



Orphan Grain Train

Good Tidings

News *-for and about -*

OGT Maryland

November, 2024



ATTENTION all OGT Supporters!

Giving Tuesday, December 3rd

Mark Your Calendars!

Give thanks. Give together.

Giving Tuesday | Dec. 3, 2024

Orphan Grain Train †

Conditions apply.

thrivent®

Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Since then, it has grown into a yearly global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. All are encouraged to join the movement and give, whether it's some of your time, a donation, or the power of your voice in your local community. Every act of generosity counts and everyone has something to give!

Giving Tuesday is an opportunity to make our community stronger, one act of giving at a time. Visit OGT's Giving Tuesday donation page on Tuesday, December 3rd or come to the warehouse on that day and make a special contribution to support our mission. OGT Maryland has been chosen as the Thrivent Member Network Northeast's Giving Tuesday partner for 2024. This means that Thrivent will boost your impact by matching \$1 for every \$2 raised.* Plus, all on-line processing fees will be covered by Thrivent, meaning 100% of your gift will go right to our organization. Please consider making a contribution on December 3rd!

*Donations made on-line to featured organizations through Thrivent's giving platform and at in-person events on Giving Tuesday, December 3, 2024, will be matched \$1 for every \$2 donated up to \$20,000 per Thrivent Member Network. Thrivent, in partnership with Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing, offers you the opportunity to make on-line personal donations to the organizations you care about.

You Are Invited

OGT Maryland is hosting an open house at the warehouse on Giving Tuesday, December 3rd, from 9:00 am to 2 pm. Come to

- see our volunteers in action
- tour the warehouse
- enjoy fellowship and food with fellow OGT supporters

Donations submitted on this day will be matched \$1 for every \$2 by Thrivent (up to \$20,000 as stated above.) Hope to see you there!

Register for this free event by clicking on the button below.

[OGT OPEN HOUSE](#)



OGT Responds to Disaster

On October 30th, OGT Maryland collaborated with OGT Mid-Atlantic to send a load of disaster relief items to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Ashville, NC in support of ongoing relief efforts in North Carolina. It is understood that this need will continue for months to come. From our Branch, the shipment included 240 large cans of food, 130 cleanup buckets and boxes of additional supplies, close to 900 hygiene kits, diapers, water, blankets, mops and brooms, soft toys, and more. In total, more than 5,600lbs of aid was delivered. Our contact at Immanuel Lutheran Church provided the following feedback, "Everything went really smoothly today. The truck driver had his truck in the perfect location for us to unload. Thank You and the Team for helping us take care of so many in need." Steve Taylor.

Very special thanks to all the souls who donated items, as well as those who helped collect, sort, and pack the disaster relief effort over the past few weeks!!! Many thanks to the loading team as well, for without your dedicated effort, our good works would not be complete! "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

OGT Headquarters Responds

OGT Headquarters in Nebraska responded immediately to the victims of Hurricane Helene in Asheville, NC by sending a water tanker, as well several truckloads containing thousands of Mercy Meals, blankets, and other much needed items.



Shipment to Liberia

On Thursday, October 24th, OGT Maryland loaded a 40ft shipping container headed to Monrovia, Liberia in support of orphanages, schools, and a hospital. We loaded 1,255 pieces for a total of 25,324 pounds of goods. The load included linens, clothing, shoes, medical equipment and supplies, bicycles, Luci lights, school supplies, books, sewing machines and supplies, and fabric. In addition to the loading team, many, many thanks go to all those who collected, packed, arranged, stored, and organized every article that was prepared to go aboard the container. Every hand that touched these articles is indeed the Hand of Christ being extended to those we serve in Liberia!

Giving the Gift of Light

Ever since the war in Ukraine began, the Lutheran Church of Saint Andrew (LCSA) in Silver Spring, in partnership with their neighbor, St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral (SAUOC), has been involved in providing humanitarian and spiritual support to the people of Ukraine. They have given Luci Lights in the past, as well as funding for Bibles and prayer books in the Ukrainian language, medical equipment and supplies, food, and clothing. Most recently, the LCSA purchased 580 Luci Lights and delivered them to SAUOC. The current purchase of the Luci Lights was supported by on-going funding for Ukraine, as well as additional individual donations from the LCSA congregation.

OGT volunteers from The Lutheran Church of St. Andrew transport medical supplies from our warehouse to St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral on an on-going basis. We are so blessed to be involved in partnership with them.



Members of the Lutheran Church of St. Andrew transported 580 Luci Lights from the warehouse to St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral.

Pictured from left to right:

Suzy Carbone, Karen Mattheisen, Karen Hale, Edi Collis, Margie Davis

Science Tables The Rest of the Story



In 2023, OGT Maryland acquired several slate-topped science tables via IRN. Over the Spring of 2024, we managed to place all of these specialized tables at two local schools. As a result and with great success, the Naval Academy Primary School (NAPS) incorporated several of these into their STEM learning rooms for the 2024 - 2025 school year.



