

TO ERR IS
HUMAN, TO
FORGIVE, DIVINE

Forgiveness Granted

Laketon Bethel Church

November 12, 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

“Jesus Saves!”

Call to Worship

“A New Name in Glory”

“Since Jesus Came Into My Heart”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Jesus Is Lord of All”

“Living For Jesus”

Crosstalk - “Forgiveness: Granted”

Offering

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

Benediction

“Glory Be to God the Father”

Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song

“Maybe I’m Amazed”

Call to Worship

“Made to Worship”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“I Need You”

“Who You Say I Am”

Crosstalk - “Forgiveness: Granted”

Offering

“Anyway”

Benediction

“Salt & Light”

Announcements

Food Truck The Food Truck is tomorrow and we ask that all volunteers please be at the church at 5:00pm. For any questions, please see Jill Mouw.

Bible Study Sherwin's Jeremiah Bible Study is on Wednesdays 6:00pm for pizza and the study starting at 6:30pm. There will be a 6-week break for the holidays and reconvening on January 3rd, 2024. Please sign up on the sheet located in the entryway.

Children's Church On December 10th we will have our Christmas program. The children practice each week at 11:00am. On Sunday, December 3rd, the kids will have practice in the sanctuary following the second service.

Service Opportunities

Santa Secret Shop Once again this year we will be hosting Santa Secret Shop for the Head Start Students at McMillan Elementary. We are in need of mom and dad gifts for the students to choose from. If you have any new or gently used items that you are willing to donate for this great project please bring them by December 10th. We will have a box by the Hand2Hand table for you to place them in. Please remember that these are going to 4-year-old children to take home on the bus in their backpack, so please no large items. We will be hosting these children on December 12th & 13th in the morning. We have a sign up sheet at the Hand2Hand table if you are interested in helping with this great project.

Volunteers

1st Service Coffee Server: Ron & Connie Maciejewski

2nd Service Coffee Server: Steve & Maureen Mussman

KEEP OUR COMMUNITY WARM THIS WINTER



DONATE WINTER CLOTHING!

We are accepting *gently used* winter gear and coats.

The community needs are hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, boots, coats, snowpants and warm socks.

All donations will go to Westshore Christian Academy.

LBC Youth Group

We are excited to announce that John Wierenga has volunteered to lead a youth group for kids in sixth-twelfth grades.

The first meeting is TODAY from 5:30-7:30. This first meeting will be about getting to know one another and connecting with fun games and pizza for dinner.

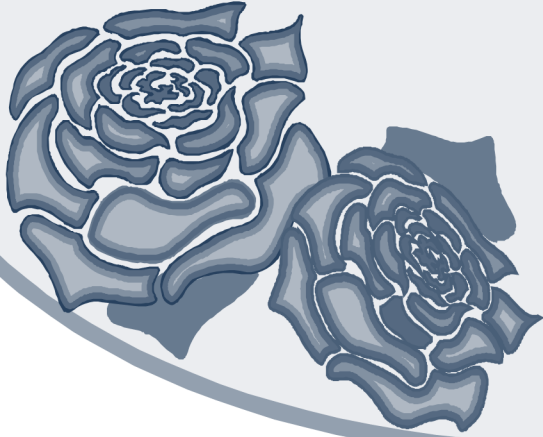
John would also like to have a meeting with parents that have kids in the Christmas program to help during the Sunday, Dec. 3rd Christmas program practice. Any adult who is willing to help would be appreciated.

For questions, please see John Wierenga.



Special Senior of the Week:

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



**Mick
Meyers**

*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

Matthew 18 from The Message

²¹ At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, “Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?”

²² Jesus replied, “Seven! Hardly. Try seventy times seven.

²³⁻²⁵ “The kingdom of God is like a king who decided to square accounts with his servants. As he got under way, one servant was brought before him who had run up a debt of a hundred thousand dollars. He couldn’t pay up, so the king ordered the man, along with his wife, children, and goods, to be auctioned off at the slave market.

²⁶⁻²⁷ “The poor wretch threw himself at the king’s feet and begged, ‘Give me a chance and I’ll pay it all back.’ Touched by his plea, the king let him off, erasing the debt.

²⁸ “The servant was no sooner out of the room when he came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him ten dollars. He seized him by the throat and demanded, ‘Pay up. Now!’

²⁹⁻³¹ “The poor wretch threw himself down and begged, ‘Give me a chance and I’ll pay it all back.’ But he wouldn’t do it. He had him arrested and put in jail until the debt was paid. When the other servants saw this going on, they were outraged and brought a detailed report to the king.

³²⁻³⁵ “The king summoned the man and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave your entire debt when you begged me for mercy. Shouldn’t you be compelled to be merciful to your fellow servant who asked for mercy?’ The king was furious and put the screws to the man until he paid back his entire debt. And that’s exactly what my Father in heaven is going to do to each one of you who doesn’t forgive unconditionally anyone who asks for mercy.”

Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes]

What is forgiveness?

Six things forgiveness is not:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Other Notes:

November Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Su	Acts 19	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 32	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Mo	Acts 20	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 33	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Tu	Acts 21	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 34	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	We	Acts 22	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 35	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Th	Acts 23	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 36	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Fr	Acts 24	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 37	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Sa	Acts 25	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 38	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Su	Acts 26	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 39	<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