

TheLink



The United Methodist Church of Patchogue

January 2013

Edited By George Hoag

Happy New Year Patchogue UMC Family

On behalf of the Pastoral family, I want to extend to each and every one of you my wishes for "A Happy New Year!" It is certainly true that 2012 was a busy year for us at Patchogue UMC. Perhaps one of the most significant happenings of the year included the many people who joined us in worship, ministry and membership. It was an exciting year for the ministry of our church and I want to thank each and every one of you for your participation in the work that Christ has called us to be involved with through Patchogue UMC.

It's hard to think of the beginning of a new year without thinking of the song "Auld Lang Syne." If you have ever watched a movie that spans the change of one year to another, you will hear the characters gather to sing "Auld Lang Syne." If you happen to be at a New Year's party, as the clock strikes midnight, you may find yourself in the midst of singing this rather old song. And if you turn on your television on New Year's Eve to watch the ball drop on Times Square at midnight, you will undoubtedly hear someone belting out their rendition of this holiday favorite as well as catch the crowds lending their voices to the chorus. "Auld Lang Syne" begins with the verse "Should

Worship In January

Jan. 6—Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, *Another Way*, Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12.

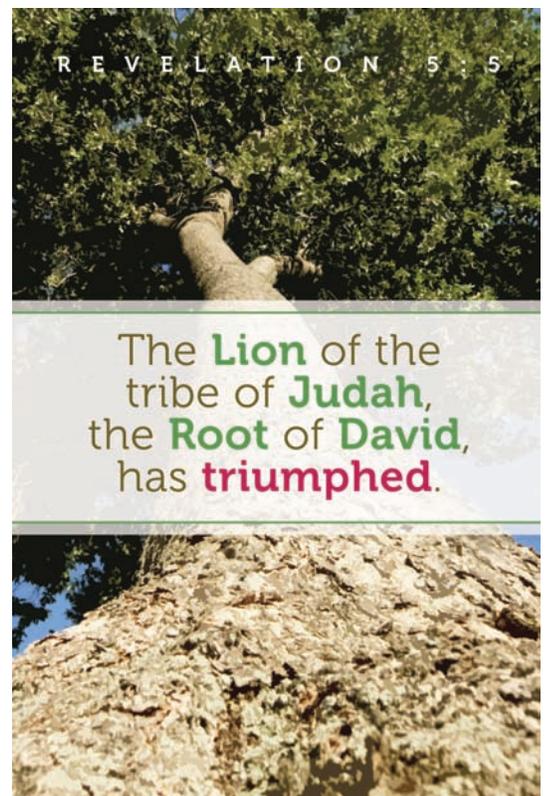
Jan. 13—Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, *What We Expect To See*, Isaiah 43:1-7, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

Jan. 20—Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, *Abundance*, Isaiah 62:1-5, John 2:1-1.

Jan. 27—Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, *Can We Be One With Christ?*, Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, Luke 4:14-21.

old acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind?" There are many interpretations of what this old favorite actually means, but let's consider for just a moment that perhaps it means we do keep in mind the friends and events of the past year. Even as we move forward, we can remember where we have been and who was there with us. I like this thought because it allows us to have our cake and eat it too! Not only do we get to continue to celebrate the past but we anticipate what we will celebrate in the future.

The New Year is upon us. We will be turning pages on calendars and learning to write "2013" on our checks and correspondence. But that in no way means we have to forget the wonderful events we experienced, nor the special people we met, and certainly let's not forget the ministries we were involved with during 2012. Let's use the past successes to propel us forward to new successes, new challenges, new ministries, and new ways to respond to the



Continued on Page 5

Circle of Concern

For Bereavement:

For the Family and Friends of Rachel Nason (Wendy Hollowell's Mother.) For the Family and Friends of Amelia (Gail) Devery.

