Christ Child Society
Newsletter

September 2011

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
Sept 7, 14, 21,28….. Center Open
          8:30 AM
Sept 11, 25….Center Open Sundays
               1:00 - 3:00 pm
Sept 19………………Board Meeting
               Center 9:30 AM
Sept 23,24………NCCS Conference
               Bethesda, MD
Sept 28……….. In Memoriam Mass
               St. Patrick’s 12:15 PM
SEPT 29’……………. ‘Let Love Shine’
Dinner/Action, Gillespie Center

Are You Ready to Bid at Dinner Auction?
Wonder what kind of items will be auctioned on Thursday, September 29, at the first annual Let Love Shine Dinner and Auction? Here is a preview:
1. Macy’s Thanksgiving Parade - six grandstand seats in New York Central Park
2. The Best of Central Florida - three days/two nights in Orlando resort, three days/two nights in Tampa Bay, four one day hopper passes for Disney World
3. Golf Around Michiana - rounds for four at South Bend Country Club, Blackthorn, Juday Creek and Morris Park
4. Manning and Brady Football - autographed and in a display case
5. Dine with Bishop Kevin Rhoades - dinner for six with the Bishop at Ruth’s Chris
6. “Honey, I love You” package - day of professional house cleaning while “Honey” relaxes at a spa
7. San Francisco and Monterey Bay - six days/five nights in Northern and Central California
8. Mackinaw Island Experience - Enjoy everything the Island has to offer.
10. Personalized Football - signed by ND coach Brian Kelly
12. Polish Dinner for 50 - Who can resist chicken, sausage, noodles, and sweet and sour cabbage?

Pictured are Christ Child Society members Laverne Molenda, Norma Villanucci (front) Judy Kuzmich, Jean Fuehrmeyer, Catherine Thurin and Mary Jane Chase (rear) at the Celebration of the Century Reception which kicked off the three day celebration at St. Adalbert School. As St. Adalbert celebrates 100 years of service to South Bend’s West Side, they gave thanks for their partnership with Christ Child Society, particularly through the SUCCESS tutoring program. Mary Lou Derwent, founder of the program, was honored for her service and the more than 4000 volunteer hours logged under her five-year tenure as program organizer, tutor and mentor. Judy and Jean also serve as tutors.
From the President . . . . Norma Villanucci

Hello everyone! Here we are into a new season!

The Referral Ambassador Training Meeting, the Donor Open House and the opening of the Clothing Center all occurred within a three-week period. WOW! What a way to start. In addition to all of this, the kids are back in school, the football season has begun and, for your information, there are 16 weeks until Christmas! How about that! Every season brings a little something different.

On June 29, I attended the 100-year celebration of St. Adalbert’s School and Parish. It was a wonderful occasion, well attended by many who were students at St. Adalbert’s through the years. The pastor, Father Peter Pacini, CSC, informed the guests that at one point they were ready to close the school because their enrollment was only 90 students. With much enthusiasm and determination, the school thrived and enrollment is 212 as of today. Have faith and never give up!

As we proceed through our season, we look forward to the fall fundraiser “Let Love Shine” on September 29, which from all indications will be an exciting adventure. So, if you haven’t turned in your reservation, please do so quickly. The fall luncheon will be held on October 27 at Morris Park Country Club. This will be our fourth year there. During fall with all the beautiful foliage, Morris Park is a great place to have lunch and enjoy the view. This is another event that is always enjoyable, especially seeing members that we don’t see as often.

Any member who did not receive the August newsletter, please send your email address to Ann Korb – ack339@aol.com.

My September words of wisdom are from Helen Keller – “When one door of happiness closes, another one opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been open for us.”

Have a wonderful month and see you in October!

The Spotlight on. . . . .

Judy Kuzmich

If you want immediate action on a project or committee, check with Judy Kuzmich! She was given the responsibility of publicity chair for the coming season and in a flash, she immediately set out to conquer the South Bend Tribune. Within a week, a reporter arrived at the Center with a camera and a pad of paper and off she went. Photos were taken, members were interviewed and by the time the reporter left, her adrenalin was racing! She mentioned that within a couple of weeks an article on the Christ Child Center, with photos, appeared in the Tribune. Talk about making a difference in a very special way.

Thank you, Judy. You deserve an A+ for a job well done!

With a Cherry on Top by Norma Cherry

My daughter is getting married soon and we had been looking at flowers. She found some that she loved in a Martha Steward book. When researching them we found out that they were Queen Ann’s Lace that were not completely opened and were still very green. I thought how lovely it is the weeds that God gave us are so beautiful. It made me also think of Lola Pataluch and all the arrangements she has made for us at Christ Child. I was lucky to be standing by her one day after one of our many functions and she asked me if I would like a bouquet. Of course I said yes, her bouquets are whimsical, airy and they just make you smile. They remind me a lot of Lola. I am always singing to her the Barry Manilow song “Lola she was a show girl etc.” Lola just laughs and puts up with me. One day she came into layettes and asked me were I got the name Nonie. My granddaughter was there and I told Lola how she had always called me that. Lola said Nonie in Italian means grandmother. To my knowledge I do not have any Italian ancestors, but if I did I would feel so blessed if one of them was Lola.

Books, Magazines Wanted for Clients

We would like to give a book to each child who receives clothing from Christ Child Society. Please bring gently-used or new books to the Center.

