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Relief for Human Need Worldwide



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Being the Hands & Feet of Jesus

Comfort Shared

Iowa West Branch in Ida Grove received these heartwarming pictures of quilts and clothing being shared with the elderly and others from their shipment to Republic of Georgia. Much of the aid was shared for Christmas and New Year to give smiles and warmth to many. Praise be to God!



Iowa West Branch

What We Do

Food for the Hungry

272,160 Manna Pack meals from Feed My Starving Children arrived in Madagascar which were funded by OGT! The food will nourish many, many hungry people! Thank you, OGT supporters!

Newsroom



Workshop Wonder

OGT recently included some sewing machines with supplies on a shipment to Republic of Georgia. These were shared with an organization "Biliki" to set up a handicraft workshop for rural youth in Chkhorotsku. Many youths are actively participating in this new and exciting workshop. They have a lot of volunteers willing to join to spend their free times productively and learn new skills.



International Aid

Community Global Outreach in Guatemala is sharing God's Word and OGT's Mercy Meals and Manna Pack meals with many, many families living in poverty with very little to eat. Praise be to God!



Pastor Wellmann from Redeemer Lutheran Church, Wauneta, NE and these ladies, Annie Pursley, Mary Haarberg, Linda Clements and Diann Schilke, from both his church and Zion Lutheran Church, Imperial, NE recently gifted the [Rocky Mountain Branch](#), [Julesburg, CO](#) with 100 Quilts and 184 Hygiene Kits. Thank



On January 30th, the [Phoenix Branch warehouse](#) will receive 30 hygiene kits from Ascension Lutheran-Tucson, AZ when seven people will come and work in the warehouse. These kits were assembled by their Christcare Outreach group. The drive is about 1 ½ hours from Tucson to Phoenix. They used Action Team Funds from Thrivent to purchase items for the kits. We are excited to welcome and spend time with this group.

you for these wonderful gifts to be shared with many in need.

Weekly Devotion

“The days are coming,” declares the Sovereign Lord, “when I will send a famine through the land—not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the Lord. Men will stagger from sea to sea & wander from north to east, searching for the word of the Lord, but they will not find it.” (Amos 8:11-12) While a large crowd was gathering & people were coming to Jesus from town to town, He told this parable: “A farmer went out to sow his seed . . . But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble & good heart, who hear the word, retain it, & by persevering produce a crop.” (Luke 8:4-5a, 25) For the word of God is living & active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to divide soul & spirit, joints & marrow; it judges the thoughts & attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered & laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. (Heb. 4:12-13)

A Famine: The Old Testament prophet Amos speaks about a “famine,” but he is not talking about a famine like we think of one. Rather, he writes of “*a famine of hearing the words of the Lord.*” Does it seem like we’re living in a time of this sort of famine? It sure seems like it to me. Church membership is at an all-time low. Membership in most mainline Protestant churches, even among Lutherans, continues to decline. More people, especially our young people & many of our leaders, reject the truth of the Bible. Many churches have forsaken the truth of Scripture & turned to a social Gospel & embracing of ungodly lifestyles.

Yet we have not been abandoned. In the parable found in today’s reading, Jesus speaks of “seed”—God’s Word—“*falling on good soil.*” He promises that “*those with a noble & good heart, who hear the word, retain it, by persevering produce a crop.*” That crop is faith in our Lord & Savior. The writer of Hebrews speaks of the Word as a “*double-edged sword . . . it penetrates even to divide soul & spirit . . . Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight.*”

What meaning are we to take from all this? Even when things seem hopeless, God’s Word is still spread by God’s grace. It still prevails, & it is still a powerful Word—one that accomplishes what God intends. We are bold to trust this Word. We are bold to take seriously His Great Commission to spread this Word. (SEE Matt. 28:18-20.)

Prayer Prompts: Thank God for the gift of His life-saving Word. Pray for opportunities to witness & to bless us with the words to speak & the courage to speak them.

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