



EDEN
Mennonite
Church
Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

Jan-Feb 2019
Issue Vol. 51 No. 1



*Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.*
Isaiah 60:1

With these words from the prophet Isaiah, we are called to shine forth God's light to the world around us. As a community of God's people, we are to glow and "be radiant" with God's light because God has been revealed to us and is present among us. We as the church are God's instruments to show God's presence and glory to a world shrouded in darkness.

We are called to shine forth a light that can bring healing and hope. So the question is how do we do this? How can we become radiant?

In order to glow with God's light, we must first make a habit of being in the presence of God. We cannot shine on our own, we need to reflect God's light. We cannot be radiant unless we spend time basking in God's light. This means setting aside time within our busy schedules to withdraw to be in God's presence. The beginning of the year is a good time to choose or renew a spiritual practice that you find life-giving. Perhaps you will choose to explore a new way of praying (try praying with music or while walking or praying scripture). There are many individual practices that can bring nourishment but don't forget the corporate practices that we do together. In regular worship, Bible study, and acts of service, we are able to soak in the light of God's presence.

Secondly then we need to share this light. God's light which has broken into our world is meant to "guide our feet into the way of peace." We all long for peace in our world. Our desire is to realign ourselves with God's reign and God's vision that all creation may live in harmony. We do not need to accept that we can't do anything about the way things are. Shining the light and walking in the way of peace means believing that there is something we can do.

Recently someone reminded me that in one of my sermons I had given a few ideas for promoting peace. She suggested that it would be helpful to have more ideas and so here I am offering a list of ideas for small acts of peace. Choose one act each month (or each week!) and let God's light shine through you.

You can bring a bit of peace to your world by...

- touching others only with gentleness and kindness.
- developing a friendship with someone in a different economic or social class.
- contributing food from your house to the local food pantry.
- praying for one of your enemies.
- writing someone who is a peacemaker, thanking them for their work.
- trying to see another's point of view different from your own.
- writing a letter to the editor of your local newspaper and taking a stand for peace.
- sending a personal note to someone you've been angry at.
- praying for someone in a country our government calls enemy and then learn more about the people of that country.
- wearing a t-shirt or button with a peace message.
- throwing away fewer things by treating your company to real dishes and your landfill to less garbage.
- fasting for a meal or a day and giving the money to a group working against hunger.
- stopping a racist or sexist joke, asking equal respect of all others in your presence.
- praying for a government official and sending an encouraging note to him/her.
- saying a prayer for peace every day for one week.

May the prayer of St. Francis become our own prayer: "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."

Dianne

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The Eden Leadership Team met December 10 at the Eden Church office.

Members present: Austin Goering, Teresa Graber, Jerri Kaufman, Pastor Derek, Pastor Dianne, Kyle Neufeld, Becky Koller, Marcia Goering, Keith Albrecht, Jerry Lankford, and Candy Unrau

Kyle Neufeld lit a candle to symbolize the presence of the Holy Spirit, and read scripture from Luke 1:68-79 in Lectio Divina format. He led in prayer, then read Eden's Mission and Vision Statements

Minutes from the November 12, 2018 ELT meeting were approved as submitted.

Budget report—Austin Goering Income: \$380,000; Expenses: \$410,000, deficit of \$30,000 (This is similar to last year.) Expenses actual \$410,000, budgeted \$450,000. There was discussion about giving an announcement in church to encourage extra end of year giving to close the deficit. Emphasis will be given to thank the congregation for their faithful giving throughout the year. Austin will make an announcement to the congregation on December 16, 2018.

Commission Reports

Peace and Witness—Jerri Kaufman: They gave the most recent shower for refugee families two weeks ago and it was well received and greatly appreciated. They dispersed donations to Cradles to Crayons, Senior Center, and Utility gifts for those in need. They also gave \$2,000 to Helping Hands, a branch of Associated Ministries. Helping Hands has an application process for those in need of assistance. The committee has been discussing options for speaker for Peace Sunday. One possible speaker is Ben Kreider, who works with prison ministry. There was also discussion about involving/engaging youth in something other than Peace Essays, as there has been little interest in this the past few years.

