May 2018

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.

Calendar

**May**
- 2,9,16,23,30............Center Open for Restock/Inventory 9 AM - Noon
- 3..............................Derby Day (South Bend Cubs)
- 9..............................Informational Coffee 9:30 AM Center
- 9..............................Women of Hope Award 11:30 AM Holiday Inn, Mishawaka
- 16............................Membership Renewal Deadline
- 21............................May Board Meeting St. Pat’s Bethany Room 10 AM
- 25............................In Memoriam Mass Little Flower 8:30 AM

**June**
- 6,13,20,27 ............Center Open for Restock/Inventory 9 AM - Noon
- 5..............................Board In/Board Out Beiger Mansion, Mishawaka
- 25............................In Memoriam Mass Little Flower 8:30 AM

**July**
- 13............South Bend Cubs ballgame
- 16.............................Board Meeting St. Pat’s Bethany Room 10 AM
- 25............................In Memoriam Mass Little Flower 8:30 AM

**August**
- 1..............................Center Open for Restock. Inventory 9 AM-Noon
- 1..............................New Member orientation/training 9:30 AM
- 8.... Center Open for Clients 8:30 AM
- 19.......................Clothing Center Open Sunday 1-3 PM

**Let Love Shine 2018**

What to wear? What to wear?

Thursday, November 8, is going to be a grand evening! Enter the beautiful Discovery Ballroom at the Century Center and plan on having a wonderful time. The Director of Food and Beverage, Kate Lawton, daughter of member Kathleen Lawton and granddaughter of late member, Mamie Cain assures us the event will be perfect! Kristy Botich, Donna Kyle and Sue Seall are bursting with creative energy and will decide how the ballroom will be decorated. Kathy Seidl is steadfastly working on obtaining a wide array of very good silent auction items. Holly Hosinski is blowing up balloons. And Judy Kuzmich is gathering bakers to ready those fabulous cookie platters for your Christmas entertaining. We will also have a super wine pull. (Any volunteers willing to take charge of this project?)

The chef at the Century Center is already designing a special meal to delight the palates of all. While we dine, Morrow Strings will provide beautiful background music. Upon completion of dinner, we will recognize Indiana Trust Wealth Management with the “Heart of a Child” award. Our emcee for the evening, Bob Nagle will also serve as auctioneer as we begin bidding on the fabulous live auction items Beth Barrett is lining up. We need volunteers to ready those paddles for Bids for Kids.

I promise you… Let Love Shine will be a super night out! Please contact me to let me know how you’d like to help: Pat Falvey Co-Chair (702) 686-3800 pwfalvey@gmail.com.

**Membership Renewal Time**

It’s that time again! Time to renew your Membership to the Christ Child Society. Membership renewal forms for the year 2018-2019 were mailed out on April 11. Members are urged to return their renewal form and check by May 16 to be assured that you are listed in the 2018-2019 Christ Child Directory. So, please, mail in your renewals today. If you did not receive a renewal letter, please contact Susan Walsh, Membership Chair at ladysusan@fuse.net or call (513) 218-6052.

Due to our sellout crowd last year, we will again be selling tickets for our “Christ Child Night at Four Winds Field. Make sure you reserve the night of Friday, July 13, at 7:30 pm for the event. There will be a fireworks display after the game. The block of tickets will be available to us in late spring and you will be notified by email blast as to the details for purchasing your tickets. Come on out and enjoy a fun night with the entire family!

**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

This is a beginning, an ending, and another beginning.

It is the beginning of springtime. To Christ Child members that means the Center has reopened after having been closed in January and February. The spring season is a very exciting time to volunteer. We come back refreshed, smiling and ready to perform a variety of work as we prepare to serve our clients in August. This has been one of the busiest Christ Child spring seasons in my memory. There have been numerous projects happening every week, in every room. So much extra work has been getting done, that the Layette of Hope project will need some extra energy if it's going to be completed on time.

