JUMP in and SERVE

At the end of Confirmation instruction at Living Christ Lutheran Church in Madison, WI, confirmands are tasked with "putting their faith into action" through volunteer work in their communities. Each confirmand takes a spiritual gifts assessment to find out what his or her spiritual gifts are and then they are encouraged to use those gifts to volunteer in their communities.

Kate Hunter has always enjoyed playing sports, especially soccer and volleyball. Through Orphan Grain Train, she learned that many kids around the world have not been given the same opportunities that she has to play sports. So, she decided to put her faith into action by collecting sports balls of all varieties and monetary donations to give to Orphan Grain Train to distribute to children all over the world!
She also created a volleyball t-shirt with the logo "JUMP in and SERVE" as a way to raise funds but also spread the message to others that they too can find a way to serve in their communities.

Through her efforts, Kate was able to raise over $700 in monetary donations to purchase sports balls. In addition, through her generous church family, she was able to collect hundreds of gently used balls for kids around the world.

Thank you, Kate, for your gracious and compassionate heart to serve the children around the world, and thank you for sharing how anyone, anywhere can make a difference and spread the love of Jesus!
"It has been almost four weeks since a devastating earthquake struck southwestern Haiti, affecting more than 800,000 people. The 7.2 magnitude earthquake crumbled houses, schools and businesses, caused at least 2,248 deaths and injured 12,763 people...Homes, infrastructure and livelihoods - particularly in rural areas, where approximately 80% of the affected populations live - have been much harder-hit compared to urban centers...Thousands of people are displaced and are temporarily settled in 65 sites across the most affected departments." ¹

The photographs shown here are just two of Orphan Grain Train's ministry partners in Haiti.

As you can see, after the earthquake that occurred on August 14, 2021 in Haiti, the people are desperately in need of our assistance and prayers.

We have already sent two containers, and we will be continuing to send containers of aid and relief into the future.

In response to the needs, we are collecting: hygiene items (bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.), towels, wash clothes, combs, brushes, OGT hygiene and layette kits, tents, tarps, water, flashlights, batteries, medical supplies (gauze, Band-Aids, wound wash, ointments, sterile gloves, medical tape or stretch tape for wounds, ace bandages, splints, etc.), new or lightly use tennis shoes and flip flops, sleeping mats, sleeping bags, and monetary gifts for shipping costs to Haiti as well as items we may need to purchase. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please send monetary gifts to Marilyn Mueller, and please designate gifts to Haiti relief.

Marilyn Mueller
N1459 Castle Drive
Medford, WI 54451
THANK YOU FOR THE BLESSING!
CORNERSTONE CHILDREN'S RANCH
QUEMADO, TX

We are preparing emergency food for over 200 families in the Quemado area, and we just wanted to let you know how thankful we are for your kindness!

Love,
Lori Mercer
Quilt Pick-Up Success!

Hi Orphan Grain Train, WI!

Everything went well with the quilt pick-up from St. John’s. Larry was right on time and didn’t have any trouble finding us. Thanks so much for sending the truck and the extra boxes. I’m sending a few photos that we took.

The boxes were from three area churches: St. John’s Lutheran Church in Glendale, WI (donated quilts), St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Brown Deer, WI (donated a mix of quilts, crocheted lap robes and prayer shawls, school kits and supplies, and baby kits), and St. Peter-Immanuel Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, WI (donated quilts).

Blessings,
Karen Miller

Karen, Pat, and Chris
And we need to be able to talk about it without arguing. We need to be able to judge ourselves first and then be gentle with others. That is what God is teaching us in Titus.

He isn’t talking about a debt of money but a debt of sin. Whenever we do what is wrong or don’t do what is right when we have opportunity, we pile up a debt. Sometimes we think we can pay it back but that is not how it works. Sin is a debt we can never repay on our own. We cannot undo our sins. Thank God, He wants to undo our sins. God wants us to be debt-free. God made the payment that cancelled our debt of sin. That is what Jesus did in His life, death and resurrection. Jesus is the complete satisfaction for all the debt of sin because all sin is offence against our Father God and Jesus is more valuable to Him than all earth and heaven. When Jesus was offered up for us the debt was totally wiped out; not only our debt but the whole debt of the sins of the world.

