



# 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.

July 2018

Dear CCS members,

As your new president, I would like to say that I am honored to serve in this capacity. I know that I will be filling some very big shoes! Dottie was such a passionate and devoted president and I can only hope to provide you with the same quality leadership as she did. I thank her for her years of service as President and for her advice and counsel as I transition to this new role.

I would like to acknowledge the officers who will be serving with me- **Vice President – PAM DIULUS, Recording Secretary –SUZETTE VENTURINI, Corresponding Secretary – MARY ANN GONOT, and Treasurer –DIANE DONOVAN.** Our board members, according to our by-laws, will be our officers and standing committee chairpersons. They are Dottie Talarico, Past-President and chair of "My Stuff Bags" along with Joyce Orr, Charlotte Collins as chair of "Layettes," Molly Kelley as chair of "Angel's Closet," Joanne Herrmann as chair of "All of Us Care," Mary McCormick as chair of Membership, Judy Kern as Newsletter chairperson and Carole Gilardi as Publicity chairperson. Thanks to all who have agreed to be officers and committee chairs. Thank you also to those of you who have served as officers and board members in the past for we would not be such a viable organization without you!

Thinking about the two years ahead, I would like to focus on greater outreach with our existing ministries, provide more monetary resources to our missions, add more special one-time projects such as we did last Christmas with Conroy Education Center, and incorporate literacy into our ministries. We are also going to be adding a mentorship program under the direction of our Vice-President, Pam Diulus, to help our new members feel fully knowledgeable about our mission and also feel comfortable and welcome within our organization. We will be reducing the number of our monthly general meetings to 4 per year but committees will meet as often as needed. Of course, Angel's closet will be our focus in the Fall. And Red Wagon Planning will begin in September and continue until the big event in April! I would hope we can be helpful and busy all year round!

I am looking forward to working with all of you this year to fulfill our mission of personal service for needy children and youth. Have a great summer!!

"Not all of us can do great things BUT we can do SMALL things with great love!"

In the name of the Christ Child,

**JANET**

## SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

REVEREND JEREMY MOHLER

## OFFICERS

**President**  
JANET MASCARO

**Vice-President**  
PAM DIULUS

**Treasurer**  
DIANE DONOVAN

**Recording Secretary**  
SUZETTE VENTURINI

**Corresponding Secretary**  
MARY ANN GONOT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHARLOTTE COLLINS  
CAROLE GILARDI  
JOANNE HERRMANN  
MOLLY KELLEY  
MARY MCCORMICK  
JOYCE ORR  
DOTTIE TALARICO

## NEWSLETTER

JUDY KERN

## RED WAGON LUNCHEON

...from Janet Mascaro

The official Red Wagon planning will begin September 20, 2018, prior to our next general meeting. The date for this event is April 27, 2019 at the Pittsburgh Field Club. Committees have been formed and many members have volunteered their time to work on these committees. **Thanks for such a great response to signing up!!** Following is a list of committees and members. The chairpersons are designated with a \*.

**Printing/Mailing-** \*Ellen O'Brien, Laura Merzlak

**Gift Baskets/Door Prizes-** \*Judy Kern, Theresa Magnotta, Marlene MacDonald, Suzette Venturini, Mary McCormick

**Purse Auction-** \*Carolyn Green, Dolores Butch, Pam Diulus

**Basket of Cheer-** \*Molly Kelley, Joann Herrmann, Doris Delserone, Pat McKenna

**Money raffles -** \*Diane Donovan, Charlotte Collins, Pat Schimmel

**Publicity-** \*Carole Gilardi

**Reservations and Registration-** \*Marian Flowers, Mary Ann Gonot

**Solicitations-** \*Mary Jane Diamantopulos

**Volunteers-** \*Suzette Venturini, Joyce Orr, Gerrie Orr

**Centerpieces-** \*Pam Diulus, Joan Driscoll, Jean Lombardi, Delores Butch, Chris McCarthy

*Thank you all for donating your time to this great event!*

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank Marion Flowers for emphasizing our mission to the ladies of the Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church Harvest Fair Committee. As a result, they have donated \$1500.00 to us which came as an unexpected and welcome surprise!! We are grateful to Marion for getting the word out about who we are and what we do!

