



Laketon Bethel Church

April 14, 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

“Almighty”

Call to Worship

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Grace Greater Than Our Sin”

“Amazing Grace”

Crosstalk - “Worship That Matters”

Offering

“As the Deer”

Benediction

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”



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

Gathering Song

“The Creed”

Call to Worship

“This I Believe”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“10,000 Reasons”

“Praise”

Crosstalk - “Worship That Matters”

Offering

“Washed Clean”

Benediction

“God Be With You”

# Announcements

## **PBS: Pastor's Bible Study**

We're going to try a new format for the Pastor's adult Bible study, using your questions as the basis for a 4-6 week series. Questions can be about difficult Bible passages and/or any questions about God, eternity, the church, personal salvation or anything you would like to discuss regarding the spiritual life. No questions are bad questions. If you have some questions that you would like to discuss, please get them to Sherwin as soon as you can. Your questions can be dropped off at the church office or sent to [drbrantsen@gmail.com](mailto:drbrantsen@gmail.com).

**Pickle Ball** All are welcome to join a fun night of pickle ball on Wednesdays at 7:00pm in the gym.

## **Ladies Mark Your Calendar for a Mother/Daughter Banquet**

The banquet is on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm here at Laketon Bethel.

Tickets are \$10 each and will go on sale Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup>.

You will need to choose between ham and chicken when you purchase your tickets. No tickets will be sold without the choice being made for each person attending.

Bring your mother, daughter, sister and/or friend and be prepared for a good time!

Any questions contact Lorri Anderson 231-740-3292 or Maureen Mussman 231-894-8010

## Service Opportunities

**Nursery Help** We are in need of volunteers for our second service Nursery. This service opportunity begins at 10:45am until the service is over and kids are picked up. If interested, please sign up on the sheet provided in the entryway or see Sally Hendrixon or call the office at 744-1749.

**Christian Care** Laketon Bethel was part of starting Christian Care over 100 years ago. They are unfortunately going through hardships and are looking into selling. The latest information on Christian Care is on the table in the entryway. If you have any questions or would like to help please contact Mia Fick at 720-8506.

## Volunteers

1<sup>st</sup> Service Coffee Server: Ron & Connie Maciejewski

2<sup>nd</sup> Service Coffee Server: Jan Kovalcik & Sheri Vanderlaan

1st Service Nursery: Amy Kunnen

2nd Service Nursery: Larry Hecksel & Paula Scott-Stewart

Greatest Hits  
*Gospel*  
MUSIC

By  
*Ferrel*



**Saturday APRIL 20 - 7:00**

**Laketon Bethel Reformed - Muskegon, MI**

**All are welcome to join us on Saturday,  
April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 for a fun night of music,  
munchies, and fellowship.**

**There will be a Goodwill Offering and  
all proceeds will go to Laketon Bethel's  
Youth Group for future outings  
and retreats.**

## Children & Youth News



### *LBC Children's Church*

All kids in grades Prek-Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> are welcome to join our Children's Church during the second service. We have lots of fun learning about the love of Jesus. If you have any questions, please see Jackie Ritsema or Mia Fick.

### *Laketon Bethel Youth Group*

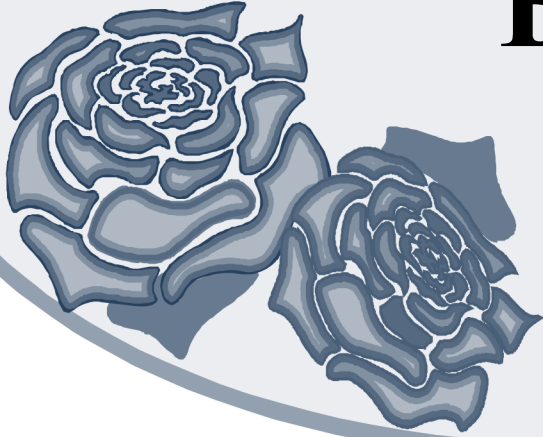


All youth in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades are welcomed to join us on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00pm for dinner, a lesson, and lots of fun.

For any questions, please see John or Ashley Wierenga.

**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*

*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*

## Isaiah 1.13-17 (The Message)

<sup>13-17</sup> “Quit your worship charades.

I can't stand your trivial religious games:  
Monthly conferences, weekly Sabbaths, special meetings—  
meetings, meetings, meetings—I can't stand one more!  
Meetings for this, meetings for that. I hate them!

You've worn me out!

I'm sick of your religion, religion, religion,  
while you go right on sinning.

When you put on your next prayer-performance,  
I'll be looking the other way.

No matter how long or loud or often you pray,  
I'll not be listening.

And do you know why? Because you've been tearing  
people to pieces, and your hands are bloody.

Go home and wash up.

Clean up your act.

Sweep your lives clean of your evildoings  
so I don't have to look at them any longer.

Say no to wrong.

Learn to do good.

Work for justice.

Help the down-and-out.

Stand up for the homeless.

Go to bat for the defenseless.

## John 4.21-24 (New Living Translation)

<sup>21</sup> Jesus replied, “Believe me, dear woman, the time is coming when it will no longer matter whether you worship the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You Samaritans know very little about the one you worship, while we Jews know all about him, for salvation comes through the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. <sup>24</sup> For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.”



# Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes]

What is the most useless meeting you have ever attended?

What is the most productive meeting you've ever attended?

What is the difference?

When people attend a worship service, what are they expecting?

What do we learn from Isaiah today?

What do we learn from Jesus today?

What do we learn from James today?

Other Notes:

## April Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	Su	Matthew 2			Exodus 9	
15	Mo	Matthew 3			Exodus 10	
16	Tu	Matthew 4			Exodus 11	
17	We	Matthew 5			Exodus 12	
18	Th	Matthew 6			Exodus 13	
19	Fr	Matthew 7			Exodus 14	
20	Sa	Matthew 8			Exodus 15	
21	Su	Matthew 9			Exodus 16	

# LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

1568 W. Giles Rd. Muskegon, Mi. 49445

Ph. #744-1749 Fax #744-2848

Website address: [laketonbethel.org](http://laketonbethel.org) & e-mail: [lbrcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:lbrcoffice@gmail.com)

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

Joel Ortquist, Dave DeBoer, Jeff Hooker,  
Mike Lyons, Steve Mussman, Paula Scott-  
Stewart, Donna Spytma, Heather Wilke

### Deacons

Brent Ackerman, Kristie Hall, Kathy Forrester,  
Jill Mouw, Doug Lubbers, Kris Meyers, Jerry  
Vos, Diana Wagbo