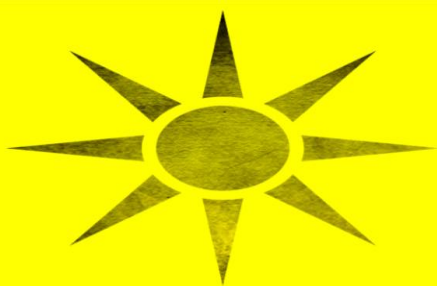
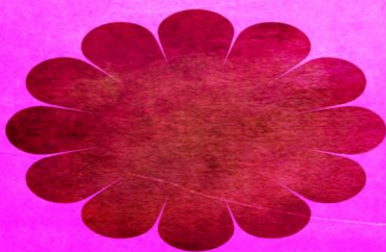


The Word



For everything,
There is a season
and a time for
every matter
under heaven:

Ecclesiastes 3:1, NRSVue



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Celebrating 50 Years of Faith, Music and Community

October 2026

Pastor's Page

"Celebrating God's Faithfulness, Embracing God's Future"

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

— Ecclesiastes 3:1

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we enter the beautiful season of autumn, we are reminded once again of God's faithfulness through the changing seasons of life. The colors of the leaves, the crispness in the air, and the gradual transition from summer to winter invite us to pause and reflect. Autumn is a season of thanksgiving, remembrance, and preparation. As the trees let go of what they have carried through the summer, we too are invited to look back with gratitude and look ahead with hope.

This October is especially meaningful for our congregation as we approach the conclusion of our 50th-anniversary celebration of the formation of the United Ministry of Delhi. Throughout this anniversary year, we have celebrated in three dimensions—faith, music, and community. The community and music events have already given us wonderful opportunities to gather, celebrate, share our gifts, and remember the people and ministries that have shaped our church. The faith aspect of our celebration will reach its conclusion in our special worship service on Sunday, October 25, 2026.

This anniversary is more than a commemoration of fifty years. It is an opportunity to remember God's faithfulness, honor those who have served before us, give thanks for the ministry we share today, and rededicate ourselves to God's continuing work through this congregation. Former pastors and I will lead this special service together: Rev. Lisa S. Heckman, Rev. Martha Vinck, Rev. Elizabeth Jane Ott, Rev. Catherine Schuyler, and Pastor Premkumar Immanuel Clement. In our worship, we will seek not simply to remember the past, but to renew our commitment to Christ and to the ministry entrusted to us for the years ahead.

I am deeply grateful to our Church Council Chair, Carol Greene, and to every member of the 50th Anniversary Steering Committee, especially its coordinator, Chelsea Frisbee Johnson, for their extraordinary dedication, leadership, and careful work throughout this anniversary year. Carol and Chelsea have worked closely together to reach out to former congregation members, choir members, and pastors, maintain communication, and invite them to reconnect with UMD and take part in

this celebration. Their efforts have also included raising funds to support the church and taking leading roles in planning, coordinating, and organizing the many events that have marked our fiftieth anniversary. Their commitment has brought together people from different chapters of our congregation's history and reminded us that this anniversary is not simply about a date in our history, but about the people and relationships that have made UMD what it is today.

I am especially thankful to our Music Director, Pat Nabinger, whose tireless leadership, musical gifts, and dedication made the anniversary concert a memorable expression of our shared joy. My sincere appreciation also goes to Ruth Kazmierski, who took great care to gather and preserve photographs, newspaper articles, profiles of former pastors, and many other images and records from our congregation's life through the years. Through her efforts, we have been able to see our history in its



many dimensions—past choir groups, weddings, baptisms, mission trips, Christian education, church events, former pastors, families, and children who grew up within this community, as well as the many people and ministries that have shaped our journey.

These treasured memories have helped us see not simply the passage of fifty years, but the people, relationships, ministries, joys, and milestones through which God has shaped our community. I am equally grateful to the members of the Subcommittee on Worship, whose prayerful preparation and thoughtful work are helping us bring this anniversary journey to a meaningful conclusion in worship. To each of you, and to all who have contributed in ways both visible and unseen, thank you for helping make this celebration a true expression of our shared history, faith, gratitude, and hope for the future.

As autumn brings new rhythms to our community, it is also wonderful to see our regular ministries coming alive again. Choir practice and Kids' Club activities resumed this month, bringing renewed energy, fellowship, learning, and joy to our church. In mid-October, we will also begin Bible study, creating another opportunity for us to grow together in faith, listen to Scripture, ask questions, and discern how God is calling us to live as disciples of Jesus Christ.