Now that we are freed from that debt, we have a new, unselfish way to live. God wants us to be dedicated to doing good works, not to save us; He has already done that. God wants us to be more like Him. God is not asking us to do anything He has not done Himself. Jesus dedicated Himself to doing good works and the great work He did was for everyone when Jesus went to the cross where He was totally unselfish and gave His very life as the payment for us. Throughout His life Jesus satisfied the demands of the law that we could never satisfy. He lived without doing any sin and always did right and then He offered His perfect life in our place to pay our debt. He poured Himself out for us and we receive Him in Holy Baptism where He is poured out on us abundantly, the way we need Him.

When we live unselfishly, we are what our friends and neighbors need for us to be and we show the love of God to them. Our good works don’t save us but they can lead others to being saved and all of heaven rejoices when people are saved so let Jesus rule in your lives and share the joy of heaven today.

Orphan Grain Train is only one way we can participate in good works to the glory of God for the good of our fellow man. It is a good habit to work with our fellow Christians in service to those in any need. OGT doesn’t save us but it gives us another opportunity to show what the saved do together as the body of Christ in this world.

Through faith in Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. You can afford to be like Him, too, forgiving and doing good just because it is the right thing to do. When all is said and done we are only unworthy servants blessed by the grace of God; blessed to be a blessing.

Now may the peace of God that passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus to life everlasting. AMEN

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**TITUS 2:11-3:1**
For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works.

Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own Mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, Whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people. But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

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**WANTED:**
Were you ever like that description in Titus? Quarrelsome, stirring up divisions?
If we are not careful, we sinful people do quarrel and stir up divisions. In fact, we don’t even notice that that is what we are doing when we only think of ourselves first. The first division we usually fall into is ourselves against the world. When we get wrapped up in ourselves, we can’t do anything right and we end up on our own pity pot, feeling sorry for ourselves. If we only think of ourselves, we become warped; sometimes warped to death.

When you see that happening to a friend, warn them. Selfishness leads to misery both in this life and in the life to come. Selfishness is all around us and we all have it in us, too. It is the opposite of the two greatest Commandments (to love God and our neighbor) and stems directly from our original sin. We need to be able to see outside ourselves to be able to put God first and others ahead of ourselves.
One of the sneakiest forms of selfishness is buying things on credit. People buy things they can’t pay for right away and they borrow money until they can pay later. It works alright and it is a harmless common practice until people borrow more than they can ever pay back and their credit habit becomes a form of stealing. That is why we need to be careful about it.

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**JOHN 10:7-11**
Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.”

Praise be to Jesus the Christ of God, 
Pastor Meier
Dear Orphan Grain Train WI,

I hope you are doing well and are back to work safe and sound.

Our partner and friend Mrs. Iruza from "Enguri 1" has visited the village Orsantia which is located near the border with Abkhazia. She has visited four families of persons with disabilities: two of them were pensioners and two of them were young people who have been in a coma for a few years now. We took pictures, but we were not able to take full pictures of them and their faces because it was hard for their families and for us as well.

I should mention that their families were very delighted to receive adult diapers. It is a huge relief for them economically as they cost quite a lot here, and they need a huge amount of them. We also gifted them blankets, linens, clothing (such as warm coats), and other necessities. Alongside with Mrs. Iruza, there were village trustees present.

Our partners also delivered a wheelchair, but we haven't received the pictures yet. We will send them once we receive.

We plan to help more families with persons with disabilities. They need our help more than ever given the current economic crisis. So in the future if there are adult diapers and wheelchairs, we would like to ask you for assistance.

To note, this distribution included humanitarian aid from both OGT2022 and OGT2048. My thanks to both warehouses and OGT. The families were sincerely thankful to all of you for immense kindness.

Blessings,
Turpa
Pastor Kollie in Cotten Tree, Liberia receives beans. Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheral School thanks you for the beans!!
WE'RE STARTING THEM YOUNG

These are my two and three year grandchildren loading boxes for Orphan Grain Train into Chuck Tesnow's trailer. They are EllieMae and Averett Grimm and they are very happy young helpers! Love, Tricia Grimm

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@tznet.com

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

Chuck Tesnow
Asst. Branch Manager
715-213-4175
edelweiss@tznet.com

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

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

Bakebush Brothers
Attn: Linda Isbener
N4993 6th Drive
Westfield, WI 53964-9511

Camp LuWiSoMo

Upcoming Events
Sept 26 - Campground season ends
Dec 1-3 - Kid's Christmas
Jan 9-14 - Winter Joyful Hearts

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