



# Orphan Grain Train

Relief for Human Need Worldwide

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**Concordia University NE Football Team / Camp**

**Linn Haven, North Carolina**



**The Concordia University Football team from Seward, NE returned to Camp Linn Haven in Linville, NC to help rebuild and repair the camp after Hurricane Helene wreaked havoc in the area in September of 2024. This past week, twenty-three returning and new football players and nine adults, including the head coach and graduate assistant formed two work crews. The crews tackled building a wheelchair ramp, cutting wood, drywall repair, stabilizing foundations, building fences**

**and bathroom repair. When they weren't working the group gathered for Bible study and great food. Bill McAllister, former football coach of Concordia teamed up with Pat Daberkow, current head coach and Orphan Grain Train to organize another successful camp. Thank you, to everyone involved in making this work camp another success!**

**Photos below include:**

**Concordia players take a break for a group photo.**

**Carrying lumber across a ravine to be used for repair work.**

**Cleaning tools after a day of work.**

**Camp Lin Haven's minister of disaster program director, Heather stands with some of the students and adult leaders.**

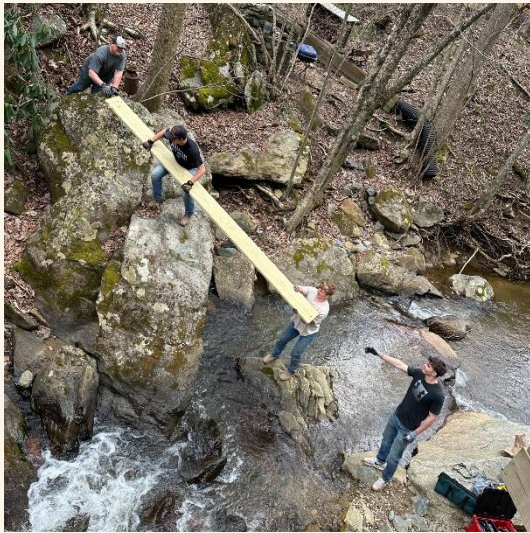
**The student crew making their sandwiches for lunch before they go to work.**

**A work crew stabilizing the underside of a house that is four feet above the river.**

**Every evening, the group gathered for Bible study.**

**That each of them may eat and  
drink, and find satisfaction in all  
their toil - this is the gift of God.**

**Ecclesiastes 3:13**













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## **OGT Visits Humanitarian Organizations in Appalachian Region**





Every Wednesday, Manna from Heaven in Myra, Kentucky has a line-up of cars waiting to receive humanitarian assistance. Grant Schmidt, Orphan Grain Train Vice President of Operations and Pete Gnan, OGT Field Work Director, are in the Appalachian region visiting partnering organizations that many OGT branches deliver to regularly. OGT Indiana, OGT New England and OGT Wisconsin continue to make deliveries of food and humanitarian relief to Manna from Heaven.

*Photos: The Wednesday line-up of vehicles waiting to receive aid from Manna from Heaven.*

*Carol Rose and Lois Tackett from Manna from Heaven welcome Grant Schmidt and Pete Gnan.*

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.

If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with the person, and they with me.

Revelation 3:20 NIV

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**CHRIST LINCOLN / OGT Lincoln**



On Wednesday, February 25, 2026 about 70 Christ Lincoln youth and adults had a service hour at Orphan Grain Train Lincoln. They sorted and packed clothing and made over 8,208 Mercy Meals. When they were finished, they prayed over the meals. **What a joy to serve amidst that young energy! Thank you, Christ Lincoln for volunteering at OGT Lincoln!**

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**OGT Wisconsin / Latvia**



On February 25, 2026, Orphan Grain Train Wisconsin successfully loaded a 40' humanitarian aid container filled with donated relief supplies destined for partners serving families, seniors, and vulnerable communities in Latvia. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Pampali, Latvia is the recipient for this load. This shipment includes blankets, clothing, medical equipment, furniture and household items. Also included are toys, bicycles, school supplies and sewing items.

This is a note from Pastor Ivars Eisaks,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Pampali:

*“I just received an acceptance that Talsi is ready to receive this shipment. They are really happy about such cargo contents! Then I give the acceptance for sending. I think that when the shipment arrives, I will go to Talsi myself to meet with the volunteers and send pictures from the unloading process.”*

— Pastor Ivars Eisaks

This message reflects the deep appreciation from our partners in Latvia who will distribute these goods directly to those in need.

