



## **THE MESSENGER**

July / August 2017

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### **" Can Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Grow?"**

Our Synod's "New Connections" campaign calls every Lutheran congregation of the Metropolitan Washington, DC Synod of the ELCA to be a growing congregation! Now how is that possible?

I mean, really? Perhaps 1/3 of ELCA congregations in our Synod are declining, and we know that outreach is difficult since the ethnic composition of our congregations is often different from the community that surrounds them. What's more, Lutherans, while emphasizing God's grace in Christ, have rarely been very good at evangelizing. Most "mainline Protestants" have been losing members for years, and even the Southern Baptist

Convention has lost maybe a million members in the last decade! So how might our congregation grow?

I believe we can grow because we are called to share the Good News of God's love for us in Jesus Christ: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations....." (Matthew 28). This is part of our mission statement as followers of Jesus. Acting on that mission, we've found ways to meet members of our surrounding community through various "invariable" events. I applaud and celebrate all that so many have done to reach out during the last year and involve new people with us. Finally, our Bishop Richard Graham reminds us that congregations in our area can grow because new people are always coming in to our community, and more and more homes/apartments are being built!

We are called also to grow in our spiritual lives, in deepening trust in God's presence, compassion and love in Christ. Sometimes it is easy to trust and be "faithful". At other times the world smacks us around with defeats or unexpected challenges in health or relationships. Our faith can grow and deepen in all circumstances. As faith deepens so can our ability to share that faith. Paul wrote to the Philippians: "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (4:13)

Enjoy the summer, and trust and share God's faithful and loving presence in Christ.

Pastor Paul

#### **4th Sunday after Pentecost JULY 2nd**

The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome. (from Sundays and Seasons)

THE GOSPEL SUNDAY IS MATTHEW 10:40-42.

Please join us Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Congratulations to the Skoglunds! We are the proud grandparents of Paige Stapleton Skoglund born Friday, June 23rd at 4:34 p.m. She weighed in at 7.8 lbs and 19.5" long. Healthy baby. Born to our son Peter and daughter-in-law Tricia and big brother Erik.**

**Joyce & Len Skoglund**

## MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

### CATIE DUGAN VARGAS



**My name is Catie Dugan Vargas. I am a South East Virginia native, moving to Northern Virginia first in 2007 where I attended George Mason University to complete both my Bachelor's and Master's degrees. It was during graduate school I met my husband Ian down the street at Auld Shebeen in Old Town Fairfax. I currently work at the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance, as Manager of Development and Events where I have been for the last 3 years commuting to downtown DC. I am currently serving as President of the Tysons Kiwanis Club, a service oriented young professional organization. In my spare time I enjoy cooking, gardening, hiking, travelling and a good day at the beach.**

**CATIE DUGAN**

**Phone: 757-647-9942**

**Email: [dugan.catie@gmail.com](mailto:dugan.catie@gmail.com)**

## ANNIE WELSH



After graduating from the University of Tennessee, Annie lived all over the country teaching music. After ten years away in Florida, Texas and California, she returned to Virginia to be close to family and work for Fairfax County Public Schools. She currently works for Marshall Road Elementary in Vienna as a general music teacher and chorus director. In the evenings and on weekends, Annie teaches yoga. In her free time, Annie enjoys painting, cooking, reading and snuggling with her cat.

**ANNIE WELSH**

Phone: 703-887-4693

Email: [welsharianne@gmail.com](mailto:welsharianne@gmail.com)

## **LEARNING COMMITTEE**

Summer Bible Packets are ready!

Attention, 3-year-olds through 6th graders. The Summer Bible Packets are in the Information Center ready to be picked up. Take a packet and have fun completing 10 Bible stories and activities during the summer months. Participants who complete the packets will be recognized on Rally Day for a job well done!

Youth Gathering 2018 in Austin, TX

Exactly a year from right now - at the end of June 2018 - some of our senior high youth will be in Austin, TX attending the triennial ELCA Youth Gathering! In 2015, the gathering was in Detroit and now the students will be experiencing Austin. Activities will be gearing up in September as our students register and plan for the event. You'll be hearing about it during the coming year so we'll look forward to your prayers and support for our young people.

## Summer Fun Nights

Visit the Information Center for news about our Summer Fun Nights!

We will gather at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in July for fellowship and fabulous activities! Bring your family and invite your friends!

July 5th - The Nationals host the NY Mets at Nats Park Game time is 7 p.m.

July 12th - Have some campfire fun at the church as we sing songs and roast marshmallows!

July 19th - Bunnies and Buddies - See and hold sweet and loving lap-sized animals!

