

Picked from  
the Pasture



Laketon Bethel Church

January 22, 2023

Dr. Sherwin Brantsen

# Sherwin's Ten Reasons for Going to Church Every Sunday

## 1. Renew

Everyone goes through times where enthusiasm for life melts away. We all have times where our faith diminishes. Worship on Sunday renews faith and energizes attitudes for all of life.

## 2. Laugh

Yes. We laugh. Humor is a valuable part of worship. Most of it is unplanned. Sherwin's brother told him years ago that: "People aren't laughing at you because you're funny, they are laughing because you are so stupid..."

## 3. Pray

Face it. You don't pray much. Church services remind you of the importance of prayer. They jump start your prayer life. You learn more about prayer. When your family is with you, they see you praying and that is an example that changes lives.

## 4. Sing

Songs of faith can move mountains of despair. You probably won't like all the songs. But some of them will change your life.

## 5. Help

You will often find ways to help in your community. When you help, it reduces inherent narcissism. You think less of yourself and more of others. You become more grateful for what you have. You become a better person and a happier one.

## 6. Give

Yes. Put in some money. Do something with your cash for God instead of for yourself. Don't expect anything back and you will be surprised at how blessed you are. We all waste money. Here you have an opportunity to do something positive with it.

## 7. Meet

Connect with other people. Laketon Bethel accepts everyone, including you. Many friendships are made on a regular basis. We have great coffee and cookies, which help in all sorts of discussions.

## 8. Learn

The guy up front is trained and experienced and often knows what he is talking about. You will learn something every Sunday.

## 9. Grow

When you put what you learn into practice, you will find positive changes in your life. You will have unstoppable growth in ways you don't always expect.

## 10. Jesus

The church exists because of Jesus. When you participate in it regularly, he is pleased. One day you will meet him face-to-face. If you regularly connect with him through weekly worship services, that meeting will be happy.

# Announcements

**Hand2Hand** We are collecting canned goods for Hand2Hand. There is a box for your donations in the entryway. Thank you!

**Nursery** We are in need of first service volunteers for the nursery. If you are interested in joining this team, see Sally Hendrixon or Joann Petroski or call the office at 744-1749.

**Children's Ministry** Children's Church is open to children from Preschool through Fifth Grades during the 11:00 Service. Please check your child/children in at check-in station. If you are new, registration sheets are available at the check-in station as well.

## Volunteers

First Service Coffee Server: Diane Brantsen

Second Service Coffee Server: Jill Mouw & Dianna Ockaski

***2023 Giving envelopes are available and are on the table in the entryway.***

We would like to thank the outgoing Consistory members for their service -  
**Elders:** Gay Hudson, Larry Joslyn, Amy Kunnen, Jason Peterson and Ron Zant. **Deacons:** Jon Brantsen, Greg Fick and Alex Lassow.

Please welcome the newest Consistory members -

**Elders:** Jeff Hooker, Mike Lyons, Steve Mussman, Paula Scott-Stewart, Donna Spytma and Heather Wilke.

**Deacons:** Mia Fick, Kathy Forrester and Diana Wagbo.

## What you need to know about the Bible Study on Job:

- It started Wednesday, January 11, but never too late to join.
- Pizza at 6, study starts at 6:30 and usually will last until 7:30.
- The first 5 sessions will have pizza and the last session intends to have “pastoral pork...”
- For the first session, please read the first 2 chapters of Job.
- The Message is the preferred Bible version to read with the New Living Translation as a close second. If you don't have either of these, the version you have will be good.
- As a supplemental reading, Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved by Kate Bowler is recommended. We will discuss it as time permits. This is a good read and you will be glad you read it.
- Along with stretching your mind and faith, these sessions will change how you look at the Bible. You will enjoy reading it more.
- Please sign up in the entryway so we know how much pizza to order.

