

Volume 52  
Issue 12

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TULSA

# UUMC TULSA NEWS



## *Celebrate with us!*



### WORSHIP SERVICES at UUMC

Sunday mornings

11:00 am

The Sanctuary

at 2915 East Fifth Street Tulsa OK

and also

on the UUMC Face Book page

<https://www.facebook.com/uumctulsa>

UNIVERSITY  
UNITED METHODIST  
All are welcome. **Always.**

[uumctulsa.org](http://uumctulsa.org)

University United Methodist Church  
2915 East 5th Street Tulsa 74104

[www.uumctulsa.org](http://www.uumctulsa.org)

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Email Pastors at

[thematts@uumctulsa.org](mailto:thematts@uumctulsa.org)

WiFi Password: Uumc2020



### DIRECTORY

#### Co-Pastors

The Reverend Matt Austin  
The Reverend Matt Patrick

Dan Call, Director of Music  
Kathy Call, Organist/Music Assoc.  
Karen Cody, Preschool Director  
Tami Losoncy, Director of Business  
and Operations

Karen Manera, Treasurer  
Mike Hittle, Building Maintenance/  
Custodian

Tere Talley, Office Administrator  
Kendel Hall, Monthly Newsletter/  
Volunteer Coordinator

#### Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30am-2:30pm



December 2023

# Advent

*A Season of Hope  
& Expectation*

Church family -

It's that time of year again! As the stores fill their aisles with artificial trees and Santas, we are once again reminded that we are entering into the season of Advent, a significant chapter in our Christian calendar. As daylight fades, we're gearing up for the arrival of a transformative Light that promises to reshape our understanding. Our collective journey, rooted in the Gospels, unfolds like a story of rediscovery—where familiar truths take on a fresh perspective and unexpected sources bring us good news.

Together, we navigate the path leading to the manger, where our anticipation builds for the welcoming of the Christ child. This shared journey is more than a seasonal tradition, it's a collective effort to embody hope, peace, joy, and love. As we look ahead, we eagerly anticipate the unfolding of God's kingdom in the present moment. Join us as we navigate this exciting pilgrimage together!

Blessings,

The Pastors Matt



**December 3: Our Shocking Hope**

*Hebrews 6: 13-20*

**December 10: Our Just Peace**

*2 Peter 3: 8-15a*

**December 17: Our Fierce Joy**

*1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24; John 1: 6-8. 19-28*

**December 24: Love That Transforms Us**

*Luke 1: 46-55*

***Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Lessons and Carols***



BLUE CHRISTMAS  
 Monday, December 18th  
 6:30 pm  
 UUMC Sanctuary  
 A Service of Reflection

This season, full for many with holidays and rejoicing, can be hard for those who mourn and for those going through painful passages in their lives.

In this service, we recognize that not everyone feels joyful. We acknowledge our sadness and burdens, while seeking peace and comfort for our souls.

Everyone is welcome to this service of quiet music, readings and reflections. Please invite all who may find comfort with us.

Because sometimes, Christmas isn't necessarily the most wonderful time of the year.

UUMC MUSIC MINISTRIES PRESENT



**A ROCK SOLID  
 CHRISTMAS CONCERT**



*Dan and Kathy Call and the UUMC Chancel and Wesleyan Handbell Choirs invite you to enjoy an evening of holiday music in the*

**UUMC SANCTUARY  
 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023  
 ("The Year of the Rock")**

**5:00 pm**

Sampling Party following  
 in the Great Hall  
*Bring a treat to share!*



**CHRISTMAS EVE**

5 PM SERVICE  
 LESSONS & CAROLS

*It's what Christmas is all about*

Sanctuary  
 Sunday  
 12.24.2023  
 5:00-6:00 pm







¶ 252.1. *Purpose* - The church council shall provide for planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in the local church. It shall also provide for the administration of its organization and temporal life. It shall envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate the mission and ministry of the church. The church council shall be amenable to and function as the administrative agency of the charge conference (¶ 244).



