

Orphan Grain Train

Relief for Human Need Worldwide



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A New Dress for Every Girl



This is Lois Coleman from Minnesota. A few years ago, a thought came to her mind to “dress a girl.” At the time, she wasn’t sure just what that meant. She had previously been involved in a local program called, “Dress

A Doll.” Volunteers dressed a doll and then the dolls were given to needy families at Christmas.

After doing some internet searching, she discovered a group called “Dress a Girl Around the World” (DAG) under the organization Women for Hope International. The volunteer sewing groups started up all around the world and have delivered over 2 million dresses to 90 countries. They attach pink DAG labels in each dress and make sure that every dress has pockets. Lois connected with a DAG ambassador in Richfield, MN who is responsible for gathering dresses and finding distributors, who are sometimes difficult to find.

Because the “Creator works in mysterious ways,” said Lois, she connected with OGT Collection center in Morris, MN that teams up with OGT Wisconsin to send out containers internationally. She met with Eugene and Darlene Pasche, long-time volunteers at MN-North and learned her dresses could be distributed through OGT. She delivered 750 dresses made using several different patterns and sewn from quality cotton. Lois’s “dress a girl” idea became real when she began sewing dresses for “Dress a Girl Around the World’ and then finding a distributor through Orphan Grain Train MN-North.



Mountain Mules Muscle and OGT Bring Relief Aid to Texas

Orphan Grain Train is working with Mike Toberer, trail boss, President and CEO of Mission Mules of Harmony, North Carolina to bring disaster relief to the outlying areas affected by the flooding of the Guadalupe River. Mike partnered with OGT to deliver insulin to the remote hollers of N.C. during and after the great floods and mudslides in 2024 after Hurricane Helen hit N.C. His mules went where machines couldn't, bringing food, medical supplies and encouragement to desperate people deep in the Smoky Mountains. On Saturday, August 16th, he left at 4am from Norfolk, Nebraska with Orphan

Grain Train's Dodge Ram and a Teardrop camper headed to bivouac in Ingram, Texas. After comparing notes in Norfolk with OGT officers, he made camp at the flood region area near Ingram. Mike's mission in Texas is to visit the most remote areas to share hope and recovery fencing and drywall with the forgotten folks.

Pictured: Pastor Ray Wilke, President OGT, Mike Toberer, Brent Kummer, Director of OGT Logistics and Grant Schmidt, Vice-president of Operations OGT make the "Mission Mule Muscle" as they help prepare Toberer for his trip to Texas.



Last week, Orphan Grain Train Norfolk was invited to come to Golden Ours Convalescent Home in Grant, Nebraska to move out 33 beds, 34 mattresses, 27 overbed tables and one whirlpool. A dozen volunteers helped make the work go

quickly as they emptied out the facility and loaded the truck. The Home was officially closed in May and residents have moved to other nursing homes and care facilities since then.

OGT New England Assists with Aid to Gbarnga Mission In Liberia



On August 18, volunteers for the Orphan Grain Train's (OGT) New England Branch, located at 33 South Main St. in Terryville, Ct. delivered a box truck

load of items to a warehouse in Providence, RI to go on a shipment to the Gbarnga Lutheran Mission in Liberia. St. Paul's Lutheran church of Providence started this Mission for children in Liberia to provide education, food, hygiene and medical assistance. From constructing a building about 10 years ago, the school now has 230 students through the 8th grade and has added a full medical clinic.

The shipment contained 34 boxes of children's books for grades 1 through 5. Also included were 25 boxes of school kits with eight backpack kits per box, six boxes of sewing supplies, two boxes of communion ware and two large rolls of fabric to be used in their sewing program. Also included were some toys and women's hygiene supplies. OGT has supplied treadle sewing machines in the past to help with their learn-to-sew program. This year there were 35 graduates who now can sew on their own for their families or sell what they have sewn to earn income.

In the past, OGT sent hospital beds, medical supplies, clothing and school desks. The school offers classes in making soap and cooking. They have chickens and raise some of their own crops. This year they acquired a ten-acre parcel which they intend to use for farming. The project has also developed wells on-site and in the surrounding villages to provide safe drinking water.

Other shipments have gone to missions in a number of countries e.g. Nicaragua, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Lithuania, Latvia, Nepal, the Philippines, Ghana and the Republic of Georgia, Venezuela, Trinidad as well as Appalachia and hurricane relief for Puerto Rico, Florida, Kentucky and North Carolina. The Branch also helps those locally in New England, giving medical items that have been donated to individuals in need and through the visiting nurse and hospice care organizations of the area.