For Guidance:

Barbara McAllister, Ray Clark, Cat Placement and Rescue, Michael Amarati, Philip Demacos, Joanne, Rose Conti, Lisa Prince, Joan, the Neuman family, Wilfredo Franco, Monica, Patrick Keena, Sheila Dreaper, Sofia and her family, John Casale, Our Troops and Veterans; Dean and family, Carlos Alvarado, Tim, Paul, Christine, Carol Moore, Raquel Miller, Emma Easley, Tom, Mike, Matt, Brian, Justin, Ray Anderson, Lori, Irene Catalino, Justin and Dean Angell, Pat, Lisa, Ben and baby Anna, Heather Reiss, James Wright's Grandmother, Barry Burrell, Linda, Stephen Martin, Purificato Family, Ashley Lauren, Linda Morgan, Luigi, Maureen, Tom Mansfield and friends, Emma Evelend, Lisa, Barbara Rago, Catherine Weber's aunt, Esmeralda Coppola, Carmen Marrero, Loriann, David, Kathleen Russo, Alicia Evans, Debbie Jemma, Barbara, Katie, Anna, Suzanne, Amanda Garcia, Doris May, Margaret, Lois, Laurie, Bonnie Smith, Debbie Turpeau, Julio, Lisa, Paul Walkawitz, Debbie, Tom Kerr, Laura Jacobs, Sarah and Justin Tann for a healthy pregnancy and birth of their first child; Barbara Jehle, Elise Gavrock, Steve, June Barile, Luke Gonzalez, for comfort and healing for Raymond and Randy Prince on the passing of Tina Prince, the Elam Family, Paula Rowe, Jennifer Femister and family, Joann Henn, Steve McCarthy, Bruce Kirschner, Elaine and family, Lillian Aparicio, Marge Prince, Stephen, Lisa, Rich Azzopardi, Carolyn Seus, Rosemary Swartz, Joe Tucker, Kevin Stieger, Melanie Schnieder, Connie Castogua, Marybeth Losch and family, Joan Curtis' sister, Michael Emmel, Joseph Emmel, Kim Kluge, Emily Zeh, Bruce Kirschner's mother, Jody, Victor Levine's father, Henry Prince, Caleb Edward, Ryan Cullin, Sanborn Family, Lisa Manzollilo and Donna Horoski.

These Who are Hospitalized:

Josh Boneventure, Frank, Nana Grace, Nancy Marshall, Bertha Smith, Lee Hollowell, Mary Payne, Debbie Fiore, Layden John Clark, Mary Zatorski, Dan, Ernest Boyd, Chris, Phil Ianello, Emily, Mike D., Joseph Hawthorne, Emma Rasley, Angelo, Kelly Seeman, Rebecca Hendersen, Gil Brown, Pat Ward, Pat, Christina Broom, Barbara Asmus, Susanna Davies-Pepper, Mike Welsh, Joyce Ferrante, Kathleen Russo, Caroline Moore, Amelia McCarthy, Ronald Mansell, Linda Carrol, Carmelo Espiritu, Doc McNight, Maureen Grippi, Debbie Turpeau, Rich Kaufold, Michael T. Battaglia, Andrew Wittman, Jr., Al Monteverdi, Henry Ohlsen, Carolyn Venator, Gladys Messias, Laura Magill, Kent Turchaniun, Erin Purce, Henry Prince, Lisa Cash, George Russler, Pasquale Arpaio, Waldon Scott, Trudy Ann Smith.

These at Home:

Joseph Weinzettle, Natalie Burnett-Lynch, Kathleen Chodorski, Kyra McCarthy, Debi DelRossi, Belle Barile, Tom Furman, Lisa Lopez, Dorotea

Sanchez, Mary Jones, John Krulger, Shelly Granger, Marie Lino, Marta, Donna Herrick, Philip Rudolph, Jytte & Nils Sorensen (Geri Sheridan's relatives in Denmark), Sandy Burrell, Lorraine Greco, Emily Navidad, the Moultrre Family, Kim Farrel's daughter, Ceil Witt, June Barile's parents, Muriel Vilar, Guillermina Alverio (Pastor Sanchez's mother,) Catherine Interrante, Arthur Rice, Glenn Hollins, Beth Widera, Marie Cirillo, Bob Ruggiero, Pat Addison, Don Wilson, Pat Q. Bayne, the McCarthy family, Mike Battaglia, Al Montverdi, Janet Monteverdi, Paula Rowe, Albert Eid, Thomas, Andrew Brand, Ted Davies, Ed and Brenda Klingel.

