



# CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

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*We joyfully  
welcome  
and nurture  
all people  
by providing  
a vibrant  
Christ-centered  
community  
of faith,  
dedicated to  
spiritual growth  
through  
worship, study  
and service.*

## Easter and Holy Week Services

### Holy Week Schedule

#### Palm Sunday Worship – April 13

Families are invited to join the Palm Parade at the 11:00 a.m. service, and we will celebrate the baptisms of our Pastors' Class participants.

#### Maundy Thursday – April 17

7:00 p.m., Sanctuary. In remembrance of Jesus' last supper, we gather to sing hymns, read scripture and celebrate communion.

#### Good Friday – April 18

**12:15 p.m.** – Experience the darkest day on the Christian calendar with worship, readings, hymns and solos. A 15-minute organ prelude begins at noon with worship following at 12:15 p.m.

**7:00 p.m.** – The Chancel Choir and Chamber Orchestra will present **Dale Ramsey's "Requiem."** This work is Dale's most recent choral work and is one of incredible beauty and solemnity.

### Easter Sunday – April 20

Celebrate the miracle of Easter at Country Club Christian Church. Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching.

#### Special Service Times

**8:00 a.m.** – Worship in the Sanctuary, led by our clergy.

**9:30 and 11:00 a.m.** – Worship in the Sanctuary, led by our clergy, the Chancel Choir and the Kansas City Brass.

No Sunday school for children and youth. Child care available for all services.

**Complimentary Easter Breakfast – 7:30-9:30 a.m.** Begin Easter with a complimentary breakfast in Social Hall.

## Special Easter Offering to Help Refugees

Helping refugees abroad and locally is the theme for the 2014 Easter offering. The Outreach Council has selected two projects to share in the offering.

The first project is Week of Compassion, the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. Week of Compassion is providing relief to the estimated 8 million people displaced by the Syrian Civil War. Many have fled to neighboring Jordan,

Lebanon and Turkey. Meanwhile in Syria itself millions of people lack access to water, medical care, food, shelter and other basic humanitarian needs. Week of Compassion continues to provide support to the ACT (Action by Churches Together) alliance as well as grants through Global Ministries to local partners in the region.

The second project selected is the work of Jewish Vocational Services and Cultivate KC in their efforts to help refugees. Cultivate KC

*continued on page 2*



# Mission, Vision & Identity Project Underway

## By Jared Rose, Board Chair

Last year the Congregational Board began a project to study our mission, identity, and vision. This includes a serious look at new marketing approaches, a new name, and new signage.

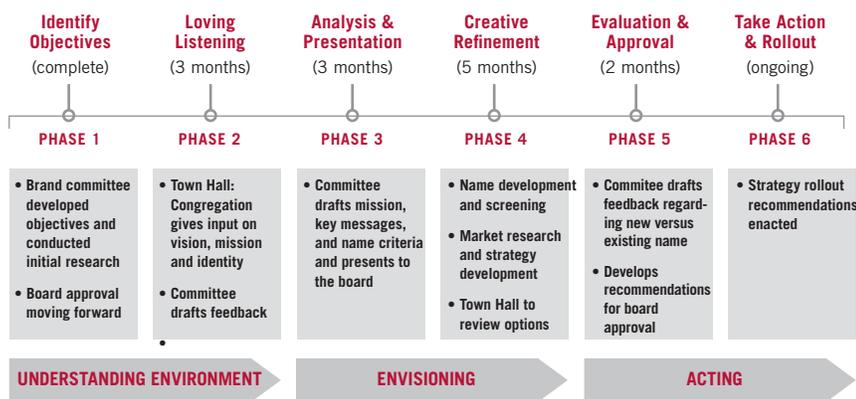
Why are we doing this? Our church is doing better than many others, and we have a great history to be proud of. But we do face challenges moving forward. For example, our recent assessment of the Ministry to Children, Youth and Families revealed that we only average about 20 children per week in Sunday School classes, and a congregation of our size should average about 60.

