The Circuit Rider

Extravagant Generosity!

This year's annual Stewardship Campaign, which will begin on Sunday, October 26, is based on the theme of "Extravagant Generosity," one of the *Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation* which Bishop Robert Schnase identified in his 2007 book of the same name.

"People who give generously to the church," Schnase writes, "do so because they genuinely desire to make a positive difference for the purposes of Christ and because they want to align their lives with higher purposes."

Information about the campaign will go out both through the mail and on Sunday mornings, as inspirational videos are shared with folks gathering for worship at each of our three services, 8:45 and 11:00 in the sanctuary and 11:07 in the youth center.

Estimate of giving cards will be distributed and received during the November 16 services of worship, with results shared and celebrated at the Feast of Thanks at 4:00 p.m. that same afternoon sponsored by our Church Life Committee.

Join us this month as we celebrate the spirit of giving which Jesus has modeled for us, and as we prayerfully respond to God's call to "extravagant generosity!"

Volume 14, Issue 10

November 2014

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The staff of Wooster United Methodist Church

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. — 4:30 p.m. 330-262-5641 — Phone 330-262-5849 — Fax www.woosterumc.org

Charles E. Tobias, Senior Pastor Jon Hutchison, Pastor of Youth and Young Adult Ministries Kathy Miller, Financial Manager Elizabeth Feldman, Office Manager Linda Schantz, Secretary
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In his most recent column in "The Connector," the monthly newsletter of the Canal District of The United Methodist Church, Rev. Ed Peterson, our new District Superintendent, challenged us to consider the provocative idea that "failure is an option."

CASION Ed writes: "Have you ever tried to do something, and failed miserably? Imagine a job in which you failed twice as much as you succeeded, and were paid millions to do it. That is the life of a professional baseball player. In baseball, if players have a batting average over .300, they are considered successful. Yet, that means that they only get on base once every three times. Put another way, they fail twice as much as they succeed."

As in baseball, so also in churches it is true that "failure is an option." "Since the formation of The United Methodist Church in 1968," Ed continues, "we have been in decline. Each year, we have fewer members, and fewer in attendance than the year before. Many of our churches reflect that decline. We are not where we were, even ten years ago. Yet, when we talk about trying new things to connect with the community around us, we are cautious. We still believe that failure is not an option. We still operate as if we have something to lose."

As we approach the end of the Christian and calendar years, I want to challenge us to consider how we might take risks as we seek to present the gospel of Jesus Christ, bringing and bearing the love and the justice of God into the city that surrounds us. We are taking risks here at Wooster UMC with a new alternative service of worship at 11:07, an edgy and innovative youth ministry (Edge, Jr. Edge, and The B.A.R.), and our Thursday's Kids and Meals Together programs. We have also begun a recent Wednesday evening church night with several small group experiences and a common meal, in order to unify our diverse congregation and to create portals through which people might pass as they make their way into and outside the walls of our church. In all these ways, and others as well, we are attempting to take seriously our mission and purpose as a United Methodist congregation, that is, "to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Here are Ed Peterson's concluding words: "Friends, in the next year, look for a way to take a risk and connect with the community surrounding your church. Be willing to risk your finances, your reputation, and your pride. It is only when we risk failure, that we have a chance at success. And the measure of success is hearts reached for Christ. Take a risk. Be willing to fail. Failure is an option!"

Charlie Whs

Charlie Tobias

Welcome New Members



Susan and James Perry ~ 11:07 service

1271 Oil City Road, Wooster

330-465-3050 and 330-465-3545

srp7271@gmail.com and jcp62071@gmail.com

Susan and Jim joined our church family on September 28, 2014. She is a program coordinator at the Prentke Romich Company. He is a diesel mechanic for Universal Well Services. He is also a member of the Wooster Township Fire Department. Susan and Jim enjoy their "kids" - two boxers, Dewey and Bebe and three cats, George, Fred and Gangster. Susan transfers her membership from Creston Canaan United Methodist Church in Creston. Jim joins by Profession of Faith.



You do not have to read the books to attend the gatherings.

