



## November 2020

### Greetings from OGT, Jonesville, Indiana!

“Do you have a stainless steel kitchen sink?” asked the voice on the phone.

“Not usually.” I replied. “OGT doesn’t receive items from remodels, but it just happened that this morning, when I opened the after-hours donation trailer, I saw a stainless steel kitchen sink just sitting there. I believe the Lord wants you to have it.”

“I will be there as soon as you are open!” was the reply.

So began another day of the Lord’s surprises at OGT. Once again the donations from one person end up serving the needs of another. And isn’t that what being a servant of Christ is all about? It’s the way our Lord first served us. He knew before our time began what we would need and He provided it through His Son Jesus. Sins forgiven through the gift of His life given for us. Life restored to being in a living connection with Him as we live out our lives as people who follow and trust Him as Lord and Savior. I pray that our response to His gifts are as eagerly received and used as the person who could hardly wait to get to OGT and pick up the surprise kitchen sink.

It is only because of the folks who donate their kitchen wares, furniture, clothing, and appliances that OGT is able to continue serving others even as He first served us. Thank you to all who support OGT financially and with physical donations and, above all else, **with your prayers for this ministry.**

Saved 2 Serve,

*Gene Ernst, Manager*

### ***Four, Eleven, and Two Hundred Twelve!***

Those three numbers represent what has been happening at OGT Jonesville since the beginning of January. Despite being shut down in March, April, and into May, OGT has packed **four** 40’ containers bound for Latvia (2), Panama, and the Republic of Georgia. These were filled with clothes, medical equipment including walkers, wheelchairs, canes, and crutches, school supplies, school desks, and many *Love the Hungry* pre-packaged meals.

**Eleven** is the number of domestic loads that remained in the U.S. These were sent to the *Christian Children’s Ranch* in Quemado, TX, *Matthew 25 Ministries* in Cincinnati, OH, *Red Bird Missions* in Beverly, KY, *Mountain Missions* in Jackson, KY, *Manna from Heaven Ministries* in Myra, KY, plus some good, used suits and jackets to *Concordia Theological Seminary* in Fort Wayne.

The number of individuals or family units that OGT was able to offer needed items was **212**. These folks obtain a referral from a social agency or church and then bring it with them to the warehouse. If we have what they have listed on their referral, it is given to them without cost, as all has been donated to OGT, and so OGT gives freely.





### Thanks to our volunteers!

The pictures above and below are just some of the many who come to sort and pack in the sorting area and those who come to help load the trucks. Without these folks not much would be getting done in Jonesville.



The pictures are of St. Peter’s, Columbus; First Baptist, Seymour; St. John, Farmer’s Retreat.

### 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. The number one request is for mattresses/bed springs, followed by dressers, sofas, and recliners. Appliances are always in demand, like washers and dryers, refrigerators, stoves, and window air conditioners. Kitchen items of all sorts are always needed, especially silverware and pots and pans. Lamps come and go and the supply rarely keeps up with the demand.

### When OGT isn’t open...where do I drop off items?

On the east side of the warehouse there is an enclosed trailer for leaving your donations. Please place your items inside the trailer. If you need a receipt, leave a note with your address, or call and leave a message. We’ll be glad to send you a receipt.

### What are some of the items we can’t use?

This is difficult because being practical means we sometimes have to say “thank you, but no thank you.” Some items we do not need include older, larger TVs, electronic equipment, typewriters, file cabinets, suitcases, desks (unless smaller computer desks), books (except for children’s books and Bibles) and anything broken, dirty, or impractical for someone in need.

The goal of our giving is to help the people feel good about themselves by giving them items that are useful, clean, and reflect the OGT commitment of giving the best that can be offered.



Thrivent makes **Choice Dollars** available to its members to designate to charities of their choice, such as your church, Orphan Grain Train Indiana, or something else. Consider checking this out at [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com) and then direct those **Choice Dollars** to OGT to help keep the lights on, the trucks running, and shipments leaving Jonesville on their way to people who need what we have to offer.

And while you are looking at your Thrivent page, please check out the **Action Team** opportunity. It allows you to request a \$250 Action Team card for a project of your choice. Some examples of card usage are for stock supplies of school items for school kits used overseas or here in the U.S., buying bicycle parts for repairing bikes which are then given away, and for disaster kit supplies placed into 5-gallon pails and then sent to disaster areas after tornadoes or hurricanes. Check with us to find other areas where an Action Team card can be used.

### OGT Wish List

- 1. Your prayers** that OGT Indiana continues to serve the needs of those less fortunate, and remains true to the Lord's challenge 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 arranged whenever OGT members are available.
- 4. A Receptionist** on Thursdays to answer the phone, help direct people, and be a smiling, welcoming face for those who come.

### In case someone asks you...

**What is Orphan Grain Train?** It is a 501(c) (3) non-profit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world. OGT volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, and other aid to meet real needs. The OGT movement is a loving response to our Lord's example as a servant and His love for us.

**Does OGT have a Mission Statement? Yes!** In loving response to Christ, the OGT 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.

### Where does OGT stand nationally?

Check out **Charity Navigator** which ranks non-profit organizations. OGT, headquartered in Norfolk, NE, is one of 9,000 charities that accepts only private donations. It has been **ranked as #6** out of the 9,000 charities. What a tremendous tribute to OGT's work and ministry for over 26 years!

If you are interested in the rating, go to:  
[www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=6904](http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=6904)

### Email your newsletter?

If this is something you'd like, please email:  
[jlbrown@cinergymetro.net](mailto:jlbrown@cinergymetro.net)

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**Orphan Grain Train**  
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### OPEN HOURS

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**

**10 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

**Phone: 812-405-2045**

Visit [www.ogt.org/indiana](http://www.ogt.org/indiana)

