

# The Vision

August 2021

Volume 6, Issue 9

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Bergen, NY  
Full color version available online at [www.bergenepc.com](http://www.bergenepc.com)



There are many times that I feel very providentially blessed to be the pastor of Bergen Presbyterian. This is especially true from all of the people within the church. It truly feels like a church family. However, there are other things as well, such as great church facilities and the weather in Western New York.

There was one more thing though that was added on Sunday to help me appreciate being the pastor here and that is hearing about the history of the organ, but it was really more than that. It was hearing about the history of the church, particularly the history of the worship of Bergen Presbyterian. To know that I stand in the pulpit where the Gospel has been proclaimed and songs were sung to the glory of God (I am sure that other pastors had a better singing voice than my own) for over a century sent shivers up my spine and incredibly humbled me. It was then that I really earnestly prayed that we might come up with the funds to restore the organ, not that I had not been doing that earlier, but hearing all of that brought some insight into the organ and the rich history that it has brought Bergen Presbyterian in a really special way, as I am sure it did for all of you.

As Tom said, we have a lot of things that we are looking to do now that we are coming back to normal, including hiring an assistant worship leader and children's minister, but I think restoring the organ is also very important in the life of our church.

However, I don't want us to look at it as just giving money to restore an organ. That is important, but as with everything that we give money towards, whether it is the organ, the building, children's minister, etc., it is given because we have an incredible amount of gratitude towards God and what He has done for us through the Gospel. J.I. Packer put it like this, "The secular world never understands Christian motivation. Faced with the question of what makes Christians tick, unbelievers maintain that Christianity is practiced only out of self-serving purposes.... From the plan of salvation I learn that the true driving force in authentic Christian living is, and ever must be, not the hope of gain but the heart of gratitude."

Out of this gratitude, Romans 12:1 tells us how we are to serve God as living sacrifices: "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship." I really think that Alden did a wonderful job when he closed the program on Sunday (which I am sorry I had to miss due to a being a representative of presbytery to Brighton Presbyterian). He impressed upon us that we are just not giving to the organ, but we are giving to the glory of God. My hope and prayer is that whenever we give to the church for whatever reason, we do so out of gratitude of the Gospel and to the glory of God.

- Pastor Brandt Hammack



Phone: (585) 494-1251 E-mail: [bgnepc@gmail.com](mailto:bgnepc@gmail.com)

Pastor Brandt Hammack: [Brandthammack@hotmail.com](mailto:Brandthammack@hotmail.com)  
(585-732-6163) Website: [www.bergenepc.com](http://www.bergenepc.com)  
You can also find us on Facebook.

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday  
8:30am - 1:30 pm

**Pastor's Hours:**

Tuesday- Friday  
9:30-12:00 flexible

# The Organ Renovation Project

*July 25, 2021 – The Pledge Drive*



**The Goal:** With detailed reports in hand from Parsons Pipe Organ Builders on the condition of our early 1900's organ, the Session is considering a major renovation to get our organ back to its full capabilities. Their estimate for the full cost of the renovation was approximately \$85,000 if the job were to be completed in 2021; it may be a little more for 2022. Since Parsons' schedule for big jobs this year is full, the overall goal is to enter into a contract with Parsons in or after January of 2022 with the work to be done that year. To reach this goal, we will need to raise the funds required, or at least to have the steps in place by the end of this year that would give us the ability to sign a contract with Parsons early in 2022.

**The Plan:** The total cost of \$85,000 would be a significant challenge for our church, and particularly at this time with the effects of COVID-19 still with us, and with our announced plan for the additions to our staff of an Assistant Worship Leader and a Children's Minister. For these reasons, the Session has set up a two-step fund raising program: (1) to measure whether the members and friends of this church would fully financially support this endeavor, and (2) if that support is forthcoming to being able to call for that funding with the knowledge that we can meet the cost goal.

