

# The Beacon

A monthly publication of Lakewood United Church of Christ



July 2011

Volume 56 Issue 7

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## Mission Trip Re-Cap

“A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.”

Lao Tzu, Chinese Philosopher

It is, of course, impossible to summarize an entire week's worth of events in just a few short paragraphs. And while there will be a Sunday sometime in the fall, when the entire group who went to the Pine Ridge Reservation will have an opportunity to share their thoughts, reflections, and connections (as well as pictures), it seemed worthwhile to give a brief synopsis here while the trip is still so fresh.

The Mission trip to Pine Ridge, SD began with the disappointing news that one of our 14 travelers (Debbie Dunn) would not be able to join us because of illness. So, 13 of us headed off to the east with high hopes and just a touch of apprehension. What would we do? What would we see? Who would we meet? There were a lot more questions than answers as we began.

Upon arriving at the Re-Member headquarters on Saturday, we settled into our simple but comfortable accommodations—bunk beds for everyone. We were later joined by a Presbyterian youth group from Greenville, NC. That night we attended a Pow-Wow and got our first real taste of the lives and spirituality of the Lakota people. Sunday included a visit to the site of the Wounded Knee Massacre and hiking in the Black Hills. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday were our “work days.” Our group was mixed with the Greenville folks and divided into 5 work groups. The main projects included roofing a house, building bunk beds and outhouses, and building or fixing decks. (Many residents of Pine Ridge live in permanently parked trailers, so decks provide easier access and the option of ramps if required). Additionally, some of our group got to install bunk beds in people's homes as well as help plant some 300 vegetable plants, the fruits of which would be donated back to the community. While the pace of work was slower than many of us are used to, overall there was plenty to do and work for all skill levels.

Evenings included simple but tasty dinners, a bit of down time, and then guest speakers from the community. Each speaker brought something unique to share, and we quickly learned not all the Lakota see their challenges, or the causes or solutions to those challenges, the same way. There is a huge variety of problems and any number of roadblocks to solving them. Some wish for the US government to honor their historic treaties and commitments. Some see teaching the children and youth the “old ways” as the best way forward. Others simply seek opportunities for employment and development, but are frustrated by how little of each there are. We came to learn that Lakota, like all of us, are wonderfully diverse in thought and opinion despite a shared history and culture.

I think it is safe to say, that each of us left Pine Ridge with a great appreciation for the blessings in our own lives and the sense of being blessed to have gone on this trip. While the solutions aren't simple or easy, there is reason for hope. Groups like ours, and organizations like Re-Member, are having an impact. The road is long and progress is slow, but hope, courage, and determination are yielding results. Again, thank you to all of you who helped make this trip possible. Please watch the website and future Beacon newsletters for pictures from the trip and for information about the Mission Trip Presentation in the fall.

Blessings,  
Curt

## Moderator's Reflections

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My early years were spent on the grounds of a large church in Honolulu, one that had a two-story building, with classes downstairs and the sanctuary upstairs. There was a large white parsonage under a wide-spreading banyan tree, and in the back was the cottage that was my home. Further back were the bomb shelters that were a necessary part of life in Hawaii in the early 1940s. We lived on the church grounds because my mother was the Christian Education director and young people were constantly in and out of our home. Local teen-agers, young people from a nearby orphanage (I'm named after one of them), and young men in the military made themselves at home with my family.

Fast forward to today. The setting is different, but the spirit, the caring, the sense of sharing what we have are a part of this church, just as they were a part of that church in Honolulu during the days of World War II. All of you share your gifts in so many ways, whether singing in the choir, taking food to the bedridden, visiting the sick and elderly, teaching the children, sharing a lesson or experience with others, doing mission projects, caring for our church grounds, praying for those in need, taking our teen-agers to a program, or hosting fellowship hour after Sunday service. It's a different place and a different time, but we are all the same, whether in Honolulu or in Lakewood. We are God's people, and it's such a blessing to be a part of God's church no matter where in the world we are.