As a “little leaven leavens the whole lump...” (*Gal 5:9*), so might we understand that our small efforts at the warehouse indeed have a much greater and enduring impact than we might imagine, just as these specialized tables will be used by the NAPS students for years to come. “Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he grows older he will not abandon it.” *Prov 22:6*. May OGT Maryland continue to serve as a blessing to its local community, as well as its constituents in Appalachia, Africa, and to all people in need across the world.

Many Thanks to the Overton Family ... Again!



The Overton Family shared proceeds of the PRO Vision 5K/10K Walk/Run held in Memory of their son with OGT Maryland. For the second consecutive year, they presented our organization with a check for \$10,000. We are most appreciative of their generosity. It will go a long way in helping us to carry out our mission. Many thanks to the entire Overton Family and their Team!



Help Us Feed the People

Did you know that Maryland is ranked 35th in the nation for homelessness? Nearly 30,000 people each year find themselves in a homeless situation. Thankfully, we have 14,659 homeless shelters operating in Maryland with 33 in Baltimore and 4 in Anne Arundel County. Today, 40% of households are struggling to afford basic necessities. It is reported that 22% of middle school students report food insecurities in their homes.

In Africa, an estimated 868 million people face food insecurities. Out of that, 60.9% experience moderate to severe, 17.2% experience severe and 20% are under nourished. According to World Food Program (UNWFP) nearly 350 million people around the world experience the most extreme forms of hunger. Of those, 49 million are on the brink of famine. Why is this? Civil war, climate extremes, poor farming, and drought.

At OGT in Maryland, we are working to help those we serve. Today, we are asking you to prayerfully consider helping us to combat hunger here in Maryland and to our constituents in Africa. We will be accepting canned goods, dry goods, and powdered milk for our Maryland families. For our African families, please consider a monetary donation. You can give online at our website.

[Visit our Website](#)

Volunteering at the Warehouse

Severna Park HS Students

Members of the Senior Leadership Group from Severna Park High School volunteered at the warehouse on November 2nd. In addition to sorting and packing clothes, the group raised money for supplies and made hygiene kits to be shipped to Africa. Kudos to these young folks for sharing their time and talents with us!



Upcoming Fundraiser at Squisitos

Thursday, Novemebr 21st



OGT Annual Coat Collection



November 1 – December 14

Orphan Grain Train will again be collecting **winter coats** and **jackets**. The garments will be distributed to those in need throughout inner city Baltimore and surrounding communities. We ask for new or gently used winter coats/jackets for men, women and children - **but this year especially, for jackets.**

Coats and jackets can be taken to the **Orphan Grain Train Warehouse**: 621 East-West Blvd., Millersville, MD 21108.

Drop off times: Mondays, Tuesdays : 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Evening hours (Nov. – Dec.): Tuesdays, 5 – 7 p.m.

Saturdays: Nov. 9 & 23, Dec. 14: 9 – 12 noon

Contact Irene Giguere, (410) 747-1619 or irmigiguere@gmail.com for more information or to arrange larger pickup.

Coat Distribution

221 winter coats have already been delivered to St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Baltimore City to be distributed to the poor and the homeless. Some of the coats were shared with a neighboring congregation in Carrollton Ridge. Your kindness and support of our annual coat collection enables us to spread God's love to so many!



Closed for the Holidays



So that our volunteers can spend time with their families, the OGT Warehouse will be closed on the following days:

Thanksgiving: Nov. 27, 28, 29

Christmas: Dec.23 – Jan. 5

REFLECTION FOR TODAY



JOIN US IN PRAYER

Please remember our OGT community in your prayers!

- Our Volunteers
- Our Donors and Supporters
- Recipients of our humanitarian aid

Continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine and for an end to these wars.



USED PRINTER CARTRIDGE PROGRAM



Orphan Grain Train accepts your used printer cartridges as part of a recycling program that provides funding for OGT. Please continue to bring your depleted cartridges to the warehouse when you come to volunteer, donate, or visit.

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Orphan Grain Train is always looking for new volunteers. Many opportunities, both large and small, are available. For more information, please call 410-417-9674 or stop by the warehouse any Monday or Tuesday morning (9:00 - noon), Tuesday evening (5:00 - 7:00 p.m.), or the second or fourth Saturday of each month (9:00 - noon).



Warehouse Location:
621 East-West Blvd.,
Millersville MD 21108

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1741
Millersville MD 21108

Branch Manager: Bruce Coonradt
Email: bkcoonradt515@aol.com
Call us at: 410-417-9674

[Visit our website](#)

[Donate to Orphan Grain Train](#)



**Contact us for details on our
Medical Walk Out Program
including donations and availability.
410-417-9674**