**The Steps:** Today is the kick-off of a Pledge Drive asking all of us, members and friends, to express their support and willingness to financially support the renovation of our organ by completing and returning the attached "Pledge Card". The Drive is to extend to the end of 2021, at which time the Session will assess the results and make a determination if there is sufficient support to proceed to the next step of a Fund Drive. That Drive would run for a year-and-a-half from January 2022 to June 2023 during which time the pledges previously made are fulfilled. If the total of the pledges received by the end of this year falls a bit short, the Session will have the option of providing some funds from our existing reserves to make up the difference. However, if there is a clear lack of general support, the Session will let Parsons know we are not proceeding. Since the Session might have to decide at the end of the year to not proceed with this project, we are strongly urging that no funds (no cash, no checks, no credit card payments) for the project be submitted to the church until the end of the year and the Session's approval to continue.

**Note:** If you are led to make a pledge now or later, you may use the form below and return it to the church Attention: Mike Wilson, Financial Secretary. Please choose between the two pledge payment schedules noted on the Pledge form. If more copies of the form are needed let the church know. For more information about the organ ck at: <http://bergenepc.com/organ.html> Thank you.

-----tear here -----

## PLEDGE - The Organ Renovation Project

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Pledge \_\_\_\_\_ Payment by:  June 2022  June 2023

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please return to the Church., Attn: Mike Wilson

## Save August 15-19 for VBS and Sports Camp at Hickory Park, Bergen

(Registration begins at 5:45) 6:00-8:15; Ages approximately 5-14 yrs.  
Suggested donation \$5.00 (includes a t-shirt) for more information call Joe Rebisz at 585-794-8295

The Rebiszes are planning a creatively combined event that will tell good news from God's Word and let kids burn off lots of energy. We will need plenty of volunteers so please save the dates. Please contact Joe if you would like to help. You don't have to hit home runs or run a marathon to qualify as a volunteer; just have a love for kids and want to share the love of Jesus. Those two things make you a super star.



### CE Update

The Christian Education Committee is making plans for the fall! Starting Sunday, September 12, 9:15 AM, we will return to the Gospel Project curriculum and offer classes for adults, middle/senior high students, elementary students, and possibly a Pre-K class. We also plan to continue offering an Adult Bible Study, either continuing to meet on Sunday evening or moving to Sunday morning, based on interest.



**We need teachers!** Please contact Julie Foeller ([bfoeller@frontiernet.net](mailto:bfoeller@frontiernet.net) or 585-943-9155) if you are willing to help with one of these classes this fall.

### **Memorial Service for Adriane Broadbooks**

Our church will host a memorial service for Adriane Broadbooks on Saturday, Aug. 7, at 11 am.

Adriane was a long-time member of our congregation and an Elder. She died on Jan. 7 at the LeRoy Village Green Nursing Home. Born March 20, 1927, in Niagara Falls, she was a daughter of the late James P. and [Alida Van Esbroek](#) Casey.

Raised in Rochester, Adriane was a graduate of Houghton College. She taught for many years at the Rochester Christian School. In the summers, she would go to Peniel Bible Conference in the Adirondacks, where she volunteered in the kitchen.

She married Herbert Broadbooks on Feb. 11, 1972, and assisted in operating the family farm in Byron until retirement. After living for a few years in California, they returned to western New York and lived in Bergen. In addition to being a member of our church, Adriane was a member of the Christian Women's Club in Batavia.

Survivors include a sister, Patricia Russell of Bergen; nieces Karen (Michael) Thunell, Diane (Donald) Cunningham and Cindy (Dennis) Burke of Bergen, Christine (Thomas) Silburn of Lake Luzerne, Kathy Matthews of Oregon; nephews, Michael Russell of Hawaii and Danny Russell of South Dakota; several grand-nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was pre-deceased by her husband, Herbert; a brother and sisters.

Adriane requested memorials to our church.



Happy Anniversary



(For every 5 Yrs. there is a ♥ for extra congratulations)

**August Anniversaries**

- 5- Dan & Pam Patmore 21 yrs
- 14- Charlie & Elaine McAdam ♥ 50 yrs
- 25- David & Cindy Baker 42 yrs
- 25- Rick & Amy Stacy 37 yrs
- 30- Richard & Shirley vonBergen 68 yrs

**September Anniversaries**

- 1- Jim & Amanda Wilson ♥ 20 yrs
- 2- Paul & Neva Lattimer 54 yrs
- 6- Rob & Faith Willhoft 41 yrs
- 9- David & Susan Brownell 32 yrs
- 28- Ron & Kay Harmon 59 yrs



