

**OUR MISSION: WORSHIPING GOD AND FORMING ONE ANOTHER  
INTO LOVING SERVANTS OF CHRIST AND THE WORLD**

**PALOUSE FEDERATED CHURCH**

**DO YOU BELIEVE IN RESURRECTION? I DO**

~ PASTOR COREY

Do you believe in resurrection? Central to the Christian faith is that we believe Jesus rose from the dead on the third day- a Sunday. He left the tomb new, risen, and obviously alive.

I believe the historical accounts of the resurrection as told in the gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. I believe there are many solid historical arguments for the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and they are truly convincing to me. But today- that's not what I want to focus on.

I also believe in resurrection because I have seen "dead" people come alive. I have seen men and women who were controlled by their fears, addictions, past behaviors and brokenness- made new. I have seen them. I have seen them right in the midst of our PFC family. They are new, risen and obviously alive.

Whenever you talk about such things you risk sounding either kooky or offensive. But I don't really care. I know it's kooky to many to hear that people are dead before they come to Christ, but that's what we believe. Before we have Christ, we are dead, lost in our sin. And yes, I know that sounds offensive to some. But truly, it is hard for me to care about offending the sensibilities of some, when I have seen people who were dead in their sins, walk out of their tomb. By the leading of Christ they have truly left death and entered into a new life. I have seen it. I have seen resurrection. Yes- theologically I know that we aren't fully resurrected until a future point of history. I am just trying to say what the Apostle Paul said so long ago in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" When we repent of our sins, and come to Christ in faith, believing He can forgive us and make us new, something happens- we come alive!

Do you pray to see new life in others?

So a few questions: 1) Do you believe in resurrection, new life for people who believe in Christ? (If you don't believe people you can be made new, this is a sign you are not yet a follower of Jesus Christ.)

2) Have you seen it? 3) Have you experienced it in yourself?

**APRIL 2015**



[See the Uganda Article on Page 5](#)

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## SECOND PASTOR CONSIDERATION & FEEDBACK

In last month's newsletter we published an article on the front page letting the PFC family know that we are looking into hiring an additional pastor. Since publication of the article we have had lots of good feedback from folks, and good questions too.

The Executive Board is still in the process of writing the job description for this position and is interested in your input. One question a couple of people have had is: Why do we need a second pastor? That's a good question! Churches usually hire a 2<sup>nd</sup> pastor when they are between 120-150 in average attendance. This is because at that point the ministry, leadership and administration needs exceed what one Pastor can reasonably provide. PFC's average worship attendance has hovered around 120 people on Sundays (counting all 3 Sunday services) for a couple of years. But add to our attendance reality that our church does not just serve the people of the church family, but we truly do serve the community. We are what some would call a "parish" church. Pastor Corey is often viewed as the town pastor, which is a good thing, and he provides services to those inside and outside of the church family. This means that the amount of time given to a church with 120 people in average attendance, is less than the amount of time needed to pastor PFC and the surrounding Palouse area. Pastor Corey averages 53 hours or work per week, if it is a slow week, with no emergencies, no funerals or crisis counseling. Truly a pastoral calling is a 24 hour per day calling, but there are also limits to the weekly routine. Adding a second pastor will simply give more leadership time to the church family and community. This means that the second pastor will be able to provide services that we aren't currently providing. We have had good feedback in this area. Some think the second pastor should focus more on visiting, others on administration, others say worship team leading, many say family ministry and discipleship. All these things and more are being considered and prayed over by your church board. Lastly a second pastor can take things off Pastor Corey's plate that are not in his area of gifting, and allow him more time to focus on his areas of strength. This would shift 5 hours or so per week from Pastor Corey's plate to the new pastor, allowing Pastor Corey to focus those 5 hours on areas that he is gifted in.

Please feel free to give feedback direct to Pastor Corey or Board Chair, Butch Smith 878-1939. For concerns about Pastor Corey, please contact Kent Keller, Pastor Relations Chair, 878-1577.

