May 2021

Greetings from OGT, Jonesville, Indiana!

This is your, our, my story!

Lois (not her real name) was desperate. Kicked out of the home she shared with a man for many years, now telling her she was no longer needed after caring for his father and mother in their later and dying years. Lois had nothing. She had just left the safety of a women’s domestic abuse center and was getting into her own apartment with her daughter and newborn grandchild.

She came with her referral to OGT to seek help in finding furniture and household items, like pots and pans, silverware, dishes, things for which she had no money to buy. As we talked, it was evident that there was a lot more to her story. The hurt ran deeply. We began looking for items on her list… and talking. A sofa, mattress, box springs, bed frame and headboard. Next a small table, some dishes, and other basic supplies were added to her collection. As we talked, she shared. When done “shopping,” I asked if I could pray with her because I knew there was a lot more that she needed and that need could be met by the Lord in the days to come. She said, “Please pray.” I asked the Lord to continue by her side, be her strength in the days ahead, and let His arms enfold her with His love.

I write this so that you might know the impact you have had on this one person through your generous material and financial support of OGT. You allow me and all who serve voluntarily at OGT to be the hands and voice of the Living, Loving Lord who brings hope into the world one person at a time. So THANK YOU for serving with us and helping to make this your, our, my story.

Saved to Serve, Gene

A story from Haiti...

The picture is of Eileen and a newly named orphan girl, Eileen Marie. Eileen, of Jonesville, worked together with OGT to gather some needed supplies for Rebecca’s Hope, a school, an orphanage, and medical outreach center in Haiti, run by Esther Rose for “the people back in the hills.” Our load, flown down via the Denton Program which works with the Air Force, finally arrived this past March. Included on the load were school bus tires that were very sorely needed, as evidenced by the picture below of some of the road conditions.

Little Eileen was left alone outside the door of the orphanage and was nourished back to health by the people of Rebecca’s Hope. Once again, the hands and voice of Jesus were helping feed the hungry and ministering to their souls. In God’s mercy and love little Eileen has been reunited with her mother, and with the support of food being shared, mother and daughter have hope!

Praise to the Lord and God who loves us in Jesus!
In Tribute to a Faithful Volunteer
Jerry Brown entered eternity with Jesus in March of this year. We praise the Lord for Jerry’s faith that was evident in how he lived and served as a servant of his Lord Jesus. Jerry served as Indiana Branch OGT Treasurer for 18 years. He showed up on Tuesdays and Thursdays to do many behind-the-scenes jobs that helped keep OGT running smoothly. As much as his wife Elinor, and all at Jonesville OGT miss Jerry, we, who trust Jesus as Lord and Savior, know that one day we will celebrate with Jerry in heaven. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Volunteers who are part of our story...

Pete’s Trenching of Brownstown crew loaded a 40’ container bound for Guatemala on a very cold February morning.

Trail Life group with Dads helped in the sorting room on a cold February day. Thanks!

LDS missionaries Sisters Murdoch and Growald joyfully serve at OGT.

First Baptist, Seymour, thank you!

Another First Baptist, Seymour, group, we thank you.

St. John’s White Creek class helped fill backpacks with a Bible and school supplies which are headed for Latvia.
People have asked—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 is for mattress/bed springs, followed by dressers, sofas, and recliners. Appliances are always in demand, such as washer and dryer, refrigerator, stove, and window air conditioners. Kitchen items of all sorts are needed, but especially silverware and pots and pans. Lamps come and go and the supply rarely keeps up with the demand.

And what are some items we cannot use?
This is difficult because being practical means we sometimes have to say, “Thank you, but no thanks.” Items that we do not need: old, large TVs, electronic equipment, typewriters, suitcases, file cabinets, desks (unless small computer desks), books (except for children’s books and Bibles), and anything broken, dirty, or impractical for anyone in need.
The goal of OGT’s giving is to help the person feel good about themselves in receiving items that are useful, clean, and reflect on OGT’s commitment of giving the best that can be offered.

When OGT isn’t open, we have a solution!
On the East side of the warehouse is an enclosed trailer that can receive your donations. Please drop off your items by placing them inside the trailer. If you would like a receipt, call and leave a message, or leave a note with your address and a receipt will be sent.

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, 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 Thursday mornings to answer the phone, help direct people, and be a smiling, welcoming face for those who come.

Need more information?
1. We would be glad to send you informational brochures for bulletin inserts.
2. If your congregation, or a group, would like to have an in-person presentation, it can be arranged. Just call the Office number below.
3. When your congregational members or a group within the church would like to come and volunteer, please call the Office and let’s set up a time and day.

Email your newsletter? If this option is something you would be interested in receiving, please email your address to indianaogt@gmail.com.

If you have moved, please forward your new mailing address to us. Each returned letter costs us another 55 cents. Thanks.

Orphan Grain Train
209 Jackson
Jonesville IN 47247
812-405-204
indianaogt@gmail.com
Visit www.ogt.org/indiana

We hope you enjoyed the stories we shared.