

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

Peg Riggs President Elect:

Vice President (Fundraising):

Judy Burmeister

Vice President (Membership):

Anne Choinacky

Vice President (Clothing):

Sue Walsh

Recording Secretary:

Jean Fuehrmeyer

Corresponding Secretary:

Marie Burt

Treasurer:

Pat Hillebrand

#### **CALENDAR**

May 1 Derby Day
May 6,13,20,27 Restock/Inventory Center 9:00 AM
May 13New Member Coffee Center 9:30 AM
May 15Membership Renewal Due
May 19Board Meeting Tuesday 10:15 AM Francis Branch Public Library

May 27.....In Memoriam Mass

St. Patrick's 12:15 PM

### Let Love Shine 2015

# **September 3 - Gillespie Center New Approach to LLS Silent Auction**

We have some new and exciting updates to the silent auction for this year's Let Love Shine Dinner! This year's auction will be scaled down and will have a focus on experiences in addition to having items for auction. The task of a very large silent auction had become quite daunting for the volunteers organizing and running it, so the need to work smarter and not harder became evident.

We will <u>not</u> be making an open call for donations this year through the traditional gift gathering party, etc. Rather we will ask for targeted items that will best suit the specific themes/packages that will be auctioned. For further information, email hhosinski@gmail. We are immensely grateful to Kathy Seidl and her committee for their willingness to work on the auction and solicit businesses and individuals for these specific items!

This approach is new but we hope all will be open to it and keep our volunteers from being overloaded. Thanks to the wonderful Christ Child membership for your continued support of the Let Love Shine Dinner and Auction!

### **Membership Renewal Forms**

The Membership Renewals were mailed on April 1 and are due May 15. In order for your name/information to be in the directory.

CHECK YOUR FORM - All the information about you is on that.

- If there is no birthday listed, then we don't have it and can't include it in the newsletter. If you wish it listed and it's not there, add it!
- · Have your interests changed? Update your profile
- Double check your email address. Why not get your newsletter electronically? It will save us mailing costs.
- Want to volunteer for a committee? Add a note and the chairperson will be sure to get with you.

If you already sent your response in and want to double check, email: Katy Gregg cgregg730@aol.com If you didn't get a renewal form, please email: Sue Walsh ladysusan@fuse.net and we will get one out to you. A few renewals were mailed to our "snow bird" addresses - not the local ones.

### New Member Coffee May 13 @ 9:30 AM

Please join us in welcoming members and their guests to find out more about the Christ Child Society of South Bend. The New Member Coffee will be held in the client waiting room at the Center on Wednesday. May 13, at 9:30 AM.

Know someone who might want to join? Send their name and address to Kristy Botich, wbotich@sbcglobal.net or call 291-7523.

#### **Updates**

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/ChristChildSB

Follow us on Twitter: @ChristChildSB

• Check us out online: www.christchildsb.or

# From the President . . . Peg Riggs

#### Today was good. Today was fun. Tomorrow is another one. - Dr. Seuss

At my house, May starts the boys thinking of the end of school, finals, and SUMMER. The boys have had a count down calendar since we got back from spring break. Ben is ready for high school and Drew can't wait to have that driver's license. I'm ready for a change, just as much as they are!

I love the change in the weather-it gives a great chance to look at all the new growth around us and glory in what God does for all His people. We are spending more time outside, either enjoying the sunshine or working in the yard. It is a time where neighbors are out more, we are seen and we socialize. I believe this time of the year rejuvenates our spirit. If that spirit moves you to do more for Christ Child, we are willing to take anything you want to give! Time, talent or treasure-we will take it all!

There is a change at the center. When spring comes, the snowbirds come back to help. The used clothing room over flows with donations from local schools. The coatroom is checking their inventory to ensure we will be ready for clients in August. New clothing room is always on the lookout for bargains, so you never know what items will need tags pulled, sorted and sized. The shoe room is under control for now, but when the clearance sales hit in June, look out! Layettes works year-round, so their only change comes in the number of volunteers they need in their room.