Reader's choice from Nurturing for Community category. Members will share highlights from something they have read. Titles can be found at: http://www.woosterumc.org/um_women.

THANK YOU, EVERYONE!

Another successful UMW Rummage Sale is over! Our hard-working team transformed Wesley Hall into a bargainlover's paradise! We received



many positive comments about our organization and neatness. Many thanks to everyone who helped with: set-up, the sale itself and clean-up. Proceeds from the sale benefit local, national and world missions for women and children. Thanks for your support! The Spring Sale is scheduled for April 24 and 25, 2015. *Cindy Farnsworth*



Poinsettias will again decorate our Sanctuary at Christmas beginning December 7. Each plant is \$10. **Deadline to order is November 16.** Those wishing to donate a poinsettia should complete the envelope (included with this newsletter or in the

Order your Poinsettias

envelope; drop into the collection plate OR leave it in / mail it to the church office. The poinsettias may be picked up after the 9 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service.

sanctuary); put money in the

Will you miss church on Christmas Eve because of work, travel or separation from your family?

We will host a community traditional *candlelight service* on Wednesday, December 17, at 7 p.m. Please join us. We'll tell the Christmas story, sing traditional carols and finish with a candle lighting to celebrate the season.



The service is open to the entire community. Baskets will be placed at the rear entrances of the Sanctuary to receive a free-will offering for People to People Ministries.

It's time to think about chocolate (that's ALL the time really.) The 2015



Chocolate Retreat is scheduled for February 28. Mark your calendars and watch for more information!



Unit Meeting November 5, 2014 Fellowship @ 6:00 p.m. Dinner @ 6:30 p.m. Program: Stephen Ministry Speaker: Sylvia Hurst

Executive Board November 12 3:00 p.m. Room A Please let Jan Braund know if you are unable to attend.

UMW Circles

Mary Martha	November 18 @ home of Lucy	
Esther	November 20 @ home of Betty	9:30 a.m. Raber
Deborah Dorcas	November 20 Wesley Hall	11:00 a.m.
Sarah Rebekah	November 20 Room A	1:30 p.m.



Here we are coming into the Thanksgiving and Christmas season already. Seems like what

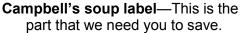
summer we had has flown so fast. The book I am telling you about this month is from the Spiritual Growth category of the 2014 Reading Program. The title is *"Embraced by God," Celebrating Who and Whose You Are*, by Babbie Mason. In the pages of this heartwarming, thoughtful and life-affirming 21-day journey, Mason reminds you that when you know you're loved by God and you're in God's eternal plan, you'll never again wonder if your life matters. Women of all ages and walks of life will discover the height, depth and breadth of God's great love and acceptance. This book is available through Clevenet at the Library. *Bea Smith, Reading Resource Secretary of Wooster UMW.*

Please Save

Stamps—any stamps but **PLEASE** keep at least 1/4 inch border around each stamp.

Empty Inkjet Printer Cartridges—PLEASE wrap and seal before bringing to church.

Our Family brand UPC labels for the UMW scholarship fund. Campbell's soup label—This is the





Thank you from Missions and Social Concerns to everyone that brought cereal to church with them in October. In November we will be collecting macaroni and cheese for



People to People Ministries. Please bring your donation with you to church on Sunday, November 2.

Giving on the Web

Would you like to send your contributions or extra financial gifts to the church from the comfort of home? Now you can access on-line giving on our web page! www.woosterumc.org Questions? Call Kathy Miller at 330-262-5641.



Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you do other monthly und Giving drafts? Wooster UMC now offers Electronic Giving for those of you

who wish to have your contributions transferred electronically to the church's account. If you travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with your intended offerings. It allows you to avoid having to make up the difference later. Contact the church office for more details. For those who give online,

Kathy has tokens which can be placed in the offering plate for dedication during each worship service. Please use this QR as another direct way to send your offering to us.



Credit Card Giving Now Available

No cash? No checks? No problem! We now have available a credit card machine that will take your generous donations. You will find it on the third floor just to the left of the elevator. It accepts credit/debit cards and the directions for use are easy and posted by the machine. Thank you for your continued support for Wooster UMC.

