



# THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

May 2019

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.

**The Christ Child Society of South Bend**  
**Mary Virginia Merrick Award**  
**Jane Horning**  
**2019**

## Calendar

### May

1,8,15,22,29 ..... Restock/Inventory  
Center 9 AM - Noon  
2 ..... Derby Day  
Blue Heron 11:30 AM Post Time  
8 ..... Informational Coffee  
Center 9:30 AM  
15 ..... Membership Renewal Deadline  
20 ..... Board Meeting  
St. Pat's Bethany room 10:00 AM  
23 ..... In Memoriam Mass  
Little Flower 8:30 AM

### JUNE

5,12,19,26 ..... Restock/Inventory  
Center 9 AM - Noon  
6 ..... Board Luncheon  
Incoming/Outgoing Members  
Villa Macri  
25 ..... In Memoriam Mass  
Little Flower 8:30 AM

### JULY

10,17,24,31 ..... Restock/  
Inventory Center 9am -Noon  
15 ..... Board Meeting  
St. Pat's Bethany Room 10:00 AM  
25 ..... In Memoriam Mass  
Little Flower 8:30 AM  
31 ..... New Member Orientation/  
Training Center 9:30 AM

### AUGUST

7 ...Clothing Center Opening Day  
8:30 AM

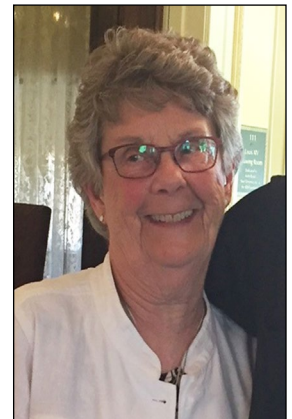
The apostle Paul instructs us in his letter to the Philip-  
pians that "Jesus's joy is complete by us being like-minded,  
having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind."  
He also tells us to "do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain  
conceit. Rather in humility; value others above yourself."

Taking her cue from Paul, the cherished member who  
has been selected to receive this award has great passion  
for the mission of the Christ Child Society and works without  
seeking acclaim; because of her dedication to the children  
we serve.

A member since 1973, Jane Horning has been a stead-  
fast, responsible, gentle presence in almost every aspect of  
our work. She has served on the Board of Directors many  
times and was President in 1981. She is credited with the  
momentous job of creating the Policies and Procedures for  
the organization. Jane has served in various chairmanship  
roles over the year ranging from Staffing to In Memoriam to Used Clothing. Where there  
was work to be done, she showed up whether it was the Christmas Bazaar, garage sale  
or the move from Thomas Street.

Most every nomination we received for Jane noted her humility and simple dedica-  
tion to the children. Phrases like "she works under the radar" and "never wants recogni-  
tion" appeared repeatedly. One nominator summed it up perfectly: "She is one of the  
quiet, unsung heroes of our chapter and most deserving of this honor."

Jane embodies the spirit of Mary Virginia Merrick through her actions and devotion to  
Christ Child. Thank you Jane for all you have done and continue to do for us.



## SUCCESS Program Grows

The SUCCESS program at St. Adalbert School is growing! Recently, the CCS Board  
of Directors approved the expansion of SUCCESS and voted to provide financial support  
for the program. The expansion is in the planning stage, but a development committee has  
suggested preliminary ideas such as a series of curriculum supported field trips and speak-  
ers, a career or health fair, continued tutoring and library support, as well as book drives.

The expanded program will offer a variety of flexible hour volunteer opportunities for  
members of diverse skills, with perfect volunteer possibilities for those who can't commit to  
a long term, regular schedule. If any members have experience in education, have creative  
ideas or love interacting with children, they are welcome to join the development commit-  
tee as plans are solidified with the school administration. Anyone interested in planning or  
volunteering, or has questions, please contact Judy Kuzmich at jkuzmich@sbcglobal.net .

## SAVE THE DATE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2019  
SEPTEMBER 27th - 28th

The NCCS Board is excited  
to announce the theme:  
Energeize...Inspire...Advance

## Data Updates

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

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## ***From the Co-President . . . . Susan Walsh***

My farewell article to all of you . . . . As your Co-President for the past two years, I have so many good memories and experiences that I will never forget. First I want to thank Debbie Spillman and Patricia Falvey, my co-presidents, for their knowledge and support in making these years so productive and invaluable. They and you, the members, have been my inspiration and encouragement to take the road less traveled and make a path for the future. As I look back over the last two years, I want to highlight some of the remarkable events that took place.