Change can also come as a surprise. It's no secret that the clothing center is currently bursting at the seams. We have inefficient storage. Members wanting to pull inventory on the Wednesdays we are open for distribution are challenged with climbing over clients. We are growing. Those of you at the Spring Luncheon in March heard me explain: The Christ Child society clothed 3812 children in 1466 families last year. That DOES NOT include over 400 layettes distributed to Memorial Hospital and Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center.

However, the **place** we complete this mission is in jeopardy.

The Christ Child Society of South Bend has been operating without a lease from St. Patrick's since August 2014. Due to the lack of security in staying in our current home, we have started to consider other options. While no decision has been made and we continue to try to work with St. Patrick's parish to obtain a lease, we wanted our members to be aware of the circumstances. We WILL continue to serve our clients out of our current location for the 2015 season.

Please keep the SOCIETY in your prayers that we may find God's plan so that we can continue to serve fulfill our mission.



2915 Mary Virginia Merrick award winner Marge Hosinski and family



#### MAY

1	Mary	Behrens
1	Mary	Liddell

2 Anne Black

2 Joanne Kurapka

3 Eileen Balestri

4 Nancy Brothers4 Mary Jane Trant

4 Patricia Richard

7 Jean Granfield

7 Joanne Gans

8 Joan Jaworski

8 Janet Eggleston

11 Katherine Fulnecky12 Marlene Howland

14 Gratia Eades

14 Mary Andrzejewski

17 Kay Houser

18 Catherine Smith

18 Janet Matthys

20 Jo Ann Romeo-Barcome

21 Alice Cleppe

21 Jean Vavul21 Michelle Mikula

21 Mary Anne Retseck

22 Polly DeCicco

23 Patricia Nahas

23 Angie Faccenda

25 Carol Greider

25 Claire Hayes25 Mary Kay Bean

27 Mary Ellen Brennan

28 Diane Quinn

29 Julie Considine

29 Joanne Van Avermaete

30 Maureen Korros

### **Book Club**

Orphan Train
by Christina Baker Klein
May 20
Judy Kearns (273-9850)

Deadline for next newsletter May 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 Joan Hardig (277-7787)

#### In Memoriam

Edward Bauer (Loretta Chillag)

Merlin J. Bellinger (Brian/ Ginger Lake)

Leslie M. Bodnar (Barbara Dillon)

Sophie Brooks (Loretta Chillag)

Mel Cooper (Fred/Jane Kanouse)

Jerry Dehner-(Marcia/Tom Blum)

Bonnie Drury's Father (Marcia/Tom Blum)

Jason Evans (Joan Biltz)

Robert Gerard (James/Carol Holt)

Edward John Gray (Brian/ Ginger Lake)

Fr. Ted Hesburgh CSC (Jerry/Judy Kearns)

Joseph Hickey (Don/ Donna Kyle, Kathy/John Seidl, Kathleen Lawton, Mary Cahill, John/Joyce Holmes)

Mary Ann Jones (Thomas/ Janet Hall, Sonny/Dee Tepe, Esther Cyr, Sheila Emge, Joe/Pat Corcoran, Jack/Nancy Pycik, Jane Horning, Judy/Hugh Kuzmich, Ann Korb)

Georg Juda (Patterson Family)

Mary Lou Kovatch (Phyllis/ Earl Kubale)

Cleo Kowalski (Nick/Tami DeLucenay, Sue Gilmore, Joan/Ken Riffel, Barbara Zimlich, Greg Zielinski, Ann Korb, Mr/Mrs. Bill Johnson, Christine Bell, Bob/Lori Deutscher, Nancy Botka, Pete/ Melanie Webb, Terry/ Monica Bauters & Family, Dave/Jolene Hanna, Greg/Jan Micinski,

