



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.

April 2018

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NEWSLETTER

JUDY KERN

Dear Members,

I hope that all of you celebrated a very happy Easter and are thinking Spring!

Soon after moving to Pittsburgh several years ago I was very fortunate to open my parish bulletin one Sunday morning to see an announcement about joining The Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh. I had previously been a member of The Christ Child Society so I was very glad that I would be able to join in Pittsburgh where I knew that I would have the opportunity to volunteer to help children who might be in need.

I am so thankful that I “found” our group three years ago! I am so very grateful for the wonderful women I have met and for the relationships that I have formed. I have shared with all of you the commitment to the mission of Mary Virginia Merrick, to find a need and to respond by making a difference in the lives of children. Our group of very dedicated and generous members have done just that with our organization’s programs and our service to children in our community!

I would like to acknowledge and thank the Officers and the Board that I have worked with for the last two years. You have all been wonderful to work with!

I am happy to Welcome our new Officers for 2017—2019 and I know that they will do an amazing job!

Please join all of our members on **Thursday May 17, 2018** at our Center at All Saints School for our installation of our new officers. A catered lunch will follow the installation ceremony.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for all that you do to honor the Christ Child!

Dottie Talarico, President

RED WAGON Changes Season!

From Janet Mascaro

By popular vote, our Red Wagon Luncheon has been moved to the Spring!! The date will be April 27, 2019 at the Pittsburgh Field Club. Committees have been formed and many members have signed up even at this early date. Help is still needed on the following committees:

Gift Baskets/Door Prizes

Centerpieces

Silent Auction

Our organizational meeting will be held prior to the June 21, 2018 general meeting. If you are interested in helping, please contact Janet Mascaro at mascaro.janet@gmail.com or 412-795-5810. Thanks to all who signed up so far!!

ALL OF US CARE

... From Joanne Herrmann

This year The Christ Child Society donated a seven foot Christmas tree to AOUC. The kids loved it and painted ball decorations for the tree. They also decorated creatively small Christmas trees with different ornaments to take home to their families.

Now that the New Year has begun, we are planning more craft projects. We need volunteers to help with Pine Cone Bird Feeders, decorating ceramic plates, and decorating cookies.

Anyone who could volunteer, please call Joanne Herrmann at 412 855 4292 or Tarcia Rebeiz, 412 623 9783.



ANGELS' CLOSET 2017

... From Molly Kelley

While the angels are sleeping, "Shopper Angels" have been busy filling up the inventory with wonderful bargains. Thanks to all who have added to our beautiful selection of coats. Please feel free to continue to buy at good bargain prices of \$23.00 or less. Questionscall Molly. Thanks!

CAMP AIM

... From Molly Kelley



Christ Child Society will once again support Camp Aim both with hands on help as requested by camp and also by financial support. Monies used by our donation will go directly to buy equipment and activities for the campers as needed in the various departments. Camp is scheduled to open **JUNE 11** and will run for 6 weeks. At this time due to changes in the art department, a list of needs is unavailable. Molly Kelley will send out a list

when needs are decided. For those new members, Camp is held at Carlynton High School from 9 am. to 2 pm. Monday thru Friday. If you would like to visit during those times please call Molly @ 412 963 7063. Dates when we will be asked to help are not available yet. Please keep in mind Camp Aim requires clearances. For more information on Camp Aim go to their web site @YMCA / Camp AIM Pittsburgh.

LAYETTES

... From Charlotte Collins

The Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh has been busy delivering Layettes to various places. Pam Diulus and Theresa Magnotta delivered 30 Layettes to Mercy Hospital in January. In March, Marian Flowers gave 10 Layettes to Mary Katherine Scanlon for PCUC and Charlotte Collins delivered 10 Layettes to Genesis of Pittsburgh. A big **"Thank You"** to **Theresa Magnotta** for making fleece blankets. Our senior citizens, who crochet blankets for us, can only do so many and Theresa has been a great help in adding to our supply of blankets. **The CCD students of All Saints Parish donated to our Layette program diapers, wipes, bottles, socks, blankets and clothes. We are very thankful for their donations.**

MEMBERSHIP

... *From Dottie Talarico*

We need to grow our chapter's membership! To facilitate membership recruitment we need to spread the word about CCS to the community! Please do not forget to be your "Parish Coordinator"! Whenever possible the parish coordinator will share Who We Are, What We Do and Why We Do our volunteer work! I recently sent an email to all of our members with the information that was discussed at our last meeting about membership. In April or early May please take this announcement regarding membership to your parish and inquire about having it included in your parish bulletin. The parish secretary may give you another contact name to direct the article to since many parishes have a specific person develop their weekly bulletin.

MY STUFF BAGS

... *Joyce Orr and Dottie Talarico*

We have delivered three dozen sleepers to Genesis for children ages 12 months to 24 months. If anyone has any suggestions for places where we could donate children's clothing please let us know.



Committee chairpersons please complete your annual committee report by

May 17, 2018

and give to Dottie. If you need an additional blank copy of report please let Dottie know.

CHRIST CHILD MOURNS

In early March our long time member, **Barbara Fredette** passed away. She left her two sons, John and Larry, two grandchildren, Alyssa and Eric, cousins, and many friends. Barbara experienced personal losses early in her life, but with support of others, managed to raise her sons while teaching and earning her Doctorate. She was an accomplished teacher, artist and photographer. After retiring from the University of Pittsburgh as Associate Professor of Elementary Education, Barbara joined Christ Child reflecting her devotion to children. She served as Treasurer, and for many years was a member of the Christ Child Board. We can all remember her beautiful art cards she sold at our Red Wagon luncheons, and donated all profits to Christ Child. May you Rest In Peace, **Barbara**, and May the Perpetual Light Shine Upon You.

