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# ◆ News and Views From St. Paul's ◆

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Vol. 12 Issue 2

February, 2009

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## Upcoming Events February 2009

- Feb. 1: Sunday, IV Epiphany  
9 AM, Worship  
Installation ~ Daughters of the King  
10:15 AM, Church School  
10:30 AM, Adult Forum
- Feb. 4: 9:30 AM, Property Committee  
12:10 PM, Wednesday Worship, p. 5  
Cornelius the Centurion
- Feb. 5: 3:45-4:45 PM, Community  
Childrens Choir, p. 4
- Feb. 8: Sunday, V Epiphany  
9 AM, Worship  
10:15 AM, Church School,  
Music with Mrs. Chandler  
10:30 AM, Daughters of the King  
5 PM, Vespers & Light Supper, p. 5
- Feb. 11: 12:15 PM, Wednesday Worship
- Feb. 12: 3:45 PM, Community Childrens Choir
- Feb. 15: Sunday, VI Epiphany  
9 AM, Worship  
No Church School or Adult Forum
- Feb. 16: 5:30 PM, Vestry Meeting
- Feb. 18: 12:10 PM, Healing Service & Eucharist
- Feb. 19: 3:34 PM, Community Childrens Choir
- Feb. 22: Sunday, Last Epiphany ~ Children's Sabbath  
9 AM, Worship  
10:15 AM, Report of the Search Committee
- Feb. 24: **Shrove Tuesday**  
12 Noon, Daughters of the King  
5 PM, Annual Shrove Tuesday,  
Pancake Supper, p. 4
- Feb. 25: **Ash Wednesday**  
12:10 PM, Imposition of Ashes & Eucharist  
6 PM, Imposition of Ashes &  
Eucharist, p. 5
- Feb. 26: Bountiful Blessings begins, p. 5  
3:45 PM, Community Childrens Choir

## Looking Ahead

- March 1: Kajo Keji Update  
March 15: ECW/Men's Group, p. 6  
April 12: Easter Sunday

## What Would Jesus Do?

The second chapter of Mark tells the story of Jesus returning to Capernaum where so many people gathered that no one could even get in the front door. . . "3. Then some people came bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 4. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him: and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. 5. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Can we take this story as a Father Charles metaphor? How can we apply this metaphor to ourselves? Do we need to tear off our roof? No. Are we too crowded? No. Do we have people who want to get to Jesus who can't seem to get through the front door? . . . Yes? . . . Yes.... Yes!

Now, we can fill in the rest of our metaphor. What did the four men do when confronted with their situation? Did they go away sadly? Did they go to some other healer? No! They tore tiles off the roof and lowered their friend. Now, what can we do to help our friends who can't enter the usual way? Do we need to tear off the roof? No! What we need to do is to build a ramp, an accessibility ramp.

Should we do this thing? Should we build this ramp? Can we do this thing? Do we have a choice? No, we do not, not if we want Jesus to smile on us.

The question "What would Jesus do?" is a good one. But in this case the question should be, "What can we do to bring people to Jesus."

Submitted by Jane Chandler



February 2009

My dear Friends,

In a few weeks we will embark on the Season of Lent. The liturgy for Ash Wednesday (Prayer Book, p. 264ff), at the beginning of Lent, calls us to “prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading a meditation on God’s holy Word.” Lent prepares us for Holy Week and Easter.

May I suggest to you that “prayer, fasting, and self-denial” may also help us in these difficult economic times? More pointedly, our religious discipline during Lent may help us discern a moral perspective at these hard times?

The spiritual and physical disciplines of prayer, fasting, and self-denial have the potential to aid in the deeper understanding of, and response to, poverty and downward mobility.

My experience over the past months is that there are few places in our community that have not felt the cold hand of the recession. It is obvious in the increased demand upon our County’s Food Banks, and it is present in the closing of local businesses. It is a hard time for those on fixed incomes or those whose incomes are tied to investments.

