

# Orphan Grain Train †

Relief for Human Need Worldwide



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Being the Hands & Feet of Jesus

## ***Food to Feed Many***

Christ Mandate for Missions Church in Malawi was overjoyed to receive 128,304 Mercy Meals, quilts, sleeping mats, bibles, children's shoes, mobility carts, walkers, and bicycles from [Norfolk warehouse in Nebraska.](#)

Thank you, OGT supporters for showing the love of Christ to many in desperate need!





## *This Smile Says 'Thank You!'*

[Indiana Branch volunteers in Jonesville](#) delivered generators, heaters, power cords, and other disaster relief supplies to Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Asheville, NC. They also had a very special delivery of a 2011 Toyota Sienna van for a special mom. Mia is a single mom and lost everything in the flooding from Hurricane Helene. What a blessing to have transportation again as this has been a very difficult time. Thank you, Indiana donors & volunteers!

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## *Holiday Hours*

OGT Office and Norfolk Warehouse in Nebraska will be closing at **11:15 am** on Friday, Dec. 20 and will reopen on Monday, Jan. 6 at 9:00 am.

Please do not drop off donated items during the days we are closed - Thank you.

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## *Many Blessings Shared*

[New England Branch's container of aid](#) was welcomed & appreciated by many as the Foundation of the Blind in Romania distributes some of the goods. Ghiorghita shared this about the people that were served. "Recently we managed to take some of your boxes to a mountain village, where the majority of the population is elderly, over 60 years old and we managed to take them the necessary things before the cold winter comes. The clothes were a great help, the sewing machines were helpful to the women and the bicycles were a necessity for transporting the children to school and the men from home to work and to the small shops that are a long way from home. The crutches and wheelchairs were a great help to the bedridden children and the adults with walking disabilities. The elderly need canes and crutches to move around their homes more easily and to do their daily chores." Thank you, New England Branch donors & volunteers for sharing the love of Christ to many.



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## ***Year End Giving***

There is still time for making that special gift of highly appreciated stock, mutual funds or, qualified charitable distribution from your IRA to Mercy Meals, Hurricane Helene Relief, shipping costs both Domestic and International or Adopt an Orphanage.



Remember, 98.05% of each dollar goes to direct mission. For assistance in stock transfers, or questions, please call or text Tom Watson 402-940-2007; [twatson@ogt.org](mailto:twatson@ogt.org)

*Please have a most blessed Christmas celebrating the birth of the Christ Child.*

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## *Family Fun with Blessing Many*

The Christensen/Wiechmann family donated the items & packed 30 Hygiene Kits as part of the family Thanksgiving dinner celebration. What a wonderful family gathering with giving to others in need – Thank you!

You might recognize this picture from the Fall 2024 OGT Newsletter. These two storage containers that house tools have been serving volunteers cleaning up from the tornado that ripped through Elkhorn, NE. One container has been moved to serve Omaha Rapid Response in Blair, NE. And the other storage container was moved to Pender, NE for a family that had a major house fire.





## ***Donation of Desks***

Many blessings of 120 school desks were donated to the [Lincoln OGT Collection Center](#) from the Bennet/Palmyra School District in Nebraska. These might bless children in Liberia, Philippines or somewhere else in the world. Praise & Glory to God!

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## ***Loaded with Love***

Many living in poverty and those disabled in Republic of Georgia will soon be receiving various aid and bikes from [Wisconsin Branch donors & volunteers](#). Thank you for being the hands & feet of Jesus



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## ***Many Hands Helping***

King of Kings Lutheran Church of San Antonio, TX sponsored a weekend collection in November of clothing, household items, and pillow case dresses to benefit the work of OGT [Highland Lake Collection Center](#).

Thanks be to God for these generous gifts!

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## *Additional News*

[Ohio Collection Center in Napoleon](#) donated \$5,000.00 to OGT headquarters in Norfolk, NE for hurricane relief efforts. Thank you for this generous donation to help many families still recovering from devastating floods.

Norfolk warehouse volunteers distributed frozen chicken to several local food banks, shelters and other organizations to serve those in need.

## **Weekly Devotion**

*READ LUKE 2:1-20. "Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy; they will sing before the Lord, for He comes . . . (Ps. 96:12b-13a) For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given . . . (Is. 9:6a) While they were there, the time came for the Baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a Son.*

*(Luke 2:6-7a)*

**Luke 2:** Do you ever get tired of hearing or reading the Christmas story, recorded by the evangelist Luke? Neither do I. I grew up in Concordia, MO, and attended St. Paul's Lutheran School. Every year on Christmas Eve we presented the children's Christmas program in church. *Luke 2:1-20* was always recited, verse by verse, by the children. I was one of those kids.



Although I don't remember which individual verses I would have spoken, I know that I would have spoken at least some of them, and they made a deep and lasting impression on me. *Luke 2:1-20* is a traditional reading for Christmas Eve. And well it should be! It recounts the glorious birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. It amazes us that the Son of God was born in a stable and laid in a feeding trough. It amazes us with the announcement by the angels to lowly shepherds. And it amazes us as we read how the shepherds traveled to Bethlehem *"to see this thing which the Lord has told us about."* (*Luke 2:15b*) Not only that, but also *"the shepherds returned, glorifying God for all the things they had seen and heard, which were just as they had been told."* (v. 20) These lowly shepherds might very well have been the first evangelists. Jesus—"He who saves"—came into the world as a humble baby, born to humble parents, born to save His people from their sins. What could be more unlikely than this? God is born a human, yet still "very God of very God," as we confess in the words of the Nicene Creed. Jesus is no longer a baby. He will come again on the Last Day to deliver us from death and take us to be with Him forever in heaven.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, may we never grow tired of hearing the Christmas story. May we never grow tired of giving You all honor and praise! Amen.

*By Paul Leckband OGT's Director of Spiritual Correspondence*



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