**August Birthdays**

- 5- Elizabeth Snell 18- Jim Bridge
- 8- Jonathan Snell 20- Brian Foeller
- 9- Pam Patmore 22- Anne Waldruff
- 10- Sally Thomas 23- Kyle Foeller
- 14- Mark Kobel

**September Birthdays**

- 3- John Wise 25- Neva Lattimer
- 9- Ron Harmon 27- Barb Marshall
- 15- Janet Wise 28- Rob Willhoft
- 17- David Hahn 28- Cheryl Saville
- 18- Duncan McNear 29- Amy Stacy
- 19- Corissa Goodenbery
- 22- Keith Marshall

**Job Announcement**

**Administrative Assistant Job Opening**

Session has approved the posting of the Administrative Assistant position. Packets containing job information, application forms and instructions are available outside the Church Office. Applications will be accepted from May 17th through June 7th. Please seal and return a completed application in the provided envelope to Seth McNear’s mailbox by the church office or copies of the necessary documents can be emailed to him at beccaseth@hotmail.com.

**The Bergen Evangelical Presbyterian Church seeks a Christ-centered, Bible-believing musician open to the Holy Spirit’s leading, to serve as Assistant Music Coordinator.**

This person will work closely with the Music Coordinator and Pastor on all music-related activities at the church, including weekly musical participation in the worship service and leading the worship service once per month.

This is a part-time position (approximately 5 hours per week). A complete job description is available upon request.

If interested, please submit a letter of inquiry to <fpcbergen@gmail.com>; include “Assistant Music Coordinator Search” in the subject of the email. Questions about the position may be addressed to Rob Willhoft at (585) 293-1304.

**Monthly Food Collection Starts Aug. 1**

Sunday, Aug. 1, we will resume our monthly food collection for local food pantries. As we did in the past, we will collect non-perishable food the first Sunday of each month.

The E&M Committee will distribute the food to the Salvation Army in Batavia and other local food pantries, such as the one operated by the North Bergen Presbyterian Church.

Bins will be available near both entrances for you to place your donations. We will not be having the children collect the food during the worship service at this time.

The need for food continues in our community. Thanks for thinking of those in need by donating.



Young Lives is a mission of Young Life, a mission that our church supports, that mentors and provides support to teen-aged moms. We have about 7 young women in the Genesee County area that are either pregnant or are raising young children.

We are establishing a ‘baby closet’ to help these new moms. We would welcome gently used baby items (clothes, car seats, cribs, strollers, etc.), as well as new diapers, and maternity clothing. We have received some maternity and baby clothing. Thank you for your generous support. You may contact Jessica Maskell – Young Lives Genesee County Coordinator at 585-409-7261, [gcyounglives@gmail.com](mailto:gcyounglives@gmail.com) and/or Sandy Partridge (committee member) 585-414-4593.



A peek at the Church Calendar— keep an eye on Life in the Church emails for changes!

<p><b>* During this time of quarantine, Son Risers will meet through zoom every Thursday at 6am.</b></p> <p><b>TAG will meet at Church every other Thursday I</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>August</u></p> <p><b>1- Church 10:30/Food Collection</b>  <b>8- Church 10:30</b>  <b>15- Church 10:30</b>  <b>16-20– VBS/Sports Camp</b></p>	<p><b>22- Church 10:30</b>  <b>29- Church 10:30</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>September</u></p> <p><b>3- Church 10:30/Food Collection</b>  <b>12- Church 10:30</b>  <b>14-piano tuned</b>  <b>19- Church 10:30</b>  <b>25- Blood Drive</b>  <b>26- Church 10:30</b></p>
--	---

Thank you to the Maher family, friends of Brenda Reber, for painting the front foyer! Their daughter was married at the church July 9th.



