

ST MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER • APRIL 2019 • VOL. 17, NO. 4



My St. Mark's Family,

As April begins, we are halfway through the Lenten season. I hope you are finding this to be a time of reflection and prayer, as we walk through our series "6 Decisions That Will Change Your Life," based on passages from John's gospel. If you have not participated in a small group, you are still welcome to start any time!

As Lent draws to a close at the end of the month, I would like to invite you to join us for a meaningful Holy Week.

Sunday, April 14
8:30 am & 9:15 am- Palm Sunday Worship
11:00 am- Palm Sunday Choral Cantata

Thursday, April 18- Maundy Thursday Worship, 7pm

Easter Sunday, April 21!!
7:00 am Sunrise Service
8:30 am, 9:15 am, and 11 am- Easter Worship!

And don't forget, our Lenten offering benefits St. Mark's participation in Back 2 School Blast. Last year, over 1000 needy kids in the Roanoke Valley received help getting ready for school!

Strength and Wisdom,
Pastor Justin

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LAITY

CORNER

Many of us have been participating in the Lenten study by Tom Berlin, titled, 6 Decisions That Will Change Your Life. He challenges us to decide for NEW LIFE in Christ by choosing to FOLLOW, MATURE, RESPOND, PERSEVERE and SURRENDER through studying Scripture and examining our lives. Some of the words he uses in his book are words that we humans tend to dislike, such as : CHANGE, YIELD, SUBMIT, SURRENDER, OBEY . . . because we want to be in control. Yet our Christian Faith calls us to invite radical change as we grow into more mature believers. One hallmark of a mature faith is our ability to honor the commandments of God in a way that invites others to join us because of the joy and love found there.

The challenge is to meet each new day choosing to walk a bit closer to Jesus and inviting the Spirit to guide and direct with His power. As Justin has been teaching us, it is this power of the Spirit that works all of this in us. Because of this tangible power, there is wisdom and logic in joyfully following Christ and sharing this faith with others.

Easter celebrates NEW LIFE. Join me in inviting this new life every day, that will change us and the world, in Jesus name!!

Peggy Lootens, Lay Leader

LENTEN OFFERING

Each year St Mark's is excited to be the Shoe Sponsor for the Back 2 School Blast with our Lenten Offering. The Back 2 School Blast is a ministry of the Roanoke Rescue Mission which invites children who are under-served from all over the Roanoke Valley to come and receive the gift of school supplies, check-ups, and new shoes and socks! Not only do we give our monetary donations in order for these students to be given shoes and socks but we are also asked to join the Back 2 School Blast in order to remove the students old shoes and socks, wash their precious feet, and give them their new shoes and socks. We are encouraged to pray for their new school years, their teachers, and new friends. If you would like to see more information about Back 2 School Blast take a look at our website under "more", "service and mission"!



EASTER CROSS WITH FLOWERS

You may bring cut flowers to decorate our cross on Easter morning. The cross will be located in the Narthex. Your flowers may be placed in honor or memory of loved ones.

TAME NEWS

Looking for a new way to serve Christ? Join the TAME Ministry Team. TAME stands for "That **All** **May** **Eat**". Join the team to help plan events to support the hungry in our community, state and world. If you would like to be a part of the planning team, contact Emily Morris emilydmorris@aol.com or Susan Wagner susanbwagner59@gmail.com

During Lent, the children of our church are sponsoring a mission project for TAME. They have decorated change boxes for you to put a Lenten offering in. TAME encourages you to skip just one meal a week during Lent and put the money that you would have spent on that meal in the offering box. If you don't skip a meal, perhaps a family trip to the movies or other outing. You will be asked to sign your name by the number on the sign out sheet that is on your box when you pick up your box. The number is on the bottom of the box. Return them the Sunday after Easter, April 28th, to the marked tables in the Sanctuary and FLC. Look for the change boxes in the Narthex or in the Family Life Center.

