



### *And when you pray...*

*One day Jesus was praying in a certain place.*

*When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray...'*

Luke 11:1, NIV

In his "One Minute Uplift" newsletter, pastor Rick Ezell writes: "St. Augustine, the early church father and theologian, described prayer as a man in a hapless boat who throws a rope at a rock. The rock provides the needed security and stability for the helpless man. [But] when the rock is lassoed, it's not the man pulling the rock to the boat (though it may appear that way); it is the pulling of the boat to the rock. Jesus is the rock, and we throw the rope through prayer."

Samuel Chadwick said, 'The one concern of the devil is to keep saints from prayer. He fears nothing from prayer-less studies, prayer-less work, and prayer-less religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.'

I don't know one Christian who believes that prayer is a bad thing; I know many Christians who are confused or frustrated or uncertain about prayer. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus seems to assume that his followers will pray, yet when it comes right down to it, the only thing that the Gospels record the disciples asking him to teach them is to pray.

With this in mind, the pastoral staff and the Elders are together calling us as a church to pray. Throughout the months of October and November we will be thinking and hearing and talking about prayer. My Sunday morning sermons will take us through some passages of scripture that teach us about prayer. Our emphasis will culminate in a November prayer event; you will hear more about this in the weeks ahead.

As we move toward this emphasis, let me encourage you to open your heart to God in order to learn more about prayer. Set aside time to pray. Ask God to help you understand more about prayer. Most of all...pray—in any way you know how and at anytime you possibly can.

I look forward to this emphasis. I believe that it will challenge us and bring blessing to us; that it will push us and fill us with the joy of Christ; that it will make us uncomfortable and ignite within us the fire of God's Holy Spirit to live in this world for Him.

In Christ,

*Pastor Wes*

## **SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER**

**October 4** (8:20, 9:40, 11:00)

a.m. *Learning to Pray*

p.m. Small Groups

**October 11** (8:20, 9:40, 11:00)

a.m. *Prayer that Changes*

p.m. Small Groups

**October 18** (8:20, 9:40 and 11:00)

a.m. *God's Answer for Sin's Cravings* (Communion)

p.m. Small Groups

**October 25** (8:20, 9:40, 11:00, 6:00)

a.m. *Prayer that Sets Us Free*

p.m. Small Groups



A reminder that the Sunday morning sermon can be accessed on our website ([www.hwchurch.org](http://www.hwchurch.org)) or through iTunes (search "Houghton Wesleyan Church"). Thanks to Nathan and Clayton Danner for maintaining this ministry.

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PASTOR

*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers (Galatians 6:10).*

One of the annual ministries of our congregation is to send care packages to those college-age young adults from our congregation who attend other colleges or universities or to serve in the military. This is a simple gesture of love – a reminder to them that we care for them and have not forgotten them.

The College Ministries Committee will be compiling these care packages and sending them out on Saturday, October 17th. If you have – or know of – a college-age young person from our church at another college or university or serving in the military who would like to receive a care package, please call the church office or contact me at tleach@hwchurch.org. We would love to include all of these individuals.

If you would like to contribute non-perishable snacks, baked goods, or other treats to be included in these care packages, we would welcome your contributions. All such contributions need to be brought to the church office on or before Friday, October 16th.

Thank you for helping us demonstrate Christ's love – and ours, too – to these college-age young people who are away from Houghton.

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Todd*

### FINANCIAL REPORT:

As of September 20, we are almost \$19,000 behind our proposed budget for the year and almost \$24,000 behind giving at this same time last year. We still have sufficient cash on hand to meet all of our obligations and it helps that expenses are to date about \$3000 less than this time last year. We appreciate all who have been cautious about spending. We are concerned about this shortfall and ask that you would pray concerning the church finances and, if you feel led, to increase your giving to help eliminate this budget shortfall.

-The Elders

### WKFM Corner:

Circle October 20th at 9:40 am in the Primary Assembly Room for our next "camper gathering" of WKFM! We will be seeing the DVD called **Nathaniel's Journey**. This parable teaches the way to Jesus as Nathaniel makes his journey through the woods that we call the world. The story teaches about salvation, The Holy Spirit, The Bible, prayer, how to share your faith, and heaven. I know the children will enjoy the story. It is similar to Pilgrims Progress.

If your child did not pay the 52 cent yearly dues, do send it in October in a specially labeled envelope, but a regular offering will go toward several mission projects, one of which is The Mission Equipment Fund that helps provide equipment for missionaries (furniture, computers, washing machines, etc.).

We warmly invite all 1st to 5th graders to be a part of this special 'club' where we grow in our thinking to include OTHERS... not just ourselves!

