

Orphan Grain Train

Relief for Human Need Worldwide



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150 backpacks and counting!

Edna sewed every backpack, putting love into each stitch. With the generous school supply donations from Zion Lutheran Church members in Morris, MN, 150 school kits are ready to be delivered through Orphan Grain Train to bless children around the world. What a beautiful example of Christ's love in action! Thank you, Edna!



Orphan Grain Train Minnesota South Mercy Meal packing crew posed for a group photo on Saturday, Sept. 6 after their annual meeting and Mercy Meal packing event. Thank you Minnesota South volunteers for all you do to support the Lord's work both domestically and internationally.



This is a note and photo that came to Orphan Grain Train Lincoln from a member of Martin Luther Church in Johnson, Nebraska. The youth in the church put together school kits.

"I just have to tell you that those 280 kits were packed in less than 20 minutes using an assembly line method where the kids in a line take the school bags from station to station to collect the pieces.

You recall from a year ago when you were down to MLC to pack over 25,000 meals...we're THAT church that has their **"hair on fire. We love doing things for OGT! "**

Written by Lois Bohling, Martin Luther Church, Johnson, Ne.

Thank you for sharing this! It's always a joy to see children joining in on bringing care to others in need.

Disaster Response Trailer Delivered to North Carolina



Orphan Grain Train's Bob Schleppenbach is on his way to Burnsville, N.C. to deliver a 28 bed sleeping trailer for volunteers. Mary Bates, North American Lutheran Church's Disaster Response Director is currently in Yancey County coordinating the rebuilding of 6,000 homes destroyed by the September 2024 Hurricane Helene. Bates arrived in the area a few days after the hurricane hit. They have completed fixing 46 homes and six homes from the ground up. They are in need of

volunteers. Housing, materials and tools are provided. **If**
you would like to be part of the
rebuilding of the disaster affected
areas, please contact Mary Bates at
(740)-509-1132

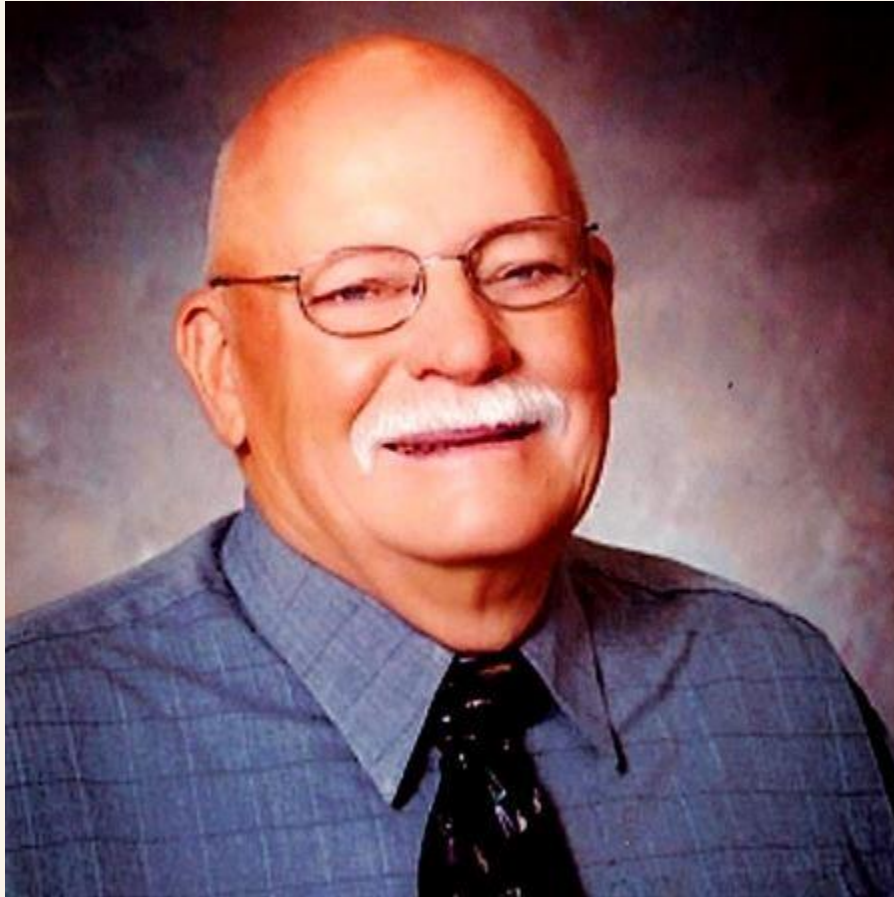


OGT Indiana in Jonesville sent out a shipment of much needed items to Cornerstone Children's Ranch in Quemado, Texas. The photo is of the three volunteers packing to the ceiling after the pallets were placed inside. It was a nice cool morning to load and all went well. We are so grateful to all the donors and volunteers who share their time and resources to make these loads happen.