Philip/Pam Stinchcomb, Florence Duesterberg, Tom/Joan Zielinski, Max/ Vern Gretencord, Larry Nixon, Ken/Marilyn Figg, Carl/Lou Nixon, Don/Kay Nixon, Gail Kowalski, John/Linda Bitterle, Barbara J. Bremigan, Caitlin Camp (IU School of Med.), Tammy/John Goy, Julie/Art Zielinski, Niko, Alex, Sandy/ George Fotopoulos, Kathryn Screes, Judi Lohr, Maureen/Brad Buckner, Roberta Hill, Betty Andert, Robert/ Kathy Nixon, Steven McNamara, Ronald/ Patricia Feyos, Peggy Walsh, Richard/Judith DeCraene, Pat Guzzi, Rose/Dennis Janowiak, Nancy Herczeg, Marsha/ Wes Williams, Bob/ Sandy Spangler, Marlene/Otto Martinec. Catherine Koscielski, Matthew/Colette Magor, Caroline Livingstone, Cheryl Ferber, Nanci Sutula, Pam Kuespert, Sally Grossnickle, The Rockstroh Family, Phil/Joan Richards & Family, Nancy Coleman, Colette/Kenny Thomas, Roseanne Janowiak, Emily Cook) Sophie Kuta (Toni Pikuza)

William Kretz (James/Kase

Andrew T. Krizman (Brian/

Sue Ann Leeman (Kathryn

Veronica Majcher (Joan

Wilford Mayette (Florence

Shalliol)

Screes)

Jaworski)

Ginger Lake)

#### In Memoriam

Member Mary Ann Jones

Duesterberg)
Ronald Meert (Dan/Beth
Barrett)

Charles Odum (Barb/Ken Fedder)

Connie Rinaldo (Kay/Frank Catanzarite)

Ella Ratajczak (Winnie VandenBossche)

Edward Slagis (Anthony/ Leone Michel)

Cliff Trunick (Marcia/Tom Blum)

Jane Warner (Marcia/Tom Blum)

Regina Weissert (Kathryn Screes)

Screes)
Patti Zych (Rolande/Roger
Parent, Kathy/John Seidl,
Walter/Elaine Nicgorski,
Jane Horning

#### **Special Occasion**

Joann Bauer - Happy Birthday (Julann/Laurence Bauer)

Kelly Bellinger - For strength (Barbara Dillon)

Joe Burt Speedy Recovery-(Jim/Nancy Yohe)

Margie Wack Farmer

Happy Birthday (Barb Cassidy)

Mary McFadden - (Brian/ Ginger Lake)

Rev. Jacob Meyer - Get well wishes (Carol Bauer)

Johannah Pairitz Happy Birthday (Mary Jo Miller, Marilyn Bartkowiak)

Rev. Christopher Rehagen -Ordination (Mary/Edward Kubiak)

Michael Roman & Family -Birthday (Patricia Kocent) Bill Stanley (Jim/Pat Short, Brian/Ginger Lake)

### **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 con-

tinue the 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.

Newest Guardian Angels: James Dickey Herschell Riley

Refer any questions to Sheila Emge (277-6421).

# Clothe-A-Child Donors as of 4/20/15

M/M Jose Alvarez M/M Ted Alwine

M/M Jim Niespodziany

Mrs. Luz Aquino

M/M James Aranowski

M/M Bruce Auger

M/M William Ayres

M/M Edward Baer

Dr. Andrea Balconis

M/M Jack Balint

M/M Peter Baranay

Mr. Joseph B. Baranowski

M/M Michael Barnes

M/M Darrell Barnett

D/M Daniel Barrett

Mrs. Carol Bauer

M/M Laurence Bauer

Mrs. Margaret Bauer

M/M Robert Bauer

D/M Gerard Baumbach

M/M Frederick Baumer

Mr. Joseph A. Bauters

M/M Thomas J Bauters

Ma Datti Daalimaa

Ms. Betty Beckman

Mrs. Kathleen M. Beeler

Ms. Carla Beres M/M Donald Berta

M/M Mike Bieganski

Mr. Alan Town

M/M Orlen Biltz

M/M Thomas Blum

M/M Walter Botich

Mrs. Jackie Boynton

M/M Joseph Bradley

M/M Brian Brady

M/M Paul Brady

Mrs. Loretta Briedis

M/M James F. Brogle

Mrs. Nancy Brothers

M/M Thomas Burmeister

M/M Joseph Burt

Mrs. B.G. Butler

Mr. John Bycraft, Jr.

