



Christ Child Society Newsletter

November, 2011

308 South Scott Street, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, IN 46624 (574) 288-6028 (fax) 288-4282 (e-mail) officer@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.

Executive Board

President:

Norma Villanucci

President Elect:

Kathy Seidl

Vice President (Fundraising):

Pat Corcoran

Vice President (Membership):

Carol Holt

Vice President (Clothing):

Norma Cherry

Recording Secretary:

Kelly Ghyselinck

Corresponding Secretary:

Rose Wray

Treasurer:

Pat Hillebrand

Calendar

Nov, 2,9,16 30.....Center Open
8:30 AM

Nov. 21Board Meeting
Center 9:30 AM

Nov. 23 In Memoriam Mass
St. Patrick's 12:15 PM

DEC. 7, 14Center Open
8:30 AM

An Eventful Night for Christ Child

On the evening of September 29th, the Christ Child Society really Let Love Shine. The inaugural dinner auction was an enormous success with a profit of nearly \$80,000. The Gillespie Center glowed in beautiful blue lights and sparkling candlelit tables to welcome the guests for a delicious dinner, some whimsical entertainment and the debut of the Christ Child video. Of course, first, they bid on many wonderful silent auction items creatively displayed throughout the foyer and dining room. The live auction after dinner featured a Bible signed by the Notre Dame presidents Fr. Hesburgh, Fr. Malloy and Fr. Jenkins, an eventful vacation on Mackinac Island and courtside tickets to the ND Women's basketball game against rival Tennessee.

Martin's Super Markets accepted the first "Heart of a Child Award" in recognition of their 18 years of support for the Clothe a Child Campaign. Every autumn, colorful paper dolls have been purchased for \$1.00 at Martin's registers. Over the years, about \$175,000 has been donated by Martins' customers and used to purchase new clothing for thousands of children. According to Barb Levan, Community Affairs Supervisor, "Martin's is thrilled to accept this beautiful award on behalf of all of our cashiers who participated in the program as well as the store personnel who help promote sales by displaying the colorful paper dolls. This is a favorite of our employees because the Clothe-A-Child campaign provides beautiful new clothing and shoes for the children in St. Joseph and Elkhart counties who would not receive them otherwise."

Co Chairs Anne Watson and Beth Barrett are grateful to all the volunteers, guests and bidders who contributed to the successful evening. As this newsletter pictures show, a good time was had by all. If you would like to see more photos of the event, go to www.letloveshine.info.



Clothe A Child dolls are arranged for a colorful display at Martin's SuperMarkets. Martin's has partnered with Christ Child on this fundraiser for the last 18 years.

From the President . . . Norma Villanucci

November has always been the month to start thinking about Thanksgiving and winter. The merchants have forgotten this wonderful holiday and are always so eager to start displaying Christmas items. Let's all remember to be grateful for our many blessings. A Happy Thanksgiving to all the Christ Child members. May your day be filled with great joy and good cheer!

For the members who were unable to attend the dinner auction "Let Love Shine," you missed a fantastic evening! The event was meticulously organized by co-chairmen Beth Barrett and Anne Watson and their committee. Every aspect of the evening was exciting from the silent auction to the wonderful video of our Clothing Center in action (a must see!), the oral auction, the delicious meal to the very comedic emcee, Chuck Freeby. Thank you to Beth and Anne for all the hard work and time put in to make this event successful.

The Clothing Center continues to be very busy each Wednesday. We have completed the four Sundays averaging 30 families and 90 children per Sunday. I would like to thank the members who so generously gave up their Sunday afternoon to help out when needed. You are a special group of women!

November's words of wisdom by Paramabana Yogananda

"Every day should be a day of thanksgiving for the gifts of life: sunshine, water, and the luscious fruits and greens that are indirect gifts of the Great Giver."

With a Cherry on Top - Norma Cherry

Have you ever seen the movie *Mama Mia*? I love Pierce Brosan's singing, which kinda sounds like a frog with laryngitis. The movie shows snippets back in the 60's in the hippie years. Later Meryl Streep dances down the streets in town to the song "Dancing Queen" by ABBA.

I was talking to Diane Quinn at the Center the other day and that whole scene played out in my head. It seems our Diane who had a profession as a school teacher actually wanted to pursue quite another endeavor. She so wanted to be an artist! Her father on the other hand worried that she might turn into a hippie living in Greenwich Village. Since she was the first in the family to go to college, she forsake her dreams and took a more conservative route.