These who are in Rehab or Nursing Care Facilities:

Alice Zahnd in Patchogue Nursing Center, 25 Schoenfeld Blvd., Patchogue, NY.

Hazel Nargi in McPeak's Adult Home, 286 N. Ocean Ave., Patchogue.

Esther Davies in Brookhaven Health Facility, 801 Gozzolla Drive, E. Patchogue, NY 11772 Room 78D, 631-289-3150.

Peter Moor in Veteran's Home at Stony Brook University Hospital, Stony Brook, NY.

Pray for our church and her future directions!

**Make your Prayer Request
on line at
PatchogueUMC.Org**

The deadline for contributions to the February edition of **TheLink** is January 11. Please e-mail your copy to gbhoag@optonline.net.

Lift up your church with your prayers, presence, gifts and service.

The Stewardship Moment

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace”. Numbers 6:24-26.

As we progress joyfully through the holiday season, your Stewardship committee continues to work hard to keep all the members of UMC Patchogue up to date with information and reporting on all facets of the Christian life. We will continue to present this information under the headings provided in our ongoing Stewardship campaign for 2013; hopefully, this will enable all of you to find any particular items of interest a bit more easily. And, please: if there is anything we can do to enhance or improve this column, please let any member of the committee know. Thanks!

The Pastoral Care Ministry

Pastor Sanchez is very satisfied with the worship service (Order of Worship) as it currently stands. He is also delighted with the small groups that have become a vital and vibrant part of our congregation's participation in the Christian life: the Bible studies, the healing and prayer services, Wesley Dinners, the many youth projects, and so many others. Pastor feels that small group worship and service enhance the spirituality of the entire church, and there seems to be a revitalization of these efforts... He is very excited that our new members have become so active in our day to day church life. And he is especially happy about the church youth who step up to assist in worship on the first Sunday of each month. Finally, his confirmation class continues to be on course, with seven youth currently enrolled.

Worship & Music

The Choral Society of the Moriches, with Martha Campanile directing, performed Handel's Messiah on Friday, Dec. 14 in the sanctuary here at UMC Patchogue. It was well attended, and the performance itself was beautiful (of course!) The United Methodist Women served complementary refreshments. Two days later, during worship on Sunday Dec. 16, our young people presented the annual Christmas Pageant, a delight as always.

In January, 2013, watch for the Three Kings Day celebration during service on the 6th, including a pot luck lunch afterwards. During worship on the following Sunday, Jan. 13, we will be adding a new, regular feature: contemporary music of praise, led by Ken Miller. He invites all of you to participate—with your voices, spirits, and hearts! And on the 27th, there will be a training workshop for Worship Assistants, Ushers, and Greeters.

Christian Education

As mentioned above, Confirmation class now has seven confirmands. They will be doing a mini-retreat (one day) on Saturday, Jan. 19, focused on spiritual practices. The Wednesday bible study has finished their program named The Journey, and will resume studies in February, curriculum to be determined. Sunday AM Bible study continues with the Banned Questions, occasionally supplanted by timely topics of interest. The high school class is well along in its study of the Old Testament; they also played a spirited game of “Bible Feud” on Sunday, Dec. 12, which was a quiz on the first several books of the Bible loosely based on the format of “Family Feud”. The

need for a Youth Group Leader continues.

Service to the Community

Wesley Dinner was held Thursday Dec. 27, and “Boxing Day” gifts of hats, gloves and mittens were distributed. ESL continues classes for local Hispanic residents, with participation at each class usually from 10 to 14 people. The ICC Insurance Agency has adopted a Food Pantry family for Christmas, may God bless them! And speaking of the Food Pantry...

