



## THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

August 2017

308 South Scott Street, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, In 46624 (574) 288-6028 (e-mail) info@christchildsb.org

### Mission Statement

The South Bend Chapter of The Christ Child Society is a not-for-profit organization of volunteers dedicated to the personal service and clothing of all needy children and infants in the love and spirit of the Christ Child.

### Take Us Out to the Ball Game!

Christ Child members, families and friends are invited to attend a South Bend Cubs baseball game at Four Winds Field on Monday, August 28. The Cubs will play against Lake City Captains, beginning at 7:05 PM.

Tickets for the game are \$11.00 each with Christ Child receiving \$3.00 of each ticket. They can be purchased at the Center on Wednesdays and at the Open House/Brunch on August 6.



### Calendar

#### August

9.....Clothing Center Opens  
for Clients 8:30 AM  
16, 23, 30.....Center Open 8:30 AM  
20 Sunday .... Center Open 1-3 PM  
21..... Board Meeting, Bethany Room  
St. Patrick's 10 AM  
24.....In Memoriam Mass  
Little Flower 8:30 AM  
28..... South Bend Cubs  
Four Winds Field

#### SEPTEMBER

6,13,20,27....Center Open 8:30 AM  
10..... Sunday Center Open 1-3 PM  
18.... Board Meeting, Bethany Room  
St. Patrick's 10 AM  
25 .....In Memoriam Mass  
Little Flower 8:30 AM  
29-30 .....NCCS Conference  
Bethesda, MD

#### October

1,22.. Sundays Center Open 1-3 PM  
4,11,18,25.....Center Open 8:30 AM  
12..... Fall Luncheon /Meeting  
Windsor Park, 11:30 AM  
15..... Deadline: Nov-Dec-Jan  
quarterly newsletter  
16.... Board Meeting, Bethany Room  
St. Patrick's 10 AM  
25 .....In Memoriam Mass  
Little Flower 8:30 AM  
28.....NCCS Make A Difference Day

### Make a Difference: St. Adalbert's Library

Make a Difference Day, October 28, 2017, is the 26<sup>th</sup> National Day of Service sponsored by the Points of Light organization. Each year on the fourth Saturday of October, Points of Light partners with the media to bring together thousands of volunteers with the common mission of making a difference by improving the lives of others.

The National Christ Child Society first joined this celebration of volunteering last year, in commemoration of Mary Virginia Merrick's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday, by encouraging chapters across the country to do a project related to our signature program: Layettes. Participating in one of the largest national days of community service allows CCS to be part of a much bigger service effort – something Miss Merrick would most certainly approve of!

The NCCS theme for 2017 will be Make a Difference: Read to Me. The theme will allow chapters to develop activities centered around their individual educational or literacy programs. Countless studies have shown that children who are read to frequently have larger vocabularies and a head start on language skills and literacy. The average middle-class child enters 1<sup>st</sup> grade with 1,000 – 1,700 hours of one-on-one picture book reading. For low income children, that number is 25 hours. Quite a difference and quite a disadvantage. The National Christ Child Society recognizes this gap and its chapters are working hard to affect change because all children deserve a chance to reach their full potential.

The South Bend Chapter plans to conduct a book drive to enhance the library at St. Adalbert School, the site of our educational outreach program, SUCCESS. Be alert to emails and announcements about how our members can help!

#### Data Updates

- Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/ChristChildSB
- Follow us on Twitter: @ChristChildSB
- Check us out online: www.christchildsb.org

## From the Co-President. . . Debbie Spillman

Wow! How did a year fly by so quickly? As I end my first year as a CoPresident, I look back with amazement at what we accomplished. This year we had multiple buyers purchasing specific clothing items, instead of one person having to do it all. It took months to refine the process. But these ladies were enthusiastic and devoted. It's been exciting to hear their stories about "good deals" and to see the variety of new clothing coming into our building. Of course, our Clothing Center was regularly filled with volunteers hustling everywhere as they worked on the inventory: sorting, folding, counting, stacking and storing. Thousands of items are now prepped and ready for our opening day on August 9!

During this past year I attended numerous Christ Child events where I was able to talk with many passionate members. One of my favorite memories was being seated with Maureen Cahir and hearing stories about the early days of our organization. It was inspirational!

The word "Amazing" isn't strong enough to describe this year's Let Love Shine fundraiser.

Our exhibit at the History Museum was breathtaking! The exhibit is a historical display of our past 70 Years! Yes, time flies!