We gave a \$1500 scholarship to two recipients who will further their education. This will change their lives, and they in turn may give back to the community. I am so thankful that foster children will now be able to be clients and reap the benefits of receiving new and used clothing and shoes from us.

It is so encouraging to see the children pick out their books before they leave the Center. We have expanded this in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Each parent with children under the age of five can sign them up to receive a book a month for free. This program enables the children to be exposed to more books and reading will put them on a higher level when they attend school. This is a true fact. The more that children are read to in the preschool years will give them an advantage when they attend school.

I personally love the symphony so when we are able to send some of the St. Adalbert's students to the South Bend Symphony Orchestra Concert for the first time, it gives me a great sense of joy. They would not have had this wonderful experience without us.

I love to see people grow and expand their talents. If we put fear aside and push forward, it is remarkable what anyone can accomplish. There were many times when I was in a position that was uncomfortable for me. Something happens to you when you conquer and succeed in that instance. You can do more than you ever thought you could and new ideas usually develop. That's what I see in every member. We all have talents, and we are all good at something. Volunteering for Christ Child enables us to use our talents to help people have better lives.

Being your Co-President has been one of the best experiences of my life, and I will cherish it forever. My hope for you is that you will challenge yourself to do something that is a little uncomfortable so that you can conquer and succeed in it and feel a great sense of accomplishment!

## ***From the Co-President . . . . Patricia Falvey***

Asked to submit a tiny bit of information about themselves to share with the Christ Child Society membership, it became apparent how blessed we are to welcome such incredible, inspirational and energetic women to the Board of Directors! In the four new members in you'll find a traveler, a miracle, a musician and an energizer bunny.

Mary Ann Chandler joins the Christ Child board after retiring from teaching for 42 years in the South Bend/Mishawaka area. She along with her husband Henry raised two children, Matthew (38) and Allison (34). They welcomed their first grandchild, Charlotte in 2016. Mary Ann enjoys reading, gardening, exercising and hopes to complete visiting all 50 states with trips planned to Alaska and North Dakota in 2019. While Mary Ann is visible throughout the Center, the bulk of her time is spent as co-chair of coat distribution.

Susan Coulter refers to herself as a mother and domestic goddess with three sons: Christopher is a first year dental student at Marquette University. Patrick, a junior at IU Bloomington, is a pre-Dentistry major. Matthew, a senior at Marian High School, will attend Marquette University in the fall. Susan's husband Brian is a dentist and they have been married for 28 years. If you know Susan, you'll know she's not one to sit still. Perhaps this started when she was in sixth grade and became the hula hoop champion at her school. She went on for two hours and thirteen minutes before she was told to stop! Susan is a three time cancer survivor. A tri-chair of client referrals and serving in intake, she will also co-chair our Fall Luncheon.

Betsie Pendarvis and her husband John recently celebrated their 40th anniversary. They have four children and seven grandchildren. Betsie and John moved to South Bend in 2012. Professionally Betsie has served as a Music and Worship Director in various parishes. She has played the piano since she was seven. And those who attend our Mass know what a beautiful vocalist and pianist she is! For hobbies Betsie knits, sews and works in her garden and on her computer. She spends a good deal of time with her grandchildren. Because she loves to knit, she initially joined Christ Child and supplied us with many blankets and socks. As it turns out, she became the sock buyer. And she is now the new VP of Clothing.

Susan Wendowski could fill in for the Energizer Bunny if need be – what a ball of energy! (Her email address confirms this.) Susan and her husband Phillip have been married for 30 years. Susan was a teacher for 41 years before she retired. It's natural that such a lively person would consider volleyball her favorite sport to play. Yet there is a quieter side to her as she loves to read and to knit. She enjoys traveling which also keeps her on the go. She is a tri-chair of client referrals and additionally, she is the Layette of Hope chair.

We are grateful and thankful to these four new board members! And we know Christ Child Society will be well-served.

