

# Orphan Grain Train

Relief for Human Need Worldwide



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OGT Houston Hosts Pearland Youth  
and Parents for Service Project



**Orphan Grain Train-Houston hosted Epiphany Lutheran-Pearland Youth and Parents for their Fall Service Project. There were over 35 youth and adults in attendance. Fifty hygiene kits were assembled, and 75 boxes of clothing, shoes, and blankets were packed. To God be the glory for the blessings received and those that prepared them to distribute. Thank you, Epiphany Lutheran-Pearland!**

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# Youth in Republic of Georgia Happy to Receive Uniforms



Orphan Grain Train Norfolk's shipment to Republic of Georgia arrived and its recipient, International Charity Fund sent photos. "Our partner organization Youth Hub gifted sportswear to the local football team in the village of Kheta. The kids proudly wore their new items and happily took photos together," wrote Turpa from International Charity Fund. Other items in the shipment were sleeping bags, clothing, wheelchairs and hygiene kits. Thank you, Norfolk volunteers and donors for helping to fill this shipment and sorting and packing all of the items inside.



# Nebraska Thrivent Board Packs Mercy Meals in Norfolk







On September 19, the Nebraska Region Thrivent Member Network board of directors met for their board meeting at Orphan Grain Train Norfolk. After hosting a luncheon, the members toured the new Servant Center and then had fun packing Mercy Meals. Thank you, for driving to Norfolk, hosting a wonderful luncheon and then expressing a joyful spirit as you packed meals.

## Philippines Receives School Supplies, School Furnishings and School Cots







Christian Missionary Baptist Church in Negros Occidental, Philippines received a valuable load of school desks, school chairs, school backpack kits and school supplies along with church furnishings and a generator. Included in the load, were 52 stackable child-size cots and much-needed bedding. Ryan Tormentar of Christian Missionary Baptist Church received the load and was responsible for its distribution. Thank you, Norfolk donors. Thank you, volunteers for moving all of these supplies and making sure they were packed carefully for their long journey.



## TRAILER OF BLESSINGS IN HOUSTON



Houston volunteers, Steve, Holly and Sam, traveled to St. John Lutheran in Beaumont, TX to share a presentation about the OGT ministry. Our trailer was needed to haul all the in-gathering of blessings back to Houston. Thank you St. John members for your continued support.

At the Houston Branch 47 students involved in the Key Club at Clear Brook High School volunteered their time to unload the trailer of blessings from St. John, Beaumont. They then sorted and packed 122 boxes.

Medical Supplies and other Blessings from  
Central Nebraska to Panama



Orphan Grain Train Central Nebraska's load to Panama reached its destination and the recipients at Church of God of Prophecy sent photos of the unloading of the container. People of all ages came to unpack the many boxes of medical supplies and equipment, bicycles, sleeping mats, blankets and clothing. Four PET wheelchairs were included on the load. Thank you, Central Nebraska donors and volunteers for this great shipment. "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: And he delights in his way."  
Psalm 37:23

## Class Reunion and Volunteering!







Lutheran High Northeast class of 2005 gathered for their class reunion. They had several activities available for returning students and visiting Orphan Grain Train Norfolk was one of them. John, Rachel, Kendra, Zach and son, Eli chose to come to OGT. They toured the Servant Center and then packed five boxes of Mercy Meals, or 180 packs. Thank you for choosing to visit our new Servant Center and packing meals! It was great to have you all!

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## Additional News

Orphan Grain Train **Norfolk**

OGT-Spiritual Advisor, Paul Leckband's most recent devotion book, "Buzzword Devotions," has been published by Lighthouse Christian Publishing. It contains 365 devotions—one for each day of the year. You can find it on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) & or [lighthousechristianpublishing.com](https://www.lighthousechristianpublishing.com). Key word: title or author's name.

**All royalties are donated to Orphan Grain Train.**

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# Weekly Devotion

**By Paul Leckband**

Orphan Grain Train Director of Spiritual Correspondence

*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the words of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all He created . . . Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does . . . Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. (James*

**1:17-18, 22-25, 27)**

The Epistle of James: Martin Luther had some pretty “out there” opinions when it came to the Epistle of James. He made it clear that he did not esteem it as highly as other books of the Bible, especially in the New Testament. Contrary to what some have claimed, he did not demand that the Epistle of James be omitted from the Bible. What he did state was that he did not find it very useful, because he found the Gospel lacking in it. He felt that the focus of this book was too much on good works.

If you take time to read the Epistle of James—it’s a short book; it won’t take you very long—you will find plenty of St. James’ teachings about the role that godly living plays in demonstrating our faith, which is NOT dependent on godly living. However, the author does make reference to “every good and perfect gift which is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.” And he goes on to say, “He chose to give us birth through the words of truth . . . “ Did you catch that? God chose us; we didn’t choose Him. That’s Gospel. His “good and perfect gift [that] is from above” is the truth that Jesus died and rose again for sinners, for you and me. By God’s grace—not our own good works—a saving relationship with God is possible.

So, what about good works? They are essential to our Christian lives. “What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, ‘Go, I wish you well;



keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.” (James 2:14-17) Do you want to see evidence of a saving faith? First, do you confess that Jesus is your Lord and Savior? Do you believe that God raised Him from the dead? If your answer is “Yes,” then look at your faith as measured by good works. Do your good works give evidence of your saving faith? And for all who support Orphan Grain Train with prayers, encouragement, service, and gifts, we especially hold fast to what St. James writes: “Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress . . . “

***Heavenly Father, bless us with lives that give testimony to the love of God living in us. Bless the work of Orphan Grain Train, that we may strive to look after orphans and widows in their distress, and to provide help for all who are hungry and suffering. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.***



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