If there is anyone who still doubts that God works in mysterious and beautiful ways, he or she need look no further than any storage area, nook or cranny in church, where they can find seven pallets of non-perishable food and household necessities donated by the Jansons, owners of the local Shop Rite store, to augment our Food Pantry. (And Gail Hoag: THANK YOU!) Our heartfelt thanks and gratitude go out for this wonderful gift of direct support to those in need.

Outreach & Mission

UMW has created five gift baskets for those in nursing homes and the home-bound. Wesley Dinners & the Food Pantry work together to provide gloves and hats, bags of toiletries, extra food bags, and toys. Several groups are preparing food and snack bags for those who need food, but show up outside Food Pantry hours, and there was a further collection towards that ministry on Dec. 30. UMW continues to offer Fair Trade Coffee, Cocoa, Chocolate and catalog items. They are making their annual contributions this year to our New York Annual Conference, Wesley Dinners, our congregation, and towards the refurbish-

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!

ment of the bathroom in the narthex.

Acting in Christ's true Spirit: the Salvation Army continues to supply, and Lenny Pearson continues to deliver, relief supplies of food and other necessities to the permanent residents of Fire Island, those 60 or so who live on Fire Island year-round, and had nowhere to go when Sandy crashed into their homes

Inreach & Fellowship

Thanks to Dave Hollowell for building platforms for the two projectors in the sanctuary. With the second screen in place, we continue to expand the tools available to enhance our worship service.

Finally, thanks to all who welcome our visitors and guests. What could be more Christ-like than to welcome a stranger who has come to our "house"? You never know whether you will be the one who gives the firm handshake, the warm embrace, or the simple testimony about your church that will make a visitor say, "wow, I really feel welcome here, I want to know more!", vs. "oh, well, this isn't the place, on with the ChurchSearch..." We ALL can—and do—make a difference; what a wonderful thing it is when we make that difference with Jesus Christ as our guide. "Behold, I come to the door and knock..."

May God bless us all!

—Your Stewardship Committee

A•men
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adv., interj.

Stewardship Campaign for 2013

Although the thrust of the "Extravagant Generosity, The Heart of Giving" program is over, the practice of Extravagant Generosity must continue. Thanks to the many of you who have responded with an Estimate of Giving. However, we have not yet met our goal. There is still time for you to become a part of this exciting time in our church as we grow and gradually change into the church we envision. If you would like an Estimate of Giving "card", you may get one in the church office. If you would like to give electronically, please call or email the office for a direct deposit form. If you need a reminder of what it's all about, revisit the Heart Card boards around the church. A couple of weeks ago we had the opportunity to see Extravagant Generosity in action as the Cloud Room was filled with items for distribution to the less fortunate members of our community. What a GIFT! And now we have the opportunity to experience how good it feels to give. That was truly a gift that gives. That is what "Extravagant Generosity, The Heart of Giving" is all about, feeling good about giving! Doesn't that feel great?

For those who still desire to submit an Estimate of Giving, Financial Secretary Tom Bracken notes that we are still short of our budgeted amount. If, after prayer, you wish to make a commitment at this point, or perhaps desire to increase the Estimate you have already turned in, there is still time. Thanks for your honest consideration.

Happy New Year (From Page 1)

gift of a Savior that we have celebrated at Christmas. If indeed we believe that "unto us a child is born, a Savior given" then we have the most wonderful reason to carry into 2013 and every day of this New Year the glorious news we know to be true.

If you are prone to make resolutions as you enter a new year, may I suggest that you add these to your list:

- Make certain that you are involved in conversation with God daily (prayer);
- Make it a point to be present for worship regularly (praise); and
- Make efforts to share your faith as you are able and comfortable (potential).

There are certainly more that could be added if we wanted an all-inclusive list, but if we can be involved in these three regularly, we will kickoff the new year with efforts that are pleasing to God. As always, the ministries and joys that come from knowing Christ and making Him known are unlimited. It is exciting to consider what we have accomplished and what awaits us. I look forward to 2013 and the New Year. Blessings.

