

Reflections

Not ready
to say
goodbye to
summer!

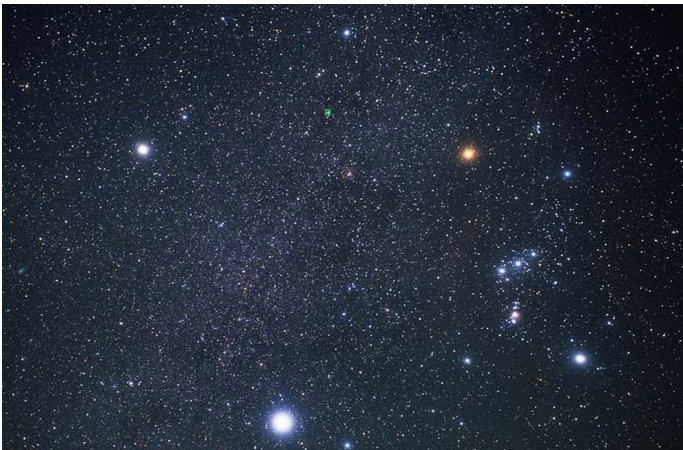


THE NEWSLETTER OF HILLVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 7

August 2025

The Dog Days: Finding Rest and Renewal - by Pastor Norm Bleick



The three brightest stars in this image are Sirius (bottom), Betelgeuse (top right) and Procyon (top left), they form the Winter Triangle. The bright star at top center is Alhena, which forms a cross-shaped pattern. The constellation Orion is to the right.

As the calendar turns to August and the summer sun reaches its most intense, we enter what has long been called “the Dog Days.” Traditionally, this phrase refers to the hottest, most sweltering stretch of the season—a period that can leave us feeling tired, restless, and eager for the promise of cooler days. But beyond its meteorological meaning, the Dog Days of August hold a deeper invitation for all of us in the church community: an opportunity to pause, reflect, and open our hearts to God’s ever-present grace.

The phrase “Dog Days” goes back a long time, when the earliest astronomers noticed that the bright star Sirius—the Dog Star—rose in the sky just

as the summer’s heat peaked. Many cultures believed this was a period when tempers flared and bodies grew weary. Even today, the long, hot days can challenge our patience and energy, leaving us longing for shade and rest. Yet, within the slow pace and muggy air of August, there lies a blessing. These are days when creation itself seems to whisper, “Slow down.” The fields are heavy with crops, the gardens full, and the sun lingers late into the evening. Instead of rushing through this season, perhaps we are being called to savor it. It is a time to step outside and feel the warmth, to listen to songbirds sing their

songs, to gather with family and friends for lemonade or iced tea, on the porch or the patio, or the deck. Wherever.

In the Bible, we are reminded that rest is a divine gift. Jesus often withdrew to quiet places to pray and renew his spirit. The Dog Days of August can be our invitation to do the same: to care for one another, to check in on neighbors who may struggle in the heat, and to seek refreshment not only for our bodies, but for our souls.

May these Dog Days of August be filled with gentle moments of peace, opportunities for service, and the quiet assurance that God’s love endures through every season—no matter how high the mercury climbs.



The Hubscher's bountiful garden!

Special points of interest:

- ROOF PICTURES
PAGE 2
- KID'S ACTIVITY ZONE
PAGE 5

Inside this issue:

AVWOMAKPA LETTER	2
NEW ROOF	2
RESTAURANT REVIEW	3
BLUEBERRY "CUPCAKES"?	3
BIBLICAL WORDS	4
TRIVIA - HOT DOG	6

Reflections

A Letter - from Gift Avwomakpa

**"... I THOUGHT
TO MYSELF,
MAYBE I WILL
JUST TRY TO
FELLOWSHIP
TODAY AND
SEARCH FOR
ANOTHER ...".**

As a new immigrant to Canada I walked into Hillview Baptist Church a year after my arrival in Canada. It was filled with aged people and I thought to myself, maybe I will just try to fellowship today and search for another church with more youngish adults or even a mix of age groups. It is exactly 11 months since I and the children started here at Hillview Baptist and we have not relented. I feel the presence of God in the Church, the love I have felt among the members is overwhelming. It is like I have a new family and I certainly do not feel the

loneliness felt by most new immigrants without families in a foreign land. Surely, the love of God is shared in this place.

