



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

MISSION STATEMENT

The Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh is a non-profit Catholic association of lay volunteers embracing members of all denominations, expressing its members' love of the Christ Child through service to God's children regardless of race, color or creed.

June 2017

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DIANE DONOVAN

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MARY ANN MCDERMOTT

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MARY ANN GONOT

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MOLLY KELLEY
JUDY KERN
PAT MAIDA
ELLEN O'BRIEN

NEWSLETTER

JUDY KERN

Dear Members,

I can not believe that it is June already! With this month it reminds me that our CCS year will soon be ending. We have once again accomplished so much this past year.

Along with having a successful year with Angel's Closet and Layettees we have created Strategic Goals for our chapter and have been busy working on better organizing our committees for our programs. We have added an after school and summer program, **All of Us Care** in Sharpsburg, as another volunteer opportunity to help make a difference in a child's life. We have added several new agencies where Layettees and My Stuff Bags are able to be distributed. Our website will be updated over the Summer months. And our Board is currently in the process of reviewing our chapter By Laws. Thank you all for your hard work, your diligence, your cooperation and giving of all of your time and talents to our chapter!

Over the Summer months we will continue to plan our Fall Christ Child Society membership drive for our chapter, and of course Janet Mascaro and the Red Wagon Committee members will continue to plan our Red Wagon Fare that will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2017.

Remember that Camp Aim has three dates this Summer where we can be of help to the campers and have a gratifying experience.

Please remember to take every opportunity you can to raise awareness of The Christ Child Society by letting people know “ **Who** we are, **What** we do and **Why** it is important”!

“The spirit of the Christ Child Society is one of personal love for the Christ Child expressing itself in the personal service for the least of His little ones”.
(Mary Virginia Merrick)

Wishing all our members a very healthy, happy and safe Summer!

Dottie Talarico, President

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

If you have not already done so, please send a copy of your Certificate of Attendance for the "Protecting God's Children" Class to Janet Mascaro. A letter from your parish safe environment coordinator indicating you attended the class would also be appropriate.

RED WAGON LUNCHEON

From Janet Mascaro

On June 13, 2017, I will be meeting with Chelsea from the Pittsburgh Field Club to discuss menus, pricing, and set-up for our Red Wagon luncheon. All of the information will be provided at the Red Wagon Committee Chairpersons meeting on **June 15th at 10:00 AM** prior to the general meeting. The information decided at this meeting will be final and also will be the basis of the information we will use for Save the Date cards, grand raffle tickets, and invitations. The following are our committees for 2017; the chairpersons are starred:

Printing/Mailing- *Ellen O'Brien, Mary Ann McDermott

Gift Baskets/Door Prizes- *Judy Kern, Pat Maida, Ellen O'Brien

Purse Auction- *Cheryl George

Basket of Cheer- *Molly Kelley, Joanne Herrmann, Mary Ellen Ploeger

Money Raffles - *Diane Donovan, Charlotte Collins, Carolyn Green

Publicity- *Carole Gilardi

Reservations and Registration- *Marian Flowers, Mary Ann Gonot, Ellen O'Brien,
Mary Ann McDermott, Marilyn Dabkowski

Solicitations- *Mary Jane Diamantopulos, Suzette Venturini

Volunteers- *Suzette Venturini, Joyce Orr

Centerpieces- *Pam Diulus, Theresa Magnotta, Marlene MacDonald, Joan Driscoll

Silent Auction- *Theresa Magnotta, Pam Diulus, Marlene MacDonald, Mary McCormick,
Suzette Venturini

Chairpersons, please contact your committee members to keep them updated on your committee's tasks. Also, if you are willing to donate a basket for the Basket Auction and have not already signed up to do so, please contact Judy Kern or Pat Maida.

DISCUSSION ITEMS ~ JUNE 15TH MEETING:

1. Design of Save the Date and Invitations.
2. Program design and format
3. How door prizes and centerpieces will be distributed
4. Purse auction
5. Basket of Cheer
6. Vendors
7. Entertainment
8. Publicity ideas
9. Silent Auction

If you need to contact me, please e-mail me at mascaro.janet@gmail.com or call 412-795-5810 or 412-779-4256.

Thank you for your willingness to serve on the Red Wagon Committees!!



ANGELS' CLOSET 2017 ... *From Molly Kelley*

ANGEL'S CLOSET OPENING has not been confirmed but is tentatively set for OCTOBER 6TH. If any member happens upon coats on sale (\$23.00 or under — any size) please feel free to purchase them. Please send your receipts to the treasurer, Diane Donovan, for reimbursement, and keep a copy for yourself. Thank you!