"This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes." Psalm 118:23

In Memoriam

Orphan Grain Train **Norfolk**



Obituary for Paul H. Warneke

NORFOLK – Funeral service for Paul H. Warneke, 89, of Norfolk, will be held at 1:00 p.m., Friday, September 12, 2025 at the Grace Lutheran Church in Norfolk. Rev. Ray Wilke and Rev. Chris Asbury will be officiating the service. Interment will be at the Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Norfolk. Visitation will be 5:00-7:00 p.m., Thursday at Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk. Military rites will be conducted by the American Legion Post 16, V.F.W. Post 1644, and United States Army Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to the Grace Lutheran Church or the Orphan Grain Train. Paul passed away on Saturday, September 6, 2025 at the St. Joseph's Rehabilitation and Care Center in Norfolk. Stonacek Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Paul was born on June 16, 1936 in Norfolk to Hugo and Sarah (Kollmar) Warneke. He grew up on the farm during his school years attending rural district country schools in Wayne County and Pierce County through the 8th grade. Paul attended Pierce High School graduating in 1954. He then went to Business College in Sioux City, IA for 1 year. Paul enlisted into the United States Army from 1955 until his honorable discharge in 1957.

Paul married Dorla J. Hitz on November 17, 1957 at Zion Lutheran Church in Pierce. After marriage the family lived in Pierce until 1963 when they moved to Norfolk. He was employed for 50 years in the newspaper business at the Pierce Leader and the Norfolk Daily News. He also co-owned Norfolk Implement. Paul was a member at Grace Lutheran Church and held several church office positions. He was also very active throughout his life serving as a volunteer at the Orphan Grain Train, Camp Luther Board of Directors, Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery Board of Directors, and mentor for Norfolk Teammates. Paul enjoyed bowling (attended Nationals 32 times), and golfing at Fairplay Golf Course, rural Norfolk.

Paul is survived by his wife Dorla Warneke of Norfolk, children Kathryn (Michael) Test of Pierce, Steven (Dora) Warneke of El Paso, TX, David (Debra) Warneke of Beatrice, Blake (Cami) Warneke of Omaha, 10 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and brother Mervyn (Linda) Warneke of Lincoln, NE. He is preceded in death by his parents Hugo and Sarah Warneke, brother Milton Warneke, three siblings in infancy and father-in-law and mother-in-law Arnold and Lucille Hitz.

Condolences may be expressed to the family on-line at www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com.

Weekly Devotion

By Paul Leckband

Orphan Grain Train Director of Spiritual Correspondence

Now fear the Lord and serve Him in all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. (Josh. 24:14-15)

Choices: Every year at Lutheran High Northeast in Norfolk, NE, we helped our seniors choose a class verse. One of the more popular choices was from Joshua 4:15: “But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Many seniors chose to put it on their graduation announcements. Some graduation speakers chose to make it a theme of their commencement address. It seemed an appropriate choice for young people who were preparing to leave the relatively friendly confines of a Lutheran high school and move on to secular workplaces and colleges, where things might not be so friendly for Christians.

This week’s text comes from Joshua’s farewell address to the Israelites. The conquest of the Promised Land has been largely completed. Many dangers remain. They are living among godless people who worship many false gods. Some of the Israelites’ own “forefathers” worshiped false gods.

Joshua didn't mince words. The people are free to choose whom to follow, but he is adamant that "as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Christians face the same choices today. We live in a world—we have ALWAYS lived in a world—where we are tempted on every side to follow the godless ways of our culture. God doesn't force anyone to believe in His Son Jesus Christ. We are free to choose other gods. On our own, we are NOT, in fact, free to choose Jesus, the only true God. Scripture makes this clear. Jesus Himself told His disciples: "No one can come to Me unless the Father enabled him." (John 6:65) He tells us the same truth today. It is by the power of the Holy Spirit through Word and Baptism that we are enabled to choose Christ. It is God who does the choosing.

Dear Jesus, may our confession be the same as Peter's, who said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We know and believe that You are the Holy One of God." (John 6:68b-69) Amen.



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