

## FROM THE PASTOR

This is the dungeon under the Church of Saint Peter in Jerusalem. The Church of St. Peter is believed to be built on the site of the home of the High Priest Caiaphas. The dungeon was under the High Priest's house.

Why would a High Priest have a dungeon? The answer lies in the story of Jesus' Passion.

"Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered" (Matthew 26:57).

Caiaphas was a leading member of the Sanhedrin, the Jewish Council that interrogated Jesus looking for false evidence with which to frame him. He remained silent until Caiaphas demanded, "...tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." When Jesus answered in the affirmative, Caiaphas screamed, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death."

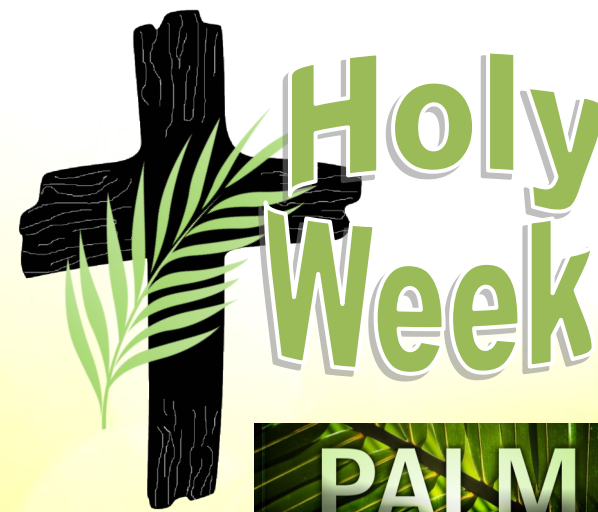
Jesus was kept overnight in the dungeon under the high priest's house, perhaps in the very dungeon you see in the picture above. He was lowered down into the dungeon in a harness through a hole in the ceiling, strapped to the wall, and beaten. The next day, he was taken to Pilate.

When Pam and I visited this dungeon in January, the tour guide asked for volunteers to read Psalm 88. Pam volunteered and read, "O LORD, God of my salvation, when, at night, I cry out in your presence, let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my cry. For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol [hell]. I am counted among those who go down to the Pit; I am like those who have no help, like those forsaken among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, like those whom you remember no more, for they are cut off from your hand."

You could have heard a pin drop as these words that Jesus might have uttered on that awful night 2,000 years ago echoed through the hellish pit under the high priest's house.

Maybe our dark nights of the soul aren't as dramatic, but we all know what it is to feel abandoned, cut off from our God. In these times the psalmist's questions ring out: "Is your steadfast love declared in the grave, or your faithfulness in [the realm of the dead]? Are your wonders known in the darkness, or your saving help in the land of forgetfulness?" Does God only appear on the mountaintops or does God's love reach the bottom of our darkest days? The answer to that question comes on Easter morning. Hosanna!

# Hosanna!



April 9th—8:15 & 10:45



April 13th  
7:00 pm



April 14th  
good friday 7:30 pm



April 16th—8:15 & 10:45



Social Ministry  
Thank yous...

We would like to thank all those who provided baked goods for the City Mission and also for the Bakery Bingo. We have many wonderful bakers in the congregation. We know items were enjoyed by many at the City Mission and also those who won the goodies at the Youth sponsored Bakery Bingo.

Also, a thank you to all those who supplied meals for the Lenten Soup Suppers. An average of 50+ people were served each Wednesday. It is a wonderful way to have fellowship during the Lenten season. Thank you to all who helped and those who attended.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES  
to the family of ...



... Norm Roessing,  
husband of Carol  
Roessing, who passed into  
the Church Triumphant on  
March 15th.

Food Cart Requests

Laundry detergent,  
toilet paper, soup.

All donations will benefit  
Lutheran Social Services



The April Noisy Offering  
will benefit:



Wittenberg University provides a liberal arts education dedicated to intellectual inquiry and wholeness of person within a diverse residential community.