CAMP AIM 2017 ... *From Molly Kelley*

CAMP AIM is scheduled to open on June 12th for six weeks. The campers arrive each day at 9 AM from all parts of Allegheny County. They are bused by their school districts. A few are driven by their families.

Christ Child has been asked to help on the following dates:

June 23rd (Friday) — Artapaloosa Day

when we will help with various arts and craft activities and serve a PASTA LUNCH provided by our organization.

July 5th (Wednesday) —

we have been asked to help at tables for DINOSAUR DAY, a program by Carnegie Museum.

July 19th (Wednesday) —

the PROM will be held. That day we will help the campers get ready for prom, decorate the room and make corsages and bouquets for the prom goers. If you can make it on any of these days call MOLLY KELLEY at 412-963-7063 or email MOLK11@COMCAST.NET. Camp is expecting 160 boys and girls this year so all volunteers will be appreciated. Hope to see you there! Thanks!

LAYETTES ... *From Charlotte Collins*

CCS has recently delivered 26 Layette Bags to various places. Marian Flowers delivered 12 Layettes to PCUC, Dottie Talarico delivered 4 Layettes to Jeremiah's Place in Homewood and Charlotte Collins delivered 20 Layettes to Genesis of Pittsburgh. Genesis of Pittsburgh is another organization in which CCS is now servicing. Genesis of Pittsburgh helps young women facing unplanned pregnancy with education, housing, counseling and supplies for their newborn.

We are looking for anyone who would like to help with knitting blankets for our Layette Bags. Right now we have 2 ladies in retirement communities who help, but we could always use more knitters. If you know of anyone, please contact Charlotte Collins.

MY STUFF BAGS ... *Joyce Orr and Dottie Talarico*

In May we delivered 20 My Stuff Bags to Jeremiah's Place which is housed in Larimer's Kingsley Center in Homewood. Jeremiah's Place is a crisis nursery that provides free childcare and temporary housing to children whose families may be facing an emergency situation. The parents are then connected to social services to direct them to resources to help them to overcome their challenging situations. Jeremiah's Place cares for children from the age of infancy to about 6 years of age. We also recently delivered 20 My Stuff Bags to Genesis of Pittsburgh at their Learning Center location in Bellevue. The Genesis Center offers programs and services to pregnant women and their families when they are facing challenging situations. The center offers parenting classes, pregnancy testing, and they distribute baby equipment and clothing for infants and younger siblings. They also offer a residence where mothers who are experiencing a crisis can stay during their pregnancy.

We will be scheduling a My Stuff Bag packing in the early Fall. More information and details to follow.

MEMBERSHIP ... *From Mary McCormick*

As of June 1, 2017, the Christ Child Society Membership count:

Sustaining members - 15

Active members - 37

Judy Kern is currently working on member updates and revisions for our new **2017 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**. It is hopeful the new directory will be available for member distribution in late July.

ALL OF US CARE ... *From Joanne Herrmann*

Christ Child has added a new committee, **ALL OF US CARE**, Volunteers of America Program which engages "at-risk" children between the ages of 7 -18 in positive after-school and summer programs and projects at **THE ALL OF US CARE** center at 1650 Main Street in Sharpsburg. Volunteers of the Christ Child Society will be giving their time, talents and resources for these children. Anyone interested in serving on the committee can contact:

Joanne Herrmann - 412 855 4292

or

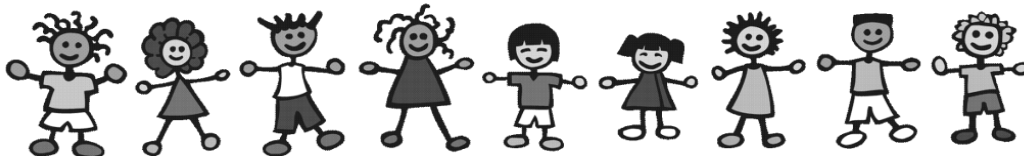
Ruby Wilkosz - 412 585 5293 (cell) or 412 782 5344 (work).

CLEARANCES

If you wish to work with children through our new partnership with ALL OF US CARE, you will need current child abuse and criminal history clearances. Clearances for volunteers are free and are good for 5 years.

To obtain your criminal background clearance, go to
<https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home>.

To obtain your child abuse clearance, go to
<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>.



Thank You to Ruby Wilkosz!

