



## Literacy Projects

# The Red Wagon News

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"Take my hands and let them work for you; take my mind, my memory, my will and make me use them all to do Your will on earth."

*Mary Virginia Merrick, Servant of God*

Hello Christ Child Society Members,

It has been a long time since we have all been together due to COVID restrictions; however, the Butterworth Center is now open for meetings. We have scheduled a general membership meeting for Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 6:30-8:00 p.m. There will be a brief business meeting to bring all members up-to-date on our current activities and volunteer opportunities. Also, we have two board offices open and have two candidates who have graciously stepped forward to fill the need. Judy Scarpinato has agreed to accept nomination for the office of Vice President and Ruth Bloom has accepted nomination for Corresponding Secretary. We are so grateful for their willingness to serve. After a brief business meeting, we will have desserts and social time.

We are very excited to have the opportunity to meet and share the news of two new projects. We will be partnering with Genesis East Birth Center, providing layettes as well as support for their new Bereavement Suite for families experiencing a stillbirth or miscarriage. We are also working hard to expand our literacy outreach by giving books to second graders at local Catholic schools, as well as preschoolers at Head Start and clients at Women's Choice Center. We hope more of our members will have the opportunity to become involved. Volunteers can help by sponsoring a book drive to collect new and gently used books or sponsoring a Red Wagon drive by baby shower to help with our layettes or participating in our [Spread a Little Sunshine](#) program. The opportunities are as unlimited as your imagination.

I look forward to seeing many of you again and sharing the good news of how God has graciously provided for our chapter to flourish in this challenging time.

God Bless,

Lisa Levy, Chapter President



Above: Kimberly Souba and Alyssa Leone hold up books donated by area Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) teams for distribution by the Christ Child Society to Head Start students.



Above: Kimberly Souba and a member of the St. Malachy (Geneseo, IL) youth group hold up literacy kits assembled by Kimberly and the youth for distribution to children at the Head Start October Pumpkin Fest.

## Head Start October Pumpkin Fest



Left to right: Lisa Levy, Deacon Joe Dockery-Jackson, Karen Gibbs and Alyssa Leone greet Head Start children and parents at the Head Start Pumpkin Fest. Children were invited to complete an activity and take a packet home. Each packet was filled with a book, crayons, worksheets, and a guide for parents on how to get the most out of reading with their child.

## "Love in Action"

On September 28, 2021, twelve Christ Child Society members and friends attended the annual fundraising dinner, "Love in Action", for Women's Choice Center at the Quad Cities Waterfront Convention Center. This event gave us a chance to show our support for a long-standing community partner and meet up with old friends, as well as enjoy a lovely dinner in the good company of our CCS family.



Pictured left to right: Deacon Joe and Mary Anne Dockery-Jackson, June Valenti, Pam Hughes, Deacon Matt and Lisa Levy.



Pictured left to right: Kimberly Souba, Alyssa Leone, Karen and Chuck Gibbs, and Ruth Bloom. Not pictured: Karen Dugan

## Thank You

Our heartfelt thanks go out to some very special people.

**Thanks to Jean Wonio of Davenport, Iowa,** for a generous monetary gift. Jean has supported and encouraged us from the very start of our chapter.

**Thanks to Pam Hughes of Le Claire, IA,** for a large and generous gift of top quality, new infant clothing, as well as many lovely handmade items.

**Thanks to Kimberly Souba and the youth group of St. Malachy parish in Geneseo** for collecting and donating many infant care items, assembling literacy packets and learning how to pack mini-layettes.



## 2021 Layette Count

As of Oct. 21, 2021, we have distributed 154 large layettes and 204 mini-layettes for 2021.