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

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
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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.

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 8th grade winners receiving a pizza party. Organizer and 8th 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.

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

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.
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

**Harmony Healthcare It**  
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

**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
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 – 80th 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 – 50th Wedding Anniversary (Joe & Marie Burt)
Theresa Miller – Happy Birthday (Marie Brady)
Spc. Lucas Mann Poehl (James & Kimberly Keultjes)
Frank & Rosemary Toeppl – 70th Wedding Anniversary (Esther Cyr)
Terry Zawisza (Marilyn Toeppl)
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 DeMeuleenaere (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 3rd grade class)
Marilyn Hammersley (Joe & Marie Burt)
John Hintz (Pat Flowers, Bette O’Malley, Margaret Hosinski, Dottie Wallace, Bernie & Mary Ann Randell, 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 Grael, 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 Shalliol
Joan Lundberg

Deceased Spouses
Ed Kubiak
Theodore Mullett
Marcia & Tom Blum
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)

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.

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.

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 1st by emailing Suzanne Wiwi at swiwi@sbcglobal.net. She will send you a form that will need to be filled out and returned to her before the February 1st date.

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.

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

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