July 26th - Enjoy being part of a pool party at the home of the Albert/Walkers. Bring a snack to share!

## VBS Camp - July 31- August 1

In a month it will be time for our VBS Camp led by counselors from Mar-Lu-Ridge. But we will also need some help from adults as a support staff for the counselors. Assistance with check-in, check-out, snack preparation, and lunch set up are a few of the ways people can help. There are sign-up sheets in the Information Center so check out the job listings and lend a hand! Your help will be most appreciated!

## Preschool Preparing for September

Summer time brings preparation for the fall semester at preschool. We are sprucing up the rooms, ordering bulk supplies, staying in contact with our preschool families, and getting ready for September. Check out our wish list in the Information Center. You can help our preschool by donating some needed supplies as listed on our wish list. Your support is most appreciated!

We are already looking forward to the new school year in the fall.

As we have done in the past, the preschool is posting a wish list of supplies that we will need in September. If you are interested in supporting the preschool, please check out the list below or at the Information Center and sign up to provide one or more of the supplies requested.

## [Link to Preschool Wish List](#)

Any help you can give to the preschool will certainly be appreciated. Donations are due by August 31st. Thanks!

Register now for the 2017-2018 school year. Visit us on Facebook at [www.fairfaxchristlutheranpreschool.org](http://www.fairfaxchristlutheranpreschool.org)

June Bloedorn, Chair

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

### CELC Community Garden First Fruits!



27 lbs of food donated to Food for Others today!



Pastor Paul and some of our community gardeners!

Allen Griffith

## SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Service Committee delivered meals to FACETS clients in June. We will prepare meals in July and August to the same population. Breakfast will also be prepared Sunday, July 9th. We will be feeding lunch to school age children Monday July 17th and Tuesday July 18th.

September 10th is God's Work Our Hands Sunday. The service project will be to the apartments behind the church (Cardinal Courts Apartments). A cookout and outdoor church service will follow the service project.

Please signup for a *God's Work Our Hands* T-shirt in the Information Center. The deadline is August 13th.

Phyllis Herrington

## PRIMETIMERS' BALANCE CLASS

The Primetimers are participating in a class to help our balance. You are invited to join us on Wednesdays, in July at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The cost for each session is \$5. Our leader is Jennifer Katt, a Certified Personal Trainer through the American College of Sports Medicine and the National Council for Certified Personal Trainers. Join us!

## NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

During worship, next Sunday July 9th we will welcome another new member, Rebekah Lin Jewell. Join us after worship in the fellowship hall to welcome her!

## UPCOMING EVENTS - JULY / AUGUST 2017

JULY

7-02-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

7-02-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour

7-03-17 Monday 9 a.m.-3 p.m Church Office Closed for Holiday

7-04-17 Tuesday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Church Office Closed for 4th Holiday

7-04-17 Tuesday NO Bible Study & Prayer today-Pastor Paul is away

7-05-17 Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Prime Timers' Breakfast

7-05-17 Wed. to Fri. 9:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. ArtBug Children's Camp (FH1)

7-05-17 Wednesday 1:00 p.m. Prime Timers' Balance Class (FH2)

7-05-17 Wednesday 5pm Summer Fun Night -Nats Baseball Game at 7:05pm

7-08-17 Saturday 8:00 a.m. Men's Ministry Bible Study Breakfast

7-09-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship Service - New Member Sunday

7-09-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour

7-10-17 Monday 7:30 p.m. Property Committee  
7-12-17 Wednesday 1:00 p.m. Prime Timers' Balance Class  
7-12-17 Wednesday 3:00 p.m. FACETS  
7-12-17 Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Summer Fun Night - Cook Out  
7-13-17 Thursday 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee  
7-13-17 Thursday 7:00 p.m. ESL English Conversation Class - not confirmed

7-16-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
7-16-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour  
7-18-17 Tuesday 6:15 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer  
7-18-17 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Council  
7-19-17 Wednesday 1:00 p.m. Prime Timers' Balance Class  
7-19-17 Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Summer Fun Night - Bunnies and Buddies  
7-20-17 Thursday 7:00 p.m. ESL English Conversation Class - not confirmed

7-23-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
7-23-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour  
7-25-17 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Bible Study on Acts  
7-26-17 Wednesday 1:00 p.m. Prime Timers' Balance Class  
7-26-17 Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Summer Fun Night - Pool Party  
7-27-17 Thursday 7:00 p.m. ESL English Conversation Class - not confirmed  
7-29-17 Saturday 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Bee Uy Lim