## 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:

Barb's Mother (Art and Mary Lou Houle)  
 Donald Beitler (Peg and Dean Riggs)  
 Lois Berry (George and Mary Schilling, Sue and John Uhran)  
 Michael Betar (Tom and Judy Burmeister)  
 Alfreda Black (Dan and Beth Barrett, Marlene and Otto Martinec, Greg and Jean Mee, Art and Julie Zielinski, Kathy and Al Large)  
 Cornelius Buersmeyer (Ann Schmiedeler, Sharon and Miles Theeman)  
 John Bycraft (Ed and Joan Hardig, Peg and Dean Riggs, Joe and Marie Burt, Esther Cyr)  
 Alice Claven (Carol and Don Nash)  
 Lorraine Cybulski (Peg and Dean Riggs)  
 Joan Davies (Donna Truax)  
 Polly and Michael DeCicco (M/M John Bycraft)  
 Polly DeCicco (Betty Ann Gibbons, M/M Dallas O'Donnell, Mary Jane Stanley, Diane Quinn, Diane Maas, Lauren Romeo, The Clemen Family, M/M Kirk Demeulenaere, Ronald Nalepinski, Anne and James Holm, Jeffrey and Christine Nash, Joe and Marie Burt, Sharon James, Marcia and Tom Blum, Margaret Hosinski, Esther Cyr, Kathy Malone Beeler, Ron and Dottie Wallace, Tom and Marlene Nowak, Bette O'Malley, Frank and JoAnn Amato, Kathy and John Seidl, Peg Claey's, Greg and Jean Mee, Denise B. Roemer, Jane Horning, Kathryn Screes, JoAnne Tezich, Sue and John Shirrell, Sam and Teresa Jermano, Sara Zap-pia, McGrath, Shirley Massing, Margaret Johnson, Darlene Janicki, Jacquelyn Curran, Peg and Dean Riggs, Ed and Joan Hardig, Ronald Jeziorski)  
 Anna Dettman (Jim and Carol Holt)  
 Dave Geehring (Toni Pikuza)  
 Dan Healy (Jim and Carol Holt)  
 John J. Hoffman (Marilyn Toepp)  
 Martha Hosinski (M/M Terry Cohen, M/M Matthew Storin, Stacey Mesler/Colin Cuite, Anne Hosinski Mad-den, Jacquelyn Curran, M/M Robert MacDougall, Becker, Glynn, Muffy and Hosinski, LLP, M/M David Murphy, Jackie Stephens, M/M W. W. Montgomery, Howard B. Levi, Nancy and Patrick Donahue, M/M Kenneth Stuart, Mary Ann Hallowell, Iris Goerner, Bette O'Malley, Ed and Joan Hardig, Peg

### IN MEMORIAM

#### Members

Lois Berry  
 Joan Davies  
 Polly DeCicco

#### Husbands

John Bycraft  
 Sonny Tepe

and Dean Riggs, Jane Horning, Betsy Cooke, Alice Backs, Marie Weiss, Amy and Andrew George, Kathy Malone Beeler, Steven and Rachel Wasserman, Elise and Dennis Reeder, Robert and Jane Miller, Donnabelle Cramer, Margaret Hosinski, Joan Fahey, Deborah Hoffman, Rosie Shafer Children, Paul and Kerry Hutchinson)  
 Richard Lang (Peg Riggs)  
 Rae Ann Lane (B.J. O'Brien)  
 Rudy Leutzinger (Kari and Greg Wuszke, Ed and Joan Hardig, Bob and Toni Kowalski)  
 Bob Lewis (Art and Mary Lou Houle)  
 Stephen Limberg (Esther Cyr)  
 Elaine Lubbers (Ed and Joan Hardig)  
 Vito Lubes (Jane Dietrich)  
 Nancy McBride (Marcia and Tom Blum)  
 John Meuleman (K Jaroszewski)  
 Mandy O'Hara (Ginger O'Hara)  
 John Pauwels (Joan Jaworski)  
 Timothy Price (Margaret Hosinski)  
 Carl and Delores Bates (James and Kimberly Keultjes)  
 Leslie Randall (Rolande Parent)  
 Tom Shaffer (Ed and Joan Hardig)  
 Elizabeth Spillman (Dan and Beth Barrett, Terry Slamkowski, Kathy and John Seidl, Kristy Botich)  
 Janine R. Squadroni (Sam and Teresa Jermano, Janice Goossens)  
 Sonny Tepe (Janice Goossens, Marti and Frank Moriconi, Peg Claey's, Jane Horning, Peg and Dean Riggs, Ed and Joan Hardig, Jim and Carol Holt, Don and Barb Zimlich, Judy and Hugh Kuzmich, Sheila Emge, Jerry and Betty Vascil, Mary and Joe Woodka, Bill and Jan Killilea, Sue and John Uhran, Esther Cyr, Art and Mary Lou Houle, Denise Roemer, Margaret Hosinski, Teddi Murray, Rolande Parent, Renee Hochstetter, Joe and Tina Tepe, Carl and Mary Anne Lehner, John and Linda Clements, Bette O'Malley, Kathy

and John Seidl, Kay and Roy Ellgass, Mary Ann Retseck, Julie Considine, John and Wendy Bognar, Beth Barrett, Jeff and Maureen Munger, Pat Corcoran, Harlan and Dinah Bourdon, Melanie Chapleau, Diane and Gerry Quinn)

