

The  
Largeness of  
Marriage



Laketon Bethel Church

May 19, 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

“The Promised Land Medley”

Call to Worship

“Blessed Assurance”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

“Be Still, My Soul”

Crosstalk - “The Largeness of Marriage”

Offering

“Near to the Heart of God”

Benediction

“Spirit Song”

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

Gathering Song

“Made to Worship”

Call to Worship

“Let It Rise”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Jesus, You Gave It All”

“God So Loved”

Crosstalk - “The Largeness of Marriage”

Offering

“So Will I”

Benediction

“Salt & Light”

# Announcements

*A warm welcome to the ladies and their families  
of DeColores Weekend #309.*

**Zumba** Zumba will reconvene on Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, led by Megan. The class is from 6:30-7:30pm. and the cost is \$3.00 per session.

## Service Opportunities

**Nursery Help** We are in need of volunteers for first and second service Nursery. If interested, see Sally Hendrixon or call the office at 744-1749.

## Volunteers

**1<sup>st</sup> Service Coffee Server:** DeColores

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service Coffee Server:** DeColores

**1<sup>st</sup> Service Nursery:** Joann Petroski

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service Nursery:** Sally Hendrixon & Zonnebelt Family



"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.

# Vacation Bible School

"Come make tracks" at our Laketon Bethel Kids night! We are changing our VBS program to accommodate families and hopefully have more participants. Instead we will have *Laketon Bethel Kids Night* throughout the summer."

You can preregister now at the children's check-in station or online at [laketonbethel.org](http://laketonbethel.org).

## Dates

June 18<sup>th</sup> & June 25<sup>th</sup>

July 16<sup>th</sup> & July 23<sup>rd</sup>

## Time

6pm-8pm

Dinner provided from 6pm-6:20pm

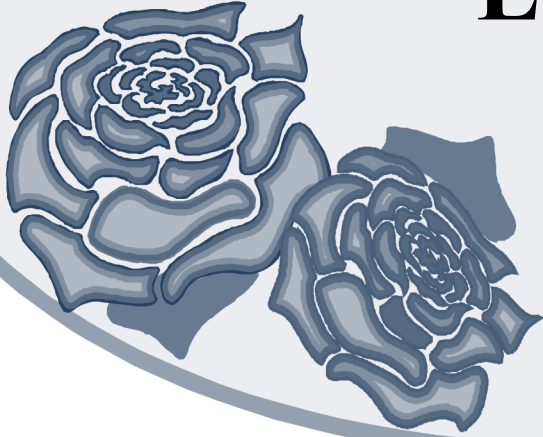
Ages Preschool - Fifth Grades





## **Special Senior of the Week:**

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



# **Larry & Sharron 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*

# Matthew 19 from the Message

**19** <sup>1-2</sup> When Jesus had completed these teachings, he left Galilee and crossed the region of Judea on the other side of the Jordan. Great crowds followed him there, and he healed them.

<sup>3</sup> One day the Pharisees were badgering him: “Is it legal for a man to divorce his wife for any reason?”

<sup>4-6</sup> He answered, “Haven’t you read in your Bible that the Creator originally made man and woman for each other, male and female? And because of this, a man leaves father and mother and is firmly bonded to his wife, becoming one flesh—no longer two bodies but one. Because God created this organic union of the two sexes, no one should desecrate his art by cutting them apart.”

<sup>7</sup> They shot back in rebuttal, “If that’s so, why did Moses give instructions for divorce papers and divorce procedures?”

<sup>8-9</sup> Jesus said, “Moses provided for divorce as a concession to your hard heartedness, but it is not part of God’s original plan. I’m holding you to the original plan, and holding you liable for adultery if you divorce your faithful wife and then marry someone else. I make an exception in cases where the spouse has committed adultery.”

<sup>10</sup> Jesus’ disciples objected, “If those are the terms of marriage, we haven’t got a chance. Why get married?”

<sup>11-12</sup> But Jesus said, “Not everyone is mature enough to live a married life. It requires a certain aptitude and grace. Marriage isn’t for everyone. Some, from birth seemingly, never give marriage a thought. Others never get asked—or accepted. And some decide not to get married for kingdom reasons. But if you’re capable of growing into the largeness of marriage, do it.”



# Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes]

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*Marriage makes you grow. Divorce is what happens when we need to fix our mistakes. But if you can handle it, marriage will make you more into what God has intended for you.*

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Should polygraphs be a part of marriage?

Do you think Jesus was married?

Is there such a thing as a “biblical divorce?”

Why do you think “God created them male and female?”

Other Notes:

## May Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	☑	Special Prayer	Old Testament	☑
19	Su	Mark 9			Leviticus 4	
20	Mo	Mark 10			Leviticus 5	
21	Tu	Mark 11			Leviticus 6	
22	We	Mark 12			Leviticus 7	
23	Th	Mark 13			Leviticus 8	
24	Fr	Mark 14			Leviticus 9	
25	Sa	Mark 15			Leviticus 10	
26	Su	Mark 16			Leviticus 11	

# 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