

Gene Ernst

Indiana Branch Volunteer Manager

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Visit www.ogt.org/indiana

OPEN HOURS

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

**We wish you
God's blessings
as you celebrate
Thanksgiving and Christmas!**

