

GRACE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

March 2024

A Newsletter for Members and Friends of
Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555
Volume 8 Issue 1



*“But (the young man) said to them,
‘Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified.
He has been raised; he is not here.
Look, there is the place they laid him.’ (Mark 16:6)*

Dear friends in Christ,

In like a lion, out like a lamb. We will finish the month of March with Easter Sunday, celebrating the empty tomb, and the return of Alleluia refrains. There is much leading up to that day, including worship gatherings with a few of our ecumenical friends. I hope you take note of those invitations in this newsletter.

Quilters will have come to the end of another season of assembling and praying for quilts that will go to areas of need around the world. These quilts have the added benefit of turning our hearts and minds toward far off places, as we know that so many parts of our world are in terrible distress. Health concerns and grief have also impacted us, giving us an opportunity to come together for prayers of healing and comfort.

There is movement in our effort to envision what a remodeled facility could look like. We have also been blessed to welcome new households to our fellowship. Giving financially toward the mission of the congregation has shown an encouraging trend. Our youngest children have been well accepted and feel very comfortable here at Grace.

The Holy Spirit is helping us develop a deeper spirituality. Through one-on-one conversations, singing and silence, we are open to more stirrings of the love of Christ. Where does it lead? Let’s be open together for the new ways the love of Christ can be expressed through our ministry, our gatherings, our various acts of service and generosity.

Pastor James Aalgaard

LECTIONARY READINGS

March 3
3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

March 10
4th Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

March 17
5th Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

March 24
Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:1--15:47

March 31
Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Mark 16:1-8

THE MISSION OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

To proclaim and celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and sacraments so that a community of believers is created, trained, nurtured, and sent into mission.





Notes for our Lenten season: Lent is a time to consider more deeply the effect of sin in ourselves, our community, and the world as together we look toward the cross of Christ and the promise of resurrection. Watch and listen for ways we will mark the season, such as planned time of intentional silence, and the omission of the postlude.

On Wednesdays, we are gathering at 5:15 p.m. for simple suppers of soup and bread. Please consider this one of your faith practices, as we are also called to hold in our hearts those who often do not have enough food to remain nourished.

Our Wednesday vespers service is adapted from the Iona Community of Scotland. We have opportunities to hear healing stories from the Gospel of Mark, and are invited for the laying-on of hands with prayers for healing. Please join us!

Lenten Soup Suppers Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m.

Join us for our weekly Lenten Soup Supper each Wednesday during Lent. Volunteers are needed to provide soup and bread or rolls. Sign-up sheets are just outside the main sanctuary doors in the narthex. Meals will be served at 5:15 p.m.



EASTER FLOWERS

The worship team invites you to participate in Easter worship by bringing flowers to the church that can be added to the chancel and other areas of our worship space. We are asking for a variety of flowers, potted flowers, including single stem. We ask for a variety, as some people have strong allergic reactions to Easter lilies. We ask that you bring the flowers to the church starting Maundy Thursday, which is March 28.

Singer? Ringer? Can't make a long-term choir commitment?

Prayerfully consider singing/ringing for a season:
Easter (including Pentecost), from March 31-May 19

We would love to include you in our ministry! Contact Deacon Ruth at the church office for more information, or to sign up.

Upcoming Congregational Activities

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 6:00-8:30 PM

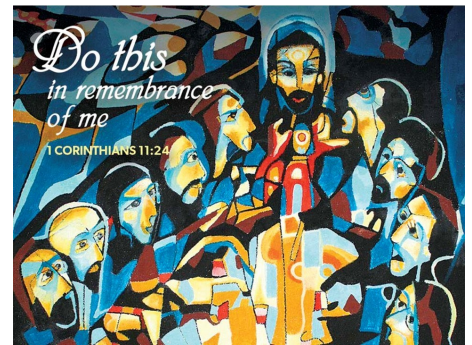
Do you like to play board games, card games, dominoes, etc.? Join the Youth and Community Team for a **Game Night on Friday, March 8, at 6:00-8:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Do you have a favorite game? Bring it. Bring your friends. (We'll have the ping pong table set up too.) **Please bring an appetizer to share** - beverages will be provided. Young, old, and in between, **EVERYONE** is invited to an evening of fun and fellowship.





We will be joining First United Methodist Church (and perhaps others) for Holy Week this year. We hope you can join us as we walk together in our common faith in Christ.

