

Only Fish on
Fridays?

I'm giving up sacrifice and guilt for
Lent. . .



Laketon Bethel Church

March 5, 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 If you want to help but can't physically, we are collecting pudding cups for Hand2Hand. There is a box for your donations in the entryway. We appreciate your donation. Thank you!

Nursery We are in need of first and second 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.

Coffee Server We are in need of more coffee servers for the first service. If you are interested in serving for this hospitality ministry, please call the office at 744-1749.

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

Volunteers

1st Service Coffee Server: Ed Kawaleski

2nd Service Coffee Server: Jim Hanley & Theresa Schiltz

Order of Worship-9:00am

Gathering Song

“Walking and Talking”

Call to Worship

“Trust and Obey”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Father, I Adore You”

“More Love to Thee”

Crosstalk - “Only Fish on Friday?”

Offering

“Holly, Holy, Holy!/We Fall Down”

Benediction

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”



Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song

“Again I Say Rejoice”

Call to Worship

“Friend of God”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Touching Heaven Changing Earth”

“Church On Fire”

Crosstalk - “Only Fish on Friday?”

Offering

“I See Love”

Benediction

“Let It Rise”

Special Senior of the Week:

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



**Sally
Legard**

*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

Colossians 3.13-23 from The Message

When you were stuck in your old sin-dead life, you were incapable of responding to God. God brought you alive—right along with Christ! Think of it! **All sins forgiven, the slate wiped clean, that old arrest warrant canceled and nailed to Christ's cross.** He stripped all the spiritual tyrants in the universe of their sham authority at the Cross and marched them naked through the streets.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ So don't put up with anyone pressuring you in details of diet, worship services, or holy days. All those things are mere shadows cast before what was to come; the substance is Christ.

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ **Don't tolerate people who try to run your life,** ordering you to bow and scrape, insisting that you join their obsession with angels and that you seek out visions. They're a lot of hot air, that's all they are. They're completely out of touch with the source of life, Christ, who puts us together in one piece, whose very breath and blood flow through us. He is the Head and we are the body. We can grow up healthy in God only as he nourishes us.

²⁰⁻²³ So, then, if with Christ you've put all that puffed-up and childish religion behind you, why do you let yourselves be bullied by it? "Don't touch this! Don't taste that! Don't go near this!" Do you think things that are here today and gone tomorrow are worth that kind of attention? Such things sound impressive if said in a deep enough voice. They even give the illusion of being pious and humble and austere. But they're just another way of showing off, making yourselves look important.

Only Fish on Fridays

[a place for your notes]

Folks raised in the reformed tradition often don't observe Lent or Advent. Since everything we do affects our relationship with God, we do well to evaluate the things we observe. How do representatives of Jesus respond to Lenten traditions?

Why does Wesco sell “Paczkis” before Lent?

Why eat only fish on Fridays during Lent?

In his letter to the Colossians, Paul advises us to do what with people who try to run our lives?

How do representatives of Jesus deal with Lenten observations?

Other notes:

March Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
05	Su	Acts 27			Psalms 104	
06	Mo	Acts 28			Psalms 105	
07	Tu	Romans 1			Psalms 106	
08	We	Romans 2			Psalms 107	
09	Th	Romans 3			Psalms 108	
10	Fr	Romans 4			Psalms 109	
11	Sa	Romans 5			Psalms 110	
12	Su	Romans 7			Psalms 111	

LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

1568 W. Giles Rd. Muskegon, Mi. 49445

Ph. #744-1749 Fax #744-2848

Website address: laketonbethel.org & e-mail: lbrcoffice@gmail.com

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

Pastor – Dr. Sherwin Brantsen (drbrantsen@gmail.com)

Director of Operations – Gary Gifford (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