The rising tide of joblessness is ushering in a time of widespread downward mobility. Every day brings a new headline of a major downsizing or layoff at even the most venerable corporations. Many households no longer can afford expensive vacations; their credit cards are maxed out; and, the mortgage on their McMansion is exploding. The very things that were the symbols of upward mobility are now dragging them downward.

Prayer, fasting, and self-denial are the spiritual path to a greater understanding of God; but I hold that they are also the social path to understanding our neighbor and ourselves. They lead us, and help us grow, in the virtue of social solidarity. This is what I mean by developing a moral perspective in hard times.

In the hard times we are now facing, there is a new perspective on “the less fortunate.” We may find ourselves in that circle. The line between “us” and “them” is quite thin.

Prayer, fasting, and self-denial are not just religious, symbolic actions. They are ways in which we deal with the realities of living with less, with voluntary downward mobility, and shedding the burden of materialism. In other words, embracing poverty (self-denial).

Lent 2009 may also do what Pope John Paul II challenged in 1991: “But it will be necessary above all to abandon a mentality in which the poor – as individuals and as peoples – are considered a burden, irksome intruders trying to consume what others have produced.”

Now, that’s something worthy for reflection in the weeks before Easter!

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.” (Luke 6:20)

Charles A. Cesaretti

## Letter from the Senior Warden

January 16-17 marked our annual vestry retreat. Together, we gathered to gain strength and inspiration from the year behind and for the year ahead. This is our third retreat with Father Charles, our third chance to look ahead and to look back, and our third time to review the state of our church.

We stand on the brink of uncertain times. We know that our faithful spiritual leader will change this year. We know the economy is in the midst of a rather severe and far reaching crisis. On the other hand, we know that our church has been the center of incredible change and growth in the past three years. We are certain that we have committed parishioners and that we have a defined and specific mission and ministry for our church and for our community.

With that said, we discussed our place in time and finances at length. We reviewed the 2008 budget. We debated the finer points of the 2009 proposed budget. We recounted our conversations with parishioners in church and through our parish calling. And then, we were reminded that our CHARGE is to outline, to strive for, and to put programming in place to achieve our mission. The amazing mission that is decided and agreed upon by our congregation--a mission centered on open doors, hearts and minds.

The very ministry that feeds our souls, challenges our reality, and forces us to stretch and reach beyond our comfort zone is the same one that your vestry called upon in prayer, in thought, and in deed as we set the 2009 goals and budget for St. Paul's Church, Montrose, PA.

So, I ask, in this time of change, in this time of unrest, in this time of growth, could we choose anything but to do more, expect more, and provide more? How you ask? More ways to get involved; more opportunities for growth and companionship; more accessibility for our neighbors, parishioners, and friends; more chances for children and families to find a spiritual home; more shared kind and good acts... and that, my dear friends, is another beginning.

Come and grow,  
Rachel

## Crafters Corner Store Donates Money To St. Paul's Building Fund

In 2007, St. Paul's extended an invitation to area crafters to start an arts and crafts incubator in our Parish House one day a month, thereby creating the Crafters Corner Store. In 2008 we returned and doubled the number of participating crafters. CCS has been replicated by other parishes and has led to new opportunities for many of our crafters to sell their products. It has also brought people to St. Paul's. With the close of the 2008 season, which held 3 Friday events, we are pleased to report that the Crafters Corner Store raised \$417.39 for St. Paul's Building Fund. Our kitchen, which offered hot foods and treats donated by crafters and members of our parish, raised the majority of this money.

At a time when we are talking about fund raising events, CCS is an example of how successful such activities can be. All advertising costs were covered by table fees collected from the crafters, and all advertisements and press releases noted that donations would go to St. Paul's Building Fund. St. Paul's is very generous to our community, and in return, it is apparent the community is very supportive of St. Paul's. To those who donated the delicious foods – your support is greatly appreciated.

Let us make 2009 a year for creative fund raising at St. Paul's. Just as Crafters Corner Store demonstrated, by working together we can accomplish much and through our efforts we insure the preservation of our beautiful church and parish house, for the benefit of each of us at St. Paul's and our community.