So although we could be content with our present success, we don't want to become complacent. Looking forward, we want to make sure that the message we are sending to the community reflects our mission, identity, and vision.

An important Town Hall meeting has been scheduled for April 27, at 12:15 p.m. in the Social Hall. This event will be a chance for the congregation to reflect on our past and share our dreams about the future.

A timeline for this entire project can be found below. It will involve collaboration between the Committee formed to analyze these issues, the Congregational Board, and the congregation as a whole. After the Town Hall, the Committee will draft a mission statement and name criteria and will present those items to the Board for approval. If the Board approves the Committee will discuss potential names and will do market research on those names, as well as our current name. After potential names are chosen, those will be discussed along with our current name at another Town Hall with the entire congregation. Finally, the Committee will make recommendations to the Board.

### Country Club Christian Church Mission, Vision and Identity Project



What is the message we want to give the community about who we are and what we're about? How can our message and identity honor our past, reflect our theology and serve our neighbor? Potential outcomes include new marketing approaches, a new name, new signage.

## Faith Formation Groups

### Embracing an Adult Faith

This class is for those seeking a richer understanding of issues in contemporary Christian practice and theology. Led by Lauren Weinholt. Cost is \$13 including book. The class will meet Mondays, Mar. 31 through Apr. 28, 6:30-8:00 p.m., (Rm. 201). RSVP to Lauren at laurenw@cccckc.org.

### Faith Academy

Designed for those who seek to stretch the mind and expand the heart to explore new paths of faithful living, Faith Academy involves reading an academic text and discussing it in class with a clergy person or professor as mentor and guide. Spring session will be led by Mike Graves, Professor of Preaching at St. Paul School of Theology. The book is *The Misunderstood Jew* by A.J. Levine. Mon., Apr. 7, 14, 21, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### Reel Faith

Watch "The Way Way Back," enjoy pizza and then discuss the movie to see what images of faith are captured by the film. Meet at the Sulgrave Regency Condominiums in the movie theater. Led by Phil and Patty Love. Sun., May 4, 6:00 p.m. Call Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917 to sign up.

## Easter Offering, *continued from page 1*

and Catholic Charities have a program called New Roots for refugees. This program works with refugees who have settled in the Kansas City area. Jewish Vocational Services offers a number of programs to help refugees including Refugee Resettlement Services, Refugee Employment Services, a Refugee Relationship Enhancement program and an Immigration Counseling program.

These two projects will each receive half of this year's Easter Offering.



# The World Is Not a Stage

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Jesus said, “Whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door.” If Jesus had been a friend of Shakespeare’s he might have said, “No William, the world is not a stage.”

Jesus’ instructions on living the spiritual life are very clear: Beware of practicing your piety in front of others. Pray real prayers, not empty words. Where your treasure is your heart will be also.

We are in the middle of the season of Lent, a time in the church when we spend many days reflecting on what God wants us to do with our lives. This is

when we honestly and openly ponder our failures, our shortcomings and our sins. This is not easy work.

Being alone in the silence and nothing else save for the Spirit of God can be intimidating. The very first time I intentionally spent time in quiet, reflecting on my need for God, I don’t mind telling you I was afraid. I have been on some pretty scary plane flights. I had a terrifying car wreck that left me headed northbound in the south bound lane. I’ve had two very serious surgeries. But never have I been as frightened as I was in that first moment of silence.

When we come face to face with God we encounter a mirror on our souls. The fear of that vision tempts us to run away.

That temptation is strong but in this season of quiet introspection see if you can find the courage to ask these questions: In what ways have you fooled yourself? What are your patterns of denial? Where are you most disobedient? What is controlling your life, keeping you from the freedom of the Gospel?

There are more questions but you get the point. The final question is this: What is your relationship with God? Have the desires of your heart so crowded your life that there is no longer any room for the Holy One of the Universe?

