

TRINITY CHURCH TIDINGS

JUNE 2017

Trinity Lutheran Church & School
146 Reserve Road, West Seneca, New York 14224
Church: (716) 674-9188, School: (716) 674-5353

Rev. Dennis Krueger, Pastor, C: 997-5666 / H: 671-8130
Mrs. Kathleen Fretthold, School Principal, School: 674-5353

Church Website: trinitywestseneca.com
Church Office E-mail: trinitylutheranchurch146@verizon.net



WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday @ 5:00 pm - Blended
Sunday @ 8:00 am - Traditional
Sunday @ 10:30 am - Contemporary

“ CHURCH ‘MEMBER-SHIP’ ”

What is church membership? For that matter, what is the church? The church has been described in many different ways, varying in accuracy. The Apostle Paul speaks of the church as the “body of Christ.” The members of the church in this metaphor are the various parts of the body: eye, ear, hand, etc. Another descriptive symbol for the church is that of a ship. The imagery is derived from Noah’s ark that saved he and his family from the flood. Hence the church is the means by which those in it are saved from the sea of disbelief, persecution and sin in the world. The Scriptures employ other metaphors for the church such as a flock, a house built from living stones and the bride of Christ to name a few. Each one underscores a unique characteristic of God’s church.

I kind of like the metaphor of “member”ship, as opposed to membership. The church is made up of many different members and parts, each one functioning together for the good of the whole body. Church membership is not the same as that of being a member of some civic organization or club. You don’t just fill out a form, pay your dues and join. Generally these kinds of memberships bring with them perks and benefits for ‘members only.’ Biblical church member-ship is more about serving, and functioning together for the sake of the whole body – its mission, purposes and ministries. The concept of an “inactive church member” is really an oxymoron! If you are not involved, active and serving in the work and ministry of the church, you’re really not a member. Your name may still be on the church roster, but you’re not a functioning member. While we may lament or joke about so called “*CEO*” church members (Christmas and Easter Only), it’s not at all humorous! It is not at all God pleasing!

The Gospel lesson from this past Sunday really made this quite clear when Jesus said to His disciples, “If you love Me you will obey My commands.” (John 14:15). Jesus’ commands and will is that we love and serve (ministry) as He did, that we not despise His Word and Sacraments, and so on.

The leadership of Trinity Lutheran Church and I have been wrestling with maintaining integrity with God’s Word and will regarding church membership. We have discussed the best way to reach out to ‘members’ who have not attended worship or Holy Communion for a very long time, nor been involved in any way. NOTE: This is not about those who are ill, shut-in, serving in the military, or away at school! This pertains to those who prefer to be members (associates), rather than functioning members of the body of Christ. I am planning to address this ministry concern more in future newsletters. In the mean time:

- Pray for all those who are connected to Trinity Lutheran that they be living functioning members of the church!
- Consider your own calling to be a ministering member of Christ’s church. Pray for the Holy Spirit to move you to use the gifts you have been given to serve, support, and function with the other members.
- Commit to the regular study of God’s Word, to prayer, worship, growth and fruitfulness!
- Strive to not let the church be about you, your preferences and your expectations. Rather, let your aim be to serve and function for the glory of God and the blessing of others!
- Pray for our church leaders and avoid criticizing them and complaining about them.

~ Pastor Dennis Krueger

SUMMER HOURS

WORSHIP: Beginning June 17 & 18

Saturday Evening at 5:00pm
(outdoors - weather permitting)

Sunday Morning at 9:30am

OFFICE: Beginning June 19

Mon / Wed / Thurs 8am – 4pm
Tues 8am-12pm

*** Office closed on Fridays ***



VBS 2017 ~ "Rome"
July 10-14, 2017
9am-12pm

Register today!!! All children ages 3 (potty trained) thru 6th Grade in the Fall are welcome. We'll sing fun songs, do crazy crafts, eat yummy snacks, play awesome games, and much more. Registration forms can be found on the table in the narthex by the Memorial Plaque or on our new website. Please place completed forms in the Church Office mailbox in the coatroom.

Helpers are needed in order to make this event a success for the kids! If you can volunteer to help, even for just 1 day, please contact Anna Eising (909-2444 or eising2pak@gmail.com).

