



Shining the light of the gospel into the heart of Lewistown since 1785

## THE PANORAMA

The Newsletter of  
The Lewistown  
Presbyterian  
Church

**FEBRUARY 2020**

Greetings! The month of February gives us a brief respite between the demands of the end of year holidays and the activities of Lent, which begins with our Ash Wednesday service on February 26.

Unless you are moving your entire house! That's what my family is doing this month. But all for good reasons because we get to move into a beautiful manse and call Lewistown our home.

Good changes for us. A loving church community, a dedicated church staff to help me "get in the groove" of church work, a new school for McKenzie, and new business connections for Jim as he meets people through the local Chamber of Commerce.

Some of you are experiencing changes - the welcome of a new baby, reported health issues, new jobs, and so on. All change, good or bad, can be overwhelming at times. Even hard to handle.

One of my favorite authors, Shauna Niequist, wrote in her most recent book, "Present Over Perfect," these words: "I created a life too heavy for me to carry." When I read those words, I immediately wrote them in my daily planner.

I look at this sentence often, perhaps as a way of reminding myself not to weigh myself down too much with life.

We don't always choose the changes in our lives, but we can choose how we respond. If you are like me, you might find yourself struggling to give up control over situations. Others will address change by retreating away from family, friends, and even church. Still others, keep

their head down and try to rally through even on their worst days.

I have days, as I'm sure you do, that make me feel tired and overwhelmed. The thought of packing up a 2200-square foot home, for example.

Change is inevitable, right? It's what we do in the midst of change that is important. A few words of advice from Rev. Fred Rogers (Mr. Rogers) is helpful when faced with change:

*"All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we're giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That's one of the things that connects us as neighbors--in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver." Ask for help when you need it. Sometimes we'll be the giver and sometimes the receiver. Find balance between the two.*

*"Some days, doing 'the best we can' may still fall short of what we would like to be able to do, but life isn't perfect on any front -and doing what we can with what we have is the most we should expect of ourselves or anyone else." It's okay if you are only doing the, "best you can."*

It is my hope and desire that our church can be a place of love, hope and helping as we all experience the joys and challenges of change in our lives.

Praying you feel the peace of Christ during moments of change!

Pastor Sarah

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# CHRISTIAN ED

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Ginny Westover, Christian Ed Director

Two days before Christmas our preschool teachers and all but one from the Christian Ed. Committee headed to the theater to watch "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood." Four of us were viewing this story of friendship between children's television icon, Fred Rogers, and cynical journalist, Lloyd Vogel, for the first time. Susan and I were back for repeat performances two and three, respectively. Such is the allure of the film. While the credits roll at the close of the movie, the audience sits in reflective silence, contemplating the transforming power of one man's ability to connect with another.

The six of us were doing just that when the theater lights snapped to blazing attention, reminding all in the room that it was time to leave. By the time we had made our way to the foyer, we were putting voice to our thoughts. "What did you think?" "Wow – so powerful!" "That scene in the restaurant just drew you right in." "I know, right? – you sit down and start watching the story and somewhere in the middle of it, there you are, answering Fred's questions in your own mind." "Who would have thought –Mr. Rogers; I remember watching him as a kid." "Did you know Rev. Zorn and Mr. Rogers went to Pittsburgh seminary at the same time?" "No kidding!" "Two men of God, two different pulpits..." "And the love of Jesus lived out so well!" "So, what do you think of the whole church watching the movie and using it as a springboard for discussion?"

Several of us had talked about this idea earlier... some of the Tuesday night small group participants had watched the movie together and thought it would make a great study...and a couple of us had bounced ideas around with Pastor Sarah. Then when Pastor Sarah and Susan discovered the resource page for the film that the Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church had put together, we all got excited about the possibility! The themes in the discussion guide were deemed "preachable" and the February 2<sup>nd</sup> release of the DVD version of "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" seemed to be perfect timing for an all-church Lenten study. After some more pondering and prayer, Christian Ed presented the idea to Session who provided the thumbs up!

There is so much to look forward to! When we dive into an all-church study there is a wonderful sense of "being on the same page"; all age groups will be learning, discussing and thinking about the same scriptures and the same issues from Ash Wednesday, February 26, through Sunday, March

29. God's Spirit moves in amazing ways when believers are of "one mind." Just think of what took place in the beginning of Acts!

