



# 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.

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

September, 2023

GENERAL MEETING — *Thursday, September 14, 2023*

The meeting was called to order by Suzette Venturini, substituting for President Pam Diulus at 11:20 AM. The meeting was started by reciting the Christ Child prayer.

**ANGELS' CLOSET:** Molly Kelley (Committee Chair) reported that Angels' Closet would be open six Saturdays this year. Opening day is October 7 followed by Oct. 14, 21, Nov. 11, 18, and 25. The time will be 12 Noon to 4:00 PM each date. New clients are being researched and include St. James Ministry in Wilkensburg.

**NEWSLETTER:** Judy Kern reported that the deadline for the fall newsletter is September 18, 2023. She indicated that new information is needed. It was also mentioned as a reminder that the newsletter is put online on our website: [www.christchildsofityofpittsburgh.org](http://www.christchildsofityofpittsburgh.org)

**LAYETTES:** Charlotte Collins (Committee Chair) reported that the committee filled 75 layettes at the end of July. Prior to the layette packing there were deliveries made to West Penn Hospital (17), Genesis House (17) and McGee Hospital (25).

Also, the vinyl bags that have recently been used have not proved to be sturdy and continue to split. A new source of bag for layettes is being researched. Stacey Doepken has found a new contact for knitters in Sewickley to make the blankets for the layettes. Pam Diulus has a friend who is knitting/crocheting sweaters.

**TREASURER:** The report may be mailed to all members. The budget was determined in June for the fiscal year 2023 – 2024.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Patti Smith (Chair) asked that all address changes be sent to Patti ASAP to update our current membership roster. She also reported that our membership is more or less stable standing at 27 active and 11 sustaining. It was noted we need to develop a way to attract new members which lead to a discussion of new project ideas.

**BACKPACKS:** Gerri Orr (Chair) reported that no requests of Christ Child have been made and recommended this project be inactivated. This recommendation was tabled.

**PUBLICITY:** As of now the position **Publicity Chair** is open. There is a possibility that a member has volunteered, but this information needs to be checked. Suzette Venturini will be checking.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion was opened for the membership to suggest new ideas for projects. Several were presented and individual members will be

CONTINUED. . . .

## SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

REVEREND JEREMY MOHLER

## OFFICERS

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Recording Secretary

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MOLLY KELLEY

JANET MASCARO

ELLEN O'BRIEN

PATTI SMITH

GERRIE ORR

## NEWSLETTER

JUDY KERN

researching. Carolyn Green is researching doing a monthly diaper drive at different parishes. Mary Anne Gonot is researching the Charlie Batch foundation regarding wrapping presents for children at Christmas. Ellen O'Brien and Patti Smith are researching the possibility of making fleece blankets for child cancer patients being treated with chemotherapy.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** The date for the Christmas Party is December 5 and will be held at Scoglio's Restaurant in Greentree. It was decided that members make every effort to bring a friend or two to introduce possible new members to our organization.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, October 12 at 11:00 AM at the Christ Child Center.


Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen O'Brien (substitute Secretary)

### *Need Information!!*

We all enjoy our quarterly newsletters so much. They keep us informed of past and present events of the CCS of Pittsburgh. But what happens if you lose your paper copy or accidentally delete your emailed copy? Just go to our website, [www.christchildsofittsburgh.org](http://www.christchildsofittsburgh.org) and there you will find the most recent newsletter AND all past newsletters! You can also read every meeting's minutes and see pictures of our events such as Red Wagon and Angels' Closet. Upcoming Dates to Remember are also posted. Our website also contains information about our history and our projects. Please visit us!

Did you know that the CCS of Pittsburgh has a **Facebook** page? Go to Facebook and search for our name. There you will find posts and pictures from our organization. If you have a question, you can write it in a post, and it will be answered by the members who are monitoring the page. You can also post comments and suggestions. We want everyone to know about the great work that we do, and technology is helping us to get out the news!

