



# Caritas

*Serving others with love and charity*

*"Amid so much darkness, we need to see the light of hope and to be men and women who bring hope to others."*

*Pope Francis*



Community Partner

June 2015

A Newsletter from the Ladies of Charity of Knoxville

Vol. 30 No. 2

## **A Message from the President**

TIME CONTINUES TO MARCH...

Last year at this time we were 'heading down the track' for our ALL ABOARD Fundraiser. This year we're looking at 'fun and games' (why is the balloon carrying an elevator on your invitation?), to present our SUMMER SHENANIGANS for this year's event.

But since our last newsletter, there have been many other 'happenings.'

Our general meeting on April 22 was very well attended! Thank you to all who made it a point to come and hear our new E.D., Susan Unbehaun, introduce herself to us via a talk and slide presentation.

Next on the agenda was the Golf Tournament, which you will see upon reading the article inside, was a great success. This success was the result of months of planning, phone calls and boots-on-the-ground work by Joe Fuhr and the golf committee.

Alongside of these special times, the everyday work of the Thrift Shop and Emergency Assistance Program, the reason we exist as an organization, continues only because our dedicated volunteers and employees are faithful in their commitment to our mission. Jesus doesn't expect us to look for pats on the back when we do His work. But speaking for myself and the Board of Directors, whether your gift is time, donations of goods or money, spreading the word to others, or prayer, we sincerely thank you for all these means of support.

*Nancy Scheurer, President*

### **National Convention to be held in New Orleans in September**

The 2015 National Assembly of the Ladies of Charity USA (LCUSA) will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana on September 17-19 at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel on Canal Street. The 15th annual convention is titled, "*Vincentian Women Changing Communities with Hope and Joy*," and will offer optional tours of the city on the 17th. Lois Harkenrider will be coordinating the trip down to Louisiana from Knoxville. For more information, please contact ladiesofcharityknox@gmail.com.

### **Ladies of Charity benefits from annual baby shower**

Immaculate Conception ladies group had their annual Christ Child Baby Shower on June 6 and 7. The wealth of gifts for the Ladies of Charity layette program was more than generous. Donations of large amount of outfits, diapers, baby blankets and goodies, PLUS dozens of diapers as well as monetary donations, supply the LOC layettes we dispense. We thank all those who participated and responded to this yearly event!

*"The poor have much to teach you. You have much to learn from them."*

*St. Vincent de Paul*

## A Message from Father Orr

Dear Ladies of Charity,

Peace! I am happy to continue our common reflection on the sure and certain teachings of Holy Mother Church regarding "The Scandal of Poverty" doing so by considering anew the perennial teachings of Christ's Mystical Body.



As Ladies of Charity you do so much spiritually and corporally to alleviate the sufferings of the poor in our midst. So I will continue to base my words on the social teaching of the Church as presented by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace in the volume *The Social Agenda* which is freely and readily available on-line (<http://www.thesocialagenda.org/>). This volume cites various documents from saints, the popes and the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). We continue here our considerations out of sequence with article eight: *Poverty and Charity*, section one: *The Scandal of Poverty*.

Saint John Paul II (+2005) during his twenty-seven year papacy helped to develop the social doctrine of the Church, especially thorough his encyclicals *Centesimus Annus* (1 May, 1991), *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis* (30 December, 1987), and *Laborem Exercens* (14 September, 1981). Here we consider *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, 15.

Poverty is not only material, lacking food, clothing, shelter and the like. The denial or limitation of human rights are also forms of poverty. The refusal of religious liberty is a form of poverty. To disallow participation in the up-building of society is another form of poverty. To disregard

the freedom to organize and form unions are forms of poverty. To disallow personal initiative in economic matters similarly impoverishes the human person. On the other hand, any sort of "development" which only addresses material concerns and does not fully affirm basic human rights fails to merit the term "human development." We need to recognize, appreciate, and promote human dignity.

God bless you!

*Father Orr, Assistant Pastor at Holy Ghost Church*

## Looking Good!

The Thrift Shop is showing a lot of 'style' as we move along into summer! If you look above the clothing racks, you'll see a great display of snazzy hats by Jo, then the mannequins dressed up with outfits and accessories hand-picked by Blanche and Susan! The purse displays by Barbara are meant to catch your eyes with the color splash! And the glass cabinets are full of ever-changing jewelry and household decorative items by Sharon and Carolyn. Wander on toward the back of the shop and you'll see all the fine linens, bedding and vintage items sorted and packaged for sale by Maxine and Jackie and Nancy. In short, just in this small area of the Thrift Shop and warehouse, we have so many fine, donated articles for sale that bring us great revenue for the Pantry food purchases. We couldn't have this without the kindness of all those who donate to Ladies of Charity! We thank you and keep telling all your friends to donate and shop with us!

