

Orphan Grain Train

[Volunteer](#)

[Donate](#)

Relief for Human Need Worldwide



[Can't view email? Click Here to view as Webpage.](#)

[Visit Our Website](#)

Being the Hands & Feet of Jesus

Increase Your Impact Thrivent is Matching up to \$250,000 to aid Maui Fire Relief.



For every \$2 you donate through Thrivent's online giving platform or a Thrivent Charitable Impact and Investing® donor advised fund grant, Thrivent will add \$1 up to \$250,000. This means your gift can be increased and also Thrivent pays all the processing fees, so 100% will go directly to the cause!

OGT is planning to load 2nd shipment of aid to Maui at the end of September. Your gift needs to be donated through Thrivent's safe and secure online platform. Click the button to Give.

[Thrivent Match](#)

Ceremony for Warehouse Expansion

OGT's Groundbreaking Ceremony was attended by many. There was a short service lead by Rev. Ralph Schmidt, OGT's Donor Advising, and Matthew 25: 31-46 was read by Pastor Chris Asbury with Grace Lutheran Church. Pastor Ray Wilke; OGT's President and founder, gave the homily and was first to 'break ground'. Several groups followed starting with the OGT board members, Davis Design, Otte Construction, Norfolk City officials, OGT staff and OGT managers from various branches and collection centers.



After the ceremony, Norfolk Mayor Josh Moening shared a few words about the impact OGT has on the community and how he visited Malawi where OGT has shipped food and aid to his friend Bishop Harvey and congregation and also to Joe Mtika with Norfolk Schools of Malawi. The ceremony ended with a 'Thank You to supporters and volunteers' from OGT's VP Grant Schmidt. Lunch was served after the ceremony.

Pictured L to R: Rev. Ralph Schmidt, Pastor Ray Wilke and Pastor Chris Asbury.

Grateful for Gifts

[Castle Rock Collection Center's](#) load to Latvia has arrived and is unloaded! The

aid will soon be distributed to the elderly, disabled individuals and families and children living in poverty. Praise be to God.

What We Do



[Central Iowa volunteers in Clemons](#) loaded a shipment to Lithuania. Evangelical Lutheran Diaconia received some of the goods to share with children in a daycare. They also help women at a shelter. So many blessings for many in need. Thank you, donors and volunteers!

International Aid



Bishop Harvey with Christ Mandate for Missions Church in Malawi is grateful to soon be receiving Bibles, clothing, diapers, medical supplies, stuffed toys, backpacks, school kits, and sewing machines from OGT's [Michigan Branch in Sebewaing](#). They had a great crew of all ages helping to load a 40 ft. container! Thank you, donors and volunteers!

Smiles While Serving

Fifty seniors at Christ Lutheran Church in Lincoln attended a dinner and OGT presentation by Kathy Carter August 27, 2023. Wendy Herrold helped write a Thrivent Action Team grant and they were able to pack 70 hygiene kits for OGT.



[Wichita Branch volunteers](#) delivered Bibles, hygiene kits, toys, medical equipment, diapers and other needed goods to Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Rock Point, AZ. So many wonderful gifts for many in need.

Thank you, Wichita donors and volunteers!



Soon to be Shared

A shipment from [North Dakota Branch in Jamestown](#) to Suceava, Romania has arrived! Foundation of the Blind unloaded the aid and will distribute soon with more pictures to come. Praise be to God!

[Newsroom](#)



Blessing Children

Some of the members at St. John's Lutheran Church in Pender, NE put together OGT Christmas Gift boxes and delivered them to the Norfolk warehouse. Then of course they stayed and helped pack donations. Thank you for the gift boxes to share with children this Christmas season!



Additional News

[Iowa West Branch volunteers in Ida Grove](#) delivered various donations to several local organizations that help children and families in need. Thank you for helping families in Iowa!

Cornerstone Children's Ranch in Quemado, TX received nearly 8,000 pounds of various foods, 16,632 Food for Kidz meals, school supplies, toys, and other needed items from [Wisconsin Branch in Westfield](#).

OGT funded a shipment of 272,160 Manna Pack meals from Feed My Starving Children to New Faith Family Children's Home in the Philippines. New Faith has orphanages, schools for the underprivileged and road-side feedings for many children and families living in extreme poverty.

Weekly Devotion

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us & pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins & wrongs they committed in treating you so badly. Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.' When their message came to him, Joseph wept. His brothers then came & threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said. But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you & your children." And he reassured them & spoke kindly to them. (Gen. 50:15-21)

Joseph: Joseph's story spans *Genesis Chapters 37-50*. No one else in *Genesis* receives this much attention. Let me refresh your memory. Joseph's brothers sell him into slavery, then convince their father that Joseph was killed by wild animals. His master Potiphar's wife falsely accuses Joseph, & Potiphar has Joseph thrown into prison. Because Joseph can interpret dreams, eventually Pharaoh summons him. He explains Pharaoh's dreams to him. Pharaoh elevates him to second in authority over all of Egypt. Because of Joseph's wisdom, Egyptians are spared from famine. Jacob's sons—Joseph's brothers—travel to Egypt to buy grain. Joseph reveals himself to them. Then he brings his father Jacob & his entire family to Egypt. They are settled in the most fertile land of Goshen.

Joseph's brothers have every right to fear him. If anyone was ever entitled to vengeance, it was Joseph. They even concoct a story that had their dead father pleading on their behalf. They throw themselves on Joseph's mercy & offer to become his slaves.

Joseph forgives. *"Am I in the place of God?"* he says. Furthermore, he says, *"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."* This included the lives of his own family. Not only does Joseph reassure them that they have nothing to fear from him, he also says, *"I will provide for you & your children."* God uses the tragedy of Joseph's circumstances to be a blessing that goes far beyond the people of Egypt.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help us take to heart St. Paul's words in Rom. 8:28: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." And we echo the words of Ps. 103:1. "Bless the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name." Amen.

By Paul Leckband OGT's Director of Spiritual Correspondence



Orphan Grain Train

(877) 371-7393

601 W. Phillip Ave. PO Box 1466,
Norfolk, NE 68702

[Contact Us](#)