The highest purpose that we can set our life toward as a collective group of believers and as an individual follower of Jesus Christ is to live out what Jesus called the greatest commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself" (Mk 12:30,31). This will be our focus for the weeks of Lent. That goal is not new, but hopefully a consistent, growing desire of our hearts and determiner of the way we interact with others. **A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood** has a unique ability to encourage us in this. Here is a synopsis of the movie, straight from the resource guide: "Tom Hanks portrays Mister Rogers in **A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**; a timely story of kindness triumphing over cynicism, based on the true story of a real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and journalist Tom Junod. After a jaded magazine writer (Emmy winner Matthew Rhys) is assigned a profile of Fred Rogers, he overcomes his skepticism, learning about kindness, love and forgiveness from America's most beloved neighbor." You will be captivated by this story!

While the adults and teens will enjoy **A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood**, the children would have a long sit through 109 minutes of viewing adult interaction. They will be enjoying some shows from the original Mr. Roger's Neighborhood, engaging with Mr. Rogers as he explores themes of kindness, forgiveness, friendship, and messy emotions. Lenten Kidz Klub and Jr. Church will continue to focus on these themes through Bible stories, games, songs, and crafts (see page 3 for more details).

Small groups will be an important component to our Lenten study. Watch for details about times and locations and please plan to commit yourself to one for this six week period. You will find belonging, encouragement, and the joy of relationship when you do. You might be surprised at what you will learn about yourself, and you will be offering to other members in the body of Christ something that no one but you can give! Your commitment to being part of a small group will make the difference between this Lenten study being informing or being transforming. It might even make the difference in creating a more beautiful neighborhood right where we live!

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## KIDZ KLUB MEETS DURING LENT

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# Got Emojis?

They're fun to message and fun to play with as toys, but what do you do when they're the feelings inside you?

Come and find out at

## Kidz Klub 2020

Each Sunday during Lent

### March 1 – March 29

- Bible stories
- Games
- Crafts
- Supper
- 4:30 – 6:00 PM

Pre – K thru Grade 5



“Oh, Lord... you know everything about me and are intimately acquainted with all my ways.” Psalm 139:1

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**THE ANNUAL MEETING** of the congregation and corporation of the Lewistown Presbyterian Church will be held Sunday, February 2, 2020 after the worship service.

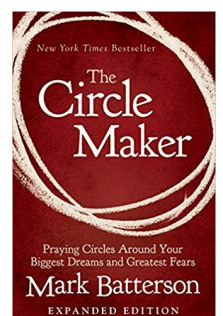


**YOUTH:** It's IMPACT time! March 6-8 at the Radisson, Camp Hill. All youth, grades 6-12 are invited to attend this high energy, Jesus-focused weekend youth conference. See Ginny Westover or Susan Ferguson for a brochure and registration form.

**DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY** the choir will be singing anthems from the African and African American traditions during worship in honor of Black History Month.

**A WORSHIP SERVICE OF INSTALLATION** will be held Sunday, February 16, 2020 at 3:00 PM for Rev. Sarah E. Sedgwick. The Presbytery of Huntingdon and Lewistown Presbyterian Church invites you to attend the service as we install Pastor Sarah as our next Pastor. The service will be held in our sanctuary, followed by a reception downstairs after the service.

**THE TUESDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP** meets at 6:30 PM on the third floor and invites you to join them as they begin a study on the book, *The Circle Maker*, written by Mark Batterson. Take a new look at praying as you draw circles around your requests.



## COME JOIN US "IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD" DURING LENT

Tom Hanks portrays Mister Rogers in **A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**; a timely story of kindness triumphing over cynicism, based on the true story of a real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and journalist Tom Junod. After a jaded magazine writer (Emmy winner Matthew Rhys) is assigned a profile of Fred Rogers, he overcomes his skepticism, learning about kindness, love and forgiveness from America's most beloved neighbor." You will be captivated by this story!

**We will be showing the film at Lewistown Presbyterian**

**Sunday, February 23 at 12:30 PM and Saturday, February 29 at 10 AM.**

Child care is available. Please RSVP with how many will be attending and their ages.

**717-248-4561; lewispres@comcast.net**

### ***The Gospel According to Mr. Rogers: Healing and Freedom from Forgiveness***

Sermon Series Description: The season of Lent provides a time for us to explore the necessity for forgiveness as we approach the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We can learn a lot about expressing our emotions and extending forgiveness through the lives of Jesus Christ and Fred Rogers.