I suddenly do not notice the age mix but bask in the love of God in the man who hands me the bulletin and gives me a hug at the door when I arrive on a Sunday morning. Did I forget to mention the kisses plastered on my cheeks by the wonderful grandmas who whisper in my ears "are you singing today"?

Certainly the love of God is felt on Wednesday's in the women's Bible study where we share the word of God together. I can share my pain in a safe space among the grandmas. There is a tiny mix though, two youngish moms. They will pray over me, hug me and tell me how God loves me and will meet my needs.

I have gained a family: moms, dads, siblings and friends here at Hillview Baptist in the body of Christ and this has helped me adapt to a new country I now call home.



The original old and exhausted roof.

The new sanctuary roof was finished on July 17, 2025. Isn't it beautiful! All shiny and silver. As I understand it (this will be so interesting, for 2 or 3 people) the work involved:

- *Removing the old tar and gravel roof (what a fun job!)*
- *Installing additional insulation, use S.A.M. Adhesive and 250-Cap torched to the base, add all required flashings and drainage assemblies . (Sure glad Howard and Warren understood all this!)*

The total cost was \$77,070 including GST. Our appreciation to everyone who, through your tithes and offerings, helped us to complete this necessary but rather expensive and out-of-sight renovation. FYI - the church did receive a an anonymous donation of \$25,000 directed towards the roof. A major thank you to this person! Let me know if you would like a framed picture of the new roof?



Two views of the new and pretty roof.



Restaurant Review - Philthy Philly's - by Norm Bleick

Nestled on Kingsway Ave close to the Royal Alex, Philthy Philly's brings the classic flavors of the Philadelphia cheesesteak to Edmonton with a bold, unapologetic flair. The moment you walk into their shop, the warm aroma of grilled steak, sautéed onions, and freshly baked bread envelops you, instantly whetting your appetite.

The heart of the menu lies in their cheesesteaks, crafted with thinly sliced ribeye and a generous slathering of melted cheese. The Classic Cheesesteak is a must-try—tender, juicy steak mixed with grilled onions, green peppers, and your choice of cheese, all tucked into a soft hoagie roll that holds up beautifully under the weight of its contents.

For those who love to experiment, Philthy Philly's offers a build-your-own option, allowing you to tailor your sandwich with a variety of toppings and sauces. The jalapeños and hot peppers add a satisfy-



ing kick, while extra cheese takes decadence to another level.

Poutine and More: The Canadian twist appears in their poutine, which marries crispy fries, rich gravy, and squeaky cheese curds—simple yet utterly comforting. Sides like loaded

fries, onion rings, and crispy chicken fingers round out the menu, ensuring there's something for everyone.

Service here is quick and efficient, with staff that are knowledgeable about the menu and eager to offer recommendations. Orders are prepared fresh, and even during busy periods, the wait never feels excessive. Portions are generous, especially for the price point. Whether you're grabbing a cheesesteak combo or indulging in a monster poutine, you'll leave satisfied without breaking the bank.

Philthy Philly's is a delicious detour for any sandwich lover in Edmonton, and a little taste of Philly you won't soon forget.

Address - #4 10503 Kingsway Avenue

... ADD A
SATISFYING
KICK, WHILE
EXTRA CHEESE
TAKES
DECADENCE TO
ANOTHER
LEVEL.

A Blueberry Cupcake Recipe

1/3 cup butter
2 eggs
1/4 tsp salt
2 tsp baking powder
1 c. blueberries (best fresh)

1 cup sugar
1/4 cup milk
1 1/2 cup flour
1 tsp vanilla



1. Cream butter with 1/2 cup sugar.
2. Separate eggs (yolks and whites in separate bowls).
3. Beat yolks and add remaining 1/2 cup sugar. Combine yolk mixture with butter mixture and add vanilla.
4. Add dry ingredients and milk, alternating (begin and end with dry ingredients).
5. Beat egg whites until they stand in soft peaks, add 1 cup blueberries and fold into the mixture.
6. Bake in greased and floured muffin pans or papers at 350° for about 20 minutes.
7. Sprinkle tops with sugar, if desired.