**The Food Pantry shelves need replenishing!** Here are some items we need: jelly, creamy peanut butter, flour, sugar, canned fruits (all kinds), red kidney beans, canned vegetables (peas, carrots, beets, beans), coffee, creamer, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, evaporated milk, soups (all kinds), instant mashed potatoes, canned gravy, canned meats, rice, cake mixes (all flavors), canned frosting, brownie mixes, jello, pudding mixes, pancake mixes, pancake syrup, bottle juices.

Remember, we have a freezer and refrigerator and so can use frozen meat, pizzas, bread, cheese, and margarine. Items may be left at the church office at any time. Thank you for your generosity in feeding the hungry in our community.



## YOUTH NEWS

Check out the Youth Webpage for permission slips and online registration /payment: <http://www.hwchurch.org/YouthNews.htm>  
Jon Cole, Youth Pastor: Cell # 585-307-9950

### "Surviving Middle School" (SMS) 7-8 grade Wed. - 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Middle School is a whole new world full of new people, new schedules, weird situations and bizarre relationships. How do we survive the "transmogrification" of bodies, brains, homes, and friendships!?

- October 7 - Who Am I?
- 14 - The Idiot Circus
- 21 - The Boss of Me
- 28 - I See Naked People!

### All new Senior High Youth Group Sunday Evenings at 6:00 PM: October is "Mastin Month"☺!

We meet at Tyler Mastin's House – Leonard Ave. in Houghton. *Senior High October "Life Has a Purpose" (continued)*

- October 4 – Storm the Heights starting at 3:30 PM – Boons' on School Farm Rd.
- 11 – Growing in Your Faith
- 18 – Serving In Ministry
- 25 – Regular Youth Group!

**Sunday Oct. 18– Super Sunday School – All Junior and Senior High Sunday School Classes will meet at 9:40 in the community room for a unique Sunday school experience! Refreshments will be served!**

**Prayer Breakfast:** Tuesday Mornings: October 6, 13, 20, 27. 7:00 AM in the community room.

Youth Committee Meeting - **Monday**, October 12, 7 – 8:00 PM in the Youth Room

### EVENTS:

**October 4 – Storm the Heights!** This full-contact capture-the-flag type game will leave you bruised and hungry! Luckily, we will also have delicious Chili and corn Bread and a warm bonfire! ☺ Starts at 3:30pm! Bring your game face and be ready to get dirty! Permission Slip Required! Jeff and Andrea Boon's House on School Farm Road

**October 16 - CREATION FESTIVAL concert at Roberts Wesleyan College - \$20; leave Houghton at 4pm. Concert starts at 6:30 – Permission slip Required!**



## CONGRATULATIONS

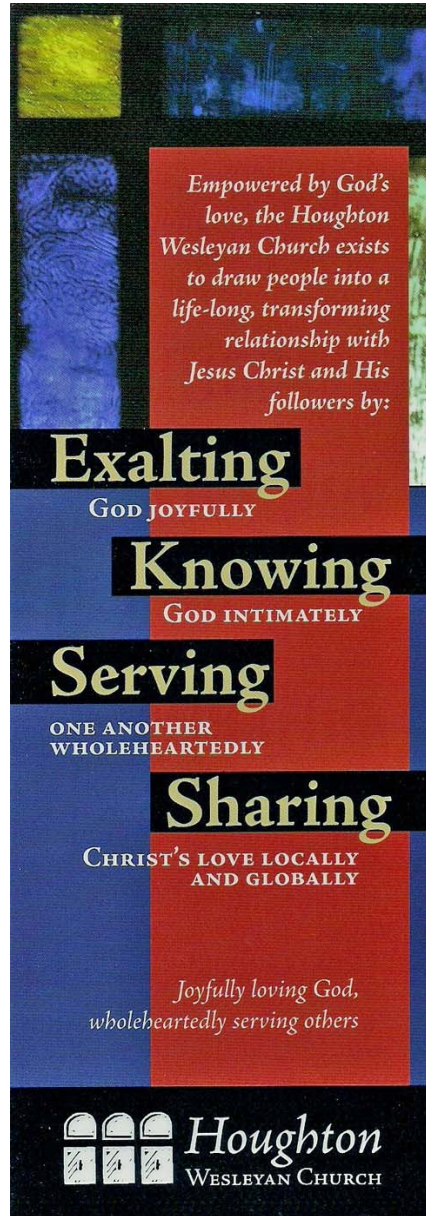
to Stefanie Swanson and Nate Austin on their marriage September 26 in Houghton.