We thank you donors and volunteers

for the time and goods you share for  
helping others.

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**St. Paul Buffalo Creek and St John's Green  
Garden / OGT Norfolk**



**St. Paul Buffalo Creek in Rural Tilden, NE and St. John's Green Garden in Madison, NE gathered on Thursday, February 26, 2026 at the Orphan Grain Train Servant Center in Norfolk to sort and pack. Thank you, Jim, Kristi, Susan, Marsha, Dorothy, Darrel, Ardell, Brian and Brenda for driving to Norfolk to spend your evening volunteering. Thank you, Pastor Williams for joining the group and pastoring both congregations.**

**"The Lord has done great things for us." Psalm 126:3 (NIV)**

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**OGT Central NE - Grand Island / Panama**









**Orphan Grain Train Central Nebraska in Grand Island sent out a container to Church of God of Prophecy in Panama. In early February, the container was loaded with medical supplies and equipment, linens, clothing and toys. In addition, there were over 40 school desks and chairs and ten bicycles. Thank you, Central NE volunteers and donors for your many hours of volunteer work that you have given. Thank you also for**

**the many containers that you have sent to Panama  
throughout the years.**

**"Give careful thought to the paths for  
your feet and be steadfast in all your  
ways." Proverbs 4:26 NIV**

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**OGT / South Sudan**







Orphan Grain Train continues to send financial support to South Sudan where the world's largest displacement of people is occurring. This massive displacement has led to widespread violence and severe famine. The support is sent to Bishop Peter, of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Sudan. Bishop Peter then purchases food for distribution. The most recently purchased food was distributed around Juba in the POC (protection of civilian sites).

*"These are camps where thousands of South Sudanese are living within South Sudan who have lost everything including homes and they cannot go back due to recurring violence, fear and the dangers in the area. UN keeping force keeps an eye on those camps, but they do not provide the people with food or any other services at the moment. The people live in small plastic tents or under trees and are faced with numerous challenges including starvation, lack of basic medicines, poor hygiene and are exposed to malaria, diarrhea and typhoid. From these groups of people, we managed to provide food for 200 families basically rice, beans and washing soap. We do not only distribute food. Distribution of relief gives us an opportunity to point the people to Christ, the true Bread that gives Life." - Bishop Peter*

More financial support will be sent again to help the people in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan. The humanitarian situation there is catastrophic with nearly 700,000 to one million refugees from Sudan. These are photos that were taken in Juba at the most recent distribution.

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness"

2 Corinthians 12:9

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**Mt. Calvary - Huron, SD / OGT Milbank**



**On Friday, February 27, 2026 Sherri and Robert Blaseg traveled from Mt. Calvary, Huron, SD to Orphan Grain Train Milbank to deliver 148 designated OGT boxes. Thank you, to Mt. Calvary members for all of those donations!**

**Photo includes left to right: Milbank volunteers Brad Busack, Robert and Sherri Blaseg and Howard Mueller. With Joyce Kasuske and Linnea Schwandt's help, the boxes were wrapped and placed on designated pallets. Thank you, Robert and Sherri Blaseg for making the two-hour drive to Milbank to deliver those 148 boxes.**

**You will keep in perfect peace  
those whose minds are steadfast,  
because they trust in You.**

**Isaiah 26:3**

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## Young Volunteers / OGT Houston







**Orphan Grain Train Houston recently had a few overnight guests. Sixteen youth from different churches in the area were the branches first overnight guests. They bunked in the two multi-purpose rooms after a day of serving in the community. They set a goal to assemble 200 hygiene kits for OGT which they successfully accomplished with energy to spare! Thank you, for choosing to campout and volunteer at OGT Houston - and for this fun idea!**

**May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and  
the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy  
Spirit be with you all.**

**2 Corinthians 13:14 NIV**

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**Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) /  
OGT Lincoln**



On February 28, 2026, Nadine Forgey invited leaders from several different Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) chapters to tour Orphan Grain Train Lincoln and the semi-automated rice and bean meal room at the Lincoln warehouse. The group also sorted and packed many boxes of clothing, shoes, bedding and other humanitarian aid. Thank you, ladies for spending the day with OGT Lincoln and for volunteering at the warehouse afterwards. Thank you for your many hours of service in other areas as well.