As we begin a new fiscal year, CoPresident Peg Riggs will end her presidential reign. For the past three years she has guided our South Bend Chapter through thick and thin (mostly thick). Three years of dedication and perseverance and now she can take a breath. I offer Peg my heartfelt gratitude for her outstanding leadership and for her time, support and patience. I am grateful to have Susan Walsh join me as CoPresident. There is no doubt that she will contribute greatly to the success of our organization. I look forward to another amazing year!

**Debbie**



**Sue**

## From the Co-President . . . . . Sue Walsh

It is an honor and privilege to be your new Co-President. I am very excited to work with all of you and be involved in the greatest non-profit organization, The Christ Child Society of South Bend.

I became a member of The Christ Child Society in 2009 mainly because of my mother, Kathryn McComb. Some of you may remember her. She was a very active member and loved this organization. She worked in the Shoe Department which is why I volunteered in that department. I became the Chairperson of Shoes in 2010. She was my inspiration, and her spirit has guided me through this whole process.

My background has consisted of 38 years of teaching. I started teaching typing and shorthand, then progressed to word processing, and then moved forward to computer software, Microsoft Office. I taught high school and later on taught adults. I loved my teaching profession, and now I will transfer my knowledge to being Co-President.

Let's welcome the new board members. As you can tell, there is so much talent with the new board members, as well as the other board members. Let us all, board members and all members, bring forth the talents that we possess and make The Christ Child Society the best organization ever. Make your talents known by volunteering for the different committees and being involved. As Co-President, I am challenging each and every one of you, to expand your horizons. Learn as much as you can and become involved. We need you! I look forward to working with you.

## Executive Board

Co Presidents:  
Debbie Spillman  
Susan Walsh  
President Elect:  
Vice President (Fundraising):  
Kathy Seidl  
Vice President (Membership):  
Mary Wisniewski  
Vice President (Clothing):  
Linda Wray  
Recording Secretary:  
Katy Perry  
Corresponding Secretary:  
Terry Slamkowski  
Treasurer:  
Diane Lutomski

## New Board Members

Five new Board members have recently been installed who will serve for three years. Below is some background on each of them.

**Pat Chodzinski** – Works in the Intake Room at the Center, Volunteers at the Morris Civic, is a Eucharistic Minister at St. Bavo, and is retired from the First Source Bank.

**Ann Finn** – Works in the Shoe Department, Volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House (11 years) and is retired Administrative Assistant.

**Bonnie Hay** – Works full time Real Estate Broker at Cressy & Everett, works part-time in the new born Intensive Care Unit at Memorial Hospital, is an INSOURCE Volunteer, is a member of the Junior League, and has been a Board Member at Logan's for 15 years.

**Sherri Jones** – Works in the Shoe Department and has volunteered at Holy Cross Village in The Quinn Center at Dujarie House working with dementia and Alzheimer's patients.

**Kathy Seidl** – Works in the Intake Room at the Center, is VP of Fundraising, volunteered for Let Love Shine, Co-Chaired Clothe-A-Child I Annual Appeal for three years, served as president of the Christ Child Society from 2012-2013, volunteered at the Christmas Luncheon.

## Gifts and Memorials

The beautiful Gold Christ Child Remembrance Card is a convenient way to send donations in any amount to the Christ Child Society, as an In Memoriam or in recognition of a special occasion or accomplishment. A donation can be made in memory of deceased friend or relatives who will also be remembered in a perpetual monthly Mass. The card also makes it possible to celebrate happy occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries in the same way. When requesting a Remembrance Card, members are asked to print legibly since the names will be printed in each newsletter with the donor's name in parentheses. Extra cards are available in the office or from Joan Hardig (277-7787)