The answers to these questions may not be easy to face but at the end of the day, at the end of the journey, grace is waiting to welcome us home. The first step begins with trust in the mercy and love of God.

Grace and peace to you,

## Lenten Sermon Series: Hope Between the Shadows

When are you the most hopeful? When everything is going along great or when things are tough and you’re not sure what is going to happen next? The Bible is full of insights that help us see that sometimes the shadow moments in life, times that appear to be almost too much to handle, are the very places where God’s hope and grace are most fully revealed. In this sermon series we will linger in the shadows long enough to discover that the Spirit of God is already there. Dr. Glen Miles preaching.

Mar. 30 – Unfailing Kindness, Psalm 23

Apr. 6 – Rev. Carla Aday preaching

## Worship with us!

**Service Times: 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.**

**Lenten Sermon Series:  
Hope Between the Shadows**

**Mar. 30**  
Unfailing Kindness  
*Psalm 23*

**Apr. 6**  
Rev. Carla Aday preaching

**Apr. 13 - Palm Sunday**  
Dr. Glen Miles preaching

**Apr. 20 - Easter Sunday**  
Dr. Glen Miles preaching  
Services at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Green Team Presents Class

On Thur., Apr. 10, the Green Team will present *The Not Too Big Vegetable Garden*, led by Marty Ross, Garden Journalist, at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. You don't need to plant a 30-foot row of anything to have a great time growing your own vegetables. Small vegetable gardens are really rewarding. In a plot, a pot, or a raised bed, you can harvest crops from spring through frost (and even into winter). Learn how to choose, plant, and grow vegetables you love, without a heck of a lot of work. Free and open to the public. No registration required. Door Prizes. For further information call 816-665-4456.



## April Lunch Bunch: The Monuments Men



Join us on Tues., Apr. 15 when MacKenzie Mallon, a researcher in the European Painting and Sculpture department at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, will discuss the ownership history of artworks during the Nazi occupation in Europe.

Designed for senior adults but everyone is welcome. Cost is \$9.50 for lunch and program. RSVP to Mary Margaret 816-333-4917 or [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org).

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## New Items at The Well

Have you been in The Well lately? Check out new items from the recent Nicaragua mission trip, children's books about Easter, and devotional books. The Well, our book and gift store on the ground floor of the church.



The Well also features gifts for everyone, including wonderful Fair Trade items from around the world. Shoppers will find jewelry, scarves, CDs and handmade items. The proceeds go to Week of Compassion, which provides emergency disaster relief to peoples around the world.

You can also shop at home through Amazon to benefit Week of Compassion. If you use the Amazon search function on The Well's web page, a percentage of the purchase price is directed to Week of Compassion.



Go to [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org) and click The Well in the top right-hand corner, then follow the instructions.

The Well is open on Sunday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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## Roger James Honored by French Government

Seventy years after his participation in the battle of Rittershoffen, Roger F. James of Raymore, MO, received the highest award offered by the French Republic: Knight of the French Legion of Honor for services in World War II. The 90-year-old James was a corporal tank gunner in Company "C," 48th Tank Battalion, 14th Armored Division. For an American to receive the medal, the action must have taken place on the soil of France and the recipient must have received at least two United States Army awards.



Roger with Dr. Miles after receiving the award.

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## Memorial Easter Lily Sale

Honor a loved one by purchasing a memorial Easter lily. The lilies will be displayed in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, Apr. 20 and may be taken home after the 11:00 a.m. service or donated for our homebound members. Prices are \$20 for single stem plants (four to five blooms) and \$35 for double stems (seven to 10 blooms). The deadline for ordering lilies is Apr. 6. Pick up an order form in the main office. Please return the completed form, with payment, to Mary Margaret House by Sun., Apr. 6. Your payment is the confirmation of your order. If you have questions, contact Mary Margaret House, [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.