Tabby Bernardo, Moderator

### Pastoral Relations Committee

Did you know we have a Pastoral Relations Committee? The purpose of this committee is to insure good communication and ongoing conversation regarding issues that might arise between the Pastor and the congregation. The committee meets at least quarterly, and more often if necessary. The current members of the committee are: Debbie Dunn, Sheila Weise, Susan Hodin and Bruce Menin. If congregants have issues or concerns they are encouraged to take them directly to Curt. However, if for whatever reason that isn't comfortable, please seek out a member of this committee and they will confidentially bring the issue forward.



### New Vase Display Stand in the Narthex

Several months ago Lydia Olay and family gave Lakewood UCC a beautiful beaded vase from Ethiopia as an expression of gratitude for support and assistance following the sudden death of Lydia's husband, Oman. The Memorial and Furnishings committee commissioned Howard Urband to create a stand suitable for displaying the vase so that all might enjoy it. A huge thank you to Lydia and family for the vase and to Howard for a beautiful way to display it.



### Summer Film Series Returns

Back by popular demand, Wednesdays in July we will host our Summer Film Series beginning at 6:30 p.m. with discussion to follow. Childcare is available. If you'd like childcare, please let Jen Keyes know. We'll provide the movie, the space, the popcorn, and lemonade. If you'd like to bring other snacks (or a friend), please do. This year's theme is "Holy Feasting." Each of our films will involve food and how we come together around the table.

July 6: "Pieces of April" PG-13 (2003)

This movie tells the story of a wayward daughter (Katie Holmes) who invites her dying mother (Patricia Clarkson) and the rest of her estranged family over for Thanksgiving dinner.

July 13: "Tortilla Soup" PG-13 (2001)

A retired Mexican-American chef lives to cook incredibly lavish dinners for his loved ones. Although his 3 daughters humor their father's old-fashioned ways, each of them is searching for fulfillment outside the family circle. Starring: Hector Elizondo, Jacqueline Obradors and Tamara Mello.

July 20: "Big Night" R (1996)

A failing Italian restaurant run by two brothers gambles on one special night to try to save the business. Starring: Tony Shalhoub, Stanley Tucci and Marc Anthony.

July 28: "Chocolat" PG-13 (2000)

A woman and her daughter open a chocolate shop in a small French village that shakes up the rigid morality of the community. Starring Juliette Binoche, Judi Dench, and Johnny Depp.



### LUCC News

Here is a brief synopsis of our financial picture as May 31, 2011:

Pledged income (\$93,873) was 97% of expectations (\$97,024) for this time of year.  
 Unpledged income (\$6,463) was 118% of expectations (\$5,480) for this time of year.  
 Total income (\$111,178) was 97% of expectations (\$114,244) for this time of year.  
 Total expenses (\$115,633) were 100% of expectations (\$115,846) for this time of year.  
 As of May 31, 2011, expenses exceeded income by (\$4,455).

Net income was budgeted at (\$1,602). The actual was a net loss of (\$4,455). The difference of (\$2,853) was due to pledged income being 3% lower than budget.

Board of Church Operations

## TIDINGS

### TIDINGS

Saturday, May 21 was a beautiful spring day at Lucc, with a lot of folks helping with the annual spring clean-up. Men, women and children were raking, sweeping, planting, weeding, washing windows and outdoor furniture...all in preparation for the busy months ahead.

At the same time, at the front of the church, people and pets were congregating for the Blessing of the Animals. First to arrive were two big, beautiful Old English Bulldogs, Pork Chop and Daisy Mae, bringing with them owner **Annette Darby**. At 89 pounds each, they were eventually outweighed by **Tim Randle's** dog, Riley, a later arrival who weighed 91 pounds. Chloe, **Jen Keyes'** miniature Chihuahua, was so tiny she peeked out from Jen's bosom during the entire service. In all, there were 17 dogs, a chicken and a picture of a cat that were blessed...and they were a lot more well-behaved than some of our ...uh... Sunday worshipers.

**Oops.** In last month's story on **Gerrie Wolf**, we neglected to mention that the artist made all the name-tags worn by attendees at Sunday services. We formerly wore pinned nametags, which could damage our Sunday best. So Gerrie made special tags to be worn on a chain around the neck. In fact, another church has contacted her to inquire about the name-tags for their members.