## 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>.

## 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. Please note that our agreement to the use of All Saints Parish facilities included an assurance to Father Gretz that all current members had taken this class. New members can find information about this class at [diopitt.org](http://diopitt.org).

## SOCIAL NEWS

At our June 21<sup>st</sup> Board of Directors meeting, the Board felt it would be a good idea to have some guidelines for our organization as to what our chapter will do for certain life events of our membership. Do we send flowers, cards, memorial donations etc. as an organization? The members at the general meeting agreed to this idea and a committee was formed to draw up guidelines for life situations like bereavement, hospitalizations, and illness. The committee members are:

**Suzette Venturini, Doris Delserone and Phyllis Dombrowski.**

Thank you ladies for offering to help us draw up some standard practices.

## ALL OF US CARE

... From Joanne Herrmann

Beginning June 28 until August 17, the Summer Enrichment Series runs from Monday to Friday, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed for programs at the center during the week. Fridays are Field Trips. Please call AOUC at 412.782.5244 to volunteer.

Dinner is provided daily from 5 to 6pm. Volunteers are needed to help serve dinner. Another organization is providing the food. Again.....**please call 412.782.5244 to help!**

## ANGELS' CLOSET

... From Molly Kelley

Committee members have been shopping this summer and have again added some great coats to the inventory. We will be opening for business sometime in mid October. More info to follow. Thanks to all!

## CAMP AIM

... From Molly Kelley

CHRIST CHILD LADIES went to CAMP AIM in late June to help at ARTAPALOOZA and they served a pasta lunch to 150 plus campers and staff. Our donation funded the lunch. It was served outside from the concession stand and the weather was wonderful after a rainy morning. Camp was changed to Carnegie Elementary School for this summer only due to renovations taking place at the High School. Thanks to all who gave donations to the activities room and prom dresses. A big thanks to the "pasta pushers" It was fun... ladies.... you are the best!!!

## LAYETTES

... From Charlotte Collins

.....Pam Diulus and Theresa Magnotta made deliveries to Mercy Hospital with 25 Layettes this month. Marian Flowers delivered 10 Layettes to Mary Katherine Scanlon for the People Concerned for the Unborn Child. ....Friends of Marian Flowers are helping knit blankets for our Layette bags. A big thank you to these ladies! ....If anyone knows of any additional places that may need our services, please let me know. ....I will be scheduling another packing sometime in late August. I will contact committee members via email on the exact date.

## MEMBERSHIP

... From Mary McCormick

At our May 17th installation meeting, we installed three new members.. We welcomed *Jean Lombardi, Chris McCarthy and Gerri Orr* to our chapter. We are also pleased to welcome Dolores Butch who joined at our June 21st meeting! Dolores is a regular at our Red Wagon Fare and decided she would like to be a part of it all. We are thrilled to welcome all four new members and we look forward to getting to know them and work with them in the months and years to come! Please update your CC membership directory by adding the following info:

### DOLORES BUTCH

3999 Boulevard Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
412-421-1834      dbutch375@aol.com

### CHRIS McCARTHY

303 Rosslyn Avenue  
Springdale, PA 15144  
724-882-3342      cmccar9620@comcast.net

### JEAN LOMBARDI

216 Woodmont Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238  
412-828-5686      FRSD\_Lombardi@hotmail.com

### GERALDINE (Gerri) ORR

153 Connie Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15214  
412-931-1173      suvcwgro@aol.com

## MY STUFF BAGS

... From Dottie Talarico and Joyce Orr

We have recently contacted most of our agencies that we have donated children's clothing to in the past, but the only agency that continues to be in need is Genesis. If any of our members are able to think of any groups or agencies that might be in need please contact us and we will follow up with the contact.

Thank you!

## CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY —INSTALLATION LUNCHEON

The Christ Society of Pittsburgh held it's 2018 Installation Luncheon on Thursday, May 17 at Wildwood Golf Club in Allison Park. Lunch included a choice of Chicken Francaise or Cobb Salad. Three new members were installed and presented with their Christ Child pins. We are looking forward to working with our new members, **JEAN LOMBARDI, CHRIS MCCARTHY AND GERRI ORR**, as we advance our mission to serve children in need in the Pittsburgh area.



