2023



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,



When I prepare the newsletter, I wonder what story will best serve as the 'lead story'. What is it that will catch people's attention? What is it they want to hear? What will make them want to

read on? I don't know if I have ever managed to grab people that way. If anything, there are times when I wonder if people are even reading the newsletter.

To be honest, I struggled a great deal this month. On the one hand, I have been thinking of all the blessings that we enjoy as God's people, and that we have here among us in this congregation. It may be too simple a thing to just acknowledge that "Word and Sacrament ministry continue", and yet what a blessing that is! Each week we have the opportunity to gather together around God's Word and to hear from that Word the assurance of the forgiveness and life we have in Jesus Christ. We have the joy of coming into His house and remembering our Baptism, and then the blessing of being invited to His table.

Here at Foothills, we have the added blessing of the faithful people who serve us—the pastors, our deaconess, our staff and our volunteers. We have so many reasons for joy! In all of it, we join the psalmist in declaring: "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24, ESV)

Now, on the other hand, I hear of the struggles within many of our congregations. I think we have to acknowledge that there are also some causes for concern among us. As so often is the case, we find ourselves living with a sort of good news/ bad news approach to things.

Here are some of those concerns as I see them:

 while our in-person attendance has increased in the past few months, it is also true that our attendance has not come near to what it was in our pre-COVID days.

Foothills Lutheran Church

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A Letter from the Pastor (Continued)

- · after last year's very positive financial stewardship, we find ourselves struggling this year. This has also happened at a time when we find ourselves facing some unexpected and unavoidable expenses.
- while we do have dedicated and faithful volunteers, it continues to be a struggle finding people willing to serve in the various areas of the church's ministry.
 More and more of the work that is being accomplished is being done by fewer and fewer people.
- we have more opportunities for Bible study, but the overall attendance is actually down slightly from last year. In addition, we see our Sunday School children being more and more sporadic in their attendance.

These things just don't make sense to me. We truly have a beautiful, loving and wonderful church family. When I look at our congregation, and the wonderful people that God has brought together, I see a church that can do anything, because the Holy Spirit is at work among us. I see a church that can do anything, because God has already given us the gifts, abilities and resources for the tasks we have. I see a church that grow, confident that our God continues to work in us to bless us. I will tell you that many congregations are envious of the things that we have been given and what we can do. We have been blessed. Yet, are we taking advantage of those blessings as God would have us do?

Throughout the history of the church, one of the greatest dangers is that the very people God has blessed so richly have a tendency to take Him and His goodness for granted. Have we done that? Do we make too little of our lives as His children? Have we become too wrapped up in the things of the world, so that the Lord of All, the God who should be number one in our lives, takes a second place to just about everything else in our lives?

It has been said that God must count for everything in our lives, or He counts for nothing. This has always been one of the hardest lessons for people to learn. We want to think of God as just a laid-back grandfather, who doesn't get too upset with the things we do, as long as we don't forget him entirely. But we forget that God refers to Himself as a jealous God, a God who will not share His glory with anyone else, or with anything else. This is not based on some sort of ego trip, but rather, it flows from God's love for us—a love that is totally absorbed in us, moment by moment, day by day. God loves us—and He watches over us as we drive to work or when we go on vacation.

God loves us, and He is with us to help us in our moments of fear and struggle. God loves us, and it is by His grace that we are able to work and earn our daily bread. God loves us, and He gives us sunny days and loving friends and family. He gives us times of rest and relaxation. He gives us all that we need to support this body and life—and much, much more. Best of all, He has given us His own Son, to redeem us from sin and death and to give us life as His children. For all this, and more, He deserves to be first in our hearts, our lives and our planning.

When God brought His people to the promised land, He pleaded with them to remember Him and His grace at work for their good. We need to remember God, too! The place to start is with regular, not occasional, worship. We need to get into His Word and learn more about Him and more about His will and blessings for our lives. We need to give serious thought to our stewardship of time, talents and treasures, so that we make the best use of all He gives to us. We seem to have been lukewarm this year: it's time to get 'on fire' once again!

The really exciting thing is that God has always promised that He will bless His people for their faithfulness. I know how blessed we are to have the people we do as part of our family. We've got it all—but are we using it to full advantage? Are we living as God would have us live?

As we gear up for our fall activities, let us give thanks to God for all He has done among us. Remember what He has done and is doing for you. And live as the people you are—the blessed, forgiven and empowered saints you are in Jesus Christ.