June Trippel (Margaret Hosinski, Kaye Mahalick, Janice Goossens, Ron and Dottie Wallace, Sheila Emge, Sandy and Bernie Gorski, Sonny and Dee Tepe)

Mary Jo Uebelhor (Marcia and Tom Blum)

Terry VanOverberge (Carol Bauer)

James E. Wernhoff (Linda Rakow)

### SPECIAL OCCASION:

Marilyn Bartkowiak-Birthday (Mary Jo and Bill Millew)

Zona Ballweg - Get Well (Jim and Carol Holt)

Joann Bauer - Happy 90th Birthday (Julann and Laurence Bauer, Peggy Bauer, Carol Bauer)

Margie and John Bycraft (Bette O'Malley)

John Bycraft (Marilyn Toepp)

Winifred Caponigri-Farquher - 95th Birthday (Maureen Cahir and Alice Crowley)

Mary Earl - Speedy Recovery (Diane and Gerry Quinn)

Patricia Fewell - Complete Recovery (Marilyn Toepp)

Peggy Gerstbauer - Happy Mother's Day (Kathy and John Seidl)

Norma Hoffman - Speedy Recovery (Joe and Marie Burt)

Susanne Hoffman (Edward and Amanda Collins)

Janet Hoffman (Edward and Amanda Collins)

Liz Keller - Birthday (Beth Reising)

Mary Kubiak Birthday (Frank and Diane James)

James E. Mackin - Complete hip recovery (Marilyn Toepp)

Phyllis Miller - 95th Birthday (Joe and Marie Burt)

Eileen Romer-Baptism (Marie and Paul Brady)

Joseph and Kathleen Simeri - 50th Anniversary (Gail Russell)

Marietta Squibb - Birthday wishes (Carol Bauer)

Angela Weber - 90th Birthday (Kathryn Screes)



## Spring Mass, Luncheon, Meeting Held at Holy Cross Village

The Spring Mass, Meeting and Luncheon on March 27 was held on a picture perfect day.

Bishop Kevin Rhoades celebrated the 11:00 am Mass for Christ Child members at St. Joseph Chapel at Holy Cross College.

The layette department sends a special thank you for the generous donations given at the Mass. Over 120 new baby outfits and crib items were collected and delivered to the Center. Each one of these items will then be added to a layette as they are prepared for hospital distribution.

After Mass members and guests enjoyed a wonderful lunch in Andre Place's formal dining room.

Susan Walsh and Patricia Falvey welcomed everyone and Mary Liddell announced the 2019 Mary Virginia Merrick Award to Jane Horning. Although Jane was unable to attend the luncheon, the beautiful commemorative picture was displayed and will be given to her at a later date.

The meeting was called to order by Susan Walsh. She, Patricia Falvey and Suzanne Wiwi addressed the members with an update on business: the treasurer's report, presentation of new Board Members, and Center updates and announcements.

What a beautiful day and great way to kick-off Spring 2019 with all the wonderful volunteers who dedicate their time and love for all the disadvantaged children and infants of St. Joseph County!



*Suzanne Wiwi, Susan Walsh, Patricia Falvey and Mary Liddell pose with Mass celebrant Bishop Kevin Rhoades.*



*One of Christ Child's charter members Barbara Dillon (left) visits with friends at luncheon.*

### Executive Board

Co Presidents:

Susan Walsh  
Patricia Falvey

President Elect:

Suzanne Wiwi

Vice President (Fundraising):

Kathy Seidl

Vice President (Membership):

Sue Seall

Vice President (Clothing):

Linda Wray

Recording Secretary:

Katy Perry

Corresponding Secretary:

Nancy Meyer

Treasurer:

Diane Lutomski



*Barb Reihl, Barb Mickow, Martha Dunn, Mary Wisniewski, and Kristy Botich: these "happy ladies" reflect the atmosphere at luncheon at Andre Place.*

# What Has Christ Child Society Given You?

Wednesday, May 8, the Informational Coffee is an ideal opportunity for you to share with your friends, neighbors, coworkers, family and church community members what being a Christ Child Society member has given YOU.