...from Janet Mascaro

	<b>October:</b>	<b>November:</b>	<b>December:</b>	<b>January :</b>
	Marlene MacDonald Jan Malloy	Lisa Gaydos Ellen O'Brien Maria Kitay Pam Diulus Mary Jo Kelly	Marie Lowry Gretchen Coyne Mary Ann Gonot	Mary McCormick Paula Casasent Theresa Magnotta

## DONATIONS TO THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

March—September

**FROM:**

- Rita McGinley Foundation
- Kevin Miller (North Western Mutual)
- Paul Saville (in memory of Althea Saville)
- St. Matthew Parish—Christian Mother Woman's Guild
- Charities Aid Foundation of America
- Christ The King Parish
- United Way of Columbus, Ohio (July and August)
- United Way of Southwest, PA

**IN MEMORY OF:**

Jean Katerincic

**FROM:**

Mary Ellen Ploeger

## ANGELS' CLOSET

... *From Molly Kelley*

Angels' Closet will open for our 2023 coat distribution on Saturday October 7th at noon. We will be open for six Saturdays from noon until 4:00 pm., at the Christ Child Center, 19 Dewey Street, Etna PA 15223 . Our dates for try-ons and distribution are: **Oct 7th, Oct 14th, Oct 21st, Nov 11th, Nov 18th and Nov 25th**. I am happy to report we will be partnering with Social Ministries from St James Parish in Wilksburg, "Mary's Child Program" for children birth to 12 years of age. Also we have already been contacted by the Knights of Columbus, St. Sebastian Council who will donate new coats again this year—which will certainly help add to our inventory . The Social Worker from "Mary's Child Program" was at our Red Wagon with Kathleen Lee and expressed to us there is always a need for coats with this program. She also is a long time friend of Angie Slocum who was a member and helper to CCS for many years, before moving to Texas.

I am looking forward to a great six weeks of warming up the *angels* this winter. If anyone decides to shop and if you see a bargain—we can use any size coat from birth to size 18/20, both male and female. Budget-wise, please stay at \$25.00 or under. Receipts can be mailed to Marlene MacDonald for reimbursement.

Thank you! *Molly Kelley*



## LAYETTES

... *From Charlotte Collins*

The Layette committee has been busy recently. The Committee packed 75 Layette bags on July 31, 2023. A big thanks to Theresa Magnotta, Phyllis Palombo, Mary Ann Gonot, Joanne Herrmann, Mary McCormick and Stacy Doepken with help doing this packing.

In July Mary McCormick delivered 17 bags to West Penn Hospital, Ellen O'Brien delivered 17 bags to Genesis of Pittsburgh and Stacy Doepken delivered 25 bags to Magee Hospital.

Stacy Doepken has made a contact with some ladies in Sewickley that will knit and crochet blankets for us. Pam Diulus also has someone from her area that will help knit and crochet. Thank you both for helping find ladies that can help us. We lost our former group of ladies from Zelienople due to ill health.

Pam asked about switching our bags from the plastic bags that we presently use to some type of backpack with drawstrings that has our Logo on it. This is something we will definitely look into. We still have a number of plastic bags to use before we order backpacks. I will be asking our delivery ladies, Mary McCormick, Ellen O'Brien and Stacy Doepken to make another delivery sometime in January.

If you know of anyone or any organization that would have a need for our Layette Bags, please let me know and I will contact them. Thank you! *Charlotte Collins*



## MEMBERSHIP

... *From Patti Smith*

Our current membership number is **38**, which includes 27 active members and 11 sustaining members. We continue to seek new members to add to our data base. If you know of anyone interested in joining us in our mission of *helping children in need*, please contact me. We are encouraging members who are able to attend our Christmas party on December 5 to invite a guest/guests to introduce them to our organization.

Thank you! *Patti Smith*

## NEWS FROM NATIONALS



The National Christ Child Society Conference was held in Potomac, Maryland on September 29—30. When available, a report on this year's conference will be included in an upcoming issue of our Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh newsletter.

# Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh

P.O. Box 11324  
Pittsburgh, PA 15238-1324  
[www.christchildsofittsburgh.org](http://www.christchildsofittsburgh.org)

FIRST CLASS MAIL



## Dates to Remember

### CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

<b>2023</b>	October 12 December 5	11:00 AM General Meeting, Christ Child Center Christmas Party—Scoglio’s Restaurant (Time: TBA)
<b>2024</b>	April 27	Red Wagon Luncheon, Pittsburgh Field Club

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#### NOTEWORTHY:

- Please keep our member, **MARIAN FLOWERS**, in your prayers!
- *Please remember to. . . note our new phone number (412-719-1066)*
  - . . . *check our website* [www.christchildsofittsburgh.org](http://www.christchildsofittsburgh.org) *for news and updates, including General Meeting minutes and newsletters*
  - . . . *follow us on Facebook*
- Please **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and submit all information for our next newsletter to Judy Kern by Friday, December 15.