At our May meeting of The Christ Child Society we welcomed Ruby Wilkosz to speak to our chapter. Ruby is the Director of **ALL OF US CARE**, a program of Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania, serving children by providing after school and summer activities. **ALL OF US CARE** is located in Sharpsburg.

Our chapter recently decided to include **ALL OF US CARE** as one of our volunteer programs. It was very helpful to have Ruby explain an overview of the program, and to explain where our level of involvement would be a positive for all of the children that they serve. Ruby did give the members a calendar of events for the summer months at **ALL OF US CARE**.

Please consider volunteering time to some of the programs. I am sure that it will be a very rewarding experience!

Contact Joanne Herrmann for more information or watch for emails that will give us volunteer opportunities at **ALL OF US CARE**.

IN THE NEWS. . . .

Blanket Project with Good Shepherd Church

At our meeting in June, Vickie Wiley from Good Shepherd Church will share ideas with our chapter about the project that we are planning to do jointly with The Good Shepherd Church. We are hoping to do this project with the children who attend All of Us Care to encourage community service with them. In the fall we will work together with Good Shepherd to make blankets for the Lutheran Relief World Organization. The blankets will be distributed to countries that are in need. More information will follow at our August meeting.

****DON'T FORGET!!

According to our Strategic Plan Goals for our Chapter each committee chairperson should provide a written synopsis of their committee's functioning by June 17, 2017 to the President. This overview of the committees should include the committee's goals, duties of members and the process of the committee functioning. To complete this the chairpersons are able to use the form that was provided at the April and May meetings.

DONATIONS TO THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

IN MEMORY OF:

MARY ANN MERZLAK

FROM:

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Halbedl

DONATIONS:

\$200.00 from St. Athanasius Church



CC DONATIONS, TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

Please use the following donation form for any tribute gift or general donation to the Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh. We hope to have this form available in the near future on our website at... www.christchildsocietyofpittsburgh.org

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH DONATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Amount of donation: ___\$50.00 ___\$25.00 ___\$10.00 \$ _____ other amount

___ in honor of ___ in memory of ___ in thanksgiving for

Name _____

Please send an acknowledgement of my gift to:

Name _____

Address _____

Please enclose this form and your check payable to the "Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh" and mail to:

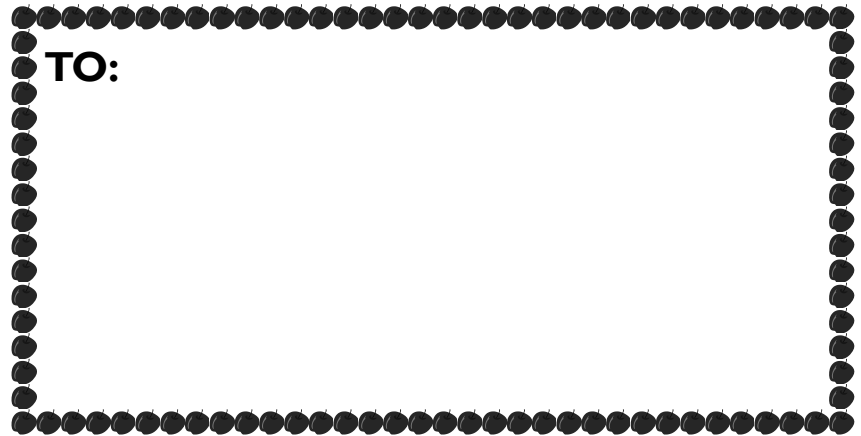
Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh
Diane Donovan
538 Springwood Drive
Verona, PA 15147

Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh is a 501(c)3 (non-profit) organization. Your donation qualifies as a charitable deduction.

Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh

P.O. Box 11324
Pittsburgh, PA 15238-1324
www.christchildsocietyofpittsburgh.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Dates to Remember

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Thursday, August 17 | - GENERAL MEETING - 12:15 P.M. LUNCH 11:30 A.M. |
| Saturday, October 21 | - RED WAGON FARE, PITTSBURGH FIELD CLUB |
| Thursday, November 2 | - CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH -
25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION MASS & LUNCH |
| Tuesday, December 5 | - CHRISTMAS PARTY |

NOTEWORTHY:

- Thank you to the following Lunch Coordinators for serving a delicious lunch!!
April 20th General Meeting: **MARION FLOWERS and MOLLY KELLEY**
May 18th General Meeting: **CAROLE GILARDI and PAT SCHIMMEL**
- The next scheduled publication of the CCS newsletter will be in September.
Please **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and submit all information for this newsletter to Judy Kern by August 25.