May this season remind us that while times and circumstances change, God's faithfulness remains constant. As we celebrate fifty years of ministry, may we give thanks for those who came before us, cherish the community God has given us today, and prayerfully prepare ourselves for what God may yet do through us.

May God bless our congregation and guide us as we continue this journey of faith, hope, and service together.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Premkumar Immanuel Clement



Parish Council September 2026

9/14/26 Parish Council meeting

Called to order by Carol Greene 6:35 PM

Present: Gideon Frisbee, Ruth V, Carol Greene, Susan Frisbee, Eloise Henault, Stephanie Trass, Barb Jones, Pastor Prem

Excused: Joe Greenfield.

Devotions: Susan had devotions and read "A prayer for peace" from Caroline Kennedy's book of The Best-Loved Poems of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

Topic of the Month: Budget 2027. There is concern about our pledge units going forward. We need to get the stewardship campaign underway. Gideon will work on the letter sooner than last year. We had a very helpful grant from the O'Connor Foundation for the past two years, but that is over in 2027.

Approval of Meeting minutes – August 10, 2026. Barb moved to approve, Eloise 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Reports were provided for the end of August. Susan made a motion to approve the reports, 2nd Barb. Motion carries unanimously.

Finance: Finance met on September 1. It was suggested that some of the food pantry funds need to be used to support the mission/operation costs of the church budget. Pledges are good, at 79% currently. Next meeting is October 12th. Some research has begun on replacing chairs (Harder Room, McIntosh Hall) through a grant possibility, as well as some potential carpet replacement.

Trustee's Report: Trustee's met earlier this evening. Gordon Krick completed pressure washing around the elevator building and the wall along the parking lot. The elevator handicap door switch was reported to be fixed, but may not be. We do not have a fuel price locked in, not doing a budget or prepay is not favorable right now. We will continue to explore options for the best price available for this heating season. Next year we will make changes to this approach. We will initiate a \$10,000 transfer from the money market to the church checking account.

SPR- no report- meeting on September 22. Barb needs a secure spot for SPR files.

Pastor's Report- Prem got his driver's license!

Church attendance: 8/9/2026 -30, 8/16/2026 – 22, 8/23/26 – 28, 8/30/26 – 20, 9/6/2026 – 30 (Communion Served).

3 pastoral care/visits made. 2 new members joined the church on 9/13. Prem spent time at SUNY Delhi with other clergy from Delhi to share about the ministries available in the community. Gave the invocation prayer and benediction at the Delaware County Senior Councils annual meeting in Roxbury, where Edie was honored with the award of "Delaware County's 2026 Senior of the Year." He has upcoming meetings with Karen Monk and the Farms and Forest Parish.

Playschool Report- Eloise reported that Playschool has started and they have 6 students. A baked sale is planned for the Harvest Festival.

A request came from Ruth K to Fran Ackerly to increase the salary of the staff by 3% as of September 1st. This had been approved by the Playschool Board. This also needs to be approved by the Parish Council. After covering the September payroll, there were not enough funds remaining in the Playschool account to cover the increase. A budget will need to be provided to Council prior to approval of the

increase. Eloise has their approved budget for 2026-2027 and will provide it to Council.

Food Pantry Report- 33 families visited in August. 15 boxes delivered. Shopping in Oneonta happens every other week plus weekly shopping in Delhi. There were 62 boxes of food given away on September 12.

Building Use – Approved via email, 1 previous request. On 8/28- Ian Lamont from the Lutheran Church requesting to use McIntosh Hall on September 20th for the Village Wide Community Dinner in case of rain. If it is outside as intended, they are requesting tables and chairs from the church. This was approved via email, minus the use of the 2 brand new white tables.

New Business: Community Fundraiser- Christian Education Committee and 1st Pres. Sunday School students are raising money for the Heifer International mission and are requesting contributions from all Delhi Churches. There will also be a Brooks BBQ chicken fundraiser sale on Saturday October 3 12pm-3PM. We will take a special collection on Sunday 10/4 for this mission. Carol will announce in church the week before.

New forms to approve: Little Delaware Youth Ensemble, January 17th or 24th, 2027 for winter concert, Sanctuary, Harder Room, Music Room. \$100 donation.

Cooking Co-Op – Chelsea Johnson, October 3rd, 8:45AM-12:30PM. McIntosh Hall and Kitchen, \$25 donation.