Stewardship Commission—Teresa Graber: They are working on compiling year end information from all the committees. They will need financial reports from all committees by January 12, 2019, so they can audit the reports before they go into the booklet.

Trustee Commission—Keith Albrecht: They are looking into replacing carpeting in the church building—sanctuary, fellowship hall, and SS school rooms.

DaWayne Stos will make an estimate for the cost. They are waiting for warmer weather to install 8 or 9 new windows. They are also looking into replacing skylights.

Education Commission—Marcia Goering. Nothing to report.

Pastor Dianne: She reported that the every other month meal with Pine Village residents and pastors is a positive time of fellowship and is appreciated by the residents.

Pastor Derek: He reports that the three Mennonite Church combined Junior High group is having a party

event hosted by Josh and Emily Regier. They will also plan to participate in the Know Jesus event at Hesston College in February, 2019. They currently have about ten students in the 5th-8th grade group. The High School FEWZ group recently packed hygiene kits for MCC and heard a speaker who had participated in SALT in Laos. **Kyle reported that results to affirm new positions** in the church were resoundingly positive. The gift discernment committee will be looking to fill a deacon opening in response to Gail Graber's decision to step away from that role.

Pastor Derek thanked the ELT for their willingness to serve the Eden Congregation. He had positive response to the Lectio Divina devotions. The reading of and meditating on scripture in this fashion helped set the tone for meetings designed to do holy work.

The meeting was adjourned. Next ELT meeting will be January 14, 2019 at 7pm at the Eden Church office.

Candace Unrau, Secretary

The Eden Leadership Team met January 14, 2019 at the Eden Church Office

Members present were: Jay Goering, Berni Kaufman, Jerry Lankford, Bret Gillmore, Marcia Goering, Mark Stucky, Austin Goering, Pastor Derek King, Pastor Dianne Schmidt, Ken L. Stucky, Becky Koller, Josh Regier and Candy Unrau.

Jay lit a candle to symbolize the presence of the Holy Spirit. He led in devotions, reading Isaiah 43:1-7 from *The Message*. When we are "in over our head, or between a rock and a hard place, do not be afraid." We can take comfort and know that we are called by our name. We have been called as a leadership team and God will be with us. Jay led the group in prayer.

The minutes of the December 10, 2018 ELT meeting were approved as submitted.

Budget report, Austin Goering: The income from 2018 was very similar to the income from 2017. Expenses, however, rose \$22,000 over 2017—largely due to increased maintenance needs. Income for 2018 was \$37,000 behind expenses. In 2017, we were \$13,000 behind expenses, and in 2016, we were \$28,000 behind expenses. Our 2018 expenses were under budget \$16,000. Since the income was \$37,000 behind the expenses, money was moved from other accounts and used to keep bills paid.

Commission Reports and Pastor Reports

Education Commission—Marcia: They will be meeting later this week. They ended 2018 by planning the Christmas Eve service.

Peace and Witness Commission—Mark reported that they haven't met yet this year, but have been thinking about the best ways to assist community members in need of help with heating bills, etc. They will be seeking input from the Associated Ministries, who have ways of

screening people as they distribute assistance. They are doing some thinking about Peace Sunday ideas on prison concerns or possibly immigration issues.

Stewardship Commission—Ken L. Stucky reports that they will be having an audit done this week.

Deacon Commission—Bret reports they will meet next week to organize and will have a full committee by that time. Bret will be the deacon chairman, and Marcia Hiebert will be the treasurer. There is a fifth Sunday coming up in March and they will be considering topics for a combined adult Sunday school discussion.

Worship Commission—Berni reports that the project to provide infant care kits was successful and meaningful for the Christmas season. They were able to donate 50 completed kits with some extra items and \$530 in cash. MCC will be able to provide two bales of supplies from our contributions that will be sent to countries in need. In addition to other appointments, their committee has secured attendants for the West door to help people get in to church on Sunday mornings. Also, left over angels from SIS Christmas teas will be available for a donation. The theme planned for Lent this year is Blessed Hunger and Holy Feast. March 6 is Ash Wednesday and there will be a short service and perhaps a service night. The pastors are securing a speaker for Holy Week. There will be a Maundy Thursday service at our church. Easter Sunrise Service will be planned and may be at Russ Stucky's or Norm Wedel's. The Camp Mennoscah retreat will be held July 13-14, 2019. First Mennonite Church of Christian will be helping with the planning. West Zion Mennonite Church will also be invited to attend.

