PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH Associate Member: United Church of Christ



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PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Change Our Hearts Offering

Prayer

Prelude

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

arr. Don Hustad

*Call to Worship

Welcome to the time of covenant renewal.

The God of our salvation greets us here.

We are reminded of God's promises to us; We remember the promises we have made.

The Spirit is descending on us now.

Hear God's welcoming voice.

God is with us in the covenant.

God promises to be with us.

See the rainbow in the sky.

Through all these years, God still remembers his covenant.

All creation proclaims the wonders of God.

We come together to worship God and to learn what God wants to teach us.

Senior Bell Choir

"Nothing but the Blood of Jesus"

Robert Lowry arr. Ron Mallory

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on your church, O God, for we forget the covenant into which you call us. We muddle along in our self-serving schemes rather than waiting on your word. We follow the path of least resistance without seeking your higher way. We forget our baptism into a faith community built on trust and forgiveness. We turn from the vision of heaven to the treacherous life of competing egos. O God, we turn to you to lead us to a new day. According to your steadfast love, forgive us, we pray. Amen.

Time of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn #5 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

Scripture 1 Peter 3:18 – 22 (NRSV p. 985; LP p. 1901)

Mark 1:9 – 15 (NRSV p. 812; LP p. 1561 – 1562)

Junior Bell Choir "Praise to the Lord" Erneuerten Gesangbuch

arr. Peggy A. Thompson

Children's Sermon

Children's Church No Children's Church Today

*Hymn #200 "Lord, Who Throughout"

Sermon "The Waters of Our Journey"

Senior Choir Anthem

"Shall We Gather at the River" arr. David von Kampen

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts,

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

Offertory "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" David Paxton

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Thank you, God, for the signs and wonders that reveal your presence. Thank you for the covenant fulfilled in Jesus Christ. We want to do our part to share your love with the world. Use our offering and our lives to bring a realization of your reign among us. Extend your realm by re-creating the church as a true representation of Jesus Christ. May we be humble, teachable, and faithful as we seek to lead others into covenant community with you. Amen.

*Hymn #193 "O Love, How Deep, How Broad"

*Benediction

Postlude "O Love How Deep" John Dunstable

The bulletins today are sponsored in loving memory of Bob and Shirley Frey by Bonnie, Nancy, Bob, and families.

Mission Statement of PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH:

Our task is to proclaim the Living Word of God, which empowers us to care for and share with our community and the world.

Vision Statement of PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH:

Serving the glorious God, claimed by Jesus, and inspired by scripture, honoring our history, with renewed commitment we will reach out to our community and the world through worship, spirit enriching programs, and outreaching mission.

^{*}All who are able, please stand.

... Things of Interest to Our Palm Schwenkfelder Family...

This week, please keep in your daily prayers:

The family of Florence Stauffer, Sandy Zuchero, Janet Esposito, Alice Davis, Lucile Jones, Jeff Treichler, Mary and Heinz Herrmann, Rick Jones, Bryan Schwoyer, Clara Graber, Anna Bieler, Earl Yerger, Donald Long, Jen Fries, Jean Gentry, Doris Masemore, Wanda Gentry, Margaret Wallinger, Reverend Ed Winslow, Ernie Guldin, Vern Weller, Betty Serff, Mary Jane Burianek, Karen Freed, Donald Cook, Dave Jaeger, Robert Margerum, Mary Hartman, Helen Miller, Rob Ziegler, Kathy Bartman, John Hathaway, Betty Pope. Please also keep in your prayers the men and women serving in the United States Military. This month from our Schwenkfelder Prayer list we uplift the Central Schwenkfelder Church.

Bible Study

The online Bible Study will update our reflection on childhood in 1 Samuel, based on David's childhood. We last visited this ongoing issue in October 2012. Take part in the discussion by contacting Rick Jones or the Church Office with an email address.

February Kindness Look-Out

Sunday School Teachers and the Board of Christian Education, we are calling you to be on the look-out for our Palm youth acting kind. Punch cards are now located in the Narthex. You may punch the card yourself or you may ask the youth to punch their card. Thank you for helping!

"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" Matthew 4:19

February Palm Youth Birthdays

Happy Birthday to...

Andrew Pence (2/4), Stacey May (2/6), Sam Pusey (2/26)

Lent Food Drive

During the Lenten season, the youth will be collecting food for Open Link. Please feel free to drop off food items anytime from now until Easter.

Lent Service Transportation

If anyone would like to attend any or all of the community Lent services, but are in need of transportation, please feel free to call Barb Master at 610-295-2190.