M/M John Byler

Dr. Kevin Campbell

and Dr. Joseph Hickey

D/M Thomas Capannari

M/M R.V. Casteel

M/M Eugene Cavanaugh

Ms. Melanie Chapleau

Dr. Isabel Charles

Ms. Joei Cherry

Mrs. Loretta Chillag

M/M James Chrzan

M/M James Cierzniak

D/M Robert Clemency

M/M Robert Cleppe

M/M Forrest Coahran

M/M Jim Cooke

M/M William Corbett

M/M Thomas Cosimano

M/M Paul Coughlin

D/M Brian Coulter

Ms. Mary Cozzie

D/M Xavier Creary

D/W Advier Creary

M/M George Cressy, Jr.

M/M Daniel Crossen

M/M Fred Crowe

Mr. Tom Crowley

M/M Lawrence Cunningham

Mrs. Esther Cyr

M/M Greg Danner

Drs. Philip and Mary De Pauw

M/M Michael DeCicco

Ms. Deborah Deery

M/M John Deguara

M/M Richard Dennen

M/M Ery Derda

M/M John E. Derwent

M/M Thomas Desmond

M/M Jim Dewald

Mrs. Madeline Deyerling

Mrs. Geraldine Dickey

M/M Bernard Diedrich

M/M Patrick Dittrich

M/M Michael Dobson

M/M James Dominello

D/M Timothy Durham

M/M David Eckrich

M/M Ronald Emanoil

D/M Howard Engel

Prof. and Mrs. J. Nicholas Entrikin

M/M John Felicelli

Ms. Nancy Filley

Ms. Catherine Fitzpatrick

M/M Jerry Fitzpatrick

M/M William Fitzsimmons

M/M Dan Florin

Mrs. Patricia Flowers

M/M Thomas Fogle

M/M Craig Foy

Friends of Christ Child

M/M James Fuehrmeye

M/M Daniel Fulcher

M/M Donald Galeziewski

M/M Rodney Ganey

Ms. Susan Ganser

M/M Larry Gardner

M/M James Gibbons

M/M Jerry Giolitto

M/M Jack Gordon

M/M Bernard Gorski

M/M James Graft

M/M Larry Grauvogel

M/M John Gregg

M/M James Greve

Ms. Janne Grogan

D/M David Country

D/M Paul Guentert

M/M Roger Gurthet

M/M John Halloran

M/M Michael Haluda

M/M Edward Hardig

M/M Larry Harding

Mrs. Bonnie Hay

D/M Chris Hazel

M/M Edward Healy

Mrs. Darlene Heck

M/M Bernard Henely Rev. Theodore Hesburgh CSC

Tiev. Theodore i

M/M John Hess M/M John Hiler

M/M Fredric Hillebrand

M/M William Hochstetter

IVI/IVI VVIIIIaIII IIO

M/M James Holt

Mrs. Margaret Hosinski

Mrs. Martha Hosinski

M/M Scott Howland

D/M Thomas Hughes

M/M Anthony Hyder

M/M Joseph lams

D/M Frank Incropera M/M Frank James

D/M John Jenkins

M/M Sam Jermano

Mrs. Dorothy Jeske

M/M Scott Jessup

M/M William Johnson

M/M Michael Joines

M/M David Jones

M/M Sam Jones

Ms. Pat Jones

M/M Ronald Jordan M/M Paul Joubert

M/M John Julien

M/M Fred Kagel

M/M Leonard Kanczuzewski

M/M Fred Kanouse M/M Ben Karasiak M/M Jerome Kearns Ms. Clare Keefe D/M John Kelbel

Mrs. Kathryn Kessler-Dolojan

Mr. Greg Ketcham M/M John Killeen M/M Karl G. King M/M Andrew Klawitter M/M William Klem M/M Thomas Klimek

Knights of Columbus #1878

Mr. Alan Kniola Miss Ann Korb M/M Bud Kosse M/M Michael Krizman Mr. Michael J. Kruk M/M Hubert Kuzmich Mr. Michael Kuzmich Mrs. Kathy Lanphere M/M Kenneth Lauer Mr. William Leahy Ms. Laura Leblang M/M Peter Letherman M/M Thomas Liddell M/M James Lipetska Ms. Barbara Lobdell Dr. Peter Lombardo M/M Michael Low

