



Important Upcoming Dates

Lenten 25/40 Challenge

February 14-April 1

Trustees Workday

Saturday, March 24 9am-Noon

Mother's Day Boxes Available

Sunday, March 25

Palm Sunday Worship

Sunday, March 25, 9am & 10:30am

Good Friday Service

Friday, March 30, 7pm

Easter Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 1, 9am & 10:30am

Children's Day Box Items Due

Sunday, April 8

Mother's Day Boxes Due

Sunday, April 15

Youth QUENCH Event

Sunday, April 22

Youth Summer Mission Trip

June 10-15

Family Promise

June 17-24

Youth

Helping the Homeless

On MLK day in January. [DFY] toured Tempe 1st UMC's Shower Ministry and donated supplies to their program (soap, socks, etc). One hundred and thirty (**130!**) homeless people had a shower with change of clothes, and/or breakfast the morning we were there. What a great ministry!! We then made a visit to the local laundromat to launder their towels (most of our youth's first experience in a laundromat). Our own Paul Browning spoke to us about some experiences he has had working with Homeless Ministries. I know he made an impression on the youth as the kids in my vehicle were commenting on Paul's experiences on our trip home.

Souper Bowl of Caring

- We raised over \$250 to go to UMOM. The voting was about 2 to 1 in favor of the Philadelphia Eagles!
- We had over 150 cans and packages to go to Kyrene Resource Center Food Bank.
- We had a "Souper" Yummy Soup Potluck with the opportunity to taste test 9 different kinds of soup.



Upcoming

QUENCH Event

Spare Change collection
April 15-22

Purchase water bottles
April 8-15

Quench Event, Sunday, April 22

Summer Mission Trip

June 10-15

Check with Ellen for availability
if your youth hasn't yet signed
up.

QUENCH

Our next Service/Mission effort is QUENCH. This is a project where we will be HELPING to provide LONG TERM solutions for communities in need of clean water. YOU CAN HELP TOO with:

- "Spare Change Water Bottles/Cups" for Quench Solutions. Spare change bottles/cups will be handed out by our Youth starting March 4. We will gather the change bottles/cups on April 15-22.
- Sponsoring our youth on their Quench walk.
- Purchasing insulated water bottles April 8-15 - for Quench Solutions.

Volunteer to help with the QUENCH Event on April 22. If you are interested, please contact Ellen Daniels at: youth@desertfoothills.org

Youth Families – Mark your calendars for 2018 QUENCH EVENT to be held on April 22. This will be a fun half-day event following Sunday Services. We will have the opportunity to participate in activities and games, all while learning about water scarcity, refugee life and disaster relief – think 30H Famine. We are asking for a \$10 donation and a case of bottled water (for local Homeless Ministries).

[DFY] Summer Mission Trip 2018

Our 2018 mission trip (organized by Youthworks) is to the Navajo Nation, in the Window Rock Area of Arizona, June 10-June 15. If your youth hasn't yet signed up and is interested in participating, please contact Ellen to see about availability.

Following Jesus – Love In action!!

- We will help plan & lead children's programming in a Kids Club.
- We will help community residents with work projects such as painting, yard work, and more.
- We will learn about Navajo history and culture.
- On the trip home, we'll spend some extra time in the high country enjoying the cool pines.

The mission trip cost is \$405 (+ travel meals). Sign up and pay \$205 by February 11, 2018 to secure your spot (remaining due April 29). After deadline you can still sign up depending upon availability. See Ellen about scholarships.



Photos above are from Window Rock and Fort Defiance on the Navajo Nation and of AZ High Country, respectively!

Confirmation "Congrats" and "Thanks"



2018 Confirmands!

Poem by Ellen Daniels

CHRIST AT YOUR
CENTER!!!
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE
CONFIMANDS ON
COMPLETING
CONFIRMATION
CLASS. YOU HAVE LEARNED MUCH ABOUT
COMMUNITY,
COMMITMENT, THE
CHURCH, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, HOW TO FOLLOW MORE
CLOSELY THE LOVING EXAMPLE OF
CHRIST!
CONTINUING FORWARD IN YOUR STORY, THE DAILY
CHOICE IS YOURS WHETHER TO PLACE
CHRIST AT YOUR
CENTER?