Maundy Thursday (6:00 pm, March 28), we will be at First United Methodist (the corner of Miller and Washington). We will begin with a meal in their fellowship hall, proceed to foot-washing (which is an act of service and love to one another), then proceed to the celebration of Holy Communion. We will close the service by witnessing the stripping of the altar.



Good Friday (7:00 pm, March 29), at Grace, we will be invited to ponder the crucifixion of Jesus and its meaning for us and for the world. We will hear the Gospel writer John's account of Christ's passion, witness the procession of the cross, and (using a nail as a symbol) be invited to place at the foot of the cross our failings and the ways that sin has an impact on our lives.

Easter Vigil (7:00 pm, March 30), we will light the first "Easter Fire", sing our first Alleluias, and hear the story of God's saving acts throughout history. We will also celebrate the gift of Holy Baptism and are invited to reaffirm our baptismal covenant.



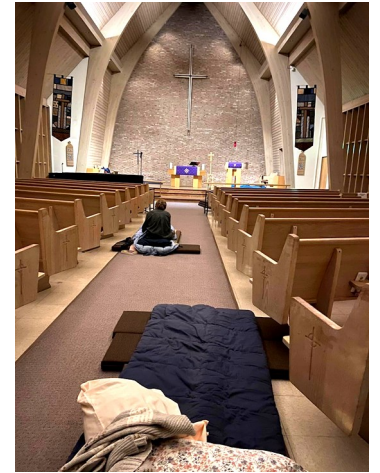
Easter Sunday - We will gather for worship at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m., celebrating together the resurrection of Christ in Word, Sacrament, music, and prayer. Please join us for food and fellowship between services. Watch for a sign-up in the narthex (church entrance) where you can let us know how you would like to contribute to the meal.



Mezzo soprano Melissa Schiel and classical guitarist Tamara Caulkins appeared in a Friday Night Out concert at Grace on February 9. They presented a program of early nineteenth-century Spanish songs, French chansons, and Italian operas by renowned early 19th century composer Fernando Sor.



An enthusiastic audience of nearly 80 enjoyed the music performances along with fellowship and refreshments afterward.



Sixteen teenagers and 4 adults from St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle spent the night at Grace, enroute to Holden Village on February 15. (Photo above: Some of the teens had a blast playing Gaga Ball before singing Complaine and turning in for the night.)



A former Director of Music Ministries at Grace, Rebekah Gilmore, organized the Seattle group. She now serves St. Mark's as Director of the Cathedral Choir School and Associate Musicians well as Interim Cathedral Youth Minister.



Kitchen Crew -- Voices of Grace provided evening snacks, hosted games, and made a hearty breakfast for our guests. Thank you!

Music News

Drum Circle meets this month in the Rehearsal Room on Tuesday, March 19, 5:15-6:00 p.m. All ages and abilities are welcome!



If you ever wanted to learn how to play the ukulele or be part of a group that plays together, here is your opportunity. Join Grace's new ukulele ensemble next month. Ukuleles have four strings; they are fun and easy to play. The sound of a ukulele makes one feel joyful and playing with a group in a circle is even better. We will meet in the Rehearsal Room on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 6:30-7:30 p.m. beginning March 12. No experience necessary -- just bring a uke and let's play!

March Worship Assistants

	Greeters	Ushers	Lector	Altar Guild	Tech	Communion Assistant
3/3	Vera Curtis		Kate Gregg		Chad Dulac	
3/10			Karen Zanol	Tami Woolsey	Phil Gregg	Karen Zanol
3/17			Gary Otheim		Chad DuLac	Gary Otheim
3/24			Riva Morgan		Phil Gregg	Riva Morgan
3/31 Easter 8:00 am			Suellen Harris		Chad DuLac	
3/31 Easter 10:30 a.m.	Gloria Foster Kay Fisher		Nancy Gradwohl			

Seeking Worship Helpers

Volunteer helpers make our worship run smoothly. We would love to expand our volunteer pool. [Here is a link to a "google sheet"](#) where you can put your name on an open slot. If you are having a hard time navigating the google sheet, please call (509-663-2189) or email our [church office](#) or [Pastor Aalgaard](#) and we can help.

Please note! The google sheet is a single document that can be changed (and added to) by anyone who has the link. You are very welcome to add your name to a slot that's empty, but please do not remove others' names or otherwise change the form.

