

“Everyone is on
the naughty list.”



—Calvinist Santa

Laketon Bethel Church

December 12, 2021

Dr. Sherwin Brantsen

Order of Worship-9:00am

We Approach Our Friend

Welcome

Prayer of Confession and Reminder of Pardon

Response of Praise

Responsive Reading

#198 - "I Wonder as I Wander"

#190 - "Angels We Have Heard on High"

#191 - "Hark the Heralds Angels Sing"

#192 - "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Congregational Prayer

Offerings-We Give Back

#196 - "There's a Song in the Air"

#197 - "How Great Is Our Joy!"

We Learn, Remember and Renew

Crosstalk - "What If I Can't Be Good?"

Children's Christmas Message



Order of Worship-11:00am

We Approach our Friend

Welcome

Children's Christmas Message

Prayer of Confession and Reminder of Pardon

Response of Praise

"O Holy Night"

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

Congregational Prayer

Offerings-We Give Back

"What If Jesus Came Back Like That?"

We Learn, Remember and Renew

Crosstalk - "What If I Can't Be Good?"

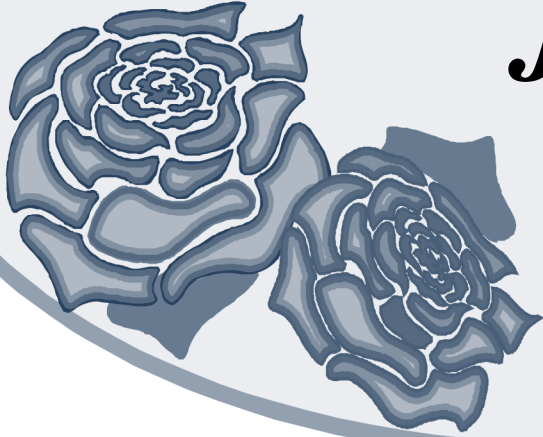
We Respond to Our Friend

Benediction

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

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

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

Children's Ministry Children's Church is open to children from Preschool through Fifth Grades. Families can now register their kids on our web page. The Nursery will not be staffed at this time, but will be open as a cry room and changing station. For any questions, please call the office at 744-1749.

LBC Youth Group If you're a 6th-12th grader, or you know one and would like to attend our next youth meeting, we would love to have you! Please reach out to Ashley Cleary by text/phone at (231) 747-0136 to register your child, be added to our parent email list, have any questions or would like more information about youth and children's ministries.

Christian Care Board of Directors Laketon Bethel has been represented by Dave Sietsema on the Board of Director for a number of years. Dave has decided it is time for him to retire from the Board. We are asking if anyone in the congregation has interest in filling his position on the Board to contact the church office. Dave has agreed to meet with anyone interested to share what a Board member does. Please give this prayerful consideration.



ADOPT-A-FAMILY

The tags are gone, but we still need donations. Gifts are due TODAY with original tag taped to the gift. A big thank you to all who have participated!

Scriptures for Today

Romans 7 and 8 from The Message

¹⁷⁻²⁰ But I need something *more*! For if I know the law but still can't keep it, and if the power of sin within me keeps sabotaging my best intentions, I obviously need help! I realize that I don't have what it takes. I can will it, but I can't *do* it. I decide to do good, but I don't *really* do it; I decide not to do bad, but then I do it anyway. My decisions, such as they are, don't result in actions. Something has gone wrong deep within me and gets the better of me every time.

²¹⁻²³ It happens so regularly that it's predictable. The moment I decide to do good, sin is there to trip me up. I truly delight in God's commands, but it's pretty obvious that not all of me joins in that delight. Parts of me covertly rebel, and just when I least expect it, they take charge.

²⁴ I've tried everything and nothing helps. I'm at the end of my rope. Is there no one who can do anything for me? Isn't that the real question?

²⁵ The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does. He acted to set things right in this life of contradictions where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind, but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different.

¹⁻² With the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah, that fateful dilemma is resolved. Those who enter into Christ's being-here-for-us no longer have to live under a continuous, low-lying black cloud. A new power is in operation. The Spirit of life in Christ, like a strong wind, has magnificently cleared the air, freeing you from a fated lifetime of brutal tyranny at the hands of sin and death.

What If I Can't Be Good?

from a Cross Talk based on Romans 7-8

What do you think it means to be good?

What does the "Calvinist Santa" say about being good?

How do you feel about Paul saying, "I don't have what it takes?"

What part of the Bible reading today is significant 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"/>
12	Su	2 Thessalonians 1	<input type="checkbox"/>		Numbers 17	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Mo	2 Thessalonians 2	<input type="checkbox"/>		Numbers 18	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Tu	2 Thessalonians 3	<input type="checkbox"/>		Numbers 19	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	We	1 Timothy 1	<input type="checkbox"/>		Numbers 20	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Th	1 Timothy 2	<input type="checkbox"/>		Numbers 21	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Fr	1 Timothy 3	<input type="checkbox"/>		Numbers 22	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Sa	1 Timothy 4	<input type="checkbox"/>		Numbers 23	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Su	1 Timothy 5	<input type="checkbox"/>		Numbers 24	<input type="checkbox"/>

LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

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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 Bible is the final authority for faith and practice. We will study it 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

Gay Hudson, Larry Joslyn, Amy Kunnen,
Ed Luzadder, Grant Meyers, Jason Peterson,
Louanne Utzinger, Ron Zant

Deacons

Kathy Andrews, Jon Brantsen, Greg Fick,
Kathy Forrester, Mike George, Alex
Lassow, Rita Sikkenga, Kathy Young