Confirmation by the Numbers

- **15** Youth completed Confirmation Class in January: Collin Bridge, Heidi Bullock, Katy Cornacchio, Matt Daniels, Alex Doller, Lauren Doller, Abby Gerdis, Jaden Gerdis, Danielle Hansen, Kara Iverson, Will Moynahan, Jeff Rudolph, Will Sears, Collin Travis, and Leah Travis
- **16** Adults shared in Leadership roles as Guest Speakers (GS), sharing part of their Faith Stories (FS), Chaperones (C) or Session Leaders (SL): Michelle Wachter (GS/FS), Bev Jones(GS/FS), Adrienne Ashford Thorpe(GS/FS), Jill Kyroudis(GS/FS), Eric Peterson(GS/FS), Carolyn Blaney Arndt(GS/FS), Deb Browning(GS/FS,C), Paul Browning(GS/FS,C), Ron Dusseau(GS/FS), Connie Squires(GS/FS); Kristin Hansen(S,C), Ellen Daniels(FS,S,C), Dwight Daniels (C), Karen Colbourn(C), Mark Moynahan(C), and Leia Wasbotten (GS)
- **2** Overnights
 - 1 in-house (one night)
 - 1 in Prescott (two nights)
- **3** Youth Mentors provided support on one or both of the retreats: Eric Daniels, Annika Bridge and Cameron Moynahan
- **~100** games of GAGA BALL and Spike Ball
- **2** Worship Service Field Trips to experience how other congregations and/or denominations worship
- **24** Supporting Youth Parents: getting their youth to classes, retreats, sharing their Family Faith History, encouraging their youth both generally and specifically with their Worship notes, reading, Community Service projects and let's not forget providing food and refreshments on multiple occasions...

Much Appreciation to EVERYONE involved with the Confirmation process.

THANK YOU, Ellen Daniels

Family Promise

The week of January 14-21, we had the privilege of hosting 3 families. The families included 3 single mothers with a total of 8 children. Another family of 3 joined the group on Friday for the remaining 2 nights. They were overjoyed with the hospitality and ministry of the folks at Desert Foothills. So many volunteers directly or indirectly touched their lives during the week giving each a piece of strength to move to the next day. Whatever you provided for the week, a meal or an act of service, a donation or a conversation, a computer or a prayer, all was an intricate part of making the week run so smoothly. Thank you Desert Foothills for your generosity and love.

Our second hosting week of the year will be June 17-24. There are many opportunities to volunteer through that week, and we hope that you will mark on your calendar to do so.

We will be doing inventory of all the sheets, blankets and pillowcases we store for our weeks of hosting. If you have any twin sheet sets, pillowcases or twin blankets you would like to donate, we are updating our bedding supplies. Also, we are looking for small desk lamps to use in the rooms with the families.

Please contact Jill Kyroudis at 480-330-5261 or jillak@prodigy.net

– Jill Kyroudis



Grace Moynahan shows Elisha how to have fun with balloons. Grace and her family volunteered as dinner hosts one night during Family Promise week.

Next Family Promise

Date

June 17-24

Needs

- volunteering
- twin sheet sets
- pillowcases
- twin blankets
- small desk lamps

Missions

Desert Foothill Missions team provides a vehicle for members of Desert Foothills UMC to serve our local and extended communities. We actively search for opportunities to serve our community by partnering with local organizations. Our generous congregation continues to make this possible by answering requests to provide much needed resources. The Missions Team welcomes any new members. See Shirley Coomer for more information about Missions ministries!

The Missions Team, with the generous donations of our congregation completed last Fall:

- **Feliz Navidad Bags** - We were able to deliver 182 Feliz Navidad bags to Fuente de Vida (FDV) church in Agua Prieta, Mexico for their Children's Christmas party. We partnered with Red Mountain United Methodist church and Tempe First United Methodist Church to provide the bags which were filled with a warm sweatshirt, toys, candy, school supplies, soccer and volleyballs. For many of the children, this bag is the only Christmas gifts received.