Pastor Derek reports that the FEWZ youth group under his leadership now meets on Sunday evenings instead of Wednesday evenings due to conflicts for some of the participants on Wednesdays. This has freed Derek to help with the children at Eden on Wednesday nights. He is looking forward to the Leadership retreat 1/26/19 and the Year in Review event 1/27/19 and the visit from Sara Wenger Shenk.

Pastor Dianne reports that the Advent-Christmas worship services were meaningful and the collection of the infant kits was successful. It was a busy season with two deaths/funerals in our church family. She reports she is now enrolled in a seminary class entitled Theology 2. Last semester she completed Theology 1.

Open Deacon Position Approval. The gift discernment committee reached out to Kathy Neufeld who agreed to fill the remaining term left by Gail Graber's resignation. The ELT approved this appointment unanimously.

Pastor Dianne's Review: Jay reports that Heidi Regier Kreider, conference minister, is finding a facilitator to assist in this review process for the congregation. The SCRT committee and Jay will plan for this to happen within the first three months of this year.

Pastor Derek's Sabbatical: The ELT executive committee will be getting input from Heidi Regier Kreider to outline coverage plans and Derek will outline his plans for his June, July, and August 2019 Sabbatical.

Next ELT meeting will be February 11, at the Eden Church Office at 7 pm.

The Eden Leadership Planning Retreat will be held at the church 1/26/19 from 9am to 3 pm.

After all attendees read aloud together the Eden Mennonite Church Vision/Mission Statements, the meeting was adjourned.

Candace Unrau
Secretary



Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale

Dear friends of the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale, You're invited to host, be a guest, or organize a Fellowship Meal at your church. Annually, these simple meals help support the Relief Sale by raising funds towards the sale budget. Meals, in area homes, are scheduled March 3 & 10. Registration deadline is Feb. 8. Please see the Fellowship Meal brochure for additional details. Questions??? Talk to Kyle and Robin Schrag, Dennis and Teresa Graber, or Wayne and Laurie Schrag. Or contact Barb BJ Reeves, 620-543-6863 or mccfellowshipmeals@gmail.com.

Service Opportunities: The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale invites you to join our family. By tithing a little bit of your time each year, you have an amazing opportunity to impact your world by furthering the work of Mennonite Central Committee. There is variety of committee openings including an Urgent Need Vereniki Making Committee – 2 people, Domestic Arts Verenike Booth Committee Members, FTM Sausage Baking on Saturday and New Year's Cookie committee. See your Relief Sale Contact liaison for details on these opportunities.



Dorothy Krehbiel (86) passed away on Tuesday, Jan 15. Services were held at Eden on Friday, Jan 18. We extend our sympathy to her sons Greg (Glenda), Mike, Kim and daughter Robyn (Steve) Roberson, and her sister Mary Ann Waltner (Orville) and all of her extended family.



Harry Crabb (95) passed away at Presbyterian Manor in Lawrence on Thursday, January 17. The memorial service will be held at Eden on Saturday, March 16 at 11:00 a.m. We extend our sympathy to his children and all of his extended family.



Western District Conference year-end snapshot: WDC Church Planting Commission held a retreat in July 2018 for church planters seeking to proclaim the kingdom of God in local settings. Goals were to learn about calling, equipping and commissioning, foster relationships, collaborate and share church-planting experiences. The theme - Missional Communities of Peace - emphasized proclaiming the kingdom of God, cultural challenges, and healthy rhythms of life and spiritual practice for church planters. WDC has church plants in Liberal and Wichita, KS, and in Dallas and Houston, TX. A Sister Church Task Force nurtures relationships between established and emerging congregations. **Church planting is just one way your gifts to WDC empower congregations to Witness and invite others to faith in Jesus Christ, Dwell in just and loving relationships, and Connect to God's mission in the world!** As we work together to meet WDC's budget goal for the year, we request your donation online at wdc@mennowdc.org or sent to PO Box 306, N. Newton, KS 67117. Thank you for planting seeds of hope!