**Let's Get Acquainted** with a committed leader who has spent many of her 28 years at Lucc devoted to Christian education and providing our children with the best of our faith. "Faith is fluid," says Priscilla Ingebrigtsen, chair of the CE Board, noting that we each have a faith journey of our own. "We have traditions and tools so we can share what we learned from our journey." Under her guidance, and with dedicated volunteers and staff on the CE Board, both children and adults have had valuable opportunities to engage with each other, and to learn and share.

*Priscilla's journey has been a particularly long and busy one, in which she has touched many lives, especially as an oncology social worker. She and her husband, Steve, an engineer, met while attending Arizona State University. After graduation, and disheartened by his job creating instruments of war, the Ingebrigtsens moved to Colorado,*

*where Steve took a job in medical electronics. Priscilla earned her social work degree at Metro State and a master's in social work from CSU. She then spent 20 years as a medical social worker at University of Colorado Hospital, where she primarily worked with cancer patients. She instituted group therapy for children of cancer patients, retreats featuring fly-fishing for breast cancer patients, breast cancer support groups, and a brain tumor support group that resulted in Priscilla winning the prestigious National Neuro-Oncology Award in 2002.*



Priscilla recalls a particularly moving experience when she and a Vietnamese man were flown from Denver to Washington, D.C. by what she calls "corporate angels", so he could receive cancer treatment at the National Institutes of Health. His thrill at seeing our nation's capitol had a profound effect on her.

Although she no longer works full-time, Priscilla still maintains a busy schedule. She and Steve have traveled in their Airstream, canoed down Labyrinth Canyon, Utah, and visited such exotic sites as the Galapagos Islands. She next hopes to canoe down the Snake River in Idaho. Sharing their Lakewood yard with chickens and goats is a large trampoline, a family heirloom more than 30 years old. And, yes, they attended classes and learned to make goat cheese. A favorite activity for Priscilla is the annual trip she has made with three college friends for the past 15 years. Their destination this year is Santa Barbara, California.

The Ingebrigtsens have six children and six grandchildren. Daughter Megan helps teach Sunday school at Lucc, and eldest daughter, Nicole Gryler, is active with her UCC church in Walla Walla, WA.

*By Tabby Bernardo*

*Photo by Jenny Merriman*

## Christian Education

### *Lakewood UCC - Christian Education (CE) (Children, Youth and Adults)*

#### **A. Outreach Summer Sundays - Children's Sunday School**

- Outreach Summer Sunday's is based on Knowing God and Serving Others.
- All activities and projects are on site at the church during Sunday's Worship service.
- Students will be working on projects that will serve various communities.
- Projects might include - Cleaning the preschool, planting flowers at LUCC, toiletry bags for homeless children's programs, cards to nursing home residents, etc...
- The goal is to learn to be missionaries in "our own backyard."

*July Teaching Theme - True Love*

July 3, 2011 - July 4th Weekend - Love is Patient

July 17, 2011 - Love is Forgiving

July 10, 2011 - Love is Kind

July 24, 2011 Love is Everlasting

#### **B. CE Summer Programming for Children and Families**

*June - August 2011, Nursery (Sundays- 10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.)*

*June - August 2011 - Outreach Summer Sundays-**Sunday School** (Sundays - 10:25- 11:15 a.m.)  
(Students will start in Worship and move to student activities during Worship service.)*

*Family Special Event Programming*

*July-**Parent's Night Out**- (Friday, 5:00-9:00 p.m., July 15*

*August- **National "Night Out"** (Wednesday evening, August 3)*

***Family Fun/Outreach Night** (Friday, 5:30 -8 p.m., Aug. 12) Dinner, Games, and Outreach Activity*

#### **C. YAC - Youth At Church**

This summer our youth have many opportunities to serve. Please have your youth consider the following ways to be the hands, feet, and voice of Christ. This is a great way to gather service hours that are needed in both junior and high school programs.

- Parent's Night Out - Teachers July 15, 2011, Friday, 5:00-9:00 p.m.