2017-18 Budget Requests

All committee / group budget requests for next fiscal year (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018) need to be submitted to Dave Broderdorf by June 1.

Welcome to Trinity!

We welcome Judy L. Schmidt to Trinity as a transferred member. Judy heard about Trinity from several current members as well as Pastor. She is retired and enjoys crocheting, computer work, writing, and cooking. She is also a Stephen Minister and is a welcome addition to Trinity's team of Stephen Ministers. Judy stated she would like to help out at Trinity in any way that doesn't require a lot of walking or standing as she is semi-handicapped. Please add Judy's contact information to your Trinity directory:

Judy Schmidt
4647 Southwestern Blvd. - Apt. 132
Hamburg, NY 14075
926-9054

2017-2018

Time & Talent Survey Update

Thank you to all who participated in the Time and Talent Survey. For those who have not yet completed a survey, you still have an opportunity and we would love to hear from you. The forms can be found at the Welcome Center in the fellowship hall and once completed place in Don Meissner's mailbox. The Inclusion Committee plans to gather the information from all the surveys and will submit a report of interest to the various ministry chairs. Our target date to complete and distribute this data is late summer to early fall. Thank you for your participation.



Happy 100th Birthday Ruth Hope!

Ruth Hope turns 100 years old on June 17, 2017. Anyone wishing to send her a birthday card is invited to do so.

Her address is:

Mrs. Ruth Hope
5949 Broadway - Room C-117
Lancaster, NY 14086

Trinity's New Website

<http://www.trinitywestseneca.com/>

Trinity's new website is now LIVE! The Outreach team has been working very hard on this project. Please check it out and share it with your friends and family! The more you share and look at the website, the easier our website will be to find on Google searches.

Here are some ways you can share:

- Post on social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc)
- Leave a note with a co-worker or friend
- Word of mouth

Thank you!

Trinity School News



From the Principal ...

May was another month of blessings, as we reached our Annual Fund goal of \$15,000, we had a full house for Mother's Day Muffin and Chapel, another successful musical was completed, and we won Channel 7's Andy Parker and his Weather Machine. There were so many people involved in the planning and presenting of all of these events, I can't begin to list them all! We are so thankful for all of our volunteers, staff, parents and families, friends, and YOU for helping to make it happen. We especially thank our heavenly Father for continuing to lead and guide us in His ways here at Trinity.

The students presented "Nic at Night" this year as their musical. I hope you were able to come and see the students singing and acting in witness to their Savior. Some of you may remember that same production from 2007, or had even been a part of it! A portion of the collection from that evening was given to the church in appreciation for the upkeep of the music room area of the church basement. We are so thankful for our music teacher, Noel Anderson, who directed, and to her husband, Dave, who took care of so much of the sound and lights. YOUR help with stage set-up is deeply appreciated, too!

We enjoyed Andy Parker's Weather Machine on Monday 5/22, and you may have seen some of the clips and our greetings on TV. We are so proud of the effort of so many people to help win the contest with their votes. It was a huge accomplishment. We even had friends nation-wide participating! (The second place school has 900 students...)

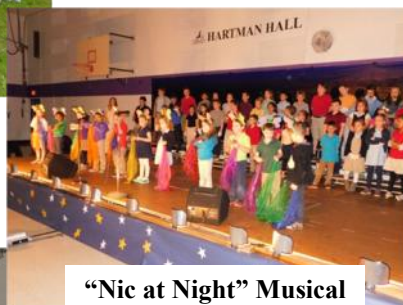
Our annual Walk-a-thon took place on Thursday, 5/25. The money raised was added to the playground fund. That should be going in this summer, if not before the end of the school year.