*Nancy Scheurer, President*

## Summer Shenanigans Fundraiser

To all friends, donors, contributors, members and employees of Ladies of Charity, please join us on JUNE 28th at 5:30 pm for our annual Helping Hands and Generous Hearts event! Have you noticed on your invitation that it will be held at 'our own house'? We want everyone to come here and see where we make our mission a reality. If you're a seasoned volunteer or employee, you'll be entertained with some things you 'think' you already know! If you're a newbie, it's a chance for a 'tour of discovery'. If you have friends or family to bring along, please use this opportunity to introduce them to OUR WONDERFUL WORLD OF HELPING OTHERS. It promises to be an evening of fun, games, friendship AND good food!

Bishop Stika has kindly sent along a letter in support of our fundraiser and the work done here at Ladies of Charity (see page 3). We hope you will support us in any way possible.



Office of the Bishop  
Diocese of Knoxville

805 S. Northshore Drive Knoxville, TN 37919

Dear Friends of the Ladies of Charity,

I speak often about being the Hands, Face, Feet and Heart of Jesus because I truly believe that is what we are called to do. The diocese is blessed to have the Ladies of Charity, who live this in their daily lives as physical and spiritual life support for many of those in need in East Tennessee. Without the many volunteers and countless hours put in by the Ladies of Charity and the support they receive from the community, people in need would not see or experience the Face of Jesus.

This is why I am writing you today, to invite you to "Summer Shenanigans", the Ladies of Charity 2015 Annual Fundraiser, "Helping Hands and Generous Hearts" which will be held on June 28<sup>th</sup> at the Ladies of Charity building. You will have a first-hand experience seeing what the Ladies of Charity do and why your support is crucial to this ministry.

"Helping Hands, Generous Hearts" reminds me of a bible verse, *"The land will never lack for needy persons; that is why I command you: "Open your hand freely to your poor and to your needy kin in your land." Deuteronomy 15:11.* What better way to help those in need, than to support the Ladies of Charity who so selflessly show the mercy of our Lord.

Please show your Heart of Jesus by supporting this event. Come and see what the Ladies of Charity do and do so well. See for yourself where your donations go and how much they mean to those who are served. By attending this event, you will also get a look at the facilities and how your donations can take the Ladies of Charity to the "next level" helping them install an elevator to make the second floor of their building accessible to all.

Thank you for supporting the Ladies of Charity and continuing the mission Pope Francis has called for, A Holy Year of Mercy. May God continue to bless you and continue to bless the Ladies of Charity and their mission.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Richard F. Stika*

Most Reverend Richard F. Stika  
Bishop of Knoxville

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# REPORTS

## Notes from the Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop is rolling along. We have lots of fabulous summer clothes. We had a 50% sale in May which was a big success. We could use summer shoes, hats and jewelry, so check out your closets and jewelry boxes and bring all those things that you don't use to LOC. As always, we have wonderful, loyal volunteers. In addition, we have donated 20 bags of shoes to St. John Neumann's shoe drive. Each bag holds approximately 30 shoes, which gives us a rough estimate of 600 shoes donated. THANK YOU!

Special recognition for: Mikki Steinhoff, Gen Vadeboncoeur and Tamma Reyniers, our hard working employees who keep the thrift shop running smoothly. You are truly appreciated.

*Jo Seymour, Thrift Shop Manager*

## Treasurer's Report

Donations through May show a 31% increase over last year at the same time. Funds from Special Events are up \$12,403 over January to May 2014. Due to the donations of bread and some ground beef, the monetary disbursement is down 11% from last year. Thrift Shop sales for January through May this year are up almost 7% from last year. Please continue to spread the word to friends and neighbors about our need for furniture and house-hold items that are in good, clean working condition. Costume jewelry is a popular item in the Thrift Shop and is welcome even if not in perfect condition. Crafters can recycle and make something new!

*Janice Peterson, Treasurer*

## Emergency Assistance Pantry

It's as busy as ever in the EAP. We rarely see slows days in the pantry; we are assisting an average of fifty families per day. We are very fortunate to have great volunteers to help keep us going. As for some exciting new things that are happening, we will be starting up our new computer program in the next few months. This is going to help us better track our statistics with the goal of qualifying for more grants that are available to our organization.

