

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



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Christ Child Society Newsletter

Return Service Requested

April 2010

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Happy Mother's Day! Happy Father's Day!

You can give a Christ Child layette to a needy newborn baby or clothe a child in honor of your Mother or Father. A special card announcing your gift will be sent to each Mom or Dad in time for Mother's or Father's Day. Your gift can also be in memory of a parent or loved one. Their names and the donors' names will be printed in the newsletter.

- Send a Card
- In Memory of

Mother's or Father's Name - Please Print

Address

City/State/Zip Code

Given by:

Please send your check for your gift to: Happy Mother's/Father's Day!
Christ Child Society, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, IN 46624

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.

Executive Board
President:
Beth Barrett
President Elect:
Linda Brammer
Vice President (Fundraising):
Kay Houser
Vice President (Membership):
Ann Riley
Vice President (Clothing):
Jan Williams
Recording Secretary:
Madeline Gaughan
Corresponding Secretary:
Mandy Skwarcan
Treasurer:
Pat Hillebrand

Calendar
Apr. 7,14,21,28Center Open
Restock/Inventory 9 AM
Apr. 19Board Meeting
Center 9:30 AM
Apr. 23In Memoriam Mass
St. Patrick's 12:15 AM
May 1 Membership
Renewal Deadline

Registration Starts April 19 for Old2Gold

Mark your calendars for bright and early on April 19 if you plan to register for work in the old2gold fundraiser. On-line registration begins at 9am on Monday April 19. Volunteers who register the earliest get the best chance of being assigned to the shifts that they really want to work! For Christ Child members who would like to work but do not have access to the internet, paper applications will be available from Deb Low (243-0583).

Registration at <http://old2gold.nd.edu> April 19th-May 21st
Training May 24th-May27th
Prep Work Sessions June 9th-June 25th
Sale Date Saturday June 26th

Mandatory training for all volunteers will occur May 24 through 27. Training is held in order to acquaint workers with the event and to obtain the complimentary tee-shirt that is required attire for each work session.

Christ Child is paid for each volunteer hour that you work including the training session hour. The growth of our participation in this event last year doubled that of the previous year. With your help, we can continue to grow and draw a bigger fraction of the proceeds. Old2Gold monies are divided by the number of agencies participating and the number of hours that their volunteer workforce donates in preparation and execution of the event.

Volunteers Assemble Layettes of Hope

A small number of volunteers gathered at the Christ Child Center in the Layette department on Wednesdays for 1½ months, assembling approximately 3000 Layettes of Hope for the Woman's Care Center. The process went more smoothly this year because some members took packages of onsies and socks home to open, thus making for quicker assembling at the Center. Members chatted cheerfully while putting the tiny layettes together in plastic bags along with a prayer card wishing the expectant mother a safe and joyful delivery. It is hoped that these gifts will brighten her day and help her envision the significance and value of her unborn child.

Co-chairmen Mandy Skwarcan and Esther Cyr along with Layette chairman Andrea Incropera arranged the purchasing, assembly and delivery of the layettes. Half of the layettes were delivered to the Woman's Care Center on February 17 and the remainder on March 3 by Mandy, Esther, and Bev Bruneel who were greeted enthusiastically and with gratitude by the Center's staff.

Use St. Vincent Drop Box for Adult Clothing

Have you noticed the big donation box in the Christ Child parking lot? Although it is not clearly marked, that is a St. Vincent de Paul drop box. Bring your children's or grandchildren's used clothing to the Center, but please be sure it is **clean** and in **very good condition**. Save our volunteers the task of sorting out clothing that can't be used. Any clothing that is not for children or is not in good condition can be dropped off in the same trip, but in the St. Vincent de Paul box.

From the President. Beth Barrett

Happy Easter!

Once again, Christ Child has been blessed by so many generous donors, including members, community folks and grant organizations. Despite a shaky economic climate, our fundraising has been successful and the fruit of that labor – clothing for the 2010-2011 year – is already filling the shelves at the Center. Please remember all the special people who keep us solvent in your prayers.

