

Is Divorce
OK?



Laketon Bethel Church

October 16, 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

“Look What the Lord Has Done”

Call to Worship

“To God Be the Glory”

“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

“Amazing Grace”

Crosstalk - “Is Divorce Okay?”

Offering

“Breathe/He’s All I Need”

Benediction

“Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated”



Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song

“I’m Doing This Right”

Call to Worship

“Here I Am to Worship”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Lord, I Need You”

“God So Loved”

Crosstalk - “Is Divorce Okay?”

Offering

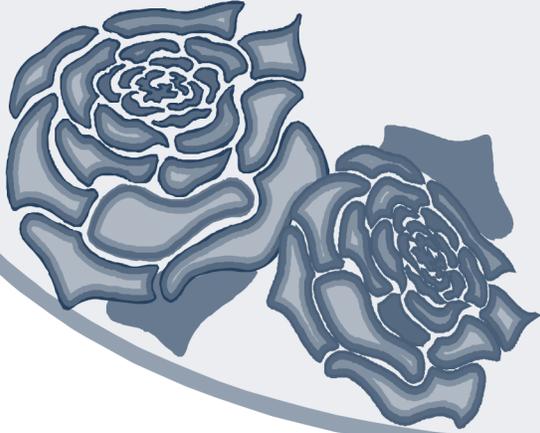
“You Say”

Benediction

“God So Loved”

Special Senior of the Week:

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



**Jim
Hoekzema**

*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

Stephanie Cutler

Amy Fredericks

Jacob Geers

Bob Hanson

Scott Hladki

Avery Lynn

J.T. Maskell

Tom McKee Sr.

Patti Mercer

Paul Ortquist

Lynn Pluger

Shirly Pummell

Aaron Rop

Gary Samples

Joe Shavalier

Ida Shealy

Sandy Streeter

Kathy Tabor

Inga Weavers

Marv Wegner

Announcements

Prayers for Dave Legard and family following the loss of his wife, Paula.

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. 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 Hanley & Theresa Schiltz



SO OTHERS CAN EAT

WHO: ALL KIDS OF ALL AGES

WHAT: HAVE CHILDREN DRESSED IN HALLOWEEN COSTUMES TO TRICK OR TREAT WHILE LOOKING AT ALL THE COOL DECORATED TRUNKS.

WE WILL ALSO HAVE A FUN SCAVENGER HUNT, HOT DOGS AND POP-CORN.

WHEN: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30TH, 3:00-4:30 PM

WHERE: LAKETON BETHEL CHURCH

1568 W. GILES RD., CORNER OF GILES & HORTON

WHY: WE ARE COLLECTING NON-PERISHABLES TO STOCK OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES. THESE COLLECTED ITEMS ARE YOUR "TICKET IN" TO HAVE A BLAST!

WE NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICE OPPORTUNITY!

PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE SHEET LOCATED ON THE TABLE IN THE ENTRYWAY.

Today's Bible Readings

Matthew 5.31-32, The Message

³¹⁻³² “Remember the Scripture that says, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him do it legally, giving her divorce papers and her legal rights’? Too many of you are using that as a cover for selfishness and whim, pretending to be righteous just because you are ‘legal.’ Please, no more pretending. If you divorce your wife, you’re responsible for making her an adulteress (unless she has already made herself that by sexual promiscuity). And if you marry such a divorced adulteress, you’re automatically an adulterer yourself. You can’t use legal cover to mask a moral failure.

Mark 10.2-9, New Living Translation

² Some Pharisees came and tried to trap him with this question: “Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife?”

³ Jesus answered them with a question: “What did Moses say in the law about divorce?”

⁴ “Well, he permitted it,” they replied. “He said a man can give his wife a written notice of divorce and send her away.”

⁵ But Jesus responded, “He wrote this commandment only as a concession to your hard hearts. ⁶ But ‘God made them male and female’ from the beginning of creation. ⁷ ‘This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two are united into one.’ Since they are no longer two but one, ⁹ let no one split apart what God has joined together.”

See also 1 Corinthians 7.10-11, Ezra 10.2-3 and Matthew 7.12.

Is Divorce OK?

[a place for notes and musings]

Divorce is nasty business. It is permitted but not required in Scripture. Divorce can be an extension of grace that gives us a chance to get past a big mistake. The obligation of the followers of Jesus is to be supportive of those who are hurting including those going through divorce.

What do you think the reasoning was behind churches excluding or refusing to let people serve who were divorced?

Why do you suppose God made them “male and female?”

Why did Paul teach that divorced people should remain single?

What is the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation?

Other Notes:

October Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16	Su	2 John	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Mo	3 John	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 6	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Tu	Jude	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	We	Revelation 1	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 8	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Th	Revelation 2	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 9	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Fr	Revelation 3	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 10	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Sa	Revelation 4	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 11	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Su	Revelation 5	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 12	<input type="checkbox"/>

LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

1568 W. Giles Rd. Muskegon, Mi. 49445

Ph. #744-1749 Fax #744-2848

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

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