



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.

August, 2021

RED WAGON LUNCHEON

General Information

Our Red Wagon Luncheon will be held on November 6, 2021 at the Pittsburgh Field Club. Our theme will be *"Now We Give Thanks"* to signal our thanks for the pandemic being over and for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

"Save the Date" cards will be mailed early in September. The format will be a mini newsletter specially formatted to let invitees know about our services and to encourage membership.

Invitations will be mailed October 1, 2021 to be returned one week prior to event (October 30, 2021).

The price for luncheon tickets will remain at \$40.00.

Purse Auction

We have been promised 5 **DESIGNER** purses. We would like 6-8. Purses should have at least a \$100 retail value. We currently have one black, one navy, and one color blocked purse donated. Purses should be different colors with no duplicate colors so please do not buy the same colors as indicated above. We also need **GIFT CARD DONATIONS** to put into purses. Please give purses and gift cards to Carolyn Green.

Basket of Cheer

This year our cheer will be limited to **WINE and LIQUEURS** only. When donating, please purchase good quality wine and liqueurs. We must have all donations no later than October 7th at our general meeting. Please give them to Molly Kelley.

Money Raffles

The Grand raffle will remain at \$1000 and ticket prices will remain the same. We will have 50-50 and 20x your money envelopes with a limit of \$10.00 in the envelope.

Publicity

We will use our website, Facebook pages and a special newsletter to all invitees to advertise the event. We will also look at putting the information into parish bulletins.

Reservations and Registration

Marian Flowers and Mary Ann Gonot will once again be in charge of receiving reservations. Ellen O'Brien will compile the mailing list. **ALL ADDRESS CORRECTIONS FOR INVITEES AND NEW ADDRESSES SHOULD BE SENT TO ELLEN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.** Arrival time will be 10:45 AM with lunch at noon. Doors to lunch open at 11:45.

Centerpieces

Maria Kitay will look to get a donation of Fall mums from a florist that she knows. The centerpieces will be given away to one person per table. She will also make favors with Fall colored Hershey kisses.

Continued. . . .

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

REVEREND JEREMY MOHLER

OFFICERS

President

PAM DIULUS

Vice-President

Treasurer

MARLENE MacDONALD

Recording Secretary

SUZETTE VENTURINI

Corresponding Secretary

MARY ANN GONOT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHARLOTTE COLLINS

JOANNE HERRMANN

MOLLY KELLEY

JANET MASCARO

ELLEN O'BRIEN

PATTI SMITH

GERRIE ORR

NEWSLETTER

JUDY KERN

Lunch Menu

The members attending the meeting in June decided on Traditional Caesar Salad, Pecan-Bourbon chicken and Bourbon Bread Pudding for dessert. The vegetarian meal will be Chevre Encrusted Roasted Portabella Mushroom Mignon over Butternut Squash with Sun Dried Tomato Sauce.

Auction Baskets

Please indicate to Theresa Magnotta if you are planning to donate a basket. The basket auction is our biggest money maker so please consider donating one individually or together with another member. A sign up was again passed at our August meeting and we currently have 17 baskets promised. We would like to have 25. We need to know by October 7th at the latest.

Silent Auction

We are sending out requests to some of our previous donors. If you or anyone you know can contribute a high quality item, we would be most appreciative! Please contact Pam Diulus to contribute.

Door Prizes

We are in need of door prizes. Items must be new and have a minimum value of \$10. Gerri Orr will be collecting door prizes at our next meeting. If you have any questions, please call Gerri.

Volunteers

Once again, members will ask their grandchildren 13+ to help. Currently we have a possible 8 teens, so no more are needed.

LIST OF DONATIONS NEEDED FOR RED WAGON: Please inform the appropriate person as soon as you can!!

