

Seasons

Seasons is a publication of West Virginia American Baptist Women's Ministries.



Spiritual Growth Retreat

"We Are Family"

September 18-19, 2021



Parchment Valley
Conference Center

Women's Day

"Come to the Table"

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Mount Vernon Baptist
Church

Hurricane, WV



FALL 2021

There's an App for That!



The West Virginia Baptist

Convention app is now available for Android and Apple products. Download yours today!

JUST LIKE YOU



WV ABWM

“Always Trendy”



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Missionaries . . .

are often happy, but sometimes sad – just like you
have our good days and our bad – just like you
experience grief as well as pleasure, sometimes long for worldly treasure,
yet know God's peace beyond all measure – just like you;

often feel our spirits soar – just like you
and then they seem to “hit the floor” – just like you
feel frustration, fear and pain, experience clouds and storms and rain, then watch
the sun come out again – just like you;

are sometimes lonely, sometimes not – just like you
sometimes cold and sometimes hot – just like you
sometimes standing straight and tall while feeling that we'll surely fall, with little
confidence at all – just like you;

are sometimes healthy, sometimes ill – just like you
sometimes seeking our own will – just like you
sometimes wavering, sometimes strong, sometimes right and sometimes wrong,
but in our hearts we have a song – just like you;

are often “up” but sometimes “down” – just like you
discouraged as we look around – just like you
yet confident that God does care for all His children everywhere, compelled by this
to go and share – just like you;

are aware of His unending love – just like you
empowered with strength from God above – just like you
feel His presence all around, hear His voice, though there's no sound and cherish
all the joy we've found – just like you;

are simply sinners saved by grace – just like you
serving Christ wherever our place – just like you
called by God to go and share Christ's love with people everywhere, telling of His
loving care – just like you;

are human beings frail and weak – just like you
who sometimes fail God's best to seek – just like you
yet knowing His love that never ends, the power God through His Spirit sends and
dependent on the prayers of friends – JUST LIKE YOU!

Written by Jackie Bailes (missionary in Eku, Nigeria, 1991)

I was blessed to know Jackie when she along with her husband began attending
my church a few years ago. She went home to be with the Lord in 2019. In Jack-
ie's words, “Every believer is called to be a missionary.”

The focus of ABWM of WV is missions, whether meeting the needs abroad or in
our backyard. Working together to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this broken
world is a privilege. “And let us not grow weary while doing good...” Galatians 6:9

ABWM President Kathy Hudson

Ravenswood First Baptist Church

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We are Family

2021 SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

May the Lord make your love an increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.
- 1 Thessalonians 3:12

"UNGLUED" BIBLE SESSION
MEDITATION/PRAYER ROOM
SPEAKER: AMY BUSH
CHRISTIAN COMEDIANS
PAINT AND PRAISE SESSION WITH
MONA GOODALL (\$10 DONATION)

SEPTEMBER 18-19, 2021

PARCHMENT VALLEY CONFERENCE CENTER

EARLY REGISTRATION: FRIDAY, 7:00-9:00 PM

REGISTRATION: SATURDAY, 8:30 AM





Ordinary Women with Extraordinary Faith

Joni Eareckson Tada should inspire us all. In 1967, at the age of 17, a very athletic young girl with all kinds of plans for her future takes a dive into a lake that leaves her quadriplegic, changing her life and journey forever. Her story of depression, anger and finding the faith and spirit to fight on will inspire you. She became publicly known at first about her ability to write and draw just using her mouth. As she continued to share her faith journey, she started a program helping families with disabilities in the 80's morphing into *Joni and Friends*, a weekly radio program providing encouragement, biblical insights and disability awareness, which continues to this day in podcasts, on Facebook and YouTube, etc. She, with the help of her husband, Ken, have started many foundations to help those with disabilities and has also written multiple books to inspire us all.



