



# CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF SOUTH BEND

WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

2366 Miracle Lane  
Mishawaka, IN 46545  
574 288 6028  
info@christchildsb.org

Winter 2021

*"Nothing is ever too much to do for a child."*

## Calendar

### December

- 7, 14, 15** Open for Members 9:00 AM to noon  
**8** Volunteer Luncheon, 11:30 AM  
**22** In Memoriam Mass - Little Flower 8:30AM  
**25** **Merry Christmas!**  
**Clothing Distribution**  
Wednesday, **1, 8 (last day)** 8:30 AM-noon  
Thursday, **2**, 5:00-7:00 PM  
Sunday, **5** 1-3PM

### January

- 1** **Happy New Year!**  
**4, 11, 18, 25** Center open for membership 9:00 AM to noon  
**5, 12, 19, 26** Center open for membership 9:00 AM to 1:00  
**18** Board Meeting -Desmond Conference Room 10:00 AM  
**24** In Memoriam Mass - Little Flower 8:30 AM

### February

- 1, 8, 15, 22** Center open for membership 9:00 AM to noon  
**2, 9, 16, 23** Center open for membership 9:00 AM to 1:00  
**15** Board Meeting -Desmond Conference Room 10:00 AM  
**16** Spring newsletter deadline  
**23** Day of Reflection 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Moreau Seminary  
**25** In Memoriam Mass - Little Flower 8:30 AM

## National Day of Service: All About Books

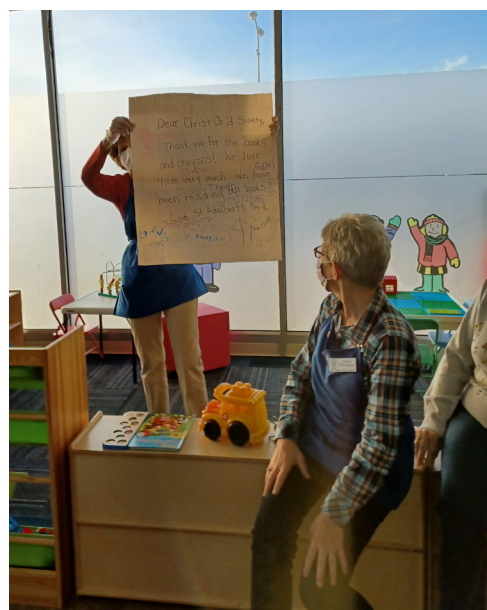
The smiles under the masks in the accompanying pictures are of excitement and appreciation as books from the National Day of Service Project were delivered.

Thanks to generous members and friends, over 400 books were distributed to children being served by El Campito Child Development Center, Center for the Homeless, St. Margaret's House and St. Adalbert

School, the CCS SUCCESS Program partner.

Early childhood literacy continues to be a focus area for the Christ Child Society, understanding that literacy and education are pathways out of poverty and steppingstones toward a brighter, more secure future. CCS is committed to challenging poverty one book and one child at a time!

The National Day of Service is a nation-wide initiative, a time when all of the CCS chapters encourage their members and volunteers to make a difference in their community. This year's theme was "Fostering a Love of Reading - *Together*."



Above: Jean Fuehrmeyer, NDS Chair, shows a thank you message from St. Adalbert students to Wednesday morning volunteers.

Left: St. Margaret's House and the Center for the Homeless were delighted to receive bins of quality books.

# The Meaning of Kindness and Giving in the Truest Sense

**Patti Banet**  
Co-President

We are in the season of kindness and giving, a time to be with family and friends. There is no place I can think of that exemplifies this more than The Christ Child Society. The last two seasons for our organization have been quite the challenge. Opening for clients in 2020 was not what we had expected after moving to the new Center. However, with a lot of planning and organization we served over 3500 children.

This year we were able to bring our clients into the Center for a whole new shopping experience. They love the red wagons for shopping, the children's play area, Mary's Boutique and definitely the Wall of Wow! One client came to me and told me what a wonderful experience she had exchanging clothing and to be sure to thank everyone for their generosity and time.