- **King's Table** – The members of the FDV church invite homeless individuals and families to come to the church for showers, haircuts, warm clothes and a dinner. DFUMC provided toiletries, bath towels, warm clothes, blankets, etc. for these guests.
- **Holiday Cards** – The women of FDV collect used greeting cards and remake them into holiday and all occasion cards. We sell these for the ladies and the proceeds are returned to them. During January we provided a bin in the Narthex for folks to recycle old holiday cards, which will be sent to Mexico for the ladies to again create lovely cards. They accept all types of cards (birthday, sympathy, Christmas, etc...)
- **Completion of the Rojas Home** – Our church, through several donations, works to partner with FDV church and Rojas family member to complete their new home. The Rojas children were left orphans when their mother was killed several years ago. The children (ranging from now adults to younger children) had been living in an old trailer. The Rojas family members and church community provided the lot and much of the labor for the building. DFUMC, through generous gifts of current and past members, provided the funds to purchase materials.

Upcoming Missions Projects for Spring:

Mother's Day Boxes 2018

For the last 15 years, we have sent a large number of new shoe boxes filled with items to the women at our sister church, Fuente de Vida, in Agua Prieta, Mexico for their Mother's Day celebration, which is May 10 each year. In 2017 we sent 65 boxes. However, the church has grown so much, under the leadership of Pastora Gela Villicaña and Associate Pastors Armando Jauregui and Kiko Samaniego, that this year we need to send 80 boxes! What a great need to have! We are asking the congregation to fill these boxes and enjoy selecting items for our sisters in Christ.

Our sisters in Agua Prieta live in a poor community that surrounds the church and seldom have anything special for themselves. Mother's Day is a way for us to share our abundance with them. Fuente de Vida schedules a special party and the women open their boxes with great delight, sharing with each other what exciting items they have received. Even the plastic box itself is a treasured item. This celebration is a time of blessing and fellowship. And YOU, the members of DFUMC, make it possible by taking, and filling, one of these plastic shoeboxes.

We have the Mother's boxes available to take March 25, to be returned no later than April 15. The boxes are to be filled with new items for these sisters. We asked the women what, in particular, they are excited to receive. Their answer was the personal items, like



Upcoming

Children's Day Donations Due

April 8

Mother's Day Boxes Available

March 25

Mother's Day Boxes Due

April 15

makeup and jewelry. They also enjoy receiving new paring knives (as they have no way to sharpen theirs). We also know that there are a couple of things NOT to include in their boxes: Puffy, fluffy body scrubbers and bubble bath. They have only showers (not tubs) and usually don't have a place to hang the scrubber to keep it fresh. Space in the box would be better used for some lotion or perfume or shampoo.

Here are some suggestions: Makeup (lipstick, nail polish, eye shadow, eye liner), pierced earrings and other jewelry, toothbrush, toothpaste, nail file, nail polish, candy (they love American chocolates), new writing pen, memo pad, shampoo (best is the kind with shampoo and conditioner in one), soap, lip gloss and "chap stick", dish cloth, dish towel, wash cloth, hand towel, paring knife, a small "trinket" for their home, socks. So take a box and then have a wonderful time filling it with items that will bless the woman who gets your box. We know many of these women personally. Will your box be received by Margarita...or Mila...or Gela...or Roxana? Or Juliet...or Karen...or Lizeth? Or maybe Maria or Rosalinda? Whoever it is, she will know that she is loved by a family at Desert Foothills UMC! Let your imagination help you choose things that you feel will bless your sister. Shop with excitement, because all of these gifts will be gratefully received!

When your box is full and ready to go, please put a rubber band around it and your name on top. Questions? Please ask Project Leader Stephanie Bute at stephbute@gmail.com.

Children's Day 2018

Since 2002, Desert Foothills has participated in the fantastic Children's Day Fiesta at our sister church, Fuente de Vida, in Agua Prieta, Mexico. This Mexican holiday honors the children of Mexico on April 30 each year. The Fuente de Vida celebration is always held on the Saturday before April 30, which in 2018 is April 28. The children, their families, guests, residents of the Colonia Empacadora (the area where Fuente de Vida is located) are given a meal of a hot dog, beans, chips, Jello, drink, and cake. The meal will be prepared by the women of the Fuente de Vida church. The hot dogs are donated by a member of DFUMC.

At the fiesta, each of the many children is given a small gift bag, filled with small toys, some food and candy. Desert Foothills is again providing the items for the gift bags, which will be assembled by the women of Fuente de Vida.

