

Christ Child Society of the Quad Cities
A Chapter of the National Christ Child Society
Fall 2022



The Red Wagon News

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Hello Christ Child Members and Friends,

As I reflect on this year, I thank God for the abundant blessings he has bestowed on our Christ Child Chapter. Through God's grace, our good works continue to make his love present in our community. I ask those of you reading this newsletter who are not yet members to prayerfully consider joining the Christ Child Society of the Quad Cities. We are embarking on a radical plan of expanding our membership so that we can continue our excellent work and bless more young lives. We are helping make membership possible for all who wish to join us.

Membership is due at the beginning of the year with applications accepted until March 31st. This spring our board voted to allow **new** members to join anytime after August 1 without paying for the current year. The \$45.00 membership fee paid now allows you to be an active member through 2023.

For those who have time and talent to offer but are a little short on treasure, a donor is offering partial scholarships. Let us know if you need assistance with the membership fee.

Finally, we invite you to "come and see". Join us on October 10th to see our clothing room and assemble a layette (anytime from 9:00 a.m.-noon) or tour the Genesis Bereavement Center (6:30 p.m.) or come to our member meeting on November 17th and bring a friend. This meeting will be a social time with some updates on our work and refreshments.

Lisa Levy, Chapter President

We Need

A Corresponding Secretary; More active members and volunteers; Board books for layettes; Size NB, 1 and 2 diapers; Wipes; Blankets; Bibs; Booties or socks; Size NB, 3 mo. and 6 mo. onesies, Sleep sacks, Sleepers, and Slacks; Hooded towels and washcloths. (All items included in our layettes are new. Gently used items are donated to Chloe's Closet at Women's Choice Center.)



Above: Mary Anne Dockery-Jackson recently represented the Christ Child Society of the Quad Cities at the National Christ Child Society Convention in Tucson, AZ where she had a wonderful opportunity to make new friends and share ideas. On Friday night, attendees enjoyed a western barbecue. Mary Anne (second from left) with Anne Beckett, Tina Bailey, and Lori Neumann (left to right) all from the Fort Wayne Christ Child Society Chapter.

Upcoming Events

9/27/22 Women's Choice Center Annual Dinner/Fundraiser Quad Cities Waterfront Convention Center, Bettendorf 6-8 p.m.

10/10/22, Layette Assembly OLG Silvis 9:00 a.m. to noon. Tour Genesis Bereavement Suite, Davenport, IA 6:30 p.m.

10/20/22, Pumpkin Fest 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Horace Mann Early Learning Center, Rock Island, IL followed by dinner/board meeting

11/17/22, All Member Meeting, Butterworth Center, Moline, IL 6:30 p.m.

12/15/22 Dinner/board meeting Levy home LeClaire, IA

Making an Impact

Bereavement Suite

The Quad Cities Chapter received recognition by the National Christ Child Society in their 2022 Impact Report for our collaboration with the Bereavement Suite at Genesis East in Davenport, IA. The Bereavement Suite offers new mothers experiencing pregnancy loss or neonatal infant death extra support in a quiet, private place. CCS volunteers lovingly stitch prayer shawls, premie hats, buntings, and blankets according to specific guidelines. We also provide grief books, robes, and toiletries for moms, as well as special ink pads for foot and handprints. We are currently seeking volunteers to write sympathy cards and supportive notes to the mothers.

Head Start

Head Start events are back! In May CCS volunteers helped children plant their own flowers. Children filled pots with soil and planted flower seeds. Volunteers wrapped the flowerpots in plastic. Simple instructions on how to care for a plant were available.

October 20th is Pumpkin Fest. Our volunteers will assist children in creating a scarecrow.

At all Head Start events, we provide terrific books for each child to take home. Young siblings of Head Start students also receive books to take home.



Layettes: AKA Baby Bundles

We continue to provide large layettes or bundles of basic baby supplies, as well as mini layettes to parents of newborns in need. Each large layette has a value of \$80.00. We are on track to distribute a total of two hundred large layettes through our partners, UnityPoint Birthplace, Genesis East Birthplace, and Women's Choice Center (WCC). In addition, we will give at least 250 mini layettes valued at \$8.00 each to WCC. Mini layettes are small packages of "Take Me Home" clothing sets given at WCC to women who have received a positive pregnancy test. As an all-volunteer, non-profit organization with little or no overhead, we can make each donation count for children in need.

Thank You

Karen Gibbs for six years of diligent service as our treasurer.

St. Mary's in Moline for a bottle drive which raised over \$2100.

St. Anne's in East Moline for a bottle drive that raised close to \$1300.

Marilyn and Elizabeth Urbaniak for a large donation of infant onesies.

St. Malachy's Middle School Youth ministry for collecting and donating more than 100 board books.

Sr. Michael for all the donations collected in her religion class at Alleman High School.

Pam Hughes for the lovely quilts.

Meet Our Treasurer

At the August board meeting, Ruth Bloom accepted the office of treasurer to replace Karen Gibbs who is stepping down. Ruth holds a master's degree in accounting and has taught accounting, as well as other business courses at the college level. Ruth lives in LeClaire, IA, with her husband, Bill. They have a daughter, Patty, who lives in Texas and a son, Bill, who lives in the Quad Cities.