We have been the recipient of two new grants from Akima, and The Ladies of Charity USA (LCUSA). Thanks to these grants we are able to purchase brand new steel toe work boots and slip resistant shoes for clients who have recently gained employment but are unable to purchase the proper footwear. These grants will enable us to positively impact the quality of life for many of our clients.

Thanks to all the volunteers who donate their valuable time and effort to The Ladies of Charity. We are very blessed to work with such caring ladies and gentlemen every day; you do make a difference in our community.

*Laura Deubler, EAP Manager*

## Calling All Volunteers

With summer here and many volunteers taking vacations, there is a need for new volunteers to come and help in the thrift store and warehouse operations. If you and your family want to come and spend time together, we can use your help. **Please contact Debbie Donahoo at 865-599-0088.**

## Virtus Training

On Tuesday, July 14th at 7 pm, Brigid Johnson, Immaculate Conception Director of Faith Formation, will be providing Virtus training to those who volunteer at Ladies of Charity or would like to in the future. Virtus training is a wonderful program offered by the Knoxville Diocese to individuals who are interested in learning more about protecting the elderly and young in our community. Ladies of Charity board encourages everyone who wants to work the youth groups in their parishes, or here at Ladies of Charity, to attend. After the class, short lessons continue on line, and give participants new insights and awareness of the signs of child or elder abuse. If you have already taken Virtus training, please let Debbie know, and she will add it to your volunteer form. Refreshments will be provided. To register, visit [virtusonline.org](http://virtusonline.org). Immaculate Conception is located at 414 West Vine Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37902.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament

On Friday, May 1, the 7<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament to support the work of the Ladies of Charity was held at Egwani Farms Golf Course. Despite the weather, which was cool and cloudy, 86 players attacked the course in search of fame (not much), prizes (a good number), and fun (bucket loads). All players professed to have a good time, as they enjoyed pizza, beer and soft drinks on the porch following the event.

Record numbers of players and sponsors guaranteed a successful event with record returns of more than \$33,000. Approximately 88% of all funds raised went to support the work of the Ladies. Thanks must be given to the players, the sponsors, and a host of volunteers. Without such support the tournament could not have been the success it was.

***Below and Right: The 7th annual golf tournament was held at Egwani Farms Golf Course.***



## Knoxville Diocese Council of Catholic Women Elects New President



***Pat Ryan, on right***

In April, 2015, Pat Ryan was installed as president of the Knoxville Diocese Council of Catholic Women. The KDCCW is a member of the National Council of Catholic Women whose main purpose is to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service. All women in parishes within the Five Rivers, Chattanooga, Smoky Mountain and Cumberland Mountain Deaneries are members of KDCCW. Pat is a member of the Immaculate Conception parish and a lifetime member of Ladies of Charity.

*Pat Ryan, KDCCW President*

## St. John Neumann Shoe Drive

LOC of Knoxville has been helping collect shoes for the St. John Neumann youth ministry shoe drive. Jo Seymour collects the shoes, while Glenn and Phyllis Cada deliver them. The drive ends June 15, and they plan to collect 2000-3000 pairs. So far, LOC of Knoxville has given roughly 600 pairs of shoes to the youth ministry for their drive. The youth ministry will receive funds based on how many shoes they collect, and that money will help pay for the ministry's participation in the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis in November.

### Our Summer Intern

*Some of you know, Marianne Goodwin is a diehard Alabama fan, and may just get a bit of teasing for her colors during football season. Well, I'd like to introduce our new intern, she also cheers "Roll Tide" during sporting events.*



*Heather Buchanan is a Knoxville native who attends the University of Alabama. Heather's impressive background follows, but I have known Heather since her years at Farragut High School. She is a pleasant and responsible individual who will represent Ladies of Charity well. Heather has agreed*

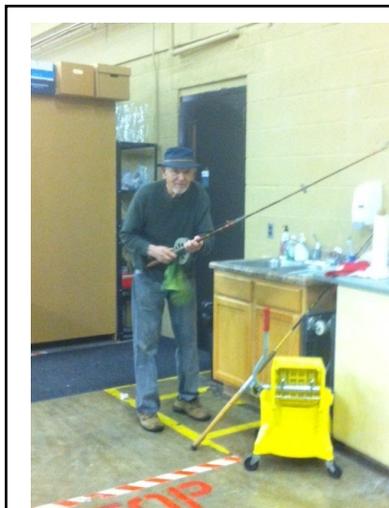
*to do an internship for Ladies of Charity of Knoxville for two summer months, while working in Tuscaloosa, AL. She has been communicating with board members and chairpersons to write this newsletter, prepare for the fundraiser and work on the tri-fold boards used at parish events.*