Would you like to receive envelopes? Are you interested in electronic giving? Are your gifts already sent electronically but you need to update the amount? Do you just have questions?



Please call Kathy Miller at 330-262-5641 for answers and help.



♥To God's saints in the Wooster UMC: to paraphrase the Apostle Paul, Marilyn and I thank God ~ and will do so for years to come ~ not

only for the wonderful reception and generous love offering you gave us, but for the way you welcomed us into your lives and the life of the church. As I've said before, the past six years have been some of the most meaningful and rewarding years of my ministry. You will continue to be in our hearts and prayers. In Christ's love, Larry Black *office notewe received this note from Larry in time for the October Circuit Rider but it was inadvertently omitted. Our apologies to Larry and Marilyn

♥Wooster UMC, Thank you so much for choosing me as a recipient for the \$500 Endowment Scholarship. It means so much that you guys are supporting me in my studies as a civil engineer at the University of Cincinnati. Thank you again for your support not only spiritually but in every aspect of my life. Your help will take off the burden of finances. Thanks again! Becca McCready

♥ My gratitude, thankfulness, and appreciation know no bounds. Truly I have no words that fully express my heartfelt response to the assistance and attention so many of you my church friends and others have given me. To one and all of you a simple "thank you" doesn't seem adequate for the needed help you have given me through these last months as I have been recovering from the fractures in my back. All of you have been a true blessing to me. I am very grateful to you. With sincere appreciation, Jan Braund

♥Wooster UMC, As I was "Person of the Week" in September, many thanks for the cards, a visit and the lovely deep rose flowering Kalanchoe plant I received. The thoughtfulness of all of you brightens my days. God bless, LaVerne Van Bergen

♥I would like to thank all those church members and friends who sent cards and made phone calls to me during the time I was recuperating from my total knee replacement. Special thanks to pastors Jon and Charlie. Doris Bucher

Dear Wooster UMC, We want to thank you so much for the adorable onesie, beautiful blanket and precious book for our new addition to our family, River. It was so sweet of the Church to think of us! A special thanks goes to Libby Smailes for making the blanket! Love, Matt and Emily Zuercher

Dear Church Friends, We really appreciate the beautiful flower you sent. It really means a lot that you remember and pray for us also. It brightened a dreary day. Sincerely in Prayer, Sandy and Don Musselman

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daylight savings ends) \$:30pm - Campanile Balls	10am - Pastor's Bible Study - T	3am - Bible Study - C	4:30pm - Meais Together - W	11:30am - fileet & Eat - TJs	
6:46am - Worship	7 pm - Camera Club - W	1 pm - Staff mtg - A	5:30pm - Dinner - YC	6pm - Edge 5,6.7		
9:45am - Sunday School	7 pm - Praise Tm	6pm - MacDowell rehearsal - W	6 pm - UMW Dinner	7 pm - Chancel Choir		
f1am • Worship	8 pm - Prom Kprs - Milliken's	6:30pm - Beth Maore - C	6:15pm - Alpha - M			
11:07am - 1107 Worship		7pm - Church Life - M	6:15pm - The Journey - LT			
4pm - CH CONF - Wadsworth		7 pm - ClC - A	6:15pm - Yth Bible Stuch - L			
Bpm - Jr Edge 3,4		7 pm - MacDowelt -W	7 pm - Worship cte - C			
6:30pm - B.A.R YC		7 p.m - WC Choral Union - S				
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8:45am • Worship	5:30 ptt - Campanife Bells	10nm - Pastor's Bible Study - T	CR Deadline	4:15pm - Thursday Kids - 213		
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11am - Worship	8 pm - Prom Kprs - Milliken's	6:30pm - Beth Maore - C	9am - Lappers - Lib Anx	7 p.m - Chancel Choir		
11:07am - 1107 Worship		6:30pm - Discipleship - M	3 pm - UMW Exec - A			
12:15pm - Rooted - Loft		7pm - Trustees - A	5:30pm - Dinner - YC			
6:30pm - B.A.R YC		7 pm - WC Choral Union - W	6:15pm - Alpita - M			
			6:15pm - GIFT - A			
			6:15pm - The Journey - LT		<u></u>	
			8:15pm - Yth Bible Study • L			
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9:45am - Sunday School	5:30pm - Campanile Belis	1pm - Staff mtg - A	5:30 pm - Dinner - YC	11am - Deb Dorcas - W		
11am - Bells play	6 pm - GS Unit mtg • W	6:30pm - Beth Moare - C	6:†6pm - Alpha - M	1:30 pm - Sarah Rebekah - A		
11am - Worship	7 pm - Praise Tm	7 pm - Church Council - LT	6:t6pm - GIFT - A	4:15pm - Thursday Kids - 213		
11:07am - 1107 Worship	8 pm - Prom Kprs - Milliken's	7pm - Mary Martha Cr - Lucy R	6:15pm - The Journey - LT	4:30pm - Meeis Together - W		
4pm - Feast of Thanks		7 pm - WC Choral Union - W	6:15pm - Yth Bible Study - L	6 pm - Edge 5.6.7		
6pm - Jr Edge 3.4			7 pm - NW TERRITORY	7 pm - Chancel Choir		
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6:30pm - B.A.R YC						
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Jesus And Me Time worships the second, third



