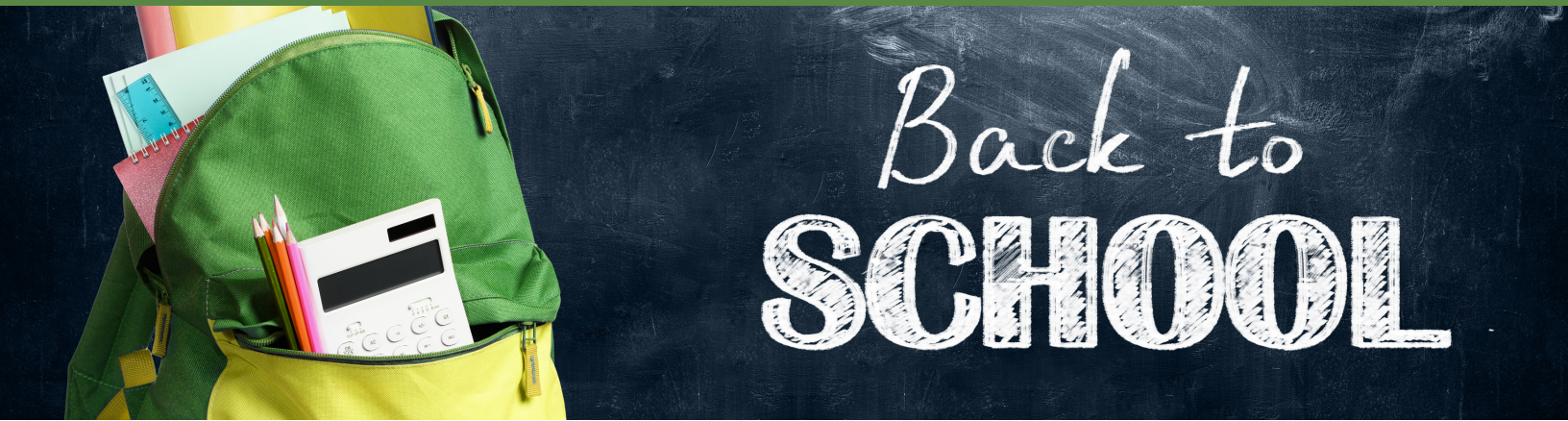


THE CHIMES



Message from the Pastor

“Rend your hearts and not your clothes. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.” – Joel 2:13

All right, disciples! Back at it!

Summer is quickly coming to an end. Most of the kids (and teachers) are back at school. Folks have returned from vacation travel, camping, and other excursions. It’s the time of year when we return to our daily routines and patterns of living.

While the activities of our daily lives may change during the year, our identity as disciples of Jesus Christ does not. During the summer, we step back from regularly scheduled church activities, such as faith formation sessions and

Bible studies. The number of people at Sunday worship services each week has been far less than normal as well.

As we resume normal scheduled activities on Sundays and throughout the week, I **invite you to reengage, reenergize, and recommit yourself to a life of discipleship with regular worship, prayer, study, giving, service, sharing of the Gospel, and by encouraging others to do the same.**

In Christ,

Pastor Brett

BECKER 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Ron and Alice Becker celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on August 17th. On Saturday, August 19th, a group from LMC gathered to celebrate and delivered cards from friends in the congregation.



FAITH FORMATION

Beginning Sunday, September 24th children and youth faith formation will resume. It will be upstairs from 10:45 am-11:30 am. We will break out into three age groups: PreK and Kindergarten, First Grade through Fifth Grade, and Junior High & High School. This will help us tailor activities and discussions to each age group. If you have any questions or concerns, contact anyone on the Children and Youth Ministry Team or Kari Gosteli at kari@gosteli.org/309-657-5175.

MISSION TRIP UPDATE

Thanks to the generosity of the disciples at LMC, we had 6 youths, 2 chaperones, and one adult volunteer attend the Group Mission Trips Work Camp in Parsons, KS. All of our participants spent the week in service to others. This included painting interiors and exteriors of houses as well as building decks and wheelchair ramps. A big "Thank You!" to our friends at Christ Lutheran Church who contributed \$500 towards our trip!