This May newsletter represents an ending because these are my final months as Co-President. I can never say enough wonderful things about how well Peg Riggs (President/Co-President 2015-2017) prepared me for this position. Additionally, I have been blessed to work with Co-President Susan Walsh during this past year. Sue was always eager to assist with the duties and decision-making that keep this organization on track. During these years, I learned that it's not the presidency that represents the Christ Child Society, it's the members. South Bend has a very long list of members on our Organizational Chart. These are the dedicated members that take on titles of responsibility. Because of their devotion and the assistance of the general membership, The Christ Child Society continues to accomplish our mission of serving children in need.

A new beginning will occur in July when President-Elect Pat Falvey begins her term as Co-President. Our organization is extremely fortunate that she is willing to step into this position. Pat brings a wealth of skills and experience to our organization and I foresee great works in our future!

From the Co-President . . . . Sue Walsh

Have you ever thought of holding an Office on the Board of Directors of the Christ Child Society? You might think, “What would it be like?” “What would be the duties?” “Do I qualify?” “How would I apply?” “Who would I contact?” These are all sensible questions.

The President-Elect is a very important position. This is a time of learning more about Christ Child. During the term, the President-Elect observes what is going on at the Center, takes note on how decisions are made, observes the interaction between members, observes the interaction between the Co-Presidents, and gets more involved in their special interests. You can make a difference not only in your life, but in the lives that you touch. You can expand your interests and get others involved.

Are you an active person? Are you involved in other things? Do you have any special talents? Everyone is good at something. What are your strengths? Are you willing to try different things? Sometimes fear stands in our way. Don’t let it! Come forward and ask questions, inquire more about the position, and consider this position for yourself. This is an opportunity of a lifetime. A time when your ideas count, when your excitement spreads, and when exploring the endless possibilities seems possible. You could be the next President-Elect!

For more information, please contact Susan Walsh, Co-President, Cell (513) 218-6052, or email: ladysusan@fuse.net or Pat Falvey, President-Elect, Cell (702) 686-3800, or email: pwfalvey@gmail.com.

Executive Board

Co Presidents:
Debbie Spillman
Susan Walsh
President Elect:
Patricia Falvey
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

Help Wanted

Social Media Chair
Are you glued to your cell phone? Do you spend a good part of your day on your computer? Do you enjoy writing? Do you like being and keeping others “in the know”? Then we need you! Why?
The South Bend Christ Child Society sends out frequent e-blasts to members and friends to keep us up on current happenings at the Center (membership renewals, dates the Center is open) and special events (Derby Day, volunteer potluck). Additionally, via email notifications, we learn of the death and funeral arrangements of members and their loved ones. We, too, have a Facebook page and a Twitter account which keeps people up to date on our doings.
The Social Media Chair manages all these tasks; her tenure will end this June. It would be unfortunate not to keep up these forms of communication.

If you or someone you know has the interest and/or talent to work with any of these items, please contact Sue Walsh (ladysusan@fuse.net, 513-218-6052) or Pat Falvey (pwfalvey@gmail.com, 702-686-3800).
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

Larry Ambler (Ed/Joan Hardig)
Lucille Balconis (Deb/Mike Low, Alice Backs, Mary Lou Derwent, Kathy/John Seidl, Marjorie/John Bycraft, Margaret/Bill Johnson, Beth/Dan Barrett, Margaret Hosinski, Mary Earl, Bette/Pat O’Malley, Hugh/Judy Kuzmich)
Annamae F. Barham (Paul Vurpillat)
In Memoriam

Josephine Sieroslawski (Patti/Lowell Paschke)

John McNamara (Teresa Kosse)

Amy Cavanaugh – Speedy recovery

Tom Cassidy – Prayers for recovery

Rev. Bob Garrow (Carol Bauer)

Esther Jankowski – 100th Birthday (Ed/Joan Hardig)

Newest Angel

James V. Gibbons

A special membership category was established in 1998. A one-time $1000 enrollment fee for deceased members or spouses, 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.

Please refer any questions to Norma Villanucci (243-0621)
Members Challenged To Give Hope

Again this year members enjoyed the peace and quiet of Moreau Seminary for the annual Day of Reflection. Father Dan Ponisciak CSC challenged the attendees to accept the “Trust” our clients have in us and to realize that we give them “Hope” for the future. We thank Father Dan and the staff at Moreau Seminary for their gracious hospitality.

