



St. Stephen the Martyr  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
*Encounter, Know, Proclaim*

May 21, 2023

## Pray & Worship

### Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday-Friday at 6:30 AM & 8:15 AM\*;  
Saturday at 8:15 AM\*

Weekend: Saturday at 5:00 PM; Sunday at 7:30 AM,  
9:00 AM, 10:30 AM\* & 6:00 PM

\*These Masses will be live-streamed on our Facebook  
page ([https://www.facebook.com/  
StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha](https://www.facebook.com/StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha)) and our website  
([stephen.org/live-stream](http://stephen.org/live-stream))

### Private Prayer

Daily Mass Chapel and Worship Space are open  
from 9 AM to 9 PM Monday-Friday and from 10 AM  
to 6 PM on Saturday-Sunday. The Adoration Chapel  
is open 24/7; door access code: 9675\*

### Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hours

Mondays from 7-8 PM in the Worship Space

## Contact Us

### Parish Office:

Phone: (402) 896-9675

Emergency: (402) 896-9675 ext 2

Office Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, M-F

**Pastor:** Fr. David Belt

**Associate Pastor:** Fr. Zach Tucker

**Staff Contact Info:** [stephen.org/staff](http://stephen.org/staff)

**Bulletin Deadline:** Monday, 5 PM

Submit requests to Leslie at [l.schulte@stephen.org](mailto:l.schulte@stephen.org).

Support the Catholic Communication Campaign



Communication  
Builds Community

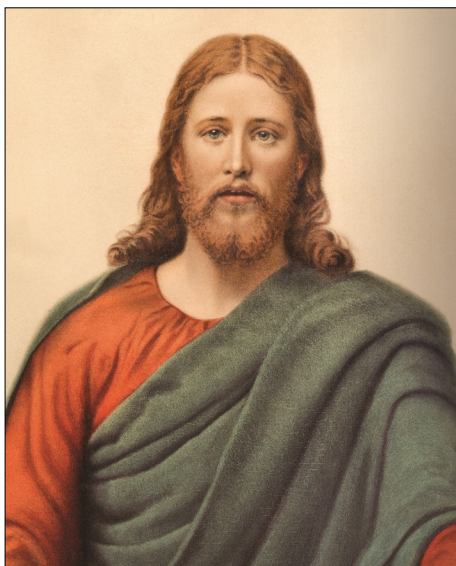
## Second Collection for Catholic Communication Campaign during all Masses on May 20 & 21

The Catholic Communication Campaign helps the  
Church spread the Gospel message in the U.S. and  
in developing countries using modern media tools  
to inform, inspire, and enlighten.

Give in person at Mass this weekend  
during the second collection or give  
online by scanning the QR code or  
visiting [stephen.org/give](http://stephen.org/give).



Thank you for your generosity!



## 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

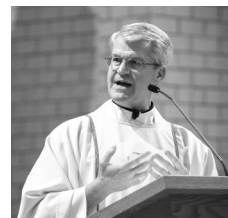
Jesus raised his eyes to  
heaven and said, "Father,  
the hour has come. Give  
glory to your son, so that  
your son may glorify you."  
- Jn 17:1

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPH

## Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

*"When they entered the city they went to the upper room where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and His brothers."*



Once Jesus ascended into heaven, the beloved that He left behind gather in the upper room to reflect on what had happened and to prepare for what was to come. The first followers of Jesus remain faithful to His instructions to wait in Jerusalem so that the promise of the gift of the Spirit might be fulfilled. They take this opportunity to pray and reflect in peace and quiet before the fire of the Holy Spirit fills their hearts and sends them to proclaim the Gospel to all nations.

It is important for us as Jesus' beloved in the world today to follow the example of the first followers of Our Lord. It is good for us to find peace and quiet, to reflect on the past events of our lives and to prayerfully prepare for what is to come. So often we are bombarded with people, events, and problems to solve that we fail to take the time to find meaning in our lives. We fail to take a prayerful look at our busy existence to see how God continues to be present and how He shares His grace and love with us. No wonder we sometimes have problems recognizing God present in our lives. We don't look for Him in prayer often enough!

When is the last time that you had an "upper room" experience, where you shut out the noise of life to prayerfully reflect on the past and ask God for wisdom, courage, and faith for the future?

