

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																										
		1 Sewing & Crafts 9:30 a.m. LCA Bible Class 7:00 p.m. Lois Schorle Michael Settle Laura Brokl 	2 AA 6:30-8:00 p.m.	3 AA 7:00 p.m.		4 LCA Choir Rehearsal 4:30 p.m. Karen Reed 																																										
7 Choir 8:30 a.m. 7:30 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Love Conquers All 12:30 p.m.	8 No Loaves & Fishes-Switched to May 6	9 Council 7:00 p.m. Julie Brokl 	10 AA 6:30-8:00 p.m.	11 AA 7:00 p.m.		12 LCA Choir Rehearsal 4:30 p.m.																																										
14 Choir 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Worship 12:45 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. Love Conquers All 	15	16	17 AA 6:30-8:00 p.m.	18 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m. 	19	20 LCA Choir Rehearsal 4:30 p.m. 																																										
21 Choir 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Worship 12:45 p.m. Love Conquers All 	22	23	24 AA 6:30-8:00 p.m.	25 AA 7:00 p.m. Messenger articles due	26	27 LCA Choir Rehearsal 4:30 p.m.																																										
28 Choir 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Worship 12:45 p.m. Love Conquers All Family & Friends	29	30			May 2019 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																										
			1	2	3	4																																										
5	6	7	8	9	10	11																																										
12	13	14	15	16	17	18																																										
19	20	21	22	23	24	25																																										
26	27	28	29	30	31																																											

Meanings in the Meal

Jesus instituted Communion while celebrating the Jewish Passover with his disciples. The meal's ritual foods hold meaning for Christians, too, because our faith story is interwoven with that of Judaism.

Matzoh: This unraised bread recalls the Israelites' hasty departure from oppression in Egypt. Jesus used the Passover bread to symbolize his body, which delivers us from bondage to sin and death.

Salt water: It symbolizes the tears of the Hebrews and of all who suffer in any time and place. Christians believe that in Jesus, God embraced human suffering so we need never face it alone.

Parsley: Dipped in the salt water, this green, leafy vegetable represents the Hebrews' rebirth out of sorrow into the joy of freedom. Easter's celebration of

resurrection proclaims a coming day when God "will wipe every tear from [our] eyes [and] there will be no more death" (Revelation 21:4, NIV).

Shankbone: A lamb slaughtered for each Hebrew household meant life for those within. The meat strengthened them for the escape journey, and the blood, swabbed on their doorframe, signaled for Death to "pass over." Jesus used wine at the Passover meal to symbolize his blood — of the Lamb of God — which he would shed for our salvation.

Egg: For Jews celebrating Passover, an egg symbolizes memory of the Exodus and renewal of faith. For Christians at Easter, eggs — especially open, empty ones — call to mind Jesus' empty tomb, renewal and abundant life.

What Easter Does

Jesus' resurrection from the dead is life-changing and life-giving for his followers. But, as Henry Knox Sherrill notes, Easter's "joyful news ... does not change the contemporary world." On earth, we still must deal with sin, pain, death and brokenness. And "still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice," Sherrill adds. What Easter does, though, is provide Christians with "the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline and make the sacrifice."

By defeating the grave, Jesus empowers us to bear our worldly troubles with joy, peace and hope. His resurrection assures us that trials, tears and suffering are only temporary, while eternal victory and life with Jesus are permanent.

"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'"
—Robin Williams

Trading Places

During a 2018 terrorist attack in France, Lt. Colonel Arnaud Beltrame sacrificed his life for a stranger's. He willingly swapped places with a store clerk who was being used as a human shield. After several hours of trying to end the standoff, Beltrame was killed.

At the hero's funeral, President Emmanuel Macron said Beltrame knew the risk but realized "the example has to be set from the top." And Father Jean-Baptiste said only the officer's faith could explain his sacrifice: Beltrame "knew, as Jesus said to us, that, 'There is no greater love than to give one's life for one's friends.' I believe that only a Christian faith moved by charity could [account] for this superhuman sacrifice."

"Easter is more than a day, an event, a remembrance. It is a way of life."
—Michael Marsh