**Strangers No Longer Zoom Minutes: October 18, 2022**

**Attendance:** Julie Watanabe, Rose Pikor, Cyndi Malow, Sr. Martha De-La-Torre, Fiona Archer, Pat Watanabe, Sue Johnston, Kathy Best, Mary Lou La Torre, Carol Schroeder

We are working on a 40 minute zoom meeting and Donna is our Timekeeper today. The report on Christian Service will be e-mailed by Cyndi rather than incorporating it this zoom meeting.

**Opening Prayer:**  Sue Johnston

**SNL Updates:**

1. SNL Public Assembly on Immigration Advocacy has been moved to Friday, December 9th from 10:00 -1:00 PM to be held at the Millwrights and Carpenters Training Center located at 11687 American Avenue, Detroit. More information can be found on the PowerPoint. You can register at the SNL Website. All are invited.

* The meeting will include our Macomb Leaders and local officials to discuss the needs of immigrant families.
* Rick and Cathy Faba will be involved with working with some of these needs, such as, having licenses available to the immigrants. Other issues to be discussed include: bank accounts, ID for driver’s licenses, health needs, transportation, translators (especially in the schools), and profiling by law enforcers.
* Sister Martha, working with the Women of Circle of Support, is working with the Advocacy Platform. Bill O’Brien is working to broaden the smaller Advocacy group into one much larger. Sr. Martha gave as an example that if every Circle brings in 20 people, that would increase the group to 300 people.
* Plans are to generate a flyer.
* The goal is to take the message to Congress and then finally to the White House.
* Press coverage and good attendance is desired.
* After the Advocacy Trimester is done, the next Trimester will be the Fundraiser and the last Trimester will be on Education.

1. Fundraiser Update:

* A tentative date is on April 15, 2023.
* Pat will again help with organizing the event this year. This year we will need to work with more committees to help equalize the workload. Last year relied on a small amount of volunteers. Some areas committees can work on are: finding a hall (300-350 guests), catering, hall and table set ups and cleanup crew after the event, finding efficient ways to sell 50/50 raffle tickets (ex. online), and work on baskets to raffle again.
* Pat mentioned that we would like to have Richard Bernstein, ( Judge) as our guest speaker.
* Finding a hall is our first priority. We might try to use the same hall as last year, even though the sound system could have been better.
* We discussed having two food lines, as it took a long time last year with one line.
* Donna asked how we could set up the committees and Pat suggested she would meet with Rick and Cathy Faba to get a list of possible people.
* It has been decided that Bill won’t ask for money at the end of the luncheon as he did last year. Many commented on how they had already paid for the lunch ticket and a 50/50 raffle ticket and felt that this was asking for extra money.

**New/Continued Business for Circle:**

1. Sister Val is working with a couple of families who are seeking asylum and are moving into an apartment. Pat found some furniture for them and she and Sister Val have found some movers who will move it to the 2nd floor. The families are in need of winter coats. Sr. Val will get the sizes to us for us to be able to help.
2. Rose and Donna wrote an article on Mother Cabrini and Sr. Norma Pimentel which was printed in the Messenger. Our donations in their honor was sent to : the Agape Center, and Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley,
3. SNL is the recipient for the PRYSM holiday food boxes.
4. SNL is a recipient for the Giving Tree Program. The gift cards will be picked up on December 6th
5. Christmas Stockings Project:

* This will be an exclusive SNL project. We have money for the project.
* We could work with a list on Amazon which would also help Michelle Hayes in helping us if needed. We could also use gift cards. Cyndi commented on how Michelle enjoyed shopping for us last year in filling the stockings.
* This year we will focus on sending the Christmas stockings to Sr. Val. She will give us the information describing the age and gender for the stockings.
* Donna and Kathy Best have already begun sewing the stockings.
* Julie will generate a Genius list for us to sign up for donations.
* We will meet in (Dec. 3rd) at the Church to fill the stockings.
* Last year we donated 19 and this year we would like to donate 20-25.

1. We will continue with our education by learning about Father Romo, who is the patron saint of border crossings. Julie will send out materials in advance of our meeting for us to review information about him.

**Next Meeting:** Tues. Nov. 15th **Agenda:** Julie **Minutes:** Rose

**Opening Prayer:** Pat **Closing Prayer:** Pat

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

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

**Christian Service Report:** Cyndi (e-mail) **Timekeeper (**zoom: 40 min.) TBD