SCRAPBOOK FELLOWSHIP

The April Scrapbook Fellowship will be on Thursday, April 18th from 11:00-2:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Come join us if you are a veteran scrapper or if you are just getting started. Members will be on hand to help you get started if you are new to scrapbooking. Bring your own lunch. For more information, contact Susan Wagner at susanbwagner59@gmail.com

WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Thursday morning Bible Study for Women is from 9 -10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. It is never too late to join us. We are currently doing the study, "She Dreams". The study helps women to realize that it is never too late to realize your "God Sized Dreams".



a ladies support group for 5th grade & up along with moms and other ladies. You are invited to a Celebration of the Women in our Lives. THE SODA SHOP, a 50/60's style ice cream social will

be May 5, 2:00-3:30 in the Family Life Center. Roll up your jeans, dust off the poodle skirt and bring a mother, daughter, granddaughter or friend for an afternoon of fellowship and surprises. Please RSVP to Becky Gay at reach2sky14@gmail.com by April 28.

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

Did you know that St. Mark's has an active prayer chain? The chain has sixty "prayer warriors" faithfully speaking to God on behalf of those in need. Requests are sent out by email and lifted up individually and privately. If you have questions or are interested in joining the chain, contact Diane Glazebrook, ictinker@rbnet.com, 966-4113. More importantly, if you have a need for prayer, we would be happy to pray for you. You can send your prayer request to Diane at above email/number or to Becky at the church office or include it on a yellow prayer card located in the sanctuary pew folder and drop it in the prayer box in the foyer. Psalm 145:18 - The Lord is near to all who call on Him.

A MATTER OF BALANCE

presented by

LOCAL OFFICE ON AGING

DAY OF WEEK: TUESDAY

DATES: APRIL 2ND THROUGH MAY 21ST.

TIME: 10 am- 12 noon

LOCATION: ST. MARK'S UMC

Many older adults have difficulties with balance, have experienced falls or are afraid they will. If this sounds like you, please plan to attend this free, 8 week program designed to learn to prevent or manage falls, increase balance/flexibility and build a plan to increase activity for after the class is over. Many Diner's Club members are planning to participate but we would love to have other members of the church join. Please call Carol DeHeer @ 309-9481 if interested.

LAWN CARE TEAM

St. Mark's has a wonderful, dedicated group of people who maintain the lawn. The team needs more people to step up and volunteer. When

you sign-up you will be assigned to one of our crews which are placed on a rotating schedule. If you would like to be a part of this awesome team please contact Mark Lee @ 992-2082. Lawn mowers are provided!

FINANCE CORNER

Our giving through Feb. 28 was \$63,736 and expenses were \$70,324, leaving a shortfall of \$6588. As you know, the weather this winter was rough, and we lost a Sunday due to snow. If you have been able to increase your giving in 2019, thank you!! And thanks to everyone for your dedication to our ministries. Our mortgage balance on the Family Life Center as of Feb. 28 was \$768,209. Thanks again for your commitment!

JOYFUL JOURNEY OPPORTUNITIES DURING 2019

- 1. Get on board! Noah is setting sail into the theater.** Join us as this extraordinary Bible story comes to life on the big screen. The cost is \$12.13 per ticket and you can make your check payable to Joyful Journey Travel Club. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.
- 2. Sept. 25-27- Ride the Rails in West Virginia.** \$496 per person (based on double occupancy). Includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners, including an evening of entertainment, 2 trains in 1 day, Seneca Caverns, Blackwater Falls State Park, motorcoach transportation, taxes, meal gratuities, and driver's tip.
- 3. A Wohlfhart Haus Christmas Nov. 14 in Wytheville.** The cost is \$74 per person and includes the meal, show, motorcoach transportation, and the driver's tip. The bus will leave St. Mark's at 10:00 am, also pick-up people at the Salem Food Lion at 10:20 am and will return to St. Mark's between 6:00-6:30 after the drop off in Salem.
- 4. December 5-6 - Christmas in NY City.** \$447 per person (based on double occupancy). Includes: 1 night's lodging, 1 breakfast, 1 dinner, Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular featuring the Rockettes, 911 Museum both inside and outside, a behind the scenes tour of Radio City Music Hall, Rockefeller Center where you will see the decorated Christmas Tree, motorcoach transportation, taxes and meal gratuities, and driver's tip.