Egg Hunt Donations

Our annual Youth Egg Hunt is coming up on Palm Sunday, March 29^{th} . To prepare for this day, please bring home a brown bag of a dozen empty plastic eggs and fill them with goodies. Return the filled plastic eggs, in the original bag, to the Narthex. Other donations for the day include dollar store type items for the prize table. Please bring these donations to the Narthex as well. Please return eggs and donations by Sunday, March 15^{th} . Thanks for your help \odot

Helpful Egg Filling Tips: Please refrain from taping the eggs closed. Please return the eggs in their original bag. If you are placing unwrapped candy in the egg, then please wash the egg out first. Egg filling ideas include, but are not limited to: candy, coins, trinkets, and stickers.

Annual Report Presentation

Today, following the worship service, the Board of Trustees will present the Annual Report for 2014.

Annual Report/Directories

Copies of the annual report and directory were mailed to each household. If you would like to have additional reports or directories for other adult members in the household, you may pick them up in the Narthex.

Donations of Finger Foods

After the Community Lenten Service held at Palm Schwenkfelder Church **this Wednesday**, we will be serving refreshments. If you would like to contribute to the selection of delicious treats, please bring your food donations to the kitchen before the church service.

First Monday Community Meal

The Deacons of Palm Church are sponsoring a free community meal at Pennsburg UCC on Monday, March $2^{\rm nd}$. We will provide, prepare and serve dinner. Volunteers are needed: 6 people to cook and prepare the meal between 3:00pm - 6:00pm, and 8 to10 people to help serve, box up leftovers and clean up from 5:45 - 7:45pm. Monetary donations and food donations will be needed. Change Our Hearts collections will be taken on the Sundays in March. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the narthex. If you would like to help, please see Kevin or Barb Master. Youth are welcome to help!

Goodie Boxes Contributions

Can you help make a monetary donation to our annual GOODIE BOX project? We want our young people to know that we are thinking of them while they are away in college or in the military. We will be sending them some special treats along with greetings from our congregation & youth. If you would like to help support this outreach program, please place your donation in an envelope entitled "GOODIE BOX DONATION" and put it in the offering plate or the church office. Any questions, please contact Karen Schultz at schultz.karen12@gmail.com or 215-679-6747. Thank you!

Change Our Hearts Offering

On Sundays in February and March, we will have a "Change our Hearts" collection. Your coins (paper money also cheerfully accepted!) will be used to defray the food cost of the First Monday Community Meal at Pennsburg UCC. Members of Palm Church will prepare the meal on Monday, March 2nd. Thanks for your participation!

Ham, Cheese, and Palm's "World Famous" Pickled Cabbage Help in the Fight Against Cancer!!

On Sunday, March 8th, Palm's Relay for Life Team will be selling quarter pounder ham and cheese sandwiches as well as our delicious homemade pickled cabbage. No advanced orders will be taken, so mark your calendar and be sure to visit our table in the Narthex following worship. Sandwiches are \$3.00 each and pickled cabbage will be sold in pints (\$3.00 each) or quarts (\$5.00 each). All proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society's research and patient services programs.

One Great Hour of Sharing



One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) has been through many transitions, but the goal of raising funds for disaster relief, development, and humanitarian aid, through special gift offerings to be used around the world has remained an unwavering mission. On

March 15, 2015, Palm Schwenkfelder Church will participate in the special gift collection for One Great Hour of Sharing. "I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. As it is written, "The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little" 2 Corinthians 8:13-15.

Portrayal of The Last Supper - The Passion Play

Join us at Palm Church on Sunday, March 29th at 5:30pm for <u>The Passion Play</u> presented by members of Huff's Church, directed by Carl Arner. Huff's Church is proud to have shared 82 presentations of The Passion Play over the past 37 years. And now, Palm Church Deacons are excited to be able to share this with you. Admission is free.

Treasurer Report - January, 2015

	<u>January</u>	Year to Date
Operating cash on hand 1/1/2015	\$ 29,325.78	\$ 29,325.78
Operating Income Received	\$ 13,904.22	\$ 13,904.22
Operating Expenses	\$ 36,393.43	\$ 36,393.43
Operating cash on hand 1/31/2015	\$ 6,836.57	\$ 6,836.57

Ladies' Aid Easter Candy

Get your sweet tooth ready! The Ladies' Aid will be making Easter candy again this year. There will be chocolate covered peanut-butter eggs and coconut eggs, as well as the possibility of a few other sweet surprises. The candy will be for sale on Sunday, March 22nd and Sunday, March 29th. We always need extra hands in making the candy, so we are asking for help on Thursday morning, March 19th at 9:00am to mix and roll the eggs, and also on Friday evening March 20th at 6:00pm to dip and package the eggs. Please make plans to join us for some sweet fun in the candy kitchen!