ELCA YOUTH GATHERING 2024



July 16-20th - New Orleans

Anyone going into high school for the 2024-2025 school year is eligible to attend.

Registration is due October 31st

What is the Youth Gathering? It is an event that occurs only once every 4 years for high school students in the ELCA and ecumenical denominations to gather in one place. The "goal is to create environments and opportunities for faith formation through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service, and fellowship. While some of the experiences can be replicated at home, some are unique and special to the Gathering because of the size and scope of this ministry."* The five core goals for the ministry are that youth are affirmed and challenged in their faith; they experience new perspectives; they ponder their vocation; they bond with their congregational group; and they learn more about the ELCA and their partners.*

If you are interested in learning more about the Youth Gathering, please contact Kari Gosteli. (kari@gosteli.org 309-657-5175)

*Information taken from <https://www.elca.church/gathering>

SUMMER 2023 YOUTH TRIP TESTIMONIALS

It is only through the great generosity of our congregation that our youth are able to attend life-changing and faith-inspiring events such as Confirmation Camp, Leadership Lab, and the Mission Trip. Look at all your generosity has done this summer!

“The mission trip helped me to grow as a Christian. Helping other people in their living situations made me grateful for all the world has to offer and reminded me that nice people don't always live in nice houses or own luxury cars. Another reason the mission trip helped me grow as a Christian is it helped me realize that you have to get along with people. For example, working with complete strangers at the beginning of the week was really difficult, but over the course of time, we grew together as one whole family.”

-- Olivia Snider

“[At Confirmation Camp,] I learned all sorts of new things about other religions, such as Judaism. I had fun learning about God, meeting new people, and making new friends.”

-- Jack Miller

“My favorite part of our mission trip was getting to know Karen, the resident we helped. We both love dogs and she had a cute puppy we played with together when we took breaks.”

-- Jonathan Dieker

“I'm really glad I could go on the trip to Confirmation Camp. I met many people and it was nice to talk about and learn about God with them. It was something that changed me this year and makes me think about what we do as God's children.”

-- Isaac Gosteli

“Leadership Lab was definitely the highlight of my summer. Both times I've gone, it's been a mountaintop experience. My leadership skills have grown tremendously since my first time going and I've developed a closer and richer relationship with God. Not only that, but I've made tons of friends, and I can't wait for my relationships with them to grow more throughout my years at Lab.”

-- Addison Gosteli

Monthly Church Work Day

With a big, beautiful, and historical building like ours, there is *ALWAYS* something that needs to be done. Join us on the first Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. to get things done around the church property. There will be both outdoor and indoor tasks most weeks and projects for all ages and abilities.



Confirmation Class Resuming Wednesday, September 13!!

If you are starting 7th or 8th grade, you are invited to join (or resume) our Confirmation Classes! As we have done in the past, we will be partnering with Pastor Daniel and the congregation at Christ Lutheran Church. Unlike previous years, **we will be meeting every other Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. All sessions will be held at Luther Memorial Church.** Kids are welcome to come over to the church right after school dismisses for the day and hang out until everyone arrives and is ready to start. If you are new to Confirmation, make sure to reach out to Pastor Brett!

Rally Sunday Sept. 10

Worship, Faith Formation, Brunch, and God's Work Our Hands

Be at LMC on Sunday, **September 10** as we rally our congregation and resume regular church activities after a very busy summer. Faith Formation (a.k.a Sunday School) and Bible Study will resume, as well as new activities like bi-weekly Table Talks.

On Rally Sunday, we'll have a simple brunch of bagels and donuts in the fellowship hall after worship. During that time, we will have an intergenerational faith formation activity that focuses on how serving others is both something we can all do and something Jesus commands of us.

September 10th is also the ELCA church-wide God's Work Our Hands day of service. Following worship, we'll head out to various service projects around the Quincy area.

There will be options for both indoor and outdoor projects and service opportunities for people of all abilities and ages.

Sign up for your preferred project in the narthex. Please also pick up a list of goods we are collecting for the various little pantries we will be stocking.