Online registration for 2019 Camp Mennoscah Retreats opened January 12! To register for retreats like Scrapbook and Crafts, Family Weekend, and Retirees Retreat go to www.campmennoscah.org. There's always something that goes awry in the update--please let us know if something is amiss! We can't wait to see you again!

The Mennonite

The Mennonite, Inc., invites your original submissions for our March 2019 print magazine issue and corresponding online content focusing on Lent: Repentance and Transcendence. More information at: <https://themennonite.org/march-2019-call-submissions-lent/>



Graduate Students in Healthcare Professions: Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) offers educational grants for Anabaptist students to learn and serve in cross-cultural mission/service settings in developing countries. Deadline for 2019-20 academic year is May 15, 2019. For details and application form, see www.mennohealth.org/student_term/, email info@mennohealth.org, or call 1-888-406-3643.



Invitation to Share

The project for the month of **January** is NEW flat twin sheets. The project for the month of **February** is NEW bath & hand towels (Medium weight, dark or bright colored).

If you would like to support this project you may write a check to Eden with "invitation to share" in the memo line and mail it to P.O. Box 406, or take it to the Eden Church Office at 109 E. Hirschler, Moundridge, KS 67107.

Neighborly love

As an ordained minister, Fred Rogers harnessed the power of television to tell children they were loved — and to show them how to love others. In *You Are Special*, he writes, "When we love a person, we accept him or her exactly as is: the lovely with the unlovely, the strong along with the fearful, the true mixed in with the façade, and of course, the only way we can do it is by accepting ourselves that way."

In a review of the touching documentary *Won't You Be My Neighbor?* a writer for *Variety* notes: "Rogers' real secret was ... that the call to love your neighbor as yourself isn't a slogan to hang in your kitchen with flowers around it — it's a decision you make at every moment, to view every man, woman and child on earth as your neighbor. If you don't see and feel that, and act on it, then you're just another narcissist with a kitchen slogan."

Last October, when a synagogue shooting shattered the peace of Rogers' real-life former neighborhood, residents of all religions embraced one another as neighbors. Afterward, the Fred Rogers Center stated, "We long for a day when there is no more tragedy born from hatred."



Thank you for all the care and concern shown to us at the time of our mother's passing. It is wonderful to be part of a loving church family.

Larry and Carol Temple
Gladys Temple family

With sincere thanks and appreciation. We are so thankful for your donation. We put the money to help with eight family accounts. I am sure they all felt very blessed by this, especially during this holiday season. Thank you again.
Cradle to Crayons staff, families and children

Thank you for the loyal support always given to Angels' Attic. It is much appreciated as the need is still here.

Our statistics for the year 2018 are as follows:

Shoppers: 7,941
30 gallon bags to MCC and other facilities: 752
Bags of items donated: 5,271
Items taken out: 44,030
Volunteer Hours: 2,332

Without your support this would not be happening. One and all are welcome to visit the store to see what we do. Just give us a call or show up when we are open and we would be more than happy to show you what happens four days a week.

This year we have been so blessed with new opportunities, new partnerships, and the ability to welcome new neighbors. We are so grateful to have a volunteer, friend, and donor like you and want to say thank you for the gift of welcome you have given to each of our clients as they settle into their new homes. Whether it is time spent teaching a new skill, donating a blanket that someone can wrap up in to keep warm or just sending prayers for safety, your generosity is well-received and much appreciated.

As the new year approaches, may each day bring you luck, happiness, and prosperity as you continue to extend the ministry of welcome, and may the same warm feelings of hospitality be extended to you.
Kendra and Saint Francis Migration Ministries Staff



"True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."
—Martin Luther King Jr.

Thank you for your gift to AMBS. Your support is vital in helping us to carry out our mission to educate leaders with hearts on fire for God's reconciling mission in the world.

"I chose to study at AMBS for two reasons. The first was because of my growing interest in spiritual direction and Christian formation. This was a personal interest and I was at a place in life where I was ready to explore this through study. The second reason was that of my work with pastors and congregations in Mennonite Church USA. I wanted to better understand my constituents and to know firsthand the theological issues that they work through in their contexts. This increases my ability in resourcing and dialoguing with pastors, church leaders, and others."