Auction baskets (inform THERESA MAGNOTTA) magnotta1317@verizon.net 412-563-1751

Good quality wine and liqueurs (inform MOLLY KELLEY) molk11@comcast.net 412-963-7063

Designer purses (inform CAROLYN GREEN) cjgreentutoring@gmail.com 412-795-6742

Gift cards (inform CAROLYN GREEN) cjgreentutoring@gmail.com 412-795-6742

Door Prizes (inform GERRI ORR) suvcwgro@aol.com 412-496-7261

Silent Auction Items (inform PAM DIULUS) pameladiulus@gmail.com 412-818-5662



Basket Auction Info

We currently have 17 basket donations for our Red Wagon Fare. We are hoping to have a minimum of 25 baskets. If you are able to donate a basket or join someone in donating a basket, please contact Theresa Magnotta. Our current list of donors/baskets include: **CHRIS MCCARTHY** (*Pet Basket*); **JOANNE HERRMANN, DORIS DELSERONE, PHYLLIS DOMBROWSKI, PAT MCKENNA, JOAN DRISCOLL** (*Trader Joe Basket*); **JUDY KERN** (*American Girl Doll*); **GERRI ORR** (*Family Fun Night*); **ELLEN O'BRIEN** (*Irish Basket*); **MARIAN FLOWERS** and **TEAGAN WELTY** (*Let's Play Cards*); **MARY JO KELLY** and **MARY JANE DIAMANTOPULOS** (*Lottery Basket*); **JANET MASCARO, CAROLYN GREEN, and DIANE DONOVAN** (*Deluxe Hair Care Basket*); **PAM DIULUS** and **MARLENE MACDONALD; CHARLOTTE COLLINS; MARY ANN GONOT and MARIAN FLOWERS; PHYLLIS PALOMBO; SUZETTE VENTURINI; MARIA KITAY** will donate some items toward an *Italian Basket*. We also have three baskets made with items donated from the Coat Room: a **VINTAGE SPRING BASKET, SANTA BASKET** and **CHRISTMAS BASKET**.

- We are asking that all gifts, whether a basket of items or a single stand alone gift (including gift cards or certificates) have **a minimum value of \$100**. Handmade items are also welcomed.
- If you have an item/s not having a minimum value of \$100 but would like to donate to a basket, please contact Theresa.
- Theresa Magnotta and Judy Kern would be happy to assemble and wrap any basket if donor prefers they do so.
- Members will be notified by early November of the drop-off date and time for their basket to the Field Club.
- Baskets can also be picked up for delivery to the Field Club if you are unable to do so. Please contact Theresa to let her know.
- ANY questions regarding the Basket Auction, please contact Theresa.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM (All of Us Care)

... From Joanne Herrmann

Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania's Youth Empowerment Project of Sharpsburg (YEP) was a new Summer Food Service Sponsor for the Lower Allegheny Valley area. YEP was a free out-of-school time program and summer enrichment camp that operated in the borough of Sharpsburg, as well as several communities. YEP helped to feed youth ages 18 and under who needed meals this summer.

Violet Kirsch, a senior at Deer Lakes High School has started a project called "Color the World Violet" to help children develop. She is donating art and school supplies to the Youth Empowerment Project in Sharpsburg. Thanks to Violet and her hard work!!

ANGEL'S CLOSET

... From Molly Kelley

I am suggesting we wait until Delta Strain of Corona Virus is better controlled. I do not feel comfortable letting children into the Christ Child Center to try on coats. I suggest at this time we plan on another PICK UP OR DELIVER distribution. Last season went well with the Agencies sending in requests and the committee filling them and either delivering to the Agency or having a Pick Up date as we fill the requests. Many of the children we serve will not be vaccinated during the late fall. I will notify the committee sometime in October as to packing dates.

Thank you in advance for your help.



CAMP AIM

... From Molly Kelley

There is no Camp Aim news to report.

LAYETTES

... From Charlotte Collins



Catholic Charities is another organization that we are now helping.

Catholic Charities held a baby shower for unwed mothers and those in need in August. This baby shower included areas from all six counties in the Pittsburgh Diocese. We donated 60 Layette Bags for their extravaganza. They were thrilled with our donations and were extremely thankful for all that Christ Child does.

Carolyn Green is our new liaison with the ladies who crochet our baby blankets. These ladies are from Zelienople PA and they call themselves the *busy hands* - Thank you, Carolyn Green!

Many people have asked how they can get more involved with the Layette committee. Donating any baby items such as diapers (sizes newborn through size 3), baby wipes and sleepers would be greatly appreciated. You can bring any donated items to our meetings or call me (412-398-5211) and I will make arrangements to meet you at your convenience.

MEMBERSHIP

... Patti Smith

Our 2021-22 Pittsburgh Christ Child Society currently includes 44 members, 32 active and 12 sustaining. Please always be mindful that we are continually looking for new members. If you know of anyone who may be interested in more information on our organization, please contact Patti Smith.