It's the most wonderful time of the year !



It's almost impossible to acknowledge that the season of Advent has begun; Halloween and All Saints' Sunday already a memory. This season is full of opportunities to be the church, and I encourage you to participate in any way you can!

There is good news finally to report for the parsonage and repairs from the Father's Day storm. The roof and infrastructure repairs are completed. Interior work has now begun, to include mold abatement and also bathroom replacement. Hopefully it will wrap up before Christmas. It's been costly (our insurance deductible alone is \$25K) and at this point the church is operating in a deficit. So please do keep your tithes and offerings current, with our thanks.

Preparation of the 2024 Budget has begun, and pledges for estimated yearly giving are still being accepted. There is no amount, large or small, that won't be utilized to fund the mission of our church in the community. It takes every one of us to make a difference! And with Propel and Double Flag Coffee also contributing, we have great reason to keep a positive mindset.

Propel has been on point nonstop with the Winter Wonderland bazaar (very well done & very well attended) and the saga of our antiquated boiler system repairs continues. Our building systems are not for the faint of heart. There's no easy fix in any sense of the word when they fail. Unfortunately there are additional parts still needed to repair the boiler. And at some extra expense I might add. All of this to say there is a delay in completion. Thankfully we've had some mild temperatures in October & most of November, but as we get closer to December that's not going to be the case. The Administrative Board has approved the additional expenses as well as Propel's request to give a discounted tenant rate for December. [One hour attending Worship in a cold sanctuary is almost a laugh when you contrast it to an entire work week.] Donahue is doing everything possible to bring our heat back online as soon as possible, hopefully around Dec. 8th.

May this season of preparation for the arrival of the Christ child bring you great joy and a happy heart. Reach out to each other as we spread the gospel in word and in deed.

Blessings.  
Martha



and



p.s. Keep an eye out for an undercover project for the parsonage pantry in the coming days.

Ho Ho Ho. Shhhhhh...





The long-awaited church directory photos are now available online for your viewing pleasure! Simply go to the church website at [www.uumctulsa.org](http://www.uumctulsa.org). Once there, click on "Directory" to view the photos. Thanks to church photographer/videographer Ethan Cooper for the beautiful job he did taking all of the pictures! Enjoy!



**UUMC IS HERE FOR YOU!**

We have individuals who can run errands for you, do your grocery shopping, etc. Please contact any of the names on the list below or the church office (918-592-3633) for help.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CONTACT NUMBER</u>	<u>E-MAIL ADDRESS</u>
Becky Balsler	918-637-7457	ribkah@aol.com
Terri Callaway	918-688-7401	tlcajc@cox.net
Starla Fussell	918-640-0314	chittimwood@cox.net
Kendel Hall	918-688-7985	kendelhall@gmail.com
Brenda James	918-691-3768	rodiejames@gmail
Linda Post	918-894-9910	lapost629@gmail.com
Tere Talley	479-903-0438	gttalley@cox.net



**Giving thanks to all of you as we gathered food donations and financial contributions for our Kendall-Whittier Elementary Thanksgiving baskets!**

**Due to your tremendous generosity, we were able to gift five families with the food items necessary to prepare a Thanksgiving dinner (including the turkeys,) fresh fruit, household items (fabric detergent, fabric softener, toilet paper and paper towels) and a \$50 gift card!**

**Rev. Matt Austin delivered everything to the school on November 14th. Kendall-Whittier's family support services completed deliveries to families before the school's Thanksgiving holiday began.**

