

PRAYER GROUP – Wednesday, 6:30 -7:30 pm. in Room 9 below the sanctuary.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY meets Thursday Evenings, 7-9 PM in the Good Shepherd Room. CR is a safe place to share hurts, habits and hang-ups.

MISSION MOMENT – The Haiti Dental/Medical team needs ask for Guidance as they must soon finalize plans for the annual January trip under still troubled economic and political times in Haiti. The team normally travels to Macieux Church where the Houghton team constructed the new church roof this year

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH: Christians in northern Syria have been under renewed attack. Two church leaders were killed this month in Qamishli, usually a safe place for Christians. We pray that God would protect against an ISIS resurgence, and that Christians would be voices for peace and the Gospel in the region. (Open Doors)

STEWARDSHIP Received (June 1—Present): \$ 373,839.00
 Budgeted (June 1—Present): \$ 402,155.78

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Diane Emmons, Chris Stewart, Karen Szymanski, Cindy Lastoria, Leonard Watson, Jerry Isaman (Joe Breton’s step-father), Mark Mayhle (Doug’s brother), Paulette Schierer, Ruby Schierer Williams, Elly Plaza (Alejandra Koch’s sister), Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Debbie Alderman Wilson, The Marsh Family, Jon Retz, Emily Hood (A.C. Taylor’s cousin), Bob Brown, Bill Getty, Nancy Cole, Eileen Spear, Evelyn Heil, Dan Gurley, Bethie Liddick, Bev Rhett, Phil Main, Emily Crikelair, Mike Raybuck, Sheldon Emerson (Darby Luckey’s brother), Eila Shea, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and Karen’s daughter-in-law), Peter Lingenfelter; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the leaders of our government; for Fellowship Wesleyan Church, West Seneca (Pastor Dick Emery).

SUNDAY SCHEDULE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

December 8 & 15 Worship Services: 8:20 a.m., 9:40 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Dec. 15: 5:00 p.m. Carol Sing/Cookie Reception (Bring your instruments)

December 22, 29 & January 5: Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.

January 12 Worship Services: 8:20 a.m., 9:40 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

