



ViewPoints



HILLVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume 5, Issue 3

June 2026

Hillview Church - the Church on the Hill - by Pastor Mark Morris

Many of the significant events that are described in the Bible, occurred on the hills and mountains scattered throughout Israel.

- ◇ Mt. Sinai – the Law of God was given.
- ◇ Mt. Ararat – humanity was rescued from the judgment of the flood.
- ◇ Mt. Moriah – where Abraham went to sacrifice his son.
- ◇ Mt. Carmel – the showdown between Elijah and the false prophets of Baal.
- ◇ Mt. Tabor – where Jesus was transfigured
- ◇ Mt. Beatitudes – where Jesus gave his sermon on the mount.
- ◇ Mt. Zion – prophetically, where Jerusalem is located.
- ◇ Mt. Golgotha – Where Jesus Died.
- ◇ Mt Olives – where Jesus ascended to heaven.



Illustration by Brian Worobec

God is working. Great things can happen on a hill, it is where people meet God at Hillview Church.

I am grateful for my association with the Hillview family. I was the pastor here at Hillview, they were special times lasting for 22 months in 2014-2016. God brought us together and confirmed His calling on this church.

However, there is also some sadness, as I miss a few beloved faces, however there is substantial joy in seeing and meeting new people! Thank you for the privilege of serving with you during Pastor Norm’s sabbatical.

Special points of interest:

- CALVIN'S MOM ASKS A QUESTION
- TURNING 80!
- ACTIVITY PAGE
- A FUNNY ANSWER TO WORRY
- SHRINKING PEOPLE

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A Short, Little Interview with Pastor Mark

1 *The first and most important question, tell us about your family.*

I was blessed with Christian parents who gave their children lots of company...nine kids, of whom I was the first. My parents were in the floral business. They operated a greenhouse in Creston, BC. During my Bible school years, I met a beautiful lady, Teresa, from Ponoka, AB. We were married in November 1971 and have enjoyed 54 years together. We have two sons, Bryan, whose family live in Edmonton, and Brad, whose family live in Peoria, Arizona.

2 *How many churches have you pastored? Which one was your favourite? Don't worry we won't tell anyone.*

My resume of churches is not long, but the stays were on the longer side.

- Parkland Baptist, Spruce Grove, AB (part time,

- interim) - 11 months
- Fort George Baptist, Princess George, BC (youth pastor, then senior pastor) - 14 years
- Century Meadows Baptist, Camrose, AB (senior pastor) - 24 years
- Creston Baptist, Creston, BC (interim) - 23 months
- Hillview Baptist, Edmonton (interim) - 22 months
- Wiesenthal Baptist, Millet (interim) - 11 months
- Creston Baptist, Creston, BC - 6 months

My favorite? They were each, unique, special, with blessed memories. I truly enjoyed my long and wonderful years at Century Meadows in Camrose. Wherever God puts one, it is special.

3 *You were the pastor at Hillview a few years ago. What is the biggest change(s) that you have noticed?*

The biggest change is the

absence of special friends that were there 10-12 years ago. But, there are new faces, and it is so good to see the multi-ethnic nature of the church.

4 *What are your words to live by?*

I cannot improve on what Jesus said in Matthew 22:37-40. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself".

Love God and love people...with everything in you.

5 *Your most favourite hymn and chorus.*

This is difficult to nail down as favourites. These come close:

Hymn:
How Great Thou Art

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"DURING MY BIBLE SCHOOL YEARS, I MET A BEAUTIFUL LADY, TERESA, FROM PONOKA, AB. WE WERE MARRIED ..."



Hillview Hikers - We Do it Again - by Gloria Swain

On March 14, 2026, six Hillview Hikers participated in Adeara Recovery Centre's Steps of Hope. A beautiful picture of community and the church family walking together was demonstrated by the Hillview Hikers - Donald, Marcy, Margaret, Jonathan, Jared, Lily & Lorajoy (Adeara Engagement Coordinator). That afternoon, we all bundled up, braved the chilly wind and icy walks, and began our "hike" in support of women and children that are served at Adeara.