This time last year, we took on an incredible new program with Foster Hope. This program has brought a whole new level of love and dedication from our members; they never fail to amaze me. CCS volunteers are what kindness and giving mean in the truest sense!

I am truly blessed to be a part of the Christ Child Society. As we go into the holiday season and a New Year, let's keep our clients and the children in our prayers. "Nothing is ever too much to do for a child" - perfect words to celebrate Christ's birthday!

## Executive Board

Co-Presidents  
Monique Deguara  
Patti Banet  
President Elect  
Sue Seall  
Vice President (Fundraising)  
Lisa Smessaert  
Vice President (Membership)  
Melissa Baltz  
Vice President (Clothing)  
Betsie Pendarvis  
Vice President (Communications)  
Beth Barrett  
Board Secretary  
Ruth Nieboer  
Treasurer  
Elizabeth Van Doren

## 2021 Fall Luncheon and Meeting a Delightful Event

The annual Christ Child Society Fall Luncheon was held on Thursday, October 23, at the Morris Park Country Club.

Seventy one members responded to beautiful invitations designed with Pat Falvey's autumnal artwork. This was the first major group event Christ Child has held since the pandemic began.

The delicious meal was followed by stick pretzels dipped in caramel and a coating of chocolate for dessert. Each pretzel, ordered from local business The Pretzee Company, was

individually wrapped and tied with a plaid bow.

Fall colored napkins and gold sequined table runners complemented the clusters of fresh fall leaves surrounding vases holding the pretzels on each table.

The day concluded with the Fall meeting. As members finished their meals, Co-President Monique Deguara called the meeting to order. She gave her report on recent board activities and happenings at the Clothing Center, followed by Treasurer Elizabeth Van Doren presenting the financial statements.

Susan Coulter, Foster Hope Program Chair, spoke about the new program which serves the most traumatized children entering foster care. The meeting adjourned at 1:30.

All attending were thankful for the lovely event organized by Co-Chairs Susan Coulter and Pat Falvey.

## Annual Appeal Date Change!

Watch for the Annual Appeal newsletter in **April 2022**.

This change in date better distributes major fund raising efforts throughout the year, with Let Love Shine in the Fall and the Appeal in the Spring.



## Clothe a Child Campaign Successful at NDFCU

The Clothe A Child Paper Dolls campaign was a huge success this year at the Notre Dame Federal Credit Union! The combined branches raised over \$9,000 in just three weeks.

NDFCU employees presented the check to co-chairs Linda Botich and Mary Ann Chandler.

The Edison Branch raised \$3,000 with Sherrie Reinking (a part time employee) raising \$2,000 of that total. Thank you to everyone who supported the campaign!

Watch for the paper dolls on sale at Martin's Super Markets in March.



Employees of the Edison Location, from left to right, Rafael Miranda, Megan Mather, Halle Vermillion, Courtney Kelly, Sherrie Reinking, and Ryan Case present the Clothe a Child check.

## Local Schools Support CCS

Students at Our Lady of Hungary School in South Bend held a clothing drive in October for the Christ Child Society. The entire school community was excited to help others, and their generous response resulted in the delivery of 3,000 clothing items to the Center on October 12.

Each grade competed to collect the most items, with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade winners receiving a pizza party. Organizer and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Shannon Matthews noted, "Donations were slow at first, but once we started posting results each day, the classes responded very well."



Above: OLH Eighth graders Aaron, Diego, Khristian, and Lily brought many bags to the clothing center and helped unload them.

Saint Pius X Home and School Association also organized a winter clothing drive in October to benefit the Christ Child Society. During the collection period, volunteers at each door gathered the donations as children were dropped off at school.

HASA member Brooke Boetticher noted, "Beginning November 1, students can no longer wear shorts, so the change of season was a good time for the clothing drive as parents discovered what cold weather clothing no longer fit." HASA volunteers delivered 65 bags of clothing, including much-needed boots, shoes, and coats.



Right: St. Pius HASA volunteers Hayley Klauer, Brooke Boetticher and Carrie Walsh delivered 65 bags stuffed with clothing to the Clothing Center





# Record-Setting Let Love Shine Wows Crowd



Wow! What a Night!