Mercy Meals for Madagascar



An Orphan Grain Train Norfolk shipment of 256,608 Mercy Meals/Feed My Starving Children arrived in Madagascar after four months enroute to its destination. Foyer des Handicapes de Tanjomoha announced the arrival of the food in June. Foyer des Tanjomoha is a facility that provides a home for young

people in difficult situations. It was established in 1986 by Father Vincent Carme with the intent to provide vocational training to young people with disabilities. It now provides a home for the orphans and the young outcasts of Madagascar as well.

Orphan Grain Train Lincoln Hosts Friendship Force from Romania



Orphan Grain Train Lincoln warehouse volunteers hosted a delegation of leaders from Romania with Friendship Force on Aug. 14, 2025. Jim and Kathy Carter gave them a tour and a presentation about OGT. We welcome visitors for OGT tours in our 27 locations.

Norfolk Seniors Networking Tours Servant Center



Norfolk Senior Networking Group toured Orphan Grain Train Servant Center last week. This is a group of people who work together to help seniors in our community. Thank you, for your passion and care for our elders and thank you for visiting our new OGT Servant Center here in Norfolk.

Additional News

OGT Ohio



Last month, Orphan Grain Train - Ohio made two deliveries to North American Lutheran Disaster Response in Caldwell, Ohio. The two loads together contained at least 100 pieces of furniture, more than 80 boxes of linens and blankets, hygiene supplies, tools and toys. They also delivered boxes of craft supplies to Filling Homes/Soaring Arts in Napoleon, Ohio. Thank you, Orphan Grain Train volunteers for bringing needed items for disaster response and for supplying craft items to Soaring Arts.

Orphan Grain Train **Missouri-West**

Last month, Orphan Grain Train Missouri-West Collection Center volunteers loaded and delivered a truckload of clothing, linens, medical supplies and toys to Cornerstone Children's Ranch in Quemado, Texas. Thank you, Missouri-West donors and volunteers for all you are doing at OGT Missouri-West.

Orphan Grain Train **Phoenix**

Orphan Grain Train Phoenix delivered a load of medical equipment to Southwest Lending Closet in Avondale, AZ. There were walkers, bed rails, canes, shower chairs, and a manual wheelchair. All of these items are frequently requested by people recovering from surgery or elders needing extra support for mobility. Thank you, OGT-Phoenix volunteers for sharing these items with an organization that also shares them with others in need.

Orphan Grain Train **North Dakota**

Orphan Grain Train North Dakota in Jamestown shared many items last month with people in the community. They gave out 77 pieces of furniture as well as a freezer and bicycles. Suitcases, school kits, supplies and a teacher kit were given to God's Child in Bismark, while AMACHI in Devil's Lake received several boxes of men's

clothing. Thank you, donors for bringing your "no longer needed" items to OGT so that Jamestown volunteers can share them with people in need in the area.

Weekly Devotion

By Paul Leckband

Orphan Grain Train Director of Spiritual Correspondence

In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the Lord's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into the desert to starve this entire assembly to death" . . . On that evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the dew was gone, thick flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread the Lord has given you to eat." (Ex. 16:2-3, 15)

Quail & Manna: Have you ever eaten quail? I enjoyed mesquite-grilled quail at a restaurant on the River Walk in San Antonio. It was a real treat! Although I'm not sure how they prepared it, the Israelites were served a bounty of quail when they complained to Moses "in the desert" that they were starving to death. They even had the audacity to claim that they ate better in Egypt, where they had been enslaved for 400 years. Not only did the Lord supply them with quail that "came and covered the camp" each

evening, He also provided them with manna each morning.

Does God supply us with ample food in this day and age? Well, at least in our country, few of us lack for food. But God provides us with more than just earthly food to nourish our bodies. He provides us with spiritual food to nourish our souls. He says in John 6:47-52, "I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. I am the bread of life. Your forefathers ate manna in the desert, yet they died. But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is My flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

Yes, Jesus is "the bread of life." And this "bread," received in the Word, received in Holy Communion, provides the way to "everlasting life" to "he who believes." God truly supplies us with our earthly needs. In fact, He supplies us way beyond our earthly needs. Jesus, the "bread of life," feeds us throughout this present life and into eternal life.

Jesus, feed us with the bread of life. Amen.



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