

# What's Your Thorn?



Laketon Bethel Church

January 30, 2022

Dr. Sherwin Brantsen

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

Gathering Song

“Old Country Church”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Crosstalk - “What’s Your Thorn?”

Offering

“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Concert of Praise and Worship

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

“His Grace Is Sufficient for Me”

“I Know Who Holds Tomorrow”

Benediction

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”



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

Gathering Song

“Maybe I’m Amazed”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Crosstalk - “What’s Your Thorn?”

Offering

“You Are So Good to Me”

Concert of Praise and Worship

“Doxology”

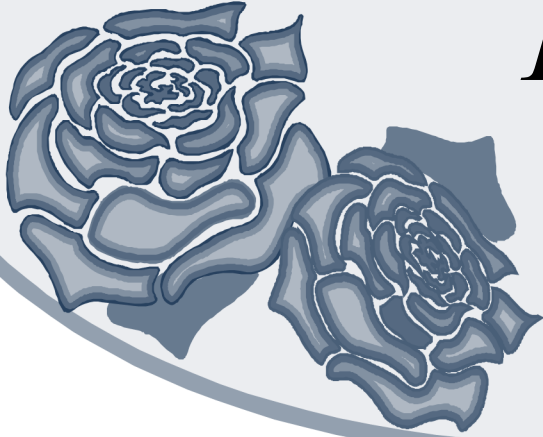
“Your Grace Is Enough”

“Lord, I Need You”

“Only a God Like You”

**Special Senior of the Week:**

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



***Bill & Mary  
Birr***

***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***

***Stephanie Cutler***

***Amy Fredericks***

***Jacob Geers***

***Bob Hanson***

***Scott Hladki***

***Avery Lynn***

***J.T. Maskell***

***Tom McKee Sr.***

***Patti Mercer***

***Paul Ortquist***

***Lynn Pluger***

***Shirly Pummell***

***Aaron Rop***

***Gary Samples***

***Joe Shavalier***

***Ida Shealy***

***Sandy Streeter***

***Kathy Tabor***

***Inga Weavers***

***Marv Wegner***

# Announcements

**Food Truck Funding** We are running low in our Food Truck account. Our food trucks cost \$725 per month. We are in danger of being in the red in February without more donation coming in. If you would like to see Laketon Bethel continue to provide monthly food trucks please give prayerful consideration to donating to this fund.

**Kids' Food Basket** We are asking for food donations for the Kids' Food Basket. There are lists of items needed on the table in the entryway. We are also accepting monetary donations. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**Membership Class** We will have a membership class on TODAY at noon following the second service with pizza provided. If interested, please sign up on the sheets located on the table in the entryway.

**Children's Ministry** Children's Church is open to children from Preschool through Fifth Grades. Families can now register their kids on our web page. The Nursery will not be staffed at this time, but will be open for your use. For any questions, please call the office at 744-1749.

**LBC Youth Group** If you're a 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grader, or you know one and would like to attend our youth meeting 4:00 - 6:30 at church, we would love to have you! Please reach out to Ashley Cleary by text/phone at (231) 747-0136 to register your child, be added to our parent email list, have any questions or would like more information about youth and children's ministries.

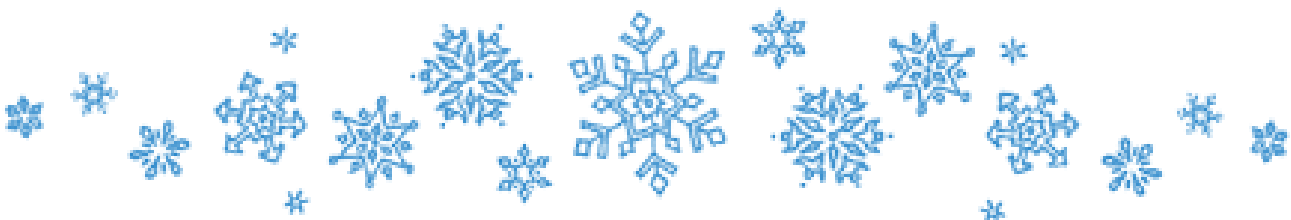
## Sunday Volunteers

**1st Service Coffee:** Ed Kawaleski

**Second Service Coffee:** Jim & Theresa Hanley

*We are in need of volunteers to serve coffee  
and cookies for both services.*

*If interested, please call the office at 744-1749.*



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12 from The Message

**12** <sup>1-5</sup> You've forced me to talk this way, and I do it against my better judgment. But now that we're at it, I may as well bring up the matter of visions and revelations that God gave me. For instance, I know a man who, fourteen years ago, was seized by Christ and swept in ecstasy to the heights of heaven. I really don't know if this took place in the body or out of it; only God knows. I also know that this man was hijacked into paradise—again, whether in or out of the body, I don't know; God knows. There he heard the unspeakable spoken, but was forbidden to tell what he heard. This is the man I want to talk about. But about myself, I'm not saying another word apart from the humiliations.

<sup>6</sup> If I had a mind to brag a little, I could probably do it without looking ridiculous, and I'd still be speaking plain truth all the way. But I'll spare you. I don't want anyone imagining me as anything other than the fool you'd encounter if you saw me on the street or heard me talk.

<sup>7-10</sup> Because of the extravagance of those revelations, and so I wouldn't get a big head, I was given the gift of a handicap to keep me in constant touch with my limitations. Satan's angel did his best to get me down; what he in fact did was push me to my knees. No danger then of walking around high and mighty! At first I didn't think of it as a gift, and begged God to remove it. Three times I did that, and then he told me,

My grace is enough; it's all you need.

My strength comes into its own in your weakness.

Once I heard that, I was glad to let it happen. I quit focusing on the handicap and began appreciating the gift. It was a case of Christ's strength moving in on my weakness. Now I take limitations in stride, and with good cheer, these limitations that cut me down to size—abuse, accidents, opposition, bad breaks. I just let Christ take over! And so the weaker I get, the stronger I become.

# What's Your Thorn?

[a place for notes]

## Questions for thought:

1. What weakness do you have that frustrates you regularly?
2. What have you prayed for repeatedly and not received?
3. Why did Paul think he was given a handicap, a thorn in the flesh?
4. What did Satan's angel try to get Paul to do?
5. What do you think was the nature of Paul's handicap?

## Other Notes:

## January/February Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
30	Su	3 John			Deuteronomy 30	
31	Mo	Jude			Deuteronomy 31	
01	Tu	Revelation 1			Deuteronomy 32	
02	We	Revelation 2			Deuteronomy 33	
03	Th	Revelation 3			Deuteronomy 34	
04	Fr	Revelation 4			Joshua 1	
05	Sa	Revelation 5			Joshua 2	
06	Su	Revelation 6			Joshua 3	

# LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

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Office hours: 8:30 am – 11:30 pm: 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 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.

## OUR CONSISTORY

### Elders

Gay Hudson, Larry Joslyn, Amy Kunnen,  
Ed Luzadder, Grant Meyers, Jason Peterson,  
Louanne Utzinger, Ron Zant

### Deacons

Kathy Andrews, Jon Brantsen, Greg Fick,  
Kathy Forrester, Mike George, Alex  
Lassow, Rita Sikkenga, Kathy Young