Let Love Shine 2021 was an unforgettable evening, made even more special by the generosity of several hundred in-person and virtual attendees. Tom Liddell, emcee and auctioneer, kicked off the evening with a competitive Live Auction featuring trips and imported wines from Italy.

After Co-Chair Susan Coulter gave a poignant description of the Foster Hope Program, Tom conducted an extremely successful Bids for Kids topped off by an \$18,000 gift from Kae and Mike Sobczyk in an effort to push the Bids total over the \$100,000 goal.

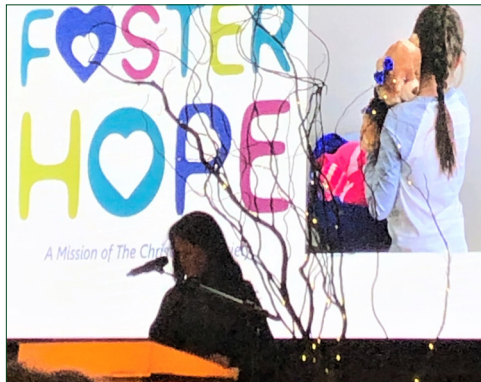
## IT TAKES A TEAM EFFORT

The Armory was aglow with beautiful table arrangements crafted by the talented decorations committee led by Joy Newman, Sherri Jones, and Ann Finn. Sharon James and her crew meticulously arranged Silent Auction items. Laura Trippel photographed auction items and managed the numerous gift cards donated for the new and improved Bubble Grab, which was chaired by Barb Mickow.

Kathy Seidl was instrumental in identifying and contacting potential sponsors. Event invitations and printed materials were masterfully designed by Beth Barrett. Beth and Kae Sobczyk created the Let Love Shine program and provided computer support. Mary Liddell wrote the script, designed a touching PowerPoint presentation, spent hours writing reports, and provided moral support to the entire team. Melissa Baltz coordinated the mobile

bidding program, including inputting auction items so they were easily viewed on mobile devices. A special thanks to Jonathan Watson for taking photos that captured the excitement and beauty of the event.

Event Chairs Susan Coulter and Sue Seall would like to thank each and every person that gave their time, talents, and financial support to make Let Love Shine 2021 a rousing success. The evening's proceeds will help CCS continue their mission of clothing under resourced children in Saint Joseph County.



Above: Emcee Tom Liddell worked magic to get Bids for Kids to top \$100,000.

Below: Lucky guests sit near the Silent Auction tables, filled with artwork, specialty baskets, and much more.



Left: Susan Coulter inspires the crowd with the mission of the Foster Hope Program. Below Left: Mary Liddell and her sister Kathleen Mikula. Below: The Armory is ready for Let Love Shine to begin!





## Thank You to the generous Let Love Shine Sponsors

### Mary Virginia Merrick Premier Sponsors \$10,000



### Shining Star Sponsor \$5,000

Kristy and Walter Botich  
Jean and Jim Fuehrmeyer  
Judy and Larry Garatoni  
Indiana Trust Wealth Management  
Tire Rack

### Winter Coat Sponsors \$2,500

Cafiero Family Fund  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dennen  
Barbara Dillon and Family  
Joan and Ed Hardig  
Margaret Hosinski  
Jamil Packaging Corporation  
Notre Dame Federal Credit Union  
St. Pius X Catholic Church  
Kathy and Paul Schoenle Foundation  
Lisa and David Smessaert, Metropolitan  
Title Company  
SouthBank Legal: LaDue | Curran | Kuehn

### New Clothing Sponsors \$1,000

1st Source Wealth Advisory Services  
Louise and Steve Anella  
Aunalytics  
Beth and Dan Barrett  
Peg Claeys  
Susan and Brian Coulter  
Sandy and Brian Clauser – ExpressPress  
Ann Dean  
Doshi Family Fund at the  
Community Foundation  
Jill and Phil Foster  
HAHN | WALZ, P.C.  
Jennifer and Fred Helmen  
Catherine and John Hiler Family  
Charitable Fund  
Frederic J. Hillebrand  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Hughes  
Ann and Joe Iams  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Joines  
Judith and Hubert Kuzmich  
Del Meyer, Weichert Realtors, Jim  
Dunfee & Associates  
Midland Engineering Co., Inc.  
Old National Bank  
Pfeifer, Morgan & Stesiak

