



**JESUS** |  
**CHANGES** | **EVERYTHING**

Laketon Bethel Church

December 10, 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

“Like Shepherds and Wise Men Do”

Call to Worship

“The Birthday of a King

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

*2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent Reading*

“Child in the Manger”

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Crosstalk - “He Changes Everything”

Offering

“Silent Night”

Children’s Christmas Program

Benediction



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

Children’s Christmas Program

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

*2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent Reading*

“Make Room”

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

Crosstalk - “He Changes Everything”

Offering

“What if Jesus Comes Back Like That”

Deco-Tec Presentation

Benediction

## Announcements

**Adopt-a-Family** All gifts and monetary donations are due today. Thank you all for your donations to give our Northside kids a Merry Christmas!

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

**LBC Youth Group** The Youth Group will have a potluck Christmas party tonight from 5:30-7:30. We will make Christmas cards for shut-ins and have lots of fun! The party is at John Wierenga's house: 1746 Princess Lane.

## 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 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: Kathy Young

2<sup>nd</sup> Service Coffee Server: Mark Gaultney

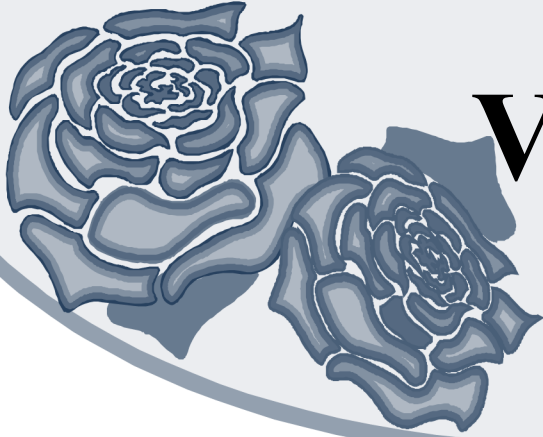


**Christmas Eve Service**  
**“The Gift”**

Join us at 7:00pm on Christmas Eve as we tell the Christmas Story through scripture and song. We will complete our Advent journey as we light the *Christ Candle*, and discover what our real Christmas Gifts are.

**Special Senior of the Week:**

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



**Leona  
Vanderberg**

*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*

## Acts 10 [The Message]

<sup>15</sup> The voice came a second time: “If God says it’s okay, it’s okay.”

<sup>27-29</sup> Talking things over, they went on into the house, where Cornelius introduced Peter to everyone who had come. Peter addressed them, “You know, I’m sure that this is highly irregular. Jews just don’t do this—visit and relax with people of another race. But God has just shown me that no race is better than any other. So the minute I was sent for, I came, no questions asked. But now I’d like to know why you sent for me.”

<sup>34-36</sup> Peter fairly exploded with his good news: “It’s God’s own truth, nothing could be plainer: God plays no favorites! It makes no difference who you are or where you’re from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open. The Message he sent to the children of Israel—that through Jesus Christ everything is being put together again—well, he’s doing it everywhere, among everyone.

## Galatians 3 [New Living Translation]

<sup>26</sup> For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>27</sup> And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. <sup>28</sup> There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God’s promise to Abraham belongs to you.

# Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes]

What “isms” were you raised with?

What does Jesus need to change in your life?

Why was the meeting between Cornelius and Peter a turning point for the new religion called “Christianity?”

What spiritual “tumor” needs shrinking in your life?

Other Notes:

## December Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	Su	1 Corinthians 3	<input type="checkbox"/>		Daniel 12	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Mo	1 Corinthians 4	<input type="checkbox"/>		Hosea 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Tu	1 Corinthians 5	<input type="checkbox"/>		Hosea 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	We	1 Corinthians 6	<input type="checkbox"/>		Hosea 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Th	1 Corinthians 7	<input type="checkbox"/>		Hosea 4	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Fr	1 Corinthians 8	<input type="checkbox"/>		Hosea 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Sa	1 Corinthians 9	<input type="checkbox"/>		Hosea 6	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Su	1 Corinthians 10	<input type="checkbox"/>		Hosea 7	<input type="checkbox"/>

# LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

1568 W. Giles Rd. Muskegon, Mi. 49445

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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