**Gerri Orr, Jean Lombardi and Chris McCarthy installed as new members by Dottie Talarico.**



**Janet Mascaro and Dottie Talarico**



**New President, Janet Mascaro, Out-going President, Dottie Talarico, and Vice President, Pam Diulus.**

## FROM THE NATIONAL CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

The **2018 NCCS Convention, "Sustaining our Mission"**, will be held in Milwaukee, WI, September 27th -September 29th, at the beautiful Pfister Hotel. The event will begin on Thursday morning with an optional Milwaukee sightseeing tour. Conference 2017's optional excursions were sold out and proved to us how much chapter members enjoyed getting to know each other in a relaxed, social atmosphere!

Two seminars will be offered on Thursday afternoon, both with a social media theme in mind. We will cover many Communications strategies including what makes for a great photo, how to use photos to tell your story, best ways to share photos, legal requirements for posting the pictures we take, and more.

Our Keynote speaker on Friday morning is Dr. Matthew D. Deevers, Senior Research Associate with the Summit Educational Initiative in Akron, OH. He will address sowing and nurturing the seeds of success in the children we serve. Attendees will leave the session with practical ideas to maintain passion, work with a purpose and develop relationships and programs that will persist for years to come. Since program development will be the theme for the day, a seminar on program development will follow and present the concept of working under a universal framework of helping children become the best they can be, finding a need and deciding how to fill it, and finding and working with partners. A Program Workshop with best practice chapter presenters will also be offered.

And new this year, we will offer a Q&A session on Friday afternoon with the NCCS Board and Staff to take any questions or concerns chapter attendees may have on our reports and budget which will be presented in the afternoon.

Saturday's seminars will cover the frequently requested topics of fundraising and membership. Our day will conclude with Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist where our new NCCS Board will be installed followed by dinner and awards at the renowned Wisconsin Club.

We are prepared to send two delegates to this meeting. One member has already definitely committed and another is on "hold "waiting to see if anyone else is interested. If you are, please contact Janet Mascaro as soon as possible.

The NCCS also has asked that we share this link to the National Sustain our Mission blog which has been set up by the National President, Marybeth Baucco: [blog.nationalchristchildsociety.org](http://blog.nationalchristchildsociety.org)

## WEBSITE NEWS

Sorry to say, we are back at square one with our website. We are in the process of trying to find a new developer. Dottie Talarico has worked so very hard to get that site up, but the developer dropped the ball on us. We have been given a name or two to pursue, so hopefully we can get that up in the next few months.

## CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH—GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

Hostesses: CHARLOTTE COLLINS and PAT SCHIMMEL

DECEMBER 4, 2018

Mini meeting at Christmas Luncheon

MARCH 14, 2019

Hostesses to be determined

JUNE 20, 2019

Hostesses to be determined

## DONATIONS TO THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

### FROM:

Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church Women

### IN MEMORY OF:

Marie Lee

Dr. and Mrs. Delserone

Ellen O'Brien

Barbara Fredette

Cheryl George

Ellen O'Brien

### IN HONOR OF:

Marilyn Dabkowski (birthday)

Jeffrey and Sandra Mertens

## 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](http://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

- |                                  |                                       |                  |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Thursday, September 20</b>    | - GENERAL MEETING - 12:15 P.M.        | LUNCH 11:30 A.M. |
|                                  | CHRIST CHILD CENTER                   |                  |
| <b>Tuesday, December 4</b>       | <b>- Christ Child Christmas Party</b> |                  |
|                                  | Scuglio's                             |                  |
| <b>Thursday, March 14, 2019</b>  | - GENERAL MEETING - 12:15 P.M.        | LUNCH 11:30 A.M. |
|                                  | CHRIST CHILD CENTER                   |                  |
| <b><u>SATURDAY, APRIL 27</u></b> | <b>- <u>RED WAGON FARE</u></b>        |                  |
|                                  | PITTSBURGH FIELD CLUB                 |                  |
| <b>Thursday, June 20</b>         | - GENERAL MEETING - 12:15 P.M.        | LUNCH 11:30 A.M. |
|                                  | CHRIST CHILD CENTER                   |                  |

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#### NOTEWORTHY:

- **ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!!!** Beginning in October, you will be receiving our next newsletter through your email rather than through a mailed copy. If you do not have an email address, then you will continue to receive it through regular mail.
- The next scheduled publication of the CCS newsletter will be in October. Please **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and submit all information for this newsletter to Judy Kern by Friday, October 5.