**Strangers No Longer Zoom Minutes: April 18, 2023 7PM**

**Attendance:**  Julie Watanabe, Pat Watanabe, Rose Pikor, Fiona Archer, Pat Boland-Saoud, Kathy Best, Sue Johnston, Mary Lou LaTorre, Donna Nesbitt, Bill O’Brien, Earon DeLaCruz**Opening Prayer:** Donna Nesbitt

**Updates:**

* Safe Driving Bills have been introduced in the state legislature on 4/12, but hearing dates are still to be scheduled.
* Advocacy for Drive Safe bills: May 19th -25th. Various activities are taking place, such as emailing, calling legislators, educating friends and neighbors about the bills and possible taking a day trip to Lansing.
* Zoom planning meeting: Saturday, May 6th at 10:00 – 11:15.

**Christian Service Update:** Cyndi emailed minutes from the Christian Service meeting to all SNL members and none had any questions about the minutes.

**New/Continued Business:**

* Communion Lenten Service:

1. We reviewed our Lenten Communion service. We agreed that using children (from the musical group) to generate a Q and A homily was successful. We mentioned correcting the microphone for better hearing. Mention was made that St. Michael has purchased a new microphone for future use. Hearing the children’s stories of being ostracized for their heritage was very interesting.
2. Julie reminded us of the CNN link she had sent which dealt with the immigration trail through Canada. Discussion was had on possibly using these types of stories for our homily at our next year’s Communion Lenten Service. We might want to start to focus on generating information showing what immigrants have to go through in seeking asylum, and on immigration policies.

* Easter Basket Review:

1. The baskets were all delivered to Sister Val and to Sister Martha.
2. Sister Martha sent pictures of the children receiving the baskets and Julie shared them with us. We plan on putting those into the Messenger.
3. We will continue to use the cubes next year.
4. The smaller gifts bags for the teens worked well and we will continue with that.
5. Any items which are now on sale (ex. grass) can be purchased and stored at St. Michael’s if need for use next year.

**Fundraiser Banquet:**

* The hall will be open for set-up at 11:30 and clean-up by 5:00. We plan on using about 10 kids from high schools to help.
* Santos’s band from Romeo will play when seating starts.
* Ukrainian dancers will perform at the beginning of the event.
* The centerpieces (wine bottles with lights) had been prepared at Pat Watanabe’s house and she will deliver them to the hall.
* Cyndi will oversee the baskets transportation, and generate description basket cards.

There will be 27 baskets, with 11 of them having been donated from St. Michael’s. Raffle tickets will be sold in the hall.

* Julie has more purchased tickets to pass out to guests at the hall.

**Upcoming Events:**

* Nancy Juarez’s baby is due early May.
* We need a volunteer to write a bulletin article for the Messengers explaining all the events SNL has done (Easter baskets, Lenten Communion Service and the Fundraiser)

**Closing Prayer:**  Julie

**Next Meeting:** May 16th Zoom at 7PM

**Agenda:**  Julie **Minutes:** Rose **Opening Prayer/Closing Prayer:** Pat Boland-Saoud/

Pat Watanabe

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

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