

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
11:00 MORNING WORSHIP SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

As the prelude begins, let us observe silence as we prayerfully anticipate this hour of corporate worship of Almighty God.

Prelude: *Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist*, BuxWW 208 ...Dieterich Buxtehude

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 46)

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

The Lord says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress!

*Invocation

*Hymn 377 *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

*Words of Greeting and Peace

Anthem: *Til and Tend My Heart*Jane Marshall

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 19: 1-8

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God!*

*Gloria Patri

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *O Safe to the Rock* (for text see hymn #386)arr. Jon Spong

Pastoral Prayer / **The Lord's Prayer**

Please feel free to use the altar as your place of prayer as we bow in humility before our loving heavenly Father.

If kneeling is difficult for you, please use the red chairs or stand by the altar rail.

Song of Preparation: *Arise, My Soul, Arise*

*New Testament Reading: Matthew 6:5-13

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God!*

*Hymn 432 *Come, Thou My Light, that I May See*

Sermon: **When Prayer Defines Us**
Pastor Wes Oden

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, you are perfect in love, power, holiness, compassion, and truth... we are not. Forgive us for being more concerned with taking love than with giving love. Forgive us for being more concerned with wielding power than with embracing weakness. Forgive us for believing that holiness is defined by behaviors we check off a list than with openness to being filled by your Spirit. Forgive us for being unmoved with apathy toward people in need rather than being moved by compassion like Jesus. Forgive us for minimizing the truth so that people will think well of us rather than embracing the truth that sets all of us free. And forgive us for giving others the impression that we are more like you than we are. In your grace and mercy, hear our prayers and give us fullness of life that can be found only in you and let us hear once again the promise of your word: *If you confess your sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive your sins. Amen.*

*Hymn 438 *Savior, Teach Me, Day by Day*

*Benediction

*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

*Postlude: *Prelude in B minor*, BWV 548Johann Sebastian Bach

*Please stand if able

Organist: Judy Congdon

Worship Leader: Luke Huizenga

Acolyte: Ezra Knapp

The rose on the pulpit is in honor of the birth of Cynthia Rose Lundeen on July 23, 2018 to Melissa and Andrew and sisters, Adalynn and Everly.

Children's Worship bulletins are available in the church foyer for ages 3-12.

NURSERY: We provide a fully staffed nursery for infants up to two years of age.

The Nursery is located on the first floor of the Christian Education Building and is available during services.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Children ages 2-5 are dismissed during the song before the sermon for Children's Church in room 116 in the Christian Education Building.

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist proclaims, "The Lord is great...and he is high above all the people...Exalt the Lord our God, and worship...for the Lord our God is holy" (Psalm 99: 2, 9). We come today to acknowledge that God is great and holy, that we are his people and that we owe our lives to him. Through music, prayer, the reading of Scripture, and the spoken word we an opportunity to experience the grace of God in Christ.

TONIGHT, 7:00PM Koinonia meets in Wesley Chapel.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we invite you to worship with us at 8:20, 9:40 and 11:00. Next Sunday we continue thinking about prayer: *When Prayer Feels Like a Waste of Time* (1 Samuel 13:7-14).

STEWARDSHIP

Received Year to Date: \$ 240,132.57 Budgeted Year to Date: \$ 229,251.00

MEMBERSHIP CLASS: Pastor Wes is hosting a membership class this Wednesday, September 19, 6:30pm – 9:00pm. If you are interested in joining the Houghton Wesleyan Church or in knowing more about what it means to be a member of this church, contact the church office (office@hwchurch.org) in order to reserve your place in the class.

CHURCH WEBSITE: Please visit our church website (www.hwchurch.org) for information relating to the church and ministries. You may also access and subscribe to Pastor Wes's weekly blog which will be a follow up to each Sunday's sermon.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY MEETS THURSDAYS: If you are human, chances are you have experienced some of life's hurts, habits and hang-ups! A small group of us have been meeting on Thursday evenings @ 6:30 pm in Room 105 of the Christian education building, in forming a Celebrate Recovery group at HWC. Celebrate Recovery is based on eight principles from the Beatitudes. The purpose of Celebrate Recovery is to encourage fellowship and to celebrate God's healing power in our lives as we work our way along the road to recovery. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, or finding out more about it, please join us. Questions? Contact Cathy Morley at catmo57@hotmail.com or 567-8162.

