



How to Pass
Your Test

Laketon Bethel Church

September 17, 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.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



On Sunday, October 1st, following the second service, the Consistory will provide a special meal to kick off our fall festivities.

Tempt your tastebuds with Sherwin's pulled-pork baked potato extravaganza while getting to know Laketon Bethel and what we have to offer.

We will have fun games for the children and youth, as well as families. More information to come.

Be sure to invite your friends!

Order of Worship-9:00am

Gathering Song

“The Solid Rock”

Call to Worship

Reading - “Anchor in the Rock”

“A Shelter in the Time of Storm”

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 - “How to Pass Your Test”

Offering

“Even In the Valley”

Benediction

“Glory Be to the Father”

Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song

“Don’t Stop”

Call to Worship

“Glorious Day”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Oceans”

“Revelation Song”

Crosstalk - “How to Pass Your Test”

Offering

“Praise You In This Storm”

Benediction

“God Be With You”

Announcements

Senior Ministry Our Senior Ministry currently takes care of the funeral luncheons at our church. We usually report to the church about an hour before the service. We get the lunch in serving bowls and trays, make coffee and punch, cut prepared cakes, and keep everything running smoothly during the luncheon. We then take care of any food left over, do clean-up of our kitchen and undress the tables once the guests have departed. If you are interested in this ministry, you can reach Jill VerHulst at 231-557-8767 or landline 231-744-9795.

Coffee Servers We are in need of volunteers for serving coffee at the second service. If you are interested, please see Tina or call the office at 744-1749.

Children's Church Changes

- ♦ Children will check in as usual then proceed to the Worship Center to begin worship with their parents.
- ♦ After the Congregational Prayer the children will be dismissed to go downstairs to Children's Church.
- ♦ We will have family worship every Communion Sunday.

Current Laketon Bethel Outreach Activities/Programs

Hand2Hand

Food Truck

Supperhouse

Trunk or Treat

Make a Difference Ministry (MadHouse)

Adopt A Family

Coat Drives

Rummage Sales

Santa's Secret Shop

Funerals

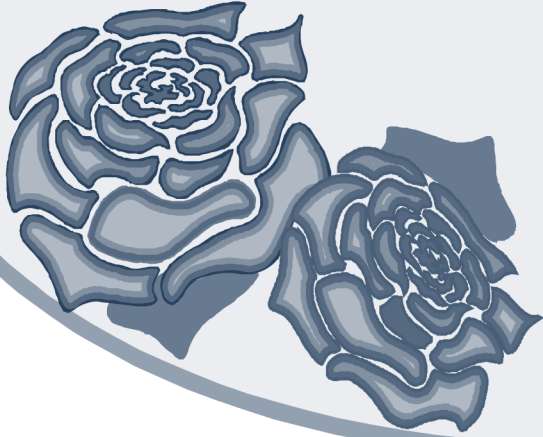
Vacation Bible School

Westshore Christian Academy

Safe Harbor Christian Communities

Special Senior of the Week:

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



**Larry
Cone**

*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

Bible Readings

Job 2, New Living Translation

One day the members of the heavenly court came again to present themselves before the Lord, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them. ² “Where have you come from?” the Lord asked Satan.

Satan answered the Lord, “I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that’s going on.”

³ Then the Lord asked Satan, “Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil. And he has maintained his integrity, even though you urged me to harm him without cause.”

⁴ Satan replied to the Lord, “Skin for skin! A man will give up everything he has to save his life. ⁵ But reach out and take away his health, and he will surely curse you to your face!”

⁶ “All right, do with him as you please,” the Lord said to Satan. “But spare his life.” ⁷ So Satan left the Lord’s presence, and he struck Job with terrible boils from head to foot.

⁸ Job scraped his skin with a piece of broken pottery as he sat among the ashes. ⁹ His wife said to him, “Are you still trying to maintain your integrity? Curse God and die.”

¹⁰ But Job replied, “You talk like a foolish woman. Should we accept only good things from the hand of God and never anything bad?” So in all this, Job said nothing wrong.

James 1, New Living Translation

This letter is from James, a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I am writing to the “twelve tribes”—Jewish believers scattered abroad.

Greetings!

² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

⁵ If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.

Deep Sheet

[A Place for Your Notes and Other Musings]

Is the book of Job intended to be a literal, historical document?

When have you been frustrated by failing a test?

What does James say is an “opportunity for great joy?”

Other Notes:

September Weekly Bible Readings

| Date | Day | New Testament | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Special Prayer | Old Testament | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|------|-----|---------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 17 | Su | Luke 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Jeremiah 33 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | Mo | Luke 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Jeremiah 34 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | Tu | Luke 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Jeremiah 35 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | We | Luke 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Jeremiah 36 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | Th | Luke 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Jeremiah 37 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | Fr | Luke 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Jeremiah 38 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | Sa | Luke 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Jeremiah 39 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 | Su | Luke 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Jeremiah 40 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

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Office hours: 8:30 am – 11:30 am: 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, 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