*She is the daughter of Dr. J. Kevin Buchanan, and the late Debra Buchanan of Farragut. Please welcome Heather in her new internship role for Ladies of Charity. By the way, her Dad is wearing orange at the TN - AL games. Heather can be reached at [heatherbuchanan7@gmail.com](mailto:heatherbuchanan7@gmail.com).*

*Susan Unbehaun, Executive Director*

Hello! I'm Heather, and I am excited to be LOC's intern for May and June. In this role I have enjoyed serving the Ladies of Charity of Knoxville by helping to create the June newsletter, writing various articles and biographies and assisting with the Ladies of Charity of Knoxville Twitter and Instagram accounts. I will be a senior at the University of Alabama this fall, and in the spring I will graduate with a B.A. in history with minors in journalism and geography. On campus I work for *The Crimson White*, give tours at the Gorgas House Museum and serve as vice president of the Delta Beta chapter of Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity. After my May 2016 graduation, I plan to either attend law school or graduate school for history or museum studies.

*Heather Buchanan, LOC Intern*



**John Monroy testing out a fishing pole for sale.**

### **IN MEMORIUM**

*Please remember in your prayers the following members, volunteers, spouses, family and friends of LOC whom we have lost recently:*

*David Alley  
Willa Mankel*

*Joseph Thompson, Jr.  
Shirley Melia*

*Mike Lawlor*

## Executive Director's Note

What a wonderful month we had in May! Ladies of Charity was awarded the Akima Group Grant of \$500, and then Ladies of Charity USA awarded LOC-Knoxville \$860. Both of these grants will supply work footwear for clients who have found work, but don't have the proper footwear to start the job. Many thanks to Tom Shannon and Nancy Scheurer for the successful grant proposals and to the Emergency Assistance Interview Team for identifying the need of our clients. In addition to the Akima grant, Akima volunteers joined us in April. They have given 45 hours of volunteer time in the clothing area. But wait! We also had a record breaking golf tournament fundraiser. Joe Fuhr and his team had shown us a wonderful time at the Egwani Golf Course. So many smiling faces (and not enough mulligans) all around. Thank you.



**Angela Otey and the youth members work on sprucing up the grounds.**

In the past two months, Ladies of Charity has been out in the parish community spreading the word about our work here and promoting LOC membership or volunteering at LOC. All Saints, St. John Neumann, John XXIII, Immaculate Conception and Sacred Heart have all been part of our parish outreach efforts. If you know of a parish group that would like to know more about Ladies of Charity – Knoxville, get in touch with your parish liaison and they can help set it up.

There is so much happening at Ladies of Charity during the summer. On June 8-11<sup>th</sup>, the Catholic Heart Youth Workcamp will be here to assist us with landscaping, painting and cleaning the warehouse. They will also spend time sorting the donations and getting the donations onto the sales floor.



**Catholic Heart Youth Group with Kathi O'Hara and Karen Hopwood after working on clothes.**

On Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, the Annual Fundraiser with a "Summer Shenanigans" theme will take place at Ladies of Charity. This exciting event will be an evening to remember, as we highlight the facility and all the facets of this organization. I invite you to bring a friend and plan on attending this event. The cost is \$75.00 per person and part of the monies raised will go to the initial planning for a new elevator and construction costs.

*Susan Unbehaun, Executive Director*

*"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile."  
Mother Teresa*

***THRIFT SHOP AND EAP OFFICE***  
**UPCOMING DAYS OF CLOSING**

July 4, 2015      Saturday      Fourth of July  
 Sept. 7, 2015      Monday      Labor Day

***SAVE THESE DATES***

June 28, 2015      **SUMMER  
 SHENANIGANS  
 FUNDRAISER**

Sept. 17-19, 2015      LCUSA National  
 Assembly/New Orleans

Sept. 23, 2015      General Meeting

***FOLLOW US!***

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 Ladies of Charity Knoxville  
 Likes: **649**

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 ladiesofcharityknox.org

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**June 2015 Newsletter**



**Return Service Requested**

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