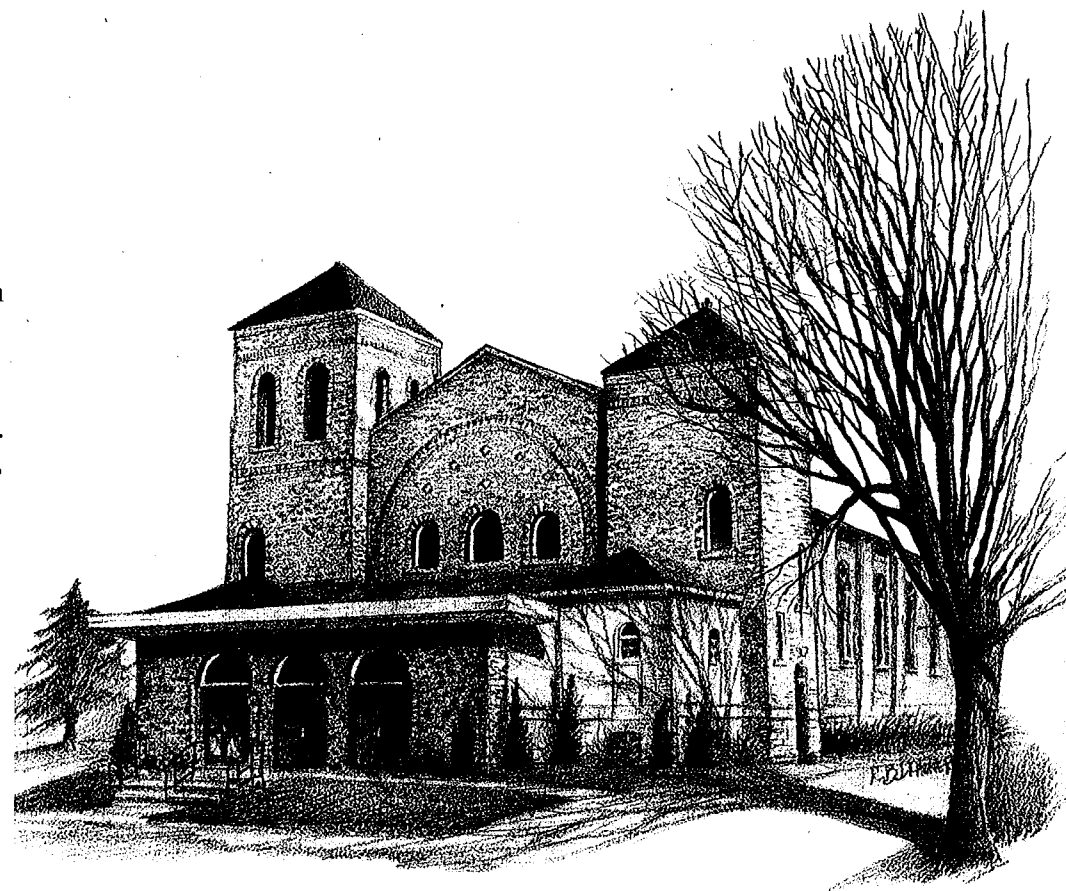
MISSION MOMENT – Our thoughts and prayers are for all those suffering hardship and serving faithfully in the midst of Hurricane Florence. World Hope International was sending supplies and mobilizing people before Florence's arrival and has responders at work often through local churches. Tangible support may be confidently sent to World Hope International -- worldhope.org

PERSECUTED CHURCH – We usually hear very little about God's amazing work in and around His people where there is suffering and persecution. Yet God is doing awesome things in amazing places. We pray for "His Kingdom to come, His will to be done" where we least expect it in our world.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Phil Main, Dan Gurley, Florence Teuber, Roselyn Danner, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and Karen's daughter-in-law), Gus and Louise Prinsell, Nancy Cole, Peter Lingenfelter, Doris Essepien, Eila Shea, Sheldon Emerson (Darby Luckey's brother), Bill Getty, Mike Raybuck, Bev Rhett, Emily Crikelair; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the Nunda United Methodist Church (Pastor Ann Robinson).