*"We experience God in three ways: Beyond us; among us and within us"*  
—Frederick Buechner

God Bless you,  
Father Dave



## Congratulations!

Hailey Schroer & Michael Buck

*Our faith community wishes  
you many blessings!*

16701 "S" Street, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675 | [stephen.org](http://stephen.org)

*St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church is a community for all people to encounter Christ, know Christ, and proclaim Christ.*

## Sacraments

### Reconciliation

Tuesday: 5:30-6:30 PM & Saturday: 3:30-4:45 PM

### Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays. Parents are required to attend a preparation class. Contact the parish office for information or visit: [stephen.org/sacraments](http://stephen.org/sacraments).

### Matrimony

Preparation for Marriage begins at least 6 months prior to the desired wedding date. Contact parish office for more information.

### Anointing of the Sick

Contact Deacon Denny at (402) 861-4538 or [d.dethlefs@stephen.org](mailto:d.dethlefs@stephen.org).

### Homebound Eucharist

Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Parish office phone number: (402) 896-9675

## Financial Stewardship

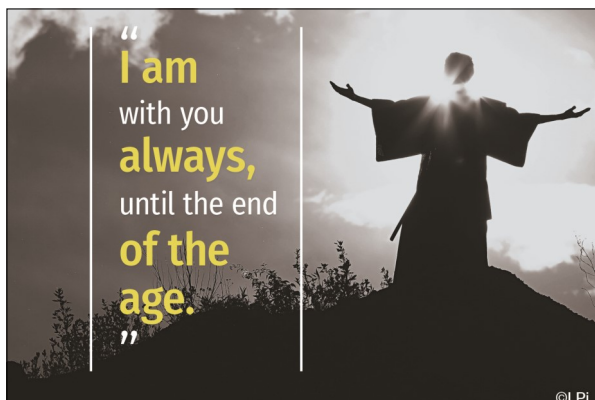
### Offertory & Online Giving 5/9-5/15/2023:

Actual:	\$38,322
Budget:	\$49,894
FYTD Actual:	\$2,177,756
FYTD Budget:	\$2,320,063

St. Stephen the Martyr operates on a Fiscal Year from July 1—June 30

### Thank you for your generous giving!

Your financial support is vital to the well-being of our church and school. To make a gift simply scan the QR code or go to [stephen.org/give](http://stephen.org/give). Offertory envelopes may also be mailed to our office: 16701 S Street, Omaha, NE 68135.



*"I am praying for them..."*

*John 17:9*

Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation - not just our last resort. Pray for friends and family, and especially for those that don't treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank, and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given you. Teach others how to pray. It has been said that teaching someone how to pray is the best gift you can give someone.

*#stewardshipreflection*

## School News

**United in Christ to ignite the joy of faith, community, and learning.**

- ⇒ **Congratulations 8th Graders!** Congratulations to our eighth grade graduates, Class of 2023, who graduated this past Friday. We are so proud of each and every one of you and can't wait to see what your future holds!
- ⇒ **Order Your 23-24 School Supply Packs:** Home & School is again organizing the sale of school supply packs through Educational Products, Inc. (EPI). School Supply Packs ordered through EPI are delivered directly to the school and placed in your child's classroom before Back to School Night. To order, visit [educationalproducts.com/ShopPacks](http://educationalproducts.com/ShopPacks) and enter school code STS021. Be sure to order for your child's 2023/2024 grade level. The order deadline is May 23, 2023.
- ⇒ **Open Home & School Positions:** We are preparing for another year of supporting our school! We have several open positions for Martyr Marathon and other committees. To view the positions and sign up, visit [school.stephen.org/volunteer](http://school.stephen.org/volunteer).
- ⇒ **Home & School Night At the Ball Park:** Join us May 31st at Werner Park to cheer on the Storm Chasers! We encourage families to purchase tickets on the Berm so we can all sit together & kids can see their friends. Tickets are \$10 each and the game starts at 7:05 PM. Reserve your tickets at: [milb.com/omaha](http://milb.com/omaha).
- ⇒ **Enrollment for 2023/2024 School Year:** We still have space in most classes for the 23-24 school year, including our incoming Kindergarten class! Request a tour or apply at [school.stephen.org/admissions](http://school.stephen.org/admissions).

## Religious Education News

- ⇒ **Religious Education 2023-2024 Registration:** Don't wait to register for next year! Please register early to help us in our planning for next year. Visit our website at [stephen.org/re-registration](http://stephen.org/re-registration) to register or call our office if you have any questions at 402-896-5683.
- ⇒ **Vacation Bible School:** We are getting there but we are still in need of a few Astronauts to run our necessary command modules and equip our youth at St. Stephens with an out of this world experience at VBS! Our goal is to shine Jesus' light and love to over 200 children! Can you help us? Scan the QR code.
- ⇒ **VBS Donations Signup:** We are in need of items to make our Vacation Bible School the best experience possible for our children. Scan the QR to sign up to bring items!



