



Orphan Grain Train

Relief for Human Need Worldwide

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The annual German Sausage Dinner hosted by Emanuel Lutheran Church in Milbank, South Dakota will take place on Sunday, October 18, 2026. The free will offering will support the mission of OGT Milbank.

OGT WI / Ukraine







**This is a letter that was sent from Derek Thomas
(Compassion for Ukraine and Charitable Fund Swedish Help
Centre). This is in response to a recent container that was
received. The container was sent by Orphan Grain Train
Wisconsin. Thank you, OGT Wisconsin volunteers for
continuing steadfastly in the work of Christ.**

**"I do not have words to describe the blessing it is to work
with you and Orphan Grain Train. I've attached photos
below showing your aid being delivered very close to the**

front line to people in real need. What a blessing to see your aid given out first hand to those in need. Food has now become the most prevalent need in Ukraine. As Russia has bombed warehouses across Ukraine, some estimate that 90% of modern food logistics and warehouse capacity have been destroyed or disrupted. Your rice meals, packages, beans, and all non-perishable food products are of tremendous value. Especially as winter is nearing. We look forward to receiving your current container in transit. Any additional containers that you or your other branches may have available would be greatly appreciated at this time.

Thank you for your partnership. You all are a true blessing and a God-send. We do not know how we could have made it without your help, but we are thankful for the One who has provided through you."

Derek Thomas

(Working with Compassion for Ukraine and Charitable Fund Swedish Help Centre)

Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1 NIV

OGT WI / Republic of Georgia





Orphan Grain Train Wisconsin loaded and sent a container to Republic of Georgia - always with a prayer that it will be a blessing to the recipients who receive it. This container, that went out on Wednesday, September 16th, was filled with almost 1,000 boxes of clothing, shoes and accessories for men, women and children. It also contained over 180 boxes of bedding and ten sleeping mats. Many medical equipment items, bicycles, diapers and hygiene, school and sanitary kits were also included. And because of all the many people who put together children's Christmas boxes, 40 boxes were also part of this shipment. Thank you, to all the volunteers who

share in the preparation of the donated items, and those who volunteer to be there to load the container. Well done!

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 4:4-7 NIV

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Okolona / OGT Ohio





Orphan Grain Train Ohio Collection Center and Bethlehem Lutheran Church Okolona, Ohio youth and adults. A dedicated group of 20 youth and adults gathered on Sunday, Sept. 13 to participate in the ELCA annual “God’s work. Our hands.” day of service. The volunteers spent the afternoon at the Orphan Grain Train Ohio Collection Center sorting and packing relief supplies for shipment to families and communities facing crisis from natural disasters. This National Day of Service highlighted the shared impact of

hands-on ministry. Pastor Alan Fuhrop stated: “Our congregation looks forward to continuing and expanding our service ministry, working side by side at Orphan Grain Train allows our youth and adults to put their faith into immediate action, turning global outreach into a tangible, local experience right here in Northwest Ohio area.”

Thank you, Bethlehem Lutheran youth and adults for putting your faith into action!

Pictures show the youth and adults sorting and packing donated items.

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 NIV



The Orphan Grain Train New England shipment to Accra, Ghana was received by recipient Dr. Ebenezer Derek Akwanga and the Ebenezer Akwanga Human Rights and

Humanitarian Institute. Clothing, Blankets, Christian Resources, shoes, Medical Equipment, Medical Beds and mattresses, medical supplies, and school supplies were distributed to people in the Accra area. Thank you, OGT New England for sending this container in February of 2026.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:10-11 NIV

OGT Iowa West / Ukraine



Steve Frank brought his pickup full of items to Orphan Grain Train Iowa West from his church, Immanuel Lutheran church in Spirit Lake, Iowa. Frank then helped finish loading the white truck with items that Justice for All, Rock Valley will be adding to their load which will be going to Gordy Sebring in Ukraine. Thank you to all the Iowa West volunteers who participating in bringing these different loads of inventory together. It is amazing what so many hands can accomplish!