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Complete details of all trips, registration forms, and sign up sheets are on the bulletin board across from the choir room. When signing up your CELL PHONE NUMBER IS REQUIRED OR YOUR HOME PHONE IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A CELL PHONE. A \$25 deposit (non-refundable unless someone can be found to take your place or there is a waiting list) is REQUIRED when you sign up or your place is not saved. The \$25 is part of the trip cost and is not extra.

Contact Julia Greer at 540-330-7933 if you have any questions. These trips are an outreach ministry of St. Mark's and everyone is welcome whether or not they are a member.

 The St. Mark's Methodist Men (who are not at ASP) will meet on Monday, April 8 at 6 pm. We will first meet with the UMW for a presentation about the Botetourt Resource Center. We will have a devotional meeting following that.

 **APRIL 2019**
At our March UMW meeting, we joined the United Methodist Men for an informative and very interesting program presented by Mark Kuepfer. Mark talked and then showed slides of Kenya where he and his family spent 10 years in missionary work.

This month, the **UMW** and **UMM** will meet on **Monday, April 8, at 6 pm** in the fellowship hall. We welcome as our speaker, Melissa Lucas, new CEO, of the Botetourt Resource Center, Inc. (BRC, Inc.) in Buchanan. Melissa will share with us the services and programs provided by the Center. The Center's motto is **"Together We Make a Difference"**. The services they provide are at no cost to the county's residents and 90% of the Center's clients are at or below the poverty level and on fixed incomes. Churches, civic organizations, companies, foundations, businesses, and others partner with BRC, Inc. to do **"good works" in Botetourt County**. St. Mark's and our UMW have been long-time supporters of the Center.

Following the program, the UMW will have their devotions and business meeting.

United Methodist Women is open to all women of the church -- Please Join Us.

READING CHALLENGE

Escape from the Green Mansion

by Christine Taylor

Gold had been discovered at Sutter's Mill in California in 1848. The Gold Rush was on and over 300,000 hopeful prospectors would pour into the area. They came from all over the US and from other countries as well. The Chinese were among the largest groups of immigrants due to famine and civil wars. A dark side of the large growth of the area was the brothel industry. Every mining camp had a saloon where prostitutes plied their trade. Ever more profitable was the import of Chinese young women who were lied to that they were being brought to the US to marry wealthy men. Soon gangs set up shop and madams ran brothels with most girls held captive and many dying from disease, beating, and malnutrition. Into this dark picture came Reverend Otis and his wife Eliza Gibson. They were missionaries that had been in China. They started the Women's Missionary Society of the Pacific Coast and ran the Mission house. The Presbyterians joined the Methodists in providing refuge for the rescued girls and many women took risks to rescue the girls. They set up schools for the girls and taught them about the love of Christ. A compelling story of lives changed by the strength of determination of Methodist and Presbyterian women.

KITS FOR CONFERENCE

Each year, United Methodist churches are encouraged to gather items for KITS that we take to Annual Conference in June. This year our Virginia Annual Conference takes place at the Berglund Center in Roanoke on June 20-22. Our KITS, along with those from across the state, are then transported to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Sager Brown Depot in Baldwin, Louisiana. Information from UMCOR . . . Early in UMCOR's existence, UMCOR engaged in shipping material resources to people in need around the world. Over the years, UMCOR has come to recognize that shipping these items may actually cause harm if the materials displace potential local purchases that would otherwise support the local economy. To this end, UMCOR determined that it would cease international shipment of material assistance as of December 31, 2017. UMCOR now distributes only the most-requested UMCOR relief supply kits, as-

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sembled in the United States, to places in the United States and its territories where these items are most needed.