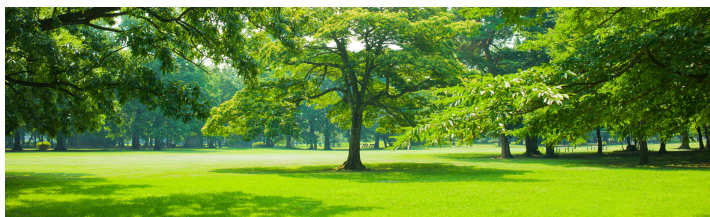


**God's work.
Our hands.**

Worship in the Park

September 17

On September 17, the disciples of LMC will hold an outdoor worship service at Wavering Park under the Large Pavilion. Join us as we worship God outside in the beauty of creation.



office hours

Effective August 16, Pastor Brett will have office hours as follows:

- Mondays 10 a.m. to noon
- Tues, Wed, & Thurs. 8 a.m. to noon

While Pastor Brett is available far beyond these hours, these are the times when he is generally in the church building.

If you need to meet with him, it is recommended to call first, but drop-in visits are welcome.

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES!

Bible study resumes Thursday, September 14th. Join us at the Calftown Coffeehouse at 432 S 8th Street at 10:00 a.m.



TABLE TALKS

One of the great practices Martin Luther had is what has become known as "Table Talks." When people would visit Luther in his home, he and his wife, Katie, would often have meaningful conversations with guests. Topics included, but were certainly not limited to, questions about faith, theology, current events, and the various mysteries of life.

In honor of the Reformer, Pastor Brett will be hosting **Table Talks on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.** Initially, these will take place at the **Ratskeller located at 929 York St.** but **may move to other locations over time.**

Join us for informal conversation and wondering about faith, spirituality, scripture, theology, and whatever else comes to mind. There's NO homework and NO expectation for participation. Come and listen, share as you like, or jump in with your own questions or ideas. Contact Pastor Brett for more information. We hope to see you there!!

BAPTISM OF WYLDER LEE FORD HIGGINS

On July 31, Luther Memorial Church celebrated the baptism of Wylder Lee Ford Higgins. Wylder has the distinction of being the 6th generation of his family to be baptized at LMC. Austyn Echternkamp, Wylder's mom, is the granddaughter of Betty Echternkamp and the late Denver Echternkamp. Wylder is their great-grandson.



WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP

Anyway?

Stewardship is often one of those words we hear in Church that we're not always sure exactly what it means.

Simply put, stewardship is taking care of something that has been entrusted to you.

As you might have guessed, stewardship is also a significant part of living a Christian life. Before we get past the first chapter in Genesis, God names humanity as the stewards (or caretakers) of all of creation—of the birds in the air, the fish in the seas, and the beasts of the fields.

Building on the idea that God created *everything* and subsequently handed it over to us for taking care of, as Christians we also recognize that *everything* belongs to God—even all the things we think we own. They all actually belong to God, not us. Even *our own lives* are not ours, as we are told in 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

Since everything is God's, and we're just managing things on God's behalf, that means our lives are ones of stewardship--taking care of what God has given us and using it in a way that glorifies God.

Jesus discusses the serious nature of good stewardship in his parable of the talents. You might recall, three servants are each given a number of talents (money) by their master: one servant received ten, another five, and another one. The master leaves these talents in the capable hands of his servants and departs. When he returns, he is pleased with the first servant who used the ten talents he was given to steward to gain ten more. The servant who had five did likewise and gained five more. But the servant with only one talent was fearful of losing it, causing the master to be angry, so he hid it in the ground and did nothing with it. This servant was harshly reprimanded for being foolish and not using what had been entrusted to him for the benefit of the master.

In the same way, we are called to *intentionally* and *intelligently* steward all that God has given to us. This is true in our individual lives and in the life of our congregation. *How are you using what God has given to you to bring glory to God? How are we as LMC using all we have been given to serve Christ and others?*

(Continued on Page 9)

Continued From Page 8: What Is “Stewardship” Anyway?

At the end of August, the reestablished Stewardship Ministry Team met to start considering the answers to these questions. You are invited and encouraged to be a part of this team—simply reach out to Rich Demien, Tom Oliver, Sharon Kendall, or Pastor Brett.

