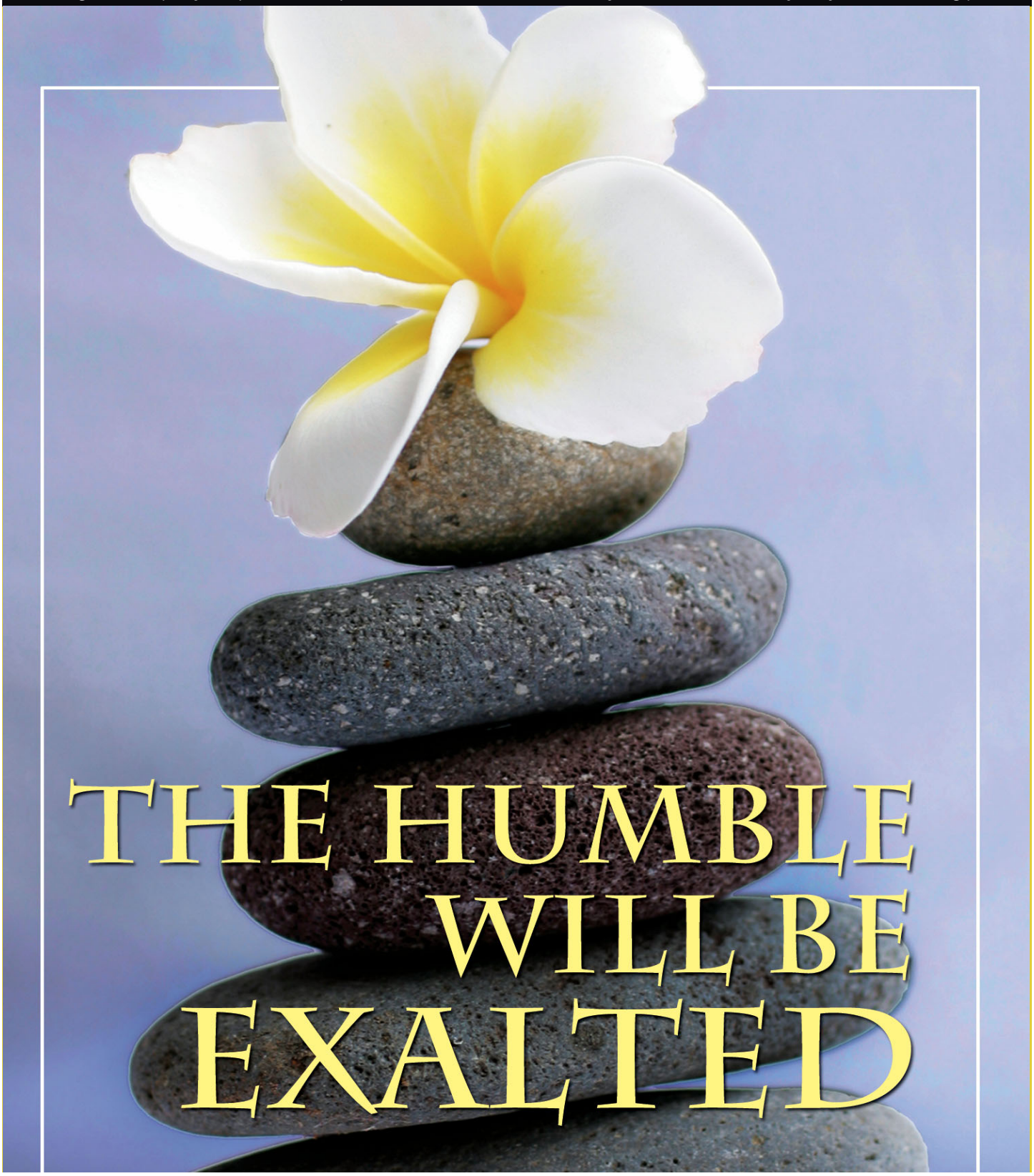
ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

August 28, 2022

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Following the example of our patron St. Stephen, we are called to be witnesses of God's love and to be a faith-filled, reconciling parish.



ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR CATHOLIC CHURCH

3949 Wilmington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63116
314-481-1133

Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Friday: 8 a.m. to noon
Closed Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays

saintstephenstl.org

SSPstl
SSPCatholicSchool

StStephenSTL

StStephenProtomartyr

StStephenProtomartyr

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Pastoral Associate
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Please send news, photos, or bulletin articles to Stephanie Wobbe.

SCHOOL OFFICE

3929 Wilmington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63116
314-752-4700

D. Greg Sturgill
Principal
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Amanda Quinn
Administrative Assistant
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Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. — Luke 14:13-14

One of the main principles of living a stewardship lifestyle is to give without expecting anything in return. This is difficult for some to comprehend in our "consumerist" culture. Many parish communities have become heavily dependent on parish fundraising events to support the mission and ministry of their local parish. Generally speaking, at a parish fundraiser you pay money and receive something in return; it's just a financial transaction, opposed to our parish offertory at Holy Mass, where you unite your sacrifice with Jesus's, renewing the covenant relationship with Him.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

August 21 Contribution	$ 2,220.50
Online giving contribution	$ 2,876.00
Total weekly contribution	**$ 5,096.50**
Tuition Assistance	$ 270.00
Renovation & Improvement	$ 219.00
St. Vincent de Paul Society	$ 110.00

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday, Passion of St. John the Baptist: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102; Mk 6:17-29 ● **Tuesday:** 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14; Lk 4:31-37 ● **Wednesday:** 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21Lk 4:38-44 ● **Thursday:** 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11 ● **Friday:** 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39 ● **Saturday, St. Gregory:** 1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21; Lk 6:1-5 ● **23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time:** Wis 9:13-18b; Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 & 17; Phmn 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

Monday August 29	Tuesday August 30	Wednesday August 31	Thursday September 1	Friday September 2	Saturday September 3	Sunday September 4
NO MASS	Mass 8am Perpetual Help Devotions	Mass 8am (with Grades 6-8) PTO Dine-Around @ Stacked 11am-9pm	Mass 8am (with Grades 1-2)	Mass 8am (with Grades 3-5)	Mass 4pm	Mass 9am **DONUT SUNDAY**

Are you new to St. Stephen's parish or school? Here's an opportunity to meet other "newbies"!

COMING UP ...

Aug. 31 — PTO Dine Around at Stacked STL

Sept. 4 — Donut Sunday (& chocolate bars for sale)

Sept. 10-11 — Saturday confessions resume at 3 p.m.; new Sunday Mass schedule begins, 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Sept. 11 — New Families Meet and Greet (above)

Sept. 17 — SSP Fall Festival: Mass at 4 p.m. followed by dinner and live music

Oct. 15 — PTO Trivia Night

Oct. 28 — Trunk or Treat

ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

REMINDER: YOUNG ADULT SURVEY

All young adults aged 18-39 are encouraged to submit the Young Adult Survey. If you haven't already, please submit your survey before **Sept. 12**.

allthingsnew.archstl.org/ways-to-engage/young-adult-survey

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

In the charity of your prayers, please remember **Christien Pope**, sister of **Kevin Childers,** and **Richard Schmidt** (SSP '65), the brother of **Gloria Schmidt**, both of whom died recently**.** May they rest in peace.

NEW PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

In early September **Gina Beach** will be joining our staff as parish office manager. (June Tessin's last day in our office is Aug. 31.)

Gina has been employed by the Archdiocese in various capacities for many years, at the parish level and otherwise. She most recently worked in the offices of the Annual Catholic Appeal. Welcome, Gina!

NEW TO THE SCHOOL STAFF

We are pleased to add to our staff **Karen Goedeker** as physical education instructor.

Karen is the proud grandmother of three of our students. Welcome, Karen!

CHASE YOUR DONUT WITH A CHOCOLATE BAR

In support of our PTO programs, school families are selling the self-proclaimed World's Finest Chocolate bars now until Sept. 16! Our classrooms are competing to see who can sell the most, so buy from a school family if you know one. Or support the cause by buying a few bars at Donut Sunday on **Sept. 4**. Bars are $1 each; several varieties are available.