As they crossed the finish line Yvonne and Gloria were there to cheer them on. Following the walk the walkers along with Lorajoy had a time of fellowship

over lovingly-made treats. We also exchanged stories of God's faithfulness in and through the church family at Hillview. We



Illustration by Brian Worobec

were blown away by your dedication and support of this event.

From enthusiastic fundraisers to courageous participants, each of you and your sponsors played a

part in making this event so meaningful. Your collective efforts raised \$2,675.00 to help the women and children of Adeara. Your generosity will have a real and lasting impact - providing safety, healing and hope to families rebuilding their lives. Thank you to the hikers and their sponsors for stepping up so that others lives can be changed

"Adeara is an accredited long-term addiction recovery centre for women and their children, located in Alberta. We've been fearlessly providing faith-based hope, healing and restoration to women in need since 1998". Ed - quote taken from the Adeara website



According to a reliable source - the women are Marcy, Lorajoy (Adeara), Donald and Margaret.

Wag More, Bark Less - by Phil Callaway

Money will not buy you happiness but it will buy you a Happy Meal. Harvard researchers, hoping to unearth secrets to a happy and purposeful life, studied 268 male Harvard undergraduates for 75 years. Unfortunately, the study didn't include women, but still it provides an unrivaled glimpse at what we value as time passes and what is most likely to make us happy and fulfilled. The study's most significant finding was this. Love is all we need. George Vallent, the psychi-

atrist who directed the study, and wrote a book about it, claims that a man can have a successful career, money, and good physical health, but without supportive, loving relationships, he won't be happy. Love is key to a happy and fulfilling life, said Vallent. The more areas in your life you can make a connection, the better. The study found that strong relationships are by far the strongest predictor of a long and satisfying life.

When I wrote the book,

"Tricks My Dog Taught Me About Life, Love, and God", I asked 300 dog owners, what do you enjoy most about owning a dog? 56% said companionship, by far the most common word chosen. Is it any wonder that more households have a dog than any other pet? Of course, we've all met dogs you wouldn't want to share a meal with, much less a couch. But at some point, dog owners are wise to ask, what can I learn about friendship

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Illustration by Brian Worobec

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Wag More, Bark Less - by Phil Callaway

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from this hound? Well, here are three answers.

- First, make up quickly. My dog showed me what Ephesians 4.26 says, "don't let the sun go down on your wrath". Let's be quick to make up.

- Second, show affection. Her father died when she was eight. Family life was difficult, and her spiritual life was painful. Yet Mother Theresa was loved the world over, because she showed up to carry burdens and offer comfort. Colossians 3.12 says, "clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience". At funerals, too many of us

wish we would have said what we should've said while we had the chance. Like a dog, let's show our affection more openly and boldly. In John 13.34, "Jesus said, love one another as I have loved you".

- Number three, wag the right thing. A dog is man's best friend in part because he wags his tail, not his tongue. The Bible contains dozens of verses on gossip, like Proverbs 16.28. "A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends". Proverbs 21.23 agrees, "whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble". Make up quickly, show, affection, wag the right thing. Having spoken through

the years at men's events, I can assure you that we guys converse fluently on matters that don't matter. But ask us who we would go to if we learned we had cancer, or we're about to have an affair, and many guys grow quiet. If all we need is love, a dog could remind us to be the kind of friend we'd like to have as a friend. We can do this by simply being there, in the good times and bad, with sincerity and enthusiasm, paying interest in others. The cultivation of deep, meaningful friendships can increase our effectiveness, our happiness, even our life expectancy. To have a friend, we must be one. Now go make someone's day.

"LIKE A DOG,
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Interview with Pastor Mark

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Chorus:
The Goodness of God

6 Do you have a hobby?
What is it? Why do you like it?

I will mention three:

- 1) **Photography**, it sharpens your perception of the world around you to see the beauty of God's creation
- 2) **Gardening**, it refreshes the body, the mind and the spirit in nurturing plants to grow as God created them

3) **Reading**, there is so much to know about this world, God's world, and the people in it

7 What is your favourite vacation destination? Your wife's?

Outside of where our kids live, we like the mountains. We also enjoy being on a cruise to enjoy many destinations, particularly Europe.