# Your Endowment \$\$\$ at Work



**Your Endowment Committee** has distributed the funds for all Restricted accounts for 2017. The following funds were given to the appropriate committees:

Schlee Fund for Special Maintenance	\$842.31
McCracken Fund for Candles, Worship and Music	\$161.98
Bradley Fund for Current Benevolence	\$ 75.59
Yamine Fund for Youth Activities	\$662.80

First Lutheran appreciates all those who continue to support the current Restricted accounts and other funds within the Endowment guidelines to ease the financial needs of our church both physical and spiritual into the future. Any size gift is beneficial to these needs.

To: First Lutheran Church of Findlay,  
C/O Wendy Price  
United States of America.



Imani Ishengoma  
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imaniishengoma19@gmail.com  
04<sup>th</sup> February 2017.



## THANKS TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF FINDLAY

I greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If I am your son, your brother in Christ, a private with the whole my family we offer our sincere thanks for your support of paying school fee for a while I was studying school and now I graduated my studies during it was December 2016 at my school which is known as Saint John's University of Tanzania in the course of business administration diploma of accounting. Although the expectations of success for your prayer is great, if God will bless you still intend to continue studying I have to anywhere. I am very happy to again thank all who have participated, also thank the leadership of the First Lutheran Church of Findlay to have mercy upon acceptance, without forgetting Wendy Price and her family who was at church acquired funding both general values in as part of our family. In faith we believe we are well and God willing we can meet face to face.

I wish you God's good work to continue moving forward. I have no other way but allow me to give a thank you good health and success in your work.  
Your faithfully:  
Imani Ishengoma.

*I wanted to forward this letter. This is our dear friend Imani that our family, and First Lutheran [Endowment Committee] supported through college. .... Hopefully it will bring a better life for him. Matt [Price] has volunteered twice to visit and help Tanzania and has made some great friends and for some reason, Imani became part of our family. —Wendy Price*



Home again, home again jiggy jig. We have returned from our fishing trip to Florida. The fishing was good, the iguana hunts and fries were fun times, the friendships were renewed. This year we lived in a truck camper and the outdoor kitchen/living room (except when it rained)! A bit different from tent living. It was all good.

Without television, we spent our evenings unwinding with books. What follows is a handful of what I read:

First, on the road to Florida, I finished Les Miserable by Victor Hugo. The text is more complex than I had ever dreamed. Woven through the story of Jean ValJean, Hugo editorializes on the France of his time. To appreciate its full value, one would almost have to read and absorb again. (A time consuming proposition!)

Edward, in 600 Hours of Edward by Craig Lancaster, is a quirky, autistic OCD gentleman who lives in his own house but is supported by his father who corresponds with his son only through a lawyer. And then a mother with an inquisitive little boy moves in across the street and Edward's whole schedule is turned upside down. I loved this story.

The Lemon Grove by Ali Hosseini centers around two Iranian brothers in love with the same woman set in the background of the political "unrest" in 21<sup>st</sup> century Iran. A good story.

The Perfume Garden by Kate Lord Brown follows two generations of the same family, both touched deeply by the revolution in Spain in 1936. So much history I was not even conscious of. The author lives in the Middle East and there seems to be some mystery about the book itself. The ending needed to be changed to be published in the United States. This novel was a selection of the book club in Florida which met every two weeks. A very good read. (Don't make the mistake I almost did...there also exists the book The Perfumed Garden, an Arabic KamaSutra. We had a good laugh over that confusion.)

The Woman Who Heard Color by Kelly Jones was also discussed by the Florida book club. The book addresses a human condition known as synesthesia, also a topic of our church book club read Bitter in the Mouth by Monique Truong. As a child, the main character of the Woman... learns to play the piano by associating the shades of color with each of the piano keys. The child's mother first learns of her child's ability at this time. A really good story.

As a fan of the show "Bones", I read several Kathy Reichs' books, all with the word "bones" in the title. All good mysteries. Also picked up an early Robert Parker "Spencer" mystery called Early Autumn. Always good.

The Gardener of Baghdad by Ahmad Abdolan reminded me a little of several other books on this list...two people's stories in the same place at different times told through a purloined memoir. This time the story is set in Iraq and again I became aware of history.