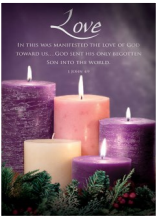



**Thank you, thank you church for blessing the Armstrong family, the Lopez family, the Neel family, the Sedwick family and the Woods family!**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>ADULT BIBLE STUDY 9:30 am (Parlor)</p> <p>11:00 am UUMC Sanctuary <a href="http://www.facebook.com/uumctulsa">www.facebook.com/uumctulsa</a></p>  <p>6:30 pm Internal Ministries Team via ZOOM</p> <p>06:00 pm NA-GH 07:00 pm ACA-Parlor</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>  <p>9:00am-2:00pm</p> <p>6:30 pm Internal Ministries Team via ZOOM</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>  <p>9:00am-2:00pm</p> <p>10:00 am Staff</p> <p>6:30 pm Prayer Time on FB</p> <p>6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p><i>I am done adulting. It is time to CRAFT</i></p> <p>Crafts &amp; Camaraderie</p> <p>1:00 pm Heritage Room</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>  <p>9:00am-12:00pm</p> <p>PRESCHOOL WINTER PROGRAM</p> 	<p><b>9</b></p>
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>ADULT BIBLE STUDY 9:30 am (Parlor)</p> <p>11:00 am UUMC Sanctuary <a href="http://www.facebook.com/uumctulsa">www.facebook.com/uumctulsa</a></p>  <p>6:30 pm Outreach Ministries Team via ZOOM</p> <p>06:00 p.m. NA-GH 07:00 p.m. ACA-Parlor</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>  <p>9:00am-2:00pm</p> <p>5:30 pm Worship Team Meeting- Heritage Room</p> <p>6:30 pm Outreach Ministries Team via ZOOM</p> <p>06:00 p.m. NA-GH 07:00 p.m. ACA-Parlor</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>  <p>9:00am-2:00pm</p> <p>10:00 am Staff</p> <p>6:30 pm Prayer Time on FB</p> <p>6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><i>I am done adulting. It is time to CRAFT</i></p> <p>Crafts &amp; Camaraderie</p> <p>1:00 pm Heritage Room</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>  <p>9:00am-2:00pm</p> <p><b>Holiday PARTY</b></p> <p>For Preschool Classes- Last Day</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>ADULT BIBLE STUDY 9:30 am (Parlor)</p> <p>Ad Board 12:15 pm</p> <p>Christmas Concert 5:00 pm and Sampling Party in Great Hall</p> 	<p><b>NO PRESCHOOL * WINTER BREAK * NO PRESCHOOL * WINTER BREAK * NO PRESCHOOL *</b></p>					<p><b>23</b></p>
<p>06:00 p.m. NA-GH 07:00 p.m. ACA-Parlor</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>  <p>Blue Christmas Service Sanctuary 6:30 pm Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>10:00 am Staff</p> <p>6:30 pm Prayer Time on FB</p> <p>6:30 pm Handbells (at Trinity Woods) 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (at Trinity Woods)</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><i>I am done adulting. It is time to CRAFT</i></p> <p>Crafts &amp; Camaraderie</p> <p>1:00 pm Heritage Room</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>





# at University United Methodist Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>24 Christmas Eve</b>	<b>25 Christmas Day</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<p><b>ADULT BIBLE STUDY</b> 9:30 am (Parlor)</p> <p>Christmas Eve Lessons &amp; Carols 5:00 pm Sanctuary</p> 	<p>NO PRESCHOOL * WINTER BREAK * NO PRESCHOOL * WINTER BREAK * NO PRESCHOOL * WINTER BREAK</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p><b>JOY LOVE PEACE BELIEVE</b></p> <p>06:00 p.m. NA-GH 07:00 p.m. ACA-Parlor</p>					
<b>31</b>	<p><b>JANUARY 1 2024</b></p>  <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY * NO PRESCHOOL * WINTER BREAK *</p> <p>06:00 p.m. NA-GH 07:00 p.m. ACA-Parlor</p>	<b>2</b>	<p><b>3</b> 9:00am-2:00pm</p>  <p>PRESCHOOL RESUMES</p> <p>6:30 pm Prayer Time on FB</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><i>I am done adulting. It is time to CRAFT</i></p> <p>Crafts &amp; Camaraderie</p> <p>1:00 pm Heritage Room</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>  <p>9:00 am-2:00 pm</p>	<b>6</b>
<p>11:00 am UUMC Sanctuary <a href="http://www.facebook.com/uumctulsa">www.facebook.com/uumctulsa</a></p> <p>Together in Covenant Renewal</p>						