To address international needs, UMCOR works with local United Methodist churches, ACT Alliance, ecumenical, and interfaith partners to respond to disasters. As part of a comprehensive disaster response strategy, UMCOR coaches these partners to purchase local materials that are appropriate to the context. This is consistent with best practices and accountability standards. We ask for your help to restock our relief supply kits.

This year, two of the KITS UMCOR is specifically asking for is SCHOOL KITS and HEALTH (Hygiene) KITS.

For many years, St. Mark's has placed a special emphasis on SCHOOL KITS to benefit children across the globe who have no books or school supplies. Members of our United Methodist Women and friends worked diligently to make the tote bags to hold the supplies. However, this year, the rules and items needed for all the KITS have changed. For one, we will no longer place the School KIT items in tote bags; they will go in 2-gallon ziplock bags.

ALL KITS must also meet these requirements:

All items must be NEW.

NO notes, money or additional materials may be added.

The contents and KITS themselves cannot be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols.

If you would like to provide items or make your own KITS, we welcome them! We also welcome financial support to help UMCOR with the shipping of these KITS. Checks may be written to St. Mark's United Methodist Women.

All KITS must be returned to Church no later than Sunday, June 16 -- as we must get them counted, packed, and ready to go before Conference starts on June 20. If you have questions about any of the KITS, please see Nancy Hamblin (992-5505) or Mona Tolley (992-3496). Thank you for being a part of this great and global ministry!

** An Information Sheet listing all the items needed for the School and Health KITS is listed here and is also available on the table in the Narthex. **

KITS FOR CONFERENCE 2019 SUPPLY LIST

SCHOOL KIT

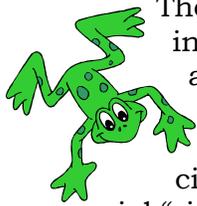
One pair blunt scissors (round tip only, no plastic scissors)
One box of 24 crayons
Three 1-subject spiral bound notebooks
One pack of loose-leaf notebook paper (100-200 pages, wide or college ruled)
One hand-held pencil sharpener (1" or larger. Remove from packaging)
One ruler (12" or 30 centimeters long, may be sturdy or flexible)
Six unsharpened pencils
One eraser (2" or larger)
One 2-gallon re-sealable ziplock bag
Assembly Directions:
Stack all paper items on top of each other.
Place all loose items on top of paper (small loose items may be placed in a smaller ziplock bag)
Place kit inside of 2-gallon ziplock bag

HEALTH (Hygiene) KIT

One hand towel (15" X 25" to 17" X 27" - No kitchen, cleaning or microfiber towels)
One washcloth (No kitchen, cleaning or microfiber towels)
One comb (sturdy with at least 6" of teeth, no pocket combs or picks)
One toenail or fingernails clipper (No emery boards or metal nail files)
One bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger. NO Ivory or Jergens soap. Leave in package.)
One adult toothbrush (Leave in package. No personal advertising.)
10 adhesive bandages (3/4" by 3")
One 1-gallon re-sealable ziplock bag
Assembly Directions:
Lay hand towel flat on a table.
Lay the washcloth in the center of the hand towel.
Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth (except the plastic bag)
Fold the sides of the hand towel to cover the items.
Grasp the bundle tightly and roll over the remainder of the towel.
Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag, remove air, and seal.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

"Down at the Pond"



The FROGs and Tadpoles have hopped into spring! Last month, the Tadpoles and FROGs made Easter cards for the Easter baskets for the Shepherding Ministry and Meals-on-Wheels recipients. The FROGs also made special "rice bunnies" that can be heated or cooled to help with aches and pains that will go in these special Easter baskets. We thank Nancy Hamblin and Katie Farris for making the "rice bunnies" for this project!!

The FROGs and Tadpoles will be processing into the Sanctuary with palms on Palm Sunday, April 14th. Please have your child in the Parlor by 10:50 that morning. It is very important that your child know where their family will be sitting in the Sanctuary that morning, so that he/she can find you once they process or sing. The Tadpoles will lay their palms down on the Chancel and then go sit with their families. The FROGs will remain at the Chancel steps and sing with the Adult choir. Once the FROGs sing, they will sit with their families. Please note that this will be Cantata Sunday and there will be NO Children's Worship that day. Children, age 3 and under, may be taken to the Nursery.

