

How to Lighten Your Load

September 24, 2023

Laketon Bethel Church

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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

“I’m Still Amazed”

Call to Worship

“Wonderful”

“He’s a Wonderful Savior to Me”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Softly and Tenderly”

“Redeemed”

Crosstalk - “How to Lighten Your Load”

Offering

“Jesus Is the Answer Medley”

Benediction

“Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go”

Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song

“Take It Easy”

Call to Worship

“This Is Our God”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“I Surrender All”

“Let It Rise”

Crosstalk - “How to Lighten Your Load”

Offering

“To the Table”

Benediction

“Only a God Like 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

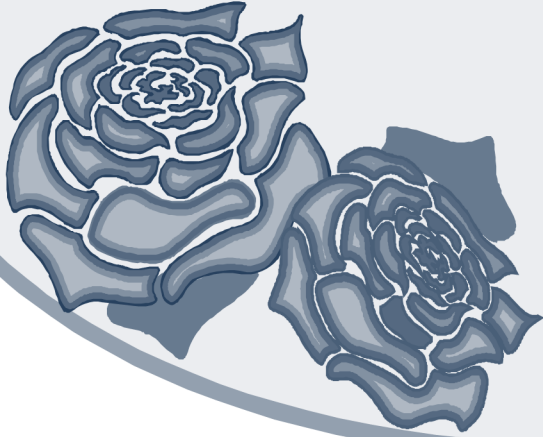
Vacation Bible School

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.*



**Donna
Doctor**

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

Donald Bayne

Bob Hanson

Aaron Rop

Jana Belladone

Scott Hladki

Gary Samples

Betty Bonneville

Sally Legard

Joe Shavalier

Larry Budreau

Avery Lynn

Larry Shavaler

Patti Buurma

J.T. Maskell

Ida Shealy

Craig Carlson

Tom McKee Sr.

Sandy Streeter

Amanda Cihak

Patti Mercer

Kathy Tabor

Larry Cone

Paul Ortquist

Inga Weavers

Amy Fredericks

Lynn Pluger

Marv Wegner

Jacob Geers

Shirly Pummell

Matthew 11.28-30

New Living Translation

²⁸ Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”



Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes and other musings]

Rick Warren has said, "God gives you exactly enough time to do the things he wants you to do." Do you think this is true?

How heavy is your current burden?

Three takeaways from today:

1.

2.

3.

Other Notes:

September Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24	Su	Luke 15	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jeremiah 40	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Mo	Luke 16	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jeremiah 41	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Tu	Luke 17	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jeremiah 42	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	We	Luke 18	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jeremiah 43	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Th	Luke 19	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jeremiah 44	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Fr	Luke 20	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jeremiah 45	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	Sa	Luke 21	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jeremiah 46	<input type="checkbox"/>
01	Su	Luke 22	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jeremiah 47	<input type="checkbox"/>

LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

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Website address: laketonbethel.org & e-mail: lbrcoffice@gmail.com

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