



# Orphan Grain Train

Relief for Human Need Worldwide

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**Announcements**

# Orphan Grain Train †

## Maryland Branch

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### Disaster Relief for Victims of Hurricane Helene

A Free Marketplace event will be held in Spartanburg, SC on May 30 to provide resources for families still in recovery from Hurricane Helene. Working with Lutheran Church Charities (LCC), Samaritan Feet, LCC Comfort Dogs, and a host of other organizations active in disaster response. Help is needed in securing items for this event. There is a special call for space heaters and oscillating fans. Samaritan Feet is assisting with 275 pairs of shoes, LCC is helping with organizing and funding the shoes. At a recent meeting with Orphan Grain Train – Millersville, when they noticed that space (warming) blankets were needed for emergency kits, they donated 750 of them. The response is growing. The hearts of God's people are being moved to compassionate response.

Also needed are basic pantry goods, such as flour, sugar, baking powder and baking soda. We are also working on building emergency "go bags". Supplies needed include: Glow sticks, solar camping lanterns.

**Link for Amazon Wish List:**

<https://a.co/03OtOe7c>

**Link for Solar Camping Lanterns**

[Amazon.com: Solar Camping Lantern 4 Pack, Rechargeable LED Lantern with Flashlight, USB-C & Solar Powered, Collapsible Emergency Lights for Hurricane, Power Outages, Outdoor Use : Sports & Outdoors](#)

**Materials can be sent directly to Spartanburg County**

**Emergency Management Center at 175 Community College**

DR, Spartanburg SC 29303

## OGT Colorado West



### **Dear LCMS Brothers and Sisters in Christ:**

Greetings! My name is Daryl Meske, and I am Coordinator of the Colorado West Division of a Christian ministry organization called Orphan Grain Train, a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS, headquartered in Norfolk, Nebraska. Orphan Grain Train

(OGT) is a Christian volunteer network that ships donated food, clothing, medical and other needed items to people in 73 different countries and 40 states across the USA. Established in 1992 OGT has been “bringing Christ’s name and character to needy people both far and near” for nearly 35 years. If there is a disaster at home or abroad, it is fairly certain you will find OGT involved in sending food, medical supplies and clothing to that location, all enabled by the work of an extensive network of volunteers at many OGT collection and distribution centers across America. (Please see our website at [ogt.org](http://ogt.org) – you will be amazed!)

**We are looking right now to relocate our Colorado West Division distribution and staging center to a new location due to circumstances beyond the control of our current location, and we are appealing to churches in the Denver and Boulder Metro area who may have unused or**

**underutilized space that might accommodate OGT's day-to-day operations.**

**We are eternally grateful to Gethsemane Lutheran Church for their selfless accommodation over the past 6+ years, and we look forward to their continued leadership and support with our operations workload even as we move on to other accommodations.**

**Could your church be that ideal location?**

Below gives you an idea of our current configuration, but bear in mind we can be very creative with the configuration of space that you might have available for our use:

- a room approximately 600 sq. ft. (20' x 30') as a clothing sorting & packing room for day-to-day operations
- another large room or 2 smaller rooms, perhaps—for collecting incoming clothing and goods in preparation for packing, and for storing boxes as we pack them.

Even if you have available space but you're unsure if it will work, we would love to have the opportunity to talk to you about it.

What's in it for YOU?

1. We already have an experienced volunteer staff, but our prayer is to add to our ranks and increase our production here in the Denver metro area. When people see God's work through Orphan Grain Train firsthand, they tend to want to join the fellowship, the mission, the fun, and the satisfaction that bringing the Love of Jesus to people in need yields
2. You can dramatically increase overnight your church's mission

ministry by making use of under-utilized space in this way. We can only afford a relatively small monthly payment but please allow us to show you how you could optimize your mission giving through this partnership.

3. God may use this well established, practical mission to grow your membership and add even more enthusiasm to your fellowship!