Esther, Rita and Sandy

### **Children's Community Choir Rehearsals begin Feb. 5**

A Choir for children in the Montrose area is in formation and will be housed at Historic St. Paul's. On Sunday, March 29, the Choir will sing at the 9 AM Worship at St. Paul's.

Under the direction of Sarah Birchard, the choir will begin rehearsals on Thursday, February 5. The rehearsals will be held every Thursday in February and March after school from 3:45 PM – 4:45 PM in the Parish House. The Parish House is located on the corner of Church and Chestnut Streets in Montrose; the entrance is located on Chestnut Street across from the HO Market.

If your child is interested, or if you know children who might enjoy singing in the choir, please contact the following representatives: the Presbyterian Church – Anne Lathrop; the Methodist Church – Sarah Birchard; Holy Name of Mary – Beverly Pasteka; and, St. Paul's Church – Brenda Allen. Or, registration forms are available from the St. Paul's Parish Office: 278-2954. Children from age 4 up are invited and welcome.

### **Easter Eve Vigil, April 11 Time for Baptisms**

Our Prayer Book (p. 312) reminds us "Holy Baptism is especially appropriate at the Easter Vigil...."

If you know of someone who wishes to be baptized, please contact Fr. Charles (278-2954) to discuss and plan for the Easter Vigil this year, which is April 11.

For other Sacramental and Pastoral Ministries, please refer to pages 11 & 12 in your Parish Directory, or on the St. Paul's website:

[www.stpaulschurchmontrose.org](http://www.stpaulschurchmontrose.org).

### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper February 24, 2009**

Here we go again folks, another year has slid by and we're about to enter into that mysterious season of Lent. But before we do that, we must feast on ham and pancakes. Our menu will be as follows: ham, pancakes, applesauce, scrambled eggs, coffee, tea, etc. The men of the parish will do the cooking. The women will please bring the desserts as always. This is an ecumenical event, so talk it up. I look forward to seeing all of you there on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Bernie Zalewski,  
The Pancake Man

### **Don't forget your Angel Food Order**

Order locations and dates:

Bridgewater Baptist Church  
13 Church St., Montrose, PA

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

4:00 – 6:00 pm

Thursday, February 12, 2009

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Thursday, February 12, 2009

4:00 – 6:00 pm

Or

Holy Name of Mary Church  
60 S. Main St., Montrose, PA

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

4:00 – 6:00 pm

Thursday, February 12, 2009

4:00 – 6:00 pm

#### **Distribution Day:**

Saturday, February 21, 2009

9:00 – 11:00 am

at

Bridgewater Baptist Church  
13 Church St., Montrose, PA

**LENT AT ST. PAULS**

**Feb. 24: Shrove Tuesday**

5 PM, Annual Pancake Supper

**Feb. 25: Ash Wednesday**

12:10 PM, Worship & Imposition of Ashes

6 PM, Worship & Imposition of Ashes

**Every Wednesday**

12:10 PM, Worship & Bag Lunch

Third Wednesday: Healing Service & Eucharist

**Every Sunday**

9 AM, Worship & Sermon

10:30 AM, Adult Forum

**Wednesday Worship**

**12:10 PM**

The new time for the weekly Wednesday Worship is 12:10 PM. The Healing Service will continue to be held on the Third Wednesday of each month.

This change will alleviate driving in the dark, many times in inclement winter weather.

All are welcome to join in this weekly worship. Bring a bag lunch and join in a community luncheon every Wednesday.



February 2

According to legend, if Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter weather. If he does not see his shadow, there will be an early spring. To read more about the famous groundhog go to [www.groundhog.org](http://www.groundhog.org)

**Bountiful Blessings  
Begins Feb. 26**

Bountiful Blessings, our special program to provide a dinner at Easter to those in need, will begin on February 26, the day after Ash Wednesday. The program is a County-wide effort, hosted at St. Paul's. It is estimated that we will need to prepare over 600 dinners this year.

If you wish to be part of the team that makes this annual event a great gift to those in need, please contact the Parish Office (278-2954). We need volunteers in a number of areas, especially during Holy Week at the time of distribution which will be held on Thursday, April 9.

Keep this yearly mission in your prayers.