In Christ,

—Pastor Sanchez

Lenten Season Schedule

Ash Wednesday—Feb. 13

Palm Sunday—March 24

Maundy Thursday—March 28

Good Friday—March 29

Easter Sunday—March 31

United Methodist Church of Patchogue

January 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA	2	3 7 :30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	4 11 a.m.—Bible Study 7:00 p.m.—N/A	5
6 9:00 a.m.—Adult Study 10 a.m.— Communion Worship/Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Confirmation Class 11:30 a.m.—Puerto Rican Luncheon	7 7 p.m.—Prayer Ministry 7 p.m.—AA	8 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA	9 7:00 p.m.—UM Men	10 7 :30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	11 11 a.m.—Bible Study 7:00 p.m.—N/A	12 9:30 a.m.—UMW
13 9:00 a.m.—Adult Study 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Finance	14 7 p.m.—Prayer Ministry 7 p.m.—AA	15 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA	16	17 7 :30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	18 11 a.m.—Bible Study 7:00 p.m.—N/A	19 Confirmation Retreat
20 9:00 a.m.—Adult Study 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School/	21 7 p.m.—Prayer Ministry 7 p.m.—AA	22 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA	23	24 5:00 p.m.—Wesley Dinner 7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	25 11 a.m.—Bible Study 7:00 p.m.—N/A	26
27 9:00 a.m.—Adult Study 10 a.m.—Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 a.m.— Trustees	28 7 p.m.—Prayer Ministry 7 p.m.—AA	29 10 a.m.—Noon— Food Pantry 6:30 p.m.—ESL 7:00 p.m.—AA	30	31 7 :30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal		

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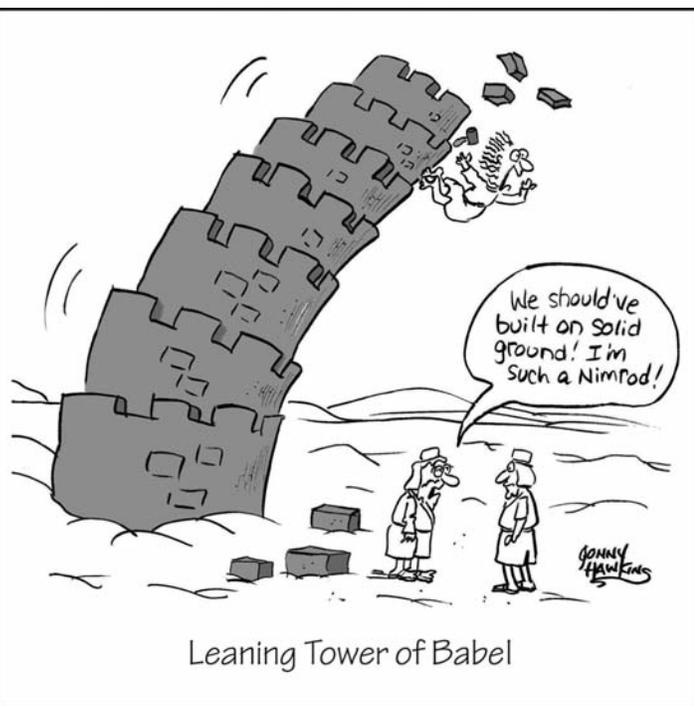
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Things I Love About My Church

*Inclusivity—Gender, Race, Age.
Children, Open Table. The Welcoming
Spirit of the Church. Beautiful Music—
The organ, piano, the choir. Warm
and Beautiful Sanctuary. Fellowship.*

—Jim Graham



Leaning Tower of Babel



Our Cup Runneth Over

Our Food Pantry and Wesley Dinner program received a huge donation in December from Shop Rite of Patchogue. The Janson family, owners of the store, sent a tractor trailer to the

church with seven pallets of non-perishable food and other household supplies. The retail value of the donation is more than \$38,000. A big crew of our own came down to help unload, including Pastor Sanchez, above. The group photo shows Harry Janson II on the left with wife Amy and their children, Sarah and Harry III in the center. Left to right, Michael Alexio, Jim Miller, Janet Alt, Christine Saas, David Hollowell, William Loris, Barbara Becker, Gail Hoag, Jerry Alt, Jean Miller, Ray Henson, and Richie Anderson.