Marisa Smucker, Elkhart, IN,
a Master of Arts in Christian Formation Student.

Our friends and alumni are the best! With your gift, you are supporting the vision of Bethel College and our mission to educate students in becoming critical thinkers and engaged global citizens.

Thank you for the support and prayers from Eden Mennonite Church. You help provide our students with opportunities to grow their mind and their faith!

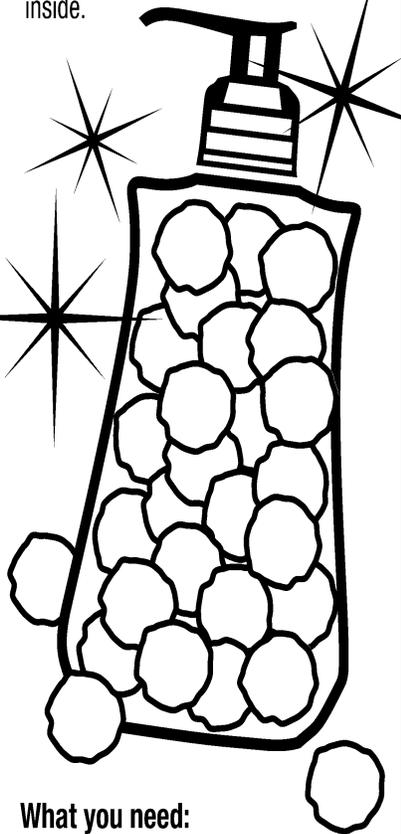
Brad Kohlman
Director of Alumni Development



Please join us for Game Night at Pine Village on Sunday, February 17. Kick off is 6:30 p.m. Bring a favorite snack and/or drink to share if you like or just bring yourself, even a friend or two if you wish. As the Three Musketeers would say..... "Fun for All and All for Fun". No need to hire a sitter because the more kids the merrier!! We need the older and the younger so don't miss out!! No reservations are needed since all are invited and welcome to join in. We'll get you seated right away for an evening of food, fellowship and fun!! The great thing about a game night is the more who come and play, the more fun it is for all. Awesome way to spend an evening!!!

Washed Clean

Decorate a soap bottle as a reminder of how baptism cleans us on the inside.



What you need:

- Bottle of clear liquid hand soap
- Small craft pompoms (different colors)
- Wooden skewer

What you do:

1. Remove the bottle label and unscrew the lid.
2. Using the skewer, push pompoms down into the soap one at a time.
3. Replace the lid and put the dispenser in a bathroom or kitchen.



A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.



We were therefore buried with him
through baptism into death in order that,
just as Christ was raised from the dead
through the glory of the Father,
we too may live a _____.

Romans 6:4, NIV

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: f i e l e w n j n e w l i f e



- 1- Lia-Jing Groves (Jan & Anne)
Lori Vontz
- 2- Emily Regier
- 4- Sam Goering
Wanda Knight
- 5- Dorothy Krehbiel
Josh Regier
Sondra Tolle
- 6- Sandy Arnold
Judy Goering
Steven L. Goering
- 7- Joseph Krehbiel
Mason Krehbiel
- 8- Ashley Stucky
Joyce Stucky
- 9- Meroe Graber
Denise Stucky
Camden Stewart (Kim Kaschke)
- 10- Kenneth Preheim
Lisa Schrag
- 11- Penny Graber
- 12- Elaine Krehbiel
Emily Perkins (Greg & Kathy)
Paul Marsh (Sheri)
- 13- Nicholas Anderson (Neal & Cindy)
Harold Kaufman
- 15- Jacob Schrag, Jr. (Esther)
- 16- Don R. Gehring
- 17- Paula Goering
- 20- Wendell Kaufman
- 21- Kenneth Schrag
- 22- Larry Kaufman
Perry Krehbiel
Jacob Westfall
- 23- Cheri Kaufman
Darrell Schrag
- 24- Brad Goering
MaKayla Stucky (Kevin & Gayle)
- 25- Mary Albrecht
Benjamin Schrag (Steve & Maggie)
Troy Stucky
- 26- Bill Juhnke, Jr.
- 27- James Griffin
Bryce Krehbiel
Tori Starks
- 28- Kelly Thomas
Katy Schrag
Larry Temple
- 29- DeLonna Barnett
Jennifer Knight
Sheryl Plenert
Linda Graber
- 30- Jeileen Cruz (Ron & Cecilia Goering)
Juanita Graber