But in the back of her head she was that "Dancing Queen." Years later after four children, her husband said "Why don't you go back to school and live your dream?" So she did and became an artist of interior design. It stills shows up in her work in layettes. Whenever she does a layette, it is always a work of art.

October Board Meeting Minutes

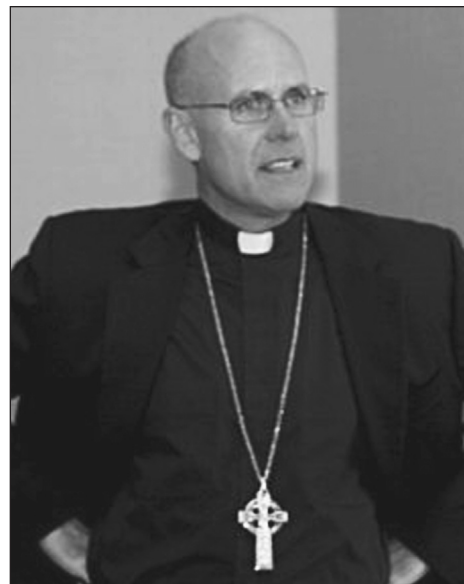
At the October 17 meeting at the Center, the Board discussed the great success of our latest endeavor, the Dinner Auction. Let Love Shine Dinner auction was deemed a great success!

A new nominating committee is in place. The Committee consists of Linda Brammer, Pat Corcoran, Marge Hosinski, Deb Spellman and Mary Jane Chase. Good luck, ladies, in bringing us some great new board members.

Due to an incident involving the fire alarm at the Center, Norma Villanucci, president, briefed the Board on the fire alarm procedure and informed us that each room captain and all Board members will have instructions to deal with any problems.

Guests Jean Fuehrmeyer and Father Pete Pacini talked about some wonderful volunteer opportunities at St. Adalbert's. We discussed a library book drive and Jean said she would look into working with Scholastic and let us know. More information was needed. St. Adalbert's is also looking for volunteers to teach the children Arts and Crafts from 2:45-4:00. Also help is needed in adult language support which Father Pacini was going to look into this further. Any volunteers with a strong Spanish background could be very useful.

As a thanks to all of our wonderful members, the Board voted to reduce the cost of the Day of Recollection for our Christ Child members to \$10. Details for the February 17 retreat at Moreau Seminary will be available next month.



Bishop Kevin Rhodes was one of the guests at the Let Love Shine dinner/ auction at the Gillespie Center at the Hilton Garden Inn on September 27.

More Books Needed

If you have new or gently-used books for children, please bring them to the Center ASAP. We ran out of books on October 5 after giving out the Christmas books.

Monetary donations are also welcome if you are saying, "I'd like to help out but I have no access to children's books." Resale shops and garage sales are also possible sources.

Every week books have "appeared" from members. On October 11, Better World Books donated five boxes of books for our children. We are so grateful to all who are enabling us to get a book into a child's hands.

Please call Mary Beth McGrath (674-0181) if you need to have us pick up your books.

Reserve the Date

. . . for The Christ Child Society
Day of Prayer and Reflection on
Thursday, February 16, 2012, at
Moreau Seminary.

Book Club

House Rules by Jodi Picoult
November 16
Marge Hosinski (255-9728)

Deadline for next newsletter
November 21

Ann Korb (277-6443) ack339@aol.com

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 Jane Horning (272-4160).

In Memoriam

Eugene Banicki (Kay Catanzarite)
 Elinor Boehm (Anne Choinacky)
 Ida D Burkett (Mary Martin)
 LaVerne R Cyrier (Dr John/Marilyn Toepp)
 Peggy Deming (Nancy Yohe)
 Kristina Laskman Flora (Wally/Margaret Moore)
 Beatrice Gordy (Madeline Deyerling)
 David Harrison (Mrs. Betty Urban)
 Ruth Hay (Kay/Frank Catanzarite)
 David Hosinski (S B Comm. School Corp. Division of Instruction)
 Woodrow Jacobs (Toni Kowalski)
 Irene Kaplon (Bill/Marian Bickel)
 Miss Faith Langley (Marijo Martinec and Madelyn)
 Betty Maffitt (Katie Screes, Christ Child Society, Deb/Mike Low)
 Myrna Rivard Nabors (Toni Kowalski)
 Albert Nemes (Mary Martin)
 Patti Zych's Mom (Kenneth/Barbara Fedder)
 Mary Portolese (Kay/Frank Catanzarite)
 John R Roche, Sr "Jack" (Dr John/Marilyn Toepp,