Newtown Massacre Impacts Local Church

It was supposed to be Christmas Pageant Sunday at Newtown United Methodist Church. The joy candle was to be lit on the Advent wreath. Christmas caroling was to take place after the second service. Instead, it was a time to weep, a time to mourn. Two 7-year-olds from the congregation were among the 20 children and six adults who were killed two days earlier, Dec. 14, in the shooting rampage at Sandy Hook Elementary School. A 20-year-old had visited unspeakable horror on a school, a community and a group of families that had sent their happy youngsters off to another day at a school with a committed staff of teachers and administrators. First responders were called from their “day jobs” to rush into a rescue situation that left them with lasting traumatic images. Law enforcement — local, state and federal — were frantically summoned to secure the school and begin the painstaking process of putting together the pieces to determine what happened and to try to provide answers to the inevitable question of “why.”

After the events of Friday morning, almost nothing seemed right with the world. The Rev. Mel Kawakami, the senior pastor at Newtown, had to prepare a sermon on Saturday night, a sermon he did not anticipate writing. On Sunday morning, Jay and Jeff stood outside the church in the gray, drizzly weather, welcoming guests and keeping a wary eye on the media barrage that continued to sweep down the narrow street in front of the church. They were keeping the parking lot open for worshippers rather than the TV microwave trucks. They hadn’t imagined that they, and their friend Don, would be out in the cold all morning long. Karen, a member of the congregation, said she appreciated “the caring commitment of the congregation,” something she had experienced during her husband’s recent illness, but she hadn’t imagined that people would be clinging to each other for reasons beyond the friendliness and spirit of the season.

Bishop Martin McLee, the New York Annual Conference’s new resident bishop, had made other commitments for Sunday, as had his cousin, who also changed his plans and drove the bishop the two hours north to Newtown, the usually quiet, Norman Rockwell-like country village with a creek that gurgles through the main part of town.

—UMNS

Celebrate your life! Witness for your faith!

Rev. Ernesto Sanchez, Pastoral Minister
Christine Saas, Office Assistant
Office Phone: 631-475-0381 | Fax: 631-363-2163

Worship Video Live Streaming at PatchogueUMC.org

Sunday Worship—10 AM — Sunday School—10 AM
Fellowship Coffee Hour—11 AM
Supervised Nursery during worship
Hearing assistance provided

Address Service Requested



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A Prayer For The New Year

What shall I ask for the coming year
What shall my watchword be
What should thou do for me, dear
Lord

What can I do for thee?

Lord, I would ask for a holy year
Spent in thy perfect will
Help me to walk in thy very steps
Help me to please thee still.

Lord, I would ask for a trustful year
Give me thy faith divine
Taking my full inheritance
Making thy fulness mine!

Lord, I would ask for a year of love
O let me love thee best
Give me the love that faileth not
Beneath the hardest test.

Lord, I would ask for a year of

prayer

Teach me to walk with thee
Breathe in my heart the Spirit's
prayer
Pray thou thy prayer in me!

Lord, I would ask for the dying

world

Stretch forth thy mighty hand
Thy truth proclaim, thy power display
This year in every land.

Lord, I would ask for a year of joy
Thy peace, thy joy divine
Springing undimmed through all the
days

Be thy days of shade or shine.

Lord, I ask for a year of hope
Looking for thee to come
And hastening on that year of years
That brings us home to you.

—*inspiringhots.net*



Jan. 4 Michael Artus
Gabiella Heiss

Jan. 11 Juliette Pampalone

Jan. 13 Matthew MacDonald

Jan. 15 Ben Spera

Jan. 24 Analiese Wood

Jan. 26 Tessa Masem
Ella Masem

Jan. 29 Courtney Weiss

Jan. 30 Jesse Cesarino

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