The formation of this team is part of an intentional effort we are making at LMC to ensure we are being good stewards of all God has entrusted to us, both as individuals and as a community. Part of this is sending commitment cards to all disciples requesting that they be returned with the financial commitment each household is willing to make to Christ’s ministries here at LMC in 2024.

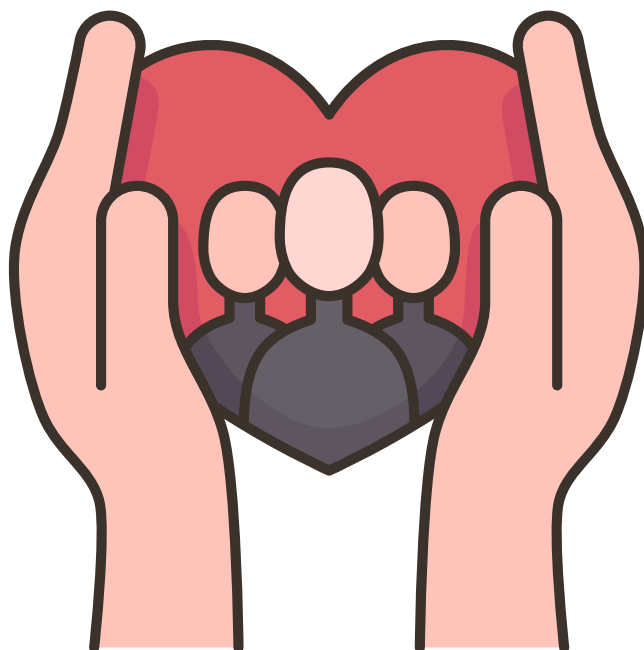
This is an act demonstrating strong individual stewardship--committing ourselves and our families to Christ’s mission. It is also a great act of communal stewardship as the information we receive from these cards will enable us to draft a more accurate budget for 2024, making us better able to maximize our ministry from all we gather.

Stewardship isn’t just about money. It is about taking care of all that God has given to us. One of these things is God’s beautiful and historic church building which we are blessed to use. By keeping this building, it must also be properly maintained. This, too, is stewardship. In the very near future, there are many things that need to take place to ensure our building is safe, welcoming, protected from unnecessary damage, and speaks to the glory

of God. These items include new roofing on the offices and classrooms wing, refinished stairwells (especially on the Food Pantry side), repairs to our rare and historic pipe organ, as well as a variety of other projects.

As you consider your responsibility as a steward of God’s gifts, please consider how you may be able to help our faith community be a good steward of God’s facility. Luther Memorial Church is able to partner with Christ in so many ministries in part because of this building.

Please look for a letter from the Stewardship Ministry Team with a request for your response in your mail the first week of October.



TRANSPORTATION Ministry

Our congregation is quite a bit larger than those who attend in person on Sunday mornings. We have a number of disciples who are homebound for various reasons, but would still love to come to church! If you are interested in getting a ride to church on Sundays, please contact the church office. Naturally, we also need folks who are willing to drive a fellow disciple to church. All you need is a vehicle with an extra seat and, depending on the person, trunk or cargo space for a walker or wheelchair. If you can help drive, please sign up in the narthex or contact the church office! Let's help our fellow disciples have the benefit of worshipping together in person each week!



Stay Up to Date!
lmcquincy.org/calendar

Have an event to promote?
 Contact the church office
 at 217-222-5085 or
office@lmcquincy.org!

NEIGHBORHOOD Walks

Over the summer, disciples from LMC participated in several Neighborhood Walks. The objective is to meet people in our neighborhood whom God puts in our path and to grow in fellowship with them and one another. These will continue into the fall.



Hospitalized & Homebound Disciples
If you or someone you know is hospitalized or stuck at home, please let the church office know so Pastor Brett can make a visit.
Call 217-222-5085.

Food Pantry

Donations

The food pantry was blessed in August with donations of canned goods, garden produce and monetary donations.

Disciples of Jesus demonstrate their love of the Gospel and their commitment to Him through the actions of their lives.

ITEM OF THE MONTH

Beginning October 1, an item of the month will be the donation focus. Remember, monetary gifts are always appreciated.