## Youth Ministry News

- ⇒ **Totus Tuus Summer Camp:** Open to grades 1-12 on Jul 9-14. Hosted in partnership with St. Wenceslaus. Visit [stephen.org/totus-tuus](http://stephen.org/totus-tuus) for more information.

# Safe Environment Certification

**Wednesday, May 24th**

**7 - 9 PM**

**St. Stephen the Martyr - Dining Room**

Training is free of charge, but registration is required.  
Register online at: [omaha.cmgconnect.org](http://omaha.cmgconnect.org)  
Questions? Contact Melissa Kane at [m.kane@stephen.org](mailto:m.kane@stephen.org) or at (402) 896-9675.



# Tailgate #1



**Family Picnic**  
**Saturday, June 3rd**

**6 PM after Mass**  
**In front of the Parish Center**

**Kick off the summer with fun & fellowship!**

- Bring your own lawn chairs/blankets, games & favorite beverages.
- Let the Knights of Columbus do the cooking! All meals will include chips, baked beans, water, and a choice of:
  - Hamburger, cheeseburger or brat for \$8
  - Hot dog for \$5
  - Families of 5 or more \$30 max
- Kona Ice Truck!



## VOLLEYBALL REGISTRATION & TRYOUTS

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR  
ST. STEPHEN GIRLS IN GRADES 3-8

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 29TH  
TRYOUTS ARE ON JUNE 3RD

For registration and more info,  
scan the QR Code or visit:  
[stephen.org/sports-club-volleyball](http://stephen.org/sports-club-volleyball)



## Council of Catholic Women Announce “Woman of the Year” Award Winner



Thank you for your nominations for the Council of Catholic Women’s “Woman of the Year” Award. The Council of Catholic Women supports, empowers, and educates the Catholic women in the Archdiocese of Omaha, specifically in the areas of spirituality, service and leadership.

Tammy Hill has been blessed by Fr. Dave as this year’s Woman of the Year. She along with 19 other women throughout the archdiocese of Omaha were honored during a private luncheon hosted by the Omaha Urban Council of Catholic Women.

Congratulations, Tammy!



## New Statue of the Risen Christ Installed in the Worship Space

Last week, lighting was installed to complete the installation of our new Risen Christ statue. The image of the Risen Christ was installed over the source of our new life, the baptismal font, and opposite the Crucifix, which is placed near the altar of sacrifice.

After 10:30 AM Mass last Sunday, May 14th, Fr. Dave Belt blessed our new statue. Thank you for your support of St. Stephen the Martyr.

*"As Christ was raised, we too will live a new life."*

## WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

**Question:** Why does the Church have different liturgical cycles?

**Answer:** While most Catholics know that the Church Year is divided into various seasons (e.g. Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, etc.), many are unaware that the one Church Year is not like the one that follows. While the main seasons and feasts are the same from year to year, the 3-year cycle for Sundays and the 2-year cycle for weekdays means that, as a general rule, the readings in the Lectionary that we hear at Mass will change from year to year, helping us to have a richer encounter with Sacred Scripture. Each new cycle begins with the beginning of the liturgical year, the First Sunday of Advent. The reasoning behind this innovation is outlined in Sacrosanctum Concilium, the "Dogmatic Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy" of the Second Vatican Council: "The treasures of the bible are to be opened up more lavishly, so that richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God's word. In this way a more representative portion of the holy scriptures will be read to the people in the course of a prescribed number of years" (no. 51). This was fully achieved in 1969 when the new cycles of readings were approved by Pope Saint Paul VI. ©LPi



**Class of 2023 High School Seniors are invited to receive a Baccalaureate Blessing at all Masses on June 3rd & 4th.**

*\*Please check in at the Gathering Space table before Mass.*

## PrimeTimers Upcoming Events



**PAR, PIZZA, PALMER  
19th Hole Golf  
Party**

Join us at 6 PM on  
Thursday, June 29th  
in the Parish Center.

Slip on those golf pants, skirts and shorts, dazzle us with your socks and shirts - you might even need a visor and some bling! Pizza and salad will be served and you know we'll have some games and fun! Cost is \$15 and reservations are needed by June 18th.

**Watch for more information about our upcoming plans to see "Spamalot" at Ralston Theater in July!**

**Every 2nd & 4th Thursday at 1 PM in the GPC:** Everyone is welcome! Bring your favorite board game or join a group for pitch, pinochle, bridge, dominos, or tripoli. Bring a snack to share, an item for the St. Stephen food pantry & a friend or partner! Sign up for our emails at [stephen.org/primetimers](http://stephen.org/primetimers).