Next time we meet will be on Palm Sunday, April 14th. As part of our "Journey to the Cross" unit, the FROGs will be participating in *The Amazing Easter Race*. The Tadpoles will study "Out of the Tomb" and have an Easter egg hunt!

We will meet on Sunday, April 24th, which will be our last regular FROG and Tadpole meeting for the school year. It will also be the last time the FROG store will be open this school year, so don't forget your FROG dollars!

The FROGs and Tadpoles will sing on Mother's Day Sunday, May 12th during the 11:00 Worship Service. Please mark your calendars for this important date and please invited your family and friends to come to this service!



Looking Ahead to Vacation Bible School

All children ages 3 through rising 5th graders are invited to Cokesbury's Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School program this summer! Rising Sixth and Seventh graders are invited to be a part of our Service Squad during VBS. Vacation Bible School and Service Squad will be held Monday, July 15th through Friday, July 19th from 9 am to 12 noon. Registration will begin later this month but mark your calendars now!

Wanted: Space Explorers to join a cosmic adventure praising God with children!

Wouldn't you like to spend time on the starship Galactic Praise traveling through the wonders of space and exploring God's incredible creation? This cosmic mission comes complete with out-of-this-world adventures, exciting challenges, great music and hours of fun! Sign up for a Vacation Bible School leadership role and join the galactic praise team for *Galactic Blast: A Cosmic Adventure Praising God!*

Adults and youth are needed for this **church-wide ministry** to the children of this church and this community. Qualifications are: a love of children, a desire to reach out to children and share the love of God with others and a sense of humor! There are many and varied opportunities to serve, so please prayerfully consider doing so. Contact Lee Ann **early** to make sure you get to volunteer in the area you prefer! Please contact Lee Ann Critz at leeanncritz@yahoo.com or at 580-3905. Join us in the fun at *Galactic Blast!*

Creative people needed for VBS Decoration Creation!

We particularly need people interested in working on decorations prior to VBS and help decorating in the days before VBS! Please consider helping, as this is always a lot of fun! To find out more, contact Lee Ann Critz.

Thank you!!

Thank you to all those who helped with 5th Sunday Fellowship in March! So many people helped in so many ways! Thank you to those who donated items for the Easter baskets for the Shepherding Ministry and the Meals-on-Wheels recipients! Thank you to those who set-up and cleaned up from our potluck lunch! Thank you to those who brought food, assembled Easter baskets and prayed over them!

YOUTH EVENTS AND NEWS:

As we continue in April through the Lenten Season it has been a busy and exciting few weeks. We have been fundraising and are well on our way to meeting our goal of the youth having their mission trips completely funded.

Starting **April 3rd** We will have a new type of **Unwind from the Grind**. We will once a month do a bigger event together. In April we are going bowling. Bring \$20 for bowling, arcade and snacks. We will be heading to the AMF Lanes off Williamson in Roanoke. Be ready to leave the church at 5 pm so we can get in as much time as possible before being back at 7.

April 7th Shipyard will be continuing our church wide Sunday School Study at 10 am. We will be having youth 5 to 7 pm as we continue to discuss **the Lenten Season**.

April 14th We will be continuing our church wide Sunday School Study at 10 am. We will be participating with the Frogs and Tadpoles for part of the time in an Amazing Race activity. We will also have



a very special Resurrection activity this evening leading up to Easter. Youth is from 5 to 7 pm.

April 21st We will have Sunday School this morning at 10 am. We will not have Youth this evening as it is Easter.

On **April 28th** we will have Sunday school downstairs in the Youth Room at 10 am. We will also return to our Monthly Mission. Our plan is to go to the Roanoke Rescue Mission from 5 to 7 pm.

Reminder we have our Mission trip coming up June 16th through 21st in Indy IN. If you are interested in going, or have not paid your deposit, please talk to Kelly, Erin, or Justin.