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## NEW WORSHIP SERVICE AT BISHOP PLACE – SUNDAYS AT 1:30PM

Every Sunday at 1:30pm, Rev. Matt Jorgens, pastor of Ecclesia Church in Lewiston, is leading a Protestant traditional style worship service at Bishop Place Senior Living in Pullman. PFC is the organizer and sponsor of this outreach to the folks at Bishop Place. There are over 150 living units at the facility and it is a community unto itself.

If you would like to attend a worship service there you are more than welcome to do so. They meet in the Social Hall near the Independent Living entrance. If you know of folks who live at Bishop Place, encourage them to try out the new service.

So far attendance has been small, but it is growing! The residents who have attended enjoyed the service and are thankful for it.

## PALOUSE CHORAL SOCIETY

~ TERRY KELLER

The Palouse Choral Society is excited to share an opportunity for your parishioners to continue their Easter worship. The Palouse Choral Society, in concert with the University of Idaho Vandaleers and the PCS Festival Orchestra under the direction of Michael Murphy, will be presenting George Frideric Handel's *Israel in Egypt*. This is the first, ever production of *Israel in Egypt* on the Palouse. It has been said that if you love Handel's Messiah, you'll be thrilled with *Israel in Egypt*.

Please join us: **Friday, April 17, 2015**, 7:30 pm, at the University of Idaho Administration Auditorium.

**Sunday, April 19, 2015**, 4:00pm, at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Uniontown, WA

Tickets available at: <http://www.palousechoralsociety.org/ticketsonline.html>

For questions or help, call box office manager, Jan, at 509-432-4796, or email [boxofficepcs@gmail.com](mailto:boxofficepcs@gmail.com).

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## ROSS POINT CAMPERS – YOUTH, ADULTS, FAMILIES

~BRENDA COOK

Each year Palouse Federated Church sets aside money to help send youth and adults to camp. And, we also rely on fundraisers. We usually send about 35+ youth and 10-15 adults every year. Our annual two main fundraisers are the Palm Sunday Pancake Supper/Talent Show and a carwash in the summer. In general, we offer 50% scholarships but are able to help with more if needed. We ask that if you (or your family) will be receiving camp scholarship money from PFC, that you participate in one or both of these fundraisers or participate in a minimum of 4 hours of service in church related projects. There are usually one or two smaller fundraisers throughout the year too. To get you excited for camp and to save the date, here's the summer camp schedule this year:

- June 19-20 My First Camp (age 3 thru 2nd grade w/ an adult) June 21-26
- Junior High Camp (grades 6-9)
- June 28-July 3 Senior High Camp (grades 9-12)
- July 5-10 Junior Camp (grades 4-6)
- July 5-8 Middler Camp (grades 2-4)
- July 26-August 1 Family Camp 'O'mega (for families to come together)

We encourage early registration to receive discounts. We have new scholarship forms that recipients are required to fill out (info for our church only). Just ask Brenda or Pastor Corey for a form. Thank you! If you have questions about the fundraisers or camp: Brenda Cook--878-2010 or Pastor Corey Laughary--878-1509

<http://rosspoint.org> (for more specific camp info and registration)

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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2015 UPDATE, July 27-31, 2015

Save the date...it's coming! Though Spring has just begun it is never too early to look forward to summer plans. Brenda Cook and Tina Laughary are the 2015 Vacation Bible School directors and they would like you to put July 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> on your calendar. The theme this year is **Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power**. We humbly ask that you begin to pray and ask God how you might be able to serve Him during Bible School. We will need lots of volunteers to make this program a success but we also need the prayer support of each and every member of the Palouse Federated congregation. There are children in our own communities who do not know the good news of Jesus Christ—this is not ok. Please pray for us as we begin to put together our program and staff and prepare to share the gospel with our kids.