Now, before we think what an amazing person she is, Joni and her husband, Ken, talk openly about their struggles. Joni has battled breast cancer, constant pain, lung issues and recently she and Ken both had COVID-19. In *A Place of Healing: Wrestling with the Mysteries of Suffering, Pain, and God's Sovereignty* she writes "He has chosen not to heal me, but to hold me. The more intense the pain, the closer His embrace." The openness of Joni and her husband will encourage and remind all of us she is a regular woman of faith who can inspire us all to have extraordinary faith.

You can learn more about her faith walk and journey at <https://www.joniandfriends.org/> Joni Eareckson Tada on Facebook, [Joni and Friends](#) Ministry Podcast and *Joni*, a movie about her life, up to 1979.

Books include *Joni: An Unforgettable Story*; *Joni and Ken: An Untold Love Story*; *Place of Healing: Wrestling with the Mysteries of Suffering, Pain, and God's Sovereignty*; *Glorious Intruder: God's Presence in Life's Chaos*; *Disability and the Gospel: How God Uses Our Brokenness to Display His Grace*.

These are just a few of her books. She also does a daily devotional which makes a great gift for you or a friend. You can find many of her books at your local library, online for free, at your local Christian bookstore, at *Joni and Friends* or through Amazon.

Sherry Husted
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WV American Baptist Women's Ministries 2021 Special Project (Carried over from 2020)



Handicapped Accessible Restroom Parchment Valley Conference Center Administration Building - Goal: \$12,000



The project of the new, state-of-the-art restroom for Parchment Valley Conference Center (PVCC) has been completed. Upon your next visit you will find the original location of the office has moved from one end of the barn to the other end, which overlooks the grounds.

This handicapped restroom facility meets the specifications of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and is easily accessible to those who may have special needs. **It is all automatic** - from the opening of the 40" wide door that can accommodate a

wheelchair, to the lighting, the flushing of the toilet, the sink and the release of the hand towels at the wave of the hand. Congratulations on a job well done!



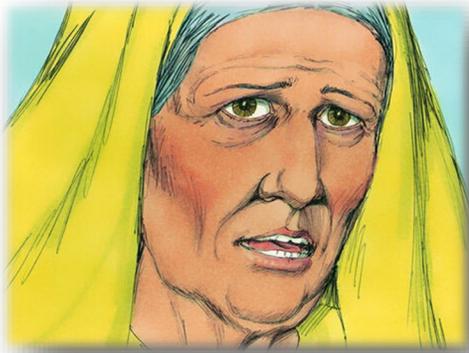
Donations made in 2021 will fulfill our commitment of \$12,000 and any carry over will help with projects at PVCC, such as the replacement of heavy tables in Hill Hall along with replacing items and repairs needed in the lodges. Thanks to all who have given and continue to give to this amazing place.

If you would like to make a contribution to the cost of this project, please send your payment to: Amy Starkey, State Treasurer, WV ABWM, 921 Whispering Pines Road, Ravenswood, WV 26164. (ABW groups please go through your usual payment channels).

**Giving as of
July 31, 2021:
\$4,304.18**

Mary Ann Wilson
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Spencer, WV 25276
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E-mail: mawilson@hughes.net





Reproduced from the New International Version (NIV) Leadership Bible

A woman without a family in either Moab or Israel was a desolate and vulnerable creature. Naomi was such a woman. After three heart-rending funerals, she was left with no husband and no sons to protect her from the perils of widowhood. As miserable as life would be in her home town of Bethlehem, she decided going home would be easier than staying in Moab. So she left Moab and headed home. Her two widowed daughters-in-law followed her, but Naomi encouraged them to go back, explaining the implications of being an unattached older woman in Bethlehem. These two women were young enough to start over; it was foolish for them to tie themselves to her. Orpah listened and returned home, but not Ruth. Read the account in Ruth 1:19-21.



Notice two things about this story. First, Naomi was a realist. She didn't turn lemons into lemonade. God had dealt her a bitter hand, and unless she acknowledged her situation for what it was, she wouldn't be able to play that hand intelligently. But also notice although Naomi did acknowledge her situation was bitter, she didn't say she was bitter. Her attitude is revealed by Ruth's response to her. After a frank discussion of reality, Ruth still wanted to stay with her mother-in-law. She was willing to live within a foreign culture so that that could be with Naomi. Naomi had received some hard knocks, but she had not become hard.