M/M Donald Lundberg

Mrs. Patricia MacDonald

D/M Paul Macri Mrs. Kaye Mahalick Mr. Scott Malpass Ms. Sara Marcus M/M Michael Marien M/M Jerry Marley M/M Jim Martin M/M Otto Martinec Ms. Ellen Matthews M/M Laurence Mc Hugh M/M Richard McCoy D/M Donald McGowan M/M Ronald McKay Mr. Paul McMahon M/M Robert Meuleman

M/M Kurt Meyer M/M Del Meyer M/M Steven Micinski M/M Lou Miller D/M Dennis Miller M/M Frank Moriconi

M/M Peter Mullen

Col./Mrs. Norman Muller M/M David Murphy Ms. Karen Nagy M/M Donald Nash M/M Charles Nelson M/M Richard Niemann D/M Christopher Norborg M/M Thomas Nowak M/M John O'Malley M/M Lee Ornat Ms. June Pabst Mr. James Palicki

Ms. Nancy Paris M/M Ara Parseghian M/M Joseph Pataluch Dr. Paul Glass M/M John Peck M/M Kent Perry M/M Richard J. Pfeil

Mrs. Cecilia Pfledderer M/M John Phair M/M Casimer Pikuza M/M Patrick Pinnick Sr. Yolanda Pomante Dr. Thomas Poulin M/M Stephen Power M/M John Pycik D/M Gerald Quinn M/M Bernard Randall M/M Don Reber

M/M John Reed M/M John E Regan D/M Jan Reineke M/M William Reinke M/M Kenneth Reising M/M John Reiter Ms. Joann Reitz M/M Dean Riggs

Mrs. Ann Riley

Judge/Mrs. Kenneth Ripple M/M Warren Verterano Ms. Margaret Rodriguez M/M Charles Roemer M/M Peter Rumely

Ms. Delictia Jones and Friends

Mrs. Frances Sain D/M James Schalliol M/M George Schilling M/M Fred Schmiedeler

M/M Paul Schoenle and Family

Mr. Dennis Schwartz M/M John Scott Mrs. Kathryn Screes M/M Stephen Seall

D/M Richard Seall M/M John Seidl Ms. Kate Sheehan Ms. Jean Sheridan M/M Gary Shingledecker D/M Stephen Silliman M/M Joseph Simeri M/M David Simons Mrs. Patricia Skudlarek M/M Thomas Slamkowski

Mrs. Patricia Sloan M/M Douglas Small D/M David Spalding M/M George Spohrer Msgr. Bill Schooler Ms. Betty Strantz Ms. Lorraine Szymanski

Mrs. Pat Tassell D/M Atef Tawadros Ms. Karol Griffin M/M Sonny Tepe Ms. Hayley Tessier Ms. Mary Michelfeder Ms. Jean Thomas Ms. Catherine Thurin M/M Jack Trant M/M Peter Trybula

Mrs. Winifred Vanden Bossche

M/M James Vander Kam Ms. Rosan Vanderhagen M/M Earl Vandygriff Mrs. Elizabeth Varga M/M Brad Varner Ms. Jean Vavul

Mrs. Elizabeth Veldman

M/M Theo Veldman Mrs. Wilma Veldman M/M James W. Voth Mrs. Catherine Vroman M/M David Walsh Ms. Virginia Warner Ms. Kay Weber Mrs. Kathleen Welsh M/M James Wenke M/M Paul White M/M Larry Wittenbrink M/M C. Edward Wray M/M Christopher Wynne

M/M Joel L. Yoder M/M James Yohe M/M John Young Mrs. Virginia Zellers M/M Donald Zimlich M/M Glenn Zubler

# **Clothe-A-Child Donors**

#### In Honor of

Judy Burmeister (M/M Michael Burmeister)

The Carney Sisters (M/M Walter Bartkowiak)

Puddy Crowley (M/M Thomas Cahir) Nimbilasha Cushing (Mrs. Barbara Mangione)

Jeanne Desmond (D/M Michael Desmond)