and *fourth* Sunday of each month in Room 312 after the Children's Message during the 11 a.m. & 11:07 services. This is for children kindergarten through fourth grade. Parents are asked to pick up their

children in Room 312 after church.



Alternative Christmas Gifts Certificates will be offered for Habitat for Humanity, Meals Together, People to People, and Boys & Girls Club of Wooster on December 7, 14 and 21 in Wesley Hall. A donation of any

amount to one of these local agencies purchases a holiday certificate to give as a gift to honor a friend, teacher or family member. All of these agencies are serving more people and need additional financial resources.



Wednesday, November 19 - 7 PM THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY BLUEGRASS BAND Mary Kettering, Kerri Lehman,

Mike Gorrell & Randall Boring Playing their own unique style of bluegrass, country, folk and gospel since 1989.

Saturday, December 20 — 1:30 PM **BURNING RIVER BRASS**

Composed of twelve of the finest brass and Percussion players in the country, Burning River Brass is an ensemble on fire! Tickets are required for this event and will be available on Monday, November 3 in the church office.

We hope to see you there!

Attention Parents of Young Children



Our WUMC nursery is being staffed each Sunday from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. for morning worship.

Changing area is available on the north side of the Sanctuary. Rocking chair and changing table available. Ask an Usher for help.





What's a Chrismon? Chrismons are a type of Christmas Tree decoration used in many churches and often in the homes CHRISMONS of Christians. The symbols used represent a variety of biblical and

theological concepts that are well known among most believers. Technically, if the ornaments on a Christmas tree are comprised mostly of Christian symbols, the tree is known as a "Chrismon Tree." Most Chrismons are white with gold decorations of beads, ribbon, glitter, etc.

All Sunday School classes will be making Chrismons during Sunday School starting the first Sunday of Advent, November 30.

Please wear your name badge every Sunday for worship services and also when Wooster UMC hosts events.



Ring-a-ling-a-ling!



Once again we will provide Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army kettles at the Buehler's Towne Market location on two Fridays during the Christmas season:

November 28 and December 12. We will serve from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in two-hour shifts. Find a buddy or bring the family to serve for two-hours.

Sign Up! All ages welcome ~ Only a smile is required. You could even bring a kazoo or other instrument to entertain the shoppers during your shift.





family ministry



Church Life will provide turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, rolls, beverages and table setting. Please bring two dishes to share. Sign up in Wesley or at the 11:07 Welcome Center EVERY MAN SHALL GIVE AS HE IS ABLE, ACCORDING TO THE BLESSING OF THE LORD YOUR GOD WHICH HE HAS GIVEN YOU. -DEUTERONOMY 16:17



Persons of the Week

November 2	November 9	November 16	November 23	November 30
Virginia Anderson	Joan Butler	Betty Dush	June Rehm	Margaret Tittle
Brookdale Place	West View Manor	2233 Lake Shore Dr.	Wayne Manor	Danbury Woods
1615 Cleveland Rd.	1715 Mechanicsburg Rd.	Wooster	4138 Swanson Blvd.	939 Portage Rd.
Wooster	Wooster		Wooster	Wooster
				1



Please help keep the church informed of illness and / or hospitalizations of any person who may need a caring visit or phone call. Unless specifically

requested by the patient, hospitals are no longer able to call the church, or give us information when we call.