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**OGT New England - Connecticut / Ghana**



**Volunteers for Orphan Grain Train's New England Branch, a charity located at 33 South Main St. in Terryville, CT loaded a 40-foot container of needed items for Ghana, Africa on March 3. OGT has the use of a warehouse in Terryville, CT that is owned by Mr. Bill Allread, who has made space available for this charitable work.**

The shipment was sent to a Mission organization supplying clinics, rural hospitals, schools and community outreach programs in Ghana that OGT partners with. They receive the items and distribute them to those in need. Items on this shipment included 25 hospital beds with mattresses and side rails, 50 canes, 40 commodes, 50 pair of crutches, 95 walkers, 23 shower chairs, 5 manual and 2 electric wheelchairs, 10 IV stands, 81 boxes or pieces of medical supplies, and 25 other pieces of medical equipment. Also included were 150 boxes of men's, women's, and children's clothing, 41 boxes of blankets and linens, 80 boxes of Hygiene diapers, 77 boxes of hygiene supplies and Kits, 19 boxes of Layette Kits and 23 boxes of School Kits and supplies. Additionally, 10 boxes of Bibles and 13 boxes of Christian resources were included. All these items were requested by the organization. The container will go to a port and be loaded on a ship for transport.

Other shipments have gone to missions in a number of countries e.g. Liberia, Senegal, Nicaragua, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan,

Moldova, Lithuania, Nepal, the Philippines, Trinidad, Panama, Peru, Venezuela and the Republic of Georgia, as well as Appalachia and hurricane relief for Puerto Rico, Florida and North Carolina. The Branch also helps those locally in New England, giving medical items that have been donated to individuals in need. The effort is an outreach ministry of the Lutheran Church, and OGT is a 501(3)(C) charity affiliated with the church and supported locally by Holy Trinity Lutheran in Terryville and Immanuel Lutheran in Bristol and is open to all who want to help others. For more information, please call Holy Trinity at 860-582-0723 and/or check out the [OGT.org](http://OGT.org) website.

The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, 'Here it is, ' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of

God is in your midst."

Luke 17:20-21 NIV

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**Nebraska 21st Century Lion's Club / OGT Lincoln**



The Lincoln, Nebraska 21st Century Lion's Club faithfully serves in the Orphan Grain Train semi-automated Mercy Meals room making bean and rice meals the fourth Saturday of every month.

These five boxes are headed to Ysleta Mission in El Paso, Texas on March 7. Thank you, ladies for volunteering so steadfastly

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**OGT Norfolk / Philippines**









Christian Missionary Baptist Church in Negros Occidental province of the Philippines sent word that the December shipment out of Orphan Grain Train Norfolk arrived safely last month. Ryan Tormentar of Christian Missionary Baptist Church said that they unloaded the container, and its contents will be distributed in the area in the next few days.

The Philippines experienced a multiple of deadly earthquakes and intense typhoons in the past year. Many of the items on this load were disaster relief items such as tarp kits and tarps, plastic totes, buckets, cots, air mattresses and survival kits. In addition, there were blankets, solar lights, sleeping mats, peanut butter, and hygiene and layette kits. For the children, there were 560 Christmas boxes and 35 boxes of stuffed toys. Thank you, to all the donors and volunteers who prepared these items, whether it was a layette kit carefully pieced together or a box of blankets, sorted, folded, packed and labeled. We thank you.

He will cover you with his feathers, and  
under his wings you will find refuge; his  
faithfulness will be your shield and

rampart.

Psalm 91:4 NIV

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**OGT Central NE / Everything Beautiful, Lame  
Deer MT**







**Orphan Grain Train Central Nebraska in Grand Island sent out another load to Everything Beautiful in Lame Deer, Montana. Thank you, volunteers and donors for the time you share in doing this. Furniture, clothing and many supplies were sent on this domestic delivery.**

Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:34 NIV

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**OGT Wisconsin & OGT Minnesota North / Haiti**





**The teamed-up effort of Orphan Grain Train Wisconsin and OGT Minnesota North's 18 totes of black split beans to Cap Haitien, Haiti arrived at its destination. Long-time recipient, Josias Marin of Thomassique, will receive the food for the Lutheran school in Haiti. The beans were donated by Apostolic Christian Harvest Call which is a part of the**

**Apostolic Christian Church. The beans were loaded in Hancock, MN by OGT Minnesota North volunteers. OGT Wisconsin funded the trucking, shipping and customs bills. Thank you, to everyone involved with this load from beginning to end! It is always a "praise the Lord" moment when a delivery reaches its destination. Thank you, Father.**

"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." Ephesians 4: 15-16

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## Zion Lutheran Ladies Guild, Pasadena Texas /

## OGT Houston



Zion Lutheran's Ladies Guild of Pasadena, Texas faithfully assemble hygiene kits every month.