While I'm on the subject of donations, please do our Treasurer a big favor. If you are sending a check in for any reason, please use the 'memo' line to note whether it is for Membership dues, Clothe A Child or a fund raiser so she places it in the appropriate budget line.

Membership forms will be arriving at your homes in April. Please fill them out promptly and return your dues before May 1st. Our fiscal year ends in June and it is helpful to have all the dues caught up before we close the books.

Although spring draws us outside to the garden or exercise, please save some time for Christ Child. We still need volunteers every Wednesday. Also, sign-up for Old2Gold is coming up soon. And of course, we need you to send in your membership forms as soon as possible. You'll still have plenty of time to pull weeds!

Even on the busiest of your days, take time to hear the robins sing!

Anderson Foundation Awards Grant

Good news recently came to the Christ Child office that for the second consecutive year, The John W. Anderson Foundation of Valparaiso, Indiana has awarded The Christ Child Society of South Bend a grant of unrestricted monies in the amount of \$5,000.00.

The Foundation concentrates its funding in North West Indiana, predominately funding youth-supporting agencies in Lake and Porter Counties. We are fortunate to have received a grant for our services in St. Joseph County, especially in these times of great need and limited resources.

John W. Anderson was the founder of the Anderson Company, manufacturer of ANCO windshield wiper blades. He established the foundation shortly before his death in 1967. His guidelines for foundation gifts include programs which promote youth development, care of impoverished, disabled or abused persons and the development of communities, as well as many other areas of important focus.

Proposed Addition to Operating Hours

Times have changed and so have the lives of our members and clients. In an effort to respond to the demands of work, school and otherwise busy schedules, Christ Child is considering opening the Clothing Center to clients on several evenings early in the fall. The proposed hours are from roughly 4:00 to 8:00 when it will still be light outside. The hours will be well publicized to our referral agencies and client numbers will be limited, similar to our Sunday workload. If you would be interested in volunteering one or more of these evenings, please contact Beth Barrett (286-9047) or ehbarrett@comcast.net within the next two weeks. This is not a commitment to work specific days, but rather a way to gauge interest in the idea to determine if evening hours will be added to the schedule.

Book Club Meeting

Oliver Kitteridge
by Elizabeth Strout
April 21
Katie Screes (272-1770)

Deadline for next newsletter
April 19
Ann Korb (277-6443) ack339@aol.com



Mary Kay Bean and Mandy Skwarcan fill bags with layettes which are sent to St. Joseph Regional Medical Center and Memorial Hospital.

Opportunities & Openings

- Come to the Clothing Center on Wednesday mornings starting at 9:00 to help sort, bag and store new clothing.
- Consider working on a project next year. Did you enjoy the Holiday Luncheon? Work on a committee! Wonder how all the paper dolls get to Martin's in September? Help deliver them! If you are interested in getting more involved, call the current chairman or check the appropriate box on your membership form.
- Remember your mother/father on Mother's/Father's Day with a donation to Christ Child. Keep the beautiful Christ Child In Memoriam cards handy for special occasions or expressions of sympathy. Pick some up in the office or from Jane Horning.
- **Send in your membership forms!** The earlier they all come in, the quicker we can get the new directory printed. Be sure to note if you have a change in your contact information, including your email address.
- Volunteer for Old2Gold. Contact Deb Low for details.

Gifts and Memorials

The beautiful Gold Christ Child Society 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 Jane Horning (272-4160).

In Memoriam

- Baby Ames (Marcia/Tom Blum)
- Mary Jane Bacak (Rosemary Crowell)
- Mary T Burkhart (Carol Bauer)
- Frank G Harris (Vicki Riel)
- Robert Hess (Judi Lohr)
- Gloria Pierce Huemmer (Jim/Anne Monserez)
- George Jugenitz (Jeanne Ward)
- Patrick Kromkowski (Nancy/John Kromkowski)
- Joseph Mackowiak (Jill Underly, Toni Pikuza)
- John McNulty (Irene McNulty)
- Lucille Meyer (Frances Austin)
- Ken and Dorothy Raih (Kassie/Jim Knopick)
- Kathy Reiter (Jim/Anne Monserez)