2024 TEAM & COMMITTEE LEADERS

Arts: Phil Gregg
Building & Grounds: Dave Coe, Tom Gausman
Endowment: Karen Zanol
Faith Formation: *Open*
Fellowship: *Open*
Graceful Garden: Linda Sinnett
Pastoral Support: Julie Banken
Staff Support: Ernie Bentsen
Social Concerns: Kay Fisher
Stream Team: Marlana La Paz
Worship: Kathy Gavin
Youth & Community: Sue Coe
Memorial Garden: *Open*

2024 CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Suellen Harris
Vice President: Dave Coe
Treasurer:
Secretary: Chad DuLac
Members-at-Large: Tory Schmidt
 John McQuaig
 Paula Salter
 Tami Woolsey

COUNCIL CORNER

February 22, 2024

- Graceful Gardens Rules and Responsibilities approved to begin leasing garden boxes.
 - Building Visioning Committee Description was extended to Feb. 28, 2025.
 - Council approved a \$2,500 Fox Fund Honorarium gift for John Martin for his architectural time and talents for Grace's Building Visioning.
 - Giving \$150 gift to Brave Warrior Project on behalf of Sarah Toney's ordination at Celebration Lutheran Church.
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PRAYERS OF GRACE

- ♦ **Jen Pearson-Gale and family** – Jen's mother, Arlene, passed away on Thursday, February 15. Prayers of peace and comfort.
- ♦ **Family of Helen Hunter (former member of Grace)** - Helen passed away on Monday, February 12, in Arizona. Prayers of peace and comfort for her son Michael and family.
- ♦ **Richard Vuori (Rose Applegate's brother)** – Prayers for successful heart stent surgery on February 29 at Virginia Mason, and for complete healing.
- ♦ **Rylan (great-nephew of Jean Spiedel's friend Donna)** - Rylan has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Please pray for healing; wisdom for his doctors; and courage, peace, and hope for Rylan and his family.
- ♦ **Barbara Tilly** – prayers for healing and strength.
- ♦ **Bonnie Howeler** – continued prayers for healing for her back, and for encouragement.
- ♦ **Glenn Liner** – for wisdom and the right treatment plan in light of the discovery of a tumor.
- ♦ **Mim Schwich** (Jody Marquardt's mother) – for God's presence and a peaceful mind as she continues on long-term care.
- ♦ **Pastor Don Short (Susan Hendrickson's brother-in-law)** (serving Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Othello WA) - healing after shoulder surgery, hospitalized due to complications

To submit a prayer, please call (509-663-2189) or email our [church office](#) or [Pastor Aalgaard](#). Please share with us details that are pertinent to the request. If you are asking us to pray for a person other than yourself, please seek that person's permission. Prayer requests are published for four weeks. You are welcome to resubmit your request if you would like it to remain on the list longer. Updates are welcome, also. We will do our best to help your request have a balance of privacy protection and sharing information. The ministry staff at Grace reserves the right to edit requests.

SOCIAL CONCERNS TEAM

It's Noisy Offering time!



On the table in the narthex, by the Giving tree, are boxes that you can decorate and put your loose change in for those who are in need. So, it's time to start saving all your loose coins from your pockets, shoes, socks, drawers, underneath the bed, the sofa and car seats. Wherever you can find it, collect it and put it in your decorated loose change box and bring it back to the church on March 24 where a Social Concerns Team member will be collecting them. So, start collecting all those coins!!! For more information contact [Mike Sweeney](#).

Little Free Pantry Food Drive

There has been a high use of the pantry this winter, and since we are no longer able to acquire food from Chelan Douglas Community Action, we are in need of donations more than ever before. So, during Lent to go along with our hunger emphasis, we will be collecting food items for our Little Free Pantry. We appreciate all the items you are providing, and we make them stretch as far as possible. For example, if you leave a box of 12 Top Ramen packages, we break down that box and just put out one or two a day. We have found that the Dollar Tree is an economical place to purchase toiletries, cleaning supplies, and milk that doesn't need refrigeration. Another bargain place is the Franz Bakery Outlet where bread products are very reasonably priced. During Lent we would like to emphasize the following items: toilet paper, diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, peanut butter, rice, and beans.



Thank you for all you do to make this free food available for our less fortunate neighbors. They are so very appreciative, and they express their gratitude to us when we see them using the pantry. Please contact [Pat Fitzgerald](#) or [Kay Fisher](#).



Lent Giving Tree

During Lent, we have a giving tree out in the Narthex. The tree has ornaments that have a bee, goats or pigs on it. Your job is to pick the tag from the tree and send the money in for the tag you select. If you choose a pig, you send in how much it is for a pig. The money is sent to ELCA Good Gifts.