Read Ruth's expression of her loyalty to Naomi in verses 1:16-17. People don't make that kind of commitment to an angry, vindictive old woman. Ruth's response is a telling commentary on Naomi's own response to her bitter situation.

A final observation: God had taken Naomi's husband and two sons. Her hopes for a pleasant life had been dashed. All Ruth knew about the God of Israel was learned from the manner in which Naomi had responded to him after the deaths of her husband and sons. But this observation was enough for Ruth to avow that "your God [will be] my God." Wow! Naomi's reaction to her tragedy had actually drawn this young Gentile woman to want to know God. Please take the time to read the rest of the story, which ends with Naomi holding Ruth's baby in her lap. God was assembling the players from whose combined blood lines his own Son would be born, and faithful Naomi was an integral part of his plan. Because Naomi responded as she did, the name Ruth appears in the genealogy of Jesus Christ. When life got bitter, Naomi had a choice. She could become bitter or she could trust God. Naomi made the right choice and her life drew others to God.





Women's 137th Annual Meeting

Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021

"Come to the Table"

**Registration
9:00 a.m.**

Mount Vernon Baptist Church Sanctuary
2150 Mount Vernon Road
Hurricane, WV 25526

**Lunch
11:30 a.m.
\$6.00**

**Keynote Speaker:
Meredith
Thomas**



**Can't Wait
To See You!!!**

**Registration at 9:00 a.m.
Program Begins at 9:30 a.m.**

**Installation of Officers
Sherry Goldsburg**

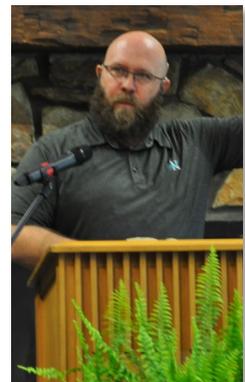
**Travel Directions:
Page 10**

**2022 WV Hope
Ministries**

**2022
Mission Outreach Project
Special Project**

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:24-25

ABWM of West Virginia 87th Annual Conference June 5, 2021





In John 4:35, Jesus tells us:
 “Open your eyes and look at the fields!
 They are ripe for harvest.” At conference our
 eyes were opened to the “fields.” Now may
 we find ourselves carrying the seed of the
 gospel to sow into the “fields” where we are
 led and may we “return with songs of joy
 carrying the sheaves.” (Psalm 126:6)

Sandy Foster Currey
 Conference Coordinator



Announcements and Upcoming Events

2021 WOMEN'S ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church

2150 Mount Vernon Road, Hurricane, WV 25526



Travel Directions:

Take Exit 39 off I-64.
Turn left onto Route 34.
Go approximately 1/4 mile to second light after interstate exchange.
Turn right onto Mount Vernon Road.
Go approximately 1/4 mile and the church is on the right.

September 18-19, 2021

“We Are Family”

Parchment Valley Conference Center

Melanie Swisher, coordinator



Wednesday, October 20, 2021

State Executive Board Meeting (Evening)

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church

Hurricane, WV 25526

Thursday, October 21, 2021

ABWM of WV Annual Meeting Day

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church (Hurricane, WV)

“Come to the Table”

Mary Davis, acting coordinator

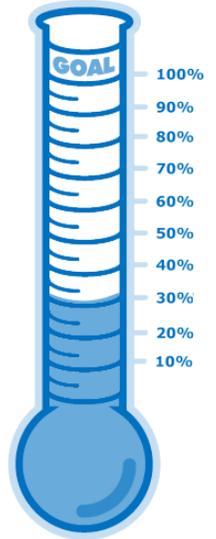


Love Gift

Mid-Year Status

\$36,462.68

Annual Goal: \$100,000



Halfway through the year . . . statistically speaking that's only a little over one-third of our goal. Love Gift has been a part of Wes Virginia American Baptist Women's Ministries for 89 years. Many rely upon this multi-purpose fund raiser. And remember, 54.4% of our offerings go into the financial budgeting process of our state office.