Park Hand My Book

Kids Say the Darnedest Things!

After church one Sunday, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided I'm going to be a minister when I grow up."

"That's okay with us," the mother said, "But what made you decide to be a minister?"

"Well," the boy replied, "I'll have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell than to sit still and listen."

Children & Family Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Sunday School resumes **September 10**th! Families with Sunday School aged children should have received a letter with information and a registration form for this Sunday School year. Please complete and return the forms to Deaconess Miriam in order to help with our preparations for the fall.

Thank you to our teachers, who will meet August 31st to plan for Rally Day and beyond.

This fall's lessons revolve around the early Church, and how God used the apostles to grow the Church. We will meet Peter, Paul, Barnabas, and Timothy!

Our upcoming lessons include:

	C	
Sep 10	Peter Escapes from Prison	Acts 12
Sep 17	Paul, Barnabas and a Man Born Lame	Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18
Sep 24	The Jerusalem Council	Acts 15:1-14, 22-35
Oct 01	Lydia is Baptized	Acts 16:11-15
Oct 08	Thanksgiving No Sunday School Class	
Oct 15	Paul Preaches in Athens	Acts 17:16-34
Oct 22	Paul's Ministry and Hard- ships	Acts 20:1-12; 2 Cor. 11:22-28
Oct 29	The Plot to Kill Paul	Acts 23:12-14

CHILDREN'S CHOIR



Through Vacation Bible School, interest has been expressed in children's choir again. Children age 4 and up are invited to join us for twice monthly

practices where we will learn God's Word though song, learn what we can do with our voices, learn a bit about music, and learn how to sing with others. If you are interested in having your children participate, please contact Deaconess Miriam by **September 10**th at 403-284-1342 or miriam@foothillslutheran.com.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Two Ladies' study groups are running, with new members always welcome.

Our Tuesday study will be a summer walk and devotion on September 12th and then resume their weekly schedule, studying the book of Colossians with a resource called "The Mighty and the Mysterious".

Our Thursday afternoon study meets weekly at 1:30 pm for an in-depth study of the readings for the upcoming Sunday.

FAITH AT HOME

As a congregation we are encouraging the families of our congregation to adopt a Faith-at-Home lifestyle, where parents claim their God-given role as primary faith-teachers of their children. Deaconess Miriam has resources for families to help them fill this role at every age and stage. She'd love to talk with you! n September we will have one session: On **September 24**th children turning 4 and their families are invited to participate in our "My Church" session, where we will tour the sanctuary (and especially the chancel area) to find out what all of the special items in our church teach us. You and your children will receive an invitation to the sessions appropriate for their age.

LOVED BY GOD VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This summer's Vacation Bible School was held the mornings of July 24-28. Sixty-two children from forty-one families joined us to hear each day about an unexpected conversation that Jesus had with someone, showing His love and grace to them (and to us). Children met Nicodemus, the woman at the well, the sinful woman who anointed Jesus with her tears, Zacchaeus, and the thief on the cross. They learned how salvation is given through Jesus alone, received by faith, and offered to everyone.

We give thanks to God for our many volunteers – there were thirty-five of them, plus six volunteers-in-training. Our volunteers functioned in a variety of roles, including teacher, classroom helper, games leaders, crafts leader and helpers, music leaders, hot dog lunch preparers, and general support. We are grateful to all, and for the support of the congregation for this program. Over one-third of the children who attended this year did not have a church home, and we pray that the seeds of God's Word planted during the week would take root and grow.

Family Time in Christ

Fall is a good time to walk. It's not too hot, and (most of the time) not too cold. We like to look at the changes that happen in nature with the change of seasons. Do you like to walk or hike together? When we walk, we often think about our destination, and what we will see or do when we get there. But walking is a process too. It is time spent with others in conversation, or in quiet thought. Before you go for a walk together (or while you are on one) talk with your family about how the words "walk" or "walking" are used in Holy Scripture:

- Walking with someone implies a close relationship. Noah "walked with God" (Genesis 6:9). He trusted in God, and others knew that. Abraham is commanded by God to walk before Him (Genesis 17:1). He was called to trust God and follow where He would lead.
- Sometimes our walks take us to challenging places. God has a promise for people who walk in difficult or dangerous places. David is not afraid, even though he "walks in the valley of the shadow of death" (Psalm 23:4), because God will be with him. God promises Isaiah that those who wait on Him, even when times are tough, will walk, but not faint (Isaiah 40:31)

- Jesus walked a lot. He travelled through Galilee, Judea, and even into Samaria, to teach, preach, and bring forgiveness of sins to all people. Look at John 4 and Luke 19 to meet two people who were glad Jesus walked to their towns.
- Jesus invites us to walk with Him to walk in His light (1 John 1:5-7). As we do so, He promises His presence, cleansing from sin, and fellowship with all the people of God!