8 Last book you could not put down?

I always have two books on the go, one, theology or

ministry related, and two, a secular book, history, biography, world events related. Books by the recently late Timothy Keller of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City are of particular interest to me.

Pastor Mark, thanks for letting me interrupt your vacation and for doing this, it is muchly appreciated. Hopefully the congregation has learned something about you. Ed.





- by Gloria Swain

It was exciting to see families come who use the Foodbank, children we read with at the Hillview School and our own church family children participating.

Our youth leaders, their helpers and the youth did an exceptional job running the entire scavenger hunt. The Missions Committee and their helpers looked after the food end of things. Hats off to Chelsey, who wrote up the entire scavenger hunt program. What a joy to see her so powerfully involved with the children of our community especially as they discover the REAL meaning of Easter. It was a real pleasure to work with the youth. Set up and clean up went off without a hitch and everyone left at the end of the day happy because of the end results.

Hallelujah - Christ Arose.
He is Risen, Indeed!

...IT WAS
DECIDED THAT
THIS WOULD
NOT BE YOUR
REGULAR
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HUNT, BUT ONE
WHERE THE
CHILDREN ...

This year, in order to reach out to our community, the Missions Committee decided to try something new, an Easter scavenger hunt. We realized that we could not pull this off on our own, so it was decided to see if the youth wanted to join forces with us. They were happy to get on board. After several meetings it was decided that this would not be your regular scavenger hunt, but one where the children would learn the true meaning of Easter as they went from station to station reading the word and figuring out the clues. At the end they could pick

two prizes and a candy treat. In addition, hot dogs, coffee and cold drinks were plentiful. We ended up giving away 165 hot dogs and gallons of coffee and orange drink.

During this event we also had our clothing giveaway and Bibles were on display. When all was said and done we gave away 9 Bibles, 6 other Christian books and 121 Items of clothing. This does not include extraneous kitchen items, shoes, baby clothes and numerous other things that were not on display.

Community Volunteer Appreciation - by guess who???

On April 10, 2026, fourteen volunteers from Hillview Church attended the Woodvale Community League Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. It was held at the Woodvale Community League Banquet Facility at the Millwood's Golf Course. Those attending from Hillview were: Pastor Norm and

Gabby, Gloria, Mo, Larry, Al, Hank, Terry Lynn, Bob, Joanne, Howard, Janet, Donald & Russ. The event was sponsored by the Woodvale Community League to recognize the volunteers and their dedication and commitment to the Woodvale Community, in particular the Big Bin Event, and The Back to

School Event. The volunteer of the year was recognized, who happened to be their treasurer. (*seems they got that right!* Ed)

The evening started out with opening remarks and short speeches from dignitaries from the Alberta

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Volunteer Appreciation

"A WILD HOOT WENT UP WHEN ALL THE PRIZES WENT TO THE BAPTIST TABLE."



Illustration by Brian Worobec

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Government and the City of Edmonton, along with Woodvale Executives. A delicious roast beef or chicken supper with all the trimmings was on the menu. All you can eat and the chef did not disappoint.

Five beautiful door prizes were up for grabs. These were donated by Karen Tang, City of Edmonton Councilman; Christina Gray, member of the Legislature and the Woodvale

Community League. The first door prize was won by our own Pastor Norm, he then drew Larry's name, who drew Yvonne's name. Yvonne was absent so Al drew for her and he drew his own name and then Al drew again and the last prize went to Colleen, a

guest at our table. A wild hoot went up when all the prizes went to the Baptist table. A well deserved team.

The evening concluded with a painting night for those who wanted to stay. Not sure if anyone from Hillview stayed as most did not feel artistic or did not want their artistic talents to be known. Hats off to those volunteers who attended and supported the Woodvale Community with their events.

"The world is hugged by the faithful arms of volunteers."

See, Turning 80 is NOT so bad!



These 3 Musketeers all turned 80, within a month and, amazingly, they still have the energy to help at the Food Bank.