Rev. Kenneth Grabner CSC (M/M Patrick O'Malley)

Donna Greenawalt (M/M Robert Circosta)

Ed and Joan Hardig (Ms. Mary Lou Wolfe)

Beatriz Jaramillo (Ms. Mary Connolly)

Mary Ann Jones (Ms. Mary Kathleen Roberts)

Seven Grandchildren Kubiak (M/M Edward Kubiak)

Bill LaVelle (M/M Steven Merrill)
Phoebe Patton (M/M Thomas Cahir)
Mary Ann and Bernie Randall (M/M
David Shevitz)

Peg Riggs (M/M John Bycraft) Maureen Watters (Mrs. Julie Considine)

### In Memory of

Dick Badics (Ms. Jacqueline Badics)
Martha Bara (M/M William Quig)
Raymond Black (Mrs. Anne Black)
Dr. Les Bodnar (Mr Phil Krause and
Ms. Jacquelyn Stephens)
Jim Boehnlein (Mrs. Diane Boehn-

Paul Bognar (Ms. Charlotte Voorde)
Marian Brems (Mrs. Barb Flynn)
Elaine Brents (M/M Edward Durbin)
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Toenn Neuhoff)

Toepp Neuhoff) Shona Burkart (M/M Bruce Burkart)

Shona Burkart (M/M Timothy Dennig) Kelly Burns-Mack (M/M William Mack)

Ernie Butts (Mrs. Mary Ann Butts)
Helen M. Carey (M/M David Huber)
Gabriel Carlson (Ms. Jacqueline
Badics)

D/M S.G. Cilella (Ms. Mary Ann Cilella)

Don Claeys (Mrs. Margaret Claeys)
Don Claeys (Mrs. Elizabeth Gilmore)
Jeanette Conboy (Ms. Sarah Ann
Gravitt)

Puddy and Jerome Crowley (M/M Thomas Cahir)

Rosaleen Crowley (M/M Joseph Crowley)

Michael DeCicco (Ms. Lauren Romeo)

Bernadette Dempsey (Mr. Kenneth Dempsey)

Grace Dempsey (Ms. Sheila Emge) Matthew Dempsey (Mr. Kenneth Dempsey)

Sara Durbin (M/M Edward Durbin)
Joseph Fitt (Mrs. Joan Fitt)
Catherine Flynn (Mrs. Kathleen
Flynn Fox)

Eugene and Josephine Geissler (M/M Mark Geissler)

Violet Gorski Hurley (M/M Charles Hurley)

Stanley Harlozinski (Miss Sharon Harlozinski)

Nancy Healy (M/M John Sullivan)
Ruth Herring (M/M Dan Skodras)
Robert Hurst (Mrs. Judith Hurst)
Rita Jun (M/M David Remley)
Diane Killilea (M/M Kevin Killilea)
Diane Killilea (M/M Robert Kowalski)
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Timothy Lake (M/M Brian Lake)
Timothy Lake (M/M James Sieradzki)
Arlene Learnard (M/M Roger Parent)
Mary Patricia Leyes (M/M Richard
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Thomas Lower (Mrs. Catherine Lower)

Jim & Eileen Manley (Mrs. Helen Manley)

Thomas Mason (M/M Emil Hofman)
Tom Mason (M/M William Sexton)
Ralph & Virginia Michaels (M/M Daniel Skwarcan)

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(Ms. Jacqueline Badics)

Beverly J. Wilfert (M/M Larry Spromberg)

Patrcia Zych (M/M Joseph Corcoran)

\$57,946.00

# What Does National Christ Child Society Do for You?

Sometimes it is easy to forget that we are part of a large national organization as we get focused on buying coats and shoes, packing layettes and getting to the clothing center on a snowy Wednesday. But we are one of 44 chapters with more in formation. In other words, CCS is a vibrant and growing organization based on the mission established by Mary Virginia Merrick 128 years ago.

The National Board is made up of members nominated from across the country; currently, two are from the South Bend chapter. The current board has been very busy with tasks including researching deep discount clothing that can be distributed by all chapters, developing a more current marketing brand that clearly expresses our mission, developing strategies for attracting new members to all of the chapters, and searching for materials and strategies for chapter program development.