June brings us to Field Day with the other WNY Lutheran Schools, Class Night & Sports Banquet (Thank you, Chris Kopra, Brad McKernan, PJ Colson and Sarah Makosy!) our annual Pioneer picnic and Graduation. Please mark June 14th on your calendar for Doughnuts with Dad (and grandpas, uncles, friends, etc.) and the following day, June 15 at 7pm for our Graduation Celebration for all students. As always, we welcome your participation at any time, and *thank you* for your support, participation and prayers. Please pray for 90-15-20 (enrollment, Kindergarten, PK) we surpassed last year's enrollment prayer request - let's ask again this year! Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

~ Kathleen Fretthold, Principal



Annual Fund Drive



"Nic at Night" Musical



Mother's Day Muffins

Church/School Liaison

Keeping the church and school connected and sharing information between us is a vital part of our effectiveness in mission, and we'd like to be more intentional about it and see it grow. We're looking for someone who can be in communication with Kathy Fretthold, our principal, on a weekly basis (about 10-15 minutes) over the phone, email or in person. They would share that information (fellowship and growth opportunities) in publications in the church and school's newsletter, bulletin, websites and the like. This would make a big difference in strengthening a strong and vital bond between church and school. If you'd like to give this a shot, get in touch with Mark Willert or Kathy Fretthold (674-5353) to find out more.



Stained Glass Windows

The renovation of Trinity's stain glass windows will cost approximately \$20,000. A little over \$7,750 has been donated for this project so far. Anyone wishing to make a contribution can do so by using the designated blue envelope in their monthly offering envelope packet or by submitting a donation in an envelope clearly marked "Stained Glass Windows". Thank you for your support!

Cemetery News

With summer upon us, it is important to be reminded of some of the Rules & Regulations of Trinity's Cemetery:

- Flowers and plants should be placed in rugged, sturdy containers which can be placed on either side of the monuments. They should not be planted directly in the ground. **NO** glass containers are allowed in the cemetery.
- In-ground plantings (trees, shrubs, etc.) are subject to Cemetery Board approval. Approval must be given prior to anything being planted.
- **ANY** burials or spreading of ashes in Trinity's Cemetery are prohibited without pre-approval from the Cemetery Board. Both state and cemetery regulations need to be adhered to.



Confirmation Sunday

Congratulations to our 2017 confirmation students confirmed on May 21, 2017! Welcome to the church family! A sincere thank you to the Inclusion Team for hosting the celebration and fellowship time after the service.

Front row: Abigal Blamowski, Sarah McLaughlin, Jazmine Gable, Caitlyn McLaughlin, Jonah LoVullo, Zachary Powers, Grace Willert, Evan McCoy, Hope Willert, Ryan Hamann.

Back Row: Chris Kopra (Confirmation teacher), Pastor Dennis Krueger, Mark Willert (Youth and Family Coordinator). Not Pictured: Renata Schultz

Seven Things That God Hates

Proverbs 6:16-20

(Part 1 of 7)

He Hates a "Proud Look"

I've been a people-watcher
 For many, many years.
 I've known some strong emotions,
 From jubilation to tears.
 I've felt the touch of Jesus
 When life has hit me hard.
 His healing Hand has calmed me
 When dreams were lost or charred.
 I've met some great achievers,
 Whose touch was Midas gold.
 They frowned upon the losers
 With scornful looks and bold.
 Born with spoon of silver,
 The gifted, prosperous crowd
 Can scarce conceal annoyance
 Or keep from looking proud.
 There is a word of warning
 In God's own precious Book,
 Not only for our conduct,
 But even how we look!
 God wrote a special warning
 To each achieving Crowd -
 "Watch carefully your countenance -
 I hate a look that's proud!"

Haiti Mission Update



The Mission Team is set! God has put together his next group of missionaries to Haiti: Kevin and Colleen Kot, Linda Meissner, Ryan Manzella, Rachel Eising, Chris Kopra, Theresa Markey, and Brad McKernan. Our week of travel is set for August 2nd – 9th. The itinerary will include visiting with the Upper Room Orphanage as well as witnessing and serving with Mission of Hope, who has become our partner in helping the Upper Room. As a team, we have begun to meet regularly to prepare our hearts and minds for the journey. During this process we humbly ask for your prayers to ease apprehension and guide our preparations.

We have heard from Papa how eager the children of the Upper Room are for our visit and we are just as excited. Though only eight of us will visit Haiti in body, all of Trinity will truly be with us in Spirit. You are encouraged to ask the team members about our plans and come alongside us through the process! Thank you Trinity!



Holy Baptism

The sacrament of Holy Baptism was God's gift to **Harper Grace Farrell**, daughter of Mike & Leigh Farrell, on 5/7/17. We welcome our new little sister into God's family here at Trinity!

Thank You

Trinity's Ladies Bible Study!