### New Clothing (\$1,000) continued

Mrs. Mary Schilling  
Sue and Rick Seall  
Kathy and John Seidl  
Dee Tepe, In Memory of Sonny Tepe

### New Shoes Sponsors \$500

Kathryn and George Cressy  
Jane and Ron Emanoil  
Paul Glass, DDS  
Granger Dental Group  
Gurley Leep Automotive Family  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Harman  
Harrington Orthodontics  
Mr. and Mrs. John Huckins  
Kelly Cares Foundation  
Amy and Matt Koscielski  
Mrs. Bette O'Malley  
Office Interiors  
Tina and Michael Patton  
Terry Slamkowski  
Starks Law  
Upstairs Downstairs Hair Salon  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Walz  
Suzanne and Mark A. Wiwi

*All Sponsors as of November 3rd*



Above: Co-Chair Sue Seall, Co-Presidents Monique Deguara and Patti Banet, and Co-Chair Susan Coulter pause before the event begins. Above Right: Marge Hosinski and her daughter Anne Watson share a fun evening. Below Right: Nancy and Del Meyer chat with Pat Falvey.



## Gifts and Memorials

The Christ Child Remembrance Card is a convenient way to send donations in any amount to the Christ Child Society to honor a memory or special occasion, such as a birthday, anniversary or accomplishment. Deceased friends or relatives will be remembered in a perpetual monthly Mass. When requesting a Remembrance Card, please print legibly. 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).

### SPECIAL OCCASION:

Brother Lew Brazil – Happy Birthday  
(Joe & Marie Burt)  
Father Bill Jacobs – 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
(Toni & Bob Kowalski)  
Thomas Vincent Lanciotti – Baptism  
(Marie & Paul Brady)  
Patrick McGarry – Get well (Barbara Dillon)  
Mr. & Mrs. Vinnie Maggioli –  
Wedding Anniversary (Janice Goossens)  
Judy Miller – Good recovery (Joe & Marie Burt)  
Phil & Jan Miller – 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding  
Anniversary (Joe & Marie Burt)  
Theresa Miler – Happy Birthday  
(Marie Brady)  
Spc. Lucas Mannon Poehl (James & Kimberly Keultjes)  
Frank & Rosemary Toepp – 70<sup>th</sup>  
Wedding Anniversary (Esther Cyr)  
Terry Zawisza (Marilyn Toepp)  
Janet Zernich (Janice & Joe Goossens)

### IN MEMORIAM

David Anthony (Bernard & Mary Ann Randall)  
Raymond Anton (Marcia & Tim Blum)  
Eileen Balestri (Dan & Jo Ellen Tunacik)  
Mary Balint (B.J. O'Brien)  
Michael P. Barnes (Joan Frances Hurley)  
Elaine Baumgartner (Marti & Frank Moirconi)  
Dominic Cataldo (Kari & Greg Wuszke)  
Al Choitz (Beth Barrett, Deb & Mike Low)  
Betsy Cooke (Peg Riggs)  
Steve DeMeulenaere (James Holt)  
Ken Dempsey (Ed & Joan Hardig, Sheila Emge, Bette O'Malley, The Corcorans, The Emge Family)  
Dr. Thomas Durham (Greg & Mary