**Please contact me, Daryl Meske, at [daryl.meske@gmail.com](mailto:daryl.meske@gmail.com), 303-746-3951 with any questions. I am happy to discuss this mission opportunity in person or through my contact information at your convenience. God has been using OGT in effective and amazing ways for nearly 35 years, and we see only increase on the horizon in helping many suffering people in the U.S. and abroad in Jesus' Name!**

**Please feel free to reply to this email, or contact me directly by leaving a message at 303-746-3951**

**Grace and Peace be yours in Christ,**

**Daryl Meske**

**Coordinator, Orphan Grain Train, Colorado West**

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**Blessings,**

**Daryl Meske**

[daryl.meske@gmail.com](mailto:daryl.meske@gmail.com)

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**Blessings,**

**Daryl Meske**

[daryl.meske@gmail.com](mailto:daryl.meske@gmail.com)

**Mobile - 720-289-8589**

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## Western Nebraska Fire Disaster

Almost 600 bales of hay have been delivered to western Nebraska farmers and ranchers through Orphan Grain Train and donors. All of the hay was

graciously donated by farmers in Nebraska, Iowa and Wisconsin. Orphan Grain Train is able to pay for trucking for these loads because of the generosity of donors. In the next few weeks four loads of new fencing materials will be delivered to Farnham along with continued support of hay. Thank you, to everyone who has called to offer support to the people in western Nebraska.

The photos are of hay that was donated by James Andresen from Ute, Iowa. Lowell Kreiger picked up two loads of hay from Andresen's farm.

**Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.**

**Galatians 6:2**





**Thank you Brian Knapp and Matt Klyere for the donation of hay and trucking for another load to western Nebraska. This load is headed for the Osh Kosh area.**

**You are good, and what you do is good;  
teach me your decrees.**

**Psalm 119:68**



**Orphan Grain Train Volunteers in action:**

*"Unbelievable and blessed!! This is how I would describe the fundraiser in Madison today. It was a great day! Thank you to all the churches for donations and support. Thank you to each and everyone who came for lunch and donated to Orphan Grain Train and Fire Relief for Western Nebraska. Madison is Nebraska Strong! Proud of this community!"*



Orphan Grain Train driver, Bob Schleppenbach, leaving for Farnam, Nebraska to deliver a load of treated fence posts to the area. Another OGT driver, Dan Pollack, after picking up a full semi-load of barbed wire out of Oklahoma will also be taking his load to Farnam. The western Nebraska fires began in Morrill County on March 12th. People from all around the Midwest have rallied in support of the ranchers and farmers of the area. Convoys of semis loaded with hay have brought thousands of bales to the area for hungry livestock. Through the donations of many people in the area, OGT has been able to deliver 15 loads of hay. In the next few days, OGT will be

delivering two more loads of fencing supplies, treated and hedge posts, and continuing to bring support to the area in the next few months.

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**OGT Norfolk / Liberia**



Orphan Grain Train received the following letter from our recipient, Hope and Care Outreach:

*Praise the Lord, Orphan Grain Train, Inc. has done it again! HCC received another container filled with school and office furniture. Enrollment at Hope Lutheran School in Gbarnga increased this year, and the students and staff patiently waited for these desks, as some classes had 2-3 students sharing a desk. OGT donated the shipping container along with the contents. This will provide storage space for the Joehzon campus. Foya Lutheran School, the HCC Homes, Nancy Fayia Medical Clinic, and other ministries will also benefit from these wonderful gifts. The container arrived on a holiday when HCC was very short-staffed and missing most of the HCC kids, but the few that were present worked extremely hard. We thank God for Mr. Wisdom Israel Nyanfor, the COO of Hope and Care, who led the charge with staff members Christian Wratto, Harris Fallah, and Samuel Anderson, along with some HCC*

*kids.*

*Thank you Orphan Grain Train, Inc.*

*We love you and thank God for you!*

*#hopeandcareforchildren #hopeandcareoutreach #Liberia*

*#lutheraneducation #HopeInChrist #SmallStepsBigImpact*

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## OGT Houston / Malawi Prison







