

# Honest to God



Laketon Bethel Church

January 28, 2024

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.

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

Gathering Song

“How Great Is Our God”

Call to Worship

“I Will Call Upon the Lord”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

“I Surrender All”

Crosstalk - “Honest to God”

Offering

“Thank You, Lord”

Benediction

“Glory Be to the Father”



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

Gathering Song

“Wave on Wave”

Call to Worship

“Glorious Day”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“He Knows My Name”

“This Is Our God”

Crosstalk - “Honest to God”

Offering

“To the Table”

Benediction

“God Be With You”

# Bulletin Announcement

The Reformed Church's Book of Church Order requires that we publish the names for three weeks of those who may be chosen for the consistory. If there is any valid reason why any of these candidates should not serve, please inform Sherwin. We will draw the names on February 18.

Elder Nominees (1 will be chosen)

Joel Ortquist

Kathy Young

Deacon Nominees (3 will be chosen)

Janice Carrigan

Pat Runyon

Jill Mouw

Jerry Vos

Lisa George

Kristie Hall

## **Service Opportunities**

**LBC Nursery** We are in need of nursery help for both services. If you are interested, please see Sally Hendrixon or Tina Dadd.

**Coffee Servers** We need more volunteers to serve coffee, lemonade and cookies for both services. If you are interested, please see Tina Dadd.

## **Announcements**



### **Laketon Bethel Youth Group**

All youth ages 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades are welcomed to join us on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm for a hot dog dinner, a lesson, and fun.  
For any questions, please see John or Ashley Wierenga.

### **Sherwin's Bible Study on Jeremiah**

The Jeremiah Bible Study has begun. This is a 7-week course and we meet at 6:00pm for pizza with the bible study to follow.  
Please sign up on the sheets located in the entryway so we have an accurate count for pizza.

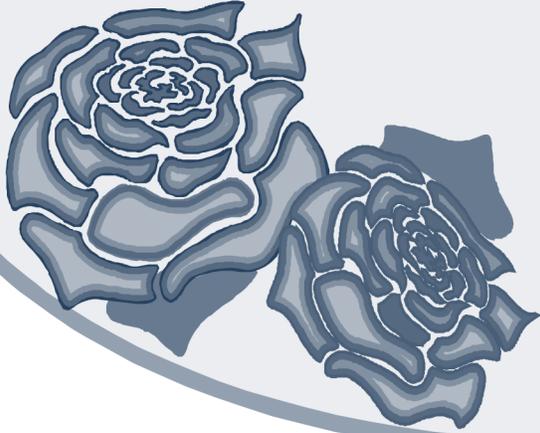
## **Volunteers**

1<sup>st</sup> Service Coffee Server: Diane Brantsen

2<sup>nd</sup> Service Coffee Server: Jim Hanley & Theresa Schiltz

**Special Senior of the Week:**

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



**Larry  
Gunn**

*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*

*Amy Fredericks*

*Jacob Geers*

*Bob Hanson*

*Scott Hladki*

*Sally Legard*

*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*

*Marv Wegner*

# Bible Readings

## Psalm 139, New Living Translation

O Lord, you have examined my heart  
and know everything about me.

<sup>2</sup>You know when I sit down or stand up.  
You know my thoughts even when I'm far away.

<sup>3</sup>You see me when I travel  
and when I rest at home.  
You know everything I do.

<sup>4</sup>You know what I am going to say  
even before I say it, Lord.

<sup>5</sup>You go before me and follow me.  
You place your hand of blessing on my head.

<sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
too great for me to understand!

<sup>7</sup>I can never escape from your Spirit!  
I can never get away from your presence!

<sup>8</sup>If I go up to heaven, you are there;  
if I go down to the grave, you are there.

<sup>13</sup>You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body  
and knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!  
Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.

<sup>15</sup>You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion,  
as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.

<sup>23</sup>Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts.

<sup>24</sup>Point out anything in me that offends you,  
and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

## Philippians 4

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

# Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes]

Why do people lie?

Why do people lie to God?

What happens if you stop lying to God?

Other Notes:

## January/February Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
28	Su	1 Thessalonians 3	<input type="checkbox"/>		Haggai 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Mo	1 Thessalonians 4	<input type="checkbox"/>		Zechariah 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	Tu	1 Thessalonians 5	<input type="checkbox"/>		Zechariah 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	We	2 Thessalonians 1	<input type="checkbox"/>		Zechariah 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
01	Th	2 Thessalonians 2	<input type="checkbox"/>		Zechariah 4	<input type="checkbox"/>
02	Fr	2 Thessalonians 3	<input type="checkbox"/>		Zechariah 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
03	Sa	1 Timothy 1	<input type="checkbox"/>		Zechariah 6	<input type="checkbox"/>
04	Su	1 Timothy 2	<input type="checkbox"/>		Zechariah 7	<input type="checkbox"/>

# LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

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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, Jeff Hooker,  
Mike Lyons, Steve Mussman, Paula Scott-  
Stewart, Donna Spytma, Heather Wilke

### Deacons

Brent Ackerman, Mia Fick, Kathy Forrester,  
Mike George, Doug Lubbers, Kris Meyers,  
Rita Sikkenga, Diana Wagbo