*Lessons & Carols for Christmas*

**Christmas Eve At UUMC**

5:00 pm  
Sanctuary

**BIBLE STUDY**

Let's Dig In together

**THE FOUR GOSPELS**

Grace Campbell's Adult Bible Study class has begun a new study! They will be exploring the four Gospels, beginning with the Gospel of Matthew. The class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the church Parlor.



- 2 ~ Lily Oertel
- 3 ~ Scott Kirtley
- 6 ~ Jan Griffiths
- 7 ~ James Lane
- 7 ~ Rev. Matt Patrick

- 10 ~ Warren Hibbard
- 13 ~ Mike Hittle
- 14 ~ Hannah Cody
- 17 ~ Matt Trotter
- 18 ~ Donna Stuber

- 19 ~ Drew Druzynski
- 24 ~ Carol Ghere
- 24 ~ Gene Hart
- 25 ~ Susan Goins
- 27 ~ Doris Gustafson

**FOR HEALTH AND HEALING**

**Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers**

\* *Prayers for the family and friends of Suzan Pennington. Suzan passed away on November 1st.*

\* *Prayers for a quick, just and peaceful end to the war in Ukraine and to the war between Israel and Hamas.*

~UUMC Family

\* *Jerry Morgan passed away on November 1st. Please lift up his wife, Marcia, and their children.*

~Keith Austin

\* *Prayers for the Bordwines' granddaughter, Maria Everett. She is in the service and may be deployed soon.*

\* *Prayers for TU student, Jayden, who has been attending worship. She had to have stitches as a result of a haunted house visit.*

~Rev. Matt Austin

\* *Prayers for Grace Campbell as she continues to struggle with a myositis flare-up. She is unable to get in to see her doctor until January.*

~Gary and Tere Talley

\* *Continued prayers of healing for Wesley Ard.*

~Martha and Harvey Humes

\* *Prayers for my sister-in-law, Jeri Clark, who has been in the hospital.*

~Lisa Griffith

\* *Prayers for my friend, Kathy Swayne. She has been diagnosed with bone cancer and is now in hospice care.*

~Lynn Sampsell

\* *Prayers against the wars in Ukraine and Israel.*

\* *Prayers for my friend, Dean, who lost his mother. May he and his family feel the prayers of many.*

\* *Prayers for Lorna Scott's continued improvement. She is in rehab and has started walking exercises.*

\* *Pray for my dad's lungs that are 40% full of fibroids. They likely will not heal.*

\* *Pray for my Aunt Joyce and my Great Aunt Carol, both with health challenges.*

\* *Prayers for answers for me about a possible move to Palm Springs in 2024.*

\* *Prayers for my friend James, who is in rehab.*

\* *Prayers for Bishop Carlton Pearson's family as they mourn his passing.*

~Rob Detrick

\* *Prayers for our Gabby girl. She went to the rainbow bridge on Friday. She was our best companion for sixteen years.*

~Chris and Amber Turner



## PRAYERS UNCEASING

*Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers*

\* *One of my dearest friends and colleagues of many years has leukemia. Please keep Al Degan in your prayers. He is undergoing treatment at MD Anderson.*

~Martha Humes

\* *Prayers for time management with finals coming up and for navigating new relationships with others.*

~Allie Morrison

\* *Prayers for Kyra and Wayne Hamilton. They are members of First Baptist Church in Tulsa and Wayne rings in the Wesleyan Handbell Choir. Kyra had a mass in her brain. She had surgery and the surgeons were able to remove 95% of the mass, but she will still require both radiation and chemotherapy.*