God bless your walking together as a family, and grant that your walking would be always in His light!

Deaconess Miriam



My Church



Take it Home!

Sunday, September 24, 2023 11:15 am at Foothills Lutheran Church What is the church? What are all the special things in the church? What happens at church? Why does God want us to be together in church? Come with your child and share a special treasure hunt that will help you to answer these questions!

We will meet in the sanctuary right after service. Bring your whole family!

RSVP TO:

Foothills Lutheran Church
3104 - 34 Avenue NW
403-284-1342
miriam@foothillslutheran.com

Designed for parents and their children born in 2017 - 2019.

LWMLC

Foothills LWMLC Society meets monthly, usually on the fourth Monday of the month, from September to May, except in December. We gather in the Fellowship Hall for Bible study and a short business meeting. We invite all ladies to join us and bring some new ideas!

On September 25th, we will formulate a tentative yearly plan for upcoming events and mission projects. There will be an update on the progress of LWMLC Mission Grant initiatives.

We are so grateful for your congregational support: your prayers, financial contributions, and involvement in our events and ongoing projects. Please continue to donate used postage stamps for the Canadian Bible Society and used eyeglasses for Optiks International. Our prayer shawl ministry has blossomed and we'd love to hear your stories of shawls given and received.

Check out our bulletin board display by the entrance to the kitchen.

God's blessings, Cheryl Lemke

PURDY'S FUNDRAISER



To help support youth group trips like the 2025 National Youth Gathering, we will be selling chocolates from Purdy's, and

they will be delivered in time for Christmas! More info will be available soon.

Kids Say the Darnedest Things!

On Ash Wednesday, members at Kilbourne (Ohio) United Methodist Church were coming forward for the imposition of ashes on their foreheads. Two-year-old Brenna Wagoner, upset that her mother was not taking her to the altar, was overheard exclaiming: "But I want to get a tattoo just like Daddy's!"

* * * *

The old pastor made it a practice to visit the parish school one day a week. He walked into the 4th grade class, where the children were studying the states, and asked them how many states they could name. They came up with about 40 names. He jokingly told them that in his day students knew the names of all the states. One lad raised his hand and said, "Yes, but in those days, there were only 13."

Board of Fellowship

STAMPEDE BREAKFAST



Yahoo! It was so exciting to hold our annual Stampede Breakfast with friends, family, and neighbors. Unfortunately, it was a smoky morning but lots of pancakes and sausages were eaten, and the roving

magician kept kids young and old entertained with magic tricks and fancy balloon sculptures. It was wonderful to enjoy the outdoor service led by Pastor Bode and Pastor Eric.

A special THANK YOU to the Stampede Breakfast team leaders who without them and the other volunteers we could not have made the morning such a success!

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE

Starting in September, we will be returning to coffee and tea service every week. We enjoy having time for fellowship and visiting with



each other over treats that members bring in as well, so feel free to donate goodies for after church.

However, if you are planning to bring a treat that cannot be put in the freezer or cupboard for another time, please advise Sarah Knudtson or Heather Sommers in advance so the coffee team can make appropriate arrangements. For food safety reasons, we also prefer that you do not bring leftovers from other functions. We value the volunteers very much who bring in all the different goodies and snacks each week and look forward to more visiting after worship!

PASTOR APPRECIATION

October is Ministry Appreciation month, let us show our appreciation for Pastor Bode, Pastor Eric and Deaconess Miriam

with a special pie social after the October 15th service to recognize them. Watch for the sign-up sheet on the Fellowship Board.

CONFIRMATION DINNER

On Thursday, October 26th we will host a dinner for Karl Wong and his family and others as he prepares to be confirmed. If you can help prepare this dinner, please let Heather Sommers know.

From the Treasurer

In mid-August we received an information package from SAGE Properties Corp. regarding a special shareholders meeting to be held in Leduc on August 29, 2023, in person or by video link.

They are seeking approval for the sale of the Harbour and Manor with the anticipated completion date of October 1, 2023.