Although many of us join Christ Child Society "to give back," we quickly learn that through our work, we receive so much more than what we give. Seeing a young child giggling in delight as he proudly zips up a brand new coat in his or her favorite color (accessorized with a new hat and gloves) may bring you tears of joy letting you know that you're receiving much more than what you're giving! For those not available to help at the center on Wednesday mornings, there are abundant volunteer opportunities to share our time and talents including:

- Service Projects include Layettes, Angel Layettes, Layette of Hope, the Clothing Center (also open some Sundays), Motor Corps, Scholarship Program, and SUCCESS (tutoring and mentoring grade school students).
- Fundraising projects include Notre Dame gift wrapping, CAC Annual Appeal, Clothe-A-Child II (dolls), Notre Dame Service Project, and Let Love Shine.
- Spiritual Support includes monthly Mass, Day of Reflection, and Spring Mass and Luncheon.
- Social opportunities include Euchre Club, Book Club, Derby Day, and Fall Luncheon.

The May 8th informational coffee for prospective and new members will begin with a tour of the Clothing Center at 9:30 AM in the Bethany Room at the Christ Child Society Center. Share the Christ Child story with your acquaintances by accompanying them to the coffee. Membership in Christ Child Society is open to individuals of all religious affiliations who are interested in furthering the welfare of children

Send names and addresses of interested/prospective members to Kristy Botich (291-7623) or (276-1394).

"For it is in giving that we receive." - St. Francis of Assisi

## Women Who Care Michiana Present Christ Child with Check



Posing with the \$2,500 check from 100 Women Who Care - Michiana, are, from left, Janet Freda, Sue Walsh, Pat Falvey, Tina Patton and Tammera Wine.

100 Women Who Care of Michiana is an organization of women who share a common desire to give back to their local community. Individually; each member commits to donate \$100 per quarter (\$400 annually) to support non-profit groups in our community. At each quarterly meeting, all members of 100 Women Who Care - Michiana are welcome to nominate a favorite local not-for-profit organization/agency in need of funds by filling out a nomination form. Three members will then be randomly chosen to promote the charity they nominated by giving a short presentation lasting no more than five minutes, which includes a minimum of two minutes for questions from the group. Members then vote by written ballot for their choice of the three organizations presented and the votes are immediately counted.

At the January 14, 2019 meeting member Tina Patton nominated The Christ Child Society. After speaking of her personal experience of being a recipient of an Angel Layette, the group voted in favor of The Christ Child Society. On March 13, 2019, a few members of 100 Women Who Care came to the Center to present the \$2,500 check and to take a tour. On April 8, 2019, Christ Child Society Co-President Patricia Falvey made a presentation to the group and invited them to consider joining our organization. The Christ Child Society is pleased to have been selected for the donation!

Membership renewal forms for the year 2019-2020 have been mailed out.

Please return your renewal form and check by May 15 to be assured that you are in the 2019-2020 Christ Child Directory.



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



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## Books, Friendships, Fun, Goodies: Christ Child Book Club



Left to right, Mary Jane Chase, Elizabeth Bannon, Patty Short, Mary Lou Mullen, Melissa Baltz and Pat Falvey.

Do you want to learn something new? Do you want to bond with other members of the Christ Child Society? Maybe you want to catch up with friends, meet new people, or even a mix of these. And do you have a sweet tooth? For over ten years, a handful of Christ Child Society members have been getting together to discuss books they've agreed upon.

The Book Club of the Christ Child Society is a group of gals who meet at 3 PM the third Wednesday of every month from August through November and February through June. In July the group gets together for lunch at a local restaurant and decides the books and the meeting location for the following year. Meetings are hosted by members in their homes.

Typically, the members serve a goodie and beverage to enjoy before, during or after the book discussion. The host usually leads the discussion. Not everyone in the club can attend every gathering. You come whenever you can. And it's fun!

The upcoming meeting will be May 15th at Patty Short's home where we'll discuss *Love Warrior: A Memoir* by Glennon Doyle. On June 19th the reviewed book will be *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover; the meeting will be hosted by Terry Slamkowski.

If you are interested in participating or learning more, please contact Marge Hosinski at (574) 255-9728.