## **Order of Worship-9:00am**

Gathering Song

“God’s Sweet Love”

Call to Worship

“I Will Call Upon the Lord”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Come, Holy Spirit”

“Holy Spirit, Thou Art Welcome”

“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is”

Crosstalk - “Picked From the Pasture”

Ordination & Installation of Consistory

Offering

“Thank You, Lord”

Benediction

“Glory Be to God the Father”



## **Order of Worship-11:00am**

Gathering Song

“This Is God”

Call to Worship

“Glorious Day”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Everlasting God”

“Here and Now”

Crosstalk - “Picked From the Pasture”

Ordinations & Installation of Consistory

Offering

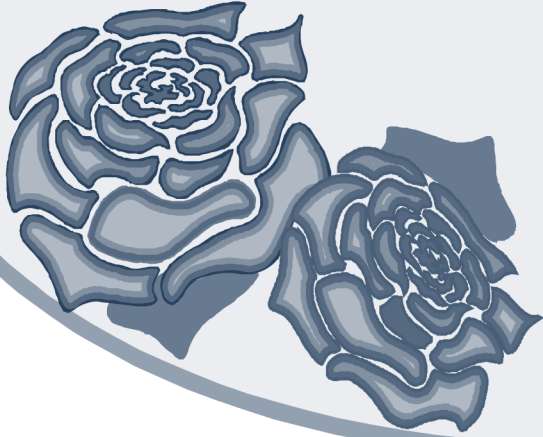
“Who Am I”

Benediction

“Lifesong”

## **Special Senior of the Week:**

*Please show your support by signing the cards located  
on the table in the entryway.*



# **Larry Cone**

*Please remember in prayer our friends who are  
battling long-term illnesses:*

*Donald Bayne*

*Jana Belladone*

*Betty Bonneville*

*Larry Budreau*

*Patti Buurma*

*Craig Carlson*

*Amanda Cihak*

*Larry Cone*

*Stephanie Cutler*

*Amy Fredericks*

*Jacob Geers*

*Bob Hanson*

*Scott Hladki*

*Sally Legar*

*Avery Lynn*

*J.T. Maskell*

*Tom McKee Sr.*

*Patti Mercer*

*Paul Ortquist*

*Lynn Pluger*

*Shirly Pummell*

*Aaron Rop*

*Gary Samples*

*Joe Shavalier*

*Larry Shavaler*

*Ida Shealy*

*Sandy Streeter*

*Kathy Tabor*

*Inga Weavers*

# Bible Readings

*from the New Living Translation*

## 1 Samuel 9

There was a wealthy, influential man named Kish from the tribe of Benjamin. He was the son of Abiel, son of Zeror, son of Becorath, son of Aphiah, of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup> His son Saul was the most handsome man in Israel—head and shoulders taller than anyone else in the land.

## 1 Samuel 10

<sup>9</sup> As Saul turned and started to leave, God gave him a new heart, and all Samuel's signs were fulfilled that day.

## 1 Samuel 15

<sup>34</sup> Then Samuel went home to Ramah, and Saul returned to his house at Gibeah of Saul. <sup>35</sup> Samuel never went to meet with Saul again, but he mourned constantly for him. And the Lord was sorry he had ever made Saul king of Israel.

## 1 Samuel 16

<sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

# Picked from the Pasture

[a place for your notes]

The phrase “you can’t judge a book by its cover” means what?

Why was Saul chosen to be king?

In 1 Samuel 10.35 we read that “the Lord was sorry he had ever made Saul king of Israel.” Is it possible for God to regret his decisions?

1 Samuel 16.7 says, “The Lord doesn’t see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” Does this ring true in our day?

Other Notes:

## January Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22	Su	John 6			Psalms 61	
23	Mo	John 7			Psalms 62	
24	Tu	John 8			Psalms 63	
25	We	John 9			Psalms 64	
26	Th	John 10			Psalms 65	
27	Fr	John 11			Psalms 66	
28	Sa	John 12			Psalms 67	
29	Su	John 13			Psalms 68	



# LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

1568 W. Giles Rd. Muskegon, Mi. 49445

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Office hours: 8:30 am – 11:30 am: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

**Pastor** – Dr. Sherwin Brantsen ([drbrantsen@gmail.com](mailto:drbrantsen@gmail.com))

**Director of Operations** – Gary Gifford ([garygifford4@gmail.com](mailto:garygifford4@gmail.com))

## THE PURPOSE OF LAKETON BETHEL:

*“To trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.”*

## 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 teachings of Jesus, contained in the Bible, are the final authority for faith and practice. We will study these teachings 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.

## OUR CONSISTORY

### Elders

Kyle Bogner, Dave Deboer, Gay Hudson,  
Larry Joslyn, Amy Kunnen, Ed Luzadder,  
Jason Peterson, Ron Zant

### Deacons

Brent Ackerman, Jon Brantsen, Greg Fick,  
Mike George, Alex Lassow, Doug Lubbers,  
Kris Meyers, Rita Sikkenga