**Banana Nut Bread/Chocolate Chip Muffins**

1/2 c shortening

1 c sugar

2 eggs

2 1/4 c all-purpose flour

1/2 t salt

1 tsp baking powder

3/4 tsp baking soda

1/4 c buttermilk

1tsp vanilla

1 c mashed bananas

1 cup chopped nuts

1/2-1 cup mini chocolate chips

Cream sugar and shortening. Add eggs. Beat well. Sift flour, salt and baking powder together. Add to creamed mixture with vanilla and bananas and buttermilk. Add nuts and pour in 2 medium- sized loaf pans. Bake at 350 for 35-40 minutes.

**For chocolate chip muffins** leave out nuts and add mini chocolate chips instead—about 1/2 to 1 cup. Bake about 13-15 minutes for mini muffins, 18-25 minutes for regular sized muffins or until golden brown.