

September 2022 Vol. 62, Issue 9

# CHRONICLER



**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD**  
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Dear Fellow Redeemed in Christ,

I'm always on the lookout for good material for you to read and be exposed to as Lutheran Christians. The following piece comes from a new periodical called *Christian Culture*, written in support of and by the founders of Lutheran Classical College. LCC is being formed in Casper, Wyoming, with a planned opening date of the fall of 2025. I'm sure I've talked to some of you about this already, but the aim of this college is to get back to the roots of what our Concordia Universities were founded for – to primarily train pastors and teachers for our Missouri Synod. The plans for LCC are humble and small, but in the world in which we live, maybe that's the best plan! *Christian Culture* states that it is "A Magazine for Lutherans", and addresses various topics that concern the folks in the pew as they interact with our surrounding culture.

Rev. Rolf Preus, a pastor for 41 years, who is now retired and living in Northern Minnesota, penned this brief article in the last issue of *Christian Culture* that I thought you'd be interested in reading. I'd urge you to bear this in mind as you listen to sermons, both from the guest preachers that are covering for my absence, as well as when I return to the pulpit in mid-September. Entitled, "How to Listen to a Sermon," this essay gives some helpful tips as you continue to listen to preaching and the Word of God in Christ's church on Sunday morning. Here begins the writing from Pr. Preus:

Listening to a sermon is a skill that every Christian should learn. As important as it is that our preachers purely preach the whole counsel of God, rightly distinguishing between law and gospel and faithfully setting forth the teaching of God's Word, so important it is that we hearers listen to sermons as sheep who hear the voice of their Good Shepherd, Jesus, who gave His life for them. How should we listen to a sermon? First, don't listen to false doctrine. Second, pay close attention to the text on which the preacher is preaching. Third, keep in mind that the preacher is preaching to you personally. Fourth, say Amen to the law and the gospel that you hear.

First, don't listen to false doctrine. If you want to learn how to paddle a canoe, the first thing you need to know is where not to paddle it. Don't paddle a canoe over a waterfall. Don't paddle your canoe in Lake Superior during a gale. If you want to know how to listen to a sermon, the first thing you need to know is where not to go. Don't go to a heterodox church. Don't listen to a heterodox preacher. [Note from Pastor Provost: heterodox = that which contains some truth and some falsity.] Mark and avoid false teaching and false teachers. The most important measure of a sermon is not whether it is nicely delivered, makes you feel pious, entertains you, or even instructs you. It must be God's pure Word. God's Word is food for the soul.

We don't listen to false doctrine for the same reason we don't smoke pot or snort cocaine. It's bad for you. It's poison to the soul. God's Word is food and drink. Faith is eating and drinking. Faith is eating and drinking the flesh and blood of the Son of Man, as Jesus teaches us in John chapter 6. The sermon is not a smorgasbord of theological opinions from which we may take this and leave that. A sermon is a meal. Take it in as you would eat a tender steak covered with a light béarnaise sauce. Pay attention to every word. The purpose of the sermon is to justify you through faith. Eat! It's good for you!

Second, pay close attention to the text on which the preacher is preaching. You are not there to hear Pastor Jones. You are there to listen to Jesus. The incarnate Word is revealed in the written Word and proclaimed in the oral Word preached by the preacher. Hold the written

Word in your heart. Expect the preacher to preach the text. If he does not preach the text and teaches something else, something that appears to you not to jibe with what you have learned from the Catechism, talk to him about it. A faithful pastor who is confronted in a friendly manner by a parishioner (or a visitor, for that matter) about something he said in a sermon will welcome your questions. Don't be intimidated by a minister of Christ. He's your minister, too.

Third, take the sermon personally. There is nothing wrong with getting a copy of the sermon to share with someone else. It may be a good idea. But you are not sitting in the pew as a preacher to others. You are there, as a baptized child of God, to hear what God has to say to you. The sermon proclaims the blood and righteousness of Jesus to you personally, and it is as personal as eating and drinking the body and blood of Jesus in the Sacrament. Sermon and sacraments go together. A sermon is not a lecture. It's personal.

Fourth, say Amen to the law and gospel that you hear. Listen to the sermon for instruction on how you are to live. The law that you hear may condemn you, instruct you, and rein you in all at the same time. Let it do its work on you and do not apply it to Bill or George. You are not there to judge them, instruct them, or to rein them in. The law you hear is meant for you. My dad used to joke about the misapplication of God's law by saying, "That's like preaching against birth control at an old folks home." But it is not only preachers who misapply God's law. Hearers do too. When you listen to a sermon, expect God to tell you what to do and expect to find yourself exposed as guilty before God and accountable to him.

