

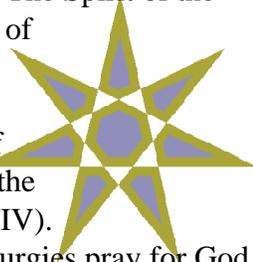
May 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

June 2019			AA 6:30-8:00 p.m. 1	AA 7:00 p.m. 2	Sherden Story 3	Church Cleanup 4 a.m. to noon LCA Choir Rehearsal 4:30 p.m.
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						
<p>Choir 8:30 a.m. 5 Worship 10:00 a.m. Love Conquers All 12:45 p.m. Crossroads Meeting 2-5 p.m. Pat Barger</p> 	<p>Music Together Group 6 10:00 a.m. Laoves & Fishes 5:30-7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Sewing & Crafts 9:30 a.m. 7 LCA Bible class 7 p.m.</p>	<p>AA 6:30-8:00 p.m. 8</p>	<p>AA 7:00 p.m. 9 Financial Class 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Sheriden Story 10</p>	<p>LCA Brotherbasd Meeting LCA Choir Rehearsal 4:30 p.m. Harry Pribnow</p> 
<p>Choir 8:30 a.m. 12 Worship 10:00 a.m. Blanket Sunday Love Conquers All 12:45 p.m.</p> 	<p>Music Together Group 13 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Council 14 7:00 p.m. LCA Bible class 7 p.m.</p>	<p>AA 6:30-8:00 p.m. 15 Kristina Ja</p> 	<p>AA 7:00 p.m. 16</p>	<p>Sheriden Story 17</p>	<p>LCA Choir Rehearsal 4:30 p.m. 18</p>
<p>Choir 8:30 a.m. 19 Worship 10:00 a.m. Love Conquers All 12:45p.m. Presbyterian Homes worship 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Music Together Group 20 10:00 a.m. LCA Bible class 7 p.m. Joanne Olson</p> 	<p>LCA Bible class 21 7 p.m.</p>	<p>AA 6:30-8:00 p.m. 22</p>	<p>AA 7:00 p.m. 23 Annie Pribnow</p> 	<p>Sheriden Story 24 LCA More Night John Jaimez</p> 	<p>LCA Womens Meeting LCA Choir Rehearsal 4:30 p.m. Messenger articles due 25</p>
<p>Choir 8:30 a.m. 26 Worship 10:00 a.m. Love Conquers All 12:45p.m.</p>	<p>27</p> 	<p>Ryan Lokken 28</p> 	<p>AA 6:30-8:00 p.m. 29</p>	<p>AA 7:00 p.m. 30</p>	<p>Sheriden Story 31 Oats Settle</p> 	

Christian Symbol

7-POINTED STAR — This star represents Isaiah’s list of the gifts of the Spirit to be revealed in the Branch of Jesse — that is, Christ: “The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him — the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD — and he will delight in the fear of the LORD” (Isaiah 11:2-3, NIV). Some baptism and confirmation liturgies pray for God to “stir up in” the newly baptized or confirmed “the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in [God’s] presence.”



Echoes of Easter

The Resurrection wasn’t a “one-off”; it was a spark that lit a flame that continues burning even today, especially where people minister in the Risen One’s name. One such outreach, Camp Noah, serves children traumatized by disaster. Nationwide, volunteers offer week-long experiences of kindness, love, listening and safety to kids who’ve recently survived a tornado, flood, hurricane, wildfire or shooting. Kids often open up for the first time to share their “storm stories” and begin a journey of healing.

Leaders at Camp Noah attest to God’s power to bring joy out of sorrow, trust out of fear and life out of death. A boy who initially was aloof dances with another camper at the closing worship; kids who arrived with uncertain expressions leave with smiles and regained confidence. Mental health counselors are part of camp teams, and referrals are made to continue care afterward.

Resurrection often happens in steps, not overnight. But wherever “ordinary” daily ministry takes place in Christ’s name, extraordinary echoes of the first Easter are evident.

—Heidi Mann

Above and Beyond

When 20-year-old Hunter Shamatt lost his wallet while traveling to a wedding last fall, he assumed its contents — including \$60 in cash — were gone forever. But not only did someone return the wallet and everything inside it; the good Samaritan also *added* money. “I rounded your cash up to an even \$100 so you can celebrate getting your wallet back,” read a note signed with the initials TB.

Hunter’s mom, who posted a photo of the note on Facebook, said her faith in humanity was restored. The world’s “not as grim as it’s being made out to be,” Jeannie Shamatt wrote.

Like the good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37, “TB” — who turned out to be Todd Brown of Omaha — went above and beyond in expressing kindness to a stranger. May we do likewise, bandaging one another’s wounds, providing comfort, sacrificing our resources and showing mercy, all in Jesus’ name.
—Stephanie Martin

Healing Hospitality

Repeated headlines about violence can make us “feel like locking our doors and never entering society again,” writes pastor and author Max Lucado. After another mass shooting, he penned an online opinion piece that urged people to do the exact opposite by opening their doors, their hearts and their circles.

“It’s no accident that *hospitality* and *hospital* come from the same Latin word,” Lucado writes, “for they both lead to the same result: healing. When you open your door to someone, you are sending this message: ‘You matter.’”

Because daily life is filled with rejections, extending an invitation — even to a simple meal — can be life-altering, Lucado contends. What you think is a messy house might be a sanctuary to someone else, “and to those who eat alone every night, pork and beans on paper plates tastes like filet mignon.”

Our kitchen tables are “God’s secret weapons in the war on fear,” Lucado says. “We never know what one meal will do.”