Orphan Grain Train Houston branch is located in Pasadena and receives these kits to share with others. These kits are in great demand both

domestically and internationally. Thank you,  
ladies of Zion and others who put these kits  
together with such care. We **love** what you do!  
Thank you.

<https://www.ogt.org/special-projects/hygiene-kits/>

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**Corteva Agriscience, York, NE / OGT Lincoln**







**Ninety-five Corteva employees in York, Nebraska, packed 26,380 Mercy Meals in two hours on Wednesday Feb. 25, at their worksite. The boxed-up meals will go to Orphan Grain Train Lincoln where they will be sent out either domestically or internationally to feed the hungry. Thank you, Corteva employees for being such a wonderful group of people. We enjoyed our time with you.**

## OGT New England / Bristol Boys and Girls Club



On Monday, March 9, volunteers for the Orphan Grain Train's (OGT) New England Branch provided ten repaired bicycles and three new bikes and helmets to the Bristol Boys and Girls Club. They give the bikes to those in need as a part of

the assistance programs they offer for educational, after school and sporting activities for children in the area. These events fit the OGT mission of helping others who are doing charitable work. Our volunteers inspect donated bikes to make sure they are in good, usable condition. Thank you, Tom Calvello for arranging for the donation of bikes to the club.

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**Desert Foothills Lutheran Church, Scottsdale,  
AZ / OGT Phoenix**





Desert Foothills Lutheran Church, located in Scottsdale, AZ designated February as Orphan Grain Train Month. The members

of the church collected donations during the month and brought them to the OGT Phoenix warehouse. On February 28, sixteen church members joined the Phoenix volunteers and sorted and boxed 205 boxes! This set a new all-time high for sorted and boxed items in one day. With so many people on hand, extra sorting tables were set up in the warehouse to accommodate the volunteers. Thank you to Desert Foothills and the Phoenix volunteers for your enthusiasm and hard work!

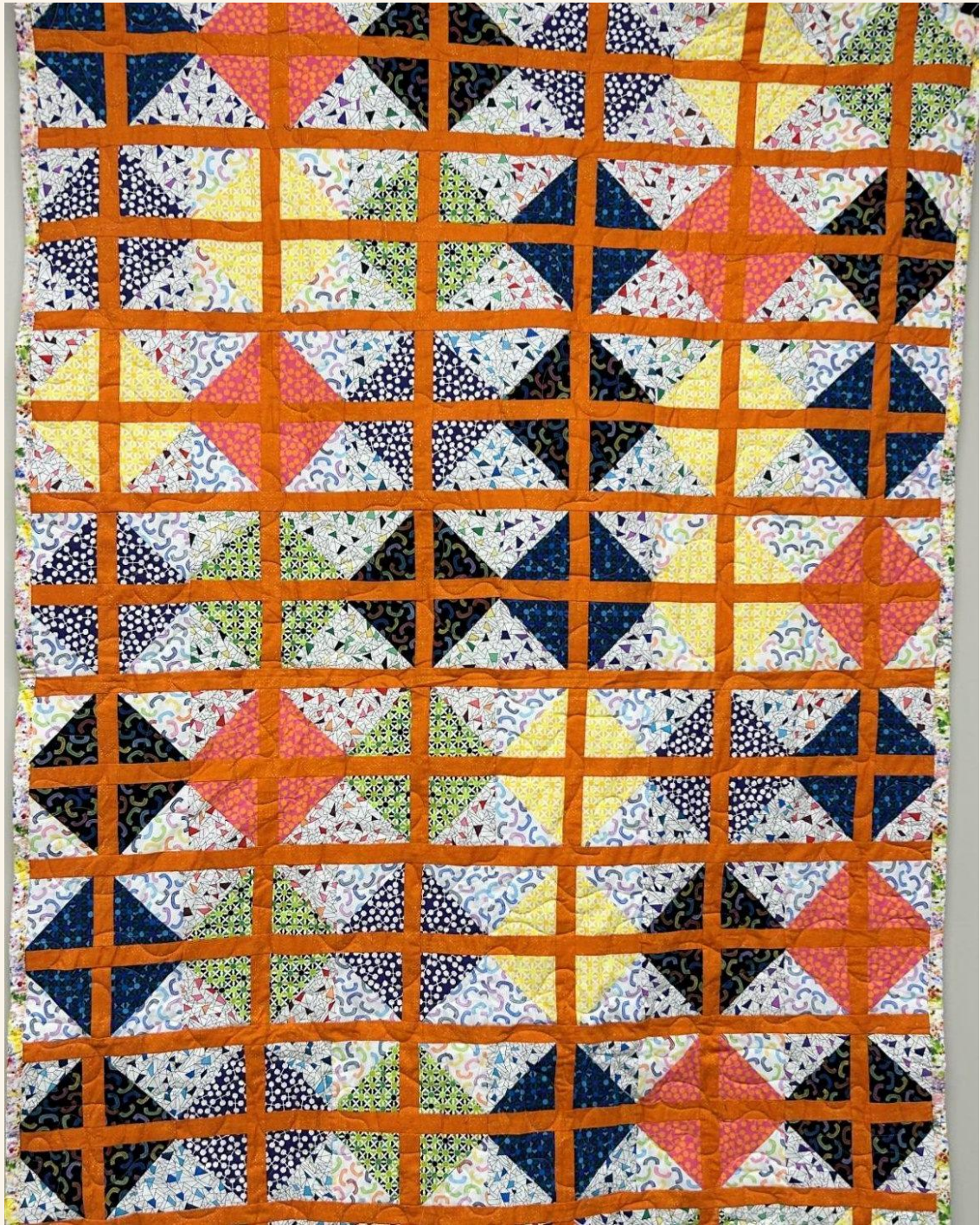
Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Romans 12:11