CHRIST CHILD EXTENDS CONDOLENCES

In March, our member, Kathleen Lee and her husband Bob lost their daughter Maria at the age of 50. Maria leaves four siblings, many nieces, nephews and cousins. She attended St. Anthony School, participated in Special Olympics, and loved bowling. Maria was a bright and friendly woman, who was beloved by all who knew her. Many of us in Christ Child will remember Maria coming to our Red Wagon luncheons several times with Kathleen.

As members of Christ Child we all have a deep interest in the welfare of children, and are saddened to know that Kathleen, Bob and the extended Lee family have lost a vital member. We extend our prayers for the repose of the soul of Maria, and that all the Lees will remember her with joy.

May the Perpetual Light Shine Upon You Maria, and May you Rest In Peace.



NATIONAL CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY
WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

What Is the National Christ Child Society?

As we immerse ourselves in our chapter work, it is easy to forget that we are all part of something much bigger - the National Christ Child Society with 43 chapters and 6,000 members nationwide! NCCS's Executive Director Carolyn Pumphrey, the staff, and the National Board help new chapters form, help existing chapters operate effectively and make sure that chapters stay true to the mission of the organization - serving children in need, for the love of the Christ Child. NCCS provides educational materials and guidelines, serves as a resource for questions as local chapter officers turn over, and hosts national conventions and conferences to educate and unify the chapters. National Board members lead seminars and workshops, depending on their areas of expertise. In addition, NCCS holds educational webinars throughout the year on topics that range from treasurer tips to cultural awareness to communicating effectively, to name a few.

National board members work together on various committees, namely, membership, programs, communications, conference/convention planning, development and finance. Through committee work, they provide chapter leaders with the tangible tools and information they need to grow and improve their chapters. For example, the Program committee developed the "Calm Your Baby" card and the revised blanket warning tag and NCCS made them available to chapters at no cost. One of NCCS' Strategic Plan goals is for 80% of our chapters to have a literacy program in place by the end of this year, since studies show that early exposure to reading can significantly improve a child's success in school and in life. With this goal in mind, the program committee developed the "Read to Me" card -again available to chapters at no cost, to be included in your signature layettes and the committee is working on best practices so chapters who do not have a literacy or reading program, can start one.

The Communications committee developed new branding guidelines so that we can present a unified look. Each chapter was given various templates and materials to help them achieve this goal. And recently, the revised National website was launched, designed to be easy for all chapter members to access any information they are looking for! The Communications committee also united all the chapters as we participated in our second annual nationwide volunteer day of service-Make a Difference Day.

ANY CCS member is eligible to become a National Board member. You may think it sounds like a lot of work but the rewards that are received far outweigh the time we give. Listen to what some of the current board members have to say:

"Working with the NCCS Board has been an exceptional experience...This group's energy seems to be limitless and is charged by love": Mary Jo Dawson, CCS of Detroit and NCCS Vice President.

"...being on the National Board has opened my eyes to so many wonderful women who not only help children locally but help needy children nationally by assisting our chapters across the country": Lambi Newsham, CCS of Summit County, NCCS Vice President

"...Serving with so many other dedicated volunteers has been an amazing blessing in my life": Anne Kelley, CCS of Monterey Bay, NCCS Immediate Past President.

"...Serving on the National Board for these past few years has been fun and rewarding, giving me the chance to get to know the Society's great work and its dedicated members from around the country." Melanie Mbuyi, CCS of Washington DC and NCCS Director at Large.

To learn more about the national impact of NCCS and to see all the materials mentioned above and more, visit www.nationalchristchild.org.

DONATIONS TO THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

TO:

Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh

FROM:

Fred and Ellen O'Brien

IN MEMORY OF:

CHRISTOPHER BOGULSKI

Cel and Jerry McCabe

RUTH DOWLEY

Cel and Jerry McCabe

BARBARA FREDETTE

Dick and Mary Jo Kelly
Judy Kern
Marie Lowry
Pat Maida

ED O'CONNOR

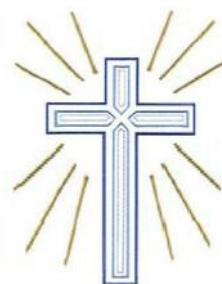
Cel and Jerry McCabe

JAMES F. O'DAY

James and Gretchen Coyne
Cel and Jerry McCabe

DAVID STEINMAN

James and Gretchen Coyne



Rest In Peace

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:

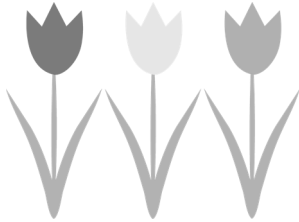
**Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh
Diane Donovan
538 Springwood Drive
Verona, PA 15147**

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.christchildsofittsburgh.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Dates to Remember

- Thursday, May 17** - **INSTALLATION LUNCHEON** - 12:00 NOON
CHRIST CHILD CENTER
- Thursday, June 21** - **GENERAL MEETING** - 12:15 P.M. LUNCH 11:30 A.M.
- Saturday, April 27, 2019** - **RED WAGON FARE**
PITTSBURGH FIELD CLUB

NOTEWORTHY:

- A very special thanks to Molly Kelley for making the delicious “Irish” lunch for our March general meeting, and to Joan Driscoll for providing the yummy desserts!
- Annual committee reports are due in to Dottie by May 17th.
- The next scheduled publication of the CCS newsletter will be in July. Please **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and submit all information for this newsletter to Judy Kern by Monday, July 2.