> Recent Deaths Sandra Kauffman, Margaret Demorest, Mildred Williams

Stephen Ministry is one way our congregation shows Jesus' love to people who have deep needs for care. Contact Sylvia Hurst for more information.





Church Drivers Ministry

Please call the church office if you would like a ride to the 11 a.m. worship service.

Communion in Your Home

Communion can be brought to you at home or in the hospital when you have been unable to receive the sacrament at the church. Please call the church

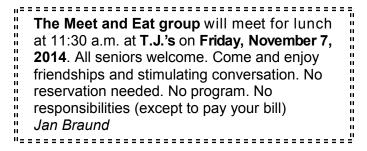


office to arrange for communion in your home.





Advent and Christmas are two of the best seasons to sing with others. We invite you to join our 7:00 pm Thursday rehearsals as we prepare to sing in celebration of the birth of our Lord. Come and share the joy! *Circuit Rider* Deadline is NOVEMBER 12, 2014 for the *COMBINED* December 2014 / January 2015 issue. Please e-mail ~ Ischantz@woosterumc.org



Please send us the name and address of your

college students. You may put the address on the attendance pad or give it to Kay Bergen or Elizabeth Feldman in the church office.





Are you having trouble

opening the Short Circuit? If you have email, but prefer a paper copy of the Circuit Rider, please call the office. These two publications have

lots of good information about your church! The church office is using email communication more and more these days. We will continue to email the *Short Circuit* and the *Circuit Rider* and now the *Prayer Connection*! We will continue to mail some hard copies of the newsletter. The email list is a work in progress. Let's work together in finding the best possible way to share information. If you have an idea for us, let us know.

8

Endowment Scholarship Winners

Each year our Endowment Committee makes available scholarships for our members in post high school curriculums. Students fill out an application and these are reviewed by our committee. Recipients are chosen based on Christian Character, leadership potential, financial need and scholarship record.



Becca McCready is a freshman at the University of Cincinnati in the school of Civil Engineering. She hopes to have a minor in Spanish. In high school, Laura was in National Honor Society, marching band, on the Lacrosse team and in the Drama Club. She was active in our youth group and went on a number of mission trips.







Mackenzie Sheppard is a junior at Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville TN. He is studying Criminal Justice. Mackenzie is a Resident Assistant in the dorm, is on the security team on campus and participates in intramural sports.



Molly Fowler is a junior at Ashland University pursuing a degree in nursing. She was active in our youth program and as a college student led more discussion groups and had a leadership role in mission trips.







Laura McCready is a senior at the University of Findlay, studying to be an occupational therapist. She is in the marching band, works for the university on the grounds keeping crew and as a baking assistant. She is president of the circle le club, which is based on serving others.



Murphy Sheppard is a student at Full Sail University for music production. He began to play guitar four years ago and is now writing and recording his own music. He is a volunteer at Wooster Twp. Fire Department.





Brought to you by the Membership/Evangelism Commission to honor and care for members of Wooster UMC. The list below shows members who have a birthday in the *month of November.* This list is taken from our membership database. If there is an omission or correction, please call the office and we will update our information. Each member on the list will receive a birthday card and then a phone call to extend birthday blessings—sometime during the month of their birth.