**Vespers Service  
Sunday, Feb. 8, 5 PM**

The monthly community **Vespers Service** will be held at Historic St. Paul's Church on Sunday, February 8, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

Greeters will be Ron and Jane Chandler; the lector will be Amy LaRue Johnson; and, Jennie Grisafi, flutist, will offer two selections. Sarah Bertsch will be organist for the meditative service.

A light meal will follow in the Parish House prepared by Pierce Johnson.

Please join us for the lay-led service.

## Episcopal Church Women and Men, Too

Discussion has been abundant of late regarding the formation of an Episcopal Church Women's (ECW) group at St. Paul's. As conversations became more substantive, so did the number of women saying "Count me in!" The next step was to take this proposal to Vestry, adding that we wanted to design an organization that would benefit both the service and fiscal needs of St. Paul's, continue our commitment to the needy in our community and the World, and also add an element of fun and socializing within the parish. At the recent Vestry retreat these options were considered. The benefits of more social interaction within the parish were discussed, along with the need to commence fund raising activities to aid with the capital improvement demands of our historic but aging facility. Vestry established the goal of creating an ECW and a Men's Group at St. Paul's in 2009. Both groups would focus on fellowship, service to the church and community, and carrying out fund raising events to benefit our Capital Improvement Fund.

It should be noted that these groups do not replace nor duplicate the focus of the Daughters of the King (DOK) or the Brothers of St. Andrew, both of which are based in prayer and service. The DOK cannot be a fund raising organization. Should they desire, women can belong to both the ECW and the DOK, and men can belong to the Brothers and the Men's Group.

By working together, we can accomplish much without overburdening anyone. Many changes are coming to St. Paul's in 2009. We stand at the brink of some exciting times, limited only by our imaginations and our openness to trying something new. On Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>, the adult forum will be open to learning more about the ECW and Men's Group. Please join us with your ideas and openness to growth at St. Paul's.

All are invited and welcome to the special Adult forum on Sunday, March 15th at 10:30 am.

Sandy Schwab

## Search Update

Have you checked out our website lately? If not, be sure to do so and see our new Parish Profile. As long as you are at your computer, take time to visit the Diocese website ([www.diobeth.org](http://www.diobeth.org)). Click on Parishes, then on Clergy Openings – there we are again. Don't stop now – go to the Diocesan Blog (Diobeth newSpin) – another link to our website and profile. Not computer savvy – ask to see our printed profile. It is quite impressive and ready for mailing to interested candidates. Watch the February issue of *Episcopal Life* for our ad seeking a full-time rector. If you receive *The Living Church*, you will soon see more ads from St. Paul's. Currently information is being filed with the Clergy Deployment Office to officially start the search for candidates that match our needs. All of this culminates months of work by your Search Committee, with the benefit of input from you, and moves us all closer to welcoming a new rector. Simultaneously, our Senior Warden is holding discussions with potential supply clergy to fill the gap from Father Charles' departure until the arrival of our new Rector. What's next? Formal training for the Search Committee to prepare for the approaching interview of candidates. We are moving forward!

The Search Committee will report to the Parish on Sunday, February 22, 2009 at 10:30 am, following the 9:00 am worship.

Your Search Committee

## Dear Members of the Church Family,

A special thank you for your concerns, prayers and support during the recovery from my fall. Calls, cards, and visits are all appreciated.

Friends are wonderful!

God's blessing to all,  
Ellie McKeage

## Esther and Joseph Welden Celebrate 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary



Surrounded by children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and their Church Family, Esther and Joseph Welden celebrated

their 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary with a Solemn Renewal of Vows at Historic St. Paul's Church on Sunday, January 25, 2009.

Esther and Joe Welden, life-long residents of Montrose, stood in the center of their family and friends and repeated the vows they made forty years ago "to love, comfort, honor and keep [each other], in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, to be faithful...as long as [they] both shall live." At their side were the same two witnesses as forty years ago, as well as their four children, twelve grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. When asked if they would support the couple in their life-long commitment, the family and members of the congregation replied with a robust "We will."