Needing teachers for games and crafts. Nursery teachers

- National "Night Out" - Lakewood Police Function August 3, 2011 - Wednesday

Need student mentors/teachers to help with event. We will be working with St Paul's Episcopal Church. Booth and game operations. Time to be announced (afternoon and evening).

- Family Fun Night / Outreach Night - August 12, 2011, Friday, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Need student leaders to help with food and games and outreach activity.

**Volunteers Needed for All Events - [jenkeyes@qwestoffice.net](mailto:jenkeyes@qwestoffice.net) - Contact Jen**

#### **D. Adult Education**

Summer Movie Series, Wednesdays in July at 6:30 p.m. (see page 3 for movie listing)

#### **2011 VBS SUCCESS!**

About 40 students from LUCC, other churches, and the local neighborhood enjoyed participating in this year's VBS - The EDGE (Experiencing & Discovering God Everywhere). Besides making new friends, the students explored Bible stories, songs, art and games to get to know about God's love for themselves and others. We had an amazing staff of volunteers to make this event a great success - A special thanks to: (Adult Team): *Curt Preson, Mary Ann Rothenburger, Peggy Keen, Sue Preston, Barb Martin, Sherry Good, Jill Keller, Pat Hayes, Danielle Johns Preston, Jan McCray, Karen Coiner, Katie Blaser, Janet Hehr, Linda Royval, Doii Mast, Twila Shankland, Jenny Merriman, Myra Urband, Tabby Bernardo, Tiffany Beastron,* (Teen Team): *Mollie Krebs, Nate Keyes, Matthew Veen, Bryn Griswold, Zoe Griswold, Maya Griswold, Jesse Anderson, Carolina Pena, Alison Lloyd, Hannah Keller.*

## IT'S CHRISTMAS IN JULY!

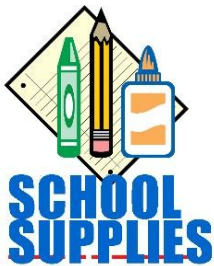


Look for the BUCKET TREE (sometimes known as the mitten tree) in the narthex on Sunday, June 26. LUCC's Mission and CE Boards invite you to join in the Spirit of Giving early this year. The USA has experienced several weather-related calamities this year, leaving a BIG MESS behind. The UCC has joined hands with Church World Service to help with the clean-up. CWS is distributing clean-up buckets filled with supplies, like scrubber sponges, squeegees, and work gloves to help begin the process of cleaning up and going home for our weather-displaced neighbors.

We are asking our LUCC community to work together to create twenty buckets to be distributed in these areas by CWS. We have already located a "Secret Santa" in our midst to help with transporting these buckets to the distribution point at a greatly reduced cost.

What does that mean for you? We are asking our community to stop by the "Bucket Tree" and choose a bucket gift item (or two) from the tree. These items can be purchased at local home improvement and supermarket stores. Then, we ask you to return your items to church by July 31. CWS has provided us with a Bucket List to keep each bucket uniform. So we ask that you stick as closely as possible to the items on the gift card you select. You will find collection buckets located near the tree to hold your items. Cash donations clearly earmarked for the Bucket List will help with purchasing any missing items and can be left in the church office.

Now the fun starts! Please plan to attend the Blessing of the Buckets at the community family fun night on August 12. Lots of fun is in the works.....including a bucket brigade.



## JEFFCO ACTION CENTER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Members of the church have the opportunity to help organize and distribute school supplies on Wednesday, July 20. We will be assembling supplies, bundling pencils, pens, etc. These will be "sit-down" jobs. Then, on Monday, August 8, a group will help distribute supplies to families. Watch your bulletin for times and locations.

Questions??...call MaryAnn Rothenburger 303-986-9010.

### Beacon and Bulletin Deadlines

Remember, the Beacon deadline is the third Friday of the month, unless otherwise noted (some months with five Fridays).

The Bulletin Announcement deadline is on Wednesday. Please be sure to get your information to the office manager when you have a special announcement or event.



## LUCC News

### MISSION, OUTREACH, AND EVANGELISM



#### Our Trip to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

Before we left for Pine Ridge, there were several discussions concerning the people on the reservation. The question most often asked was: Why don't they just-----?