- 30- Becky King
Lexus Stewart (Kim Kaschke)
- 31- Dorothy Goering
Derek King
Hayley Koontz (Stephen & Sandra)



- 1- Gene and Germaine Bird
Murray & Melody Stucky
- 3- Jan Craig Goering & Abigail Hubbard
Eugene & Carolyn Goering
- 5- Rob & Lori Parsons
Bruce & Kelly Schrag
- 9- Larry & Carol Goering
- 14- Terry & Colleen Schrag
- 21- Brandon & Morgan Kaufman



- 1- Lisa Goering (Mrs. Glen)
- 2- Cory Harrison
- 3- Tatum Garcia (Kayla Gowdy)
- 4- Mary Beth Goering
Melanie Krehbiel
- 5- Rachel Knight
Michelle Schrag
- 6- Amanda Harrison
Hope Stucky (Morris & Diana)
Jackie Zerger
- 7- Stephen Koontz
- 8- Robin Gehring
- 9- Bonnie Kaufman
Michael J. Krehbiel
Ian Smith
Ian Waltner (Michael & Amanda)
- 10- Terry Schrag
- 11- E. Fred Goering
Sarah Neufeld
Savannah Starks (Chris & Tori)
- 12- Patrick Goering
Althea Harrison (Cory & Amanda)
Harlan Stucky
- 13- Terence Goering
Calen Klassen (Scott Klassen)
Jay Krehbiel
Gordon Schrag
Betty J. Stucky (Richard)
Julia Waltner



- 14- Jace Dalke (Justin & Krystle)
Dennis Schmidt
Pamela Webb
- 15- Cathy Fiedler
Kori Roberson (Steve & Robyn)
Maynard Stucky
- 16- Keith Goering
- 17- Noah Schrag (Steve and Maggie)
Dillon Schrag
Lanny Stucky
- 18- Jerold Neufeld
- 19- Jerri Kaufman
Victoria Mandeem (Pam)
- 20- Jared Brite
Jay Goering
Kris Waltner
- 21- Jim Haag
Linda Schrag
- 22- Dee Juhnke
Lynelle Stucky
Ella Wyssmann (T.J. & Annie)
- 23- Erma L. Goering
- 24- Preslie Doane (Heath & Sami)
Bret Preheim
Pam Schrag
Joy Thiessen
- 25- Keith Albrecht
Brad Cutting
Carina Knight
- 26- Diane Knight
Dustin Krehbiel
Maegen Stucky
- 27- Vance Unrau



- 1- Blair & Kelly Goering
- 5- Wayne & Danielle Goering
James & Terri Neufeld
- 6- Warren & Jerri Kaufman
- 14- Ron & Kelly Thomas
- 18- Jerry & Linda Schrag
- 21- Jeff & Becky Koller
- 25- Cory & Amanda Harrison

If there has been an omission or mistaken date please notify the church office.

Up-Coming Events

- January 26:** 9:00 a.m. Leadership Retreat
- January 27:** Sara Wenger Shenk speaking at Eden during Worship
Year in review with potluck meal at noon
- January 30:** 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal
6:45 p.m. Bible study
7:30 Ladies Chorus
8:00 Chancel Choir
8:30 Men's Chorus
- February 5:** 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission mtg.
- February 6, 13, 20:** 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal
6:45 p.m. Bible study (Game night on Feb. 13 instead of Bible study)
7:30 Ladies Chorus
8:00 Chancel Choir
- February 11:** 7:00 p.m. ELT meets at church office
- February 17:** 6:30 p.m. Eden Game Night at Pine Village
- February 27:** 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal
6:45 p.m. Bible study
7:30 Ladies Chorus
8:00 Chancel Choir
8:30 Men's Chorus

January 2019						
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February 2019						
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