## CATECHISM CONTINUED – Westminster Shorter Catechism

For more on the "WSC" got to [shortercatechism.com](http://shortercatechism.com) or there are paper copies of the WSC on one of the resource tables near the top of the stairs.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism was produced in 1646-7 by Protestant Pastors and Scholars in order to provide a basic teaching and learning tool for Christian faith. A "catechism" is a question and answer format. We have been going through this document section by section for quite some time. This month we find ourselves at questions #89 and #90:

**Q. 89.** How is the Word made effectual to salvation?

**A.** The Spirit of God maketh the reading, but especially the preaching, of the Word, an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through faith, unto salvation. (Nehemiah 8:8-9, Acts 20:32, Romans 10:14-17, 2 Timothy 3:15-17)

**Pastor C:** "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." - Romans 10:17. Central to the understanding of Protestantism is reading and hearing the written Word of God. It is central, not because the Bible itself is God, but because God has put His message inside of Holy Scripture. Scripture is inspired or "God breathed" (2 Tim. 3:16). When we communicate God's Word faithfully, and the Spirit of the God brings truth to our heart it truly has an effect on us. This is what is meant by "effectual." People are changed and converted, built up and encouraged all by the encountering of God's Word.

**Q. 90.** How is the Word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?

**A.** That the Word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation, and prayer; (Deuteronomy 6:16 ff, Psalm 119:18, 1 Peter 2:1-2) receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives. (Psalm 119:11, 2 Thessalonians 2:10, Hebrews 4:2, James 1:22-25)

**Pastor C:** The Word of God is not magic! You can't just have a Bible on your shelf at home, or in your hand at a worship service, and expect your life to improve. That's crazy thinking! We must regularly hear the Word of God preached. We must diligently prepare to study God's Word and prepare our hearts for the hearing of a sermon. How do you prepare for worship? How do you prepare your heart to study the Bible? We must not only prepare ourselves to hear, but we must also rightly receive God's truth. We must "receive it with faith and love." This means we must believe what is heard, trusting God's Word as authoritative, over and above our personal perceptions. This doesn't mean we dismiss our ability to reason, but we do receive God's Message believing God knows best and gives the Word to us out of love for us. But like the Bereans in the New Testament, we should test the teachings we hear to make sure they are genuine. Lastly, hearing the Word of God is not just about hearing it and receiving it into our hearts by faith. It must also be practiced in our daily lives. God's saving truth should have real effects in our daily life.

## MESSAGE FROM UGANDA



Greetings from Uganda! We just finished Day Three of our Team Uganda adventure at Hope for Children Orphanage. It feels more like three weeks or three months when thinking of the myriad people and experiences we've had. I am amazed that we can start to feel at home in so short a time in a decidedly foreign setting. Tonight I was sitting with women of the church's praise team reduced to smiling at one another after exhausting their English. Then along came Ronald, their keyboard player, a tall, slender man with a friendly smile and greeting, in khaki pants, neat long-sleeved striped shirt. He sat down and, immediately, as we started talking, I realized he spoke terrific English. He translated for me and the ladies for a while, then started asking me about where we live --- all the usual, normal conversations people use when they



don't know each other well. So normal. So human. In Uganda -- half way around the world. Ronald decided to teach me some phrases in their language which gave everyone some good laughs. They're probably still

## ~ KAY TRONSEN



These three days have also been a solemn time of reflection and introspection as we seek God's direction. The needs are overwhelming, but I am reminded that we have not been called to solve the poverty problem of Africa; we've been called to come alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ in one particular, small part of Uganda in one particular, small village, on one small plot of land. Whatever we do, however small or great, will be the world to them. I wish you were here to see the excitement as a truck arrived with food for a month (they are feeding 80 people a day on .67 per person, per day), the joy as the women went through baby clothes we brought, the children's glee chasing Mikel through the field, the gratitude for each thing we do for them. I wish you could feel the welcome and learn the "special handshake" which I blew a few times before I caught on. I could go on and on -- tell you about Harriet, the 19 year old teacher (one of five), how hard the men work on projects, how the children giggle and smile when I take their picture and show it to them, but it is very late here, and we will be able to share when we get home. Until then, please continue in prayer for us. God is faithful. God is good.

