

St. Alban's Chronicle

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
3001 Wisconsin Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20016

April 15, 2005

Farewell to Mary and Frank Wade A Celebration of 2000 Sundays

Friday, April 22 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Satterlee Hall

This will be a joyful evening with roasts, toasts, tributes, and musical notes. Also, time for Mary and Frank to mingle with parishioners of all ages. We'll send them off with our love and a purse to help fund retirement pleasures. We'll be serving hors d'oeuvres and sweets, wine, and sodas.

Here's how you can take part:

- Volunteer!!... to set up and decorate Satterlee Hall before or clean up afterwards.
Be a greeter, food runner, or bartender.
- Volunteer!!... to donate food. Bring your favorite hors d'oeuvres or sweet treat.
- Donate!!!... To help defray the party expenses. Please make checks payable to St. Alban's. On memo line, indicate Designated Gift - Parish Event
- Purse!!!... Give to Mary and Frank's purse, make checks payable to St. Alban's.
On memo line, indicate Wades' Purse

If you'd like to help with the party, sign up in the Narthex after services
or contact Kate Bouvé at kgsbouve@starpower.net

To note

For additional information on these events,
contact the Parish Office at 202-363-8286,
Office@st-albans-parish.org

Jubilee 150 Senior Choir Concert
Friday, April 15, 7:30 pm. Kodaly's Missa
Brevis and Harrison's Hoc Templum.
Details on back page.

Jubilee 150 Art of Faith Sunday
April 17. Displays of parishioner art,
writing and more. Details on back page.

Presiding Bishop's Visit Sunday,
April 17, the Most Reverend Frank
Griswold, preacher and celebrant at the
11:15 am service. Speaker at 10:30 am
Parish Forum.

Frank's Farewell Sunday at
St. Alban's Sunday, April 24.

Annual Parish Meeting Sunday,
May 1, 12:30 pm in Satterlee Hall.

Installation of Interim Rector Sunday,
May 1, our Senior Associate Rector, the
Rev. J. Carlyle Gill, will be installed as our
Interim Rector.

Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, May 1,
12:30 pm in Satterlee Hall.

Vestry Retreat Friday evening May 6
and Saturday, May 7.



We welcome the faithful, the seeker, and the doubter, for God's embrace is wide and God's Good News is for all.

WORSHIP AND PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. ALBAN'S

SUNDAY

8:00 am. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 9:15 am. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
 11:15 am. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 5:30 pm. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

TUESDAY

7:30 am. Holy Eucharist
 10:30 am. Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAY

11:15 am Healing Eucharist

THURSDAY

Noon Centering Prayer

SATURDAY

9:00 am Prayers for St. Alban's

CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. Francis H. Wade, Rector
 The Rev. J. Carlyle Gill, Senior Associate Rector
 The Rev. Margot D. Critchfield, Associate Rector
 The Rev. Loren B. Mead, Honorary Associate
 The Rev. Douglas A. Greenaway, Assistant Rector
 Charles Fels, Seminarian

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN
 Carolyn Seaton

DIRECTORS

Day Dodson, Director of Children's and Youth Ministries
 Ron Hicks, Director of Operations
 Norman Scribner, Director of Music
 Sonya Subbaya Sutton, Director for Parish Music Ministries
 Jane Volkema, Director of Communications and Evangelism

OFFICE STAFF

Bob Bascom, Maintenance
 Shirley Dickey, Receptionist
 David Johnson, Community Life
 Vilma Smith, Finance Administrator
 Marcia Welch, Communications Assistant

VESTRY OFFICERS

Gordon Avery, Senior Warden; Kate Bouvé, Junior Warden;
 Nathalie Bramson, Secretary; Christopher Holmes, Treasurer

VESTRY MEMBERS

Joe Beach, Paul Brewster, Bob Dunn, Diana Dykstra,
 Cay Hartley, Dennis Jones, Douglas Lapp, Chris Larsen,
 Tricia Pinkard, Mary Jane Shackelford, Jo Turner, Monica Welch;
 Duncan McKenna, Youth Representative,
 Russell Eckel, WSA Board

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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 Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
 E-mail: First nameLast initial@st-albans-parish.org
 Web site: www.AlbansDC.org

Article by Frank Wade featured in *Congregations*

Our Rector, the Rev. Dr. Frank Wade, explores the gift of serving as a large church pastor, and what it takes to succeed—and thrive—in that role, in the winter issue of *Congregations* magazine.