GARDENING SPACE AVAILABLE

Would you like to have a garden but don't have the area or means to prepare a plot? Raised beds are available for the 2024 growing season at Grace Lutheran. The Graceful Garden Team is offering some of the raised beds for individual or family use for \$15.00 per year. If you are interested in renting one, please contact [Linda Sinnett](#). Paperwork to finalize rentals will be available by March 1, 2024.

Sylvia Hwang, YAGM '23-'24



Maybe it's not particularly exciting, and I wasn't sure if this was what I wanted to write about in my newsletter. After all, social media and the nature of a newsletter back home in general make it very easy to appear happy when you actually are not, or to only showcase the best parts of an experience. But my social media presence is pretty slim to begin with, and honestly I'm proud of how genuine I have actually been able to be with the newsletter. That certainly doesn't mean I'll air out any personal grievances here, but I think I've been very forward with feelings of grief, loneliness, and confusion in my past editions and it seems only fair that I also highlight the points in my journey where I am genuinely doing quite well. At the very beginning of this journey, I was certainly a lot more lost and disoriented. To deal with this, I made a list of the little things about my old life that I missed. While I still visit the page every now and again, the time before Hungary almost feels like another lifetime ago. My time here is half up, and I can already come up with a long list of things that I know that I will miss terribly when I go. Actually, I might be late in sending this newsletter out because of some health issues that showed up last-minute, but I know that recovery from any of the hardships that come with being in a new place- physical or otherwise- would be much, much harder without community, and especially without the friends and mentors that I've made here.

What I do in a typical week

I realized recently that while I have been calling my loved ones and updating them with my weekly activities, I have yet to actually put my typical week in a newsletter. That said, if you have any questions about any of my placements or weekly activities, I would much appreciate a response via email and I would be happy to write back or include the answer in a future newsletter!

Located right in the middle of Budapest, this is a Lutheran secondary school that ranges from teaching 5th through 12th graders. However, most of my classes tend to be the 9th, 10th and 11th graders, since the young ones have had less language learning and many of the 12th graders have passed their language exams and no longer need to be in the classes for them. I come here for mornings/afternoons on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. My day is divided into seven lessons, each lasting around 45 minutes, and usually I will take two or three students from each lesson and talk with them for the duration of the lesson. Sometimes I will also join them in classes to participate in activities, watch students present on topics, or be a member of a discussion group. There is also a debate club that I sometimes attend with students for Monday afternoons, and I enjoy hearing the students' opinions on different topics. When I have a free hour, I can explore the surrounding downtown, grab lunch, or talk with the five English teachers that I work alongside. I come to Dévai Fogadó on Wednesdays and Fridays, both in the mornings. Most days are based on the conversations described previously, but in the past I have also directly been part of the English lessons or even running other tasks in whatever way is asked of me. My favorite thing about Dévai Fogadó is getting to know the attendees, the same way it is with the students in the school or the congregation members in the church. However, even when I'm not talking to anyone, Dévai Fogadó is filled with so much liveliness and activity that I'm never bored or unhappy when I've got a spare minute to just be there. While Mandák-Ház is a church, not all of my time there consists of actually going to church service on Sunday-although I do go to those, followed by coffee/tea and conversation after church with the other congregation members of course. Bible studies are on Wednesday, Some days, we rotate through understanding different passages, liturgies, and other practices, such as the Lord's prayer. Other times, we have weekly activities where we watch a movie or play board games together. Fridays are community dinner nights which are usually preceded by having an activity involving the kids of the congregation. The activity is usually making some type of craft or artwork, which my friends and family will know I love being a part of very much. Out of the three placements, Mandák-Ház is probably the one that I spend the most time at, and I'm about to spend more time there- some of my new friends from the congregation expressed an interest in Dungeons and Dragons a while back, and next week is when my Star Wars themed campaign for them starts. :)



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Jody Marquardt	3/2	Jan Herman	3/12	Cliff Dymond	3/22
Michelle Harrison	3/3	Karen Zanol	3/13	Langley Vertrees	3/22
Taylor Melton	3/3	Sam Stevens	3/14	Vera Curtis	3/24
Conrad Lake	3/4	Gail DuVall	3/15	JoAnn Koch	3/24
Jan Romey	3/5	Wanda Rivedal	3/16	William Neer	3/26
Silas Morgan	3/7	Michele Sandberg	3/19	Joel Banken	3/27
Kelli Ottley	3/7	Colleen Smith	3/19	Jolane Guthrie	3/27
Anna Guthrie	3/9	Erin Reed	3/20	Dave Coe	3/31
Jim Wurl	3/11	Nick Boersma	3/22	Ruth Westby	3/31
Micah Florea	3/12				

ANNA & MIRIAM CIRCLES

Anna Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 19, at 10:00 a.m. at Grace. If you have questions, feel free to contact [Linda Sinnet](#) or [Faye DeJong](#).