Danner, Dan & Beth Barrett)  
Roy Ellgass (Peg Riggs)  
Dr. Steven R. Gable (Joan Frances Hurley)  
Christopher Garboden (Joe & Marie Burt)  
Cindy Gorski (Bernie & Sandy Gorski)  
Catherine Grasinski (Mrs. Whitaker's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class)  
Marilyn Hammersley (Joe & Marie Burt)  
John Hintz (Pat Flowers, Bette O'Malley, Margaret Hosinski, Dottie Wallace, Bernie & Mary Ann Randall, Marie Brady, Judy & Jerry Kearns, Marti & Frank Moriconi, Diane Quinn, Chris & Cindy, Sharon & Patrick McManus, Kelly Lind, Paul & Celia Fallon, Dan & Siobhan Masteller, John & Tricia Killeen, Mike & Lisa Dobson)  
Roger Hunt (Mr. & Mrs. Mark A Wiwi)  
Andrea Incropera (Tricia Luban, Susan & David Walsh)  
Leonard Isban (Kari & Greg Wuszke, Toni & Bob Kowalski)  
Ron Jaicomo (Bette O'Malley)  
Dee Kolo (Greg & Jean Mee)  
Ken Kozinski (Jane Horning)  
Dick Krieg (Carol Holt)  
Ed Kubiak (Rilla Campbell, Marie Burt, Ed & Joan Hardig, Lola Pataluch, James & Beverly Crance, Henrietta Grauel, Mike & Carol Barcza, Jean Fuehrmeyer, Carol Bauer, Melanie Chapleau, Teresa Jermano, Judy & Hugh Kuzmich, Frank & Diane James, Tom & Judy Burmeister, Norma & Ralph Villanucci, Deb & Mike Low, Joan Corthier, Kathleen & Robert Hammond, Margaret Rodriguez, Al & Elizabeth Veldman, G.O.A.'s, Jill Sutter, Roland & Norma Wardlow, Sue Mardis, Jim, Julie Mardis, Michele, Dave Anzel, Diane & Nick Craanen, Joe & Joan Keller, Deb

& Scott Shishman, Kim Guennel & Tommy Teter, Fred & Carol Wasoski, Sharon James)  
Gaetana Lenox (Jennifer Burdick)  
Joan Lundberg (James Spellman, Roberta Spencer, David & Debra Burcham, Virginia O'Hara  
Bernie & Sandy Gorski, Ed & Joan Hardig)  
Mary Ann McTigue (Rilla Campbell)  
Michelle McVay (Suzy & John Haloran)  
Bill Maziar (Dan & Suzanne McMillion)  
Gerald N. Meszaros (Marlene & Otto Martinec)  
Todd J. Meszaros (Marlene & Otto Martinec)  
Bradleah Mick (Marcia & Tom Blum)  
Gretchen Minnette (James & Kimberly Keultjes)  
Ann Molenda (Antiquarian Society of St Joseph Valley, Bruce & Rita Gafill III, Teddi Murray)  
Joe Moorhouse (Terry Slamkowski)  
Art Moser (Janice Goossens)  
Sarah Ann Mueller (Ann Schmiedeler)  
Ted Mullett (Ken & Barb Fedder, Susy Porter)  
James Mullins (Joan Frances Hurley)  
Cheryl Notchie (Patricia Falvey)  
Don Parker (Mr. & Mrs. Mark A. Wiwi)  
Virginia Peterson (Joan Frances Hurley)  
Lauren Rectanus (B.J. O'Brien)  
Michael Regan (Jim & Pat Short, Loretta Scharf (Beth & Dan Barrett)  
Patti Schermerhorn (Ann G Jones)  
Alexa Sheeder (Rebecca Bauer)  
Robert Sindy (Bette O'Malley)  
Thomas Slamkowski (Terry Slamkowski)  
Mary Pat Smead (Sheila Emge)  
Mary Lou Smith (Sharon Kovach, Fred Ulbricht, Peg Riggs)  
Barb Sorensen (Nancy & Jack Pycik, Sue Shirrell, Beth & Dan Barrett)



*Memorials continued*

Marcia & Tom Blum)  
 Leonard Reno (Carol & Don Nash)  
 Larry Rychlick (Carol & Don Nash)  
 M. Stoler (Lyla S. Lockhart)  
 Patrick Stoler (Barbara Dillon)  
 George Toth (Marcia & Tom Blum)  
 Jean Vernasco (Suzanne & Mark Wiwi)  
 Mary Watterson (Janice Goossens, Dee Tepe, Betty & Jerry Vascil)  
 Keith Weber (Betty Cierzniak, Suzanne Cierzniak)