## AUGUST

8-01-17 Tuesday 6:15 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer  
8-02-17 Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Prime Timers' Breakfast  
8-02-17 Wednesday 1:00 p.m. Prime Timers' Balance Class  
8-02-17 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Learning Committee

8-06-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
8-06-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour  
8-09-17 Wednesday 3:00 p.m. FACETS  
8-10-17 Thursday 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee  
8-12-17 Saturday 8:00 a.m. Men's Ministry Bible Study Breakfast

8-13-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
8-13-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour  
8-13-17 Sunday "Gods Work, Our Hands" T-Shirt Deadline  
8-14-17 Monday 7:30 p.m. Property Committee - TBD  
8-15-17 Tuesday 6:15 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer  
8-15-17 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Council  
8-16-17 Wednesday 1:00 p.m. Prime Timers' Balance Class



8-20-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service**  
8-20-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour**  
8-23-17 Wednesday 1:00 p.m. **Prime Timers' Balance Class**  
8-25-17 SEPT NEWSLETTER **Articles Due from Committee Chairs**

8-27-17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service**  
8-27-17 Sunday 11:15 a.m. **Coffee Hour**  
8-29-17 Thursday 7:00 p.m. **Evangelism Committee**  
8-29-17 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. **Bible Study on Acts**  
8-30-17 Wednesday 1:00 p.m. **Prime Timers' Balance Class**

### **SAVE THE DATE**

9-10-17 **"God's Work, Our Hands" - Service Opportunity**

### **PRAYER LIST**



### **PRAYER LIST,**

#### **+ WE PRAY FOR HEALTH AND HEALING +**

Zoey Angelo, Nadia Appel, Beverly and Robert L. Boulis, Jr., Rita Brice, Lois Culler, Rudy Drechsel, Ken Dugan, Cliff Geisbert, Alison Grohman, Olivia Immerman, Luba Kakovitch, Sally Kaplan, Janice Keck, Rhonda Kelly, K. C. Koleman, Paul Martin, Colton Miller, Carolyn Phillips, Lueanne White, Allison Graves Wilson and David Zellner.

**+ For The Homebound +** Web Brown, Evelyn Dise, Herb Graul, Betty Mangler, Rutha McGinnis and, Terry Toloczko.

**+ For the family of Bee Uy Lim, whose Memorial Service** will be held here at church on Saturday, July 29, at 11 a.m. Bee was the mother of Diane Lim, who lives in our community, and attends here at Christ Lutheran

## Monthly Bible Study and Prayer July & August

Please join our CELC prayer/Bible Study group on **Tuesdays, July 18th & August 1st & 15th at 6:15 p.m.** in the Pastor's Office or Sanctuary.

If you would like to add someone to our monthly prayer list please email the church office at [admin@fairfaxchristlutheran.org](mailto:admin@fairfaxchristlutheran.org) or you may place their name in the prayer box on a slip of paper, or simply list their name on our prayer list located at the Information Center.

## Acts Bible Study Tuesday, July 25th

Continuing our group bible study, with enjoyment of the great outdoors, I would like to schedule Session Seven of our Acts study within the church atrium on **Tuesday, July 25th, beginning at 7 PM.** Please let Ric Fisher know whether or not you will be able to attend.

## We Want To Publicize Your Committee Events in "The Messenger"

Committee Chairs, please share your committee activities with our church membership through the Newsletter and Emails. To have your article published in the next issue of The Messenger, please send Connie text and/or pictures by email by **AUGUST 25th.**

The deadline for articles to be included in the **SEPTEMBER** issue of The Messenger is **AUGUST 25th.**

## ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS FOR JULY / AUGUST



[Anniversaries and Birthdays for July & August](#)

## **THOSE SERVING FOR JULY / AUGUST**

### **VOLUNTEER SERVERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED**

Volunteers are needed for Coffee Hour for the Summer months. In addition, if you will be available on a specific weekend and not another during the summer, please contact the church office to volunteer your time as an Assisting Minister, Communion Assistant, Greeter or Lector. Thank you!