## Now Hiring



## Pastoral Care Coordinator

Saint Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church is seeking a Pastoral Care Coordinator. The successful candidate will be a compassionate and caring individual who will oversee all apostolates that are dedicated to the physical and spiritual care of our parish community.

The responsibilities of this position are shaped by the Works of Mercy of the Catholic Church and work in collaboration with the Pastor and Director of Mission. For more information or to apply, scan the QR code.



## ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST



## Eucharistic Adoration

Mondays from 7-8 PM  
in the Worship Space

**“ACT AND  
GOD WILL  
ACT, WORK  
AND HE  
WILL WORK.”**

- ST. JOAN OF ARC





# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer,  
together with some women,  
and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.  
(Acts 1:14)

### Psalm:

I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in  
the land of the living. (Ps 51)  
Or Alleluia.

### Second Reading:

If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are  
you,  
for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.  
(1 Pt 4:14)

### Gospel:

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said,  
"Father, the hour has come.  
Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify  
you." (Jn 17:1)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of  
Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on  
English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

When the world sees us, do they see to whom  
we belong? In what ways are we most manifestly  
Christian? In prayer, in service, in sacrifice?  
Whatever it is, let us devote ourselves to it with  
one accord, so that Jesus Christ may be glorified  
in all that we do.

## Observances for the week of May 21, 2023

- Sunday:** The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day
- Monday:** St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
- Thursday:** St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Virgin
- Friday:** St. Philip Neri, Priest
- Saturday:** St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop
- Next Sunday:** Pentecost Sunday

## Join our Parish Family!

Welcome visitors and newcomers! If you would like to register as a parishioner, please visit [stephen.org](http://stephen.org). Click on "Become a Parishioner" in the footer of our website.

Contact Adam Ybarra at (402) 861-4507 or [a.ybarra@stephen.org](mailto:a.ybarra@stephen.org) with any questions and to chat about ways we can help you grow closer to Christ!

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, May 20

8:15 am † Jeffrey Kane, Jr. (DB)  
5:00 pm † Donald Wingert (ZT)

### Sunday, May 21

7:30 am † Linda DeHart (ZT)  
9:00 am SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB)  
10:30 am † Lewis Storm (DB)  
6:00 pm † Josephine Caliendo (DH)

### Monday, May 22

6:30 am † Lyle Samuelson (ZT)  
8:15 am † Mike Hupka (ZT)

### Tuesday, May 23

6:30 am SI Brandon & Liz Souba (ZT)  
8:15 am † Ines Rivera (ZT)

### Wednesday, May 24

6:30 am † Dora Isabel Rojas Gutierrez (ZT)  
8:15 am † Robert Jaeck (ZT)

### Thursday, May 25

6:30 am Communion Service  
8:15 am † Bob Mathine (CS)

### Friday, May 26

6:30 am SI Liz Souba (ZT)  
8:15 am SI Charlotte Souba (ZT)

### Saturday, May 27

8:15 am † Jeffrey Kane, Jr. (ZT)  
5:00 pm † Rodger Fawcett (DB)

### Sunday, May 28

7:30 am † Rosiemarie Prystai (DB)  
9:00 am SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB)  
10:30 am † Justin Chamberlain (ZT)  
6:00 pm SI Karlyn Knieriem (ZT)

SI = Special Intention † = Repose of the Soul

DB = Fr. Dave Belt; ZT = Fr. Zach Tucker;  
DH = Fr. Denny Hanneman;  
CS = Fr. Charles Swanson

Please note: Priest schedule subject to changes.  
\*If you'd like to reserve a Mass Intention, please  
contact Melissa in the parish office at  
[m.kane@stephen.org](mailto:m.kane@stephen.org) or 402-896-9675.



## Pray For...

### Parishioners who are sick/injured/healing:

**Chuck Skomol**, husband of Jane  
**Mary Azara**, mother of Sally Bishop  
**Barb Armstrong**, wife of Mike  
**Nancy Major Jaeck**  
**Ryan Huebner**, son of Marty and Cheryl

### Deceased souls of our parish family:

**Millard Blach**, father of Susan Ward; father in law of Dillon  
**Sarah Saldi**, wife of James; mother of Noah & Asha  
**Angelo Felici**, father of Tony  
**Zachary Fochek**, nephew/cousin of the Ruh family  
**Anna Ropp**  
**Joan Maier**, mother of Mike  
**John Kratina**, husband of Kathy

## News from the Community

### ST. PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP WITH FATHER PADRAIC STACK

Padre Pio said: "Let us gather periodically for prayer in common. Today's society does not pray, that is why it is falling apart." Join us for one hour of healing prayer with St. Padre Pio on Saturday, May 27th at 11 AM in the Dowd Chapel on Boys Town Campus. Please contact [cbazis@cox.net](mailto:cbazis@cox.net) with questions.

