

MUM, I JUST WANTED TO SAY  
CONGRATULATIONS  
...I TURNED OUT  
PERFECTLY

Happy  
Mother's  
Day!

Laketon Bethel Church

May 12, 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

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

Call to Worship

I Will Sing of the Mercies”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“He Leadeth Me”

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”

Crosstalk - “Mercy for Mom”

Offering

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Benediction

“Take My Life, and Let It Be”



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

Gathering Song

“Lion & the Lamb”

Call to Worship

“Everlasting God”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Way Maker”

“Battle Belongs”

Crosstalk - “Mercy for Mom”

Offering

“You Are So Good to Me”

Benediction

“The Blessing”

## Announcements

**Mother's Day Special** On Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, we are celebrating Mother's Day by offering a variety of delicious donuts to be served after both services. Be sure to invite the special women in your life for this show of appreciation and honor.

**Food Truck** The Food Truck is Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers, please be at the church by 5:00pm.

## 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.

## Volunteers

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service Coffee Server:** Mark Gaultney

**1st Service Nursery:** Lori Anderson



"This is the day that the  
**LORD**  
has made; let us rejoice  
and be glad in it."

Psalm 118.24

## 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*

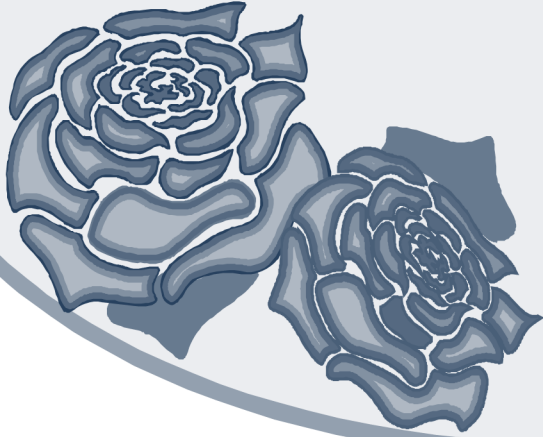


All youth in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades are welcomed to join us on Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00pm for dinner, a lesson, and lots of fun.

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.*



**Jim  
Fielstra**

*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*

# Today's Bible Readings

## Hosea 6, New International Version

For I desire mercy, not sacrifice,  
and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.

## Matthew 9, The Message

<sup>9</sup> Passing along, Jesus saw a man at his work collecting taxes. His name was Matthew. Jesus said, "Come along with me." Matthew stood up and followed him.

<sup>10-11</sup> Later when Jesus was eating supper at Matthew's house with his close followers, a lot of disreputable characters came and joined them. When the Pharisees saw him keeping this kind of company, they had a fit, and lit into Jesus' followers. "What kind of example is this from your Teacher, acting cozy with crooks and misfits?"

<sup>12-13</sup> Jesus, overhearing, shot back, "Who needs a doctor: the healthy or the sick? Go figure out what this Scripture means: 'I'm after mercy, not religion.' I'm here to invite outsiders, not coddle insiders."

## Matthew 6, New Living Translation

<sup>14</sup> "If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

## Romans 12.17-18, Contemporary English Version

<sup>17</sup> Don't mistreat someone who has mistreated you. But try to earn the respect of others, <sup>18</sup> and do your best to live at peace with everyone.

# Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes]

What do you like about the story of Hosea from the Old Testament?

The definition of mercy:

Why did the Pharisees accuse Jesus of being a bad example?

The definition of forgiveness:

The definition of reconciliation:

Other Notes:

## May Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Su	Mark 2	<input type="checkbox"/>		Exodus 37	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Mo	Mark 3	<input type="checkbox"/>		Exodus 38	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Tu	Mark 4	<input type="checkbox"/>		Exodus 39	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	We	Mark 5	<input type="checkbox"/>		Exodus 40	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Th	Mark 6	<input type="checkbox"/>		Leviticus 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Fr	Mark 7	<input type="checkbox"/>		Leviticus 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Sa	Mark 8	<input type="checkbox"/>		Leviticus 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Su	Mark 9	<input type="checkbox"/>		Leviticus 4	<input type="checkbox"/>



# 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