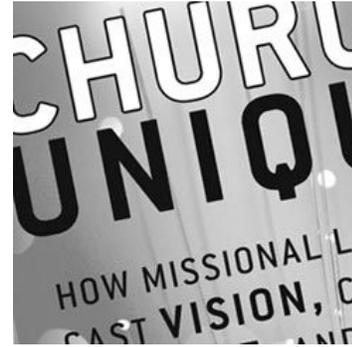
On behalf of the team: Angie Cochran, Mikel Nisse, Dale and Kay Tronsen

## CHURCH UNIQUE

PFC is continuing through a Vision process called: "Church Unique." This process seeks to discern what is unique about our church in its makeup, its mission field, and its leadership. Every church is called to glorify God and make disciples. Church unique seeks to help us complete the statement: "We glorify God and make disciples by \_\_\_\_\_."

Many of you participated in focus groups in the Months of February or March. Thank you! There will be more opportunities for you to participate in this process. As there are 4 more

months of prayer, research and discernment to go.



Your Church Unique team is: Butch Smith, Brittany Sawyer, Kay Tronsen, Sean Kelley, and Pastor Corey Laughary

## YOUTH UPDATES: GRADES 6-12 ARE INVITED!

Youth Ministry Volunteers- Christopher Marshall and Ariel Hoffman

**Youth Group, grades 6-12, meets every Sunday from 4-7pm.** Dinner is provide, a Bible lesson is given, and a fun time is had by all. At 6pm the youth join with the PFC Sunday evening worship service. Keep our area youth in your prayers!

## NEWS FROM HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

**\*Volunteer!\***: Habitat is scheduling volunteers for the 2015 home build. Put your faith into action! Habitat provides training, tools and a hearty lunch for all build site volunteers, no experience necessary - just willing heart and hands. Come alone, or with a friend or your church group! Contact the office at 208-883-8502, by email at [volunteer@palousehabitat.org](mailto:volunteer@palousehabitat.org) or register online at [www.palousehabitat.org](http://www.palousehabitat.org) for specific dates and times.

**\*Spring Cleaning for Habitat!\***: Clean out your shop and closets! Donate your usable, leftover home improvement materials, furniture, appliances, and decor items to the Palouse Habitat Surplus Sale at 304 N. Main Street in Moscow. Call 208-882-5246 to schedule a pick up if needed. Hours: Thursday 12:00-5:00, Friday and Saturday 9:00-5:00. Proceeds help build and repair homes with those in need in our community!

**\*Beans'N'Jeans 2015!\***: Palouse Habitat for Humanity, the local Christian housing ministry, is hosting its annual fundraiser dinner and auction on Saturday April 18, from 5:30-9:00 pm at the SEL Event Center. The event features live, silent and dessert auctions, as well as raffles and door prizes for guests. Dinner is catered by CD's Smoke Pit BBQ, and live bluegrass music is provided by Forgotten Freight. Palouse Habitat was recently awarded a grant to cover half the cost to build the home through Thrivent Financial. Help us raise the other half so we can complete the home this year!

## YOUNG LIFE – PALOUSE RIVER DUATHLON

~BETTY SAWYER

### PALOUSE RIVER DUATHLON sponsored by Young Life JUNE 13

RACE DAY: Saturday **June 13** race begins and ends at Palouse Park with a 2 mile run, 10 miles of biking on multi-surfaces, and ends with another 2 mile run. Teams welcome! Help with pasta meal, or on the course. Prizes and t-shirt included.



Prices for Early registration  
(On or before **May 29**)

INDIVIDUAL ENTRY \$35  
2 PERSON TEAM \$60  
3 PERSON TEAM \$90

\*Student Price is \$10 off per person with I.D.

100% of proceeds supporting teens through  
GarPal Young Life.