Motion by Susan to approve both requests, second Ruth. Motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting of the Parish Council will be October 19th, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

Joe moves to adjourn, Gideon seconds, motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Gideon Frisbee



Food Mission

During the summer the pantry continued to see about 40 families a month. Besides our shopping trips to Price Chopper for perishables Fran and Pattie have been going to Oneonta about every 2 weeks. They shop at Walmart, Aldi's, and the Dollar Tree for food and personal hygiene products. They usually spend between \$800 and \$1,000. Fran has also been ordering on line from Amazon. Deb and Pattie continue to distribute boxes of food to those being housed in the motel. About every 6 weeks, on a Saturday, Carol and her crew pack and deliver boxes to the senior center and those in the community that we know can use some assistance.

Carol can always use people to help with the deliveries especially since we are trying to build our list back up. When we first started about 4 years ago we had a list of about 20 people in the community. Due to various reasons this list has dwindled to about 9. We know there are more people who could use a box of food, the problem is finding them. Originally, we were able to put a flyer in the senior meals that were delivered. I have reached out to Social Services etc. but of course due to privacy issues they can't give me names only pass my name and phone number on. Another issue with finding these people is they tend to live on back roads and have a different circle of family and friends then a lot of us who are more fortunate.

While you have been adjusting to back-to-school routines and preparing for Halloween I am gearing up for Thanksgiving. We will be giving out turkeys/whole chickens as well as other items for the meal. We also tend to include more general food items so that everyone can celebrate the holiday. Before that is even over, we will need to be taking sign-ups for Christmas so busy times are ahead.

Thank you for all your support and enjoy the blessings of the fall.

Edie



Women's Open Circle

Women's Open Circle will meet on **Thursday, October 8** at **12 noon** in the **Harder Room**. Bring a bag lunch, dessert and beverages provided.

The Women's Open Circle is an organized women group in our church. There is no membership roll. Our stated purpose is to contribute to the life of the church. We meet the second Thursday of the month during the school year weather permitting. We support the missions of the Methodist Catskill-Hudson District and the Women in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery. Our group is small but we believe that women' denominational should be supported.

All women of The United Ministry are invited to attend any or all meetings!

All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 1 is All Saints Sunday, when we remember all those who have died in the past year. In our records we have: Judith (Mostert) Morgan 12/24/25, Ethan Kennedy 5/23/26, Fred Onasch 7/9/26, Charlotte B Hill 8/1/26, Ralph Dandignac 9/8/26.



Please use the form below, or simply send a note or an email to the church office, to list friends or family whom you would like to include on our All Saints list. Please include the date of death, if known.

All Saints Sunday, November 1, 2026

Name

_____ - _____



SAVE THE DATE

Our 50th Anniversary Fall Worship and Celebration is coming up soon so be sure to mark it on your calendar. **October 25th** we will gather at a worship service during which we hope to bring together many people, including previous Pastors, who have been an important part of United Ministry over the years. Invite any family members and friends who you think would enjoy joining with us to reminisce and celebrate. There will be a catered luncheon following the service where everyone can enjoy delicious food and fellowship. **Please RSVP to Deb Kearney at office@umdelhi.org by October 15th so we know we have enough food for everyone!**



?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??



Psalm 103 (ESV) begins:

“Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his _____.”

What should we “not forget”?

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| A. goodness | C. gifts |
| B. kindness | D. benefits |

Answer: D. benefits (Psalm 103:2)

A Look Back at Our Pastors

Fifty years. Many faithful pastors. One shared story. Each month, we'll feature memories from pastors who served our church — in their own words.

Rev. Elizabeth Jane Ott

Betsy Ott served as Interim Pastor from September 2019 through June 2021.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord of our hearts!

How wonderful to be asked, as a former pastor, to offer some comments on my time with you at United Ministry of Delhi!

Frist let me say, it was a surprise to me to come to serve with you in 2019. I had retired from ministry in June and was looking forward to settling into my home in Franklin. However, God had another plan and I was delighted to find myself with you in September of that year, taking up the yoke of ministry with you in Delhi. God does have an amazing way of giving purpose to our lives! Delhi is where I lived for the first eight years of my life as my father, Gene Black, served the Delhi Methodist Church located just across the square. I felt a real purpose in being with you and was humbled by the opportunity that ministry with you offered in a place that I loved.

