



2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Laketon Bethel Church

December 31, 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

“Forever”

Call to Worship

“He Has Made Me Glad”

“This Is the Day”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“I Love You, Lord”

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

“O How I Love Jesus”

Crosstalk - “A Better New Year”

Offering

“He Knows My Name”

Benediction

“God Be With You”



Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song

“Good God Almighty”

Call to Worship

“Open Up the Heavens”

Welcome & Announcements

Baptism

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Lord, I Need You”

“Grace Like Rain”

Crosstalk - “A Better New Year”

Offering

“All My Hope”

Benediction

“Doxology”

Service Opportunities

LBC Nursery We are in need of nursery help for both services. If you are interested, please see Sally Hendrixon or Tina Dadd.

Coffee Servers We need more volunteers to serve coffee, lemonade and cookies for both services. If you are interested, please see Tina Dadd.

A warm welcome to our newest baptized member, Annie Kristine Bishop, daughter of Nick & Melanie Bishop and granddaughter of Dave & Lorri Bishop and great-granddaughter of Ardie Pulsipher.



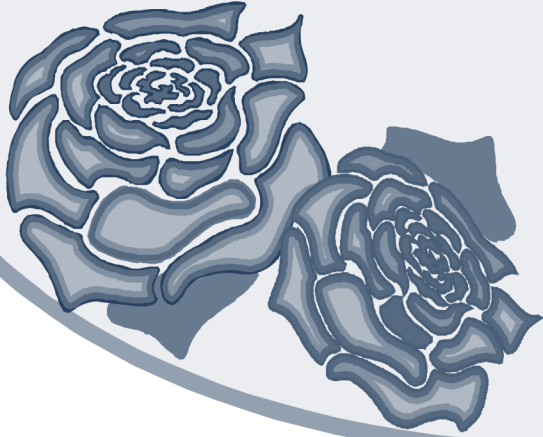
Volunteers

1st Service Coffee Server: Sue Vannette

2nd Service Coffee Server: Colby Beckstrom & Kelly Andry

Special Senior of the Week:

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



**Jackie
Buck**

*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

Romans 13

The Message

8-10 Don't run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other. When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along. The law code—don't sleep with another person's spouse, don't take someone's life, don't take what isn't yours, don't always be wanting what you don't have, and any other "don't" you can think of—finally adds up to this: Love other people as well as you do yourself. You can't go wrong when you love others. When you add up everything in the law code, the sum total is *love*.

11-14 But make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed. We can't afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Don't loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about!

Deep Sheet

A Place for Your Notes

What changes in your life do you need to make for a better year in 2024?

What are four ways to improve your life this next year?

1.

2.

3.

4.

What can you do to avoid breaking the ten commandments?

What is one thing you can choose every day?

Notes:

December/January Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
31	Su	2 Corinthians 8	<input type="checkbox"/>		Amos 4	<input type="checkbox"/>
01	Mo	2 Corinthians 9	<input type="checkbox"/>		Amos 5	<input type="checkbox"/>
02	Tu	2 Corinthians 10	<input type="checkbox"/>		Amos 6	<input type="checkbox"/>
03	We	2 Corinthians 11	<input type="checkbox"/>		Amos 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
04	Th	2 Corinthians 12	<input type="checkbox"/>		Amos 8	<input type="checkbox"/>
05	Fr	2 Corinthians 13	<input type="checkbox"/>		Amos 9	<input type="checkbox"/>
06	Sa	Galatians 1	<input type="checkbox"/>		Obadiah	<input type="checkbox"/>
07	Su	Galatians 2	<input type="checkbox"/>		Jonah 1	<input type="checkbox"/>

LAKETON BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

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

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