If the sale goes through, the next Share redemption will take place December 1, 2023.

In section D of the Summary/FAQ, they talk about the anticipated share redemption . If I'm reading it correctly, our shares, being 619,943 would result in a redemption of 88.5% = 548,650 shares redeemed for a value in the range of \$0.87 = \$477,325 and \$0.95 = \$521,217

The SAGE shares are on our books at an estimated value of \$402,963 so this sale will result in a recovery of losses formerly recognized.

That would also leave us with 619,943 less 548,650 = 71,293 shares to be redeemed once the school is sold. Value unknown at this time.

PPC discussed this issue in an emergency email forum and appointed Brian Kehler as the FLC delegate for the special shareholders meeting encouraging him to vote in favor of the sale and eventual share redemption together with several other housekeeping items to be voted upon.

Brian Kehler graciously accepted this appointment and has agreed to represent FLC at the special shareholders meeting.

Stay tuned for more information as it is received.

Robert Heumann CA CPA

SLO-PITCH GAME



Everyone is welcome to join the youth for a fun ball game on the afternoon of Sunday, **September 24**. We'll be inviting the other churches in the circuit, too! Watch for details

on exactly when and where. Even if you don't play, come out and cheer!

Mission of the Month

September: Concordia Lutheran Mission Society

A mission agency formed by mission-minded LLC individuals. Seeks to encourage and expand the mission work beyond that which the Synod can do at present.

October: BC Mission Boat

A group of people living on Vancouver Island, had a vision to build a boat in 1999 and travel to remote parts of the BC Coast to share the love of Jesus Christ with people living in remote communities. Between the years 2000 and 2010, they did this by taking teams in a boat to each community. Since that time the BC Mission Boat Society takes teams using various modes of transportation including car, water taxi and ferry to these communities. Various teams from all over Canada and the USA join us throughout the year to offer kid's club, men's and women's bible studies, family games nights, elder breakfasts and spa nights for the people living in the communities we travel to. Our hope is to encourage believers in the communities and share the love of our Saviour to the people.

Operation Christmas Child



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We again have the opportunity to fill shoeboxes for children from countries suffering poverty, are experiencing war or struggling

from the effects of natural disasters. Shoeboxes are filled with toys, hygiene and school supplies, etc. Many children have to bring their own supplies to be able to attend school. This may be the only gift a child ever receives. They are also invited to attend a 12-week course called "The Greatest Journey" where the children learn about Jesus and the gift He gives to all people - Salvation. I have put brochures on the information desk and boxes will be available the first week of October. Please contact Elke Bittmann at 403-830-2143 or elkebittmann54@gmail.com for further information.

Psalm 96:3 Declare His glory among the nations.

Board of Elders

As I write, it is another hot day, and I am thankful for some air-conditioning. Soon, another summer will be winding down and we will all be busy with life's normal routines.

The Elders were happy to help with this years Stampede Breakfast. We were busy on the grills and where ever else we could be of assistance. God again blessed us with good weather and the opportunity to share His good news! A big thank-you to Sarah Knudtson for leading, and all the volunteers for their help.

Partially due to the success of the Stampede Breakfast, a church picnic is now being planned for Rally Sunday (September 10). The Elders are planning to assist by barbequing burgers and dogs. This will be a "Potblessing" event - bring some sides and your appetite, and pray for a beautiful autumn day!

Our first meeting with the new group of Elders will be on September 19. We will have numerous items to contemplate including unfinished business from earlier in the year, items from the PPC and Voters, as well as budget preparations.

Life can be overwhelming at times. Often in the fall, when activities start-up again, it is easy to quickly feel that things are out of control. At these times I am especially grateful for the peace I receive when meditating on scripture. Receive this benediction and go in peace:

'Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.'

Ralf Hinterleitner

Final Thoughts from your Out-Going President....

Thank you to the members of Foothills Lutheran for the support and well wishes I have received over my tenure as president. My last year was marred by health issues. My voice was not clear when running meetings, I lost hearing in my left ear last October, and I went through knee replacement surgery last March. You people put up with me!

The members of PPC who served with me and our church staff were exceptional in their dedicated service on the church's behalf, especially as we waded through the Covid crisis.

Pastor Bode, Pastor Eric, Miriam Winstanley and Carol Kehler were so easy to work with. We really have a great staff!

Robert Heumann tackled some difficult jobs trying to get our accounting system up to current accounting standards and he led the committee that cleaned up the aftermath of the Church Extension Fund dissolution.