### In Memoriam

A.J. Barr (Mary Lou/Pete Mullen)  
 Jusy Beck (Ed/Joan Hardig)  
 William Bickel (Tee Miller, Dr. Alton/  
 Alice Backs, Jeannine Sandy Har-  
 rold, Sandy Hall, Ball State Univer-  
 sity)  
 Dave Bieker (Joe/Marie Burt)  
 Leo Bigos (Don/Carol Nash)  
 Phyllis Bruno (Marlene/Otto Martinec,  
 Marijo/Madelyn Martinec)  
 Karen Cichon (Don/Carol Nash)  
 John Donahue (Marcia/Tom Blum)  
 Henry Froning (Joe/Marie Burt)  
 Thomas J. Glatz (George/Teddi Mur-  
 ray)  
 Lillian Gruber (Leslie/Greg Koszan  
 Perry Henely (Bette/Pat O'Malley)  
 Barbara Horvath (James/Carol Holt)  
 Carol Strebinger James (Marijo Mar-  
 tinec)  
 Mary Lee Janiak (Carol Bauer)  
 Mr. Jessup (Marcia/Tom Blum)  
 Pam Jordan (Stephanie Neff, Anne R.  
 Altemus)  
 Helen Krauser (Marcia/Tom Blum)  
 Michael "Big Mike" Kronwitter (Winnie  
 Vanden Bossche)  
 Ruth Lambert (Janice Goossens)  
 Frank Lebiezdinski (Ed/Joan Hardig)  
 Raymond Micinski (Esther Cyr)  
 Linda Nalepinski (Carol Bauer)  
 Mary Ann O'Connell (Joan Fahey)  
 Pam Page (Don/Carol Nash)  
 Loretta Planck (Peg Claeys)  
 Fr. Donald Potts (Janice Goossens)  
 Sandra Lee St. Clair (Marlene/Otto  
 Martinec)  
 Brian Schafer (Ed/Joan Hardig)  
 Thalia Scheidler (Mary Ann Randall)  
 Nancy Seymour, Nancy (Carol  
 O'Malley)  
 Lois Leyes Sikorski (Marie/Paul Brady,  
 Rosemary/Tricia Shafer)  
 Barbara Szewczyk, (R. A. Howland)  
 Dr. John Toepp (Esther Cyr, Debbie/  
 Mike Low, Greg/Jean Mee, Ed/  
 Joan Hardig, Margaret Hosinski,  
 Bette/Pat O'Malley, Anna Slom-  
 ski, Barbara Doetsch, T. J./C. M.  
 Mackin, Carol Bauer, Marlene/Otto

### IN MEMORIAM

#### Members

Mary Ann O'Connell  
 Rosie Shafer

#### Husbands

William D. Bickel  
 Dr. John Toepp  
 Fred Kanouse

Martinec, M/M James Cierzniak,  
 Marie/Paul Brady, Jane Horning,  
 JoAnn Axelberg, John/Rosemary  
 Reiter, Winnie Vanden Bossche,  
 Frank/Diane James, Beth Kamm  
 Reising, Max/LaVern Damer, Earl/  
 Phyllis Kubale, Ned Schimizzi,  
 M/M Ken Goodhew, Janet/Thomas  
 Turnock, Jim/Paula Byers & Fam-  
 ily, Margaret/Bill Johnson, Helen  
 Diltz, Joan Fahey JoAnne Tezich,  
 Layette Dept., Mary Earl, Cathy  
 Lower, Art/Mary Lou Houle,  
 Dr. Don/Bonnie McGowan, Tom/  
 Marlene Nowak, Ed/Cathy Baer,  
 Kate/Davie Smith, Tracy/Cathy  
 Spear, M/M Frederick Heil, Jack/

Kathy Sutton, Sharon/Brian Toepp,  
 M/M Wallace Goodhew, Dr Paul B.  
 Glass)

Kim Trinkley (JoAnne Tezich)  
 John Tuttle (Florence Duesterberg)  
 Catherine Vroman (Ann Medich, Mar-  
 cia/Tom Blum)

### Special Occasion

Mary Kay Bean— Birthday (Jeanine/  
 Dave Wideman)  
 Tom/Liz Borger (Brian/Ginger Lake)  
 Barbara Dillon (Connie/Mike Dillon)  
 Margaret "Peggy" Gerstbauer (Kathy/  
 John Seidl)  
 John/Judy Lehner - 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding An-  
 niv. (Fred & Monica Krol)  
 Carolyn Manella -100<sup>th</sup> Birthday (Toni/  
 Bob Kowalski)  
 Mary Naquin (Brian/Ginger Lake)  
 John/Johanna Pairitz - 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding  
 Anniv. (Jack/Nancy Pycik)  
 Hannah Paige Russell - High School  
 Graduation (George/Teddi Murray)  
 Katie Screes (Rodney DeMartini/Fred-  
 erick Kasl)

## Guardian Angels

This special Christ Child membership category was established in 1998.



A one time \$1000 enrollment fee for deceased members, spouses, family and friends benefiting the Christ Child Society Endowment Fund, will insure the Society's ability to continue the future good works.