In Memoriam

Members:
 Betty Maffitt
 Pat Winters

Louise/Dick Lauer, Carol Bauer, Peggy Bauer)
 Margaret Soderburg "Peggy" (Kenneth/Barbara Fedder)
 Craig Dominick Spydell (Al/Barb Szweczyk)
 Robert W Towner (Dr John/Marilyn Toepp)
 Lucille Tuttle (Florence Duesterberg)
 Mary Vernasco (Theresa Van Nevel)
 Rita Walsh (Bob/Toni Kowalski)
 Pat Winters (Christ Child Society, Dottie/Ron Wallace, Sheila Emge)

Special Occasion

Sue Boraers - Get Well (Kathleen M Ward)
 Carol/Jim Holt - 50th Wedding Anniversary (Trudy Strantz)
 Tom Lindenman - Happy Birthday (Bill Killilea)
 Margie Farmer - Speedy Recovery (Jim/Nancy Yohe)
 Jeanette Landy (Joan M Biltz)
 Betty Scharpf (Bette/Pat O'Malley)

Enthusiastic Crowd Enjoys 'Let Love Shine' Evening



Judy Kuzmich examines a few of the silent auction items.



Representatives from Martin's Super Markets enjoy dinner before receiving the Heart of a Child award.



Auctioneer Chuck Freeby points to a bidder as he encourages the crowd to bid on each item.

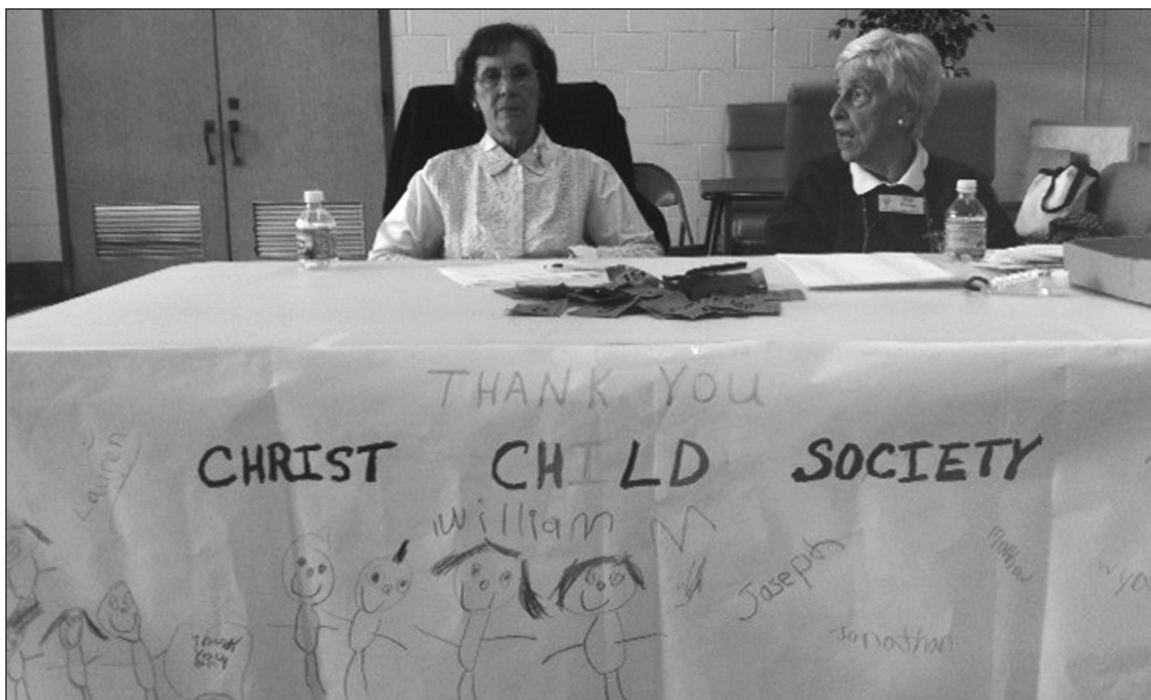
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Return Service Requested



A few weeks ago a woman came to the Center to pick up clothing for her seven children. When she got home, the children were so excited about their new clothes that they wanted to send Christ Child a thank you banner. Here Polly DeCicco and Gay Eades are on "security duty" at the table where it is displayed. (JoAnn Biltz was not present when the picture was taken.)