The most obvious work that National does is to plan and present conferences (in odd years) and more extensive conventions (in even years) which give all chapter leaders tools to improve, nurture and grow their chapters. In addition, these meetings are an opportunity to network, share ideas and spread enthusiasm for our mission. The National Board also offers educational teleconferences to chapter leadership on a variety of helpful topics. The board is genuinely interested in the growth and vitality of all chapters. As evidence, the National President has traveled to our South Bend Chapter for two consecutive years to watch us "in action" and attend our Let Love Shine dinner auction.

All information about National Christ Child Society can be found by going to www.nationalchristchildsociety.org (username: chapter, password: redwagon). This website is your gateway to all that is going on in all the other chapters, as well as with National. Go to the Chapters By City tab and explore what is happening across the country to "challenge poverty one child at a time."

# Visit to Clothing Center Has Positive Visitor Reaction

On March 6, 2015, eight members of St Joseph High School staff and teachers came to the Clothing Center to see what we do. Andrea Incropera, Sue Walsh, Peg Riggs, and her son Drew, gave the teachers a tour and put them to work assembling Layettes of Hope for Women's Care Center. While they were working, they inquired about our mission. Members were eager to talk about Christ Child - answering many questions.

On March 20, Christ Child Society received the following note:

Dear Mrs. Riggs,

We are grateful for the opportunity to learn more about

the Christ Child Society when we came to serve for a few hours earlier this month. We hope the enclosed donation will help you continue this wonderful ministry.

May God bless your work.

Sincerely,

Paul and Jennifer Carrier

Paul teaches biology and is the assistant football coach. Jennifer teaches theology. They are parishioners at Corpus Christi in South Bend.

This is just one example of how inviting volunteers in to the Clothing Center to see the Christ Child mission in action can have a positive impact.





Work contnues at the Clothing Center during the summer, restocking and taking inventory to be open in August.

But it's not all work - it's sharing friendships and fun.

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



**Return Service Requested** 

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### Strategic Plan 2014 - Hire an Administrative Assistant

In the October 2014 newsletter, the Strategic Plan of 2014 was outlined. Now let's take a look at one of the recommendations that has gone into effect

The strategic plan recommended we hire an administrative assistant to work as an office employee at the Center. This person should have or easily acquire knowledge of the Christ Child Society and its history and operations in the South Bend Chapter. This would be a part-time position with number of hours determined by the activity at the Center during the year.

The demands on officers and chairmen make them nearly full time jobs, which limits the volunteer base upon which to draw. In addition, Donor Perfect, the computer program that is designed to keep track of not only our donors, but also all of our members, is under utilized, as is our in-house printing capability. Hiring an assistant would facilitate communications, deliveries of clothing and committee tasks. The hiring of an assistant was actually voted on and approved in 2008-9, but was never enacted.

Tori Williams was hired in July 2014. Since she has worked for Christ Child, she has jumped right in. Mary Liddell was instrumental in teaching her Donor Perfect. With that knowledge, she was able to help with one of our longest running fundraisers, Clothe

A Child I. To quote Judy Kuzmich, "Kathy Seidl and I chaired the Clothe-A-Child I campaign in the fall of 2014 and Tori so graciously helped with all duties of incoming donations at the Center. She made our job so much easier and because of that we were happy to say we would chair this fundraiser again in 2015. Kudos to you, Tori. You are truly a blessing to our South Bend Chapter of The Christ Child Society."

Now that Donor Perfect is being used the way it was intended, the Fall and Spring Luncheons have been tracked, with attendance and better record keeping for upcoming chairpersons. Marti Moriconi, co-chair of the fall luncheon says, "I found that having Tori accept the reservations for the Fall Luncheon made my job much easier. I had time to concentrate on other details and didn't have to deal with the money.

Derby Day added an element of reservations as well as raffle tickets. The Donor Perfect system is equipped to handle it and it has made the event guests and their purchases easier to track.

Having an assistant at the Center helps with mail, member questions, client phone calls and emails, as well as being an essential part of our committees. Tori is an asset to the Society!