Pastoral Relations Committee

The Committee focus is to ensure optimum communication between the congregation and Pastor Nick and to that end, encourages questions or comments. Please feel free to contact any member of the committee: Jeff Stauffer, Dave Woodward, Gail Ferry, Lil Master, Ray Hausman, Doug Wallinger, Jean Ross, or David Luz. The next meeting of the Pastoral Relations Committee will be held **next Sunday, March 1**st, after the worship service, and it will be held in the Contemporary Issues Classroom.

Nursery

When there is no one available to supervise the nursery, parents are welcome to use the nursery but are responsible for their children. If anyone is interested in providing child supervision, please contact Gregg Hoffman.

MCC Mobile Canner Project

On March 23, 24, and 25, 2015 you can help feed the hungry here and abroad by graciously, lovingly, and compassionately contributing your money or your time to the MCC Mobile Canner Project at the MCC Material Resources Center (MRC). With an outpouring of your support, we can fill the needs of hundreds of thousands of starving people here and around the world. To make a tax-deductible contribution, your check may be made payable to "MCC Canner Project" and mailed to the MCC Material Resource Center, 737 Hagey Center Drive, Unit C, Souderton, PA 18964. Those interested in donating a few hours of their time to this three-day operation may contact the MCC at (267) 203 – 8074. For more information, please see the poster in the narthex, or go to www.mcc-harleysville.org click "Get Involved," then "Meat Canning" for more information about how, together, we can – in the name of Christ.

Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsorships

There are several upcoming dates open for sponsorship of our Sunday flowers and bulletins. Dates available for flower sponsorship on:

April 19th; May 3rd and 17th

We have openings for bulletin sponsorships on:

June 14th and 21st

The cost for flower sponsorship is \$50, and the cost for bulletin sponsorship is \$15.00. Please sign up on the chart in the hallway outside of the office. And, thanks!

Address Changes/Updates

As a service to our members, any address changes that come through the office will now be listed in the bulletin. There will also be a section in the Palm Leaves that will list new addresses. If you have any information on members who have may have moved, or if any of the addresses listed appear to be incorrect, please call the office to let us know. Thank You.

Lenten and Holy Week Schedule

Wednesday, February 25th Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4th St. Mark's Lutheran – Pennsburg at 7:30 p.m.

> Wednesday, March 11th Pennsburg UCC at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 18th St. Paul's Lutheran – Red Hill Church at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 25th St. John's Evangelical Lutheran – Sumneytown at 7:30 p.m.

> Palm Sunday, March 29th Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 10:15 a.m.

Youth Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 a.m.

The Passion Play at 5:30pm

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 3rd at 1:00 p.m.
St. Mark's Lutheran Church.
Walk begins at 12:00 p.m.
Fellowship at McDonald's Following the Worship Service

Easter Sunday Sunrise Worship, April 5th Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 7:00 a.m.

Covered-Dish Breakfast Following the Service.

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Easter Sunday Communion Worship Service

LADIES AID EASTER FLOWERS **ORDERS AND MONEY DUE BY MARCH 15, 2015**

	Quantity	Each	<u>Price</u>	
6" Mums – Assorted Colors	x	\$6.00 =	\$	
1 Bloom Hyacinths – Asst'd Colors	x	\$3.00 =	\$	
3 Bloom Hyacinths – Asst'd Colors	x	\$7.00 =	\$	
4 Bloom Tulips – Asst'd Colors	x	\$4.00 =	\$	
6 Bloom Tulips – Asst'd Colors	x	\$7.00 =	\$	
2 Bulb Daffodils	x	\$4.00 =	\$	
4 Bulb Daffodils	x	\$7.00 =	\$	
White Lilies	x	\$7.00 =	\$	
Colored Lilies – 2 Bulb: (color is subject to availability)				
Yellow	x	\$7.00 =	\$	
Pink	X	\$7.00 =		
Red		\$7.00 =		
	Grand Total for	r Order =	\$	
Given in Honor of:				
Given in Memory of:				
- Make checks payable to "Ladies Aid Society"				

- Place all completed orders in the lockbox on the door to the Church Office.