Dolores Weisel (Kathryn & Timothy Gooss)  
 Theodore Wieland (Mark & Suzanne Wiwi)  
 Karl Wolz (Esther Cyr)  
 Virginia Wyrick (Rebecca Bauer)  
 Albert Zeisz (Bernie & Mary Ann Randall)  
 Emil Zernick (Margaret Hosinski, Betty & Jerry Vascil, Janice & Joe Goossens)  
 Ed Ziege (Peg & Dean Riggs)  
 Lauren Zmerski (Carol & Jim Holt)

**Deceased Members**

Eileen Balestri  
 Patricia Ann Murray  
 Kathryn Shaliol  
 Joan Lundberg

**Deceased Spouses**

Ed Kubiak  
 Theodore Mullett

## Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday was profitable once again, raising over \$4,000 to support the programs of the Christ Child Society.

November 30 was Giving Tuesday, a global movement created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Unlike most fundraisers and appeals, on-line giving opportunities connect with many who otherwise would not be "on the mailing list."

A series of Facebook posts and email blasts told the Christ Child story and encouraged friends and family to donate. And they responded! Thanks to the efforts of Chair Nancy Meyer for organizing Giving Tuesday outreach.

## 2022-2023 Christ Child Society Board Nominations

Now is the time to nominate possible replacements for Board members who will finish their current commitment in June.

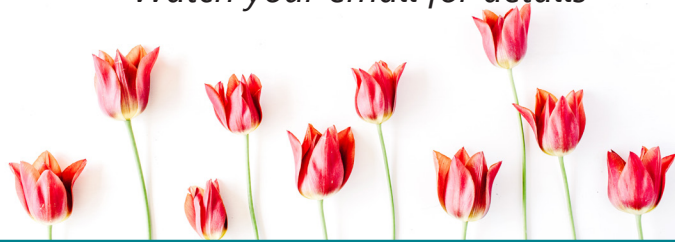
### **ALL members are eligible!**

Please respond by February 1<sup>st</sup> by emailing Suzanne Wiwi at [swiwi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:swiwi@sbcglobal.net). She will send you a form that will need to be filled out and returned to her before the February 1<sup>st</sup> date.

## Save the Date!

The Spring Mass and Luncheon will be on  
**March 14, 2022.**

*Watch your email for details*



## Weichert Realtors Support CCS - Again!

Volunteers from Weichert Realtors, Jim Dunfee & Associates worked tirelessly through the rain on Notre Dame Game Day, October 2, to raise money for The Christ Child Society. Company representatives parked cars in the Weichert-Dunfee parking lot for a donation of \$10, with many fans offering more.



In addition to the parking fees, staff, owners, and agents generously supported CCS. The event brought in \$2,042, which will fund new clothing for CCS clients.

During each of 2021's seven home games, the company donated 100% of monies collected to local charities. The Christ Child Society is grateful for the continued support of the staff, brokers and agents!



Volunteers Kathy Rice, Annette Farthing, and Beverly Fisher worked through the rain to benefit CCS.



**CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY.**  
**OF SOUTH BEND**  
**WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION**

2366 Miracle Lane  
Mishawaka, IN 46545

NON-PROFIT ORG.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Day of Reflection Scheduled for February

The Day of Reflection has been set for February 23, 2022, at Moreau Seminary. Registration, coffee, fruit and pastries will start at 9:00. Back by popular demand, Fr. Peter Rocca, CSC will lead reflections.

Morning reflections and Mass will be followed by lunch at noon. Benediction from 1:00 to 2:00 will complete the day.

Cost of the Day of Reflection will be \$18. A registration form is available to the right. Please submit registrations by February 10, 2022.

Questions can be directed to Kathy Utz at 574-272-9272 or [k\\_utz@hotmail.com](mailto:k_utz@hotmail.com).

## Christ Child Society Day of Reflection *Wednesday February 23, 2022 9:00 - 2:00* Reservation Form

**The Day of Reflection will include coffee, pastries and lunch.  
Please include payment of \$18.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Requirements \_\_\_\_\_

***Please send reservations with your check for \$18 payable to  
The Christ Child Society to***

The Christ Child Society  
2366 Miracle Lane  
Mishawaka, In 46545