Pam Goebel stepped in to help with the Church Properties position which I was trying to steer through the Ecclesiastical Insurance review which pointed out deficiencies that our church needed to correct. It was a lot of work to accomplish to satisfy the insurance people and she stepped in with no hesitation and took on that job.

Christine Heumann headed up the Human Care Ministries efforts so well that many were intimidated by the amount of work it would take to fill her shoes.

Dale Dusterhoft, with his sage advice, was always someone the PPC and the Voters would listen to and it would "calm the waters" of a difficult meeting.

Tobi Stene organized the Christian Education committee with quiet efficiency.

Sarah Knudtson learned the Fellowship role and always provided leadership to continue fellowship opportunities for our congregation. As well, she helped to introduce our church to a scheduling app that simplified organizing volunteers.

Mark Kihn put his personal touch on Evangelism. He personally invited more people to come worship at Foothills (that he must hold the record). He often used unconventional means to touch base with non-members and members alike - "Lutheran cucumbers or tomatoes".

The Elders led by Lorne Rosenau and Ralf Hinterleitner strived to touch based with our members and would take the concerns brought forward by members and share those concerns with the ministerial staff and the PPC in a Christ -like manner.

Brian Vincent kept our property clean and neat. Brian always alerted me to problems that when solved, saved the congregation from costly repairs.

Many members, too many for me to count, have volunteered so that our congregation functioned as a church to the glory of God.

Now for a little advertisement... We are without a President, and the Human Care Ministry and Evangelism positions are vacant. We really need to have people step forward to serve our God and to serve our congregation. Consider volunteering for these important Parish Planning Council positions. I know that you would get terrific support from the rest of PPC and our church staff.

Tim Roth

Board of Christian Education



"Teach...that the next generation may set their hope in God" - Psalm 78

As a new church year begins, we are excited to welcome everyone back to our lineup of Christian Education classes, events, and opportunities to grow your faith by steeping yourself in God's Word. They will kick off on Rally Sunday (September 10), and among those opportunities are Sunday School classes, Sunday morning adult, LifeLight, Ladies Bible study, Faith at Home, and Confirmation. We look forward to seeing everyone back to dive into God's Word together.

On the heels of the one-day-VBS, the July 24-28 VBS had a great turnout of both kids and helpers. We want to give a great thank you to all the staff and volunteers who made both our VBSes such a great success and a wonderful time of learning for everyone. Please look for the VBS update in this Foot Print for more details. We also want to extend our great appreciation and thanks to Jutta Colhoun for her many... MANY... years of faithful service in many areas, but especially within the education classes at Foothills. She has been a part of our VBSes as a teacher and helper since 2013, as a teacher and helper with our Sunday School classes, working mainly in our Preschool and Kindergarten classes. She also volunteered in the FLC Preschool for many years. As she steps back to take a very well earned break, please join us in thanking her for all the work she's put into serving our kids and church.

Rally Sunday is coming up on **September 10**. We will have information available about our education opportunities and there will likely be a BBQ pot blessing after service that Sunday, so pay attention to the bulletin and announcements for more details.

The Library is available throughout the summer so come by and checkout something that interests you. There has been some new reading material recently added to the shelves and we invite you to come in and borrow some items to enjoy while relaxing during the weeks ahead. We have also removed some of the older material to make room for new books, so let us know if you have a title or subject of suggestion; just email us at education@foothillslutheran.com, call in to the office, or speak to a staff member.

The Board of Christian Education is:

Chair – Trevor Heumann

Staff Members – Pastor David Bode, Pastor Eric Moffett and Deaconess Miriam Winstanley

Board Members – Michelle Heumann, Derek Kiefer, Kayla Moffett, Tobi Stene

A TASTE OF SUMMER

We worked our "taste of summer" at FLC with rhubarb, some saskatoons, and cucumbers to raise a few \$\$ for the Lutheran Hour broadcasts on High River radio.

This year we added a few tomatoes.

We gave the Lutheran garden produce to new members, potential members, and non-members. We also gave to widows, widowers, and single parents.

God caused our garden to grow and we harvested the crop and passed along.