October - Canned Meat/Tuna

November - Canned Beans, Fruit or Veggies (not corn or green beans)

December - Peanut Butter (16 oz) & Jelly

January - Toiletries (Small Shampoo, deodorant, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush)

February - Paper Towels/Toilet Paper

March - Boxed Pasta (Not Mac & Cheese) & Spices

April - Canned Soup/Ramen

May - Dish Soap (small) Laundry Detergent (Sheets or Small Bottles)

June - Energy Drinks, Gatorade, Water

July - Cereal & Microwave Popcorn



Volunteers

Midwest Food Bank Distribution will be received on Monday, **September 25**, around 8:30 a.m. ***Volunteers Needed to help put products on the shelves!!***

September Food Pantry 9-11 am Volunteers:

September 5 - Sharon Kendall, Cole Miller, Jennifer Bock-Nelson, Rich Demien, and Stephanie Demien

September 12 - Kathy Dieker, July Pope and Jennifer Bock-Nelson, Rich Demien and Stephanie Demien

September 19 - Tanna Barry, Loraine Wickman, Cole Miller, and Jennifer Bock-Nelson

September 26 - July Poppe, Kathy Dieker, Rich Demien, Stephanie Demien and Jennifer Bock-Nelson

HY-Vee Bakery Pick Up 2023

August - Rich Demien/John Kendall

September- Andy Fries

October - Rich Demien

November - John Kendall

December - Rich Demien

Thank you

Upcoming Youth Events

2023 Youth Events

November 17-19

Carlinsville Youth Retreat
at Lake Williamson
Christian Center

2024 Youth Events

June 10-14

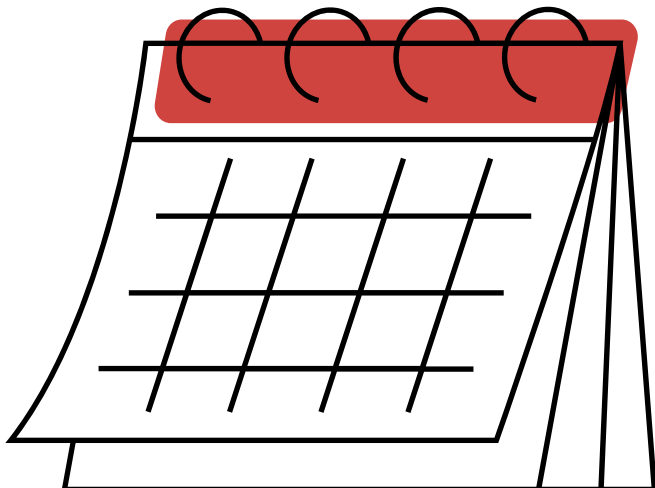
Crossways Confirmation Camp
at Augustana College

June 24-29

Leadership Lab
at Augustana College

July 16-20

ELCA Youth Gathering
in New Orleans
(only occurs every 4 years)



Upcoming Events

EVERY SUNDAY

- 9:30 am - Worship Service of Word and Sacrament
- 10:30 am - Fellowship in the Great Room
- 10:45 am - Faith Formation
(Adults, Children, and Youth)

EVERY THURSDAY Beginning September 14th

- 10:00 am - Bible Study @ Calftown Coffee House

Sept 04 - Worship Arts Meeting - 7:00 pm

Sept 12 - Finance Team Meeting - 4:00 pm

Sept 12 - Church Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

Sept 14 - Youth Ministry Meeting - 7:00 pm

Sept 17 - Worship in Park - Wavering Large Shelter House

Sept 19 - Executive Meeting - 7:00 pm

Sept 21 - Table Talk - 7:00 pm @ Ratskeller

Sept 25 - Midwest Food Bank Delivery Day - 8:30 am

Food Pantry Schedule

- Every Monday - Stock Day - 8:00 am
- Every Tuesday - Open to Patrons - 9:00 - 11:00 am