I was supposed to be with you from September 2019- June 2020 but, again, there was another plan. Covid arrived in February 2020 and the church was shut down along with many of the other businesses, schools, and community gathering places we depend on for our support and fellowship. It seemed that information flew at us from all directions as we tried to navigate the necessary changes for the safety and protection of us all. Instead of meetings and worship services we changed our plans and did in depth cleaning in the building, painted rooms, hallways and the kitchen/dining area. So many volunteers helped with those projects and it was a great way to make use of the time, as we waited for the pandemic to end. We also went full "tech" and utilized grant funds to add streaming to our worship. I worked with Pat Nabinger and Deb Kearney, to record our service each week for Sunday streaming. Eventually, we opened the sanctuary again and found new joy in being together face-to-face. However, streaming continues to allow people who are unable to attend in person to worship with the faith community they love. God always has the bigger plan in mind! Near the end of my time with you, we worked together to secure a parsonage for a newly arriving pastor and completed the process with lots of wonderful support. I also want to share how much the Food Pantry and ministry have meant to me. The volunteers are always working to meet the needs of those who struggle with food scarcity in the Delhi area. During my time with you, the Covid challenges and economic downturn led us to expand this ministry as food was delivered for drive-by pick up, boxes were taken to the Buena Vista residents, and also delivered to the Residential Apartments for the Aging. At the same time, the pantry maintained regular hours for food pick up, while assuring safe practices were in place. I was proud of the United Ministry for the focus on meeting this need with creativity and grace.

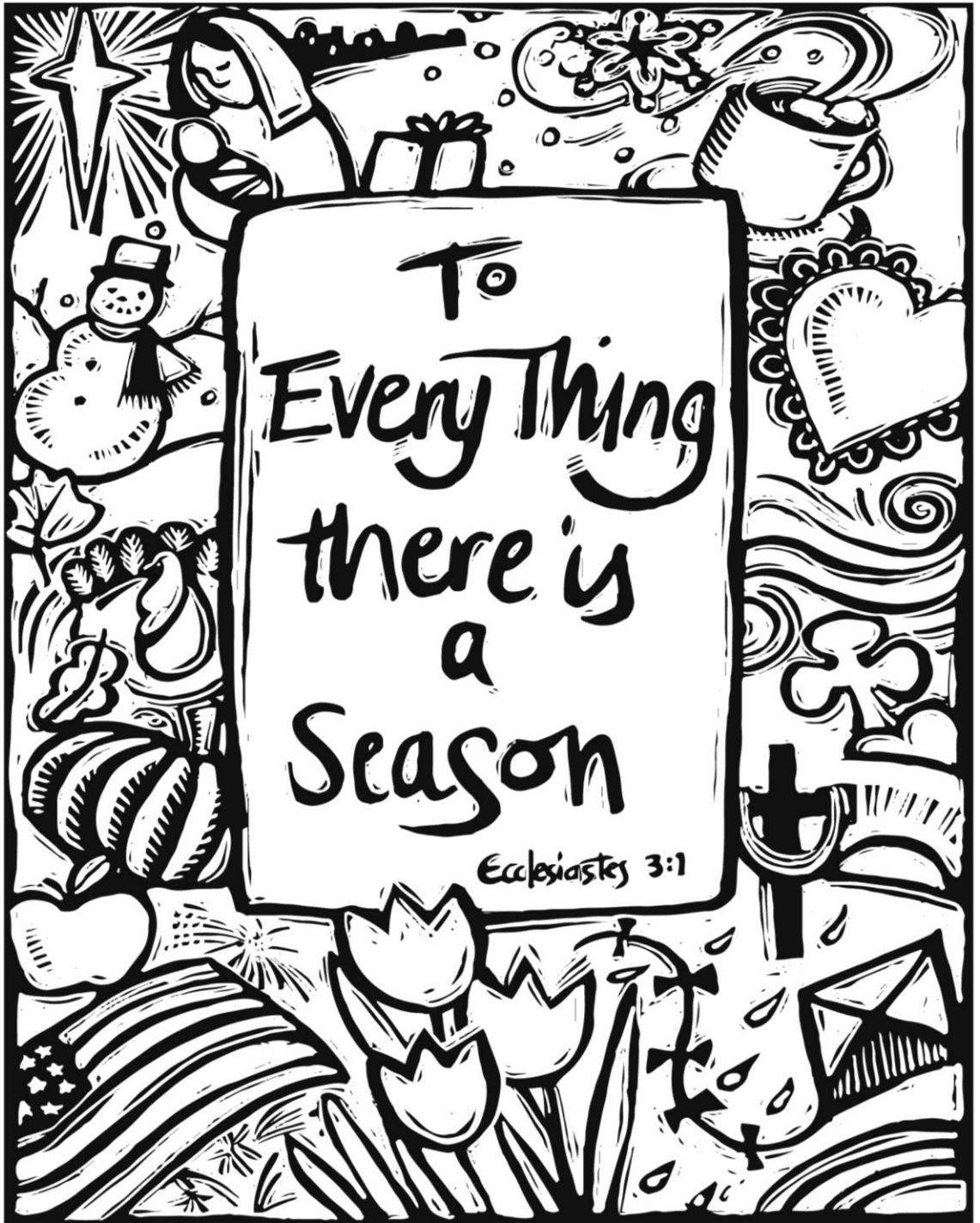


Today, I thank God for the time we shared and for the kindness and love we shared. You gave me many happy memories in our ministries of worship, meeting to discuss plans and organize ministries, children's activities, Kid's Club, Music and so much more! Most of all I thank you for being people of faith who love fellowship, worship, fun and service! What a gift you are to your pastor, to one another, and to the community!

