Fall Luncheon
Thursday, October 21
Morris Park Country Club
11:30 AM

Send reservations with checks made out to Christ Child Society for $21 per person to
Mary Kay Bean or Mary Beth McGrath
14404 Taddington Drive 54439 Christie Court
Granger 46530 (243-0592) Osceola 46561 (674-0181)

Deadline for reservations
October 8

Please include name, address and number of reservations with your check.

Motors Corps Needs More Volunteers
Our Motor Corps division is again making preparations for the collection of used clothing this year. We have active collection programs in place at approximately 35 sites throughout the community which provide our clients with supplemental clothing when they visit our center. Though we collect at most of these sites year round, we never seem to have enough in our used clothing department. Motor Corps is looking to expand its efforts this year by increasing the number of collection sites as well as by increasing volume at our current sites. In order to do this, we could use some additional volunteer help! We currently have site volunteer vacancies at Granger Community Church, Holy Family, Our Lady, St. Adalbert and Tarkington. If you are interested in working with the Motor Corps, please contact Katy Cressy (258-0288) katecressy@sbcglobal.net.

PARTY...PARTY...PARTY
Jean Mee, Esther Cyr, Marjorie Bycraft and her husband John register families at the Elkhart Initiative #2 on September 18.
From the President . . . . Linda Brammer

Let me begin by thanking you for the privilege of representing the South Bend Chapter at the Christ Child Society National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. It was a fabulous experience! Norma Villanucci, Jeanne Ward and I drove to the convention Thursday afternoon in and out of a monster rainstorm which chased us all the way to Cleveland. Arriving safely, we settled into the beautiful rooms at the Renaissance Hotel, registered for the conference and began to meet Christ Child Society members from all over the country. Vicki Riel (a past National President), and Rose Acklin (current National board member) were already there helping with preparations.

The first evening, following dinner, we listened to presentations from three different chapters about the programs they have started or want to start. The next day we were treated to two very lively sessions on running a charitable organization and working with volunteers. Our speaker, Carol Wiseman, is an expert on philanthropy, fundraising, and non-profit governance, and she is also a great stand-up comedian. Each three hour session flew by, as we laughed and learned.

Friday evening was the auction/dinner. I was very proud to deliver the basket filled with a “Taste of South Bend,” made possible by contributions from the board members: SB chocolates and coffees, cookbooks and candles. T-shirt, note cards and pencils. Thank you to all who contributed! That same evening we were blessed to hear a talk by Cleveland CC member, Susan Ferraro Smith, about the human spirit, so personal and inspiring that we responded with a standing ovation!

The convention continued the next morning with the business meeting, and votes on by-law changes. We also voted to grant a charter to the newest CC organization and working with volunteers. Our speaker, Carol Wiseman, is an outstanding speaker and has been very successful in her job at South Bend Public Schools. She’s a “doer” and a “dreamer,” and she makes you want to get involved. As the Vice President of Clothing, Norma Cherry takes her job very seriously, but with such a joyful spirit. It’s a delight to spend time with her.

On Saturday afternoon, others on the board agreed to crank out ideas for new ways to reach families who are in need. We have already served 1,030 children from 373 families. This weekend Deb will write her letter, after which I hope to generate some interest in our membership. We are also planning a “Taste of South Bend” dinner for the next installment of jackets in what we call the “Elkhart Initiative,” an outreach to the Elkhart community which has been successful in its first year and is growing rapidly.

Back home, the pace at the Center has picked up dramatically. As I write this letter, after five Wednesdays and one Sunday of clothing distribution, we have already served 1,030 children from 373 families. This weekend Deb Low and volunteers delivered the first installment of jackets in what we call the “Elkhart Initiative,” an outreach to the Elkhart community which has been especially hard hit in this economic downturn. This week we will be open on a Wednesday evening for the first time, and on Sunday, in the hope this better will serve working families. Please consider helping out with our new Sunday and evening hours! Call Marcia Auger (272-4970) to find out where and what time you could help.

The Christ Child Scholarship initiative is underway and our partnership with Home Management has provided sponsorship to several women in our community. Applications for the $1500 renewable award to Ivy Tech are also in the office. There are a few large signs in the intake area advertising the scholarship for the fall of 2011 and we hope to generate some interest soon. The deadline for the application is February 15, 2011, and will be given to an eligible Christ Child client.

From the President . . . Linda Brammer

October 2010

Linda Brammer, Norma Villanucci, Jeanne Ward, Rose Acklin and Vicki Riel pose with speaker Carol Wiseman (third from left) at the National Convention.

Gifts and Memorials

The beautiful Gold Child Christ 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 relative. A card can be remembered in a perpetual monthly Mass. The card 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 clearly the name that will be printed in each newsletter with the donor’s name in parentheses. Extra cards are available in the office or from Jane Haring (727-4160).

December 2009

The Spotlight is on . . .

Norma Cherry

If you come to the Center, be careful; you might catch a cold! Marcia Auger (272-4970) to find out where and what time you could help.

The Listenership Department, Carol Wiseman (272-6464) and she will be sure to get you one. Please consider buying more that one and give them. Remember this is not a fundraiser, just a way to get our message out there. The magnets will be available at the fall and holiday luncheons for $5.00.

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October, 2010

Christ Child Society • South Bend, IN