Who would I be if I had been conquered? If I were taken from my land and put in a place where I thought I might be happy. But when my captors needed the gold on the land, they took it back and made me move again. I was told my way of life was wrong and I must conform to the ways of my captors, no more to follow the buffalo and live as one with the land. I was also

told my religion was evil, but my captors were kind, so they took my young children and sent them east to "their" schools to save them. I never saw them again. I was forbidden to use my mother tongue and was punished if I did. I was dependent on my captors for food and warmth; sometimes it was not there and I was cold and hungry and lost without my children.

On June 11, 2011, thirteen of your fellow Church members traveled to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to help and to learn. We gardened, put on roofs, placed outhouses and met and talked with many wonderful people. I think all of us were touched in ways we did not expect. Please take time to speak with the following band of explorers and hear their stories: Curt Preston, Pat Hayes, Les Hayes, Charlie Ransdell, Colleen Turner, Brian Weishaar, Mary Ann Rothenburger, Sheldan Picard, Veronica Griswold, Matt Griswold, Maya Griswold, Bryn Griswold, Zoe Griswold.

Mitakuye Oyasin (We are all related).

#### PRIDEFEST 2011

Approximately 40 people from the O & A churches of the Denver Metro Association, marched in the Pridefest Parade on Sunday, June 19. A great time was had by all. Your Lakewood members included: Dianne McNeil, Miles, Carson and Kane Jr., Pat and Les Hayes, Brian Weishaar, Brenda and David Zserdin, Sara and Alex. Please see the pictures on the attached insert.

# SERVICES

Please join us at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays for Worship.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

LUCC office hours are 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, Monday through Friday. Feel free to contact the office manager if you will need assistance outside of regular office hours.

## From Our Shepherds

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

- Natalie Pressley
- Betsy O'Sullivan
- Priscilla Ingebrigtsen
- Margaret and Henry Wiese
- Connie Jaeger and Brian Becker
- Sandy and Daren Vanlerberghe and family


### Sunday Schedule

**9:30 a.m.** Nursery Care Available  
**10:15 a.m.** Worship Service  
 (Children begin in worship and transition to Sunday school)  
**11:15 a.m.** Fellowship hour


Large print bulletins and hearing assists are available at each worship service. If you need one, ask the greeter for one as you enter the Sanctuary.

### Child Care Available

Child care is available in the nursery from 9:30 a.m. until the end of the service. Sara Ulricksen and Marissa Maestas are our childcare providers. We also have youth assistants in the nursery. Childcare is available for children age 3 and younger. Visiting children are welcome. The nursery is located at the far north end of the upper level.



### OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH



Good Grief "Out to Lunch Bunch" will meet on July 10 at Café Del Sol at 12:00 noon. Every one is welcome to join us.



# ATTENDANCE

Date	Attendance	To Date	This Was...
5/29/2011	98	7968	Sixth Sunday of Easter
6/05/2011	106	8074	Seventh Sunday of Easter
6/12/2011	84	8158	Pentecost
6/19/2011	90	8248	Trinity Sunday

**OUR APPRECIATION FOR THOSE THAT HAVE SERVED US**

**Greeters for June**

- 6/5 Doug and Linda Andreen
- 6/12 Peggy Keen and Susan Rumley
- 6/19 Bea Auch and Ed Mitchell
- 6/26 Verne and Marleen Fish

**Fellowship Hosts for June**

- 6/5 Myra and Howard Urband
- 6/12 Brenda and David Zserdin
- 6/19 Brenda and David Zserdin
- 6/26 Johns/Preston

**Welcomers for June**

- 6/5 Mary Ann Rothenberger
- 6/12 Carolyn eslinger
- 6/12 LaNelle Haxton
- 6/26 Sheila Weise



**Christian Education  
Calendar Reminders**

- ♦ July 15, 2011 Friday - Parent's Night Out - 5:00- 9:00 p.m.
- ♦ August 12, 2011, Friday - Family Fun Night (Games and Pizza)5:30-8:00 p.m.