Both Esther and Joe are active in the greater Montrose community and their church. Both are acclaimed artists and musicians.

Following the Worship Service with the Renewal of Vows, the Welden Family hosted a grand reception in the St. Paul's Parish House.

## The Literacy Crossroads

Student discipline became one of the most important skills that I learned while student teaching and will carry with me throughout my career as a teacher. Without discipline the lesson becomes completely irrelevant. The curriculum at the university I attended did not have a classroom management course and the absence of that became a glaring blank spot in my list of qualifications when I began to teach autonomously. As I quickly learned, there must be recourse to a standard of behavior; students will automatically push boundaries unless there is a clear set of consequences that are demonstrated in a consistent manner.

Being flexible with discipline is also paramount to good classroom management. Students respond differently to various consequences and it goes against the goal of education to discipline so harshly that the student is ostracized from the lesson. By knowing when and how to apply behavior modification techniques a teacher can make or break a student's involvement with a class. Only when all else has failed should a student be removed from the learning environment to ponder the consequences of his actions with the principal as disciplinarian.

Finally, perhaps the most crucial point of discipline that I gleaned while instructing is this: While disciplining the 1% that misbehaves, be aware of what the other 99% are doing and perceiving. There should always be an element of fairness on the part of the teacher and the opportunity to correct bad behavior on the part of the student. If rules are clearly posted, the onus is on the student to be aware of the rules and adhere to them. The teacher is merely a facilitator of the rules, and an interpreter of fairness. Yelling and stomping up and down will get their attention, but only for so long. I found that I had the students' attention for longer with a low voice and even-keeled attitude.

For next month's article, I will discuss the necessity of phonics (in spite of the "Reading Wars" of the past) in a child's path to reading independently.  
Submitted by Mike Shingler

## A Saint For February

Anybody know what a saint is? There are at least three ways of considering that word.

Most commonly we think of a saint as a person who has received that designation by an organized body – a Church. Our calendar is full of people who have been ‘canonized’; that is, who have been formally recognized for extraordinary acts on behalf of his or her religion.

We can also think of persons as saints, who have lived especially holy, benevolent or generous lives, without ever having been publicly recognized.

Many people, too, may consider themselves one of the ‘saints of God’, because of their deliberate efforts to live in the way they believe God intended them to live, in furtherance of His kingdom. It’s even possible that God Himself, has identified various individuals with whom He is especially pleased.

Anna Julia Haywood Cooper may very well be one of those people. While never formally canonized, she made such profound and significant contributions to the church and to the world, that she can be considered especially holy and sanctified. In fact, in 2006 the General Convention of the Episcopal Church approved her commemoration, on the day of her death at the age of 105, February 27<sup>th</sup>, on a provisional basis.

Anna Julia Haywood’s mother was a slave; her father was her mother’s master. Anna spent almost her entire life working to educate emancipated slaves and their descendants. Her exceptional intelligence was recognized when she was a very young child, and when she was nine years old, she was given a scholarship to St. Augustine’s Normal School and Collegiate Institute, founded by the Episcopal Church, for the training of former slaves and their families. She proved herself to be gifted both in liberal arts and in science and mathematics, at a time when ‘young ladies’ and ‘negroes’ were considered intellectually inferior.

In 1877 Anna took a job teaching at Washington High School, becoming Principal in 1901. She was fired as principal in 1906 for refusing to ‘dumb down’ her courses for her African-American students. She continued to teach as an instructor for the next forty years, at the same time serving as President of Frelinghuysen University for Blacks, operated in her home. Anna wrote extensively, on racism, the socioeconomic realities of Black families and on the administration of the Episcopal Church.,

In 1877 Anna Married the Rev. George A.C. Cooper, the second African-American ordained in the Episcopal Church, but she was widowed, at the age of twenty-one. Her formal education was delayed in 1915 when she adopted the five children of her late half-brother when their mother died.

Anna received her education at the St. Augustine School; Oberlin College; Columbia University, and the University of Paris-Sorbonne. In 1925, at the age of sixty-five, she became the fourth African-American woman to receive a Ph.D. Her dissertation was, *The Attitude of France on the Question of Slavery Between 1789 and 1848*.