For where your treasure is, there your

heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21 NIV

OGT Indiana / Indianapolis Flooding Disaster



FELLOWSHIP HALL





On Saturday, August 22, Larry Thomas and Gene Ernst of Orphan Grain Train Indiana delivered a load of cleaning supplies, scrub buckets, brooms, etc. to the north side of Indianapolis, an area hit hard by the recent flooding. It has been decades since this area has seen flooding of this magnitude. The supplies that were delivered were from what the branch had on hand in the warehouse. During the delivery, in a discussion with the coordinators and folks helping to unload, the men were asked if it were possible to gather up another load, which, of course they said they would. On the way back to Columbus, Ernst called Pastor

Adam of St Peter's in Columbus, Indiana and asked if they could park the OGT trailer on site for collecting cleaning supplies. Pastor Adam then took Ernst and Thomas's information and sent out a congregational email blast and connected with the other four Lutheran churches in the area. The churches made a wide-spread announcement that the trailer would be on site until 3 p.m. Sunday.

Monday morning, Ernst and his wife, Vivian and sister-in-law Leila headed back to the north side of Indianapolis to Glendale Christian Church which was the drop point for this area. The trailer was packed full of all the right stuff plus three generators and the necessary cords and gas tanks to make it all work.

Ernst said, (We) "Truly got to see God's people in action. Like Pastor Adam had said in his sermon Sunday that compassion with the AND means people in action and the folks of the Columbus area ACTED in response to the great love our Savior shows and gives to us every day."

Epiphany Lutheran Middle School Houston / OGT Houston



Epiphany Lutheran Middle School Houston youth volunteered time this summer at Orphan Grain Train as part of their "Summer Serve" outreach ministry. It is always helpful to have youthful energy in the Servant Center. 3 x 3 - for three hours, three days a week the Houston branch is blessed with volunteers (avg. over 400 hrs. per month). These people come from local churches of every denomination, youth from local high schools and church youth groups, along with community groups looking for a place to serve.

Below is a current listing of the many services that Orphan Grain Train supports in the Houston area.

Orphan Grain Train

5040 E Sam Houston Pkwy S - Pasadena, TX 77505
210-485-1789



Your Time and Donations Help Support the Following Ministries

Anchor Point, League City, TX
Bay Area Turning Point, Webster, TX
Brazos Place, Freeport, TX
Bridge Over Troubled Water, Pasadena, TX
Christian Helping Hands, Pearland, TX
Christ's Footprints in Africa (Malawi)
Clothed by Faith, Deer Park, TX
First United Methodist Church, Pearland, TX
HighPoint Church (Guatemala)
Hill Country Daily Bread, Boerne, TX
Hope House, League City, TX
Jane Around the World, Pasadena, TX
Kidz Harbor, Liverpool, TX
Kings Militia, Sweeney, TX
Krause Children's Shelter, Katy, TX

Legacy Ranch, Gonzalez, TX
Medical Bridges, Houston, TX
Mission Emanuel, San Benito, TX
North Carolina-Helene Relief, Asheville, NC
North Side Baptist Church, Texas City, TX
Pasadena Community Ministries
Project Hope, Houston, TX
Saving Grace Women's Home, Pearland, TX
Shiloh Ministries, Liberty, TX
St. George Episcopal Church, Texas City, TX
STCH Ministries, Missouri City, TX
Strong Tower, Hitchcock, TX
Trinity Lutheran-Homeless Ministry, Houston
Warriors Refuge, West Colombia, TX

OGT Maryland / Ethiopia









Here is a letter from Tony of Orphan Grain Train Maryland regarding their shipment in May to Ethiopia:

Friends - I am happy to report that on 31 Aug, our load

to Ethiopia arrived at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Hiwot Membere was there to meet it and is quite ecstatic about its arrival. The culmination of God's Grace and Providence channeled through dedicated people who embody joy, patience, and endurance has paid off... Praise God from whom all blessings flow!!!! More to come as it evolves... Respectfully/Tony

A little about what was in that container-

The load contained an abundance of medical equipment: toilet risers, oxygen concentrators, warming beds, IV stands and wheelchairs to name a few. There were 280 solar lights, 145 boxes of diapers, 30 boxes of rubber shoes, and 21 bolts of fabric along with sewing machines and notions. So many valuable and usable items.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the

church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV

OGT Norfolk / Malawi



The Orphan Grain Train Norfolk container of Mercy Meals rice and beans that were sent in March of 2026 was received in Malawi. The 1,188 boxes of fortified packets equal 256,608 individual meals. The recipients expressed great appreciation

for the food that will help to alleviate some of the food insecurity in the area. Letter received by OGT Norfolk from recipients in Malawi who received a shipping container of Mercy Meals.

Restoring Hope: How Food Support Transformed Ethel's Family Life.

