**ST. DAMIAN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023, 7:00 PM**

**2022-23 PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS**: President – Adam Fuehne, Vice President – Mech Toennies, Secretary - Denise Luitjohan

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**: Adam Fuehne, Denise Luitjohan, Mech Toennies, Florence Jansen, Roger Toennies, Emily Schirmer, Beth Brandmeyer, Norm Horstmann, Kay Toennies, Hermena

**EX-OFFCIO**: Father Matthew Elie, Deacon Kevin Templin, Deacon Glenn Netemeyer, Arlene Korte (absent), Virgil Jansen.

**BUILDING & MAINTENANCE:** Darryl has replaced the toilet in the Parish House. The trees in the picnic ground area need to be addressed since they are fast growing and need to be removed, a tree service may need to be used. The restrooms in the gym are currently out of order, Darryl has been in contact with a plumber about the situation. The tank has been pumped out and it will be watched for the next few days. The Superintendent is looking into funding from the State or other possible options. If necessary, the Holy Name and the Finance Committee will be approached to assist in funding. Hermana has offered any help with the work that the Hispanic community will help.

**PARISH LIFE:** First Communion will be held on Sunday April 21st this Mass will be at 9:00 AM

The Ladies Sodality’s Mexican Fish Fry will be held on Friday February 9th. There has been a lack of interest and attendance at the Ladies Sodality meetings. Looking for ways to increase attendance. Christmas decorations in church will be taken down on January 13th.

**HISPANIC REPORT:** Maria has announced that the Hispanic community would like to donate a new Lady of Guadalope painting and requesting that it be placed where the tabernacle had been before. The Posadas is currently going on, this is a prayer for 7 days before Christmas and is held in a different town each evening.

**NEW BUSINESS**: Joint Christmas party with St. Bernard’s Parish Council was discussed and a date to be determined. A new Parish Directory is being planned by St. Bernards and Deacon has asked for volunteers from St. Damian’s to assist. Beth Brandmeyer and Emily Schirmer have noted that they will discuss and possibly take on this task.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Father Elie closed the meeting with a prayer.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, February 20, 2023.

**Minutes taken by Denise Luitjohan**

**As always, all parish council meetings are open to the public. Please inform the parish secretary if you would like to speak to a topic or voice a concern so it can be added to the agenda.**