Anna Cooper is commemorated in the Church calendar, and also, the Anna J. Cooper Circle, located in northwest Washington, D.C. In addition, she is quoted in each new United States Passport:

*“The cause of freedom is not the cause of a race or a sect, a party or a class – it is the cause of human-kind, the very birthright of humanity”.* – Anna Julia Cooper

Submitted by Ed. Stark, with help from the Internet

## The Millenium

So far this year, it's still God, Joe and me. That's OK, it took me 68 years to look into Revelation. You'll find a treasure when you begin, in your own time. Try it.

The middle part of Revelation is the most complex for me, Antichrist, dragon, and beasts, etc. So I've decided to skip to chapter 20 and see how it ends. The middle part of Revelation created four categories of believers: preterits, historicist, futurists and spiritualists. Chapter 20 is where the **premellenialists**, **postmillennialists** and **amillennialists** come into their own.

The Bible has no chapter titles for the last 3 chapters of Revelation. (Just like they were missing from the other nineteen chapters.) Let me go where angels fear to tread and offer my suggestion for Chapter 20. The antepenultimate chapter (look it up) could well be "Chapter 20 – The Millenium." (Remember, I've just begun my spiritual journey in Revelation. You might have a better title ... if you are reading it, dig, dig.)

To consider the three major schools of thought about the millennium you can start with Christ's second coming. **Premillennialist** believe that He will come at the start of the millennium; the **postmillennialists** believe He will come at the end of the millennium; while the **amillennialists** believe there won't BE a millennium, the way the other two groups think of it. I guess that if you are looking for a "position" on the millennium, you have a choice of two simple or one complex. (Maybe a fourth position will surface that we can call "the Montrose approach" to the millennium. I'll study and pray for a year or so and get back to you on that.)

Do you remember that I had an annoyance about people writing more about the bible topic which they are reviewing than the topic itself? ... Like ten to twenty times more. Chapter 20 of Revelation is a key example. According to my word count there are 461 words in Revelation Chapter 20. According to my reference (Gregg) Chapter 20 is all the bible says about "the millennium" ... period.

I searched the books on amazon.com for "revelation millennium" and got 62 hits. Taking a selective, 10% sample of those books that most looked like they were written about the topic of the millennium, I got a total of 1740 pages or an average of 290 pages per book. That's over one page for every two words. (OK, so the 644 page book written in 1793 may have skewed the results. But it was balanced by the 432 page book written in 2000.)

In case you wonder if God has a sense of humor, all you have to do is consider "Revelation". Dante was not the first to write "The Divine Comedy," John did. Somewhere among the visions that John had, I keep getting this gnawing feeling that Christ must have said, "But ... you have to write this with a straight face."

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Submitted by Al Leigh, BoSA(Brotherhood of St. Andrew) = f(prayer, study, service)

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**February, 2009 Lay Ministry Schedule**

**Altar Guild**

1: Betty Smith  
8: Helen Viteritto  
15: Esther Welden  
22: Alice Wood

**Camera and Closing**

Ron Chandler

**Coffee Hour**

1: Judy Ochse  
8: Sandy Schwab  
15: Betty Smith  
22: Helen Viteritto

**Counters**

1: Bernie Zalewski and Sandy Schwab  
8: Ed Ochse and Karen Wolfson  
15: Dick Schwab and Richard Marker  
22: Ed Stark and Jane Chandler

**Eucharistic Minister**

1: Bob Arnold and Jennie Bowen  
8: Jane Chandler and Alma Shingler  
15: Brenda Syle and Mary Jane Syle  
22: Bob Arnold and Margie Baker

**Greeter**

1: Jennie Bowen  
8: Else Brunner  
15: Margaret Burgh  
22: Nancy Finlon

**Lector**

1: Ed Stark  
8: Brenda Syle  
15: Mary Jane Syle  
22: Mary Zalewski

**Usher**

1: Hap and Tom Syle  
8: Ed Ochse  
15: Dick Schwab  
22: Mike Shingler

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