A special thank you was sent to Trinity's Ladies Bible Study Group from the Rene C. Greco Heart to Heart Foundation. Our ladies collected backbacks and various supplies for the foundation this past Spring.

"Thank you so, so much for your generous donations! They will go such a long way to helping local Erie County foster children. We are grateful for your support!"

Emergency Need

If a family member is **hospitalized** or there is an **emergency need**, please inform and phone Pastor Krueger (997-5666), the church office (674-9188), or one of the Deacons.

"Trojans Take Action" at Trinity

A huge THANK YOU to West Seneca East High School's "Trojans Take Action" program for their help at Trinity on Friday, May 19, 2017. A group of approximately 15 students, along with several of their teachers, volunteered their time to spread mulch around all of the Trinity properties. A special thank you to Mark Blajszczak, Dave Lein, Don Meissner and Dick Schultz, who helped to supervise the students.



Follow us on Facebook!

See current pictures, follow events and hear what people are saying about us! You might be surprised. We have two pages. Search for Trinity Lutheran Church, West Seneca OR Trinity Christian School, West Seneca, NY. Check us out and join in the fun!

Baccalaureate Service

West Seneca West High School: June 7, 2017 at Winchester Community Church

West Seneca East High School: June 14, 2017 at Ebenezer United Church of Christ

Church Website and Facebook Why Have Two? What's The Purpose Of Each?

If you haven't had the chance yet to check out our new website, check us out at www.trinitywestseneca.com. Out for a few months now, the Outreach Team, led by Joan Kopra, has done an awesome job giving us a new look and an updated platform for people to see us from the outside. Since having our first website, this is only the second style or look we've had. As technology progresses, so does the appearance and use of it, so the need for updating was timely.

You can have different purposes for a website of course. First, we wanted to make sure that as new people look at us from the outside, they get a fresh, well rounded representation of Trinity. A few years back, two members of our Outreach Team attended a seminar and learned that it is paramount to use a church's website as an outreach tool. This is the first look they get at Trinity before even walking in the doors. The second, and a very important purpose, is to use it as a communication tool to our Trinity family.

Where does Facebook fit in? In this day and age multiple points of digital representation is needed. Our purpose for Facebook is to share more immediate and constant updates: pictures, happenings, reminders of upcoming events and the like. It also offers a way for people to connect and interact - hence forth the term, "Social Media". People also have the chance to ask questions and anyone can respond to them.

So there are things you will find on our Facebook page you'll not find on our website. While pretty much anyone can share or leaders can easily update our Facebook page, only trained people can update our website.

As previously shared, if there are any leaders that would like to be able to share your information via Facebook, and have it listed as "Trinity" sharing it, contact Mark Willert for the login information. There are a few people that have gotten on board and we'd love more to share as well. We have quite a following and it's a great venue to share what's going on!

To visit us on Facebook, search "Trinity Lutheran West Seneca" and be our "friend"!

YOUTH SCOOP

Jr. High

Jr. High Youth Night: If you have a student in grades 6-8 and they haven't come to one of our youth nights, it's time to check it out. We have new kids coming every month and ... they keep coming back! Our next one is **June 12 from 7pm-8:30pm** in the school gym.

8th Grade Students: So what's next? What is life like after Jr. High? Come and check out our Sr. High Small Group on **Tuesday, May 30 from 7:00-8:30** at the Willert's house next to the church. What can you expect? Some great discussion about a topic in the lives of teens and how God fits in, some food and other great people! Bring a friend and check us out.

Sr. High

Sr. High Small Group: This group's last meeting is **Tuesday, May 30 from 7:00-8:30pm** at the Willert's house. We will take a break over the summer months and will resume in September. Thank you Grace and Hope Willert for your student leadership this year! A special thank-you to Robin Makosy for being our adult encourager and being a part of and organizing our small group nights. Robin will be moving on to other ministry areas next year and we sincerely thank her for her heart and dedication! You have been a blessing to us.

Sr. High Parents Meeting (Including 8th grade parents): On **June 11 at 11:45am** (following the 10:30am service) we will have a parents meeting in the meeting room at church about summer activities and schedule for the Sr. Youth. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Sr. High Small Group Adult Leader Needed: We're looking for an adult interested in being a part of our Sr. High small group nights. This is a 2x a month commitment on a week night for an hour and a half. This "adult encourager" is also in communication with the student leaders for organization of the small group nights and support. If this sounds interesting to you and you'd like to know more, please contact Mark Willert 608-8907 (Youth and Family Coordinator) to find out more.