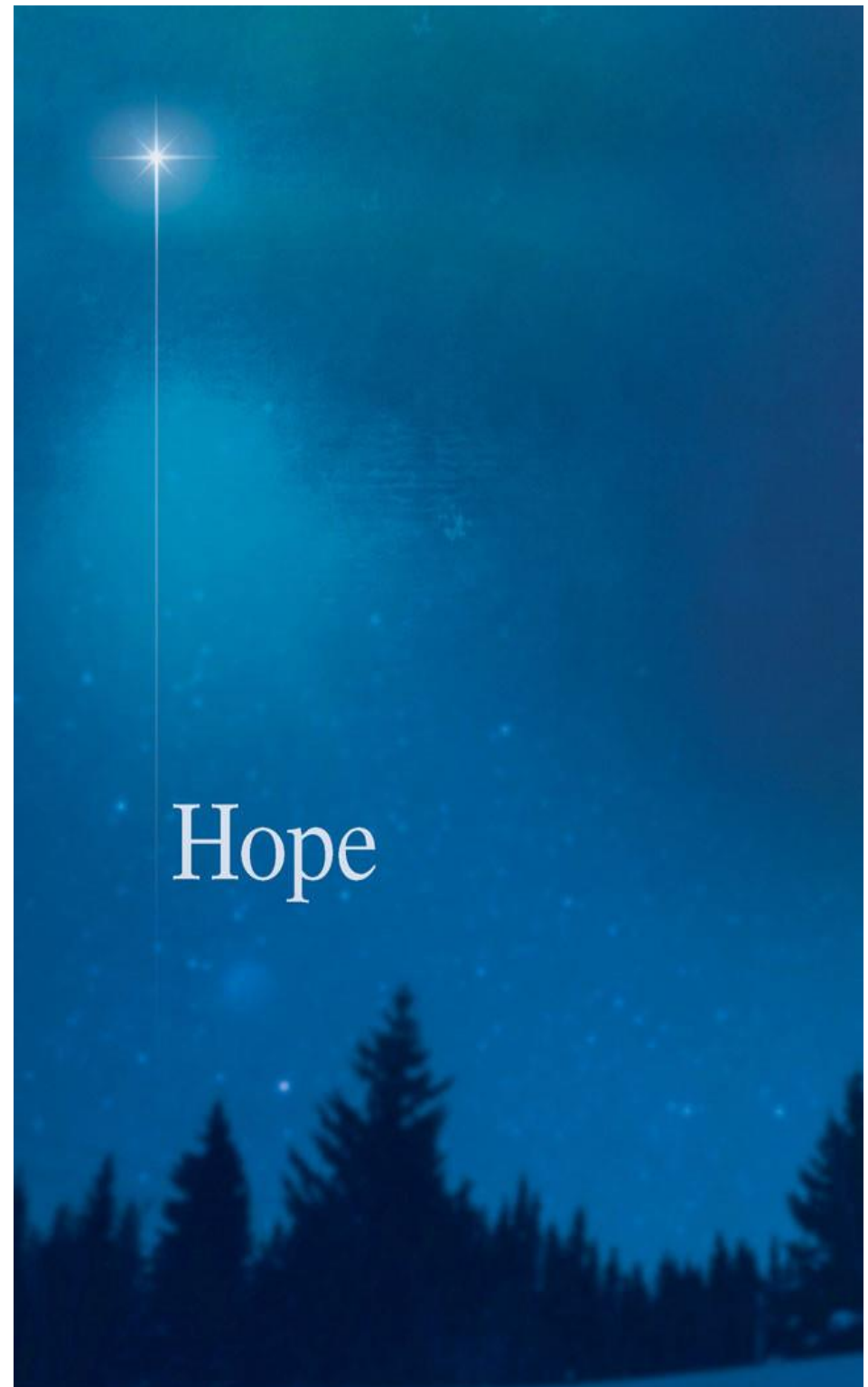
Small Groups resume meeting

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES DECEMBER 24

5:00 p.m. Includes a special time for children

7:00 p.m. Candles, carols, and the reading of the Christmas story

For more information about church activities, and to read the December Highlights Newsletter, visit our website: www.hwchurch.org.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP

DECEMBER 1, 2019

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

Chorale Prelude on "Savior of the Nations, Come" (BWV 659)J.S. Bach

Lighting of the Advent Candle: The Knapp Family

*Hymn 110 ***Hail to the Lord's Anointed***

*Words of Greeting and Peace

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 8:1-5

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: *I Wait*David Leonard, Leslie & Thomas Jordan

Prayer of Confession

Father, in this season of Advent, when we grasp for power and things, remind us that Christ came in weakness, in humility as a child. When we allow darkness to overcome the light, forgive us Lord. When we reduce Christmas to things, have mercy on us, Father. When hardness of heart keeps us from seeing and believing in Your Son, let your grace fill us. Forgive our doubt and renew our hope in Christ alone, that we may watch and wait and once more rejoice to hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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 Response: ***I Will Wait for You***

*New Testament Reading: Luke 4:1-13

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 109 ***Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus***

Sermon: **Welcoming the Wait**

Rev. David Huizenga

The Lord's Supper

*Hymn 116 ***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***

*Benediction

*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

*Postlude: *Hymn Prelude on "God Rest You Merry"Wilbur Held*

*Please stand if able

Organist: Judy Congdon

Worship Leader: Paul Young

Acolyte: Wesley Stevick

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: Preschool Children ages 2-5 are dismissed during the song before the sermon: they meet in the Nursery (Christian Education Building)

There are **KID'S BAGS AND BIBLES** available in the bookshelf on the left side of the foyer next to the Men's restroom.

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The season of Advent is a time of expectancy and preparation. As the world centers much of its attention upon the commercialization of Christmas, Advent is a time for Christians to prepare—body, mind and spirit—to celebrate the birth of the Savior. As we prepare, let us open ourselves to the truths of God's word and to the leading of the Holy Spirit to make Christ the center of our Christmas. We're happy to welcome Rev. David Huizenga as our guest preacher today who serves as Bible teacher and chaplain at Houghton Academy.

TONIGHT: No *Koinonia*; No Small Groups until next year.

DECORATING PARTY - all are invited to join us on Saturday, December 7, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon in the sanctuary to help us decorate the church for Christmas.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING is the Second Sunday of Advent. Join us for worship at 8:20, 9:40 and 11:00.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: we will host Christmas Eve services 5:00 and 7:00. Both services will include carols, candle lighting and the reading of the Christmas story. The 5:00 service will also have a time for children.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING: This year's Christmas Eve offering joins others from WNY churches for the Canaan Village Project in Haiti sponsored by World Hope International. Our focus is on school classroom construction and solar power upgrades. All are invited to donate at HWC online, or by check/cash before December 31. (See *Highlights* for details.)

WEEKLY ADVENT DEVOTIONALS are available in the sanctuary foyer. Please take as many as you need. There are also **Children's Advent Activities** in the Children's Corner of the foyer.