Thank you for your constant support and love of these wonderful young people, through our fundraisers, activities and in prayer! If you want to volunteer or are of Youth age 6th -12th grade please email Kelly at Shipyardyouth@gmail.com. We would love to have you!



AND



ALL WHO CELEBRATE THIS MONTH!

Newsletter Deadline is the 20th of each month
Bulletin Deadline: Thurs. 9 AM

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Becky Arthur: stmarksumcdaleville@gmail.com
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Michele Richardson: stmarksmusicminister@gmail.com
Kelly Berry: ShipyardYouth@gmail.com

April 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 NarAnon 6:30 pm Worship Band 7 pm AA/AI Anon 8-9 pm	2 A Matter of Balance 10 am see ad Diner's Club 10:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Cub Scouts 5:45 pm Scouts BSA 7 pm God 101 7 pm	3 Lenten Study 9:30 am Midweek Service 11 am Adult Fellowship Luncheon 11:30 am Youth Bowling 5 pm Chancel Choir 7 pm AA Meeting 8-9 pm	4 Women's Daytime Bible Study 9 am GriefShare 10 am Thousand Thursday's 10-11:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm GriefShare 6:30 pm Financial Peace University 6:30 pm TRUSTEES 7 PM Ladies' Bible Study 7 pm	5	6
7 Worship 8:30 & 11 am Worship: Ecclesia 9:15 am Sunday Classes 10 am Lenten Study 10 am Youth Group 5-7 pm <i>fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	8 UMW 6 pm UMM 6 pm NarAnon 6:30 pm Worship Band 7 pm AA/AI Anon 8-9 pm	9 A Matter of Balance 10 am see ad Diner's Club 10:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Cub Scouts 5:45 pm Scouts BSA 7 pm God 101 7 pm	10 Lenten Study 9:30 am Midweek Service 11 am Handbells 6 pm Chancel Choir 7 pm AA Meeting 8-9 pm	11 Women's Daytime Bible Study 9 am GriefShare 10 am Thousand Thursday's 10-11:30 am Trinity Outreach 5 pm <i>(Erin's Team)</i> Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm GriefShare 6:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study 7 pm	12	13
14 CANTATA @ 11:00 worship Worship 8:30 & 11 am Worship: Ecclesia 9:15 am Sunday Classes 10 am Lenten Study 10 am FROGs and Tadpoles 5 pm Youth Group 5-7 pm <i>Palm Sunday</i>	15 NarAnon 6:30 pm Worship Band 7 pm AA/AI Anon 8-9 pm	16 A Matter of Balance 10 am see ad Diner's Club 10:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Cub Scouts 5:45 pm Scouts BSA 7 pm God 101 7 pm	17 Lenten Study 9:30 am Midweek Service 11 am Handbells 6 pm Chancel Choir 7 pm AA Meeting 8-9 pm	18 Women's Daytime Bible Study 9 am GriefShare 10 am Thousand Thursday's 10-11:30 am Scrapbook Fellowship 11 am (see ad) Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Maudy Thursday Service 7 pm Ladies' Bible Study 7 pm	19 Good Friday	20
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28 Worship 8:30 & 11 am Worship: Ecclesia 9:15 am Sunday Classes 10 am FROGs and Tadpoles 5 pm Youth Group 5-7 pm <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i>	29 NarAnon 6:30 pm Worship Band 7 pm AA/AI Anon 8-9 pm	30 A Matter of Balance 10 am see ad Diner's Club 10:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm Cub Scouts 5:30 pm Scouts BSA 7 pm God 101 7 pm	May 1 Midweek Service 11 am Adult Fellowship Luncheon 11:30 am Clergy Dinner Chancel Choir 7 pm AA Meeting 8-9 pm	May 2 Women's Daytime Bible Study 9 am GriefShare 10 am Thousand Thursday's 10-11:30 am Women's Hope AA 5:30 pm GriefShare 6:30 pm Ladies' Bible Study 7 pm	May 3	May 4

April 2019



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