## PRAYER REQUESTS: GOD HEARS THE PRAYERS OF HIS PEOPLE

Pray for your Oikos! We pray for family and friends of Tom Spangler, Marge Brink (broken shoulder/arm & ankle), and Ryan Clements (cancer). We pray for "Church Unique" the mission and vision process. We pray for the new worship service at Bishop Place in Pullman. We pray for Angie Cochran, Dale & Kay Tronsen, and Mikel Nisse on their trip to Uganda. We pray for our international missionaries and our youth ministry. Pray for our "shut-ins": Richard Kayser, Neil & Patty Myott, Pete Hertz, Bob & Dori Tuttle, Joanie Bagott, Don White, Don and Lorraine Gilliland, Marjorie Bourne. Please pray for the youth of our community, the ministry to our youth, our whole community, people who are visiting in worship, for the leaders of our church, communities, states and nation. If you have prayer concerns and/or praises, please give them to the pastor.

**Active Duty Service Members:** Jason Evenson (Georgia), Mitch Kriebel (California), Mark Tronsen (North Carolina), Steven Griffin (Texas), Zach Spear (Hawaii), Michael Forbes (Florida), Danielle Tavenner (Dubai), Nick Burgess (Virginia), Adam Burnett (Shaw AFB), Kristina Pillai (Florida), Tim Slemp (Kansas) Ben Lynch (California), Liza Chavira (New York), Jake Gehring (Georgia) Gage Trout (Korea), and Johnathan Gehring (Maryland).

## EVERY GENERATION

~ BY TINA LAUGHARY

It's hard for me to believe that this summer will mark 3 years since our family packed up and hit the road for a two month sabbatical. What a wonderful and refreshing time it was for the Laughary family. One of the highlights of the summer was getting to spend Sundays worshipping with other believers in churches across several states. One particular thing about those worship experiences was they had found a way to solve a problem that we had not been able to.

We were delighted to see in these churches **all** generations worshipping God together, and couldn't wait to bring this practice to PFC. For many years now Palouse Federated Church has had a gap, somewhere around junior high or high school youth have stopped coming to worship and it appears to last through about age 27. We are not alone in this issue. Churches all around the country are

~ Continued on page 8

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struggling with this as well, and it is often debated and discussed. So, why did so many of the churches we visited on our sabbatical seem to be immune to this problem? They all had one thing in common. They did not separate young children from their families during worship. They did not have "Sunday School or Children's Church" during the adult worship time. They encouraged very young children to worship right alongside their parents. This, I believe is the magic bullet.

If we separate families during worship, sending children to the basement while their parents worship, the message we are sending to our children is that worship isn't a place for them. Later, when they are finally forced to join in (traditionally around junior high) they will start complaining, fighting their parents and eventually when it is their choice they just stop coming. What we saw other churches do was to incorporate children right into the worship service. Allow them to process and learn from the sermon right next to their parents. There is great unity when the whole family hears the same message.

The reason I am writing an article about this now, nearly 3 years after we made this very change here at PFC, is because I talk to a lot of young moms who tell me the reason they don't worship with us is that there is no children's church and they find it difficult having their children in the service with them. I try to encourage these moms but I would like us all to be able to encourage people we know with the same concerns. Here is some practical advice I would like to give as a mom who went through this when my children were 4, 6 & 8. Yes! It will be difficult in the beginning. Expect it and plan for it. Allow your children to keep their hands busy. The church provides a notebook and crayons for them but you can always bring coloring books, stickers, markers or other small toys. Just because their hands are busy doesn't mean they aren't paying attention. Second—they cannot talk when their mouth is full! There is no rule against food in our sanctuary. Bring cheerios, string cheese or crackers. When HettyLee first starting joining us for worship I made a special bag for her with toys and snacks that was for church only. Third, and this really is the most important thing, consistency is the key. You have to come every week until they understand that this is a routine. I have noticed that most kids "get it" after about 4 to 6 weeks, but they have to be consecutive weeks.

Here are some facts about Sunday childcare offered at PFC. We have a paid adult babysitter to provide childcare for children ages 5 and under during both the 9am and 11am worship services. Of course you can also choose to have your child with you in worship. When your child turns six years old we celebrate the fact that they are able to worship upstairs. Your child will be invited up front to receive a Bible and publicly welcomed to worship. During our 6pm service childcare is extended to children 9 years old and younger. The reason for this is simple. We encourage families to celebrate the Lord's day by worshiping both in the morning and evening. Two services in one day can be taxing for children 6-9 so we allow them to go downstairs in the evening. But at age 10 they are welcomed and celebrated as part of the 6pm worship service.