BOOK CLUB

April 18
Vesper Time
by Frank Cunningham
Mary Lou Mullen (234-2626)

May 16
The Lilac Girls
by Martin Hall Kelly
Judy Kearns (273-9850)

June 20
America’s First Daughter
by Dray/Kamois
Louise Anella (234-0676)

Client Referrals

The referral committee has been diligently reviewing all documents and procedures related to the referral process over the past few months. After much careful consideration, the committee compiled a refreshed set of information for the referral agencies that send clients to the Christ Child Society. Meetings for representatives of the referral agencies have started and continue through May. The committee’s goal is to reach every referral agency and ensure a smooth referral process for not only the referral agency and Christ Child, but most importantly the clients being served.

Milwaukee Hosts National Convention

This year, the National Christ Child Convention will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on September 27, 28 and 29. This is an educational and inspirational time for Christ Child officers and members. The convention includes a variety of presentations and workshops where you will have opportunities to network with other Christ Child members from across the nation.

This year, the Board of Directors approved a motion to pay the registration fee so four additional members can attend this event. If you have questions or if you wish to let us know you want to attend, please contact Co-President Sue Walsh at (513) 218-6052 or via email: ladysusan@fuse.net

Restocking Shoes

Top - Sherri Jones
Middle - Ann Finn
Bottom - Peggy Aronson

Layettes of Hope

Maureen and Jeff Korros rearrange stockrooms.
Members Enjoy Afternoon At Holy Cross Village

Enjoying a visit at the luncheon at Holy Cross Village are committee Katy Perry, left, Linda Wray, Jane Reed, Ann Finn, Peggy Aronson and Sherri Jones.

On March 21, the annual Spring Mass, Meeting and Luncheon was held at Andre Place at Holy Cross Village. It was a beautiful cool day and we had 74 Christ Child members in attendance. Bishop Kevin Rhoades celebrated Mass in Saint Joseph Chapel and joined us for our luncheon in the formal dining room of Andre Place.

Three new Board members were presented to the membership: Peggy Aronson, Hetty Cohen and Nancy Meyer. They will join the Board July 1.

Two guest speakers - Linda Wray, vice president of Clothing and Betsie Pendarvis, New Clothing buyer - gave the audience their perspective of their experiences, humorous stories and a variety of information about their jobs. Their tales added a nice touch to the afternoon event.

We wanted members to “Think Spring” (after this long cold winter) and enjoy an afternoon in a beautiful new venue. Our goal as the Spring Luncheon Committee was to deliver a memorable experience for all Christ Child members and together prepare for our 2018 Opening Day in August.

On May 9 Hannah’s House in Mishawaka, Indiana will be honoring The Christ Child Society of South Bend Indiana at their upcoming Auction and Luncheon.

Hannah’s House began in 1995 as a maternity home for pregnant teens. It provides a safe home, emotional support and programming to assist pregnant women of all ages in “getting their lives together.”

Hannah’s House provides an opportunity for pregnant women to choose life by being the support they need during their pregnancy and following delivery. Many of the women who stay at Hannah’s House are clients of Christ Child. While in the hospital they receive one of our Layettes and we provide clothing later for their children.

This is such an honor for Christ Child! We would love to have as many Christ Child members as possible attend the event in support of Hannah’s House and Christ Child. Gather your friends and family and put together a table. Send your check for $50 payable to Hannah’s House at 518 W. 4th Street Mishawaka, IN 46544 or call Hannah’s House at 574-254-7271 to make arrangements by May 1 or ASAP.

Date: Wednesday, May 9, 2018
Location: Holiday Inn
Mishawaka-Conference Center
1208 E. Douglas Road
Mishawaka, IN 46545
Time: 11:30 AM-12:00 PM
Preview of Auction Items
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Luncheon

Deadline for August quarterly newsletter:
July 15
Ann Korb (277-6443) ack339@aol.com
Have you ever seen such a happy group of women? Do you know why they’re all smiling? They were at the Center on April 11, getting everything ready for the Center’s opening on August 8. That’s not as far away as we might think when you realize all that has to be accomplished before the Center is opened to clients. Why not join these ladies on Wednesday mornings?