11/18 Jyotsna Harris

	\smile		
11/1	Faye Umbach	11/10	Brian Walter
11/1	Chelsea Patterson	11/11	Helen Cullen
11/2	Molly Sipos	11/11	Andrew Maibach
11/3	Jennifer Reynolds	11/12	Chrissy Williams
11/3	Melinda Haag	11/12	Mark Miyashita
11/5	Heather Sanders	11/13	Pat Hiuser
11/5	Tim Turpin	11/13	Sarah McIlvaine
11/5	Judy Reinking	11/15	Joe McCullough
11/6	Annissa Fee	11/15	Susan Spires
11/6	Jane Murphy	11/15	Karen Gardener
11/7	Megan Ries	11/16	Jeniver Hamilton
11/8	Lilyan Johns	11/16	Mollie Stokes
11/8	Margie Baker	11/16	Nancy Ayres
11/8	Sylvia Hurst	11/17	Carla Oxenrider
11/9	Jim Brown	11/18	Mary Maurer
11/9	Sallie Cook	11/18	Michele Miller

11/18 Rich Hauenstein 11/18 Verity Cannon 11/19 Esta Money 11/20 Ben Allen 11/20 Lucy Rindfleisch 11/21 Sybil Johnston 11/21 Vera Dilgard 11/22 Donald Varns 11/22 Branden Brooks 11/23 Nikki Reynolds 11/23 Doris Millhuff 11/24 Shirley Carmean 11/24 Betsy Johnson 11/25 June Rehm 11/25 Ed Yuhas

Featherstone 11/25 Heather Luebbehusen 11/25 Heidi Eckerle 11/25 Matthew Roscoe 11/26 Scott Buehler 11/26 Maxine Gehrman 11/26 Paul Moodispaw 11/27 Gene Pollock 11/28 Jackie Steele 11/28 Phyllis Cannon 11/28 Cindy Courson Jarrod Long 11/29 11/29 Merida Sneller

11/25 Harry

Our annual Church Conference will be on November 2 at the Wadsworth UMC at 4:00 p.m. It is held jointly with our Compass Group that includes Johnson, Medina, Montrose Zion, Wadsworth and Wooster. This will be a gathering for worship, fellowship and a short business meeting conducted by the new District Superintendent Ed Peterson. All members are welcome, leadership should attend.



Angel Tree is a unique ministry that gives our church an opportunity to share Christ's love by helping to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the Wooster families of prisoners. Wooster UMC has made an annual commitment to this highly rewarding program, and recognizes it as a way to care for some of our most overlooked members of the community.

Angel Tree works by connecting parents in prison with their children through the delivery of Christmas gifts. The Trailseekers Sunday School class and the Missions Committee are again coordinating this program.

Area prisoners are contacted by The Angel Tree Ministry and asked to submit two appropriate gifts they would like each of their children to receive. A Trailseekers Sunday school volunteer contacts each home where the children live to verify the appropriateness of each selected gift. Our church members are then asked to purchase one of two gifts—a new toy or fun gift, or one article of new clothing—each \$15 to \$20 at the retailer of their choice

These wrapped gifts are collected and delivered to the children's homes by the Trailseekers class and other interested members of the congregation.

An Angel Christmas tree will be in Wesley Hall on November 23 and 30 with tags listing the type of gift church members may choose to purchase. These gifts should be wrapped and returned to church by December 14 so they can be delivered by Christmas.



Many thanks to those church members who have helped with this ministry in the past. We hope you will continue your help this year. Bob Reynolds and Mike Mann

YOUTH NEWS the b.a.r. EVERY MAN SHALL GIVE AS HE IS ABLE, ACCORDING TO BLESSING OF THE I Building & Affirming Relationships YOUR GOD WHICH HE HAS **GIVEN YOU** THE B.A.R. **DEUTERONOMY 16:17** SMALL GROUPS FOR GRADES 8-12 SUNDAY EVENINGS 6:30-8:00 P.M.

MERGE PROVIDES A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR KIDS TO PLAY GAMES, HAVE A SNACK AND HANG OUT WITH FRIENDS.

> GRADES 8-12 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 9-11:30PM





.m.s 70:11 ~ .m.s 00:11 ~ .m.s 34:8 ts services at 8-24:00 a.m.

Address Service Requested

243 N. Market Street Wooster, Ohio 44691-3511 330-262-5641



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