Congregations is published quarterly by Alban Institute. It presents firsthand learnings and insights into the dynamics of congregational life for clergy and lay leaders, who deal with a broad spectrum of issues and challenges.

Pick up a copy of Frank's article in the Narthex.

Rector's Aid meeting, luncheon & program

Friday, April 15, Rectory

Join the Rector's Aid for another interesting program. We will begin with our regular meeting at 11:00 am, followed by social time, luncheon at noon, and program at 1 pm. Our speaker will be Sam Lewis who will talk about issues in the Middle East. This discussion will tie in with our luncheon featuring a Middle Eastern menu. RSVP with the Parish Office 202-363-8286. Cost for the luncheon is \$10. All are welcome.

St. Alban's welcomes the Presiding Bishop

Sunday, April 17



The Most Rev. Frank Griswold will be our preacher and celebrant at the 11:15 am service. He will also be the speaker at the Parish Forum at 10:30 am. The Presiding Bishop is here

in celebration of our Sesquicentennial—Jubilee 150 Celebration.

Faith, Work & Vocation

Virginia Theological Seminary offers a series of forums with speakers whose insights into Faith, Work & Vocation help inform our lives. St. Alban's member, Dr. Richard Jung, Headmaster Emeritus,

Bullis School, Former Head of School, SEED School Washington, DC, will be the featured speaker at the Tuesday April 19 breakfast meeting 8 -9:30 am. This program is held at The National Press Club, 14th and F Streets NW. To attend, RSVP Eliza Saunders 703-461-1715.

Mustard Seed offering Sunday April 17

Our offering will support continuing assistance to the last remaining Anglican church in Iraq—St. George's Memorial Church in Baghdad. (See Washington Window March 2005, www.edow.org)

A parish of 300 worshippers, St. George's serves the Iraqi Christian community in humanitarian needs. Deliveries of relief supplies arriving from the U.S. Army Chaplain's Office are distributed to Christians and Muslims in the area.



Frank's farewell Sunday Sunday, April 24

This will be the final Sunday our retiring rector, Frank Wade, will be at St. Alban's. The Rt. Rev. Jane Dixon will be our guest preacher for the morning services. The Rev. Loren Mead, Honorary Associate Rector, will preach at the 5:30 pm service. We will have our 4th Sunday Fellowship reception after services.

St. Alban's Family Night: Who is my neighbor?

Thursday, April 28

Parish Family Night is a low-key and fun evening for families with church-school-aged children. We enjoy a delicious pot-luck supper and the fellowship of our parish family. In April, we begin a new format: we will gather for worship, Children's Chapel-style, at 6:00 pm. Supper and fellowship will follow until 7:30 pm. Our neighbors from St. Alban's Early Childcare Center are invited to join us! So come, bring a dish to share, and enjoy the evening with new friends and old, as we practice Christian Hospitality and share what we do best.

If you have any questions, contact Day Dodson, DayD@st-albans-parish.org, 202-363-8286.

Decisions Near the End of Life

Cynthia B. Cohen, parishioner

Chair, End-of-Life Task Force, General Convention, Episcopal Church, 1997-2000

The tragic case of Terri Schiavo has created a surge of interest in advance directives. These documents come in two forms. One, the “living will,” enables people to indicate the sort of life-sustaining treatment they do and do not want should they be diagnosed as terminally ill or in a persistent vegetative state. The other, the “durable power of attorney for health care,” allows them to appoint a person (an “agent”) to make treatment decisions for them should they become incapacitated. This second document is often especially recommended because it allows a trusted relative or friend to make decisions for a person who is incapacitated and seriously ill, but not necessarily terminally ill or in a persistent vegetative state. Neither document requires consultation with a lawyer.

No one likes to think of the need to make out these directives. Yet at a deeper level, we all know that medicine has developed amazing powers to keep people alive and that it is important for us to guide those we love in making decisions for us should we become seriously ill and unable to do so for ourselves. That is what advance directives are about.