Recipe supplied by Margaret Dolezal. It was taken from a 1976 cookbook by the Christian Women's Club. They are the favorite of her grandkids and Michael enjoyed them, too. Furthermore, they are probably much healthier than the above recommendation! Ed.

Words Are Important - by Wayne Baker



... "TAKING THE
BIBLE LITERALLY
IS OFTEN
USED BY SOME
PEOPLE TO
DISCREDIT
PEOPLE
BELIEVING " ...

Before continuing with the creation versus evolution debate, I believe a discussion about the interpretation of the Biblical text is in order. I will avoid a discussion of the various manuscripts. The variations and other technical issues still limit the time of creation to between 6 to 10 thousand years ago. Those who say the Bible supports a significantly longer period of time, do so by taking man's word/science as authoritative.

The discussion about taking the Bible literally is often used by some people to discredit people believing in a young earth. If you take the Biblical words to mean exactly what they say, we have a problem. Language has sarcasm, allegory, hyperbole, idiom and other figurative forms. Then there are examples, similes, illustrations and the like. An example in our modern language you can say is, "My late father", "My father bought the farm", both are idioms meaning he has died, but the literal meaning of both statements are totally different - my father is late, my father has purchased a farm

In addition, words may also have more than one meaning. A common dispute between the literal Biblical creationist approach and the Christians that argue the world is billions of years old, is the Word "Yom" translated as "day". In some cases day means a period of twenty-four hours, or it could mean the daylight portion of the "day", or it could mean a period of time such as in "in my father's day". Context of the passage helps determine the meaning, plus how the word or phrase is used in other passages of the Bible. It does seem that the Bible uses "Yom" in all these ways, but in Genesis chapter 1, there is some peculiar phraseology. *Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and He called the darkness "night." Evening came and then morning: the first day.* (The Holy Bible: Holman Christian Standard Version. Genesis 1:3-5)

Verses 3-5 use "Yom" to

mean both the daylight period as well as twenty-four hours. Notice that in the second use of the word "Yom", it says "evening and morning" as well as stating this was the first day. I have heard a better translation is "this was one day" yet in verse five he says "Yom", that is the Hebrew for "day", clearly refers to the daylight period. This is called letting Scripture interpret Scripture. Is the use here an idiom? (*An idiom is an expression that uses figurative language to convey a meaning different from the individual words' literal meaning.*Ed)

Studying the word or phrase in other literature or passages may provide clues to the meaning in this passage. Translations often run into a problem, one word in language "A" may have more than one meaning, that has no match in language "B". Earlier I used the example of "late", do other languages use this? If not, then even if other languages have a word for "late" meaning arriving after the beginning of the event, it would not be the proper word to use meaning my "dad is dead". So that is the meaning, but it could also mean, "I expected my dad to meet me here an hour ago, and he still has not arrived." This is why a good concordance and lexicon are great study aides, or a fantastic Bible app. Another option is two or three Bible translations.

Another problem is that

(Continued on page 6)

Activity Page

The Three Friends

Scruffy and Leo, who are they?
Always romping at their play.

Puzzle Number 1

The first letters of the things
pictured spell what Scruffy is.



1.



2.

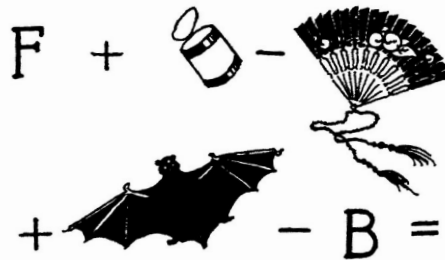


3.

Scruffy is a

Puzzle Number 2

Add and subtract the things in this
window to see what Leo is.



Leo is a

Puzzle Number 3

The letters in the name of what they chased are jumbled.
When you have solved this puzzle, write in the name below.