### COLLEGE STUDENTS: FIND YOUR NEW CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT JPII NEWMAN

Are you a student who will be attending college in Omaha for the 2023-24 school year? If you're looking for a vibrant community to be a part of, consider applying to live in Newman Hall! We still have some rooms open for residents, both male and female! Living here at JPII Newman, you get: built-in community, beautiful apartment-style housing, and the opportunity to grow in faith alongside your peers! For more information, go to: [www.jpiiomaha.org/housing](http://www.jpiiomaha.org/housing).

### YOUTH PRO-LIFE BOOTCAMP—JUNE 3RD

Hosted by Ablaze and LIFE Runners. Presented by Fr. Michael Voithofer, Bernadette Costello, Dr. Pat Castle. Sat, June 3rd, Ablaze House of Prayer, 11501 Fairview Rd, Springfield, NE. 5th-8th grades (10 AM to 2 PM). 9th-12th grades (4-10 PM). Meal provided. Life-saving education and soul-saving worship, All In Christ for Pro-Life! Register at [Ablazeworship.org](http://Ablazeworship.org).

### MUSIC IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SEEKING INSTRUMENT DONATIONS

Music in Catholic Schools is the 5th-8th grade band program in the Omaha Archdiocese. We have a band instrument inventory that we use to provide instruments to those students whose families could not afford to rent or buy an instrument of their own. Do you have an instrument sitting around that you might be willing to donate to MCS? We are especially in need of Flutes, Clarinets, and Alto Saxophones, but we would also accept Oboes, Trumpets, French Horns, Trombones, Baritones/Euphoniums, Tubas, and Percussion Kits. Please contact Annette Wallace at [amwallace@archomaha.org](mailto:amwallace@archomaha.org) or call 402-827-3724.

### MAGNIFICAT-OMAHA SUMMER BRUNCH—JUNE 24TH

All women are invited to the Magnificat-Omaha\* SUMMER Brunch on June 24th, 9:30 AM, at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church with guest speaker, Kelly Wahlquist, founder of WINE: Women In the New Evangelization, Director for the Archbishop Flynn Catechetical Institute, and contributing writer for Catholicmom.com. She's the author of Created to Relate: God's Design for Peace & Joy and Gaze Upon Jesus which encourage women to relate to Jesus in the way in which they were created to—as women. Cost: \$20. For Reservations & Information: [MagnificatOmaha.org](http://MagnificatOmaha.org)

## A Special Week of Eucharistic Adoration for Priests & Vocations



**May 28– June 3, 2023**

Join us in praying to the  
Master of the Harvest for vocations to the  
priesthood, consecrated and religious life.  
Your presence and your prayers are important!

[omahavocations.org](http://omahavocations.org)

### West Omaha Family of Catholic Parishes

#### Immaculate Conception

13943 Dowd Drive | Boys Town, Nebraska | (531) 355-1030

##### Mass Times

Sun: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Daily: 11:40 a.m.

##### Confession

Tue and Thu: 11 - 11:30 a.m.

#### St. Stephen the Martyr

16701 S St, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675

##### Mass Times

Mon - Fri: 6:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.; Sat: 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m.  
Sun: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

##### Confession

Tue: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.; Sat: 3:30 - 4:45 p.m.  
or by appointment

#### St. Vincent de Paul

14330 Eagle Run Dr, Omaha, NE 68164 | (402) 496-7988

##### Mass Times

Mon - Fri: 6:45 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.; Sat: 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m.  
Sun: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

##### Confession

Sat: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.; Sun: 10:15 - 10:45 a.m.  
anytime by appointment

#### St. Wenceslaus

15353 Pacific St. Omaha, NE 68154 | (402) 330-0305

##### Mass Times

Mon - Thu: 6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
Fri: 6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m.  
Sat: 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.  
Sun: 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon and 5:30 p.m.

##### Confession

Mon - Thu: 5 PM until line ends  
Sat: 9 AM until line ends; 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM  
anytime by appointment

**This weekend!**

# Join us for an ORGAN CONCERT at St. Wenceslaus



**Sunday,  
May 21st  
3-4 pm**

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BETH SOULLIERE, DVM

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402-871-2085 | calengriffin.com  
calen.griffin@mutualofomaha.com

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