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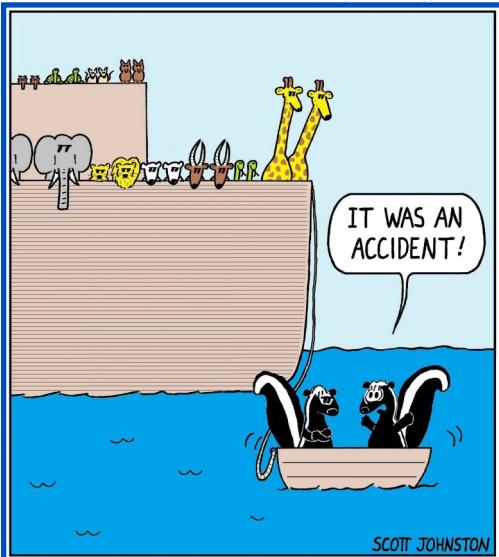
*Pray then like this:
"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name."
Matthew 6.9*

I imagine most of us are old enough to remember saying the Lord's prayer in our public schools as a child. I have a distinct memory of praying the prayer one morning and, if I have to be honest, I wasn't much impressed by the prayer. I must have been dragged to the Wednesday evening prayer meeting at my church the night before. There, some of the men stood and prayed for what seemed like an eternity. But the Lord's prayer was rattled off at school in well under twenty seconds. I wondered why Jesus didn't model a prayer as long as theirs? My other issue with the prayer was that I simply didn't understand parts of it ... particularly the first request. I simply took it to mean 'holy is your name.' While His name is Holy, this request goes far beyond recognizing His glory. In Albert Mohler's words, 'When Jesus petitions God to hallow His name, he is asking that God act in such a way that He visibly demonstrates His holiness and His glory.' We are asking Him to make His name great. It is interesting that this is the request that Jesus starts with, and it is a challenge to my prayer pattern to be sure. Rather than enter into His presence and pull out a long laundry list of needs I am aware of, Jesus tells us to start our prayer with what is of ultimate importance. It is amazing how starting there helps put my list in proper perspective. There is such freedom in praying that His name will be great, and it is a wonderful practice as we enter into 2026.

This year we have put together a schedule of events that you will find on the other side of this newsletter. I also just want to add that there has been some discussion about the possibility of organizing a trip to Branson Missouri in 2027. If you are interested in that idea, please email Gord Reeve (gordreeve67@gmail.com) or Ruth Bunn (thebunns@telus.net). If there is enough interest, we will organize an information evening later in the year. May God bless you in 2026!

-Pastor Dave Bunn

CHURCH HUMOR



Boy age 4: Dad, I've decided to get married.
Dad: Wonderful! Do you have a girl in mind?
Boy: Yes, grandma! She said she loves me, I love her too, & she's the best cook & story teller in the whole world!
Dad: That's nice, but we have a small problem there.
Boy: What problem?
Dad: She happens to be my mother. How can you marry my mother?
Boy: Why not? You married mine!

THEY SAY WHEN YOU RETIRE YOU'LL TRAVEL MORE. WHAT THEY DON'T TELL YOU IS THAT IT'S TO DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENTS.



55+ EVENTS 2026 CALENDAR

- Jan 21: Movie Matinee at the church — the story of RUTH
- Jan 25: Lunch at the Golden Crown — each person pays their own lunch. Sign-up required.
- Feb 22: Soup & Bun Lunch in the church gym
- Mar 11: Movie Matinee at the church
- Mar 25: Hawaiian Theme Dinner Event at the church
- Apr 26: Soup & Bun Lunch in the church gym
- May 25-28: Bus Trip to Parksville/Qualicum Beach (Vancouver Island)
- May 31: Lunch at the Golden Crown — each person pays their own lunch. Sign-up required.
- Jun 21-24: Sunnybrae 55+ Retreat at Sunnybrae Bible Camp
- Jul 8: Picnic at Paddlewheel Park
- Aug 12: Picnic at Reiswig Park (Lake Country)
- Sep 7-8: Camping at Mabel Lake Group Site

Watch for further information and details in emails and on the website or Planning Center.

Links to 55+ Ministry information:

- Church Website: emmanuelvernon.ca/ministries/55-ministry
- Planning Center App: emmanuelvernon.churchcenter.com/calendar



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