~Dan Call

\* *Prayers for Sheila and Bruce Powers. Sheila is having severe health issues.*

~Joyce Polkinghorne

\* *Prayers for the Kendall-Whittier Elementary School families who were recipients of our Thanksgiving baskets. May they each have a blessed Thanksgiving.*

~Tere Talley

\* *Prayers for a private health concern.*

~Tami Losoncy

\* *Prayers for healing for gastric distress.*

~Diana Farmer

\* *Prayers for healing of Louis' hip so that he can walk without discomfort. He is waiting on scheduling of injections which will hopefully provide some relief before the end of November.*

~Lynn Bordwine

\* *Prayers for my 87-year-old uncle, Chester Denny Thomas. He is in a care facility in Tulsa and is not doing well.*

~Robert Thomas

\* *Prayers that all of the hostages will be released this week (November 26th).*

~Lynn Sampsell

\* *Prayers for peace in the world.*

~Gary Talley

\* *Prayers for the family of Susan Panciera, the organist at Boston Avenue United Methodist Church. Susan passed away on November 19th.*

~UUMC Choirs

\* *Please pray for the Self Family. Justin and Steph lost their newborn son November 14th. A little over a year ago, they lost a little boy, also. It's a sad time for our family. Thank you for the prayers.*

~Tamara Kindle

## Celebrations of the Congregation

\* *Joe Flores will celebrate his 63rd birthday on November 10th. I celebrate each and every day of his life!*

~Leah Flores

\* *Celebrating Gary's successful back surgery and the fact that his recovery is going so smoothly!*

~Tere Talley

\* *Celebrating 85 in attendance in worship on Consecration Sunday and for a wonderful Consecration Lunch afterward as we celebrated God's blessings together!*

~Tere Talley

\* *Celebrating Veda Williamson's birthday on Saturday, November 25th! She blesses so many people with her strong and loving spirit, her honest and unflinching view of all of life, her love for God and her inspiring singing voice and handbell expertise. What a friend I have in Veda! Thank You, Lord.*

~Kendel Hall

\* *We celebrate Mark and Shelly's 23rd anniversary and wish them a wonderful holiday season!*

~Gene and Alice Hart

\* *We celebrate our son and brother Noah's 23 birthday on Sunday November 26th, lifting up all of the joy, insights and love he has given us.*

~David, Kendel and Kaili Hall

\* *We will celebrate our 34th wedding anniversary on December 23rd. Our wedding was in the UUMC Sanctuary with a reception in the church parlor.*

~David and Kendel Hall

\* *Celebrating Martha Humes/ 70th Birthday and a wonderful "Super 70th" party on Saturday, November 25th in the church parlor!*