Also, if you have fairly recent magazines which you are going to discard, we can use them in the Waiting Room. We’re encouraging reading for the children as well as for their parents.

If you wish to give books or magazines and cannot make it to the Center, please email Mary Beth McGrath (macbeth.65@att.net) or call her (674-0181) for pick-up.

Board Meeting Report from August

New board members were welcomed at their first Board meeting. The Board looked at the operating budget for the year and discussed what’s in store for spending this year. As always Pat Hillebrand does a fabulous job getting these reports and presenting them to the Board.

We voted to branch out to reach more women who are looking into the scholarship program. Pat Corcoran proposed that we include all two and four year universities in the St. Joe County area; it was approved unanimously.

Linda Brammer updated the Board on the Open House and the Board decided to celebrate the next Donor Open House on our 70th anniversary.

Anne Watson presented a preview of the Live Auction Items. She also informed us that Chuck Freeby will MC the event.

Mary Kay Bean spoke about the Fall Luncheon at Morris Park. This year’s Luncheon will on October 27th: the cost will be $25.

Deadline for next newsletter September 19

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
Robert Bilinski (Toni Pikuza)
Helen Doherty (Barbara Dillon, Mike/Deb Low)
Marilyn Gaeding (Jane Dietrich)
Sally Giesige (Wally/Margaret Moore)
Mary Hardig (Jim/Tricia Morton, Judy Deeb, Barbara/Fred Baumer)
Faye Hare (M/M Robert Cleppe)
Rita Levelle (Barbara Dillon)
Mary Weber's Father (Greg/ Jean Mee)
Kevin Moore (Margaret/ Wally Moore)
Deacon Ron Moser (Dr/Mrs John B Toeppe)
Margaret Petko (Al/Barb Szewczyk)
Dina Reilly (John/Wendy Bognar)
Dolores Romeu (Virginia Hahn)
Trudy Rose (Frank/Carolyn Belchwood, George/ Vonnie Belchwood, Roger/Mary Kay Banner, Col Robert W Cerney USMC, Charles Bushkill, David Gregg, Jr, Joan Fahey, Nancy Yohe, Helen Ditz, Ann/ Paul Divine, Frank J Berlakovich, Stanley/ Evelyn Nowicki, Diana/ Richard Peck, Kathleen Rose, Tom/Carolyn

In Memoriam
Member:
Ann E. Watters
Crowley
Stella Sperla (Pat Hillebrand)
Judith Strantz (Theresa Van Nevel)
Lucille Van Paris (Barry/ Glenda Van Paris, Scott/ Marylee Prebys, Virginia Bamber, George/Paula Heiser, Chris Thornton, Mary Ann Jones)
Ann E Watters (Christ Child Society)

Special Occasion
Mary Balint (James/Carol Holt)
Pat Gault - Strength (Carol/ Bob Loeffler)
Kevin Killilea - 49th Birthday (Bill Killilea)
Joanne Kroll (James/Carol Holt)
Ann Pukrop - Speedy Recovery (Nancy Yohe)
Susan Carr - Get Well (Pat/ Fred Hillebrand)
Rosemary Hiple - Complete Recovery (Dr. John/ Marilyn Toeppe)
Carol/Jim Holt - 50th Wedding Anniversary (Bette/ Pat O’Malley)
Janie Meyer-Smit - 80th Birthday (Marie/Paul Brady)

Book Club Calendar 2011-2012
September 21  Pat Healy (272-5640)
The Invisible Bridge - Julie Orringer
October 19  Judy Kearns (289-9850)
The Weird Sisters - Eleanor Brown
November 16  Marge Hosinski (255-9728)
House Rules - Jodi Picoult
December 21  Carol Holt (259-0461)
Outliers - Malcolm Gladwell
January 18  Mary Ann Derda (232-2561)
The Paris Wife - Paula McLain
February 15  Catherine Koscielski (232-4794)
Corelli’s Mandolin - Louis De Bernieres
March 21  Katie Screes (272-1770)
Scott Brown U.S. Senator Against All Odds - Scott Brown
April 18  Vicki Riel (289-0768)
Room - Emma Donoghue
May 16  Mary Jane Chase (233-7977)
My Name is Mary Sutter - Robin Oliveira
June 20  Mary Ann McTigue (259-9390)
Once Upon a River - Bonnie Jo Campbell

Christ Child Society Guardian Angels
A special membership category was established in 1998. A one time $1000 enrollment fee for deceased members or spouses, benefiting the Christ Child Society Endowment Fund, will insure the Society’s ability to continue its future good works.

The Guardian Angels are honored with their names appearing on a plaque in the Christ Child Society office. The family of the deceased will receive an enrollment certificate. Each angel will be remembered monthly and each year at our annual Mass. A special page in our directory will list our angels annually.

Current members and spouses may pre-enroll in the program. These “angels in waiting” will be kept on a special list and officially enrolled upon their deaths.

Please refer any questions to Vicki Riel (289-0768).

Newest Guardian Angels
Catherine Goeller  David Hosinski  Georgina Voll

Angel in Waiting
Elizabeth Goeller

Gifts and Memorials
Christ Child Society Fall Luncheon

Thursday, October 27
Morris Park Country Club
11:30 AM

Send reservation with check made out to Christ Child Society for $25 per person to

Mary Kay Bean or Mary Beth McGrath
14404 Taddington Drive 54439 Christie Court
Granger 46530 (243-0592) Osceola 46561 (674-0181)

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

Deadline for reservations - October 14