The Little Engine That Could is a great example for us. Last year, in the midst of a global pandemic, the total raised was \$67,288.78, which was truly remarkable as every social meeting came to a screeching halt! Let's celebrate the return of social functioning and see if we can't reach 100% of our goal by year end. I think we can, I think we can, I think we can.



Judy Staats
Love Gift Coordinator
Summersville Baptist Church
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E-mail: judystaats@frontier.com



REMINDERS



- Mission trip grants are still available through ABWM of WV
- Be in prayer for your scholarship girls as they head off to school in August
- Be in prayer for the nominating committee as they seek new officers
- Travel directions to the Women's Annual Meeting Day at Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Hurricane are on page 10 (Upcoming Events)
- Love Gift donations and collections are to be mailed directly to the state office
- WV Hope donations are to be mailed directly to the recipients
- Out of This World salsa production commences this week at Parchment Valley Conference Center
- Be in prayer for our leaders - spiritual and all others



American Baptist Women's Ministries of West Virginia

Love Gift Distribution

Year	Total Collected	ABWM Nat'l 15%	Ministry Orgs. 3.4%	Global/Nat'l Min. 4.25%	ABC/USA 22.95%	WVBC 54.40%
1985	\$ 159,477.00	\$ 23,921.55	\$ 5,422.22	\$ 6,777.77	\$ 36,599.97	\$ 86,755.49
1986	\$ 170,662.00	\$ 25,599.30	\$ 5,802.51	\$ 7,253.14	\$ 39,166.93	\$ 92,840.13
1987	\$ 165,635.00	\$ 24,845.25	\$ 5,631.59	\$ 7,039.49	\$ 38,013.23	\$ 90,105.44
1988	\$ 182,813.00	\$ 27,421.95	\$ 6,215.64	\$ 7,769.55	\$ 41,955.58	\$ 99,450.27
1989	\$ 182,242.00	\$ 27,336.30	\$ 6,196.23	\$ 7,745.29	\$ 41,824.54	\$ 99,139.65
1990	\$ 188,889.00	\$ 28,333.35	\$ 6,422.23	\$ 8,027.78	\$ 43,350.03	\$ 102,755.62
1991	\$ 190,031.00	\$ 28,504.65	\$ 6,461.05	\$ 8,076.32	\$ 43,612.11	\$ 103,376.86
1992	\$ 191,678.00	\$ 28,751.70	\$ 6,517.05	\$ 8,146.32	\$ 43,990.10	\$ 104,272.83
1993	\$ 177,588.00	\$ 26,638.20	\$ 6,037.99	\$ 7,547.49	\$ 40,756.45	\$ 96,607.87
1994	\$ 181,322.00	\$ 27,198.30	\$ 6,164.95	\$ 7,706.19	\$ 41,613.40	\$ 98,639.17