In Kalingo Village under Group Village Head Lipholo in Traditional Authority Kuntumanji, life had become increasingly difficult for Ethel Louis, a single mother of five children. Like many families in Zomba District, her household was severely affected by the devastating floods of the 2024–2025 season, followed by prolonged dry spells that destroyed crops and disrupted livelihoods. With her small piece of farmland washed away and little opportunity to recover, Ethel found herself struggling daily to provide even the most basic meals for her children.

Days often passed with uncertainty, as the family relied on occasional piecemeal and the goodwill of neighbors. The children's nutrition suffered, and Ethel worried constantly about their health and future. *"There were times when we would eat only once a day, and sometimes nothing at all,"* she recalls. *"As a mother, it was painful to see my children go to sleep hungry."*

It was during this period of hardship that Emmanuel International Malawi, in collaboration with the District Disaster Risk Management Office, conducted a targeting exercise to identify the most vulnerable households affected by the disasters. Ethel's household was among those selected to receive food assistance through the donation provided by Orphan Grain Train.

Receiving the rice and bean food parcel marked a turning point for Ethel and her family. The food supplies immediately restored a sense of stability in the household. For the first time in months, Ethel was able to prepare consistent, nutritious meals for her children. The beans provided a vital source of protein, while the rice ensured that no one would go to bed hungry.



"This support has brought hope back into our home," Ethel shares with gratitude. *"Now my children are eating properly, and I can see the difference in their energy and happiness. I am no longer as worried as before."*

OGT Castle Rock





Fourteen volunteers from Orphan Grain Train Castle Rock loaded 1,428 boxes of clothing, blankets, coats, bedding and linens and clothing accessories. This load, destined for Romania also included 14 bicycles and 51 pieces of medical equipment. Not pictured are Larry Drees, Nancy and Jim Snyder. The truck driver, Gabriel Diaz did a great job of helping load this container in a record time of 1 hour 35 minutes. A special "thank you" to all the other volunteers who pick up the bags of clothing, sort the clothes, and pack the clothes and accessories into boxes.

And if we know that He hears us in

whatever we ask, we know that we have
the requests that we have asked of Him.

I John 5:15 ESV

OGT Lincoln



It was a great morning for Orphan Grain Train Lincoln's first annual golf fundraiser tournament at Woodland Hills golf course on 9/14. Even with early morning thunderstorms, forty-five players or ten teams showed up on the greens. Awards and lunch were provided by Amigos. Other costs were covered by five event sponsors and 6-hole sponsors.

Jim Carter and Tom Watson shared about OGT and the Lincoln Branch. Jim gave the background of Lincoln branch and update of what they are doing now. He had an updated display and handouts consisting of Fall Newsletters, campaign brochures, and OGT brochures. Thank you, to all the sponsors of this event: Thrivent, Amigos, Modern Woodmen, Union Bank and Trust, Anderson Auto Group and Jim and Kathy Carter. Co-coordinators of the tournament were Gabe Schindler, of Union Bank and Trust and Jim Carter, Lincoln Branch Manager.

OGT / Nebraska 2026 Wildfire Disaster



Orphan Grain Train's Logistics Director, Brent Kummer, delivered another load of 2,400 hedge posts to Hyannis, Nebraska on September 3, 2026. Ranchers were there ready to offload the posts onto their trailers. The posts will be used to replace the many miles of fencing that were destroyed in March from the largest fires in Nebraska history.

Six and a half miles of new fencing and, in the midst of trip seven, Orphan Grain Train fencing volunteers - Dave Meyer,

Walt Rosenbaum, Mike Jundt and DeWayne Erickson -
worked for a week pulling out the bad and putting in the new
in Hyannis, Nebraska. We are always grateful for beautiful
weather that allows this work to continue. We are also
grateful to the many new and returning volunteers who have
agreed to take this journey.





OGT / Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care





Thank you Orphan Grain Train, Inc., for your generous donation benefiting our community. We truly appreciate your continued support! Unloading is always easier with the right team. God is good. 🙏❤️

OGT / Bible Orphan Ministry Ukraine



Alla from Bible Orphan Ministry in Ukraine said that the Korostyshiv orphanage asked to have help paying for at least part of the cost of cutting down dead trees. There were many dead trees at the site that were dangerous; they could have fallen in strong winds and harmed the children or damaged the buildings on the orphanage grounds. In addition, paint was purchased for the Kmytyv orphanage. With Alla's request

of these two needs, Orphan Grain Train supported these efforts.