SAGE UPDATE

The Annual and Special meeting of the Shareholders of Sage Properties Corp was held on August 29, 2023 at Leduc Alberta. The main item on the agenda was to approve of the sale of the Prince of Peace Harbour and Manor. The completion date for the sale is anticipated to be October 1, 2023. Foothills has 619,943 shares in Sage. Sage estimates a redemption of shares would be 88.5% which would result in a redemption of 548,650 shares. Redemption value could range from \$0.87 to \$0.95 per share. This would leave Foothills \$477,325 or \$521,217 depending on the value range. Hopefully the redemption to the shareholders will be in December.

One new announcement was made regarding the School. A tentative agreement was signed August 29. Price of School is \$4.850,000. If this proceeds \$3,153,000 is paid upfront, and \$1,697,500 would be mortgaged by Sage. Sage will be looking to sell the mortgage. \$3,500,000 would be available for distribution after the sale is completed.

Tentative wind up of Sage is 2024.

Brian Kehler, FLC Representative

Youth Event News

Youth group, or LYF (Lutheran Youth @ Foothills), is for youth in grades 7 to 12, and friends are welcome! We meet every second and fourth Friday, whether it's a long weekend or not, usually from 7 to 10 pm.

Over the summer, some of our youth and all of our leaders went to the IMPACT Youth Gathering in Grand Forks, BC, and it was an awesome weekend. We were also able to adopt a couple of youth from Red Deer who didn't have a leader to bring them. Thank you to everyone who helped or supported the gathering in any way! Search for the IMPACT Youth Gathering on YouTube, Facebook, or Instagram to see some photos.

Also a big thank you to all the youth who helped out with VBS! It was a great week with lots of people to help share the work. The youth leaders love seeing the youth grow into being leaders themselves as they serve the younger kids.

Sunday morning youth Bible study will begin on September 10 at 9am in the youth room, and will continue through December 17, except for Thanksgiving Sunday and November 12 (the Remembrance Day long weekend). Bring your Bible!

September 8: Frolf and games

Watch your email for details about when and where pickup and drop-off will be!

September 22: Corn Maze

We'll meet at the church and leave at 6:30, and pickup will be back at the church at 10pm. Dress for the weather, and bring a water bottle, a flashlight, and a friend! Cost TBA - it will be around \$18/person. RSVP to Michelle by September 19.

Sunday, September 24: Slo-pitch

Everyone is welcome to join us after lunch on the 24th for a fun game, and we'll be inviting the other churches in the circuit, too. Watch for details about exactly when and where we'll be meeting.

Save October 13 and 27! We are hoping to do some kind of service project on the 13th, and the 27th will be games at the church. Details TBA!

Purdy's fundraiser: Watch for news about how to order your Christmas chocolate and support the youth group!

Also save April 19 to 21 for a central Alberta youth retreat! The fall youth retreat we used to host regularly at Foothills is being rebooted and it's going to be a great weekend.

If you have questions, please ask Pastor Eric, Kayla, Evan, Trevor, or Michelle, and stay connected with youth news by giving a youth leader your email address.

IDA'S OLD FASHIONED RHUBARB CAKE

1 tsp baking soda; 1 tsp baking powder; 1 cup sour milk;

2 cups white sugar; ½ cup soft margarine; 1 egg;

1 tsp vanilla; 2 cups all-purpose flour; few grains of salt;

2 cups medium chopped (1/8" pieces) fresh or frozen/ thawed rhubarb, sprinkled with flour;

Topping:

½ cup brown sugar; 1 tsp cinnamon;

¹/₄ cup finely chopped walnuts (or crushed corn flakes);

Method:

Dissolve soda in sour milk and stir; set milk mixture aside; cream white sugar and margarine; add egg and sour milk – mix together well; add vanilla, flour, salt, and baking powder; fold over with a big spoon, add floured rhubarb, and mix slowly, but thoroughly.

Pour mixture into a greased and floured 13" x 9" cake pan; sprinkle top with sugar/cinnamon/walnut/cornflakes mixture:

Bake for 40 to 45 minutes in a 350F oven; serve warm with whipped cream or ice cream; or cool and serve later;

Hints:

- a "sour milk" substitute is milk plus a tablespoon of lemon juice;
- as a change, use only half the rhubarb & add seasonal fruit like blueberries, Saskatoons, raspberries or strawberry (be sure to cut up strawberries); if you use this option, cut back the sugar by ½ cup;
- if you have plenty of Rhubarb, you can easily add double the amount; the cake will taste more fruity/less sugary;
- For variety, I also substitute Rum Extract instead of the vanilla.

submitted by Mark Kihn (Ida Kihn's son), Calgary