Confirmation Dinner - First Time Event

This year we added a new component to our confirmation experience at Trinity. While re-vamping and looking for new ideas to build and supplement what our students learn and experience in Confirmation, we came across the idea of having a very special dinner for our confirmands and their families. So on May 14 (which happened to be Mother's day), our families sat down to a catered meal in the church narthex. During that time, students shared for the first time publicly their Faith Statement. As the dinner progressed, each student would share from paper what they poured out from their hearts in the 4 weeks of prior writing.

After dinner, the group moved into the front of the church and shared in our Lords Supper. After hearing a very touching and meaningful message from Pastor Krueger, the students and their families stood in a circle in front of the alter area and down the steps to be communed. There's something so unique and special taking communion in a circle. It felt very unified and family like. Hopefully, this will be a long standing tradition for years to come. Thank-you Pastor Krueger for making this such a special and memorable experience.



Operation Christmas Child

Items being collected during the month of **June** are **STICKERS**. Items can be placed in the Operation Christmas Child bin in the church narthex. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Royal Night Out Fundraiser June 3, 2017 5:00pm - 9:30pm

The Harris girls are hosting a fundraiser to raise sponsorship fees towards a state pageant in August. On June 3rd you are invited to drop off your child (ages 4-12) at the Trinity School multi-purpose room at 5 pm until 9:30 pm for \$25 per child. (A family discount is also offered.) Children will participate in a Royal Enchanted Evening- Beauty and the Beast style! During this supervised time period, children will have dinner, play games, and complete a craft. Furthermore, kids are invited to dress up in royal attire! BE OUR GUEST, you won't want to miss this Enchanted Evening! Please contact Christine Harris to RSVP or for further details. (716)822-0984 or charris@thinktrinitychristian.com

~ Christine Harris



Camp Pioneer Golf Benefit Monday ~ July 17, 2017 Brierwood Country Club

The early bird price (before June 1st) is \$135 per golfer. Please call Camp Pioneer at 549-1420 to register. A copy of the golf brochure containing all the details can be found on the bulletin board in the church coatroom. The proceeds will assist children of our military to have a camp experience.

Volunteer Needed

The Southtowns Care Center is in need of a volunteer to commit to coming in once a month during non-client hours to clean. Our facility is new and cleaning should not take more than an hour or two. If you can help in this way, on your own schedule, please contact Alice Moeller (508-0660).



If you know of a member of Trinity who should be on our **shut-in member list**, please let Pastor Krueger and the church office know! We want to care for all!!!

Parenting and Pornography

On May 9, five day-school families and one public guest gathered to learn about the affects of pornography and children. One was a grandmother. :) Understanding that at some point their children will be exposed to it, they were given tools and support of how to navigate and deal with it when that time comes. While the national average of pornography viewing addiction can start at age 11, the alarming statistic is that viewing happens as low as age 7. This is due to many kids having access to smartphones and social media at such a young age.

In Bible Studies for Life, Chip Ingram writes, "13 percent of all web searches are related to erotic content [and] almost 9 out of 10 young men (85 percent) and almost half of young women (48 percent) report viewing pornography." Ingram in The Real God, also states that 68% of Christian church going men and 50% of pastors view pornography once a week.

"It was staggering and eye-opening to hear what's going on right now in our society. We didn't have to deal with this when we were kids so it's a whole new realm of danger that wasn't there before - and a majority of people don't know about this stuff," shared one parent in the question and answer time. It's not only having "that" talk about the birds and bees, but now we need to add on the discussion of pornography in our society.

In talking with their kids, parents are up against a few different challenges. One is that they think their child would never do such a thing. Truth be told, this happens to the nicest of kids/teens. Personally I know a pastor from another church locally who is taking their 17 year old son to counseling because of the addiction. Another is that when it happens, kids can be so sneaky and easily hide their addiction. What is an addiction? ... going back a second, third, fourth time. Last, parents don't like that uncomfortable and awkward feeling of having these talks. If you wait until it feels comfortable to talk to them about it, we're told it's too late. The younger you start, the easier it is and less awkward down the road as you increase the level of discussion and topic content.