ABC RAFFLE AUG 2022 WINNERS

S/7: Mary Ellen Holdenried ~ $100
S/6: Carol Sestric ~ $25
S/8: Beth Schlegel ~ $25
S/5: Joe & Michelle Rusch ~ $10
S/9: Charlotte Sielfleisch ~ $10

Congratulations!

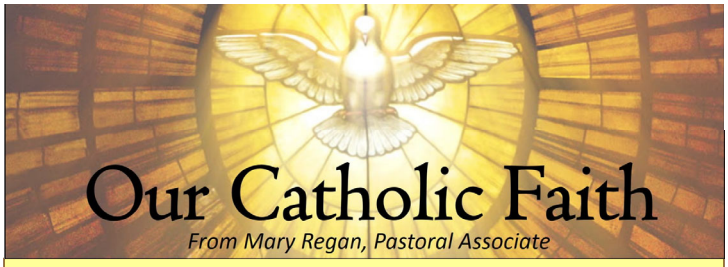
Congratulations

The Cardinal Rigali Award is presented annually to Archdiocesan employees and volunteers who exhibit selfless devotion to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in parishes, schools, and agencies throughout the Archdiocese.

We are most pleased that parishioner **Judy Hammer** will be one of the worthy recipients of this year's award, which will be presented to her at a Mass and luncheon at the Rigali Center next month.

Judy's contributions to our community are many and varied -- and largely behind the scenes. She is a hospitality minister at our Sunday Masses and assumes the same role in an unofficial way at our weekday Masses. She is the secretary of our St. Vincent de Paul Society. She calls and visits many of our homebound parishioners, delivering bulletins or fish-fry meals. She spends her Thursday mornings as a "heavenly duster," doing light cleaning in the church.

We thank you, Judy, for your quiet dedication and service for these many years.



SYMBOLS: OIL

Oil is a part of our everyday life. We use some types of oil in cooking, others to soothe our skin, others to light lamps, fuel cars and heat our homes. Oil can also be damaging. It can spill into rivers and oceans; frying with oil can cause burns; oil from our cars pollute the atmosphere.

In Biblical times oil was a sign of God's presence when used to anoint those chosen as priests, prophets, and kings. Oil was also used in sacrifices and used to honor the body after death.

Oil is used in four of our sacraments: baptism, confirmation, holy orders, and anointing of the sick. It is also used for the dedication of altars and churches. The oil symbolizes how the Spirit permeates those who are being anointed and strengthens them for the task at hand — such as living the Christian life in the case of confirmation, or serving as a priest or bishop. The healing quality of oil is symbolic in its use in the anointing of the sick.

There are three different oils that are used in the sacramental life of the Church: 1) the oil of the catechumens for the baptism of infants and adults preparing for initiation; 2) the oil of the sick for the anointing of the sick; and 3) sacred chrism for baptism, confirmation, holy orders, and during the consecration of churches and altars.

These oils are blessed every year on Holy Thursday at the Chrism Mass at the cathedral and then given to each parish for use during the upcoming year. The oil used is olive oil. Sacred Chrism is olive oil mixed with balsam or some other sweet perfume. At St. Stephen our sacramental oils are kept in the ambry located in the glass case in the narthex screen in the back of church.

ACE CARDS GRADUATING TO "RAISE RIGHT"

Due to the decline in physical gift card orders in our ACE program, the Finance Committee has decided to no longer accept orders through the church office. Often, the cost of shipping the cards (paid by SSP) is more than the school's proceeds from the sale. Operating this program at a loss doesn't make sense.

Does this mean the program and its benefits are going away? Absolutely not! We encourage everyone to download the **RaiseRight app** on your smartphone. Create a profile and connect a credit card or bank account to your profile. When asked for the school code, enter **C1D7C62E7631**. SSP will get the same benefits as with the orders placed through our office.

Vendors offer e-cards, physical cards, or both. When you place your order, select the type of card. Physical cards will need to be mailed to your home, as SSP can no longer cover the cost of shipping the cards. Take note that shipping options are vendor-specific; some may not ship cards to your home.