Various states have set up somewhat different forms that these advance directives can take. To obtain them for your state or the District of Columbia free of charge, go online to www.caringinfor.org, download them, fill them out, and sign them in front of witnesses (if your state requires this). There are also advance directive forms for the District of Columbia, Virginia, and Maryland in the office at St. Alban's. Just ask for a copy.

What should you say in these documents about the use of medical interventions, such as respirators and “tube feedings” (also known as “artificial nutrition and hydration”)? The Christian tradition has long maintained that life is a great good, but that we are not morally required to use “extraordinary” measures to stay alive. Treatment becomes “extraordinary”

when it cannot offer great benefits — but would create grave burdens. What counts as a grave burden? Treatment that will not reverse the underlying condition and return a person to a state of health, leave him or her radically disfigured, create great pain and suffering, require the person to travel great distances, or bankrupt a family is gravely burdensome. For example, use of a respirator can become “extraordinary” when it will no longer help a person return to a state in which he or she can function and relate to others.

“Tube feedings,” which were at issue in the case of Terri Schiavo, are a form of medical treatment, for they involve pumping synthetic proteins into the body through a line, rather than feeding a person with a cup and spoon. This has been emphasized by the Episcopal Church's End-of-Life Task Force in *Faithful Living, Faithful Dying* (Morehouse, 2000) and the Committee on Medical Ethics of the Diocese of Washington in *Toward a Good Christian Death* (Morehouse, 1999), as well as the Anglican bishops at the Lambeth Conference in 1998. You may see it differently and believe that you ought to provide nutrients and liquids to persons approaching death by whatever means are possible. Hospice workers tell us, however, that those near death tend to eat and drink less and that the use of “tube feedings” can lead to edema, or swelling, for some. They indicate that those close to death do not usually experience hunger and thirst, but that it is important to keep their mouths moist and other palliative care.

Many of us have been involved in decisions about whether to use life-sustaining treatment for a relative or friend who is critically ill. These are never easy. Yet we can make them a little less difficult for those we love if we develop advance directives and talk to them about what we want done should there be a question about the use of life-sustaining treatment for us near the end of life.

Twenty Years of Bible Study with Frank Wade

Claudia Upper, Parishioner

Frank Wade's gift for catchy phrase and clever aphorism is unsurpassed. And nowhere was this more evident than in his Wednesday morning Bible Study, an unsung ministry in our parish life.

Participation required no attendance commitment, no reading, no previous knowledge of the Bible, no active participation - nothing but listening or following along as Frank read from the Bible and then gave historical background, explained it, interpreted it, and brought it into our modern everyday lives. This provided ample opportunity for mini sermons and wonderful colorful comparisons—and sometimes some weird metaphors too! Frank welcomed questions as we went along, as well as opinions and theories.

The format was that we selected and read through a whole book of the Bible, skipping none of the hard parts. Although I have listened to a number of readings of the four Gospels and the Book of Acts, some of the Epistles, and Revelation, I never ceased to learn something new, never failed to gain some fresh insight. One time some of us pushed Frank to read straight through the Old Testament story from Genesis through II Kings; from the Creation through the fall of the kingdom of Judah (586 B.C.). The coherence of the Biblical story and its theological view of history unfolded before us (in spite of many inconsistencies and contradictions!). The whole approach was a welcome supplement to the lectionary which gives us scripture in theological pieces instead of pursuing a whole story. We did, however, yield to Frank's desire to skip Leviticus as being full of obsolete, esoteric laws incomprehensible to the modern mind and irrelevant to modern worship - even though some of us wished to have tackle that one also!

Over the years, as word spread, attendance grew, although individuals join or leave, drop in or drop out at any time. Throughout this fluid attendance the group retained a certain cohesiveness, rather like a river remains a vital flowing energy all the while the individual drops of water are rolling on.

Frank had good fun with the Bible study - and so did we! Who can fail to be infected by Frank's incomparable sense of humor?

Exactly when Frank began offering this special ministry I do not know; nor do I remember way back when I first began attending. All I know is I was hooked for the duration.