Finally, say Amen to the gospel that you hear. Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled" (Mt. 5:6). How? Through faith! That's what saying Amen means. It means you believe it. You trust the words your Savior speaks to you through His servant because you trust in Jesus. He who came to serve by giving His life as a ransom for you continues to serve you through the words the pastor preaches to you. Say Amen to those words. Take them to heart. Listening to a sermon is not just a momentary thing that ends when the pastor says Amen. You say Amen too. Your Amen is to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Word you have heard. The duty of the preacher is to set Jesus Christ before you as your sin-bearer and Savior. The duty of the listener is to hold to the Christian sermon as precious words of life that give life and empower Christian living. Cherish in your heart the preached Word that bestows on you Christ and His righteousness. This Word is the instrument of the Holy Spirit to work faith in you, to justify you, and to enable you to live a Christian life.

Rather than just pick out excerpts, I thought it was important to give you the entire 7 paragraphs of the essay to chew on. If you're interested in more from this magazine, it can be obtained for free from Lutheran Classical College. Just visit [cc.lutherclassical.org/subscribe](http://cc.lutherclassical.org/subscribe) in order to contact them. They'll either send it to you electronically, or, if you're like me, they'll also send you a printed copy to have actual glossy paper in your hands to read! Please let me know what you think of this article. Even the whole magazine only runs about 32 pages per quarter, so it's not a large undertaking! If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact me. I hope to see you in church, in Bible study, and around the community!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Daniel M. Provost