## Ray's Diner

By Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth



Scott and I recently spent some time in Excelsior Springs, MO at The Elms. Neither of us had been to Excelsior Springs but upon the recommendation of several of you, we decided to give it a try. During our brief 24-hour visit to this quaint little town, I couldn't help but notice the similarities between that tiny metropolis and church.

When we arrived in Excelsior Springs, we managed to find our way to Main Street and spent a few hours perusing various gift boutiques and antique stores.

Our last stop was at Willow Springs Mercantile, an intimate little wine and coffee shop. We were greeted by a bubbly woman who immediately made us feel right at home. Before we knew it, I had a glass of wine in my hand and Scott was enjoying a cup of espresso. Daphne and her husband, Jim, have owned the shop for nearly a decade, moving to Excelsior Springs from Kansas City. Their intent 10 years ago was to buy a fixer-upper and spend their free time remodeling it. Daphne admitted to us that she never intended to call Excelsior Springs "home," but quickly fell in love and hasn't looked back. She went on to tell us what to eat where and what to do for fun.

"Tomorrow for breakfast, you must go to Ray's Diner just up the street. And here's what you need to order: a cinnamon roll, an order of biscuits and gravy on top of their breaded pork tenderloin, and last but not least, get their 'garbage sandwich.' It's not on the menu, but you'll love it. Oh, and you'll want to split all this." The next morning, as directed, we headed to Ray's for the "clot and clog" special. I'm fairly certain we sat in someone else's "pew" based on the looks we got in the tiny diner. We placed our order per Daphne's instructions and sure enough, the food was just as amazing as promised. As we left Excelsior Springs later that day, we couldn't stop talking about what an absolutely delightful visit we had had. With little to no expectations going into the weekend, we found ourselves planning a return trip to see our new friends Daphne and Jim.

I wonder if our experience in Excelsior Springs is that different from folks who choose to visit Country Club Christian Church. Would I "recommend" my church to someone with as much passion and enthusiasm as Daphne did local eateries? Will guests be welcomed as warmly as we were in that quaint little town, even if they sit in someone else's booth? I would hope my answer and yours would be a resounding "yes." After all, just like that meal at Ray's Diner, good food, whether spiritual or served on a plate, is best when shared.

*Lauren*

## Visitor Information Luncheon

You're invited to an informational gathering to learn more about the church, meet the ministers and ask questions about the denomination and church at a luncheon on Sun., Mar. 30, from 12:15-1:30 p.m. For more information or to reserve your spot at the luncheon, please contact Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth, at 816-333-4917 or laurenw@cccckc.org.

## Grace at Work Is April 5

### Last Chance to Sign Up

Do you have the passion to volunteer, but don't know where to start? Do we have an opportunity for you! Join us at the annual Grace at Work event on Sat., Apr. 5, a fun-filled half-day volunteer event open to all ages and abilities. Grace at Work supports our church and area organizations through our participation in various hands-on projects. Many different volunteer opportunities are available. Through your participation you will have the opportunity to experience fellowship, while assisting others in need and creating visible change in our community.



## Upcoming Races May Affect Traffic Routes to Church

Two upcoming races may influence your travel plans to and from church. Please be aware of these events and plan accordingly.

**Sat., Apr. 12** – Rock the Parkway Half Marathon. Portions of Ward Parkway will be closed from approximately 7:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

**Sun., Apr. 27** – Sabates Eye Centers Trolley Run and Walk. Beginning at 7:45 a.m. at 75th Street and Wornall, this race heads north to the Plaza.

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## Upcoming Youth Events

### Youth Group

**Sun., Mar. 30 – Share Your Story,** 5:30-7:30 p.m. John Stewart ...and no, we don't mean of the Daily Show. A member of our congregation will be here to share a part of his faith journey with us. You won't want to miss it!

**Sun., Apr. 6 – NewHouse Game Night,** 5:30-7:30 p.m. We will meet at church at 5:30 p.m., eat a snack dinner on the road, and spend an hour hosting a game night for the women and children at the NewHouse domestic violence shelter. We will be back for pickup at 7:30 p.m.