Miriam Circle will meet Tuesday, March 19, at 7:00 p.m. at Annie Bartlett's home.

Morning Prayer

Thursday mornings, at 7:00, you are invited to join us in the sanctuary. Our morning prayer will typically involve reading of scripture, then a time of prayer, then finish with the Lord's Prayer.

SPRING CLEANUP DAY

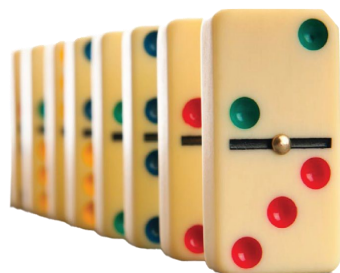


Our semi-annual cleanup day will be held on Saturday, March 23, from 9am - noon. Your Building and Grounds Team needs volunteers to help spruce up our church home for Holy Week and Easter, both inside and out. Kathy Otheim is the organizer for this event, and will have tasks for all who can help out! Please mark your calendars, and come and help out!



March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:00 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Recital	2 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. WV Symphony Orchestra Young Musicians
3 9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace 10:30 a.m. Worship 12:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Group	4 7:00 p.m. Appleaires 6:15, 7:30 p.m. Honor Recitals	5	6 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:15 p.m. Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers 6:30 p.m. Bells of Grace 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	7 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:00 p.m. Recital	8 9:00 a.m. Quilters 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Game Night	9 4:00 p.m. Recital
10 9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace 10:30 a.m. Worship 1:30-3:00 p.m. Interfaith Justice Coalition 6:00 p.m. Wenatchee Youth Community at YWCA	11 7:00 p.m. Appleaires 5:30 p.m. Youth & Community Team	12 4:00 p.m. Arts Team 5:30 p.m. Pancake Dinner 6:30 p.m. Social Concerns Team 6:30 p.m. Ukulele Group	13 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:15 p.m. Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers 6:30 p.m. Bells of Grace 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	14 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer	15 9:00 a.m. Quilters WVMTA	16
17 9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace 10:30 a.m. Worship 12:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Group	18 7:00 p.m. Appleaires 4:30 p.m. Habitat for Humanity 7:00 p.m. Recital	19 Newsletter Deadline 10:00 a.m. Anna Circle 5:15 p.m. Drum Circle 6:00 p.m. Church Council 7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle	20 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:15 p.m. Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers 6:30 p.m. Bells of Grace 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	21 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer	22 9:00 a.m. Quilters	23
24 PALM SUNDAY 9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Group	25 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	26 6:30 p.m. Ukulele Group	27 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 6:45 p.m. Voices of Grace at First UMC	28 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship	29 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Worship	30 7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil
31 EASTER 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Easter Worship	Please refer to the Holy Week page in this newsletter for times and locations of worship services.					

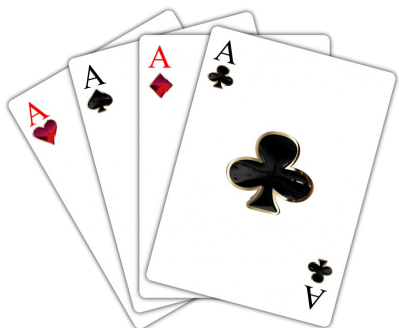


FRIDAY
March 8
6:00-8:30 PM

Do you like to play board games, card games, dominoes, etc.? Join us for **Game Night on Friday, March 8, at 6:00-8:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.

Do you have a favorite game? Bring it. Bring your friends. **Please bring an appetizer to share.**

Beverages provided. Young, old, and in between, **EVERYONE** is invited to an evening of fun and fellowship.



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Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

1408 Washington Street

Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555

(509) 663-2189

Return Service Requested

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor James Aalgaard Pastor
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Deacon Ruth Anderson Director of Music Ministries
deacon@glcwen.org

Zoe Jaspers Director of Youth & Family Ministries
youthandfamily@glcwen.org

Jen Gale Office Administrator
office@glcwen.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

CONTACT

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WEBSITE

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