



# Psalm 103:1-14

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Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Laketon Bethel Church

November 19, 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

“Come Thou Almighty King”

Call to Worship

“Glorify Thy Name”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Day By Day”

“Be Still My Soul”

Crosstalk - “A Radically Better Life”

Offering

“Breathe”

Benediction

“Rise Up, O Church of God”



## **Order of Worship-11:00am**

Gathering Song

“Don’t Stop”

Call to Worship

“Glorious Day”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“I Will Never Be”

“I Am Free”

Crosstalk - “A Radically Better Life”

Offering

“There Was Jesus”

Benediction

“Doxology”

# 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Please sign up on the sheet located in the entryway.

**Children's Church** On December 10<sup>th</sup> we will have our Christmas program. The children practice each week at 11:00am. On Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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 10<sup>th</sup>. 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 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> in the morning. We have a sign up sheet at the Hand2Hand table if you are interested in helping with this great project.

## Volunteers

1<sup>st</sup> Service Coffee Server: Ron & Connie Maciejewski

2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

# Adopt-a-Family

Our Christmas Adopt-a-Family tree is up and loaded with gift ideas for some of our needful north side kids!

All of these children attend Reeths-Puffer or North Muskegon schools so your gifts stay local.

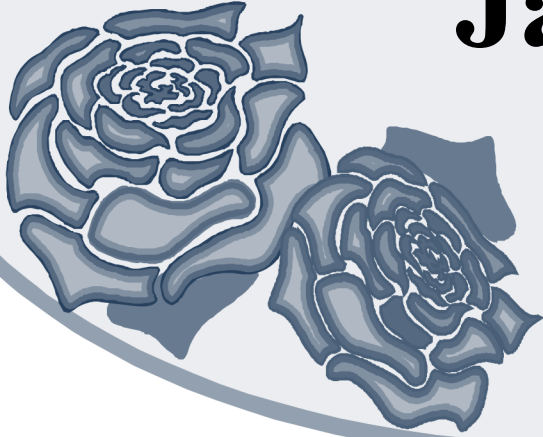
Please stop by and take a tag and return your wrapped gift (with the tag attached) to the church by December 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you are able to purchase more than one gift, please take another tag, as we request just one gift per tag.

If you prefer to make a financial donation and let us do the shopping, there are envelopes available on the tree that can be placed in the collection plate. Keep in mind that gift cards make great gifts for those 10 and over!



**Special Senior of the Week:**

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



**Jack & Jean  
Moore**

*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

## Mark 6

<sup>12-13</sup> Then they were on the road. They preached with joyful urgency that life can be radically different; right and left they sent the demons packing; they brought wellness to the sick, anointing their bodies, healing their spirits.

## Psalms 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul;  
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

<sup>2</sup> Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits,

<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,

<sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

<sup>5</sup> who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

<sup>6</sup> The Lord works vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.

The Lord is like a father to his children,  
tender and compassionate to those who fear him.

<sup>14</sup> For he knows how weak we are;  
he remembers we are only dust.

## Mark 10.45

<sup>45</sup> For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."



# Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes]

What is a big shot?

Have you ever felt a “joyful urgency” about your relationship with Jesus?

How is your life “radically different” because of Jesus?

Other Notes:

## November Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	Su	Acts 26	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 39	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Mo	Acts 27	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 40	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Tu	Acts 28	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 41	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	We	Romans 1	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 42	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Th	Romans 2	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 43	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Fr	Romans 3	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 44	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Sa	Romans 4	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 45	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	Su	Romans 5	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ezekiel 46	<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](mailto:drbrantsen@gmail.com))

**Director of Operations** – Gary Gifford ([garygifford4@gmail.com](mailto: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