#### **SERVERS July 2nd**

**Acolyte - Emma Garrison**

**Altar Guild - Phyllis Herrington**

**Assisting Minister - Phyllis Herrington**

**Communion Assistant - Karen Alfors**

**Counter - Linda Bell**

**Greeters - Dick & Karen Alfors**

**Lector - Monica Garrison**

**Ushers - Maggie & Jeff Kohne, Sandy & Ed Calabria**

**Coffee Hour - Pat Nau & Sandy Calabria**

#### **SERVERS July 9th**

**Acolyte -**

**Altar Guild - Candy Miihlhouse**

**Assisting Minister -**

**Communion Assistant - Jeff Garrison**

**Counter - Phyllis Herrington**

**Greeters - Tom and Andrea Welsh**

**Lector -**

**Ushers - Joan, Justin & John Eaton, & Courtney Scott**

**Coffee Hour -**

#### **SERVERS July 16th**

**Acolyte -**

**Altar Guild - Karen Barber**

**Assisting Minister - Allen Griffith**

**Communion Assistant - Alton Miihlhouse**

**Counter - Cliff Diehl**

**Greeter - Pete and Sabra Rupe**

**Lector - Phyllis Herrington**

**Ushers - Karen Barber, Ginny Trygstad,**

**Maggie & Jeff Kohne**

**Coffee Hour -**

**SERVERS July 23rd**

Acolyte - Daniel Young  
Altar Guild - Elly Burton  
Assisting Minister - Chris Rossbach  
Communion Assistant - Beth Reece  
Counter- Jeff Garrison  
Greeter - Ardis Morton  
Lector - Mary Ann Rossbach  
Ushers - Jeff & Cassandra Garrison, Ana & Craig Young  
Coffee Hour -

**SERVERS July 30th**

Acolyte -  
Altar Guild - Cliff Diehl  
Assisting Minister - Phyllis Herrington  
Communion Assistant - Cliff Diehl  
Counter - Dave Gessert  
Greeters - the Moyers  
Lector -  
Ushers - Jim & Pat Pagenkopf, Allen Griffith, and Melissa Moyer  
Coffee Hour -

**SERVERS August 6th**

Acolyte -  
Altar Guild -  
Assisting Minister -  
Communion Assistant -  
Counter - Allen Griffith  
Greeters - Barber Family  
Lector - Ed Calabria/ Alton Miihlhouse  
Ushers - Alton & Candy Miihlhouse, Karen & Dick Alfens  
Coffee Hour -

**SERVERS August 13th**

Acolyte - Daniel Young  
Altar Guild - Phyllis Herrington  
Assisting Minister - Cliff Diehl  
Communion Assistant -  
Counter - Linda Bell  
Greeter - Elly Burton  
Lector - Jackie Evans  
Ushers - Ana, Sara & Craig Young, & Mila Cobos; Coffee Hour -

### **SERVERS August 20th**

**Acolyte - one needed**  
**Altar Guild - Candy Miihlhouse**  
**Assisting Minister - Alton Miihlhouse**  
**Communion Assistant - Sandra Adams**  
**Counter - Jeff Kohne**  
**Greeters - The Youngs**  
**Lector -**  
**Ushers - Joan, John & Justin Eaton**  
**Coffee Hour -**

### **SERVERS August 27th**

**Acolyte -**  
**Altar Guild - Cliff Diehl**  
**Assisting Minister - Len Skoglund**  
**Communion Assistant - Laura Albert**  
**Counter - Ernest Nau**  
**Greeters - The Skoglunds**  
**Lector - Aaron Walker**  
**Ushers - Ariane Richaud, Laura Albert, Dan and Aaron Walker**  
**Coffee Hour -**

**Thank you for your service!**

### **PASTOR PAUL'S OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor Paul's office days are Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and he works at home on Fridays. The pastor usually takes his off day on Saturdays.

### **SHARE YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS**

Share your favorite hymns with our musicians. Sign up at the the Information Center or contact our Director of Music Ministry, Steven Beck by email at [steven.beck0703@gmail.com](mailto:steven.beck0703@gmail.com)

### **FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM AND TWITTER**

Many of you know we are on Facebook, but did you know that we are also now on Instagram and Twitter? Follow us at: Christ Lutheran Fairfax ([www.Instagram.com](http://www.Instagram.com)) and @CELChurch (Twitter [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com))!

### **CHURCH WEBSITE CALENDAR - DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A GOOGLE CHURCH ACTIVITY / ROOMING CALENDAR?**

Do you wish to use the church for an event? Please go to our Christ Lutheran Church Website Google Calendar for room availability, activity updates and details at [www.fairfaxchristlutheran.org](http://www.fairfaxchristlutheran.org). Choose the Calendar tab. Then contact Connie to schedule a church room for your event. Please do not assume that the specific room you wish to use will be available when you need it. Thank you for your cooperation!