Mo, Larry, Gloria

Lighting the Way - by Gloria Swain

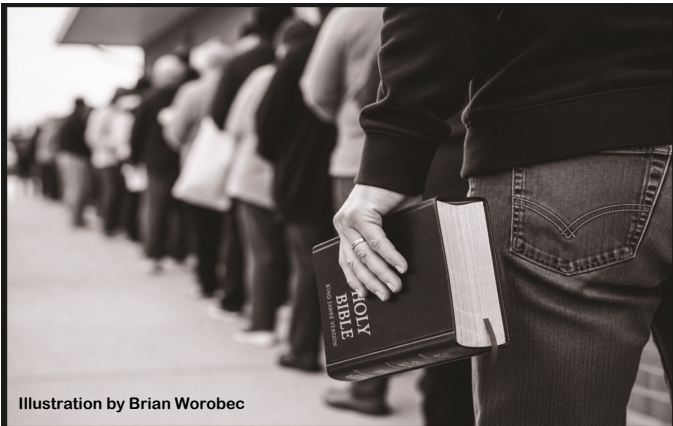


Illustration by Brian Worobec

"THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH"

Hillview members, you have lit the path for 500 souls during the past two years. At our Foodbank Bible Giveaway, on March 16th we gave away our 500th Bible. Some of those Bibles were donated by you, Hillview family, some were purchased, and some came from Shareword (Gideons).

This is what happens when we all work together to reach our community for Jesus Christ.

At the foodbank we do not hand out the Bibles. They are placed on a bench and we let the Holy Spirit draw people to the Bibles. There are a variety of reasons for the Bibles to be taken, for example, some were picked up by Ukrainian immigrants who wanted to use the Bible to learn to speak English, a pastor of a

Somali church claimed 15 Bibles for new immigrants who could not afford a Bible and many individuals picked up Bibles including numerous young people.

To celebrate the 500th Bible that was taken, on Sunday, March 29th, Palm Sunday, we had our children sing "The B I B L E" song. Instead of waving palm branches they praised both the Bible and God with their voices, accompanied by Brad on the guitar.

Now let us wait and see how long it will take to reach the 1,000th Bible mark. We truly believe and pray that His word will not return void. Hillview, again with your faithfulness and generosity, you have made this possible.

We give God all the Glory!

"AT THE
FOODBANK WE
DO NOT
HAND OUT
THE BIBLES.
THEY ARE PLACED
ON A BENCH
AND ..."



Photo supplied by Howard Adam

Easter Extravaganza at Hillview!

I wonder if the picture is blurry because of all the "seeing your breath" fog. It must have been cold at the time. Joy and I were not here. We were enjoying the balmy weather in Bristol, England. Trust me, it was preferable.
Ed

ViewPoints

Financial Update as of April 2026 - by Bill and Joy Holmes

General Financial Information

- Operating (Chequing) Account - **\$83,584**
- Total Reserve (Savings) Funds - **\$64,709**. Designated as follows: for building improvements(**\$49,304**), computer upgrades (**\$1,500**), and insurance (**\$13,905**). These monies are not included in the Operating Account.
- Year to date surplus (July 2025 to April 2026) is **\$29,825**
- As of April, 2026 we have received **\$229,796** in tithes and offerings. This is approximately **\$1,500** less than as of April 2025

Missions:

- As of May 2026 we have fully paid out all of our commitments to the various missions that we financially support.

Comments

- Since April 2026, the Church has been covering Pastor Norm's sabbatical and Pastor Mark as our interim pastor. This will continue until August 16, 2026.



- The Trustees are looking at renewing/fixing the parking lot. The cost could be as high as **\$60,000**.

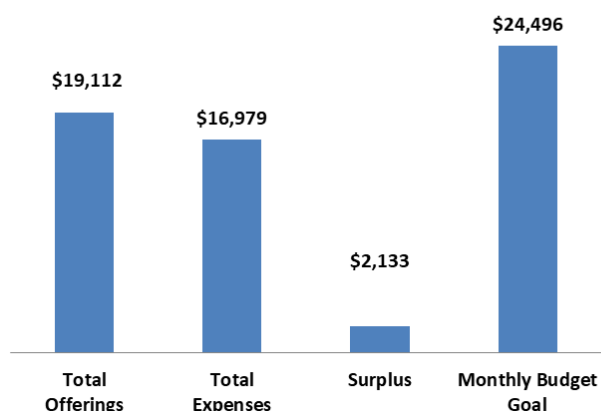
- In spite of lower donations, we still have a surplus because some committees or categories are NOT spending their entire budget allocation.