The Guardian Angels are remembered monthly and each year at our annual Mass.

Current members, spouses, family and friends may enroll in the program as living angels and will be officially enrolled as Guardian Angels upon their deaths.

Please refer any questions to Norma Villanucci (574-243-0621).

Newest Guardian Angels: Rosie Shafer and Georgianna Sweeney



## 'Let Love Shine' Commemorates, Celebrates South Bend's Christ Child 70th Anniversary

In 1947, Rosaleen "Puddy" Crowley founded the Christ Child Society of South Bend by inviting 15 friends to join her in service to poor children. Over the last 70 years, our organization has grown in membership and in service to the community. We have served more than 200,000 children. Last year, we had more than 10,000 volunteer hours logged!

To honor the legacy of Puddy, and recognize the efforts of the women who followed her, our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Let Love Shine event also served as the opening to our exhibit at The History Museum. We want to thank Beth Barrett and Karen Clifford for all of their work in organizing the exhibit.

More than 200 people attended the event, raising more than \$60,000 that will allow us to clothe over 600 children this fall! Thank you to all members and friends of our organization who volunteered for, donated to, and attended Let Love Shine. This event was a success because of you!

A special thank you to our generous sponsors:

### *Gold Sponsor*

Joan and Ed Hardig

### *Silver Sponsors:*

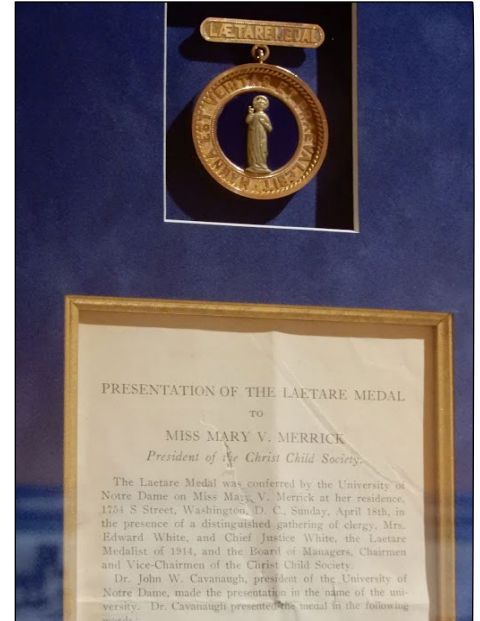
Kristy and Walter Botich  
Mrs. Jeanne Desmond  
Indiana Trust Company  
Mahoney Family Dentistry  
Schoenle Family Foundation  
of the Community Foundation  
of St. Joseph County  
Tire Rack

### *Platinum Sponsor*

Anonymous

### *Bronze Sponsors*

Anonymous  
Dr. and Mrs. Frank Incropera  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Liddell  
Saint Joseph Health System



**Mary Virginia Merrick's  
Laetare Medal**



**Cutting ribbon to open celebration**



**Rosie Shafer, brother Ed Hardig**



**Gift card balloon popping**





National Board Members



Crowley Family



Buffet table (from above)



Puddy's National Mary Virginia Merrick Memorial Award



Heavy hors d'oeuvres and friends



## CAC II Campaign Begins in September



Student volunteers help Katy Perry count, stack dolls.

Over 10,000 “dolls” were counted recently in preparation for this year’s Clothe-A-Child II fund-raising campaign. The ‘dolls’ will be distributed to area Martin’s Supermarkets, Notre Dame Federal Credit Union branches and Mutual Bank branches.

All three campaigns will run in September, so be sure to buy one or more dolls when you do your shopping or banking. Remember that The Christ Child Society receives no federal funding and every dollar raised goes to clothing needy children of our area.

## Book Club Calendar 2017-2018

**Sept. 20**

Pat Short (232-1204)

*The Couple Next Door*  
by Sharie Lapena

**Oct. 18**

Terry Slamkowski (256-2650)

*A Piece of the World*  
by Christina Baker Kline

**Nov. 15**

Pat Falvey (703-3658)

*Orphan #8*  
by Kim vanAlkemade

**Jan. 17, 2018**

Marge Hosinski (256-9728)

*Commonwealth*  
by Ann Patchett

**Feb. 21**

Pat Healy (272-5640)

*Britt Marie Was Here*  
by Fredrik Backman

**Mar. 21**

Judy Kearns (273-9850)