*Condolences to Sandy Vanlerbergh and family upon the death of Sandy's father.*



***We are grateful for all those who give of their time and talents to keep our church programming, communications, activities and building running smoothly.  
We appreciate all you do for our church!!***



Congratulations to Ron Rappmund's sons, Philip and Paul. Philip graduated from Brooklyn Law School and will go into the U.S. Army. Paul Graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in Business Administration and will attend Boston College Law School.

Valerie Martinez, daughter of our office manger, Jean Chavez, graduated from Denver University with her master's degree in education. We are proud of these young people and their accomplishments.

The Beacon is published by Lakewood UCC (LUCC)  
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**BEACON:  
How do I submit articles?**

Submit an article for use in the *Beacon* via email to the following address:  
**[lakewoodbeacon@qwestoffice.net](mailto:lakewoodbeacon@qwestoffice.net)**  
You may also place your articles in the *Beacon* folder in the church office.  
Email submissions are accepted either in the body of the email or as an attached Word document.

**The monthly deadline is the third FRIDAY of the previous month!**

DELEGATES' REPORT  
ANNUAL MEETING 2011  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE, UCC  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Ernie and Dorothy Miller, delegates from Lakewood UCC, attended the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the UCC which was held in Salt Lake City, June 9 and 10. The theme of the conference was "Life is Different Now", reflecting the variety of ways in which all churches are coping with the impact of changes in our culture and our world.

The format had been altered from a speaker and breakout groups to "open market" conversation groups of delegates and visitors to actively investigate how leadership has and must change. The issues discussed included: 1) What do you do when you don't know what to do?; 2) How to stay focused and flexible; 3) Staying connected to others and working with cultures whose values no longer work; 4) Social networking through new technology and new communities; 5) Guidance, boundaries and relationships. These conversation groups also enabled the attendees to get to know one another better and activated a sense of common spirit.

Dorothy attended one small group discussion around mental health in the church, and found that LUCC is indeed in the forefront of providing education and support to its congregation and community, and the delegates from other churches were eager to hear about our program. Dorothy and Ernie both attended a small group discussion with the pastor of the Broomfield church, which has had significant growth in the past year, to hear what kind of program they have. They have experimented with a variety of services and times, and are now settled into the more practical and successful for them: a rotating monthly format with the first Sunday being a traditional service, with the second and third (perhaps fourth) Sundays incorporating more contemporary components to the service, until the final service of the month is completely contemporary.

The Conference business meeting was held on Saturday. The 2011 budget was revised and the 2012 budget was approved. Two new Associations were approved, Intermountain and Platte Valley. The Intermountain Association includes southwestern Wyoming and Utah. The Platte Valley Association includes southeastern Wyoming. Clergy compensation guideline revisions were approved. The main order of business was Conference approval of the Board's continuing search into the potential purchase of the office building in which the present Conference offices are located. The Capital Campaign for \$500,000, which was set up in 2000, has \$226,00 pledged from churches in the conference and \$114,000 from other sources.

In the meeting of The Metropolitan Denver Association of RoMoCo, it was voted and approved to hold its fall Conference meeting on October 2, 2011 at Lakewood United Church of Christ.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ernest and Dorothy Miller  
June 22, 2011

The mission of the Lakewood United Church of Christ is to develop our faith in God, enabling us to know the abundant life Christ promised by nourishing our spiritual journey, fostering community, inviting others to join on the journey, and going forth into the world through service to do justice, love others, and promote peace. We are an Open and Affirming church, respecting all God's children regardless of race, color, ethnicity, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, age, or disability. We adopt and embrace the Policy to Protect against Sexual Abuse and Harassment.

**LUCC STAFF**

Curt Preston, Minister  
Tabby Bernardo, Moderator  
Jen Keyes, CE Director  
Joan Wagner, Director of Music Ministries  
Brian Weishaar, Finance Manager  
Jean Chavez, Office Manager

**BEACON VOLUNTEERS**

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Mary Menin, Copy Editor  
Dorothy Fisher  
Ruth Haig  
Betsy O'Sullivan  
Dorothy Thurber  
Betty Touzalin  
Jenny Merriman

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**Lakewood United Church of Christ**

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