

LIGHT OF THE TIMES

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Dear friends,

I miss seeing all of you! The old saying is that the teacher always gets more out of a lesson than the students holds true. Equally true is that the pastor gets more out of interactions with his congregation than the congregation does. The joy of ministry is the individual contacts made with all of you. The lack of contact with all of you is something I don't want to learn to live with. We hope and pray that this COVID thing gets under control soon.

The consistory (board) has been meeting regularly and faithfully throughout this season. They are faced with tough decisions. Early on in the pandemic, a process was developed where they decided weekly on whether to cancel the worship services. After 14 weeks of no worship services, we re-opened. LBRC is blessed with plenty of room in our facility so that we can practice social distancing and take the other necessary precautions. The consistory members report that attending worship now feels safe to them.

Here's some news from the consistory, to keep you updated:

- We decided to suspend funeral lunches until after COVID concerns have eased. We've had a few graveside services and a few services in the worship center and they felt safe. However, the consistory has now decided that the lunches might be too risky.
- The consistory also decided to defer Madhouse (the youth group that uses the old worship center) at least until the October meeting, when we will reconsider it again.
- LBRC has received approval from the local zoning people to proceed with the entryway project. Concerns were expressed within the consistory regarding the pandemic and its effect on the supply industry as well as the overall economic status of the community. So, we decided to postpone the building project for now. We'll be looking at this regularly in the near future.
- Overall, our finances are in good shape. We're doing well with the expenses we can control. The giving is down... However, we are grateful for the opportunity to give on-line. The congregation continues to generously support Laketon Bethel. We are always thankful that so many folks choose to honor God with their giving.
- At the next consistory meeting, we will be considering how to bring back Children's Church and all the other youth activities. We'll also be looking at bringing back the very popular adult Bible studies.

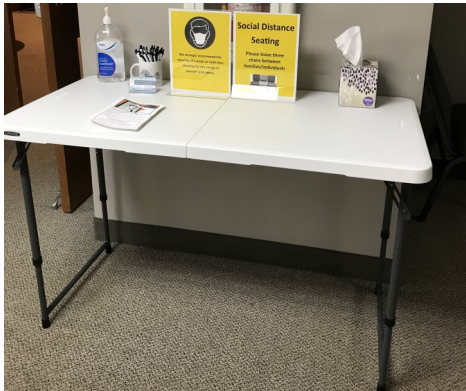
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any of the consistory members. This pandemic will end. Let's be ready to ignite all of our ministries as soon as it is safe.

Gratefully,

Sherwin Brantsen, with Ron Zant (vice-president of the consistory)

LBC News

We're Open! Come Join Us!



Self-Serve Bulletins



6 Foot Social Distance



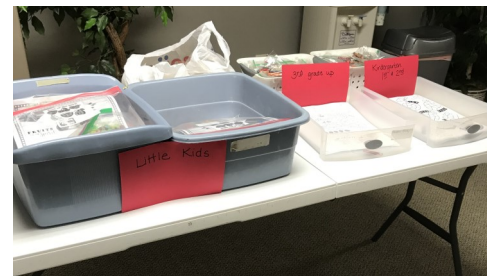
Masks to Be Safe



No-Touch Doors



Video Productions
During
Worship Services



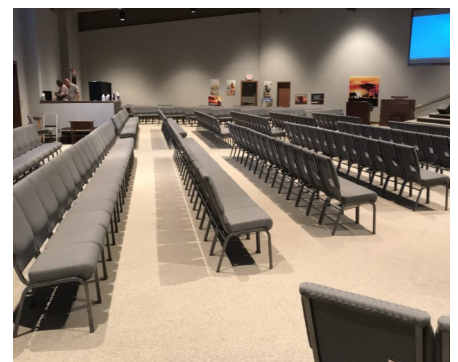
Things For Kids
To Do In Church and
At Home



Self-Serve Chocolate



No-Touch Tithing



Socially Distanced
Seating

Join Online Giving

You can help us keep Laketon Bethel financially healthy by joining a growing number (64%) of members and guests that are giving online.

You may have been devoted to giving with cash or check through the offering plate. Maybe some of you only give when you come to church on Sunday. In these difficult times it is important to know how to give digitally to Laketon Bethel. Even though some of you may be apprehensive to give in a new way, it can still be easy for you.

Here is a video tutorial you can use if considering giving digitally for the first time.

<https://vimeo.com/323573572/d77e842b>

LBC Children's Church

Children's Ministry team miss you all so much! We hope you all are happy and well!

We are working on a Reopening Safety Plan for our students. Once completed, you will receive an email from me mapping out every detail to ensure our children's safety.

Currently, we are doing fun video lessons that can be found on the Laketon Bethel Kids and Youth page. Check it out!

Blessings,

Children's Ministry Team



LBC Family Announcements

August Special Senior Birthdays:

Leona Vanderberg-97

Donna Buquet-94

Bob Jewell-90

Jim Fielstra-83

JoAnn Krieter-82

Terry Seguin-81

Happy Birthday!

LBC Family Memorials/Committals

Harold Nichols-July 11

Sharon Jacobs-August 8

Jack Ortquist-August 22

Betty Kaber-August 23

Laketon Bethel's Core Values

A. ACCEPTANCE:

Everyone, regardless of who they are, what they have done, or what they are doing, will be accepted here. Laketon Bethel will be a safe place to explore your relationship with Jesus.

B. BIBLE:

The Bible is the final authority for faith and practice. We will study it with open minds and the best scholarship available.

C. CONNECTION:

We invite people to connect with Jesus and with each other in all that we do.

And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father. Col. 3:17