## THANK YOU

Once again we are reminded that prayer is powerful, and we have a God who still does miraculous things. We would like to thank everyone for all the prayers and support given to our family after CJ's accident and during his amazing recovery.

-Chris, Chrissie, CJ, Zeb and Hudi Pollock

The Elders have been working on our Purpose and Vision Statement for the past few years. This bookmark is the result of what they have sensed God saying to us about who and what He wants us to be. We pray that this bookmark will inspire us to remember our purpose and in remembering to live it for Him. If you don't yet have a Purpose Statement bookmark, they are available in the church foyer.



### VISION STATEMENT

*Believing we are an agent of God in Houghton and the surrounding areas, Houghton Wesleyan Church will be a place of grace and healing. Enabled by the power of the Holy Spirit, we will provide a safe refuge and a holy place to be the people of God we know we should and must be; this can only be accomplished through our individual and mutual commitment to and our corporate worship of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

#### Empowered by God's Spirit, we will:

- worship together, focusing on God and anticipating His presence, power, and action
- teach one another the Word of God as the foundation for our faith and life
- recognize our connection to the church of Jesus Christ throughout history and throughout the world
- acknowledge our personal and corporate brokenness
- affirm our strong dependence on each other
- embrace and love all others
- live together in ongoing forgiveness as God has forgiven us
- practice gracious discernment, mutual confession, and love for our enemies
- engage in Christian fellowship, discipleship, and hospitality
- sacrifice our personal wants and desires to serve God and others
- minister to those who suffer emotionally, spiritually, materially or physically
- take on Christ's suffering as our redemptive response to sin and evil

#### So that:

- God's purpose will be accomplished here on earth as it is in heaven
- God's kingdom will be in us and operate through us both here and throughout the world
- God's power will be manifested through His Body
- God's glory will reign over every aspect of His Church.

## THE LIBRARY CORNER



A copy of the Wesley Study Bible has been placed in the library in memory of Carol Montanye who died July 27, 2009. Carol had been a member of the Library Committee for a number of years.

*Under the Story Tree*, compiled by local author Daniel Woolsey, contains four folk tales common to East Africa. The author states, "I have collected these stories with careful attention to the storyteller's language and have worked to edit them in ways that are true to their cultural roots." Among those who worked to complete the illustrations is David Huth, Professor of Communications at Houghton College,

*I Grew UP Little* by Patsy Clairmont is a "delightfully written autobiography revealing Patsy's greatest struggles, her biggest failures and the secret of her ultimate triumph." She has authored a number of books and is a speaker at Women of Faith conferences.

Three CD's by Wanda Brunstetter have recently been added. They include: *A Sister's Secret* and *A Sister's Test Parts 1 and 2*.

Recent children's books include: *Tom Thumb* by Richard Jesse Watson, *Pooh, Just Behave* by Eleanor Fremont, *Finny's Big Break* by Doug and Debbie Kingsriter, *Baby Stegosaurus* by Beth Spanjian. There are also two Thomas the Train books: the *Thomas Railway Word Book* and *Percy's Chocolate Crunch*.

The next bulletin board and display case will include items on prayer.

# Operation Christmas Child: October 11 - November 15

## ~A Note From Franklin Graham~

Dear Friend,

Back in 1993, Samaritan's Purse collected the first shoebox gifts in North America for Operation Christmas Child. The idea of collecting thousands of gift-filled shoe boxes for young war survivors in Bosnia sounded daunting at the time but also presented an exciting opportunity to share the Gospel. In that first year, we were amazed to collect 28,000 boxes. Praise God, since then we have received close to 70 million gift-filled shoe boxes, including nearly eight million in 2008! This past year we delivered gift boxes to children in over 100 countries.



Every box represents a precious child of God in need of a Savior. Shoe boxes are handed out through local churches that offer our Gospel booklets to children in their own language. Through our follow-up discipleship program, well over two million boys and girls have committed their lives to Jesus Christ.

Thanks to compassionate people like you, many more hurting children and their families will hear the good news of the Savior. "You shall call his name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21b, NKJV). We appreciate your dedication to Operation Christmas Child and ask that you keep this ministry in your prayers throughout the year. May God richly bless you.

Sincerely,  
Franklin Graham  
Samaritan's Purse

## ~A Gift That Lasts~

Zandra grew up in a shantytown in Peru. When she was nine years old, her father was sentenced to prison. Her mother did all she could to provide for the family, but Christmas looked bleak that year.

Then Zandra was invited to attend a special celebration at their church. She was overjoyed to receive a gift-filled shoebox from Operation Christmas Child. "It was amazing that someone would be concerned for me and give me many wonderful gifts," she said.