1995	\$ 178,947.00	\$ 26,842.05	\$ 6,084.20	\$ 7,605.25	\$ 41,068.34	\$ 97,347.17
1996	\$ 189,084.00	\$ 28,362.60	\$ 6,428.86	\$ 8,036.07	\$ 43,394.78	\$ 102,861.70
1997	\$ 192,697.00	\$ 28,904.55	\$ 6,551.70	\$ 8,189.62	\$ 44,223.96	\$ 104,827.17
1998	\$ 194,831.00	\$ 29,224.65	\$ 6,624.25	\$ 8,280.32	\$ 44,713.71	\$ 105,988.06
1999	\$ 198,320.00	\$ 29,748.00	\$ 6,742.88	\$ 8,428.60	\$ 45,514.44	\$ 107,886.08
2000	\$ 202,992.00	\$ 30,448.80	\$ 6,901.73	\$ 8,627.16	\$ 46,586.66	\$ 110,427.65
2001	\$ 206,070.00	\$ 30,910.50	\$ 7,006.38	\$ 8,757.98	\$ 47,293.07	\$ 112,102.08
2002	\$ 204,377.00	\$ 30,656.55	\$ 6,948.82	\$ 8,686.02	\$ 46,904.52	\$ 111,181.09
2003	\$ 194,426.00	\$ 29,163.90	\$ 6,610.48	\$ 8,263.11	\$ 44,620.77	\$ 105,767.74
2004	\$ 196,510.00	\$ 29,476.50	\$ 6,681.34	\$ 8,351.68	\$ 45,099.05	\$ 106,901.44
2005	\$ 179,229.00	\$ 26,884.35	\$ 6,093.79	\$ 7,617.23	\$ 41,133.06	\$ 97,500.58
2006	\$ 161,675.00	\$ 24,251.25	\$ 5,496.95	\$ 6,871.19	\$ 37,104.41	\$ 87,951.20
2007	\$ 156,307.00	\$ 23,446.05	\$ 5,314.44	\$ 6,643.05	\$ 35,872.46	\$ 85,031.01
2008	\$ 155,324.00	\$ 23,298.60	\$ 5,281.02	\$ 6,601.27	\$ 35,646.86	\$ 84,496.26
2009	\$ 154,503.00	\$ 23,175.45	\$ 5,253.10	\$ 6,566.38	\$ 35,458.44	\$ 84,049.63
2010	\$ 143,926.00	\$ 21,588.90	\$ 4,893.48	\$ 6,116.86	\$ 33,031.02	\$ 78,295.74
2011	\$ 145,424.00	\$ 21,813.60	\$ 4,944.42	\$ 6,180.52	\$ 33,374.81	\$ 79,110.66
2012	\$ 137,295.00	\$ 20,594.25	\$ 4,668.03	\$ 5,835.04	\$ 31,509.20	\$ 74,688.48
2013	\$ 131,524.00	\$ 19,728.60	\$ 4,471.82	\$ 5,589.77	\$ 30,184.76	\$ 71,549.06
2014	\$ 114,438.00	\$ 17,165.70	\$ 3,890.89	\$ 4,863.62	\$ 26,263.52	\$ 62,254.27
2015	\$ 116,454.00	\$ 17,468.10	\$ 3,959.44	\$ 4,949.30	\$ 26,726.19	\$ 63,350.98
2016	\$ 115,126.00	\$ 17,268.90	\$ 3,914.28	\$ 4,892.86	\$ 26,421.42	\$ 62,628.54
2017	\$ 109,491.00	\$ 16,423.65	\$ 3,722.69	\$ 4,653.37	\$ 25,128.18	\$ 59,563.10
2018	\$ 93,879.00	\$ 14,081.85	\$ 3,191.89	\$ 3,989.86	\$ 21,545.23	\$ 51,070.18
2019	\$ 91,463.00	\$ 13,719.45	\$ 3,109.74	\$ 3,887.18	\$ 20,990.76	\$ 49,755.87
2020	\$ 67,288.78	\$ 10,093.32	\$ 2,287.82	\$ 2,859.77	\$ 15,442.78	\$ 36,605.10
2021						
TOTAL	\$5,821,937.78	\$ 873,290.67	\$197,945.88	\$247,432.36	\$ 1,336,134.72	\$3,143,846.40