I finished Hidden Figures by Margot Shetterly. By now most are familiar with the story of the African-American female mathematicians hired by NASA. The movie is in story form; the book is non fiction. Both very informative.

Paul spent time with Florida writer Tim Dorsey, Carl Hiasson, and Christopher Moore, and then he discovered Clive Cussler and John Sandford.

What a great joy to have the time to sit and read. By the way, before the library is closed in June for the renovation, check out the books you want to read. Also, if you want to borrow an e-reader, let me know.

God bless and keep reading. Kathy Brooks (419-722-8-9227 or Kbrooks@Lrbcg.com)



# The EPIC Messenger

APRIL 2017



**Sunday Nights: EPIC 6 -7:30pm**  
(stay until 8pm for additional fellowship!)

**Sunday April 2nd:**  
**Generation 4:12 4:30-6pm**

**Wednesday Night: Confirmation 7-8pm**  
(No Confirmation during Lent please attend Wednesday night service)

**Thursday Nights: Coffee Shop**  
**Hours @ Panera 5-7pm**



Attention 8th Graders!  
Confirmation Sunday is upon us. All of your hard work, time and effort has brought you to this moment.  
—>Final day of Confirmation: April 26th

7pm in the Nave  
—> Confirmation Sunday is April 30th please meet in the lounge at 9:30 for final prep and practice.

**FLC EPIC Youth Ministry**  
**is proud to have Sam**

**as the Culture Keeper this month!**

Hi my name is Sam and I am the Culture Keeper for the month of April. I attend youth group because I enjoy the laughs and the people. My favorite part about youth ministry is the retreats! I also attend weekly Coffee shop hours!



# Topic of the Month

DARE TO BE A DANIEL

## Bible Verse of the Month

“And without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those

I believe in  
*Miracles*  
and  
I believe in  
*You*



# DARE TO BE A DANIEL

**1** CHOOSE THE RIGHT FRIENDS: DANIEL 1:6  
(PROVERBS 13:20, PROVERBS 27:17, HEBREW'S 10:24)

**2** BELIEVE THAT GOD GOES BEFORE YOU: DANIEL 1:5-6  
(ISAIAH 45:2, DEUTERONOMY 31:8, PSALM 32:8)

**3** BELIEVE THAT GOD IS A REWARDER: DANIEL 1:18-20  
(HEBREW'S 11:6, GALATIANS 6:9, JAMES 4:10)

**4** KNOW THAT GOD IS ALWAYS WITH YOU - EVEN IN THE FIRE: DANIEL 3:24-25 (ISAIAH 43:2, PSALM 91:1-5, JOHN 14:8)



# Youth Encountering Jesus



## HE IS RISEN!

Keeping Christ in the season of Easter!

### Celebrating Easter with Your Family

Written by Anne Feenstra

**Easter is a wonderful opportunity to teach children and grandchildren about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.** As you plan for your celebration, here are some practical ways that you can emphasize what the true meaning of this special season:

- 1. Read Bible stories** – Read the Easter story with your children/grandchildren in a story Bible. You can begin by reading about the Triumphal Entry (see #2); you could also include the story of the Passover from Exodus 7-12. Encourage questions.
- 2. Recreate the triumphal entry** – Cut Palm branches out of green construction paper and attach them to Popsicle sticks. Give one to each child and help them to experience what the people in Jerusalem must have felt like on that day by shouting their own “Hosanna!” and singing songs of celebration.
- 3. Take the family to a passion play** – Many churches and Christian theater groups put on productions and musicals. These colorful pageants help meet the “visual” needs of today’s kids, and can leave them wide-eyed with wonder.
- 4. Watch a video together** – Find a story that you know your children will find interesting and understand – perhaps The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (from the book by C. S. Lewis), The Ten Commandments, The Robe or the JESUS film.
- 5. Decorate the house** – Get the kids involved with more than just Easter eggs. Help them to create decorations for the house using symbols of the season. Create an Easter tree, decorated with lights, purple ribbons, the cross, palm or thorn branches, and eggs or branches with new buds (symbolizing new life in Christ). Create a crown of thorns from hawthorn branches and hang it with a verse (such as Isaiah 53:5) where your kids can see it.
- 6. Discuss the symbols of Easter and what they mean** – Help your children/grandchildren to make sense of Easter by talking about the symbols and legends of the season. Use a tool that your kids will relate to, such as Resurrection Eggs (available at most Christian bookstores). Eleven of the twelve colorful, plastic eggs in this carton contain an Easter symbol and an explanation of what it means (such as a nail, a thorn, wood). The twelfth egg is empty, for the empty tomb. A guide for using the eggs is included.