Good grief

Linda Bickford, parishioner

It's April. In January it seemed far away. Well, it's only January, we said. Four months, that's enough time to say goodbye. We'll have plenty of time, lots of Sundays and oodles of days between then and now. Besides, we knew it was coming, and hoped somehow that would lessen the pain and strengthen us for saying goodbye. We've been grieving all along.

Elizabeth Kubler-Ross gave the world a tremendous gift when she researched the human response to a loved one's dying. On *Death and Dying* both chronicles the stages of grief and describes it as a process of healing that takes time. Although her research was chiefly on emotional responses to death, we have come to understand that all loss must be grieved, not just loss resulting from death.

Sadness, anger, fear about the future, frustration with right now—losing someone close can awaken all kinds of feelings inside.

We may notice ourselves crying over things that didn't used to bother us. Or feeling impatient. Or angry over things at church and frustrated with the search process and its pace. Or anxious that things are changing, and convinced things need to stay the same. We may not even feel like coming to church, and wonder what brought us here in the first place. We are grieving. There is no way around it. Only a way through it.

Along with the passage of time, here's what can help with the process: Being gentle with ourselves. When feeling unsettled or sad, asking if we might be feeling grief. Talking with each other about how we feel. Reaching out to others, especially if we feel like withdrawing. Being assured there are others who understand and are ready to reach back and listen.

The great good news about grief is that it takes us to a place of healing. We are made to live in joy, and grief is the bridge that returns us there. Individually and collectively, there will come a time when we remember Frank and Mary with great joy and peace, and embrace the future God is bringing us. Trusting that and each other will most certainly bring us to healing.

Seniors' Tour of DC Memorials

Tuesday, May 3

Sponsored by Sibley Senior Association

When was the last time you went downtown to see the sights? This is a great opportunity to see the memorials with a tour guide and someone else in the driver's seat. There will lunch at the H₂O Restaurant (formerly Hogate's), specializing in a seafood menu and the famous rum buns.

- 9 am Depart from Sibley Hospital
- 9:30 am Arrive downtown to meet tour guide. Tour includes the new World War II Memorial; Korean War Memorial; Franklin Roosevelt Memorial; Vietnam Memorial.
- 12:30 Lunch at H₂O
- 2 pm Depart
- 2:30 pm Arrive at Sibley

Cost of \$47 includes travel, tours and lunch. Participants will need to be able to walk to each of the memorials. Make your reservation with Kristin Leoncavallo at 1-800-321-3973 ext. 3224.

When calling, let Kristin know your menu selection: Grilled Atlantic Salmon, Grilled-Chicken Caesar Salad, Crab Broil or Meat Loaf.

Vacation Bible School 2005 (VBS)

July 18-22

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School, July 18-22. Our exciting VBS theme this year is *Wizards and Wonders*, based on the popular Harry Potter books. Through drama, games and crafts, participants can connect the story of Harry, our hero, to Bible stories. In an engaging set of experiences, mirroring some of Harry's, participants will explore issues of identity, alliances, team work, spiritual gifts, life's direction, temptations, moral choices, courage and faith.

Wizards and Wonders is an inter-generational program, intended to bring the whole church family together, so we are planning an EVENING PROGRAM, starting with dinner at 5:30 and concluding at 8:30 pm. All ages—children, teens, parents, and non-parents—are invited to join the fun.

Wizards and Wonders promises to be a great program, but we need you to make it work. Last year's VBS program was cancelled because of a lack of volunteers, and we don't want that to happen again. Volunteers are needed for music, drama,

crafts, meals, and other activities. For example, can you picture yourself:

- Working with a partner to provide a simple meal one night (pasta, bread and salad)?
- Leading music for the closing chapel?
- Playing the role of Harry, Hermione or Ron and appearing, in costume, to talk to the participants during dinner?
- Participating in a small group of mixed ages as they compare the Sorting Hat to the Good Shepard, who knows his sheep by name and knows what each of them needs?
- Making Hogwarts robes this spring and summer, prior to VBS?