**Volunteers Needed for Sunday Night Suppers** – There are still opportunities to bring a snack supper in May. Please sign up on SignUp Genius (<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AA5A623A0FC1-sunday1>) to bring a Sunday Night Snack Supper! Don't want to prepare a meal, but are willing to sponsor one? Cost is \$75 per meal. Sign up for a slot and write SPONSOR in your comment.

### Pastors' Class

**Wednesday night meetings,** 7:00 -8:30 p.m. in the Youth Center:

- Apr. 2 – Faith Mentor Session.
- Apr. 9 – Prep for baptism and faith statements.

**Sun., Apr. 13 – Palm Sunday and Baptisms.** Youth need to arrive by 10:15 a.m. for photos and preparation.  
**Thurs., Apr. 17 – First Communion** at Maundy Thursday service, 7:00 p.m.

### Family Night at Micah

Youth families are invited every second Monday of the month to serve together at Independence Boulevard Christian Church's Micah Ministry. The next opportunity will be Apr. 14. Meet at Independence Boulevard Christian Church at 5:00 p.m. to serve families in need.

### Northeast PartNerShip Chalk Walk April 26-27

Youth and their families are invited to work alongside our neighbors in the Northeast to create a beautiful chalk square at this annual festival. We are partnering with middle school students from Scuola Vita Nuova Charter School in the Northeast for the event. ALL church members and friends are invited to stop by anytime during the festival to see our youth working with their new friends on a beautiful work of art! The festival will be at the Kansas City Museum, 3218 Gladstone Blvd, Kansas City, MO. Sign up for shifts at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AA5A623A0FC1-northeast>

### Service Hours Opportunities

**Easter Egg Hunt** – Sun., Apr. 6, noon, George Hamilton Combs Chapel lawn. Middle school and high school volunteers are needed to help setup our very first Easter Egg Hunt.

**Prom Boutique** – Now accepting donations of dresses, suits, shirts, and accessories, all sizes. Please have your donations to Southwest Early College Campus by Apr. 4.

- Apr. 10 and 11, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Prom Boutique Prep
- Apr. 14-17 and Apr. 21-22, 10:00 a.m. to noon – Prom Boutique

If you would like to volunteer, please email Laura with the Kansas City MO school district by Apr. 7 at [Inagorne@kcpublicschools.org](mailto:Inagorne@kcpublicschools.org).

**VBS July 27-31** – Volunteer hours available for youth. Let Hayley know if you'd like to help.

### Children's Registration Update

Thanks to each of you for helping to make our welcoming and safety procedures the best they can be for each of our children!

We will be making a few adjustments to better streamline the child welcoming and safety procedure. We are basing these revisions on your input of what has not worked over the last six weeks as well as adding what we hope will improve our process.

Families will escort children to their classrooms to drop them off. Your child's name tag lanyard will be hanging on his/her classroom door. Attached to the name tag will be a wrist coil for YOU to wear. This wrist coil will have your child's name on it and will be required to pick the child up. This step is combining the security label with the name tag. We hope that it will improve the time it takes to welcome your child at the welcome table.

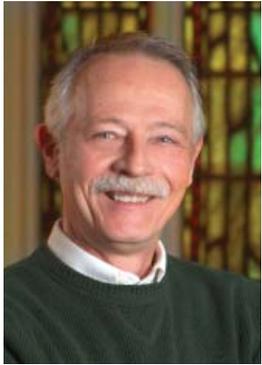
Pick-up will be the same as it has been so that we can ensure the safety of your children. Remember to have your wrist coil with you for pick-up.

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Monica Lewis.



## Requiem eternam dona eis, Domine

by Rev. David Diebold, Minister of Music



*Requiem eternam dona eis, Domine...* Grant them eternal rest, O Lord...so begins the Requiem Mass, a text that has been set to music continuously since the late 1400s. It is a group of texts that have offered comfort and healing to those that have lost loved ones to death for over 700 years.

