

# Laketon Bethel Church

July 2, 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.

# Order of Worship-9:00am

Gathering Song "Forever" Call to Worship "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" Welcome & Announcements Congregational Prayer Worship in Song "Come, Holy Spirit" "Holy Spirit, Thou Art Welcome" "Where the Spirit of the Lord Is" Crosstalk - "What Is a Good Debt?" Offering "America, the Beautiful"

Reception of New Members



## Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song "America the Beautiful" Call to Worship "This Is Our God" Welcome & Announcements Congregational Prayer Worship in Song "Another In the Fire" "Yes, I Will" Crosstalk - "What Is a Good Debt?" Offering "Chain Breaker" Reception of New Members

# Announcements

<u>Nursery</u> 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.

<u>Children's Ministry</u> 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.

<u>Church Life</u> If you have moved or have a new number, please contact the office at 744-1749 to update your information for the Church Life Directory.

# Volunteers

1<sup>st</sup> Service Coffee Server: Kathy Young 2<sup>nd</sup> Service Coffee Server: Colby Jill Mouw & Dianna Ockaski





# 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

# Romans 13.8-19 New Living Translation

<sup>8</sup> Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law. <sup>9</sup> For the commandments say, "You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet." These—and other such commandments are summed up in this one commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law. <sup>11</sup> This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armor of right living. <sup>13</sup> Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don't participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in guarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

# Deep Sheet [a place for your notes]

Why did Robert Schuller teach that you should never borrow money for coal?

In the letter to the Romans, Paul says there is only one good debt. What is it?

What fulfills the requirements of God's law?

How does Paul recommend that you clothe yourself?

Other Notes:

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Date	Day	New Testament	$\checkmark$	Special Prayer	Old Testament	$\mathbf{\overline{A}}$
02	Su	1 John 5			Isaiah 22	
03	Mo	2 John			Isaiah 23	
04	Tu	3 John			Isaiah 24	
05	We	Jude			Isaiah 25	
06	Th	Revelation 1			Isaiah 26	
07	Fr	Revelation 2			Isaiah 27	
08	Sa	Revelation 3			Isaiah 28	
09	Su	Revelation 4			Isaiah 29	

## **July Weekly Bible Readings**

## LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

1568 W. Giles Rd. Muskegon, Mi. 49445 Ph. #744-1749 Fax #744-2848 Website address: laketonbethel.org & e-mail: <u>lbrcoffice@gmail.com</u> Office hours: 8:30 am – 11:30 am: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

**Pastor** – Dr. Sherwin Brantsen (drbrantsen@gmail.com) **Director of Operations** – Gary Gifford (<u>garygifford4@gmail.com</u>)

## **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