*The Lilac Girls*  
by Martin Hall Kelly

**Apr. 18**

Mary Lou Mullen (234-2626)

*Vesper Time*  
by Frank Cunningham

**May 16**

Mary Jane Chase (233-7977)

*The Underground Railroad*  
by Colson Whitehead

**June 20**

Louise Anella (234-0676)

*America's First Daughter*  
by Dray/Kamoie

## Once Again: Members Work Wrapping Gifts At ND Graduation

Many thanks to all our faithful volunteers and to Hammes Notre Dame Book Store for supplying the materials to wrap gifts for the Class of 2017. In only two and one-half days during Commencement Weekend, members raised \$770 for the children we serve! Co-chairs Marie Burt, Kay Houser and Cathy Mathews are grateful to all who donated their time to make this fund-raising event a success.

## ‘Book or Boo’ Returns On Oct. 14 for 3rd Year

As part of our Literacy Program, Christ Child Society will be helping for the third year of “Book or Boo!” The event in which will take place on Saturday, October 14, from 12-3 PM is sponsored by Better World Books at 55740 Currant Road, Mishawaka and includes activities and tours along with Trick or Treat.

Christ Child Members can bring in candy to the Center starting August 9 so that we can assemble our treat bags which include a card explaining our mission. Volunteers are also needed for the 14th.



Can you find your size?



## Fourth Annual Shoe Project Successful: Many Volunteers, Lots of Shoes, Boots

Special thanks goes out to Peg Riggs, Debbie Spillman, Kristy Botich, Ann Finn, Sherri Jones and Jane Reed, who helped Susan Walsh, shoe chairperson, purchase the large amount of shoes this year. Mary Wisniewski, Peggy Aronson, and Pat Nahas of the Shoe Department along with over ten student volunteers worked diligently on the 4th Annual Shoe Project which took place in June.

During the BOGO sale, members purchased shoes and boots on several days, using a 20% off coupon, from multiple Payless Shoe Stores throughout the South Bend and Niles. What a deal! Four additional days were needed as volunteers unloaded, sorted, and inventoried the large collection. (See shoe box picture on page 6.)

A total of 950 pairs of shoes were bought with an average price of only \$13.88 per pair. With this great sale, 240 pairs of winter boots were purchased with the final cost of \$17.93 per pair. What a bargain and a great savings!

Many thanks go out to everyone who helped complete this huge project. This was a great example of many people working together for the same cause. Shelves are restocked and ready for August opening day.

## An Easy Donation: Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Christ Child Society of South Bend every time you shop on Amazon, at no cost to you. When you log on to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and shop, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to CCS.

It looks and works the same as regular Amazon. You use the same account you have on Amazon and your shopping cart, Wish List, and other account settings are also the same.

On your first visit to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you need to select the Christ Child Society of South Bend before you begin shopping. Once you do, a percentage of your future purchases from that site will automatically go to CCS of South Bend. An easy way to support CCS!



## Used Clothing Always Needs Donations; St. Pius Kindergartners Boost Inventory

The Used Clothing Room at the Center received a huge boost in inventory in May when it received donations of over 5000 items of clothing donated through the efforts of the kindergarten class at St. Pius X Catholic School.

Parents of some students delivered those items to the Christ Child Center on May 12. The items will go a long way in supplying our used clothing bins this fall and supplementing the new clothing each client receives.

Pictured with Christ Child Co-president Sue Walsh and Past President Peg Riggs are St. Pius X kindergarten mothers, who assisted with the donations. From left, Sue Walsh, Julie Jacobs, Lainey Sheetz, Alyssa Dosmann, Bridgette Mulnehill, Peg Riggs, and kneeling in front, Suzanne Letherman. Not pictured but also helping with the donations were Carrie Brackett, Lindsey Forsythe and

Deadline for November newsletter  
October 15  
Ann Korb (277-6443) [ack339@aol.com](mailto:ack339@aol.com)



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 1286  
South Bend, Indiana 46624



Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SOUTH BEND, IN  
Permit No. 239

Join us for the Annual  
CHRIST CHILD FALL LUNCHEON MEETING  
Thursday, October 12, 2017  
Windsor Park Conference Center at 11:30 AM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of reservations at \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ total enclosed

(Make checks payable to Christ Child Society)

Your check for \$25 is your payment and RSVP.

Mail your check by October 2 to  
Christ Child Society, PO Box 1286, South Bend 46624.

If you have any questions,  
contact Mary Beth McGrath at 574-621-2599.