- Feb 26: Ash Wednesday Service @ 12 noon & 7 PM in the sanctuary  
imposition of ashes and communion
- March 1: Feelings Internalized, Not Expressed  
Mark 11:12-28  
Small Groups Lesson 1: March 1-7
- March 8: When You Are the Brother  
Luke 15:11-32  
Small Groups Lesson 2: March 8-14
- March 15: Anything Mentionable is Manageable  
John 13:1-11  
Small Groups Lesson 3: March 15-21
- March 22: Finding Forgiveness and Reconciliation  
Matthew 18:23-35  
Small Groups Lesson 4: March 22-28
- March 29: Just The Way You Are **CARDIGAN SUNDAY**  
Matthew 22:34-40  
Small Groups Lesson 5: March 29-April 4

**Have a little fun and join us for  
Cardigan Sunday on March 29 as we  
conclude our sermon series  
and Lent activities.**

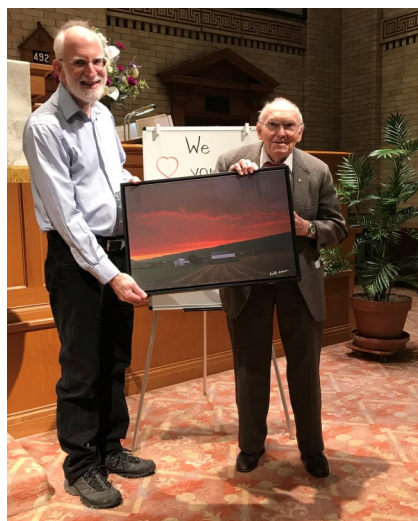
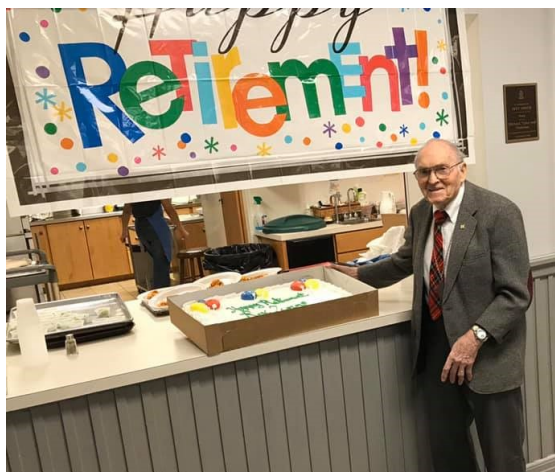
**We'll add the "spirit" of Fred Rogers  
to our worship service by wearing  
his signature cardigan!**





## HONORING REV. ROBERT & CAROL ZORN

Rev. Bob Zorn and Carol have been a part of our church life for the past twenty-six years! On December 29, 2019 we celebrated Rev. Bob's retirement as Minister of Visitation at Lewistown Presbyterian Church. He also received the honor of Pastor Emeritus on that day as well for his faithful leadership and exceptional pastoral care while serving at Lewistown Presbyterian. Bill Sisson presented Rev. Zorn with one of his beautiful photographs of a scene from Big Valley. Congratulations, Rev. Bob and Carol!!



### From Rev. Zorn

For over two hundred years the doors of our church have been the key which opens to us the fullness of Heavenly treasure. For exactly the same number of years, my home church in western Pennsylvania has provided the same benefits for the people of that community. Over its entrance door is printed this prayer:

***"O God, make the door of tis house wide enough to receive all who seek human love and fellowship; narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and strife."***

May we all have a most blessed new year.



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# PRESCHOOL PAGE

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Ginny Westover, Preschool Director

Have you ever thought about the number of choices the average person makes in the course of one day? An article from "Psychology Today" (Sept 17, 2018) suggests 35,000. (You can choose whether or not to believe that...) The average age of the choosers was unclear but I think it's safe to assume that preschoolers were not among those included in the subject group. These little people are just beginning basic training on the freedoms and responsibilities that come with choice. "Choices" is the theme in the classroom for the first month of the new year. What a great focus for 2020!

On the first Friday back in the classroom after Christmas break, the Pre-Kers had one of their first opportunities to practice choosing with a day of "Show and Tell". The children were very eager to share what they had chosen! Students chose to listen attentively to each other talk about the item they had brought in. We met a live puppy and shimmery fish, fuzzy bears and toy kitties that ate from a dish, an assortment of dolls all dressed in chic clothes, and another toy puppy that ran on its toes. We saw a pocket-sized camera, a spinner with lights, and action figures that help to stop fights. We watched a very bouncy reindeer, rolling trucks and a fast car, and even got to listen to a classmate play guitar! But the most unique item (and quite behemoth) was a cute, cuddly creature called a "uni-sloth". (Please pardon the rhymes; it's what we do, a preschool choice, through and through!)