Charles R. Swindoll

From his book *Insights on Luke*.
Excerpt from Gabriel's Heavenly Dialogue
(From My Journal) page 47-48

The problem of sin and evil creates a unique difficulty. Transgression of God's laws decrees that reflect His very character - must carry a penalty or the laws are meaningless. Therefore, to simply set aside the penalty of sin would require the Lord to deny His very character. Yet to eradicate sin would destroy the sinner.

Gabriel and the other angels probably struggled to understand the Lord's extraordinary efforts to redeem sinful humanity, and they may have found His plan equally perplexing. If the Lord were to explain why God must become a man in order to redeem humanity, I imagine the conversation might go something like this:

Unable to resolve the dilemma, Gabriel asked, "How will you destroy sin and preserve the people?"

The Lord glowed with pleasure at the opportunity to reveal the next detail of His plan. "I will provide a substitute - someone to pay the penalty of sin on their behalf."

"But who?" I protested, "How can someone pay for the sins of another if he dies paying for his own?"

"A very astute question," he answered. "The substitute must not have any sin of his own."

I was even more perplexed. "But Lord, the substitute would have to be a human in order to represent humanity, yet all of humanity has been infected with evil. Furthermore, this substitute would have to be superhuman in order to pay the penalty for all people, to die a death that would cover not just one sinner's penalty, but that of the whole multitude! What substitute can possibly suffice?"

After a short silence, God said, "God."

I stood dumbfounded. It didn't seem possible. And if it were, it didn't seem fair. Indeed, it wasn't! This was grace. So characteristic of Him, yet utterly beyond my ability to comprehend.

He continued, "I will send My eternal Son to be the Messiah. He will be the substitute. The Messiah will not be the son of a sinful, earthly father, but My Son, born of a virgin to preserve His sinlessness. The Messiah will be man. The Messiah will be God. Being the God-man, He will represent humankind, yet He will have no sin. Furthermore, after He dies on behalf of all humankind, He will conquer death by rising from the grave."

I could not speak. The perfection of His plan - so ingenious, so simple, so intricate - left me even more amazed than seeing Him create the universe with a mere word.

2021 Mission Outreach Project

House of Hope Medical / Dental Clinic

Bolivia

Goal: \$6,000



**Giving as of
July 31, 2021:
\$2,797.18**



American Baptist Women's Ministries of WV

Spiritual Growth Retreat

Parchment Valley Conference Center (Hill Hall) - Ripley, WV

September 18-19, 2021

Registration must be received by September 1, 2021.

Registration form and fees are needed for **EACH** person registering.

Lodges: () Double Occupancy - \$112.00/per person, **roommate listed below.**

() Double Occupancy - \$112.00/per person, will accept assigned roommate.

() Triple (3) or quadruple (4) \$102.00/per person, roommates listed below. (To take advantage of this price, at least 3 per room is required. It is essential to share a bed and must be pre-arranged.)

** Three (3) handicapped rooms are available. Please indicate if needed -- includes handrails on toilets, tubs and walk-in showers.

Air Conditioned Cabin (Dorm) Rooms:

() \$86.00 per person (bring your own linens)

() \$91.00 per person (includes linens)

Cabin room sleeps 12 people, 6 single size bunk beds.

Roommates listed below or on attached sheet.

Register/Check-in

Friday evening from 7-9 pm or

Saturday morning at 8:30 am in Hill Hall.

Part-Time Registration:

() \$20.00 Full Time Registration Fee

() \$ 6.00 Saturday Breakfast

() \$ 7.00 Saturday Lunch

() \$ 8.00 Saturday Dinner

() \$ 6.00 Sunday Breakfast

() \$17.00 Bunkhouse/Dorm (per person)

() \$25.00 One Night's Lodging, 3-4 to a room

() \$30.00 One Night's Lodging, Double Occupancy

_____ Total

Mail registration forms, including fees, to:

Carrie J. Gasaway

451 22nd Street

Dunbar, WV 25064

panda112260.cj@gmail.com

Phone: 304.552.3760

I work and cannot take personal calls.

You can reach me between 4:30-9:00 p.m.

Walk-ins are welcome. However, meals cannot be assured.

***Make checks payable to AB Women's Ministries of WV**

Please print legibly.

Name _____ Phone _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip Code _____

Church _____ Association _____

Roommate (s) _____ Email _____

Dietary Needs _____ Handicap Needs _____



Visit us on the web:
[www.wvbc.org/Partners/
 AB Women's Ministries](http://www.wvbc.org/Partners/AB%20Women's%20Ministries)

**Purpose of
 AB Women's
 Ministries**

In commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to the mission of the church, and through the enabling of the Holy Spirit, American Baptist Women's Ministries provides opportunities for each woman to:

- become and develop as God's person,
- build God's faith community and
- serve God's world.



Subscription / Renewal to *SEASONS*

If your mailing label has any month in 2022 as an expiration date, it is time to renew. **Subscription rate is \$5.00 per year.**

Every association and local president receives a complimentary copy.

I am enclosing my payment of \$____ for my renewal or ____ new subscription to *SEASONS* for ____ year (s).

West Virginia Baptist Convention
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