SOMME

One day they chased a little _____

until he ran underneath the 

A jolly friend they have next door,

learn what he is in number 4!

Puzzle Number 4

Describe what you see to find out who their next door friend is.

Here is a hint:

The letter _____ on a _____.



Their friend is a

Counting time is not as important as making time count!

HILLVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

253 Woodvale Road West
Edmonton, Alberta
T6L 1E5

Phone: 780-461-5393
Website: hillviewchurch.ca
Church office email:
office@hillviewchurch.ca
Newsletter email:
hillvieweditor@gmail.com

**Note: all previous
issues of the
newsletter are on the
church's website.**

(Continued from page 4)

languages change over time. One argument I hear is that the Bible makes no reference to dinosaurs. The earliest bible translations into English were not using the word "dinosaur". The translators did not use the word "dinosaur" for a very good reason. The word was coined or invented in 1851, about the time Charles Darwin wrote his famous book. Subsequent translations of the Bible followed the King James Bible. The word, in Hebrew, is

taneem, translated as dragon, hyena, or other animals. This is a case where one Hebrew word can be translated into several different English words.

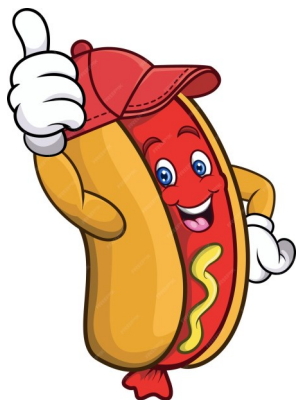
As to fire breathing dragons, modern translators, not believing in dragons, translate the word as elephant, hippo, hyena, or other words. Some criticisms of the modern translations and their differences from the KJV stems from the fact that the meaning of a word in the late fifteen hundreds could

be very different from today's meaning, if it is even still in use. In recent translations the editors are using the words that more accurately reflect the actual Aramaic, Greek and Hebrew languages. However, some people will say they are altering the Bible. With these problems and the question as to the accuracy of the transcripts, how can we trust the Bible?

Stay tuned for more in September!

Ricky's Trivia - by Rick de Leeuw

The Hot Dog



The origin of the hot dog is somewhat debated, but it is wildly believed to have originated in Germany. Specifically, the cities of Frankfurt and Coburn in Germany are often cited as the birthplace of the frankfurter and "dachund" sausages respectfully, which are precursors to the modern day hot dogs. Besides the cities cited above, Vienna played a role. While not the origin of the sausage itself, a butcher named Johann Georg Lahner is said to have introduced a mixture of pork and beef sausages, called "Frankfurter," to Vienna, which eventually became known as "Wiener" (referring to Vienna). German immigrants later introduced these sausages to the United States in the 19th century, where they evolved into the hot dog we know today.

Sausage is one of the oldest forms of processed food, having been mentioned in "Homer's Odyssey" as far back as, the 9th century B.C. Although it has been disputed, the city of Frankfurt celebrated the 500th anniversary of the hot dog in 1987. It is also disputed as to who served the dachhund sausage with a roll. One report says that a German immigrant sold them, with milk rolls and sauerkraut, from a pushcart in New York's Bowery during the 1860's.

In 1893 the Hot Dog became the standard fare at baseball parks. This tradition is believed to have been started by a St. Louis bar owner, Chris Von de Ahe, a German immigrant who also owned the major league St. Louis baseball team. Many hot dog historians chafe at the suggestion that today's hot dog won

a bun was introduced during the St. Louis "Louisiana Purchase Exposition" in 1904 by Bavarian concessionaire, Anton Feuchtwanger. As the story goes, he loaned white gloves to his patrons to hold his piping hot sausages. Because most of the gloves were not returned, the supply began running low. He asked his brother in law, a baker, for help. The baker improvised long soft rolls that fit the meat -thus inventing the hot dog bun.

Just for the record if anyone wants a challenge... the most hot dogs consumed in 10 minutes is 83! This record is held by Joey Chestnut, according to C.N.N. He achieved this feat during a Labour Day Event in Las Vegas. BON APETITE!