Another good tool is the Good News Glove. Use this colorful glove, also available at many Christian bookstores, to communicate the heart of the gospel in an easy manner. It can be used alone or with the “Good News Comic Book.”

**7. Share the good news of Christ’s death and resurrection with others** – During holidays such as Christmas and Easter, there is a heightened awareness of and interest in spiritual things. It is a wonderful opportunity to introduce someone in your life (or your child’s/grandchild’s life) to Jesus, and to get your kids excited about sharing their faith. Invite your friends or your child’s/grandchild’s friends to join you at the Easter musical. Invite neighborhood children to an Easter “egg” hunt, and share the reason for Easter (through a children’s gospel tract or by using the Resurrection Eggs) along with the treats. Make favorite Easter goodies with your children and prepare Easter baskets for neighbors or friends (you can give them anonymously, or not), enclosed with a note reading “\_\_\_ days until Easter!”

**8. Attend a sunrise service** – Choose to attend one locally or prepare your own service. Wear warm clothes, bring a blanket, and as the sun comes peeking over the horizon, sing or play taped music. Read appropriate scripture. Consider eating a simple, carry-along breakfast at this special spot.

**9. Share family communion or a Passover meal** – Read about the Last Supper in the Gospel accounts. Use a loaf of unleavened bread and one cup so that the family can share “One Body” and “One Cup.” For a Passover Seder, read Exodus 12 and then re-search (via library books or the Internet) what is all involved in this Jewish feast.

*Enjoy this holiday season with your family, celebrating God’s perfect love with your children and grandchildren and our redemption through Christ.*

**Happy Easter!**

<https://powertochange.com/experience/family/easter/>



## Women of the ELCA

April 11—Martha Circle, 9:00 am, library  
 Rachel Circle, 9:30 am, lounge  
 April 17—Hannah Circle, 7:00 pm, lounge  
 April 30—Cookie Sunday, Rachel Circle  
 May 6—Central Conference Spring Assembly  
 9:00am—1:00pm at St. John's, Findlay

## RUMMAGE

Friday, April 28,

9am—5 pm

Saturday, April 29

You may bring your gently used items in and place them in the Rummage Sale Room.

We will need lots of help to set up the week of the rummage sale. Set up will start on Tuesday, April 25th. Please put it on your calendars to come in and give a helping hand. You do not have to sign up for any particular time; just come when you are able. We will also need help during the sale and for clean-up after the sale on Saturday.

The recipients of this spring's sale are *The Boot Project* here in Hancock County; *St. Jude's Children's Hospital*, and the *ELCA General Campaign*.

### Older, Wiser, Lutherans



Due to the rummage sale set up on our regular 4th Tuesday of the month meeting date, the OWLS will meet a week earlier on April 18th. Pam Cochran will present the program "HAM RADIO POSTCARDS FROM THE 20s & 30s".

Pam will share her collection of QSL postcards from one operator, her grandfather, who collected the cards in the 1920s and 30s. QSL postcards, traditionally exchanged between ham radio operators, weren't just a means of communication. They also represented community and were an expression of the ham radio and the QSL cards and explain the images and codes on several of the cards.

All adults are invited to the 7:00 program and to the 6:00 potluck supper. Please bring your own table service and a covered dish to share. If you need transportation, call Carol Bridinger (419-425-9104) by noon of the meeting day.



In the coming months we will be collecting items for Kits of Care to send to Lutheran World Relief to help people dealing with some of life's most difficult situations—the aftermath of earthquakes and floods, fleeing home to escape violence, and living in extreme poverty. In one year your gifts, along with others, to Lutheran World Relief have helped over 4 million people in 36 countries.