OGT Adopt-an-Orphanage / Hannah House



Oleg, the director of Hannah House in St. Petersburg, Russia is surrounded by Hannah House residents during a recent summer camp. Hannah House, which was established in 2016, provides a safe & nurturing environment for 18-year-olds who are released from orphanages & have nowhere else

to go. Bible courses are offered, along with barista, photography, cosmetology, & cooking classes. Orphan Grain Train continues to find ways to provide support to Hannah House.

OGT Adopt-an-Orphanage

OGT has begun supporting the House of Elim, a ministry in Ukraine that mirrors the Hannah House ministry in Russia. Like all of the other institutions we support in Ukraine, they suffer from the ongoing war with Russia. Please remember them in your prayers.

The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.” Proverbs 29:7

Christ Lutheran Lincoln Bible Class / OGT

Lincoln



Ten members of a Christ Lutheran Lincoln Bible class recently toured the Orphan Grain Train Lincoln facility. Several of the ladies are current OGT volunteers or have packaged Mercy Meals at past events. The tour was organized by Bible class member Bev Nelson. Thank you, Christ Lutheran Lincoln Bible class for joining together and visiting the Lincoln branch.

Make every effort to keep the unity of the

Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:3 NIV

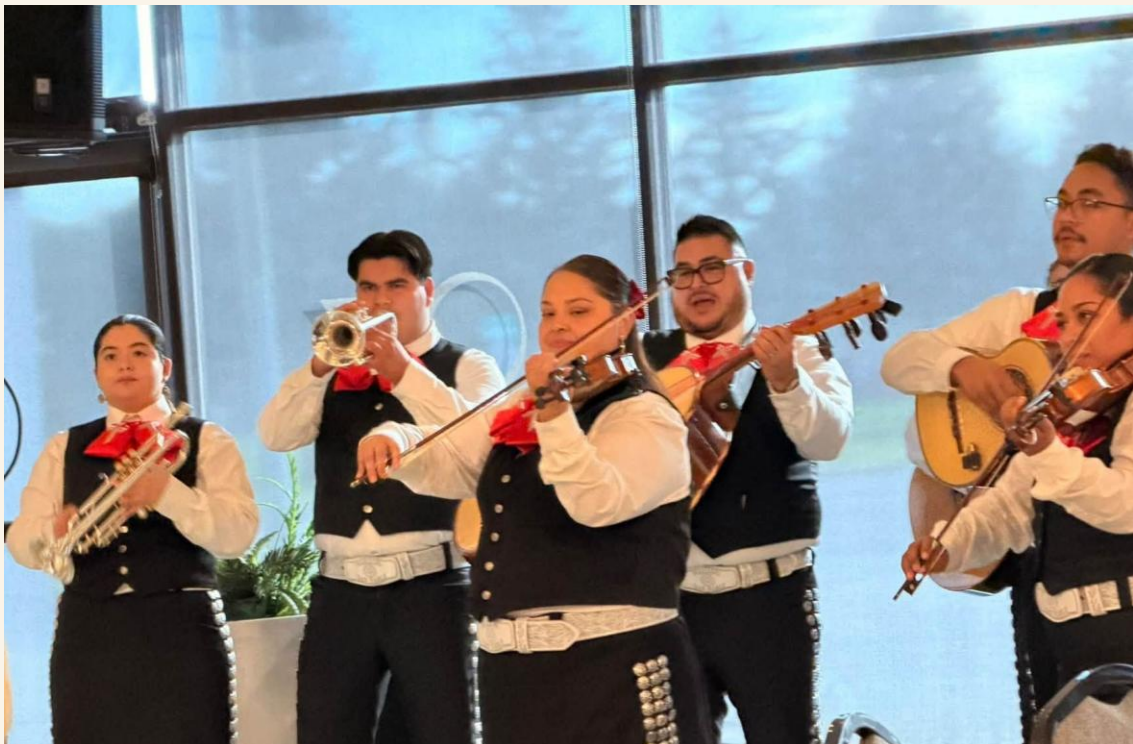
Local Dentists / OGT Christmas Boxes



A special thank you to these Norfolk, Nebraska area dentists for their generous donations of toothbrushes that were included in the Orphan Grain Train Christmas Boxes: Smiles Dental PC, [@ffdnorfolktaylor](#), [#norfolkdentalgroup](#) and [#woodduckdental](#)

Kelly Asbury's team of Christmas box builders put together 1,400 boxes in the basement of Grace Lutheran Church this year. Thank you, to the dental offices who gave so generously. A toothbrush was included in each box.