## **It's arrived!**

**OGT 2629 to the Malawi Prison Services has arrived safe and sound. What an amazing and generous gift from the Orphan Grain Train Houston Branch! This milestone shipment is a powerful testament to the dedication, compassion, and faithfulness of the volunteers who made it possible. Their hard work has truly made an impact, and we rejoice in seeing this first international effort come to fruition.**

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart and**

**lean not on your own understanding; in all  
your ways acknowledge Him, and He will  
make your paths straight.**

**Proverbs 3:5 NIV**

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## **Mercy Meals of Siouxland / OGT Norfolk**







On March 28, 2026, 63 volunteers at Mercy Meals of Siouxland packed 23,970 meals. Jim Kirsch, Orphan Grain Train Norfolk truck driver, was there with a box truck so that completed meals could be loaded and brought to Norfolk for future shipments. Eight volunteers helped load completed Mercy Meals and then also bring in supplies to the church for future meals that will be made. Thank you, Mercy Meals of Siouxland for your steady making of these fortified meals that are so needed all around the world. Thank you, to all the volunteers who use their hands to package them together.

**The boundary lines have fallen for me in  
pleasant places; surely, I have a delightful  
inheritance.**

**Psalm 16:6 NIV**

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**Odell, NE Volunteers Pack Mercy Meals / OGT  
Norfolk**



**Recently, seven lines of volunteers from around the Odell,  
Nebraska community packaged 64,132 Mercy Meals. Pastor**

Stuckwisch, of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Odell is with Bob Schleppenbach a truck driver of Orphan Grain Train Norfolk. They loaded up a semi load of meals that were delivered back to Norfolk for future shipments. **The Mercy Meals you put together are shared with so many people across the globe.**

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## OGT Minnesota North / OGT Wisconsin





Gary & Lisa and Kayla Geske picked up a load of health kits and school kits, quilts and clothing from a satellite Orphan Grain Train Minnesota North location in Detroit Lakes MN. on Sunday April 12th. The Geske's also had an opportunity to share about OGT during Bible study at Zion Lutheran Church in Detroit Lakes, MN while they were there. Each month, Sheri Adkins gathers kits, quilts and clothing from several churches and organizations in the Detroit Lakes area. When she has enough to fill a trailer load, she calls up Geske, the

**MN North Manager, and he drives south to Detroit Lakes to load up his trailer. He returns to Thief River Falls with his load and begins filling his semi-trailer that once it is filled, will be transported by OGT Wisconsin branch for a shipment. This is a shout-out to all the people who make this happen: putting together kits and quilts each month, organizing pick-ups and loading and transporting the items to the correct location so that they can be best shared with others. Thank you, to the Geske family and Sheri Adkins for all you do!**

**You have made known to me the paths of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence.**

**Acts 2:28 NIV**

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## **Our Savior Lutheran Church, St. Charles, MO /**

### **OGT Missouri - Illinois**



Recently the Orphan Grain Train Missouri-Illinois branch involved volunteers in assembling about 180 hygiene kits. They were members from Our Savior Lutheran Church LWML in St. Charles, MO. The kits are shipped out both domestically and internationally and move very quickly through inventory. Thank you, Our Savior Lutheran LWML for

gathering to put these kits together.

**Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.**

**Acts 4:12 NIV**

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**OGT Wisconsin / Peru**







**Orphan Grain Train Wisconsin gathered on Wednesday, April 15th to load a wonderful shipment of items to Peru. There are over 8,000 pounds of non-perishable foods and 220 boxes of Kids Against Hunger/Food for Kidz packed into this load. The container is also carrying clothing, bedding, medical equipment and supplies, and bicycles. In addition, there are sleeping mats and bags and hygiene, school and feminine kits. Thank you, OGT Wisconsin for doing the work**

necessary to get this load completed. Thank you, for asking the Lord to watch over the passage of this container, that the contents might be a blessing to the people receiving it and that they may know the love of Christ that is shared in the giving.

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**OGT Norfolk / Republic of Georgia**





These are photos that were shared with Orphan Grain Train Norfolk after a recent shipment arrived in the Republic of Georgia for Women for Justice.