This is my new job-loving on Levi Cobstill



Thank you for all of the kind words I received from everyone! I appreciate the opportunity to have worked at BEPC! I treasure all of the relationships I have made here and am thankful for all of you! Keep in touch, Brenda Lattimer-Reber 1671 Vroom Rd Spencerport, NY 14559 sbreber@gmail.com

Church repairs

**We are looking for help in completing some projects that need to be done at Church. Please contact David Hahn if you can help!**

**Thanks!**

- \*Repair SW wall of west stall of downstairs large ladies room
- \*Repair front steps
- \*Repaint outside lower windows and trim
- \*Make an enclosure for the dehumidifier
- \*A cover needs to be built over the pipes in the corner of the nursery- See Julie Foeller or Neva Lattimer with questions
- \*General painting



# You Can Help Provide School Supplies in Africa

EduNations is a mission that we support through our church Evangelism & Missions budget. They focus on sharing the gospel by building and staffing schools in a remote section of Sierra Leone. The organization has strong support within our Presbytery. Our annual support is being used for salaries for teachers.

EduNations recently opened a secondary (high) school after building several local elementary schools. Here is an update from EduNations detailing the current need to provide school supplies for the students.

## **Challenge**

The COVID-19 pandemic affected all of us in some way this past year, and our organization is no exception. Due to the pandemic, we are experiencing a shortfall in our annual fundraising. However, despite our challenges, we will continue in our mission to provide students with a free education this coming school year.

## **Solution**

As part of our free, quality education initiative, EduNations will be providing school supplies and uniforms to approximately 3,050 students this coming school year - our largest student population ever with the addition of our new Senior Secondary class starting this fall! This project will help us recover some of our losses we incurred through the pandemic, so that we are able to provide all of our students with quality and necessary supplies.

## **Long-Term Impact**

These school supplies and uniforms are vital to each child's success in the classroom, and many, if not all, of our students could not afford these materials if we did not provide them. We believe that a free, quality education is key to a child rising out of poverty and living to their full potential. Through assisting them in education now, we believe that they will be able to make a difference in their own communities in the future.

This fall, 3,050 students will begin another school year at EduNations Hope Academy - our largest student population ever with the addition of our new Senior Secondary class!

Our goal is to raise \$10,860 to provide school supplies and uniforms to all 300 students who will be attending the Senior Secondary School this year.

The Senior Secondary School functions as a boarding home, where students come from their home village to live and receive their high school education. EduNations provides all our boarding home students with free education, living facilities, and three meals a day. This year, 300 students will attend our Senior Secondary School!



Each student chooses a focus of study - either Science, Commercial Business, or Arts. The school supplies these students receive will help them in their specific focus of study.

In addition, our boarding students are supplied with three uniforms, which are worn both at school and in the dormitories. Our students love having uniforms that signify their belonging to the EduNations community.

If you as an individual are interested in supporting EduNations' current need for school supplies, here's a link with more information about giving:

[https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/provide-school-supplies-to-3030-students/or-go-to-EduNations-website:](https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/provide-school-supplies-to-3030-students/or-go-to-EduNations-website/)  
[www.edunations.org](http://www.edunations.org)

If you prefer to give by check, please make checks payable to "EduNations" with "School Supplies for Students" in the memo line. Checks can be mailed to:  
EduNations, P.O. Box 233, Ingomar, PA 15127

# TAG ~ Teens After God

## SUMMER!!!!

Summer is here! That means busy, busy, busy for all of our teens and youth leaders. Between sports, work schedules, graduation parties, vacations, etc, it can be very hard for all of us to keep our focus on God throughout the summer months. The world has so many distractions that can keep us from spending time praying, reading the bible, worshipping, and fellowshiping with other believers. This will be the major topic of conversation at our next TAG youth group. We will try to support and encourage each other to stay strong in our faith, even when we are being dragged in so many different directions! Although we are back in the teen room, we are still following COVID-19 protocols and procedures, similar to those in all public places, in order to keep everyone safe and healthy. We are also asking any teens (or families) who are sick, or exhibiting any Covid-19 symptoms, to please stay home.

Our TAG youth group is switching from Thursday to Sunday evenings for the summer, since many of our teens have soccer, dance, karate, and other activities on Thursday evenings. Our Sunday night youth group will begin on Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be meeting from 6:30-8:30PM in the Teen Room. We will also be holding more TAG social events this summer. The teens are excited about hiking ventures, bonfires, movie nights, etc. A Sunday morning teen bible study is also in the works, stay tuned for more details. Please keep all the teens of our group, and in Bergen, in your prayers. Continue to pray for God's protection and guidance in their lives!