BACKPACK FOR HUNGER

... Gerri Orr

Lisa Bowden, from *Backpack for Hunger*, has informed me that she is in talks with the church elders to lay out the best and safest way to proceed with the packing. They are hoping to get back up and running in the near future. I will share updates as I receive them.



NATIONAL CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY
WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

NEWS FROM NATIONAL ~ *From Ellen O'Brien*

The National Christ Child Society will present its biennial Conference in Bethesda MD at the William F. Bolger Center in Potomac MD. The dates for the Conference are Friday September 17 and Saturday September 18. The Conference registration begins Friday afternoon at 3:30 PM, on Saturday there will be a keynote speaker and workshops. Saturday evening concludes the Conference with Mass and dinner.

Both the Conference and the Convention (held in alternating years) give Christ Child Chapters a perfect way to meet members of other chapters and network about projects, best practices, serving the children in many alternative ways, and of course recruiting new members. I have had the privilege of representing our Pittsburgh Chapter of Christ Child for many years. I can say that these opportunities are quite valuable, and allow us to realize the scope of the outreach to children and the many ways chapters decide to meet the needs of children.

I encourage our members to think about attending the Conference. I am sure you will be very glad you did. And after Conference perhaps we should take time and learn the 'take away ideas' of the Conference and try to implement at least one of these new ideas.

Information on Conference and everything National does for the Chapters can be found on their website <https://www.nationalchristchild.org>. You can register for Conference and make your hotel reservations right from the website. Or just call the office (301) 881 2490 and you can register on the phone. Make sure to let the office know you are from the Pittsburgh chapter. You may note that there is an optional excursion scheduled for Friday September 17 to see the Washington DC Chapter's Opportunity Shop, which is a shop selling donated goods from supporters. I've been to this shop and it is lots of fun, while giving another and more casual way to meet other Christ Child members from across the country.

The total cost for registration is \$175 per person, and the cost for a room at the conference center is approximately \$207 for one person. The cost for the Friday morning excursion is \$45. Usually the Chapter reimburses the attendee for expenses.

ADDITIONAL NEWS

A *National Day of Service* is scheduled for all Chapters to hold any day from October 25 to October 31. The theme is "**Fostering a love of Reading – TOGETHER**" Please contact anyone on the Board if you have ideas for an activity we could do to encourage literacy here in Pittsburgh.



Christ Child Christmas Party

Mark your calendar!

Thursday, December 9

Scoglio's Restaurant

(Time to be announced)



August

Doris Delserone
Joanne Herrmann
Kathleen Lee
Janet Mascaro
Cheryl George

September

Patti Smith
Molly Kelley
Jean Lombardi
Carolyn Green
Ceil McCabe

October

Joan Driscoll
Mary Ann Bober
Marlene MacDonald

November

Ellen O'Brien
Maria Kitay
Pam Diulus
Angie Slocum
Mary Jo Kelly

DONATIONS TO THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

From:

United Way of Central Ohio

J. J. Bosley (postage stamps)

Tom and Judy Forbes, MD

IN MEMORY OF Joyce Orr

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

DONATIONS, TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS FORM

This form is also available on our website: www.christchildsofityofpittsburgh.org

____ IN HONOR OF * ____ IN MEMORY OF * ____ IN THANKSGIVING FOR *

____ OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____

* NAME _____

Address _____

Donation of: \$50.00 ____ \$25.00 ____ \$10.00 ____ Other \$ ____

DONATION FROM: Name _____

Please send an acknowledgement of my gift to:

Name _____

Address _____

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

Marlene MacDonald
642 Pennridge Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15211

Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh is
a 501(c)3 (non-profit) organiza-
tion. 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

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

2021

NOVEMBER 6

Red Wagon Fare, Pittsburgh Field Club

DECEMBER 9

Christ Child Society *Christmas Party*, Scoglio's Restaurant

NOTEWORTHY:

- We are asking all our Christ Child members, **active as well as sustaining**, to support our Red Wagon Luncheon in whatever way you can!
- A special "thank you" to our Christ Child members who have submitted information and updates for this August newsletter.
- The next scheduled publication of the CCS newsletter will be in December. Please **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and submit all information for this newsletter to Judy Kern by Friday, **December 10**.