A letter was shared along with the photos:

*"In the meantime, I have continued distributing items in the villages where material assistance is*

*deeply needed. The people living there work incredibly hard — they are engaged in animal husbandry, poultry farming, and cultivating their land in order to provide food for their families. These villages are far from the cities, and every single item we bring to them is truly precious and valuable. The women, children, and elderly who remain in the villages receive these gifts with heartfelt joy. It is very touching to see their gratitude and happiness as they share the items I bring to them on your behalf."*

Women for Justice

**Thank you, to all our donors who support this ministry financially, materially and with your strong prayers.**

**As the deer pants for streams of water, so  
my soul pants for you, my God.**

**Psalms 42:1 NIV**

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**OGT Wichita / Lithuania**



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**Orphan Grain Train Wichita organized a strong group of volunteers to load a container for Lithuania on April 8th. The container was loaded with over 180 boxes of blankets and linens, clothing for men, women and children and medical supplies and equipment. In addition, there were 186 boxes of either school kits, layette kits or hygiene kits. Bicycles, stuffed animals, sewing materials and sports equipment also were included in the container.**

**Thank you, OGT Wichita volunteers for a beautifully put together load that will be a joy for the recipients to receive. We are grateful to everyone involved in making this shipment**

happen.

**Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and  
thanks and honor and power and strength  
be to our God forever and ever. Amen!**

**Revelation 7:12 NIV**

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**OGT New England / Liberia**



### **From OGT New England:**

*"On April 20, 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. On the shipment were 55 boxes of Harvest Pack Meals, a dehydrated, rice based and fortified food in sealed plastic bags that can last up to 3 years requiring only water for preparation. The school has installed its own wells so clean water is not a problem. This is enough of a supply to make almost 12,000 meals and can be used to supplement the schools own gardening program when droughts or other weather events occur. In addition, two Treadle sewing machines were sent which are used because there is not a reliable power supply. OGT has supplied 8 treadle sewing machines in the past to help with their learn-to-sew program and this past year saw some 35 graduates who now can sew on their own for their families or sell to make some income. Also included were 9 folding school desks as to help with expansion.*

*In the past, OGT has also sent hospital beds, medical supplies, clothing and other school desks. Other shipments have gone to missions in countries on 4 continents 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 thru the visiting nurse and hospice care organizations of the area. 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 photo was taken from a past shipment of Treadle machines that OGT New England delivered. Jon Rossman, Executive director of Gbarnga Mission in Liberia, is on the left."*

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**LWML Norfolk, NE Zone / OGT Norfolk**



**At the Norfolk Zone Spring Ahead in Faith Event, Saturday, April 18, 2026, hosted by Mt. Olive-Norfolk, Pastoral Counselor Rev. Jacob Tuma provided a lively Bible Study based on the theme verse from 2 Chronicles 15:7 “Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work will be rewarded...” Kamryn Green from Orphan Grain Train was the speaker and the ingathering of cash and hygiene supplies filled her pickup. A leadership sketch by current Zone officers (Carol, Maggie and Mary) entertained, and the closing devotion on encouragement was presented by Sue from Mt. Olive who serves as the Christian Growth Chairman.**

**Thank you, ladies of Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)  
Norfolk Zone for all that you do in the name of Christ. You  
truly share Christ's name and character as you continue on  
in this mission. Thank you for the many hygiene kits, diapers  
and blankets that you gathered and shared with OGT Norfolk.**

**But as for you, be strong and do not give up,  
for your work will be rewarded.**

**2 Chronicles 15:7 NIV**

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**OGT Minnesota North / OGT Norfolk**



**Orphan Grain Train Minnesota North's Gary Geske was on the road again. Early Monday morning, April 20th, he was at OGT Norfolk with four pallets of hygiene kits, quilts and clothing that were gathered by Detroit Lakes' Sheri Adkins and Sonya Gunderson. Gunderson and her husband Myron are ambassadors for Ysleta Lutheran Mission Care. Orphan Grain Train makes frequent trips to the Ysleta mission bringing supplies and support. Thank you, Sheri, Sonya and Gary for your great enthusiasm and energy you bring to what**

the Lord places before you.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace, in its various forms.