# Hands of Christ .....



Emerson-Hough



Woodrow Wilson Sec'y & Pat



Berg Middle School



Aurora Hgts—  
Jennifer Palmer & Pat



West Academy

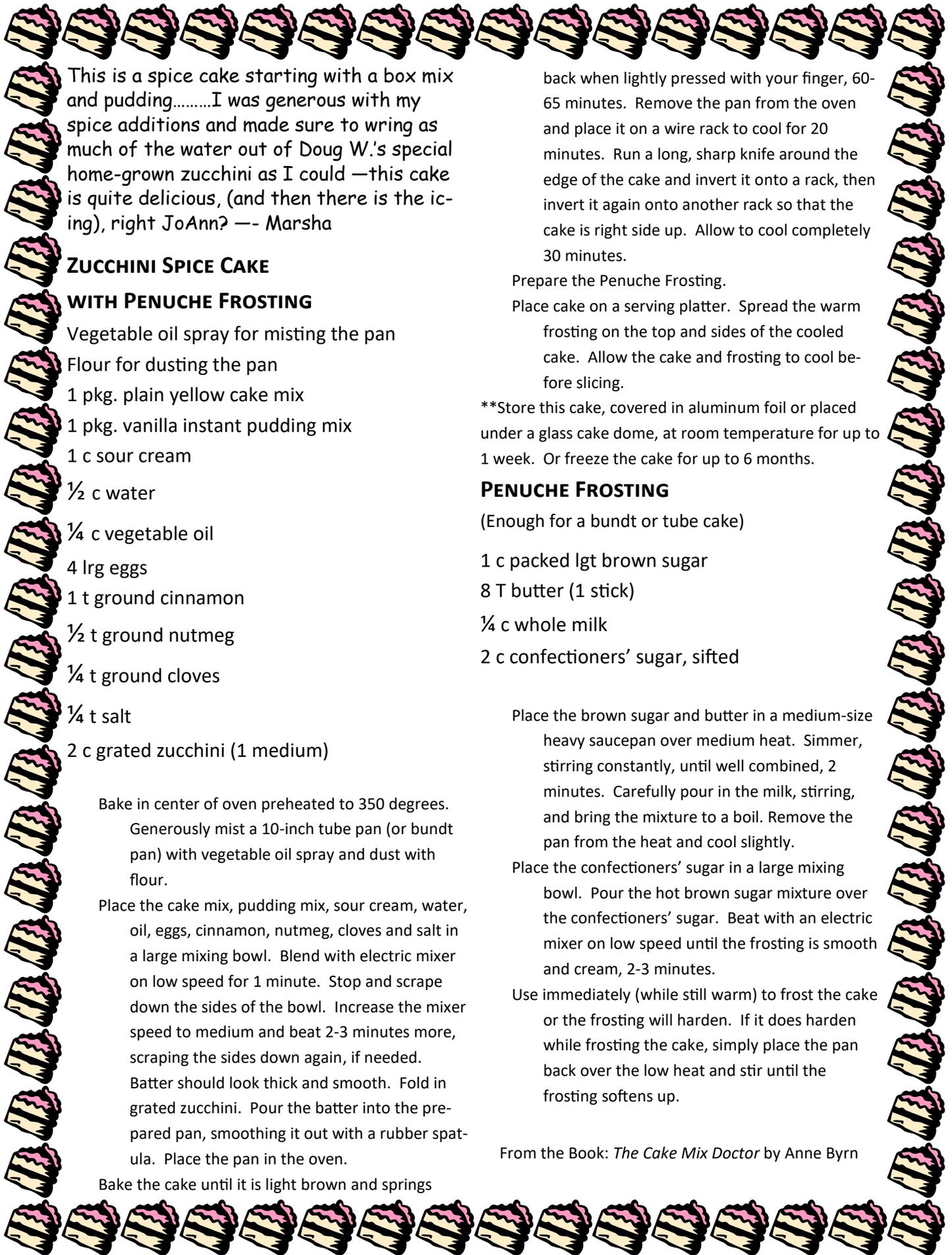


Newton Sr. High Sec's  
with Pat and JoAnn



Newton  
Christian  
School

Teacher Survival Packs — These have been done before and are quite popular with our new teachers — includes among other things....a PAPER CLIP to 'hold things together'; a MINT to remind you that you are worth a mint, a BAND-AID to heal hurt feelings, yours & theirs, a HUG because they should always be given and a CRAYON to remind you to color each day bright & beautiful!



This is a spice cake starting with a box mix and pudding.....I was generous with my spice additions and made sure to wring as much of the water out of Doug W.'s special home-grown zucchini as I could —this cake is quite delicious, (and then there is the icing), right JoAnn? -- Marsha

**ZUCCHINI SPICE CAKE WITH PENUCHE FROSTING**

- Vegetable oil spray for misting the pan
- Flour for dusting the pan
- 1 pkg. plain yellow cake mix
- 1 pkg. vanilla instant pudding mix
- 1 c sour cream
- ½ c water
- ¼ c vegetable oil
- 4 lrg eggs
- 1 t ground cinnamon
- ½ t ground nutmeg
- ¼ t ground cloves
- ¼ t salt
- 2 c grated zucchini (1 medium)

Bake in center of oven preheated to 350 degrees. Generously mist a 10-inch tube pan (or bundt pan) with vegetable oil spray and dust with flour.

Place the cake mix, pudding mix, sour cream, water, oil, eggs, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and salt in a large mixing bowl. Blend with electric mixer on low speed for 1 minute. Stop and scrape down the sides of the bowl. Increase the mixer speed to medium and beat 2-3 minutes more, scraping the sides down again, if needed. Batter should look thick and smooth. Fold in grated zucchini. Pour the batter into the prepared pan, smoothing it out with a rubber spatula. Place the pan in the oven.

Bake the cake until it is light brown and springs

back when lightly pressed with your finger, 60-65 minutes. Remove the pan from the oven and place it on a wire rack to cool for 20 minutes. Run a long, sharp knife around the edge of the cake and invert it onto a rack, then invert it again onto another rack so that the cake is right side up. Allow to cool completely 30 minutes.

Prepare the Penuche Frosting.

Place cake on a serving platter. Spread the warm frosting on the top and sides of the cooled cake. Allow the cake and frosting to cool before slicing.

\*\*Store this cake, covered in aluminum foil or placed under a glass cake dome, at room temperature for up to 1 week. Or freeze the cake for up to 6 months.

**PENUCHE FROSTING**

(Enough for a bundt or tube cake)

- 1 c packed lgt brown sugar
- 8 T butter (1 stick)
- ¼ c whole milk
- 2 c confectioners' sugar, sifted

Place the brown sugar and butter in a medium-size heavy saucepan over medium heat. Simmer, stirring constantly, until well combined, 2 minutes. Carefully pour in the milk, stirring, and bring the mixture to a boil. Remove the pan from the heat and cool slightly.

Place the confectioners' sugar in a large mixing bowl. Pour the hot brown sugar mixture over the confectioners' sugar. Beat with an electric mixer on low speed until the frosting is smooth and cream, 2-3 minutes.

Use immediately (while still warm) to frost the cake or the frosting will harden. If it does harden while frosting the cake, simply place the pan back over the low heat and stir until the frosting softens up.

From the Book: *The Cake Mix Doctor* by Anne Byrn



Orphan Grain Train: Always lots of work to be done, sorting and packing, laughing and having fun — it also appears there is some ‘low’ work involved. Atta girl, Pat!

