

Rhubarb... versatile spring vegetable/fruit

This finds us on a cloudy morning after a windy night. I think the wind blew all night long. It has warmed up, feels like spring is here

I have a busy week ahead preparing food to cater the annual Stockholder's meeting at the Best Western in ARCOLA. They wanted finger foods instead of the usual menu. Tiny Sandwiches, pinwheels, cheese & crackers, vegetable & fruit trays & desert trays are the new menu. It's a fun job but very time consuming.

We are invited to a neighbor girl's wedding next week. It will be nice to go as a guest.

Try these recipes with fresh rhubarb.

French Rhubarb Pie

1 egg, beaten
1 c. sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
2 T. flour
1 c. diced rhubarb
Unbaked pie shell
CRUMB TOPPING:
¾ c. flour
1/2 c. brown sugar
1/3 c. margarine

Mix first 4 ingredients, then add rhubarb. Pour into pie shell. For crumbs, mix flour and sugar; cut in margarine. Put crumbs on top of pie and bake at 400 degrees for 10 minutes. Then continue bak-

From My Amish Kitchen

By Doris Yoder



ing at 325 degrees for 30 minutes.

Rhubarb Oatmeal Muffins

1 c. flour
¼ c. oatmeal
1½ c. brown sugar
2 tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. soda
1/4 tsp. salt
1 egg
1/3 c. vegetable oil
1/3 c. orange juice
1 c. diced rhubarb
Topping:
1/4 t. oatmeal
4 c. brown sugar
2 Tbsp. chopped pecans
2 Tbsp. margarine
1/8 tsp. ginger
1/8 tsp. cinnamon
Combine first 7 ingredients; set aside. In another bowl, combine egg, oil, and orange juice. Stir into dry ingredients, just until moistened. Fold in rhubarb. Fill greased muffin cups 2/3 full.

Combine topping ingredients. Sprinkle onto muffins. Bake at 350° for 18 to 20 minutes or until done. Cool for 5 minutes. Remove from pan

Blueberry-Rhubarb Freezer Jam

5 c. fresh or frozen rhubarb
1/2 c. water
5 c. sugar
1 (21 oz.) can blueberry pie filling
2 c. fresh or frozen blueberries
3 Tbsp. lemon juice
2 (3 oz.) pkg. raspberry Jell-O

In a large kettle, cook rhubarb and water over medium heat for 5 minutes or till rhubarb is tender. Add sugar, bring to a boil, and boil for 2 minutes. Stir in pie filling, blueberries and lemon juice. Return to a boil, reduce heat, cook and stir for 10 minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in Jell-

O till dissolved, cool slightly. Pour into containers, cool to room temperature. Cover and refrigerate or freeze

Rhubarb Preserves

8 c. chopped rhubarb
6 c. sugar
6 oz. Jell-O

Simmer together for 15 minutes. Take off heat and add the Jell-O. When dissolved put in jars and seal.

Rhubarb Slush Drink

12 qt. rhubarb
2½ c. sugar
2 c. water
2 Tbsp. strawberry or raspberry Jell-O
2 c. pineapple juice
½ c. ReaLemon

Cut up rhubarb into 1"-2" chunks. Put in large kettle and cover with water. Boil for 10 minutes. Pour into colander and strain, saving juice. Melt sugar and water. Add remaining ingredients, pour into strained rhubarb juice. Put into freezer containers and freeze. Thaw slightly and add a 2-liter warm Sprite or 7-Up. Serve while still slushy.

Pastor Stahl's Weekly Message of Faith



Hello Everyone!

It is Springtime now and I have mowed my yard for the first time this year! And now it begins. Good Luck and Blessings to all of the farmers this year! They are now out in the fields and doing their planting. Make plenty of room for them on the roads. May their harvest be prosperous and safe!

Last week, the Artemis II Mission came back from the moon. They landed safely and made it back home after an exciting mission. The astronauts were the first humans to go to the moon since Apollo 17 in December of 1972. When the Artemis astronauts were circling the moon, they received a very special message:

"Hello Artemis II! This is Apollo astronaut Jim Lovell. Welcome to my old neighborhood. When Frank Borman and Bill Anders and I orbited the moon on Apollo 8, we got humanity's first up close look at the moon and got a view of the home planet that inspired and united people around the world. I'm proud to pass that torch on to you as you swing around the moon and lay the groundwork for missions to Mars.....Good Luck and God-speed from all of us here on the good earth." Jim Lovell recorded that message before his death last year.

Apollo 8 was launched at Christmas time, 1968. They went into lunar orbit on Christmas Eve. The entire world sat in front of their television sets and watched the live broadcast. Astronauts Borman, Lovell, and Anders closed their broadcast by reading words from the 1st Chapter of the Book of Genesis: "In the Beginning, God Created the Heavens and the earth....." Frank Borman concluded with: "And from all of us on Apollo 8, Good Night, Good Luck, Merry Christmas, and God Bless all of you, all of

you on the good earth." The next day, they fired their engine, and they got out of lunar orbit and started on their way home. Jim Lovell said to Mission Control: "Houston, please be advised, there is a Santa Claus." I was 5 years old in 1968, and when my Mom told me the Astronauts had seen Santa Claus, I was over the moon!