Even if you cannot participate during the week of July 18-22, we could still use your help beforehand. Registration forms have been sent to families with Church School-age children. More information will also follow in the next issue of the *Chronicle*, and registration forms will be available in the Narthex, in the church office and on the parish web page. If you have questions or you would like to volunteer now, email Kristie Hassett at krhassett@starpower.net or Maria Bowles at mgbowles@starpower.net.

Visit St. Alban's web site for registration form:
www.AlbansDC.org



St. Alban's Crossroads Shelter Opens

April 16

The Crossroads Shelter, located in the lower level of Satterlee Hall, will open on April 16. This will mark the tenth year that the shelter has offered a stable environment to four homeless men seeking to regain independent living. The shelter is open for six months from April to October.

The Crossroads Shelter is a living legacy to leadership of Frank Wade and the parish volunteers who worked long hours on the planning and design of the shelter. The late Bruce Siversten was a leader of the planning group.

The shelter depends on members of the Parish to provide meals that can be cooked in the microwave and breakfast supplies to the four residents and the on-site supervisor. Please sign up to share a few meals with the residents. Bring your kids and let them see how grateful, interesting, and welcoming the residents are.

The good news is that the two restaurants, Cafe Deluxe and Chef Geoff's have offered to provide meals. Cafe Deluxe on Mondays and Chef Geoff's on Fridays.

Those who participate by offering meals learn first hand the truth of the shelter motto: Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. (HEB. 13:2)

If you have any questions call shelter coordinator Peter Spalding 202-337-0157, PET202@aol.com

Women's Voices of St. Alban's

sing for the
Cathedral's Labyrinth Evening

Tuesday, April 26, 6:30-8:30

A meditative evening
that includes Compline.

Spring '05 Peace Lecture Series

Presented by the DC Chapter,
Episcopal Peace Fellowship with
St. Columba's and St. Alban's

All talks will occur at 7:30 pm

April 28 at St. Alban's: Gandhi and Spiritual Pacifism Columnist and Peace Activist Coleman McCarthy will discuss how Gandhi, as a person of prayer and action, gave us a blueprint for bringing about social change.

May 19 at St. Columba's: Lord, Make Me and Instrument of Your Peace Family psychotherapist and educator Peggy Treadwell, Director of The Counseling Center at St. Columba's, will discuss a prayer attributed to St. Francis as a way to understand concepts that reduce anxiety and conflict.

June 16 at St. Columba's: Vietnam and Iraq: Similarities and Differences Columnist and Peace Activist Coleman McCarthy will discuss the similarities and differences of American involvement in Vietnam and Iraq.

(St. Columba's is located at 42nd and Albemarle, Washington DC)

2005 Georgetown House Tour

Saturday, April 23

This event is sponsored by St. John's Episcopal Church Georgetown. (It is their equivalent to St. Alban's Gala Parish Dinner.) Funds raised by the tour benefit the feeding ministries of St. John's.

The tour will showcase eight of Georgetown's most beautiful homes and gardens. Houses will be open from noon until 5 pm. The tour includes afternoon tea in the Parish Hall of historic St. John's Church at 3240 O Street NW. Features tea, sandwiches and sweeties, served from 2-5 pm, all of which are included in the price of the ticket. Advance tickets are \$40.

To attend, or to volunteer as a docent in one of the homes, contact St. John's at 202-338-2287. More information can be found at www.georgetownhouse tour.com

New ministries to be recognized

Sunday, April 17

At the 9:15 am service we will have the installation of Vergers. Also, we will recognize and bless the new ministry of Deborah Potter and Diana Dykstra as Parish Representatives to Samaritan Ministries, and Christopher Butcher as treasurer of Samaritan Ministries.