## **Council Members Phone Numbers**

Sandra Adams  
[sandrawadams@hotmail.com](mailto:sandrawadams@hotmail.com)

703-359-6990

Dick Alfors  
[alfersr@gmail.com](mailto:alfersr@gmail.com)

703-591-7581

Eric Bloedorn  
[Bloedorn@gmail.com](mailto:Bloedorn@gmail.com)

703-359-5968

Mila Cobos  
[Milagros.cobos@gmail.com](mailto:Milagros.cobos@gmail.com)

703-383-0290

Ric Fisher  
[rbfisher4342@verizon.net](mailto:rbfisher4342@verizon.net)

703-273-4629

John Foster  
[mountain.foster@gmail.com](mailto:mountain.foster@gmail.com)

703-359-1089

Melissa Moyer  
[Stmo\\_98@yahoo.com](mailto:Stmo_98@yahoo.com)

703-258-2284

John Munuo  
[munujo@yahoo.com](mailto:munujo@yahoo.com)

202-300-0724

Mark Poyner  
[lectrimotivedude@yahoo.com](mailto:lectrimotivedude@yahoo.com)

703-231-7934

Dan Walker  
[dan.walker@fcps.edu](mailto:dan.walker@fcps.edu)

703-273-2315

## **2017 CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES**

### **President**

Dan Walker  
[dan.walker@fcps.edu](mailto:dan.walker@fcps.edu)

703-273-2315

### **Vice President**

Eric Bloedorn  
[bloedorn@gmail.com](mailto:bloedorn@gmail.com)

703-359-5968

### **Secretary**

Melissa Moyer  
[Stmo\\_98@yahoo.com](mailto:Stmo_98@yahoo.com)

703-258-2284

### **Treasurer**

Jeff Kohne  
[jeff.kohne@kwccpa.com](mailto:jeff.kohne@kwccpa.com)

703-278-8058

### **Financial Secretary**

Ed Calabria  
[calabria@verizon.net](mailto:calabria@verizon.net)

703-273-3898

### **Trustee**

Jeff Kohne  
[jeff.kohne@kwccpa.com](mailto:jeff.kohne@kwccpa.com)

703-278-8058

### **Trustee**

Katie Ross Foster

## Parish Staff

Pastor:

Rev. Paul Collinson-Streng

703-273-4094 ext. 22

[pastor@fairfaxchristlutheran.org](mailto:pastor@fairfaxchristlutheran.org)

Director of Music Ministry:

Steven Beck

Director of the Bell Choir

Annie Welsh

Administrative Assistant:

Connie Hepler

703-273-4094 ext. 21

[admin@fairfaxchristlutheran.org](mailto:admin@fairfaxchristlutheran.org)

Director of Preschool and  
Congregation Life Ministry:

Virginia A. Trygstad

703-273-4094 ext. 28

[ginnyht@verizon.net](mailto:ginnyht@verizon.net)

Custodian:

Dennis Shifflett

## Preschool Staff

Preschool Director:

Virginia A. Trygstad

Two-Year-Old Teacher

Dana Candido

Three-Year-Old Teacher

[kjr1775@gmail.com](mailto:kjr1775@gmail.com)

703-359-1089

**Trustee**

Robert Worst

[Robert.Worst@kpmlaw.com](mailto:Robert.Worst@kpmlaw.com)

703-273-4936

## 2017 PARISH COMMITTEES

*Meeting Dates*

*Chair & Council  
Representative*

### **COUNCIL**

*3rd Tue.*

*at 7:00 pm*

### **Evangelism**

*4th Tues.*

*at 7:00 pm*

*Council: Chris Rossbach  
Council: Ric Fisher & Dick  
Alfers*

### **Fellowship**

*(As Needed)*

*John Munuo &  
Melssa Moyer*

### **Learning**

*2nd Wed..*

*at 6:00 pm*

### **Service**

*(As Needed)*

### **Property**

*2nd Mon.*

*at 7:30 pm*

*Chair:*

*Council: June Bloedorn*

*Chair: Phyllis  
Herrington*

*Chair: Allen Griffith  
Council: Karen Barber*

### **Worship**

*(As Needed)*

### **Preschool**

*meets quarterly*

*Chair: Cliff Diehl*

*Council: Mark Poyner*

*Council: Mary Anne  
Rossbach*

VACANT

Four-Year-Old Teacher  
Judy Olson

Four-Year-Old Teacher  
Lynda Falkenstein

Connie Hepler, Administrative Assistant  
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
3810 Meredith Drive  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
703-273-4094 (Phone)  
703-273-4095 (Fax)  
[admin@fairfaxchristlutheran.org](mailto:admin@fairfaxchristlutheran.org) (EMAIL)

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church ELCA  
(Facebook)  
Christ Lutheran Fairfax (Instagram)  
CELChurch (Twitter)

[www.fairfaxchristlutheran.org](http://www.fairfaxchristlutheran.org) ( Website)

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**2017**

STAY CONNECTED



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3810 Meredith Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030

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