Although she had accepted Jesus Christ two years before, Zandra was afraid her heavenly Father might let her down like her dad did. The shoebox gift and Gospel storybook reassured her that God would never fail her. "Jesus' love came at just the right time," she said.

Zandra, now a college student in Lima, has worked as a translator with Operation Christmas Child to help other hurting children experience Christ's transforming love.

## ~Your Chance to Make A Difference~

**Gift-filled shoe boxes will be accepted at the church every Sunday from October 11th through November 15th**, and may be left on the OCC display table in the foyer of the Christian Education building. Look for a brochure in your bulletin October 11th, or pick one up from the OCC display table in mid-October in the Christian Education building foyer, or visit the Samaritan's Purse website: [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org). A video and DVD about Operation Christmas Child are also available in our church library.

**New this year: find out the destination of your shoebox by making your shipping donation online at: [www.samaritanspurse.org/ezgive](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/ezgive)**

**Also online at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org) :**

- \* Instructions & printable boy/girl labels for your boxes
- \* Seasonal and year-round volunteer opportunities
- \* Project videos, photos, stories, and more!

Questions? Contact Terri Bradbury, [tnbradbury@hotmail.com](mailto:tnbradbury@hotmail.com) / 567-2719

# Women's Bible Study & Prayer Groups

## Tuesday Morning Groups

10:00 a.m.

This group meets in the home of Esther Smith. They meet every Tuesday year 'round. The group reads a Scripture passage allowing time for discussion and sharing. Much time is given to prayer with an emphasis on intercessory prayer.

Contact Person: Esther Smith, 567-8391

10:00 a.m.

This group meets every Tuesday morning at 10:00, and the group members take turns hosting the study. They are continuing study of Beth Moore's *The Patriarchs*.

Contact: Doris Nielsen (567-8667) or Marilyn Hiler (567-8966) for more information.

## Wednesday Morning Group

9:30-10:45 a.m.

**The Ladies' Wednesday Morning Bible Study** in the Youth Room. Pastor Laurie is teaching I & II Samuel.

Contact Laurie Smalley (567-8302)

## Wednesday Evening Group

6:30 -7:45 p.m. in Room 214

**The Ladies' Wednesday Evening Bible Study** is studying Beth Moore's *Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman* beginning on September 23. Contact Mary Leach (567-8288 or marywleach@yahoo.com) with questions. Workbooks are available at the campus bookstore (ask for them at the register).

## Friday Morning Group

9 am to 10:45 am.

Make plans now to join us for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship this fall. We begin *Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman by Beth Moore*; childcare is provided for children 5 and under. Workbooks are available at the campus bookstore. Ask for them at the register. If you have questions, call Kelley Hijleh at 567-4707 or email [Kelley.Hijleh@houghton.edu](mailto:Kelley.Hijleh@houghton.edu).

## Fall Sunday School Opportunities For Adults

(9:40 to 10:40 a.m.)

**All adults, college students, and community members are invited to take advantage of these opportunities for discipleship.**

**Kaleidoscope** – presents a “kaleidoscope” of topics including Bible study, missions, current events, spiritual journeys and fellowship. Kaleidoscope meets in the **Community Room** on the first floor of the Christian Education Building.

**Devotional Classics** – this book study/discussion-style class meets in **Room 9** on the lower level of the main church. This semester they will study, *The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives* by Dallas Willard.

**The Sermons of Jesus** – this Bible study class taught by Paul Young meets in the **Youth Room** on the lower level of the main church.

**Foundation of Apologetics** – meets in **Room 105** on the first floor of the Christian Education Building and is led by Bryan Mastin.

**Fireproof Your Marriage** - this study is based on Biblical principles for strong, God-centered, lifelong marriages. They will use video clips from the original video along with thought-provoking discussion questions and individual and couples' devotionals. This class meets in the **Jr. Assembly Room** on the 2nd floor of the Christian Education Building. Marilyn and Ralph Kerr lead this class.

**When Mothers Pray** – this class, coordinated by Eileen Swanson, meets in **Room 7** on the lower level of the main church. This class is geared to mothers of teenagers and young adults.

## Discipleship Ministry Leaders

Please pray for our Discipleship Ministry Leaders who have accepted the privilege and responsibility of leading one of our Discipleship Ministries:

- 8:20 Children's Church - Kathy Bogdan and Mary Anne Majoros
- 11:00 Children's Church - Karry Beardsley and Bitsy Mayhle
- Sunday School - Robin Pawling
- Church Library - Donnie Stockin
- Nursery - Jan Schilke
- Valley Preschool - Casda Danner
- AWANA Puggles & Cubbies - Donna Blew and Jessica Mullen
- Girls' AWANA Club - Heather Hannan and Kerri Lord
- Boys' AWANA Club - Emily & Brandon Hoffman and Stephanie & Chad Wittenrich



## Wednesday Evening Children's Ministries

Due to the October break, AWANA Puggles & Cubbies, Girls' AWANA Club, and Boys' AWANA Club will NOT meet on Wednesday, October 14. They will resume their regular schedule on Wednesday, October 21. Thank you.