I Peter 4:10 NIV

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**OGT Phoenix / Navajo Nation**







**On Thursday, April 9, 2026 the Orphan Grain Train Phoenix branch rented a 26' box truck and drove four hours to Tuba City, AZ to deliver a truck load of donations to the Navajo Nation. Eleven pallets with 660 boxes and one Gaylord with bikes, medical equipment and oversized toys were unloaded in 1 ½ hours, with the help of Pastor Nathan Lynch, five**

residents and six OGT volunteers. Gia, the resident dog, was happy to receive many head scratches and attention! The donations will be distributed to the local Tuba City congregation and six outlying church communities. Some of these communities are more than 100 miles from Tuba City. A Thrivent Action Teams card was used to cover some of the expenses.

Picture# 2063: Allen Hobratschk our warehouse manager, opening the truck

Picture# 8348: The boxes were off loaded and hand carried to the staging house and then sorted.

Picture # 8424: People involved with the unloading the truck

Do not neglect to do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:16 NIV



Right Click to Play Video Link

# Orphan Grain Train

Relief For Human Need Worldwide

Orphan Grain Train Norfolk sent out a load of 256,608 Mercy Meals to Guatemala on Monday, April 14. The meals were packed by Mercy Meals of Siouxland, Hearts and Hands Against Hunger of Hastings and Mercy Meals of Norfolk.

Thank you, to all the volunteers who put these meals together during packing events. The time you spent doing this filled another truck of food for hungry people.

I want to know Christ - yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

Phillippians 3:7-10 NIV

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**OGT Missouri West / OGT Norfolk**







Orphan Grain Train Missouri West volunteers Ken and Ida Schroeder left Concordia, Missouri early Tuesday morning to bring a trailer and van load full of valuable items to OGT Norfolk. After an eight-hour journey they arrived in Norfolk at 4:00. Thank you, to all the generous volunteers who gathered these items at different churches in the Concordia area and brought them to the Missouri West Collection Center. Thank you to the five St. Paul high school boys who helped load the

trailer and van. Thank you Ken and Ida for spending two days on the road to bring what can be shared with others.

**Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.**

**Isaiah 40:31 NIV**

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## **OGT Ohio / NALC Disaster Response**



Last month, Orphan Grain Train Ohio delivered blankets, sleeping mats, furniture and household supplies to the North

American Disaster Response team. In addition, to this there were diapers and school, and hygiene supplies also in the trailer load of goods. Thank you, OGT Ohio volunteers for gathering all of these items to be shared with people who suffer in situations that are out of their control.

**Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.**

**Proverbs 3:27 NIV**

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**Quilters of Grace / OGT Norfolk**





**These are the "Quilter of Grace" from Grace Lutheran Church in Norfolk, Nebraska. The women gather regularly to piece together beautiful blankets. After a few months, when their box of finished quilts is overflowing, they share what they have put together with Orphan Grain Train Norfolk. The yo-yo quilt is an example of one of the wonderful pieces made by**

this group. Thank you, ladies for gathering together to make beautiful quilts that can be shared with other people.