We are asking for donations of the following items:

- Small toys (think McDonald's size),
- Individually packaged cookies and crackers and fruit snacks,
- Small juice containers (packets or boxes),
- Candy...Note: Chocolate is most welcome!

Other small gift items that will fit in small bag, like toiletries for teen girls (lip balm, small shampoo, lotion), razors for teen boys. Be creative!!

These donations need to be AT DFUMC no later than Sunday, April 8.



Mats for Homeless with Y OPAS

Thank you to everyone who participated in the January mission project to make mats for Justa Center. We do indeed have mats!! Justa Center is a day center that works to help seniors experiencing homelessness. Desert Foothills, in collaboration with Y OPAS (The YMCA Outreach Program for Ahwatukee Seniors), will provide 25 mats to the Justa Center for those seniors in need. These special mats have been a true labor of love with many, many hands doing this good work.

At church, we collected plastic bags and helped process the bags into plastic yarn or “plarn”. Thank you to each and every one of you who donated plastic bags to this project – we have SO MANY bags that Y OPAS will be using them for months to come! Every age and every generation was part of this project. I LOVE This! Thank you to the Sunday school kids and congregation members who helped flatten, fold, cut loops, and roll balls of “plarn.” Having the bags processed helps the Y OPAS volunteers and clients who crochet the mats in a BIG way!

In honor of Desert Foothills’ 25th anniversary Y OPAS will donate 25 mats that provide insulation, comfort and protection from the elements to folks living on the street. The results of this short term project have been nothing less than astounding. Each mat represents hours of hand work, beginning with the processing of the bags to the actual crocheting. Each mat requires 720 bags and hours and hours of time to create.

The mats were blessed during worship (see picture) and will be delivered to the Executive Director of Justa Center at a special meeting at the Lincoln YMCA. In one of those divine twists of fate, Home Instead Senior Care heard about the project. The Home Instead Board of Directors and Founders will be in Phoenix and wanted to see the project and learn more! We will have a show and share meeting that will undoubtedly raise awareness of the needs of seniors experiencing homelessness in our communities.

Thank you again! I have long known how generous our church is - and these kinds of projects always bring me closer to God. Being part of a connective church, and a community that loves and supports one another is a gift. Happy Anniversary DFUMC – here’s to 25 more years of doing good!

– Jill Sears



Mats Displayed at DFUMC



Y OPAS!



Mat Delivery to Justa Center

Children's Ensemble

The Children's Ensemble was begun this past October. At present the Ensemble (for Grades K - 5) consists of five talented girls. Boy singers are more than welcome. We rehearse on Sunday evenings, 5:00-5:45. Following the rehearsal the children enjoy crafts and activities from 5:45 to 6:30. Once per month the Ensemble sings for both worship services. Included in the rehearsals are voice training, language arts correlations, movement, and playing instruments.

Participating in the Ensemble gives children the opportunity to serve DFUMC through sacred music.

– Pat Williams

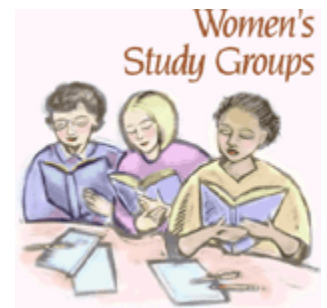


*Children's Ensemble
Singing February 4, 2018!*

Saturday Morning Women's Study Group

The first Saturday of each month from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. the Women's Breakfast/Discussion group will meet to discuss Adam Hamilton's study of Half Truths. On March 3rd we will meet at the home of Marianne Hutchinson, 11207 S. Talavi Lane, (480) 496-4313, to discuss Chapter 5, "Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin". Please bring a breakfast item to share if you are able. Everyone is welcome and may join in the discussion, whether you have read the chapter or not.

– Marianne Hutchinson



Trustees or What's Up with the Church Property?

The Trustees are happy to report we have lots of projects underway to maintain and utilize the church property. Narthex improvements. Spring workday, and prayer garden maintenance are some of our current projects.

The Desert Foothills United Methodist Church Board of Trustees is a six-member committee responsible for proper keeping of God's house as a way to honor God and facilitate the ministry of the local church. Gifts of monetary contributions to the church and your service allow the Trustees to fulfill our mission.

Upcoming Date

Spring Workday!

March 24 8am-Noon.