### Library news = new books

Call number and title

297 Sho, God's war on terror

297 Sho, The case for Islamophobia

297 Sho, Why I left Jihad

297 Sho, Why we want to kill you

These books show the difference between Christianity and Islam with Christianity winning.

### NEW ATTENDANCE CARD



We will soon begin the use of a Weekly Attendance Card at Our Savior when Pastor returns for the September 18 Divine Service. Please be sure to complete one card per family and pass it to the center aisle. Ushers will pick-up the cards as the offering plate is passed. Thanks for doing your part in assisting Pastor to care for all of our members!

### Craftsman Riding Lawn Mower

#### Opportunity

The Trustees have been authorized to dispose of the Craftsman Riding Lawn Mower. This mower has a 2-cylinder 16 hp 4-stroke Honda engine and a 38” wide cutting deck. It has not been used for a couple years. It needs a new battery and comes with NO guarantee. It is a “clutch” drive.

If you are interested in this mower (at no cost) and are at least 18 years old please put your name in the box in the church entryway. If two or more names are submitted, a drawing of the winning name will be held on Sunday, September 11 after church. If no member is interested, the Trustees will make other arrangements to dispose of this riding mower.



Thank you Doug!!— We have all loved your fresh produce and enjoyed finding new and clever ways to make use of your bumper crop of zucchini this year! Thanks for Sharing!



**Zucchini**



**A Look Back...."An OSL Original Series"**

### ON THE COVER —The Lord's Prayer in Crochet

*ORIGINALLY PRINTED IN THE JUNE 2011 ISSUE OF THE OSLC CHRONICLER ALONG WITH A PHOTO*

This beautiful work of art was first displayed in its new mounting in April. It was hand-crocheted by Maude Versteegh. Her family and Doug's Oelke's family have been friends for many years. This piece was one of two such pieces that Mrs. Versteegh gifted to Doug and his late wife, Lois, in the 1990's. Another like it was presented at the same time to the church at which Doug was then the Pastor.

As many of you know, Lois was active at Our Savior in many ways, including providing music for worship services and many mission-related activities. She began as a substitute organist and was a special and outgoing lady and was a strength and inspiration to many in our midst. During that time the Oelke's also often hosted in-home groups. Earlier this year Doug gifted this piece to Our Savior Lutheran Church in memory of Lois.

The Voting Assembly then assigned previously undesignated memorial funds to have the crocheted work framed for hanging. This required another artistry of sorts as the piece was carefully mounted and placed under glass. How fitting it was to see this rendering of the prayer our Lord gave to his disciples, and to us, hung in Luther Hall as Pastor completed a series of sermons on it. May this gift always serve as a reminder of the power of prayer in general and as inspiration to each of us to continue to call on Our Father through The Lord's Prayer.

Thank you for the gift, Doug!

*Note: Special thanks go also to those of you that saw to it that the mounting was done, and to those who cleaned and painted in Luther Hall before the piece was hung.*



## **ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Fall is rapidly approaching and with it comes our annual election of officers to the Church Council. Some individuals have already agreed to have their names appear on the ballot for the 2023-24 term while others consider the possibility of serving for another term. Regardless of how those decisions play out, several vacancies exist in the boards of education, missions/evangelism, elders, and trustees. Some of these positions could accommodate a one-year term in order to maintain continuity of the boards. In addition, the office of President presently requires staffing for the 2023-2024 term.

Please prayerfully consider whether you are called to assist in one of the open offices highlighted below. If you are willing to add your name to the ballot, please notify Randy Ervin or any of the currently serving Council members by early October. The elections will be held at the October 18, 2022 Voter's Meeting. If you are willing and able, your church needs you.

Office	Current	Current Term Expires	New Term	Current 2023-2024 Ballot Status
<b>President</b>	Randy Ervin	2022	2023-2024	
<b>Secretary</b>	Deanna Ihde	2022	2023-2024	Deanna Ihde
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sue Fortune (acting)	2022	2023-2024	Sue Fortune
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Donita Huegel	2023		
<b>Elders</b>				
	Doug Woebeking	2022	2023-2024	
	Jerry Roby	2023		
	Jary Boger	2023		
	Doug DeJong	2022	2023-2024	Doug DeJong
	---		2023-2024	
	---		2022-2023	
<b>Trustees</b>				
	Bob Bringolf	2022	2023-2024	
	Carmen Sanders	2022	2023-2024	
	Tim Huegel	2023		
	Steve Hartz	2023		
	---		2023-2024	
<b>Missions/Evangelism</b>				
	Vacant		2023-2024	
	---		2023-2024	
	---		2022-2023	
<b>Education</b>				
	Vacant		2023-2024	
	---		2023-2024	
	---		2022-2023	