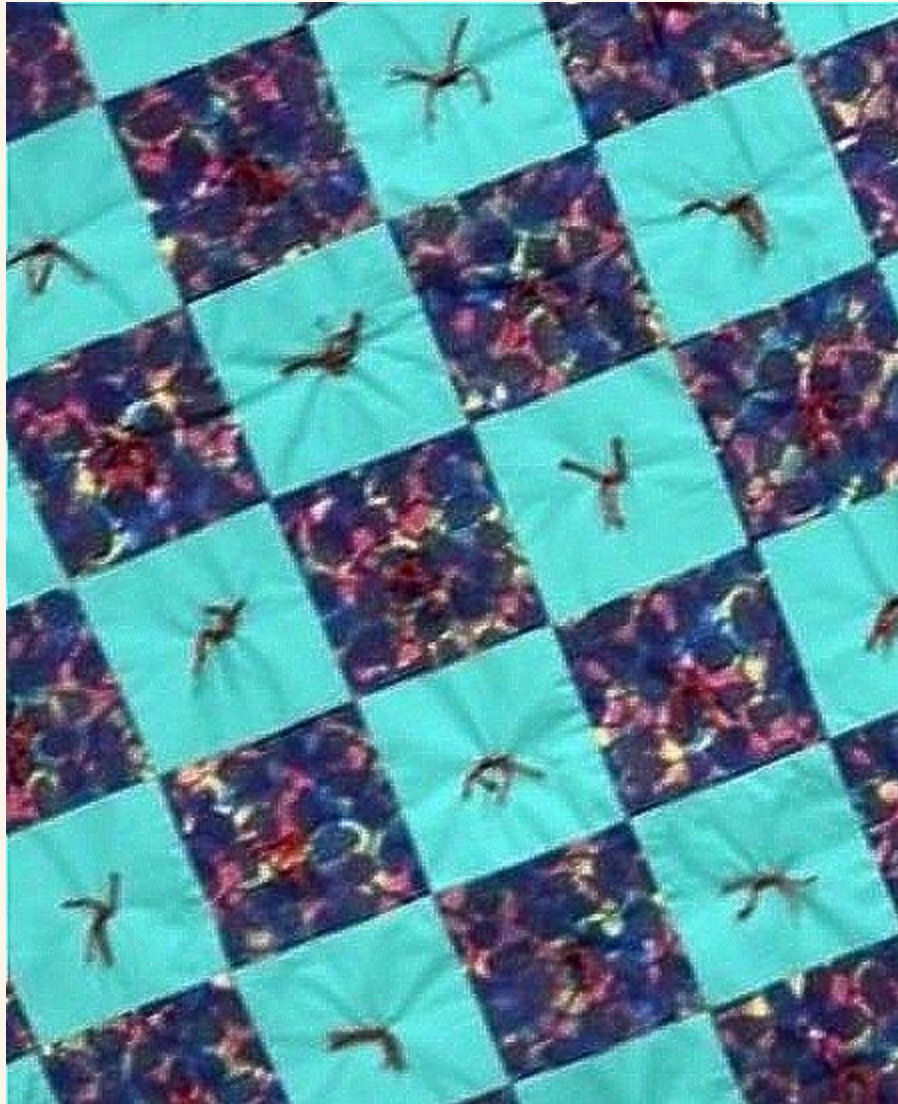
**So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.**

**Colossians 2:6-7**

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**Q U I L T**

**OF THE WEEK**



**Quilt #22**



**Quilt #23**

**Do you recognize these quilts?**

**We know a little bit about this quilt, #23.**

**This quilt was given by the Lydia Circle at Epiphany Lutheran Church to Orphan Grain Train Castle Rock, Colorado.**

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

**Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise.” Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: “To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!” (Revelation 5:11-13)**

Revelation: The Book of Revelation was written by the Apostle John, when he was exiled on the island of Patmos. He was in his 90s, and he was given a powerful message to proclaim and also a powerful vision. Because of its apocalyptic nature and symbolic language, it can be an intimidating book to read. It intimidates me!

I was fortunate to take part in a Sunday morning Bible class taught by Pastor Wilke at my home church—Grace Lutheran in Norfolk, NE. He helped me tremendously by providing understanding for this book.

There are many powerful themes in Revelation. One that stands out is the praise and worship of Jesus. John is transported in his vision to heaven, and he witnesses things that mere mortals are not given to see. In this week's reading, he "looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand." And they are singing "in a loud voice . . . 'Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise.'" Not only that, but he continues, "Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: 'To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!'"

What makes Jesus worthy of such praise and adoration? St. John

answers this question. Jesus is “the Lamb, who was slain.” It is by Jesus’ death on the cross that our forgiveness was won. And now Jesus lives eternally! “To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!”

**We give You praise, dear Lord Jesus, for You died for us and rose for us. Take us to be with You and Your angels to live eternally in heaven. Amen.**



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