From April through July we will collect items for Baby Care Kits. A complete kit includes the following:

- 2 lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies)
- 2 long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers without feet
- 2 receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- 4 flat (not fitted) cloth diapers
- 1 jacket, sweater, or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- 2 pairs of socks
- 1 hand towel, preferably dark
- 2 or 3 bath size bars of gentle soap equaling 8—9 oz., in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- 2 diaper pins or large safety pins.

Kits should include sizes 6 through 24 months, and items should be new.

A box will be placed in the hall for you to donate your items. Every two weeks we will feature a different item, but you may place any item in it at any time.

We will also need money to ship the things and to complete any kits that don't have the requisite items. You can place your contribution in a special offering envelope. Check may be made out to the church with "Care Kit" written in the memo line. For more information, please contact Carol Bridinger at 419-425-9104.



### LECTORS

April 2  
 8:15 – Paul Brooks  
 10:45- Pam Cochran

April 9  
 8:15—Acolyte  
 10:45— Acolytes

April 16  
 8:15—Jeff Kamm  
 10:45— Arlene Powell

April 23  
 8:15—Arlene Powell  
 10:45-Traci Roth

April 30  
 8:15—Carol Bridinger  
 10:45— Jane Ebersole

### GREETERS

April 2  
 8:15 –Paul & Kathy Brooks  
 10:45

April 9  
 8:15—Tom & Linda Mitchell  
 10:45— Kids of the Kingdom

April 16  
 8:15—Jeff & Jennifer Kamm  
 10:45— Arlene Powell

April 23  
 8:15—Cloyce & Janet Baker  
 10:45- Carie & Randy Eakin

April 30  
 8:15— C. Bridinger/C. Wittenberg  
 10:45—Carie Eakin

### SOUND ROOM

April 2  
 8:15—Sam Ried  
 10:45—Todd Thompson

April 9  
 8:15 –Dave Gerber  
 10:45— Zachary Short

April 13, 7:00 -  
 April 14, 7:30-

April 16  
 8:15 –Tim Roth  
 10:45— Jerry Bryant

April 23  
 8:15—James Vaughn  
 10:45—Alex Treece

April 30  
 8:15—Tim Roth  
 10:45—Steve Roth

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

April 2  
 8:15—Daryl Rotman  
 10:45— Daryl Rotman

April 9  
 8:15—Tim Franks  
 10:45— Tim Franks

April 16  
 8:15—Pam Cochran  
 10:45—Pam Cochran

April 23  
 8:15 –Kathy Kapostasy  
 10:45

April 30  
 8:15—Kathy Kapostasy  
 10:45

### ALTAR FLOWERS

April 2—Carolyn & Jerry Bryant  
 April 9  
 April 16—Fred & Karon Makrancy  
 April 23  
 April 30— Confirmation Class

Forms for your bulletin announcement are available on the bulletin board and at 1stLutheranChurch.org

Flowers need to be delivered to the church by noon on Friday.

### DEACONS

8:15— Steve Roth,  
 Tom Mitchell,  
 Nick Thomas,  
 10:45— Steve Roth,

May Newsletter Deadline  
Tuesday, April 18th  
 Weekly Bulletin Deadline  
 Wednesday Mornings

### ACOLYTES

April 2  
 8:15—Sam Ried  
 10:45— Breann Tabler/Emily Meier

April 9  
 8:15—Samantha Franks  
 10:45—Nathan Leipheimer, Emily Meier

April 14, 7:30, Jeremiah Tatum/ Evan Clark

April 16  
 8:15—Samantha Franks  
 10:45—Lily cox, Nathan Leipheimer

April 23  
 8:15 -  
 10:45—Evan Clark, Emily Meier

April 30  
 8:15 -  
 10:45 –Evan Clark, Samantha Franks

### ALTAR GUILD

Dave & Shirley Gerber,  
 Bob & Arlene Schriener

### COUNTERS

Daryl & Cyndy Rotman

### LSS DELIVERY

Carolyn Wilde

### FLOWER DELIVERY

Maria Schell

### COMMUNION BREAD

April 16—D. Franks, R. Smith  
 April 23—Janet Wobser  
 April 30—Heather Westrick