~Tere Talley

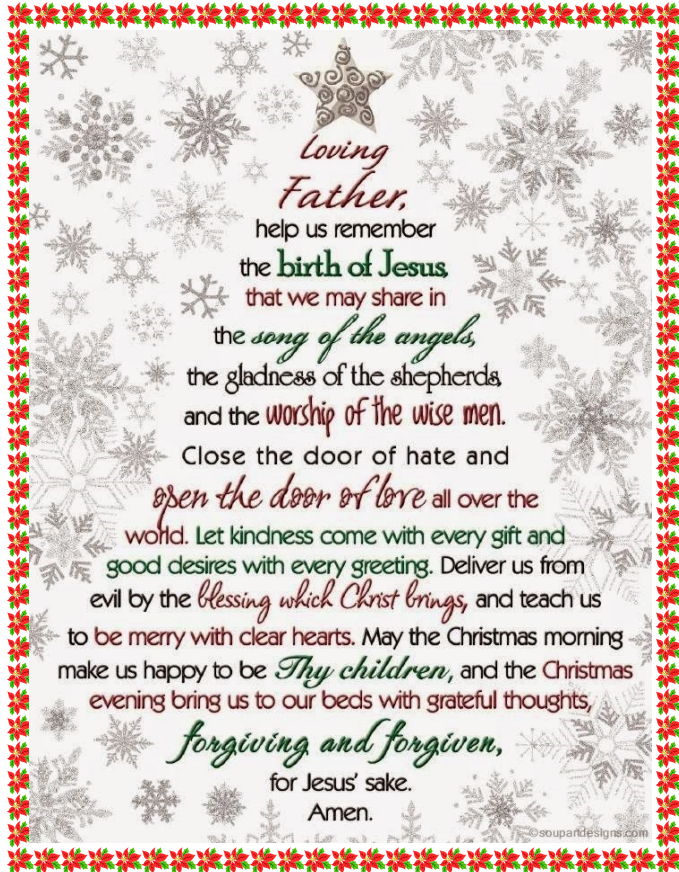


*A donation has been made  
to  
the UUMC Music Ministries  
in honor of  
Martha Humes' 70th birthday*

*by Gary and Tere Talley*

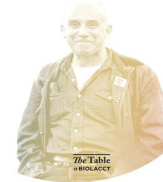


*"Maybe Christmas (he thought) doesn't come from a store.  
 Maybe Christmas-perhaps-means a little bit more. ~ The Grinch in Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas ~*


  
*Loving Father,*  
 help us remember  
 the **birth of Jesus**  
 that we may share in  
 the *song of the angels,*  
 the gladness of the shepherds,  
 and the *worship of the wise men.*  
 Close the door of hate and  
*open the door of love* all over the  
 world. Let kindness come with every gift and  
 good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from  
 evil by the *blessing which Christ brings,* and teach us  
 to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning  
 make us happy to be *Thy children,* and the Christmas  
 evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,  
*forgiving and forgiven,*  
 for Jesus' sake.  
 Amen.  
©soupleandesigns.com

**Into this world,  
 this demented inn,  
 in which there is  
 no room for him at  
 all, Christ has  
 come uninvited.**

THOMAS MERTON  
 RAIDS ON THE UNSPEAKABLE, 51



**John 3:16-17**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Thanks be to God.

**Do YOU  
 need  
 A Taste of Love?**



David Hall: "I give this cookbook two spatulas up! My wife and I need this one. Thanks, UUMC!"



**UUMC's Centennial Cookbook**  
**A Taste of Love: Celebrating 100 Years**  
 has arrived in time for gift-giving, and books are ready for purchase and/or pick up in the church office. Treat yourself to one, and purchase more copies to give to friends and family!  
 For \$19.95, you'll receive some of the best recipes of the best cooks at UUMC, past and present.

Our gratitude is boundless for Martha Humes and Grace Campbell, co-editors of this timeless volume.







**University United  
Methodist Church**

2915 East 5th Street  
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918.592.3633 office  
office@uumctulsa.org  
www.uumctulsa.org

*Office Hours*  
**Monday - Friday 8:30-2:30**

*Sundays*  
**Worship:**  
**11:00 am**  
*in person and on Facebook*

*Wednesdays*  
**Prayer Together on FB: 6:30 pm**

<u>DECEMBER LITURGISTS</u> 	<u>DECEMBER WELCOME CENTER</u> 	<u>DECEMBER HOLY COMMUNION</u> 	<u>DECEMBER LIGHTS OUT! LOCK UP!</u> 
3 Carol Ghere	3 Rick and Donna Stuber	3 Carol Ghere and Tim Taylor	3 Martha Humes
10 Ellen Weatherholt	10 Diana Farmer	10 Ellen and Lisa Weatherholt	10 David Glover
17 Martha Humes	17 Paula Hutchinson	17 Martha Humes and Briana Wong	17 Becky Williams
24 Andrea Sharrer	24 Lisa and Tom Weatherholt	24 Andrea Sharrer Lynn Bordwine	24 Martha Humes
31 Kendel Hall	31 Kendel Hall	31 Kendel Hall Lauren Miers	31 Becky Balser

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