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Q U I L T

**OF THE WEEK**



**Quilt #16**



Quilt #17

## **Do you recognize these quilts?**

Every quilt has a story. Many beautiful and unique quilts are shared with Orphan Grain Train, but not their story. Quilts are sewn into the history of Orphan Grain Train. Quilts were included on the first shipments to Latvia and Russia in 1993, and were given to children in orphanages.

## **Orphan Grain Train accepts quilts and blankets in all sizes, year-round.**

All 27 Orphan Grain Train branches and collection centers receive donated quilts which are shipped by OGT to people in need both domestically and internationally.

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# Weekly Devotion



**By Paul Leckband**

Orphan Grain Train, Director of Spiritual Correspondence

**Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is His name?’ Then what shall I tell them?” God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The**

**Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’ This is My name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation.”**

**Exodus 3:13-15**

**What’s in a Name? Do you know what your name means? My name, Paul, means “little” or “small.” I’m not sure I like that, but it is what it is. We deliberately chose these names for our children: Nathan, our oldest, was given a name that means “gift.” Sarah, our next oldest, was given a name that means “princess.” And Rachel, our youngest, was given a name that means “little lamb.”**

**God has appeared to Moses in a burning bush and commissioned Moses to return to Egypt and tell the Israelites that he, Moses, is to lead them from Egypt to the Promised Land. [Moses, by the way, could mean “savior,” in a combination of Egyptian and Hebrew words.] Moses is a little skeptical and wants to know God’s name—the name he is to use with the Israelites. God answers, “I AM WHO I AM . . . I AM has sent me to you.” That seems like a strange name, doesn’t it? What does it mean?**

**According to [biblestudytools.com](http://biblestudytools.com), “The significance of God’s self-given name encompasses all that He is, and how we relate to Him . . . To understand the power and weight of this name, compare this answer to the Egyptian pantheon. The Israelite nation lived surrounded by temples dedicated to deities with faces, bodies, birth stories, and death stories. Most significantly, they had names and**

dominion over certain aspects of life . . . When God gives a name for His people to call Him, it conveys His dominion over all things [emphasis added], the source of His power, and His eternal nature: I AM. He is the self-sufficient, self-sustaining God who was, who is, and who will be.” And Jesus refers to Himself as “I AM” at least seven times in the New Testament. Examples? “I AM the bread of life.” (John 6:35) “I AM the resurrection and the life.” (John 11:25) “I AM the way.” (John 14:6)

**Dearest Jesus, we call on Your name,  
because it is only through You, who has  
dominion over all things, that we are  
forgiven and saved. Amen**



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