Our choice as parents is this: Do we allow society to teach our children about these things? Or, do we want to be the ones who help formulate our kids thoughts and reactions to help guide them through these threatening situations that could have life-long affects? Proverbs 22:6 encourages us, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it." It's not a matter of if, but when your child will be exposed.

To hear some amazing information on this subject, listen to a podcast at <http://www.fln.org/sermon/inside-out-parenting-in-a-pornography-saturated-world>



"To provide men opportunities to grow spiritually, to connect relationally, and to use their God-given gifts and abilities in service to Him and to others."

Trinity Men in Ministry 4th Annual Golf Outing

Ladies and Men golfers welcome!

Saturday, September 9, 2017
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

\$20.00 per golfer ...

includes Greens Fee, Riding
Cart, Food and Beverages



Salads, Chips, Pretzels, Soda, and Beer

Non-golfers welcome to join us for food and beverages at the course at approximately 2:00 PM. (Free will offering will be taken at the course)

48 golfers maximum, sign-up as soon as possible but no later than August 27th. Sign-up sheet is located on the sign-up table in the narthex.

Turkey Run Golf Course

11888 Bixby Hill Road
Arcade, NY 14009



Happy Birthday

6/1	Peter Bullock Kasey Lelito	6/8	Helen Schultz Peter Szeider Jeff Gertis Cadence Jelowski	6/17	Fred Schultz Henry Eismann Bruce Heckman	6/25	Marilyn Lein Gregory Ringle
6/2	Rev. David Belasic Karen Hollowood Trevor Jelowski	6/9	Shannon Heckman Jacob Ecker	6/18	Tracey Malta	6/26	Kyle McCoy
6/3	Denise Meissner	6/11	Johanna Guenther	6/20	Kristen Zawadzki Travis Barnas	6/27	Don Meissner Trevor Wilkening
6/4	Martha Birrer	6/12	Ruth Hope	6/21	Liana Lorigo Anthony Strong	6/29	Lisa Osberg
6/5	Norine Ecker Jered Cornell	6/13	Becky Mann Abigail Lelito	6/22	Larry Thompson Lenore Ecker	6/30	Jennifer Evans
6/6	Henry Jelowski	6/14	Linda Daum	6/23	Jeffrey Wackowski		
6/7	Brynn Zawadzki	6/16	Mark Blajszczak	6/24	Shana Caldarella		

Happy Anniversary

5/30	Joshua & Sarah Makey	6/18	Joshua & Jessica Ecker Christa & Charles Wilkening
6/4	Gregory & Lindsay Ringle	6/19	Ken & Becky Mann
6/8	Charles & Eleanor Gass	6/20	Frank & Sandra Lelito
6/12	Paula & David Winkelses Ingrid & Alan Hamann	6/23	Dennis & Tricia Glinski
6/15	Rev. Ron & Carolyn Habedank	6/26	Don & Beverly Weiss
6/17	Ron & Nancy Hope	6/29	Mark & Katie Willert



Summer Camps at Pioneer

Pioneer Camp & Retreat Center offers a variety of summer camps and family service weekends. For more information, look for the brochures on the table in the narthex or visit Pioneer's website (www.pioneercamp.org).

Portals of Prayer

Portals of Prayer (July - Sept 2017) devotion booklets will be available soon. They can be found in the church entryway, on the Welcome Center in the narthex, and in the coatroom. Please take one and use it for home devotions! Give one to a friend who may be in need too!

Altar Flowers & Candle Oil

We are still in need of weekly altar flower and monthly altar candle oil donations for 2017. Please refer to the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the church coatroom for open dates.

Trinity Food Wagon

The Trinity Food Wagon is located by the parking lot entrance to the building. Please help fill it with non-perishables, cereals, canned goods, etc. Thank you for helping those in need!

Ministers: The People of Trinity Church & School

Position

Pastor
School Principal
Youth & Family Coordinator
Church Office Administrator
School Office Administrator

Name

Rev. Dennis Krueger
Kathleen Fretthold
Mark Willert
Teresa Lynch
Judeen Babcock

Contact Information

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