We will no longer hold inventory in the parish office. There are a few Walgreens and Walmart cards still available. If you are interested in purchasing these cards, call us first at 314-481-1133.

Thank you for your loyal support of our school!

Grace Mueller
Sebastian Nigro
Gina Thier
Deborah Bennett
Kasey Break
Joan Cooke
Doris Fournelle
Alison Hughes
Micheal Kop
Bob Wiley
David Eschmann
Christopher Houska
Mike Schwent
Ann Wright
Andrew Hane
Ivan Juresic
Andrew Scheumbauer
Connie Street
Justin Summary
Brendan Dwyer
Stephanie Metz
Fred Wessels
Steven Anderson
Theodore Kleffner
Timothy McDonnell
George Raby
Laura Rettig
Jeanne Cantalin
Edzil Keenan
Ryan King
Ollie Borgmeyer
John Winfrey
Steven Gaydos
Morgan McManus
Sharon Sahaida
Danielle Schaberg
John Cantalin
Amy Cervantes
Travis Dawson

Jean Duda
Jaxon Mulligan
Blaine Bauer
Devin Guerrero
Andrew Mohan
Mary Powers
Pam Ryan
Linda Seemiller
Eva Tokos
Susan Welch
Sophie Wilcox
Marian Gartner
Amelia Larsen
Felix Dooley
Bridgette Fyvie
Ryan Lynch
Dennis Carosello
Karleigh Cotner
Daniel Hennen
Laura Schulte
Joseph Thung
Marshall Dennis
Ian Fyvie
Michelle Garavaglia
Natalie Hughes
Jane Kavanaugh
Eric McMahon
Olivia Peters
Joseph Bennett
Mike Mohan
Tilahun Murphy
Jason Pearson
Kelly Terry
Joan Trull
Christy Jones
Megan Mahfood
Marianne Powers
Rita Wich
Maria Kim

Kathleen Thier
Dale Crittenden
Julie Immer
Rosemarie Voss
Barb Krus
Sarah Schulte
Sheila Letz
Erin Merli
Zach Mohr
Ollie Wunderlich
Elye Arnold
Lottie Knapp
Eileen O'Sullivan
Finn Seher
Jean Szerzinski
Dennis Jenkerson
Tara Jenney
Stella Lang
Margaret Lee
Dianna Caruso
Sandy Gaydos
Tom Goodman
Lynette Sielfleisch
Quentin Anderson
Rebecca Chambers
Petra Clerc
Ella Conley
Kenna Haines
Lucas Haines
Ellen Hinkle
Gary Nipper
Michael Whalen
Frank Krueger
Rosemary Werner
Charlotte Wobbe
Joy Lampe
Angie Peters
Frank Rankin
Emmanuel Tomas

LITTLE IS MUCH WHEN GOD IS INVOLVED

Minister and writer **Philip Gulley** tells this story in his book *The Evolution of Faith: How God Is Creating a Better Christianity*:

"In a Quaker meeting I once pastored, an elderly woman had committed herself to works of mercy. As I got to know her better, I was astounded at the many ways in which she had blessed hurting people. Though her income was modest, she lived simply so she could give generously. Though her many commitments kept her calendar full, she still found time to be present for those who needed comfort. The longer I knew her, the more I marveled at her charity, given the scarcity of her resources. Because of her humility, she was reluctant to talk with others about her own accomplishments. But one day she let slip the principle that guided her life, when she said to me, 'Little is much when God is in it.'

"I have thought of that many times since, appreciating its truth more and more as the years pass. Little does become much when love is present. Love does magnify our works. Jesus knew this. He knew even the smallest gesture of love could transform the darkest situation and so fully committed himself to divine love that we are still awed by his life. Believe me when I tell you this: we can be like him, and like all the other God-bearers our world has known. It is key to the future of our faith."

