**Strangers No Longer Zoom Minutes Jan. 18, 2022**

**Opening Prayer**: Carol Schroeder

**Attendance:** Rose Pikor, Kathy Best, Julie Watanabe, Fiona Archer, MaryLou Latorre,

Cyndi Malow, Carol Schroeder, Sue Johnston, Pat Watanabe

**Updates:**

* Julie will forward the January 8th Leader Meeting results when the analysis is completed. The Leader Meeting reviewed the appreciative Inquiry results and conduit SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats). She stated that there were areas of commonality.
* Pat gave update on the Fundraiser Luncheon for April 24, 2022. Plans are to only have half of the hall filled. Instead of 600, there will be set up for 300 with 8 at a table instead of 10. Tickets are $25 which only gives up a profit of $5 per ticket. We kept the ticket fee lower in hopes that it will help some of the immigrants to attend. It’s a 501 C3, so not taxed. Pat has a friend who will print them up for free, but not able to put individual numbers on the tickets. Kathy Best stated that putting numbers on each ticket will help with bookkeeping on where the tickets were distributed. So, we will investigate on ways to put the numbers on them. We discussed having a surplus of tickets for extra requests. We many have either 400 or 500 tickets printed (includes for extra tickets) rather just printing 300 tickets. Discussion ongoing on whether to have a cash bar. Sister Val will provide the entertainment using the Mexican Choir. Keynote speakers are still to be found. Suggestions included Representative Brenda Lawrence, (political speakers are not allowed to charge), and Cardinal Joe Toban, who is pro –immigration. There will be a 50/50 raffle. There will be a booklet generated for donor advertisements.

Bill O’Brien set $10,000 for the amount to be collected. The Archdiocesan suggests $1,000 per page, but we don’t have to use that figure. There will be media coverage. Each Circle is asked to create a gift basket ($100 - $150 in value) to be used as centerpieces and then auctioned off. Julie suggested we make ours with an Italian theme (ex. spaghetti, wine, etc.), and all agreed that would work. The ticket money has to be turned into the Hall 10 days prior to the luncheon.

* Circle dues have been raised from $800 to $1000. Julie talked to Father Mike and along with Michelle Hayes’ help; St. Michael will take it out of the Ladder Fund to pay for the total amount. Julie suggested that since we now don’t have to personally donate, we might want to buy sponsor tickets for someone from the Mujeres Group to attend the luncheon. Julie suggested that we might have some of the immigrants share a table with us. If we are interested in doing that, we can send out our requests for tickets and send our payment checks to Julie and she will distribute them for the luncheon.
* New Leader Formation Series Program titled “How do we Form Community?” will take place on Zoom on the last Saturdays of each month and is open to everyone. The dates are located on the agenda sheet Julie had sent for our meeting. She states that if we want to participate, we should try to attend each Zoom meeting. Julie will send out the registration so we can register for the meetings.

**Parish Updates: Christian Service**

* Cyndi gave a report. Christian Service meets this Thursday and will be on Zoom. Decisions for zooming will be made on a month to month basis. The Enrichment Prayer to begin those meetings will now deal with Catholic Social Teaching adapted from Diocese of London Ontario. This may help in working with the formed Family Parishes. There is still the bottle drive for MCRest.

**New/Continued Business:**

* SNL will take one of the Lenten Services and will work with Deacon Franz for our date as soon as he assignees us a date. Discussion was on whether we have to follow the readings for that specific date or whether we can choose another reading. Julie will ask Deacon Franz about what we are required to do for our Communion Service.
* Sister Martha will begin to attend monthly meetings starting in February. We decided she does not have to stay for the entire meeting as some of our discussed issues many not relate to her personal agenda. Our group is the only non-immigrant group she deals with. The Mujeres group will attend the February meeting. They plan to prepare with Sister Martha to talk to us thanking us, etc.
* Spring 2022 Activities:

Julie stated that we already have: The Lenten Communion Service, the Easter basket and the Luncheon as our projects already planned. Julie gave some suggestions on other ideas for additional projects, such as outreach initiative, book club, outreach to Agape Center, education project and any additional service project. We decided that we have enough work set up for us to work on the details of our projects already set up and didn’t need any additional projects at this time.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 15th, 2022**

**Agenda:**  Julie **Minutes:**  Rose **Opening Prayer:**  Pat W.  **Closing Prayer:** Cyndi

**Communication with Kathy Chadick (**Bulletin): Julie

**Communication with Michelle Hayes** (Facebook): Fiona