They made it back safely and were named Time Magazine's Men of the Year for 1968. That year was very violent and chaotic, with the war in Vietnam raging on, the assassinations of Martin Luther King in April and Robert F. Kennedy in June. The astronauts received many congratulatory telegrams. One of them simply said, "You saved 1968."

The crew of Apollo 8 took many photographs of the moon, in preparation for the moon landing the following year. However one photograph stood out among all the rest. Bill Anders saw the earth in full color, rising over the horizon of the moon. They said that the earth was the only thing in color in all the universe. The picture was called "Earthrise" and was made into a stamp in 1969. They said they went to space to discover the moon, but in the end they discovered the earth.

"When I look at the night sky and see the Work of Your Fingers, the moon and the stars that You Set in place, what are mere mortals that You should Think about them, human beings that You should Care for them.....O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your Name in all the earth!" (Psalm 8:3,4,9)

God Bless all of you, all of you on the good earth!

Pastor Jeff Stahl
Countryside and Ogden United Methodist Churches

Psalm 25: King James Version

Luke 4

New International Version
Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted[a] by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."
4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'[b]"

5 The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. 7 If you worship me, it will all be yours."

8 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'[c]"

9 The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself

down from here. 10 For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;

11 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.[d]"

12 Jesus answered, "It is said: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'[e]"

13 When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth
14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15 He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.



He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,

19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.[f]

20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

23 Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"

24 "Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. 25 I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. 26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. 27 And there were many in Israel with leprosy[g] in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

28 All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. 29 They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. 30 But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit

31 Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath he taught the people. 32 They were amazed at his teaching, because his words had authority.

33 In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an impure spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, 34 "Go away! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

35 "Be quiet!" Jesus said sternly. "Come out of him!" Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

36 All the people were amazed and said to each other, "What words these are! With authority and power he gives orders to impure spirits and they come out!" 37 And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area.

Jesus Heals Many

38 Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. 39 So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

40 At sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. 41 Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Messiah.

42 At daybreak, Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. 43 But he said, "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." 44 And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

OSF Peace Meal Menu

Here is the Sidney, Homer, Philo, Tolono, Sadorus, and Pesotum Peace Meal menu for Thursday, April 23 through Wednesday, April 29.

Thursday, 4/23/26 – Chicken bacon ranch wrap with lettuce and tomato, celery sticks, cottage cheese, pineapple, and a half pint of milk.

Friday, 4/24/26 – Philly cheese steak, tator tots, asparagus, fruit cup, whole wheat bun, and a half pint of milk.

Saturday, 4/25/26 – BLT with lettuce and tomato, carrot sticks, orange fluff, chips, and a half pint of milk.

Sunday, 4/26/26 – OSF Peace Meal is closed.

Monday, 4/27/26 – Chicken and noodles, peas and carrots, mashed potatoes, fruit cup, whole wheat roll served with butter or margarine, and a half pint of milk.

Tuesday, 4/28/26 – Sloppy Joe, green beans, tator tots, fruit cup, whole wheat bun, and a half pint of milk.

Wednesday, 4/29/26 – OSF Peace Meal is closed.

OSF Peace Meal provides seniors, age 60 and older, with a nutritious lunch Monday through Saturday and are closed on Sunday and Wednesday. There is a suggested donation of \$4.00 for each meal, however, no senior will be denied a meal because of an inability to financially contribute. The Illinois

Link Card is an accepted form of payment. For more information, please go to <https://www.osfhealthcare.org/osf-peace-meal/> or call 1-309-665-5900.

The Homer Peace Meal congregated site is at the Homer Village Hall located at 500 East Second Street. It is currently carry-out only. For reservations, please call 1-309-665-5900. Home delivery in southern Champaign County is currently available in Sidney, Homer, Philo, Tolono, Sadorus, and Pesotum.

Menu substitutions may occur due to global supply chain shortages, but a nutritious meal is still guaranteed.

The OSF Peace Meal menu is submitted for the OSF Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program by Ann Rhoton.

PUBLIC NOTICE

On Monday, April 27, at 3:30 p.m., Heritage CUSD 8 will conduct a Timely and Meaningful Consultation (TMC) meeting. The meeting will be held in the Band Room (West Entrance) at Heritage Elementary/Jr. High at 512 W. First St., Homer, IL 61849.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the District's plan for providing special education services to students with disabilities who will attend private and home schools within Heritage CUSD 8's boundaries for the 2026/27 school year.

If you are the parent of a privately placed or home-schooled student who has been or may be identified with a disability, and you reside or have a child that attends school within the Heritage CUSD 8 boundaries, you are encouraged to attend.

If you have questions, please contact: Dr. Kimberly Norton at 217-896-2041 (132) or norton.kimberly@heritage8.org published 04/22/2026

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TODAY

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