In Baptism, we take on Jesus' work of mercy and commitment to service. To follow the Gospel Jesus begins with embracing Jesus' humility: humility that realizes that we are not the center of all things but part of a much larger world, humility that is centered in gratitude for all the blessings we have received as a result of the depth of God's love and not because of anything we have done to deserve it, humility that seeks God's grace in doing for others. From the perspective of Christ-like humility, the seeming "little" we can give, the "little" we can affect positively, the "little" our abilities to serve can become a great deal when done with a sense of God's grace and love.

Connections, August 2022

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 29
No Mass

Tuesday, August 30
8 a.m. — Marianne Marx

Wednesday, August 31
8 a.m. — Richard Schmidt

Thursday, September 1
8 a.m. — J. & F. Crisafulli

Friday, September 2
8 a.m. — Charlene Deeken

Saturday, September 3
4 p.m. — Our Parishioners

Sunday, September 4
9 a.m. — James Liermann

OUR SICK AND RECOVERING

Liz Bentrup
Marshall Dennis
Janice Doerhoff
Ann Dosenbach
Larry Esswein
Harley Gardner
Lois Herberts
Jan Oppelt
Chuck Pemberton
Rita Schweiger
Cathy Torrillo
Helen Willmann
Virginia Zenthoefer

OUR FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY

Derek Hirtz
Sam May
Tristan Moylan
Brian Schoellhorn
Dylan Schulte
Mitch Sollmann

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

Eucharist

Saturday: Mass, 4 p.m.
Sunday: Mass, 9 a.m.
Tuesday-Friday: Mass, 8 a.m.

Reconciliation

Please call Father Ron at 314-481-1133, ext. 305, to make an appointment.

Infant and Child Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated after any weekend Mass. Parents are asked to call Mary Regan at 314-481-1133, ext 311, to arrange a date and time.

Adult Initiation / Reception Into the Church

Any adult who would like to know more about our Catholic faith and / or who is interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church, please call Mary Regan at 314-481-1133, ext 311.

Marriage

Please contact Mary Regan at 314-481-1133, ext 311, at least six months prior to the planned date of marriage.

Anointing of the Sick

We have a communal celebration of this sacrament at the weekend liturgies in the fall and in the spring. If you would like to be anointed before entering the hospital or if you are homebound, please call Mary Regan at 314-481-1133, ext 311.

Parish School of Religion

PSR offers formal classes in our Catholic faith for children aged 4 years through high school. Classes are held on the campus of St. John the Baptist Parish. To enroll, contact the PSR director at 314-773-3070.

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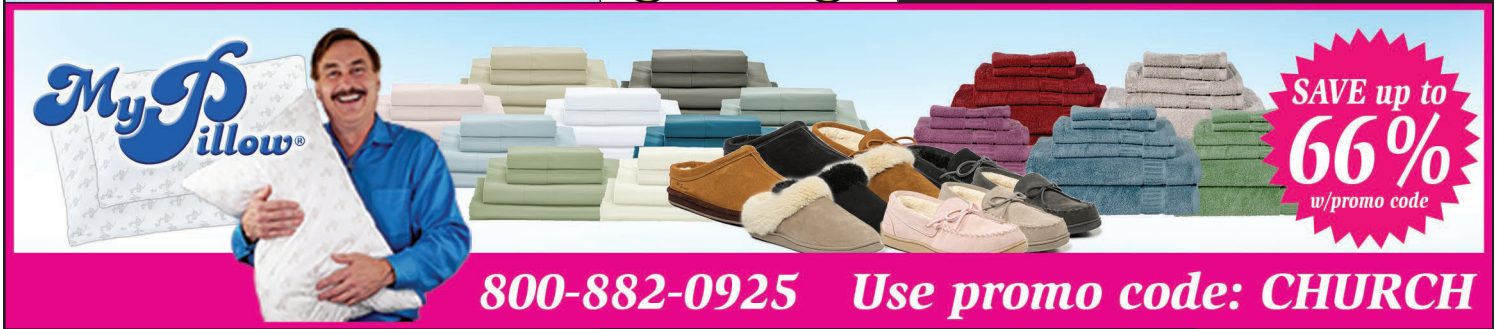

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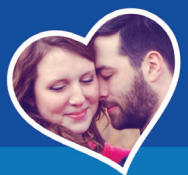

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