*2020 Fellowship Hall TAG (Thankfully we are now back in the Teen Room!)*



***This month, please pray for:***

**Those with ongoing challenges and needs:**

Aggie Redinger, Delores Seward, David Hahn, Bob and Kathy Cosgrove, Nancy Alfes, Janice Langdon's mother (Jo Files), Susan Brownell's grandmother; Hazel Newsum -and her caretakers Susan's parents Paul and Sandy Harris, Malanie Glucksman, and Evelyn Pangrazio-friend of Tom and Cyndy Jones, Colton Ely, Rusty Brenton

**Those fighting cancer:** Dan Forno, Stacy Cline, Elaine Malkani-Cyndy Jones' sister. Corky's friend, Sharon, fighting colon cancer, Rosemary Utz-friend of McAllisters, vonBergen's grandson, Joe

**Continued healing** for Helen Hill's sister-in-law Dorcas Arbach, June Hahn's niece Ann Crone, & Joan Miller

**Those who have lost loved ones:**

The family of Max Jessop, the family Rob Charcholla, The Coexter family, and the Roche family

**The Youth of our church and our community.**

**Those serving as Missionaries:**

Sarah Speer at the Kimia Center for Lepers in the Congo; Jose Ulinov "Uli" Fernandez in Mexico; Arber "Berti" Berhami with Campus Crusade in Albania; Jesse von Bergen ministry to the Middle East through Arabic Bible Outreach Ministry; Teachers in Sierra Leone with EduNations; Tim Riley with Genesee County Young Life.

Our Session, Deacons, Youth Leader Joe Rebisz, Worship Leader Christin Snell, Personnel Committee, Nominating Committee, CE Committee and the many more committees and ministries that help run the church. Pray for the other local churches in our area (and your area too!)

The Servicemen & Women of the United States, as well as our Veterans and their families.

Our country's leaders and their advisors.

## Deacon Notes:

### Deacon Doings:

The Deacons will not be meeting during the months of June and July.



Everyone have a great summer !!

### Deacon Dossier

#### **Spotlight on Al Ruge, our Session Rep**

- Born in Buffalo, NY
- A carpenter by trade, but supervised the construction of many schools, churches, factories and other buildings
- His longest trip -- 4,500 miles to all the top tourist spots in the states of Florida and Tennessee
- Has the fascinating hobby of making wooden longbows for hunting and recreation
- Loves a steak dinner
- Hates cleaning the bathroom