Recovery Group Meeting - Church Basement -

Wayne Crabtree Facilitator

- Every Sunday at 6 pm
- Every Tuesday at 7 pm
- Every Friday at 6 pm

Women's Support Group Meeting - Great Room -

Kala Breder Facilitator

- 2nd Wednesday each month at 7:00 pm

AA Support Group Meeting - Church Basement -

Steve Allen & Rick Irvine Facilitator

- Monday - Saturday 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 6:00 pm
- Wednesday - 7:30 pm
- Friday - 7:00 pm
- Sunday 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Happy Birthday



Joyce Frohn - 06
 Caleb Ditmer - 08
 Amy Grawe - 10
 Ross Centanni - 10
 Robert Barnes - 12
 Ezra Adams - 17
 Connie Hamby - 18
 David Gasko - 19
 Micha Ditmer - 20
 Ronald Becker - 28
 Roynola Blair - 28
 Connor Casley - 30



Brandon & Sara Dieker - 10th

Did we miss someone's birthday or anniversary?

If so, please contact the Church Office, 217-222-5085, so we can make it right!

Church Council Meeting - Luther Memorial Church
Tuesday, August 8, 2023

In attendance: Mark Snider, Tom Oliver, Pastor Brett Gosteli, Addie Gosteli, Kara Moon, Rich Demien, Stephanie Demien, Lorraine Wickman, Brandon Dieker, Kala Breder

President Mark Snider called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Pastor Brett led the group in prayer and Dwelling in the Word.

Kala made a motion to approve last month's minutes. Rich seconded. Motion approved.

1. Pastor's report

- a. Mission trip – took 6 youth who had an amazing time stepping out in faith. Thank you for all the support.

2. New Business

- a. Council Visioning – discussed the progress made since our council retreat on the goals we had set. Discussed needing a banner with the mission statement, adding the mission statement to the end of service to remind the congregation of our purpose. Also discussed the internal and external one year plan. Discussed getting the Quarter Tree donations back in the hands of the children, working more closely with the food pantry, church organization days.
- b. Child Protection Training – no formal process for this but more information will be coming soon.
- c. Transportation Ministry – discussed the need to compile a list of drivers who would be willing to pick up members who may not be able to drive to church but still would like to attend.
- d. Thinking ahead – discussed the council members rotating off.

3. Old Business

- a. Council Greeter sign-ups
 - i. Sunday, August 20th – Rich Demien
 - ii. Sunday, August 27th – Kala Breder
 - iii. Sunday, September 3rd – Mark Snider
 - iv. Sunday, September 10th – Lorraine Wickman
- b. Stewardship Team – more to come!
- c. Building Usage Policy - Tom made a motion to accept the policy with the grammatical changes made. Addie seconded. Motion approved.
- d. God's Work, Our Hands – Amber shared the updates for the planning of this.

- e. Membership Roster – discussed what an “associate member” is defined as, how to correctly document our voting and confirmed members, and include those who may not be members but are actively engaged in ministry here. Discussed that the executive council will do some legwork on this and report back to council.
 - f. Robocall Information: Donations for mini food pantry, upcoming brunch, blessing of the backpacks, and the Muddy River Riders backpack distribution.
4. Ministry Team Reports
- a. Finance Team – donations are under budget for the month, discussed the changes to the format to make it easier to read. Tom made a motion to issue a credit card to Jennifer Bock-Nelson for use in the food pantry. Addie seconded. Motion approved.
 - b. Property Team – brief report
 - c. Memorial Committee – need new paraments for the Altar. Pastor will get the numbers for this.
 - d. Food Pantry – 169 unique families served in the month of June and July. They have been busy!
 - e. Worship Arts
 - i. No report
 - f. Youth Ministry
 - i. Meeting Thursday, August 10th
5. Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 12th at 7p
6. Announcements
- a. Worship in the Park: September 17th
 - i. Wavering Large Shelter House
 - b. Executive Council meeting
 - i. Tuesday, August 15th at 7p
- Amber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Addie seconded. Motion approved.
We ended with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Moon
Church Council Secretary

Luther Memorial Church
1210 Jersey Street
Quincy, IL 62301-4210

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



September 2023

We are a community growing
together in Christ Jesus, embracing
all with Gods' love, and sharing our
faith through words and acts of
compassion.

GROW. EMBRACE. SHARE.

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