### COOKIE SUNDAY

April 2—Community Dinner  
 April 9—Endowment/Finance  
 April 16—Happy Easter  
 April 23—Property  
 April 30—Rachel Circle

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

April 2/9—Tad & Maria Schell  
 April 16—Happy Easter  
 April 23—Randy & Carie Eakin  
 April 30—Rick & Susie Polder





**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

**Baptisms**  
**April 2, 23 & May 7**  
**10:45 Service**

**New Member Class**  
**May 14 & 21 at 9:30**

If you or someone you know would like to become a member of our church family through Baptism or the New Member Class, please contact the church office or Pastor Bob.



## Baptisms

James Maurer	4/1	Phoebe Treece	4/13
Merrill Maurer	4/1	Steven Treece	4/13
Fredric Willford	4/1	Sandra Burnside	4/14
Steve Brossia	4/2	Nancy Woodruff	4/14
James Clayton Sr.	4/2	Donna Mason	4/15
Samuel Fruchey	4/2	Nikki Needles	4/15
Marie Peace	4/4	Rick Howard	4/17
Drew Short	4/4	Tracy August	4/18
Sue DeMoss	4/5	Gary Woodruff	4/18
Christian Dittmar	4/5	Wesley Rodman	4/19
Barbara Larick	4/5	Beyen Benedetti	4/20
Sue Montgomery	4/5	Barb Smith	4/20
Kenneth Howard	4/8	David Rossman	4/21
Chris Zawisza	4/8	Robert Stacy	4/21
Emily Betts	4/9	Nancy Haffelder	4/24
David Wobser	4/9	Linda Ried	4/25
Ryan Price	4/12	Carol Ruehle	4/25
Zoe Thompson	4/12	Joshua Basinger	4/28
Steven Wilson	4/12	Janice Bishop	4/29
Donna Brockman	4/13	Dorothy Freeland	4/29
Victoria Cox	4/13	Evan Pitt	4/29
Hannah Roth	4/13	L. Eileen Mains	4/30

## Anniversaries

James & Maurine Denney	4/3/1971	46
Clyde & Donna Mason	4/7/1980	37
Randy & Julie Buck	4/15/1989	28
Jim & Wendy Price	4/15/1989	28
Jeffrey & Lesley Betts	4/25/1998	19
Dean & Amy Bowser	4/26/1986	31
Alex & Jennifer Treece	4/27/2002	15

# APRIL Celebrations

Avarie Needles	4/1
Beth Vaughn	4/1
Erin Muntzing	4/2
Cole Westrick	4/2
Doug Bonnoront	4/3
Charles Crates	4/3
Jerry Bryant	4/4
Nick Muntzing	4/4
Paul Pepple	4/6
Elle Price	4/6
Janice Bishop	4/11
Rhonda May	4/11
Wayne Dukes	4/12
Edwin Dunn	4/12
Hallie Mitchell	4/12
Doris Brand	4/15
Beth Meier	4/15
Ken Bahler	4/18
Jack Haffelder	4/18
Elaine Leonard	4/18
Anthony Sherman	4/18
Karissa Welte	4/19
Cynthia Fitzpatrick	4/20
Robert Rodman	4/20
Patricia Needles	4/21
Madison VanAtta	4/21
Robert Schriener	4/23
Maurine Denney	4/24
Harper Cleary	4/25
Oliver Cleary	4/25
Daniel Eakin	4/25
Cecilia Maag	4/26
Paige Peplinski	4/27
Judith Mains	4/28
Gary Schultz	4/29
Gavin Haudenschild	4/30
Jack Meek	4/30
Patrick Westrick	4/30

## B i r t h d a y s

*first*  
**Lutheran**  
First Lutheran Church  
109 E. Lincoln Street  
Findlay, OH 45840

*"Moving one step closer to God."*

Current Resident or:

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This newsletter was mailed:  
March 29th  
Give or take a day



[www.1stlutheranchurch.org](http://www.1stlutheranchurch.org)

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