

STRIKES
AND
GUTTERS
↑ UPS AND DOWNS ↓

Strikes and
Gutters: How
to Increase
Your Blessings

Laketon Bethel Church

September 4, 2022

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

“Just a Little Talk with Jesus”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Crosstalk - “How to Increase Your Blessings”

“Daystar”

Concert of Praise and Worship

“I Will Sing the Wondrous Story”

“Wonderful”

“He’s a Wonderful Savior to Me”

“Sunshine In My Soul”

Benediction

“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”



Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song

“All Fired Up”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Crosstalk - “How to Increase Your Blessings”

Offering

“Broken & Beautiful”

Concert of Praise and Worship

“All to You”

“I Surrender All”

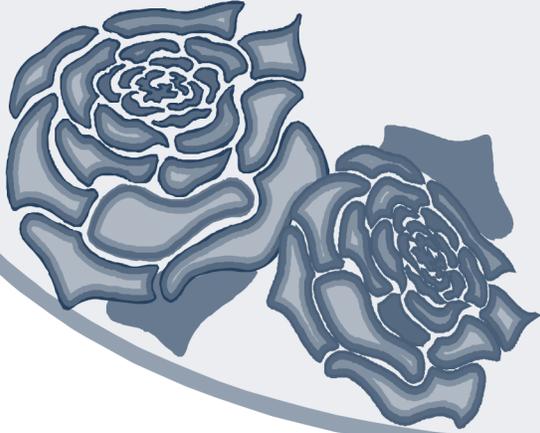
“Let It Rise”

Benediction

“Let It Rise”

Special Senior of the Week:

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



**Carl
Babinec**

*Please remember in prayer our friends who are
battling long-term illnesses:*

Donald Bayne

Bob Hanson

Gary Samples

Jana Belladone

Scott Hladki

Joe Shavalier

Betty Bonneville

Avery Lynn

Ida Shealy

Larry Budreau

J.T. Maskell

Sandy Streeter

Patti Buurma

Tom McKee Sr.

Kathy Tabor

Craig Carlson

Patti Mercer

Inga Weavers

Amanda Cihak

Paul Ortquist

Marv Wegner

Stephanie Cutler

Lynn Pluger

Amy Fredericks

Shirly Pummell

Jacob Geers

Aaron Rop

Announcements

Rummage Sale This year's Rummage Sale will take place on Thursday, September 8th from 9:00 - 4:00 and Friday, September 9th from 9:00 - 3:00. There is a pod for your donations in the parking lot for your donations. All proceeds go to support Hand-2-Hand.

Children's Ministry Children's Church is open to children from Preschool through Fifth Grades during the 11:00 Service.

Nursery Our Nursery is now open! If you are interested in joining this team, see Sally Hendrixon or Joann Petroski or call the office at 744-1749.

J-Walkers Youth Group All students in 6th-12th grades are welcomed to join Laketon Bethel's youth group. We will meet once a month for fun summer activities. More info to come! Call Ashley Cleary at 747-0136 or the office at 744-1749 to register your child, be added to the parent list, or for any questions.

Service Opportunities

Hand-2-Hand - feeding kids on the weekends.

We are in need of money donations. Please be sure to specify that your donation is for Hand-2-Hand whether donating online or in the collection basket.

We will have sign-up sheets on the tables for those willing to help pack bags and/or deliver food bags to schools. Bags will be packed every two weeks starting the second Tuesday in September. One packing will be in the afternoon the other in the evening. Bags will be delivered to schools every Thursday afternoon.

Children's Church Help Needed We are in need of at least four teacher assistants for a once-a-month rotation. Please see Sally, Tina or Ashley if interested in this service opportunity. There is a signup sheet at the children's check-in table.

Coffee Server We are in need of coffee servers for both services. If interested, please see Tina or call the office at 744-1749.

Sunday Volunteers

1st Service Coffee: Diane Brantsen

Second Service Coffee: Steve & Maureen Mussman

Matthew 5

New Living Translation

- “God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him,
for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
- ⁴ God blesses those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
- ⁵ God blesses those who are humble,
for they will inherit the whole earth.
- ⁶ God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice,
for they will be satisfied.
- ⁷ God blesses those who are merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.
- ⁸ God blesses those whose hearts are pure,
for they will see God.
- ⁹ God blesses those who work for peace,
for they will be called the children of God.

The Message

- ³ “You’re blessed when you’re at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.
- ⁴ “You’re blessed when you feel you’ve lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.
- ⁵ “You’re blessed when you’re content with just who you are—no more, no less. That’s the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can’t be bought.
- ⁶ “You’re blessed when you’ve worked up a good appetite for God. He’s food and drink in the best meal you’ll ever eat.
- ⁷ “You’re blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full,’ you find yourselves cared for.
- ⁸ “You’re blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.
- ⁹ “You’re blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That’s when you discover who you really are, and your place in God’s family.

How To Increase Your Blessings

What is the “great cultural lie” that most of us buy into?

other notes:

September Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
04	Su	1 Timothy 4			2 Chronicles 32	
05	Mo	1 Timothy 5			2 Chronicles 33	
06	Tu	1 Timothy 6			2 Chronicles 34	
07	We	2 Timothy 1			2 Chronicles 35	
08	Th	2 Timothy 2			2 Chronicles 36	
09	Fr	2 Timothy 3			Ezra 1	
10	Sa	2 Timothy 4			Ezra 2	
11	Su	1 Titus 1			Ezra 3	

LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

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Office hours: 8:30 am – 11:30 pm: 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, Gay Hudson,
Larry Joslyn, Amy Kunnen, Ed Luzadder,
Jason Peterson, , Ron Zant

Deacons

Brent Ackerman, Jon Brantsen, Greg Fick,
Mike George, Alex Lassow, Doug Lubbers,
Kris Meyers, Rita Sikkenga