Narthex

Narthex improvements include paint to match the sanctuary, upgrading the kitchenette, and adding a decorative memorial tree on one wall. The kitchenette upgrade will include new cabinets, countertop and

sink. The memorial tree will honor will have "leaves" engraved with memorial information. Watch for more information later this spring.

Workday

DFUMC Trustees count on volunteers for some work on our property. Our spring 2018 workday is scheduled for Saturday, March 24, the day before Palm Sunday. Please put this on your calendar and plan to come up to shine up our building, inside and out, for Easter. Inside we'll be cleaning dust and cobwebs from those hard to reach spots, washing windows and other light work. Outside, we typically work on irrigation lines, clean windows or maintain the prayer garden - and maybe we will trim a few trees. The workday runs from 8 until noon, and you can come for all morning or just an hour. Join us for a fellowship, snacks, and a little work.

Bequests

Trustees are responsible for receiving and administering gifts made to the congregation, including gifts from estates. If you want to consider a gift for the church, we have access to resources from the United Methodist Southwest Conference. Last year the church finalized a policy for administering bequests and assisting our congregation with confidential gift and estate planning information. Contact the Pastor or a Trustee for more information

Prayer Garden

Have you visited the prayer garden lately? We have new seating that was donated last year. Trustee Ed Jones leads the effort to maintain this area as a shaded, quiet place for anyone to use for prayer, reflection or conversation. He needs some assistants to help him keep the landscape in the garden looking good. Call Ed or leave him a message through the church office.



Prayer Garden

Church Building & Community

One of the goals of the Trustees is to reach out to the community through use of our building. Preschool, music lessons, quilters and other non-church related groups rent parts of the building when not needed for church activities. Rents go into the church general fund. Interested parties can contact the church office for more information.

Member Corner, by Scott Moynahan

Posture

What do you think of when you hear the word POSTURE? How you sit or stand, how you carry yourself when walking into a room, depending on your situation, your posture can and does change. You can be confident in one arena, but in another you may feel weak, scared, intimidated and overwhelmed. How do you present yourself in these situations? Do you sit /stand erect, shoulders back, head up, or do you make yourself slouch and look smaller.

What is posture? Here are just a few of the definitions of posture borrowed from Dictionary.com.

noun

1. the position of the limbs or the carriage of the body as a whole: poor posture; a sitting posture.
2. a mental or spiritual attitude: His ideas reveal a defensive posture.

verb (used with object), postured, posturing.

1. to place in a particular posture or attitude.
2. to adopt an attitude or take an official position on (a matter): The company postured that the court's ruling could be interpreted as being in its favor.

verb (used without object), postured, posturing.

1. to assume a particular posture.
2. to act in an affected or artificial manner, as to create a certain impression.

We all know that slouch sitting and a forward head is a great way to promote bad posture. We also know that keeping our shoulders back and head above our shoulders is a better posture. This is all about our physical posture, what about our situational posture, emotional posture, spiritual posture?

How do you hold yourself when you see an injustice in front of you at work, life, shopping? What would your posture be if confronted by a demanding co-worker, classmate, family member? What is your posture regarding your spirit? Do you stand tall when people bash your religion in front of you? Do you get small and act like you didn't hear it? What kind of posture do you have when talking to God? Is it a humble posture, one that is neither strong nor weak, but more open to receiving the blessing of Christ our saviour? Remember, we control our posture. Practice is the key to having the strength and fortitude to have good posture in all areas of life. Look at the areas that you are strong in and know your posture demonstrates confidence. Then look at the areas in your life that you may not have a strong posture. Practice your posture, physical, emotional and spiritual! Posture UP!!

– Scott Moynahan

Lent

Desert Foothills Fitness Ministry Invites You to the 25/40 LOVE Challenge

Lent starts on February 14th this year – so the theme of LOVE for a fitness challenge was too good to pass up! In years past, [DF] Fit has done three Run for God challenges – culminating in a 5K or 10K run. Last year we encouraged one another to exercise 40 minutes per day for the 40 days of lent. The 40/40 challenge is what originally inspired me to bring the first Run for God to DFUMC – and through the miracle that is social media – “friends” and friends have encouraged one another to personal success and improvement from miles away and right next door.