*Joyfully loving God,
wholeheartedly serving others*



WESLEY ODEN, *Senior Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

CINDY ODEN, *Assistant Pastor*

PAUL SHEA, *Assistant Pastor*

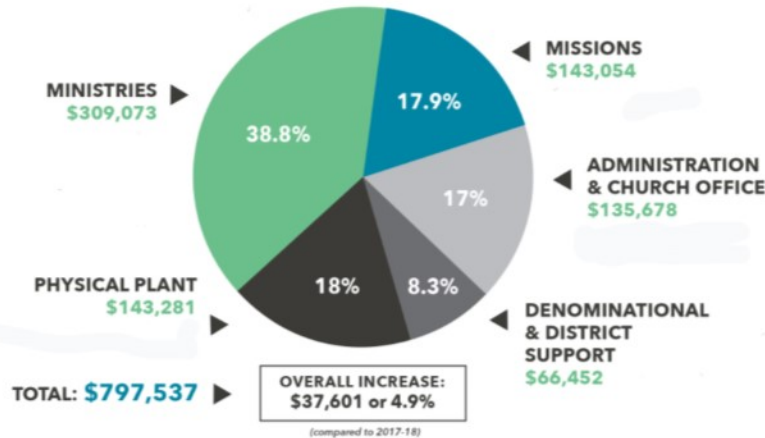
AMANDA COX, *Music and Worship Director*

LAURIE SMALLEY, *Children's Ministry Director*

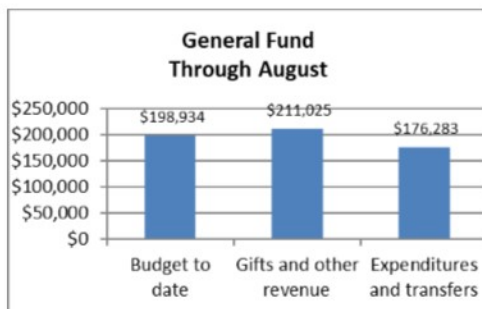
STEWARDSHIP

Finance Update: The 2018-19 HWC Community Financial Plan was approved in May but we want to keep you in-formed about where money given to the church goes

► **Treasure | 2018-2019 HWC COMMUNITY FINANCIAL PLAN:**



As you see from the **chart above**, the budget is divided into five major sections—Ministries, Missions, Physical Plant, Administration and Church Office and Denominational and District Support. This gives you an idea of the breadth of ministries and how your tithes and offerings are distributed among them. Because of your faithful stewardship, we are able to hire pastors to lead us, to help others experience the gospel of Jesus, to serve and support each other, to gather in a beautiful facility, to assist as needs around us arise, to keep you in-formed about the church and to partner with other churches who are representing Christ where they are. Thank you for investing your Time, Talent and Treasure that we might be the church God intends us to be. The **chart below** is an update on our current financial health. If you have any questions about the Financial Plan or church finances, please don't hesitate to contact our Treasurer, David Mercer or Pastor Wes.



September 23rd—12:15 in Community Room

It's a privilege to have students as part of our church!

- We need students to sign up (or bring something if you like)
- We need folks to bring food to serve.

Please sign up and drop tear-off in the offering plate or in the box in the foyer today.

It's great to get acquainted!

(Remove and turn in)

YES, I/We plan to eat lunch here on the 23rd.

Name(s): _____

(Remove and turn in)

YES, I/We plan to welcome students and will bring a Main Dish and Salad or Dessert.

Name _____

Indicate [Salad] or [Dessert] with main dish.