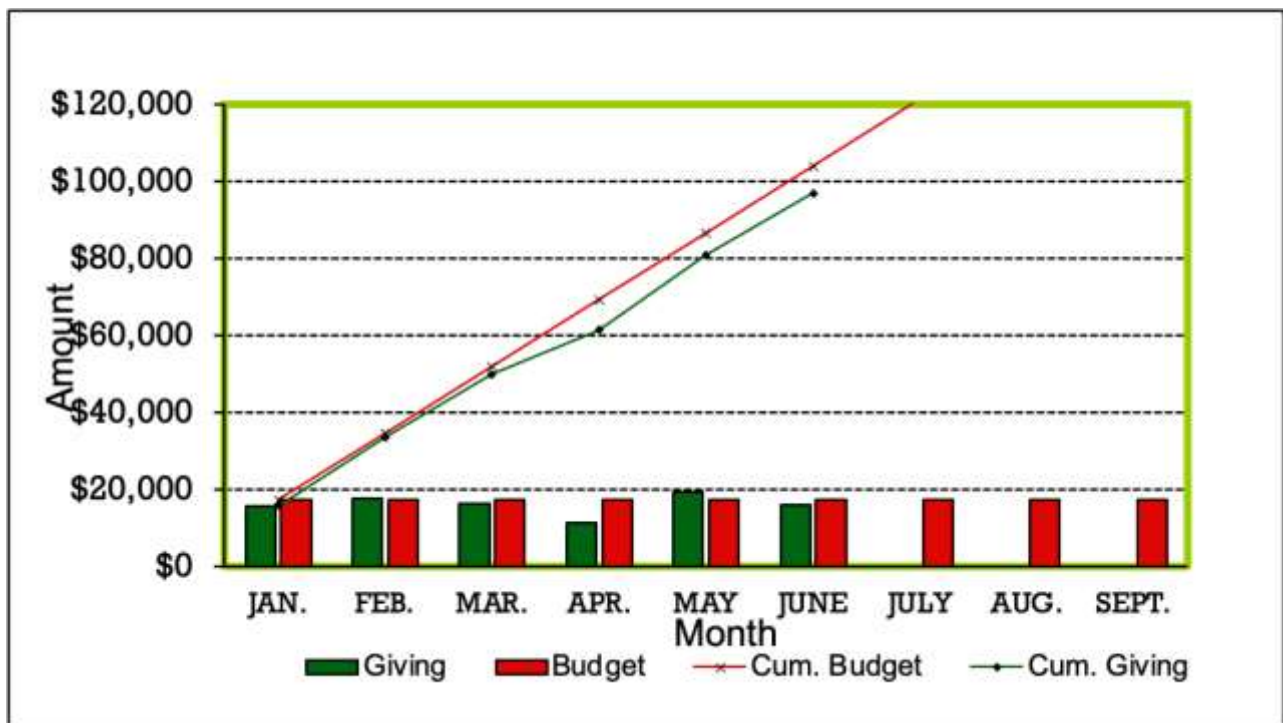
# Church Finances June 2021

*"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage"*

*Psalm 33:12*

The giving for June was good - \$16,017 – and continued the very good monthly incomes for 2021. In fact, through mid-year of this year, the financial support of our church's budget has exceeded that for any year since 2017, and by several thousands of dollars each year. Expenses were high; nevertheless, no funds were needed from the AIF to meet expenses.

Some other financial events took place in June: We received a \$750 gift for the AIF and a \$5,000 gift for the Property Reserve Fund. Financial support was provided for two of our college youth with \$1,000 college scholarships, and \$3,800 was forwarded to Young Life of Genesee County for their summer camp program.



# MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – JUNE 2021

## OPERATING FUND

### Income

Sunday offering:	\$11,674.00
Net Online Offering:	\$1,443.26
<i>*note – online offering reflects \$36.86 fee taken from gross donations from the vendor before deposit</i>	
Amortized one time gifts:	\$2,900.00

---

<i>Total New Receipts</i>	<i>\$16,017.26</i>
<i>Opening Balance (from previous month)</i>	<i>\$4,234.59</i>
<b>Total Funds Available (opening balance + new receipts)</b>	<b>\$20,251.85</b>

### Expenses

Gross Expenditures for the month	\$16,329.53
Line Item Paybacks received this month that reduce expenses	
Copier use	\$50.00

---

<b>Net Expenditures for the Month</b>	<b>\$16,279.53</b>
---------------------------------------	--------------------

Accumulated Income Fund Transfer Needed to cover Expenditures	\$0.00
Extra Monthly Amortized Gift Overdrawn from the AIF	\$0.00
Monthly Amortized Gift Left in Accumulated Income Fund	\$2,900.00

**OPERATING FUND BALANC** **\$1,072.32**

## DESIGNATED FUND

Opening Balance (from previous month)	\$23,701.38
New Designated Receipts	\$367.25
Total Designated Expenditures	\$0.00

**DESIGNATED FUND BALANCE** **\$24,068.63**

**TOTAL CHECKBOOK BALANCE (Operating Fund + Designated Fund)** **\$25,140.95**

### OTHER FUND ACTIVITY

#### Accumulated Income Fund

June deposit	\$750.00
<b>Current Balance (6/30/2021)</b>	<b>\$38,169.18</b>

#### Property Reserve Fund

June deposit <i>(after \$141.54 online fee)</i>	\$4,995.96
<b>Current Balance (6/30/2021)</b>	<b>\$18,748.74</b>

#### College Fund

June expenditures	-\$2,000.00
<b>Current Balance (6/30/2021)</b>	<b>\$33,785.16</b>

#### Herry/Hill/Dawe/Claus Fund

June YL camp expenditures	-\$3,800.00
<b>Current Balance (6/30/2021)</b>	<b>\$35,464.41</b>