So, it is not a stretch to say that Lent is what inspired [DF] Fit – our fledgling fitness ministry here at DFUMC. This year, let's encourage one another on the journey with a 25/40 challenge.

Let's do the LOVE challenge. [DF] Fit challenges you to walk, run, pray, meditate, breathe with GOD for 25 minutes every day for the 40 days of Lent. Request to join the [DF] Fit Facebook page, and each week we will provide a scripture or words of inspiration to meditate on while you exercise or to pray over in your own way. It inspires me to think of all of us intentionally focused on LOVE and the transformation it might bring about within us and around us. Invite a friend to join you! I'm looking forward to the journey.

– Jill Sears

Taking Responsibility for My Faith



Sometimes it is far too easy to expect others to feed my faith. Being disappointed with sermons, wondering why whatever class I am attending doesn't quite measure up, or realizing I haven't been engaged in a while. Although it is important to share the walk, usually the culprit is me - not really spending enough time.

The sermon I delivered on 1/28 for Pastor Kristin caused me to think about my own time in the Bible. I read the liturgy, I read for Bible Study, but I somehow do not do enough personal reading. Quite the admission when you are a leader. I have a number of passages which I can recall from earlier seasons of study, but I need to dive in again.

For Lent I have decided to spend an hour a day either reading or listening to Scripture. I wish to go quickly to once again get the sweep of God's Story. Putting it in writing is part of holding myself accountable.

However, my Lenten journey proceeds, I want to encourage each of you to make one as well. Only you can decide with God what that might be. Some of you will join Jill Sears and the fitness crew in their 25/40 challenge doing 25 minutes of exercise or meditation for each of the 40 days. Others may find it an opportunity to try a new prayer practice for the 40 days.

I would love to hear your story of the journey come April, and I welcome you asking about mine.

– Karen Colbourn, Desert Foothills UMC Lay Leader

Lent & Easter Worship Services

Palm Sunday Services

March 25, 9am and 10:30am

Good Friday Service

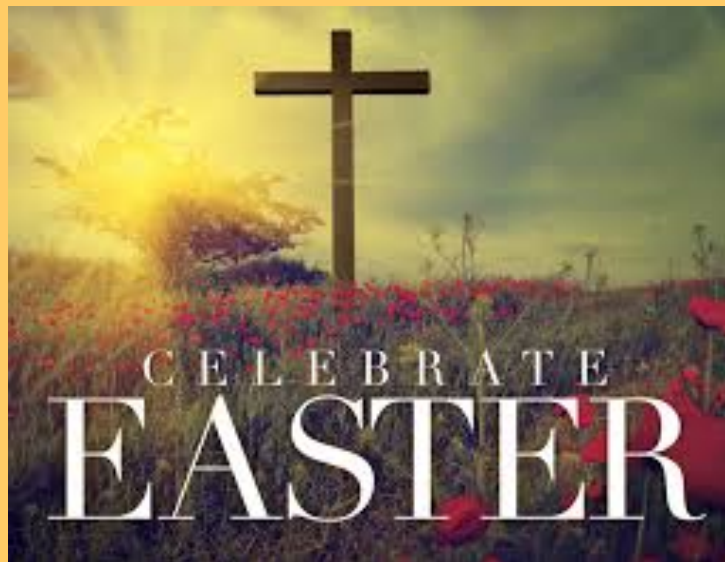
March 30, 7-8pm

Easter Sunday, April 1

Casual Service 9am

Traditional Service 10:30am

Childcare available in the nursery during all worship services.



Your DFUMC Volunteer Leaders and Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Kristin Hansen

Choir Director: Leia Wasbotten

Finance Director: Shari McPherran

Nursery Attendant: Elyse Newman

Office Staff: Sallie King and Stephanie Giel

Praise Band Director: Charles Wolff

Youth Leader: Ellen Daniels

Christian Education: John Doller

Finance Chairperson: Kevin Dietrich

Lay Leader: Karen Colbourn

Lay Members to Annual Conference: Karen Colbourn and Susanne Rudolph

Missions: Shirley Coomer

SPRC: Paul Meade

Stephen Ministry Leaders: Deb Browning, Dave Gould Maureen Kartchner, Bette Knoche

Trustees President: Kevin Chadwick

Worship: Chuck Allen

Youth Representative to Leadership Team: Eric Daniels

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