In Memoriam

- Member Charlotte A. Curran
- Husband Alfred Smith

- Mary (Mickey) Smith (Bill/Jeanne Klem, Kathleen Lawton)
- The Son of Carol/Larry Walker (Frances Austin)
- John Vogel (Art/Mary Lou Houle)
- Cecelia Voirol (Joe/Marie Burt)
- George Weber (Bill Killilea)
- Special Occasion**
- Lisa Choinacky - expecting a baby (Anne Choinacky, Ellen Choinacky, Kris Arizmendi)
- Dee and Sonny Tepe - 50th Wedding Anniversary (Marlene/Tom Nowak)



"Many hands make light work" may be a cliché but it's certainly a truism as the women in the used clothing room spend their Wednesday mornings sorting, sizing and putting clothing into bins - all to be ready for clients in August.

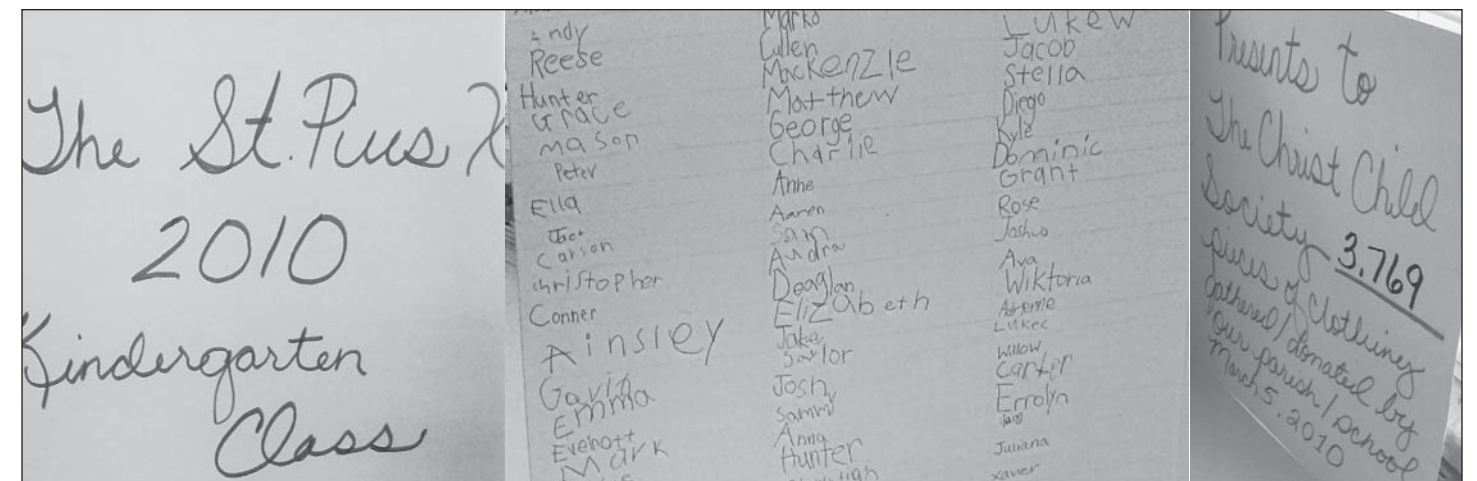
The Spotlight is on...

Andrea Incropera

Andrea Incropera would make a great detective. She has spies, watches for clues, and always captures her prey. Of course, her spies are salesclerks, her clues can be found in Kohl's and Macy's ads - and her prey? Coats and clothing at the lowest possible price!

Andrea is Christ Child's Super Shopper, always in the hunt for bargains and close out specials. A member since 2004, Andrea has thrown herself into the management of purchasing and inventory. If she isn't checking out on-line suppliers, she is roaming the aisles of local stores. Much to Andrea's credit, she prefers to shop locally and makes an effort to find darling, stylish outfits and coats.

Remember how hard it was to find clothing for your own children? Imagine clothing nearly 5,000! Please thank Andrea for her hard work. You'll find her in the children's department with multiple bags of sweat suits and coats.



This card accompanied the 3,769 pieces of used clothing collected by the St. Pius kindergarden classes for Christ Child. Left is the front of the card; the inside contains the signatures of the kindergartners and their message.