While we're on a roll with rhymes let me choose to introduce a brand new component to both the 3s' and the Pre-Ks' daily schedule. Not too long ago, Mrs. Henry and I gratefully chose to attend a reading readiness training for preschool teachers. We began implementing what we learned after the Christmas break. Each morning for about 10 minutes during the first circle time, students and teachers are engaged in a learning focus called "phonemic awareness". The children know the time as, "the Purple Book". Its official title comes from the educator who wrote the curriculum, Dr. Michael Heggerty. Heggerty Phonemic Awareness contains daily practice in skills that are essential for a strong foundation in reading.

Just what is phonemic awareness? (Besides a fun word to say...) Despite sharing a common root, phonemic awareness is **not** phonics. Whereas the main focus in phonics is on the **letters** and their corresponding sounds in **written** form, the main focus in phonemic awareness is on **sounds** (phonemes). Rather than dealing with writing, phonemic awareness deals

with what's spoken. The students put on their good listening ears and keep them tuned in carefully throughout the lesson. They listen to and speak back rhyming words, beginning sounds of words and ending sounds. We put sounds together to make a word, take parts of a word away and say what part is left. Now that we've had some practice, we are getting quite good at developing a rhythm to each exercise. There is nothing more rewarding for a teacher than to see the look of delight on a student's face when he or she "gets it". Mrs. Henry and I are excited to see the progress that the children have made in the short time we've been practicing phonemic awareness and can't wait to see their understanding and confidence grow!

One of the rhyming books we read recently was Your Magnificent Chooser by John Ortberg. The pages of this lyrical story helped reinforce the month's theme as we read and talked about thoughtful choices, safe choices, helpful choices, smart choices, and choices that reflect what God values. We continue to learn that choices have consequences. The children are growing in their ability to take responsibility for their behavior. Every parent and teacher knows that guiding and encouraging this process has its challenges and rewards! Our hearts smile each time we watch a child stop and consider the choice that he or she is making and redirect their steps to a happy outcome.

We have also watched a child (and ourselves!) make choices that have not so happy consequences. The children understood this connection right away when we read the story of The Little Red Hen and talked about the choices that the Little Red Hen's friends made. It even seemed that the children were more eager to help clean up that day! There was no doubt that they were eager to make their own loaves of bread! The classroom and hallway sure smelled good!

The 3s' theme of Fairytales also included some stories involving choices. Acting out The Three Pigs and The Little Red Hen was great fun; especially getting to build houses of "straw", "sticks", and "bricks". You can see the color choices these young students made in the happy snowmen displayed in the hallway!

As we move into the second half of the school year, we want you to know how much we appreciate our parent's and our church family's choice to support our preschool! Thank you for all you do!



# PRESCHOOL PICTURES





## WE HAD FUN AT OUR EPIPHANY PARTY!!





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## BACKYARD MINISTRIES

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Lynn Curry, BYM Coordinator



In the Spring of last year, Kevin Delappe, of Backyard Ministries, asked if I, with the support of our church, would take responsibility of the Lawler Place community. Together, we have shown the love of Christ to many families. Weekly, I deliver Bible study papers, cookies, and food, and visit with many. Our church has provided mittens and gloves in the fall, pumpkin breads for Thanksgiving, and gifts and socks, for Christmas, to 24 children and their families. Thank you to everyone who has supported this ministry. We are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus, and we continue to do just that.

***"For the needy shall not always be forgotten." Psalm 9:18***

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## YOU ARE INVITED ~ SEDGWICK INSTALLATION SERVICE

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*The Presbytery of Huntingdon  
and  
Lewistown Presbyterian Church of Lewistown, PA  
invites you to the installation of*

***Rev. Sarah E. Sedgwick***

*as Head Pastor of Lewistown Presbyterian Church  
on Sunday, February 16, 2020 ~ 3:00 PM  
(A reception follows the worship service)*

*Please RSVP by calling the church office  
at 717- 248-4561 or lewispres@gmail.com*

*Lewistown Presbyterian Church  
17 E. Third Street  
Lewistown, PA 17044*

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## DID YOU GET YOUR "STAR WORD?"

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On Epiphany Sunday, Pastor Sarah passed out wooden star words at the beginning of January. A "star word" is one word you receive that you will focus on for the year. Think of it as a spiritual discipline for 2020.

### **HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH YOUR 2020 STAR WORD:**

Find the word in a Scripture passage that uses your word or connects with your word; Look for a hymn or song that speaks about your word or reminds you of your word; discover all the antonyms of your word.