Members of the new St. Joseph's Guild will also be installed. St. Joseph's Guild is the newest Guild at St. Alban's. Its founding members are Don Durkee, chair, Bill Bond, Rick Dirksen, and Chris Larsen. This group will take over responsibility for many of the maintenance, repair, and touch up work that needs to be done around our buildings. (Bob Bascom continues on the paid staff and will handle specialized tasks.) There are things to be done at St. Alban's which in a home the homeowner would do him- or herself. This is where we expect the St. Joseph Guild to shine—and to make St. Alban's shine too. To join the St. Joseph's Guild, contact Ron Hicks 202-363-8286, RonH@st-albans-parish.org

Installation of Interim Rector

Sunday, May 1

The Rev. J. Carlyle Gill, currently our Senior Associate Rector, will be installed as our Interim Rector. Carlyle was called to be Associate Rector at St. Alban's in 1997. In 2002 she celebrated 25 years as an ordained priest, and was named St. Alban's Senior Associate Rector last year. Rev. Gill will continue as Interim Rector until a new Rector is called and installed.

Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, May 1

12:30 pm, Satterlee Hall

Reports from the Interim Rector, the Rev. J. Carlyle Gill; Senior Warden, Gordon Avery; Junior Warden, Kate Bouvé, and a variety of committees.

Election of Vestry members and Diocesan Delegates—polls open at 8 am. Voting will continue until the beginning of the Annual Meeting. No voting during worship services.

Lunch available.

JUBILEE

Our final

150

E V E N T S

Senior Choir Concert

Jubilee 150 Concert Series - Friday, April 15, 7:30 pm

St. Alban's Senior Choir, directed by Norman Scribner, will sing Zoltan Kodaly's *Missa Brevis* and the world premiere of *Hoc Templum (This Temple)* by Michael Harrison, a Jubilee 150 Commissioned piece. Michael Harrison, in addition to being a fine composer, is the director of the well-respected Palestrina Choir, which performs throughout the region. His wife, Leslie Bearden, has been a long-time member (alto) of the Senior Choir.

This is the closing event of the Jubilee Concert Series which brought us a wide variety of concerts over the past year under the direction of Norman Scribner, Sonya Sutton and many parish musicians.

The Art of Faith: Celebrating Creativity at St. Alban's Church

April 17, 2005, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Join our parish artists, crafters and writers in helping to celebrate creativity in our church. The list of participants is growing. If you are interested in having something of yours on display, be it a book you've written, a watercolor you've painted, a pillow you've needlepointed, a quilt you've sewn, some photographs you've taken, a sweater you've knit, etc., please contact a committee member immediately or get a form from the Narthex.

Painting, craft or photography:

Lois Stratton 202-234-1228 lostratton@cs.com

Books:

Susan Niedenuhr 202-363-5196 sjnfw@msn.com

Hospitality/food:

Karen Strimple 202-333-7234 kstrimple@columba.org

Call Sally Craig at 202-362-7192, to help out with set-up on Saturday, April 16.



2000 Sundays Eschatology

The Rev. Dr. Francis H. Wade

Eschatology is the study of final things, which generally means the end of the world. I suppose if one beats on it long enough it can be expanded to

include the end of a ministry. I have been thinking a lot about doing things for the last time. As some were aware, Easter was my last sermon. I did not announce that fact but if anyone asked me I told them. I know that many expected me to preach on my last Sunday, April 24, but I chose not to. The reasons are clear, at least to me. I want my last sermon to be about the resurrection of the Lord not the departure of the rector. I also wanted to avoid the drama and throat-closing emotion of everybody gathering for a "last sermon." It seems too much like the deathbed scene in Victorian novels where the whole point is summed up in a gasping phrase. I am convinced that important relationships cannot be summed up and, besides, I would be way too choked up to get the words out. Nobody would know them until they were posted on the web site which seems a little anti-climactic.

April is my last vestry meeting. I have been to well over 400 of them. I had never even attended a vestry meeting until I presided at my first one as vicar of St. John's, Rippon, West Virginia. I have learned a lot about them since then and I can say without blushing that I will miss the fellowship and work of those groups. The meetings are not always stimulating (some would bore a goldfish) but the purposes are always part of what God is doing in and through the Church. Vestry meetings are holy places no less than a church service. It is just a different kind of holiness. I will miss that.

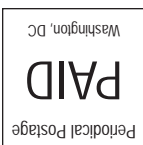
Submit articles for the Chronicle to: JaneV@st-albans-parish.org

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St. Alban's Communications Team: The Rev. Carlyle Gill, The Rev. Margot Critchfield, Sonya Sutton, Jane Volkema and Marcia Welch

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