One final word, I am the first to admit that it takes some effort for children to adjust from a childcare environment to worship, but it is worth it. There have been times when I looked at HettyLee coloring and humming during a sermon and thought, "There is no way she is listening to this," only to quiz her later and find she can tell me the main point of the sermon. The truth is children have a huge capacity to worship, learn, serve and grow and we need to encourage them. Over the long-haul this will be better for you and them. Another thing we all need to accept is that kids are going to make noise. Parents need to know that we are ok with noise. Noise equals life and it doesn't distract from worship, it adds to the experience of worship.

# APRIL 2015 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 1pm: Women's Bible Study @ Tina Laughary's 6pm, Lent Soup Supper	2 4:30-5:30pm, Youth Worship Band Practice 5:30-7:30pm, Youth Game Night	3	4
5 6:30am Sunrise Service 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am: Sunday Sch 11am: Worship 1:30pm: Worship at Bishop Place 5pm: All Church Potluck 4-6pm Youth Ministry	6	7 5:30am: Men's Bible Study * 8:30am: Mom's Bible Study * 10am: Bible Study * 1:30pm: Women's Bible Study, 1233 Main St, Viola, Id	8	9 4:30-5:30pm, Youth Worship Band Practice 5:30-7:30pm, Youth Game Night	10	11
12 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am: Sunday Sch 11am: Worship 1:30pm: Worship at Bishop Place 4-6pm Youth Group 5pm: All Church Potluck 6pm: Simple Service	13	14 5:30am: Men's Bible Study * 8:30am: Mom's Bible Study * 10am: Bible Study * 1:30pm: Women's Bible Study, 1233 Main St, Viola, Id	15 1pm: Women's Bible Study @ Tina Laughary's	16 4:30-5:30pm, Youth Worship Band Practice 5:30-7:30pm, Youth Game Night	17	18 Men's Breakfast at PFC 7:30am: Cook 8:00am: Eat
19 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am: Sunday Sch 11am: Worship 1:30pm: Worship at Bishop Place 4-6pm Youth Group 5pm: All Church Potluck 6pm: Simple Service	20	21 5:30am: Men's Bible Study * 8:30am: Mom's Bible Study * 10am: Bible Study * 1:30pm: Women's Bible Study, 1233 Main St, Viola, Id	22 1pm: Women's Bible Study @ Tina Laughary's	23 4:30-5:30pm, Youth Worship Band Practice 5:30-7:30pm, Youth Game Night	24	25
26 9am: Worship 10am:Fellowship 10:15am: Sunday Sch 11am: Worship 1:30pm: Worship at Bishop Place 4-6pm Youth Group 5pm: All Church Potluck 6pm: Simple Service	27	28 5:30am: Men's Bible Study * 8:30am: Mom's Bible Study * 10am: Bible Study * 1:30pm: Women's Bible Study, 1233 Main St, Viola, Id	29 1pm: Women's Bible Study @ Tina Laughary's	30 4:30-5:30pm, Youth Worship Band Practice 5:30-7:30pm, Youth Game Night		

Bible studies with an \* indicate they are held at PFC

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Pastor: Rev. Corey Laughary

Pastor's Office Hours:

Mon-Wed 9am-3pm

## APRIL SERMONS

- April 5<sup>th</sup>, 9am & 11am, "Life," 1 John 5:6-12
- April 12<sup>th</sup>, 9am & 6pm, "The Fig Tree," Luke 21:29-33
  - 11am, "The Death of Jacob," Genesis 49:28-33
- April 19<sup>th</sup>, 9am & 6pm, "Like a Trap," Luke 21:34-36
  - 11am, "Taking Care of the Dead," Genesis 50:1-14
- April 26<sup>th</sup>, 9am & 6pm, Luke 21:37-22:2
  - 11am, "What was Meant for Evil...," Genesis 50:15-21



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