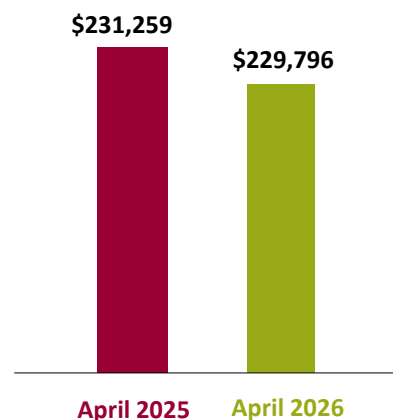
- The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on **Monday June 15, 2026**. All are welcome to attend, but only church members can vote. The proposed 2026/2027 budget will be presented by the Treasurer.

- Any questions or concerns, please contact us.

Hillview Financial Update for April 2026



A Comparison - Year to Date Giving, April 2025 and 2026



i ♥ Daddy
because...



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Thank you LORD
for my Dad.

Don't let your worries get the best of you; Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

HILLVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

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What, Me Worry - a Comedian Answers



Illustration by Brian Worobec

My grandma said "there's only two things in life that you have to worry about - whether you're healthy or whether you're sick."

If you're healthy, you have nothing to worry about - but, if you're sick you have two things to worry about - whether you're going to get better or whether you're going to get worse.

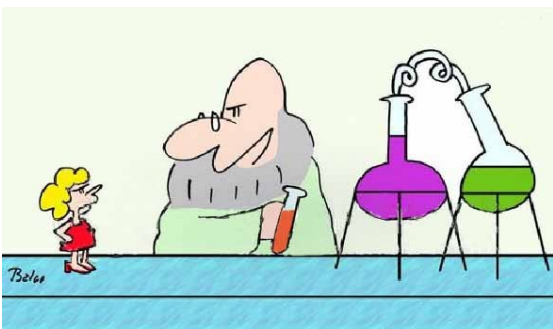
If you get better, you have nothing to worry about - but, if you get worse you have two things to worry about - whether you're going to live or whether you're going to die.

If you live, you have nothing to worry about - but, if you die you have two things to worry about - whether you're going to heaven or whether you're going to hell.

If you go to heaven, you've nothing to worry about - but, if you go to hell you've got two things to worry about - original or extra crispy.

This is a transcript of a Youtube video by Mike Goodwin. Check out the video. He is downright hilarious. A grand joke you can show to the entire family! It is actually much better than the text. To see the video use this link <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/bx1IcND-Kak> ---- or search on Mike Goodwin - and find "Two Things". Ed

Rick's Trivia - Shrinking - by Rick deLeeuw



"You knew I was a mad scientist when you married me!"

The Question is, "Why do people SHRINK?"

Shrink sounds like a strong word, but it is true. People as they get older lose height and muscle and fat,

We all get shorter in the course of a day because water gets squeezed out of the discs of the spine. However, it is permanent in older people because there is less water in the

so they get smaller. Their spines begin to degenerate and compress, making them shorter. That's partially gravity taking hold.

discs. Younger people have more water to begin with, and spring back to height at night.

Furthermore, add to this the fact that the vertebrae compresses as you get older because of a condition called osteoporosis. People with osteoporosis have bones that aren't dense enough to hold their weight. Some older people also can't stand up straight -they stoop because of crushed vertebrae.

Almost everything to do with shrinkage relates to

diet and exercise. So get lots of exercise, fresh air and good food with plenty of calcium. That way you will have done your part to stay as big and strong as possible. The total amount you will shrink depends on how much you stay in shape. Generally, a man might lose 3cm. and a woman 5cm. between ages thirty to seventy.

Hmmm, if I could only shrink some belly fat.