OGT 2026 International Convention











The 2026 Orphan Grain Train International Convention took place on September 11 & 12 in Norfolk, Nebraska. The theme of the convention was: "THEY NEED NOT GO AWAY; YOU GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT." MATTHEW 14:16

Following the convention, long time mission partner, Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care posted:

The Orphan Grain Train, Inc. 2026

Convention concluded with heartfelt testimonies from people whose lives were affected by disasters but who found hope and relief through OGT. What a wonderful organization, responding quickly and compassionately to help people during some of life's most difficult moments. We are truly blessed to witness the impact of

their ministry.

God is good! 🙏❤️

Q U I L T

OF THE WEEK





These two quilts were donated to Orphan Grain Train Castle Rock by First Free Church in Colorado Springs. Thank you, to

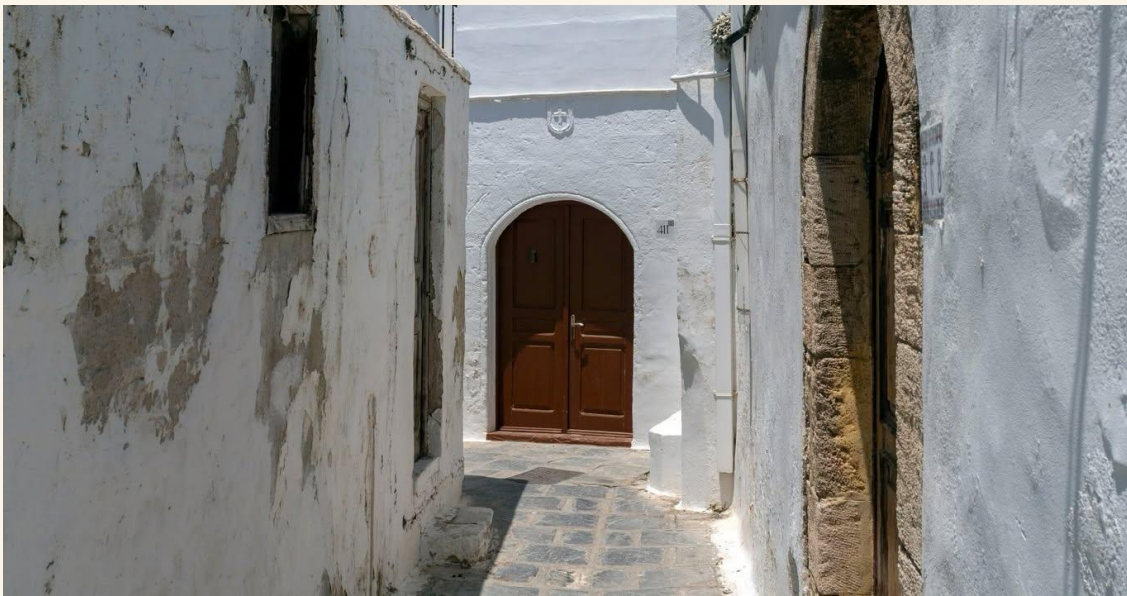
the quilters of First Free who put these colorful beauties together and then shared them with OGT. They are delightful and we know that they will be shared and enjoyed with others.

Every quilt has a 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.**

Weekly Devotion



By Paul Leckband

Orphan Grain Train, Director of Spiritual Correspondence

**Then Jesus went through the towns and villages,
teaching as He made His way to Jerusalem. Someone
asked Him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be
saved?” He said to them, “Make every effort to enter**

through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.”

Luke 13:22-24

The Narrow Door: If you’ve visited old houses, dating back to the 1800s or earlier, you may have discovered that the doors were much smaller than they are now. That’s because people in former times were shorter on average. For example, the average height of a soldier in the Civil war was 5’7.” When we visited the historic house of the Spanish governor of San Antonio, we had to duck as we entered the door frames.

Jesus speaks about “the narrow door.” He’s talking about the door that leads to salvation. His words are sobering. “Many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.”

Does this mean you should worry about your salvation? No, it does not. Those who try to enter this “door” by virtue of their good works and lack of faith in Jesus as their Lord and Savior will find this “door” blocked. Your faith in Christ and Him alone guarantees you access to this “door.”

Lead us through the door of salvation, Lord Jesus, trusting in You as our Lord and Savior. Grant that there will be many more who hear Your Word and believe, that they, too, may receive forgiveness and eternal life. Amen.



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