Name:	Telephone:
1 10411101	rerepriene:

Please note: All flowers will be used to decorate the church on Easter Sunday. Each person is responsible for picking up their flowers after the church service on April 5, 2015.



February 22, 2015

Lenten Reflection

Rev. William P. Worley, Conference Minister, PSEC

"That they may all be one." It's not just a motto; it's a mission. Bringing God's people together. That is what we do. The United Church of Christ is committed to an intentional and radical hospitality that welcomes a beautiful rainbow of people to The Table. But everyone is capable of falling short, of failing to pay attention and missing the mark of the ideals and values to which they aspire. We pay particular attention to those "missed marks" in Lent—the ones that keep others from the Table and those that keep us from fully opening ourselves to God.

Lent is a time of repentance "to move beyond the mind you have" or "to think differently afterward." Both understandings say more than just "sinner change your cheating ways." To think differently afterwards suggests an awakening to the notion that our past thinking has been wrong. And so, consequently, was our past acting.

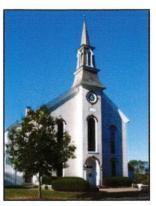
Some of Jesus' first Gospel words are, "Repent and believe the Kingdom of God is near." Think differently afterwards and know that the kingdom of God is here. That is where the good stuff of life begins. To discover and live into the kingdom, we stop waiting for Jesus to come and do our work for us. We step from terrified spaces of rightness, look at the vastness and complexity and mystery of the universe and say, "Wow, I don't know. Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe we can work together. Maybe all can be one." And in that space, we'll hear our still speaking God say to us collectively, "around the Table, in My presence, you already are."

We invite your to join one of the four Lenten Awakening groups meeting at various dates, times, and locations throughout our Conference at Glenside UCC in Glenside, Maidencreek Church in Blandon, St. Luke's UCC in Ottsville, and St. Luke's UCC in Trappe. Our focus book is **Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth** by Richard J. Foster. It is a true spiritual classic, and remains TIMELY in a world yearning to connect with the holy. D. Elton Trueblood writes, "There are many books concerned with the inner life, but there are not many that combine real originality with intellectual integrity." Although there is no fee, please register online at **psec.org** to aid leaders in their preparation.

Getting to Know:

Wentz's UCC

3246 Skippack Pike, Lansdale PA 19446



In 2012, Wentz's UCC celebrated 250 years at our present site and 300 years as a worshipping congregation. We are in the process of refocusing on our mission for the next 250 years. We realize the many ways of communicating with the wider church and the world. We are currently creating a new, more interactive web site.

Christian education is a labor of love, from our worship services and Bible studies, to music and community outreach. We participate with six other local churches in Community Lenten Services. We have various services during the Easter and Christmas

seasons. We close the summer season with a "Blessing of the Animals" service.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord." Music at Wentz's is a big part of our lives. We are blessed to have talented musicians in our angelic choirs, chime and handbell choirs, flute, brass, drum, woodwind, guitar, violin, and our piano and organ. Wentz's Veterans Day Handbell Concert and the Holiday Concert during our annual Christmas Bazaar make a truly joyful noise.

Our members care about the community and respond to its needs. We support local food banks like Manna on Main Street. Our youth participate in a bowlathon to benefit Mary's Shelter. We also support Bethany Children's Home, Lancaster Seminary, Christmastime at Oak Park Elementary, the Center for Loss and Bereavement in Skippack, and Cedars AA Group (who have been meeting at Wentz's for almost 40 years). Wentz's also has a Shawl Ministry that offers comfort in times of sorrow and joy.

Last year we began supporting Greenheart for a wonderful culture exchange. We hosted students from other countries as they continued learning English for three weeks during the summer. We hope to be able to participate again.

Wentz's enjoys group fellowships with Bible Study, the Youth Beach Retreat, and Family Movie Night. We love to break bread together at our Dining-Outs, annual Fastnächt Covered-Dish Dinner, Mother/Daughter Banquet, and the annual Youth Group Luncheon and Dessert competition.

The youth are a blessing and enhance their Christian knowledge with programs like Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, the Regional and National Youth events. Our scholarship programs help to continue their educational journey.

The Reverend Antonio L. Villareal has served as pastor since 1999. To learn more about our ministry, visit our website: **wentzsucc.org**.



Prayers are requested for Wentz's UCC in Lansdale and Rev. Antonio L. Villareal.



Empowering Youth to End Domestic Violence

WHAT CAN I DO IF MY TEEN IS IN AN UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP?