Our Family in Ministry: removed for security reasons

## HOUGHTON AREA SENIOR CITIZENS, PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

The following changes in our October 8 Senior Citizens Luncheon and program. The program at Portageville Chapel is the same: Dr. Judy Congdon will present *The Story of Portageville Chapel* and a recital on the Portageville Chapel organ at 1 p.m.

**The picnic will be served at the Houghton Church Community Room at 11:45 a.m.**

We will leave for Portageville at 12:30 p.m. Those needing a ride can call either the Church Office or 207-4929. The same for reservations. Price to be announced.

## WESLEYAN MEDICAL FELLOWSHIP OCTOBER 31

The Wesleyan Medical Fellowship will hold its semi-annual meeting on October 31, 2009, in the Community Room at 7:00 p.m.. The topic will be The Houghton-Sierra Leone Connection. Dr. Gus Prinsell, former medical missionary to Sierra Leone, will be speaking on the early days of the Sierra Leone Mission and Church, and Dr. Shirley Mullen, President of Houghton College, will be speaking on present impressions and needs of Sierra Leone and proposed Houghton College involvement. All members and friends are invited to attend.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Houghton Academy

## Take-Out Chicken Barbecue Dinner



Friday, October 2      Cost: \$ 7.  
Dinner includes ½ Stearns chicken, baked potato,  
vegetable, roll, brownie  
Pick-Up: Academy dining hall. 3:30-5:30 p.m.  
To order: Contact an Academy senior or  
call 585-8115

**Free**— 2 twin bed spreads and 8 matching curtain panels and matching small pillow – light green flower print. Also, 2 sets of peach colored vertical blinds for 8 ft patio doors. Call the Smalleys 567-8302 if interested.

**For Sale**— Home on approximately one acre; four bedrooms/three baths; two living areas and two dining areas (breakfast room and formal dining room), office, new roof, new windows, gas fireplace; the best view in town!! 7503 Centerville Road in Houghton. Contact Kenneth or Doris Nielsen at 567-8667.

**Angelica Sweet Shop**—delivers your favorite, yummy baked goods to the Campus Bookstore on Thursday mornings. We are always happy to deliver orders from our Lunch Wagon menu at that time. Call the Lunch Wagon at 466-3399 or Angelica Sweet Shop at 466-7070; visit us online for the weekly menu and catering for events at [www.AngelicaSweetShop.com](http://www.AngelicaSweetShop.com)

## House for Sale—9722 Route 19, Houghton, New York

- Family use or investment property
- Currently three apartments but easily converted to single family or combo
- Convenient Main Street location
- One two-bedroom apartment with 1.5 baths (new lower bath)
- Two one-bedroom apartments
- Yard: includes apple and pear trees plus space for garden
- Porch: 20' x 8' concrete, covered back porch
- Storage: Wood shop and general space in dry basement
- Barn/garage: 16' x 24' two floors (new roof)
- Parking: space for three vehicles
- Lot: 110' x 80'
- Heat: forced air
- Utilities: (entire house) electricity, gas, water/sewer: approx. \$350/mo.
- Taxes: \$2,500/year
- Upgrades: New roof, furnace, and all windows within last ten years
- Rent: Currently generates \$1,250 monthly

**Contact: Bud Keith** (585)567-8177 (home); (479)372-3414 (cell);  
or **Jon Keith** (630)878-2044 or [jkeith@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:jkeith@wheatonacademy.org)

### CHURCH STAFF

Wes Oden, Senior Pastor, 567-2024, [woden@hwchurch.org](mailto:woden@hwchurch.org)

Todd Leach, Assistant Pastor, 567-8288, [tleach@hwchurch.org](mailto:tleach@hwchurch.org)

Jon Cole, Youth Pastor, 307-9950, [jcole@hwchurch.org](mailto:jcole@hwchurch.org)

Cindy Oden, Discipleship Pastor, 567-2024, [coden@hwchurch.org](mailto:coden@hwchurch.org)

Amanda Cox, Worship Director, 567-4870 [acox@hwchurch.org](mailto:acox@hwchurch.org)

Laurie Smalley, Volunteer Pastor for Outreach, 567-8302, [ismalley@hwchurch.org](mailto:ismalley@hwchurch.org)