Contact Pastor Sarah if you did not receive a "star word" and would like one.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

Susan L. Ferguson, Church Treasurer



Managing God's Gifts To Us

	Jan - Dec 2019	Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>			
BUDGETED INCOME	203,348.84	211,915.00	95.96%
INVESTMENT INCOME	134,966.86	135,850.00	99.35%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>338,315.70</b>	<b>347,765.00</b>	<b>97.28%</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
BENEVOLENCE	27,520.75	30,000.00	91.74%
MINISTRY OF THE WORD	81,414.02	86,647.00	93.96%
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	2,229.29	5,700.00	39.11%
MUSIC AND WORSHIP	2,554.82	2,450.00	104.28%
PROPERTY	55,587.43	54,800.00	101.44%
ADMINISTRATION	24,904.39	25,531.00	97.55%
PERSONNEL	127,398.11	136,600.00	93.26%
FELLOWSHIP	1,583.85	1,800.00	87.99%
PRESCHOOL	1,669.17	3,650.00	45.73%
CAPITAL RESERVE	5,000.00	0.00	100.00%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>329,861.83</b>	<b>347,178.00</b>	<b>95.01%</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>8,453.87</b>		<b>End of 2019 totals</b>

## FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

### Liturgists

2 Doug Garner  
9 Danny Garner  
16 Alex Garner  
23 Susan Ferguson

### Counters

2 Kari Cullen & Jack Wilson  
9 Lisa Snyder & Lynn Curry  
16 Maryann Haines & Karen McCurdy  
23 Ed Curry & John Gregory

### Children's Chat

2 Pastor Sarah  
9 Lynn Curry  
16 Ginny Westover  
23 Sue Garner

### Infants and Nursery

2 Zoe Finan  
9 Maryann Haines  
16 Mercy Westover  
23 Pam Pecht

### Ushers

Ed Curry (head usher)  
Kevin & Shelly Kodish  
Jean Burlew  
Karen McCurdy  
Donis Zagurskie

### Children's Church

2 Communion  
9 Elaine Siddons  
16 Ginny Westover  
23 Leah Riden

### Deacon for the Month

Donis Zagurskie



# FEBRUARY 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <b>10:00 am</b> Deacon's Training
2 <b>Congregational Annual Meeting</b> Mother Hubbard's Cupboard Ingathering <b>9:00 am</b> Adult Study Group <b>9:15 am</b> Children's Choir rehearsal <b>10:30 am</b> Worship - Communion	3 <b>11:30 am</b> Prayer Ministry	4 <b>6:30 pm</b> Small Group—3rd floor	5 <b>7:00 pm</b> Choir Practice	6 <b>11:30 am</b> Prayer Ministry Committee Night	7	8
9 <b>9:00 am</b> Adult Study Group <b>9:15 am</b> Children's Choir rehearsal <b>10:30 am</b> Worship <b>11:30 am</b> Deacons' Meeting	10 <b>11:30 am</b> Prayer Ministry	11 <b>6:30 pm</b> Small Group—3rd floor	12 <b>7:00 pm</b> Choir Practice	13 <b>11:30 am</b> Prayer Ministry <b>7:00 pm</b> Session	14	15
16 Deacons' Offering <b>9:00 am</b> Adult Study Group <b>9:15 am</b> Children's Choir rehearsal <b>10:30 am</b> Worship <b>3:00 pm SEDGWICK INSTALLATION SERVICE</b>	17 <b>11:30 am</b> Prayer Ministry	18 <b>6:30 pm</b> Small Group—3rd floor	19 <b>7:00 pm</b> Choir Practice	20 <b>11:30 am</b> Prayer Ministry	21	22
23 <b>9:00 am</b> Adult Study Group <b>9:15 am</b> Children's Choir rehearsal <b>10:30 am</b> Worship <b>11:30 am</b> Community Luncheon <b>12:30 pm</b> "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" movie—3rd Floor	24 <b>11:30 am</b> Prayer Ministry	25 <b>9:00 am</b> Backyard Ministries cookie collection <b>6:30 pm</b> Small Group—3rd floor	26 <b>7:00 pm</b> Choir Practice	27 <b>11:30 am</b> Prayer Ministry	28	29 <b>10:00 am</b> - "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" movie - 3rd floor

**Lewistown Presbyterian Church**  
**17 East Third Street**  
**Lewistown, PA 17044**

***Address Correction Requested***



***A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood* will be shown at Lewistown Presbyterian**  
**Sunday, February 23,**  
**12:30 PM**

**Saturday, February 29,**  
**10 AM.**

**See page 4 for more information or call the church office to RSVP 717-248-4561.**



Please contact us if you would like more information.  
 Phone: 717-248-4561  
 Email: [lewispres@comcast.net](mailto:lewispres@comcast.net)  
 Visit us at Website: [www.lewistownpresbyterian.org](http://www.lewistownpresbyterian.org)  
 Find us on Facebook!

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