- Tell your teen you're concerned about his/her safety. Point out that
 what's happening isn't "normal." Everyone deserves a safe and
 healthy relationship. Offer to connect them with a professional, like a
 counselor, who they can talk to confidentially.
- Be supportive and understanding. Stress that you're on their side.
 Provide information & non-judgmental support. Let your teen know that it's not their fault and no one "deserves" to be abused. Make it clear that you don't blame them and you respect their choices.
- Believe them and take them seriously. Your teen may be reluctant to share their experiences in fear of no one believing them. As you validate their feelings and show your support, they can become more comfortable and trust you with more information. Be careful not to minimize your teen's situation due to age, inexperience or length of their relationship.
- Help develop a safety plan. One of the most dangerous times in an abusive relationship is when the victim decides to leave. Be especially supportive during this time and try to connect your teen to support groups or professionals that can help keep them safe.
- Remember that ultimately your son/daughter must be the one who
 decides to leave the relationship. There are many complex reasons
 why victims stay in unhealthy relationships. Your support can make
 a critical difference in helping your son or daughter find their own
 way to end their unhealthy relationship.

National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline 1-866-331-9474

Materials provided by the U.P. Domestic Violence Task Force, a program of





TOGETHER, WE CAN FOOD FOR TOMORROW!

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them.

Proverbs 3:27 NLT

The Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is a relief, service, and peace agency of the North American Mennonite and Brethren in Christ churches. MCC reflects the biblical call to care for the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the sick, and the imprisoned.

You can help feed the hungry by contributing your money and/or time in support of the MCC Mobile Canner Project, which will be at the MCC Material Resource Center (MRC) from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on March 23, 24, and 25, 2015.

If you are interested in donating a few hours of your time to this three-day operation, contact either the MRC at 267-203-8074 or the following individuals: Glenn C. Moyer at 215-723-0888, Tana Godshall at 215-565-5096, or Earl Young at 610-287-1503. Your tax-deductible contributions may be made payable to "MCC Canner Project" and mailed to the MCC Material Resource Center, 737 Hagey Center Drive, Unit C, Souderton, PA 18964.

In years past, thanks to help from people like you, our local operation processed enough Mennonite meat to provide over 120,000 vital protein-filled meals. This year it is our commitment to again meet that goal. Your support in the form of manpower and monetary donations is critical to this unique program that works not only to feed the hungry but to heal a fractured and broken world through the simple acts of giving and sharing. Go to mcc-harleysville.org, click "Get Involved," then "Meat Canning" for more information on how, together, we can food for tomorrow.

This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Sunday, February 22

9:00am Sunday School

10:15am Sunday Worship Service

11:30am Annual Meeting

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (1 Peter 3:18-22)

Monday, February 23

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Mark 1:9-15)

Tuesday, February 24

8:00am Quilters

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Genesis 9:8-17)

7:00pm Boy Scouts

7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 25

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Matthew 20:1-16)

5:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm Boy Scouts Board of Review 7:30pm Community Lenten Service @ Palm

Thursday, February 26

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Psalm 25:1-7)

Friday, February 27

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Psalm 25:8-15)

Saturday, February 28

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Psalm 25:16-22)

Sunday, March 1

9:00am Sunday School

10:15am Sunday Worship Service

11:30am Board of Music Ministry Meeting

11:30am Pastoral Relations Committee

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

PO Box 66 Palm PA 18070 Office Phone: 215 – 679 – 5321

833 Gravel Pike

Fax: 215 – 679 – 2650

Pastor Nick's Cell Phone: (267) 374 - 5691

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:15 a.m.

Church Office Hours

Tuesday through Thursday 8:00am – 4:00pm Friday 8:00am – 3:00pm

www.palmschwenkfelderchurch.com

Church Administrator E-mail: palmadministrator@comcast.net

Church Office Email: palmschwenkfelder@comcast.net

Pastor's E-mail: palmpastor@comcast.net

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Serving You at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Ministers: All Church Members Pastor: Rev. Nicholas Pence Pastor Emeritus: Ronald R. Krick Director of Music: Ed Bieler Children's Choir: Gail Ferry

Children's Choir Accompanist: Joan Pusey

Junior Bells: Beth Croll

Senior Bells: Joanne and David Luz

Organist: Peg Jacob

Church Administrator: J. Daniel Ferry

Youth Director: Barbara Master

Sexton: Kevin Master 484 – 358 – 1684

Greeter: Kevin Master

Ushers: Glenn Hoffman, Craig Kriebel, Tom Long, Tammy Long

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman 610 – 845 – 7208

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