



Orphan Grain Train Headliner

October 18, 2018

The Headliner tells about the latest shipments, events, fundraisers and distribution of humanitarian aid in the United States and worldwide by the 27 Regional locations of the Orphan Grain Train. Learn how you can be a part of the bigger picture. Thank you for your support of the ministry and mission of OGT.



Support Needed for Disaster Relief Efforts

Currently OGT is assisting families affected by Hurricane Harvey, Florence and Michael, Hawaii's volcano Kilauea, and flood waters in Wisconsin also recently OGT has helped victims of California fires and Marshalltown, IA tornado. These storms and natural disasters are costly and we plan to be there for the long term. OGT is asking for your support to continue to help our neighbor's rebuild their homes and lives from hurricane Florence and Michael. If you are able to give toward OGT's Disaster Relief Efforts then please consider having your gift doubled by donating online at Thrivent.com. Thrivent will match up to \$1 million in personal donations made online through www.livegenerously.com to specific disaster relief organizations helping with ongoing recovery efforts – including ours! The matching opportunity will run through December 31, 2018, or until the \$1 million goal is met, whichever comes first. Thrivent will also help pay processing fees, so 100 percent of your donation goes to help those in need. Thank you for your support of OGT's Disaster Relief Efforts.

[Donate Now](#)

Please call OGT at (402) 371-7393 or toll free (877) 371-7393 with questions or assistance with donating online to Thrivent.



Clean Up Supplies Collected

Working together, congregations and friends in Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania have collected and shipped disaster relief supplies down to the hurricane victims in the Carolinas. The first shipment, filled our Maryland Branch truck, was driven down by Liz and Tom DeMik in September. The supplies were delivered to churches in Jacksonville and Haverlock, NC. A second truckload was taken down by the DeMiks on October 16. Maryland

Branch will continue to collect supplies for another shipment later this year.

Hurricane Relief

Ohio Collection Center in Napoleon delivered hurricane relief supplies consisting of blankets, clothing, new undies, disaster supplies, furniture, diapers, hygiene kits, toys and school kits to Harp Mission in Caldwell, OH. Harp Mission will deliver the supplies to the Carolina's for disaster relief. Thank you Ohio volunteers and donors!

Helping Homeland

When Jacob Puka, then 7 years old, left Panpandiar in 1987, he couldn't have imagined how his village in South Sudan would be blessed because of him. He is one of the "Lost Boys of Sudan", children who were orphaned because of the violent civil war in that country, and walked through bush and desert, to reach refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia for safety. Puka, now a nuclear medicine technologist working at Howard County General Hospital in Columbia, MD, joined in helping to load the container to his



village. The shipment to South Sudan was loaded on October 12 at the Maryland Branch warehouse and contained items such as clothing, bikes, school desks, tables, chairs, blankets, sheets, soccer balls, Luci lights (solar powered), and hospital linens. Pictured is Elfie Eberle, Maryland Branch manager with Jacob Puka.

Thousands Served

Last week OGT had 7 international shipments to 7 different recipients in 4 countries; Rep of Georgia, Latvia, Liberia, India, and South Sudan from the Norfolk warehouse and 4 Branches; Wisconsin, Iowa West, Central Iowa, and Maryland! This is an amazing week with inventory value of \$2,121,854.00!! Over 2 million shipped internationally in one week! Imagine the number of children and families being blessed by all these gifts from our volunteers and donors – Thank you!



Room For Meals

Mercy Meals of North Dakota has purchased a container from OGT to be used to house their raw products and also the completed boxed meals! Mercy Meals of North Dakota was started in March of 2015 and donate all meals to OGT's North Dakota Branch to distribute to those in need in the US and around the world. To God be the glory!

Together for One Cause

Rocky Mountain Branch in Julesburg, CO and the Norfolk warehouse teamed up to ship bicycles, various foods, clothing, medical equipment/supplies and household items to Ysleta Missions in El Paso, TX. What fabulous gifts for the children and families being served at Ysleta.



Gift of Socks

Recently Maryland Branch received a donation of 2,000 Bombas brand socks! Bombas is derived from the Latin word for bumblebee. Bees live in a hive and work together to make their world a better place. For every pair of socks Bombas sells, they donate a pair. Socks are the #1 requested clothing item by homeless shelters. These comfortable socks have a thicker sole and an antibacterial treatment that is especially helpful for the homeless. The Bombas socks donated to OGT were given to the

homeless in Baltimore on Sunday, September 23rd by Pastor Elliott Robertson at Martini Lutheran Church in Baltimore. What an awesome way to help those in need – thank you Bombas!

Blessings for the Children

Missouri West Collection Center located in Concordia delivered toys, backpacks, clothing, shoes, blankets, towels, and medical equipment to Cornerstone Children's Ranch in Quemado, TX. This was posted on OGT Facebook and Lori Mercer with Cornerstone wrote: "They are going to those in need tomorrow morning. God bless you all for blessing the children. This past week the temperature has dropped 57° with a cold north wind and rain and without heat in the homes the blankets will be a major blessing along with the shoes thank you". Thank you for supporting OGT's border missions.

Devotion by Paul Leckband, OGT Correspondent

Read: Hebrews 4(1-13) 14-16

"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we possess." Hebrews 4:12-13

"The Sharpest Sword" A 1st century reader of this epistle would have immediately brought to mind the short but sharp double-edged sword carried by Roman soldiers. Shield in one hand to provide protection from an enemy's blows, Roman soldiers could turn into killing machines, as they used their swords to thrust, strike, slash their victims. Few of those victims would survive an encounter with a Roman foot soldier.

And we're told that God's Word is sharper than a Roman soldier's sword . . . or for that matter any samurai sword, machete, combat knife. Why? Because when it is preached, the Word penetrates to the heart, to the soul, "judging soul & spirit . . . thoughts & attitudes." If the writer of Hebrews had stopped with this metaphor, we would most likely be left in fear & trembling. Do I really welcome a sword that penetrates & exposes my darkest secrets?

Praise God that the writer doesn't stop with this imagery. He preaches Gospel to us. Jesus, our great High Priest, can sympathize with us; knows what it's like to face the temptations we face. He suffered the sharp blows of the devil, the world, & humanity's sinful flesh while hanging on that cross. And while He died from those terrible thrusts, He rose again on the 3rd day. When God's Word penetrates our hearts today, it reveals the faith He has bestowed on us by His grace & mercy. We need not fear a sword that will destroy us for our sins. We are forgiven! What does this passage say to a person who feels the guilt & weight of his or her sins? How can this knowledge produce the fruit of good works by those who believe?

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