When John Turley passed away in July 2012, Dale Ramsey composed a *Pie Jesu* (one of the portions of the Requiem) in his memory. Soon after Dale was drawn to complete the entire Mass and in December of that year, he completed the first draft of his Requiem for chorus, strings, flute, oboe and organ. The work is dedicated in memory of family and friends who were lost to cancer. The premiere was given last October at Village Presbyterian Church in Prairie Village. On Good Friday evening, April 18, our Chancel Choir will present the second performance of this work.

For those of you that are familiar with some of the many settings of this group of texts, Dale's work is similar to both the Duruflé and Fauré settings. The overall mood is sublime, solemn, and deeply profound. The writing for the chorus parts is elegant and full of truly inspired moments of text painting. In the final movement, for example, the text begins by imploring God for everlasting light to shine upon those that have passed from life into Mystery. Each voice part enters independently singing a line that gently descends from a high note, as if the light is truly gently falling from heaven itself. The entire Requiem is full of examples where the voices imitate the text and number far too many to recount here. Coupled with the orchestral writing, the listener is transported to another realm, where light and hope flow over them. While I have always been a fan of Dale's work, in my opinion, this is truly the best and most profoundly universal work of his career.

We are so obviously blessed to have a composer in our midst, and I extend the invitation to each of you to plan to attend our performance of his work. The service begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The Requiem itself is just over 30 minutes. Come and participate in the emotional outpouring of this elegant work on the most solemn day of the Christian year.

*David*

## Children and Families

### First Steps of Faithfulness

**Sun., Apr. 6, 9:55-10:55 a.m., Rm. 215**  
Parents with children under 3 are invited to join other families as we explore how your infant or toddler comes to know God and what our role as parents can be in fostering faithfulness.

### Omaha Zoo Overnight

#### May 3-4 for 3rd-5th graders

Travel by van to Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo for a campout in the Desert Dome. Evening activities include: night hike; games and activities; building tour and sleeping in the Desert. Sunday morning we will have breakfast, a morning hike, then tour the full zoo in small groups, eat lunch and return home. Cost is \$100 per person, which includes transportation and fees plus meals at the zoo. Sign up Mar. 30 in the Parlor. The deadline to sign up is Apr. 13. Contact Monica Lewis with questions at [monical@cccckc.org](mailto:monical@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

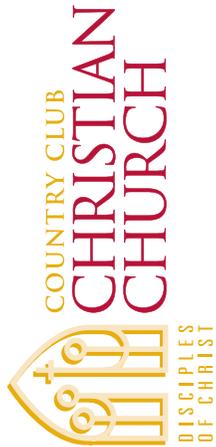
### VBS Early Registration

Vacation Bible School will be July 27-31. You can register children during the Easter Egg Hunt on Apr. 6.

### Save the Date:

**Apr. 6 – Easter Egg Hunt.** Noon, Chapel Lawn.

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Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

## A Few Spaces Available for 2014 Christian Community Camp

The 2014 camp at the YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park, CO, will be Aug. 2-9. The group of 60-90 folks from ages 1 to 91 stays in a newly remodeled lodge and enjoys home-cooked meals provided by volunteer chefs from our church. Cost is \$1,550 for a private room; \$350 for a bunk room. Food and activity fee of \$80 per person. For more information, contact Rev. Carla Aday at [carlaa@cccckc.org](mailto:carlaa@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

### PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Ms. Hayley Holt Interim Youth Director
Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister	Dr. Brian Mathias Associate Organist
Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
Rev. Monica Lewis Minister to Children, Youth and Families	Mr. Michael Patch Director of Children's and Youth Choirs
Rev. Joe Walker Interim Minister of Congregational Care	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communications
Mr. John D. Clemmer Business Administrator	Ms. Lauren Weinhold Director of Church Growth

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