Recently I found a newspaper clipping announcing the newly formed United from 50 years ago. Over those years, you have offered a place of blessing to the people of Delhi as you helped to shed Christ's light into the community. I pray God will bless you with another 50 years of faithful ministry. Imagine what you and God can do next!

Grace and Peace, **Betsy**





Puzzle!

NAMES OF GOD

Every name of God tells us something about his power, love and care for his people. Use the Scripture clues to uncover just some of these special names.



F _____ (Matthew 6:9)

A _____ and O _____ (Revelation 1:8)

I A _____ (Exodus 3:14)

Y _____ (Exodus 6:2-3)

G _____ M _____ H _____ (Genesis 14:19)

G _____ A _____ (Genesis 17:1)

R _____ (Psalm 18:2)

J _____ (Psalm 75:7)

F _____ (Psalm 18:2)

H _____ O _____ (Isaiah 40:25)

Answer key: Father, Alpha and Omega, I AM, Yahweh, God Most High
God Almighty, Rock, Judge, Fortress, Holy One

PUZZLE



A Family of Prayer

Acts tells us about a man named Cornelius. He was a Roman soldier who worshiped God and prayed with his family. God used Cornelius to help Peter learn an important truth: God welcomes everyone who loves Him and does what is right.

Solve the math problems using the grid.
Then use the key to find the letter for each answer. Write each letter on the blank to discover what Cornelius and his family did.

GRID	
A	B
2	4
C	D
6	5

KEY

a = 7 e = 8
i = 10 o = 9
u = 11 y = 6

"He _____ and _____ ll h _____ s f _____ m _____ l _____
A+C A+D A+D B+C A+D B+C A+B

w _____ r _____ d _____ v _____ t _____ nd
A+C A+C A+C B+D C+D A+D

G _____ d-f _____ r _____ ng; h _____ g _____ v _____
B+D A+C A+D B+C A+C A+D A+C

g _____ n _____ r _____ sl _____ t _____ th _____ s _____ n
A+C A+C B+D C+D A+B B+D B+D A+C B+C

n _____ d _____ nd pr _____ y _____ d t _____ G _____ d
A+C A+C A+D A+D A+B A+C B+D

r _____ g _____ l _____ rl _____." _____ cts 10:2, NIV
A+C C+D A+D A+B A+D

Answers: "He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly." Acts 10:2, NIV



Will Frisbee	10/2	Cameron Mills	10/19
Amy Anderson	10/4	Carol Greene	10/22
Cheryl Greenfield	10/10	Charlotte Vetter	10/23
Autumn Unger	10/12	Peg Baldwin	10/25
Hope Pantilieris	10/13	Sujatha Immanuel	10/26
Donna Briggs	10/14	Eloise Henault	10/29
Kathy Whittaker	10/15	Marisa Miller	10/30
Porter Frisbee	10/18	Bryan Hillis	10/30
Tristan McCann	10/19		

Coffee Hour Hosts & Flowers for the Sanctuary



Have you signed up to host Coffee Hour yet? Coffee, tea, lemonade, and paper goods are supplied. Cookies are optional. Sign up on the sheet on the Bulletin Board or call the church office to pick your date.

Would you like to commemorate a loved one or special event in your life? Garden and wild flowers are always welcome! If you are uncomfortable creating the arrangement, call the office and we can make the arrangement for you.



Coffee Hour

Oct 4 _____
 Oct 11 _____
 Oct 18 _____
 Oct 25 50th Celebration Lunch

Flowers

Oct 4 _____
 Oct 11 _____
 Oct 18 _____
 Oct 25 _____

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board outside the office.

Word and Worship

Sunday, October 4

19th Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19;
Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday, October 11

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23;
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-4

Sunday, October 18

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99;
Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 22:15-22

Sunday, October 25

Reformation Sunday

Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17;
Acts 10:44-48; Matthew 22:34-46

Lectors

October 4 *Gideon Frisbee*

October 11 *Ann Peet*

October 18 *Carol Greene*

October 25 *Ruth Kazmierski*

Acolytes

October 4

October 11

October 18

October 25

TBD

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