

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP

JANUARY 12, 2020

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

Prelude: *To God be the Glory*.....arr. Christopher Tambling
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring..... J. S. Bach, arr. David Johnson

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 34)

We will extol the Lord at all times;
his praise will always be on our lips.

We will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together.

***I sought the Lord, and he answered me;
he delivered me from all my fears.***

Those who look to him are radiant;
their faces are never covered with shame.

***We called, and the Lord heard us; he saved us out of
all our troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around
those who fear him, and he delivers them.***

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

***Fear the Lord, you his holy people,
for those who fear him lack nothing.***

*Invocation

*Hymn 26 ***All Creatures of Our God and King***

*Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Chris and Melissa George

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 63

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Doxology

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Meditation on *How Great Thou Art*.....John Carter

Prayer of Confession

God, you are reconciling all things to Yourself. By entering our world, you revealed the depths of your love to us; in Your coming You gave us life, and called us Your children. You have been faithful to us, but we confess that we have not been faithful to You. You want to transform us into new creations, but we are content with the old. You want to take us to new depths, but we have settled for the surface. You have set us free, but we hold on to the chains of our past. Forgive us, Lord, for our sins: those we confess, those we hide; the sins we ignore and justify, and those against our neighbor. Help us to live as citizens of Your Kingdom so that the world sees Your glory and Your love. 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.

*New Testament Reading: Revelation 7: 9-17

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 49 ***Children of the Heavenly Father***

Sermon: **What Do We Do About God?**

Pastor Wes Oden

The Lord's Supper

*Hymn 5 ***Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*** (additional verse 4 on screens)

*Benediction

*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

*Postlude: Hymn Prelude on *God of Grace*.....Paul Manz

*Please stand if able

Organist: Judy Congdon

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Shea

Acolyte: Zoey Clem

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 Epiphany celebrates the revelation of God in Christ to the whole world. This season of the Church year is also a time to remember God's calling on the Church to bear witness to Christ. As we worship this morning, may God open our eyes to His call on us and His plan for the world.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we gather for worship at 8:20, 9:40, and 11:00. We will continue to think about what it means for us to be the church in this place. Next week's sermon (Colossians 1) asks, *What Is Our Connection to God?*

PRAYER ROOM: the prayer room is available every day, 7:00am – 9:00pm (holidays excluded). You may reserve the prayer room online (www.hwchurch.org) or by contacting the church office. Walk-ins are welcome with consideration given to a previous reservation.

SMALL GROUPS commence this week. Contact Pastor Paul for information or to start a new group. paulshea@hwchurch.org.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 9 below the sanctuary. All are welcome to join us.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES:

- Wednesday, January 8 from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. (John's Epistles)
- Tuesday, January 14 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- Friday, January 17 from 9:00 to 10:45 a.m. (Colossians) Childcare

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING: We give thanks to God and to all who gave generously to our Christmas Eve offering. At this time, we have received \$18,193.85. If you have not given and would like to, please mark a check "Christmas Eve Offering" or make this designation for your online gift.

MISSION MOMENT – We rejoice with our Global Partner missionaries, Chris and Melissa George, for complete funding, which we share in, as they depart for Australia this month. We pray for that land, its people and for the Gospel's impact in Western Australia where they serve.

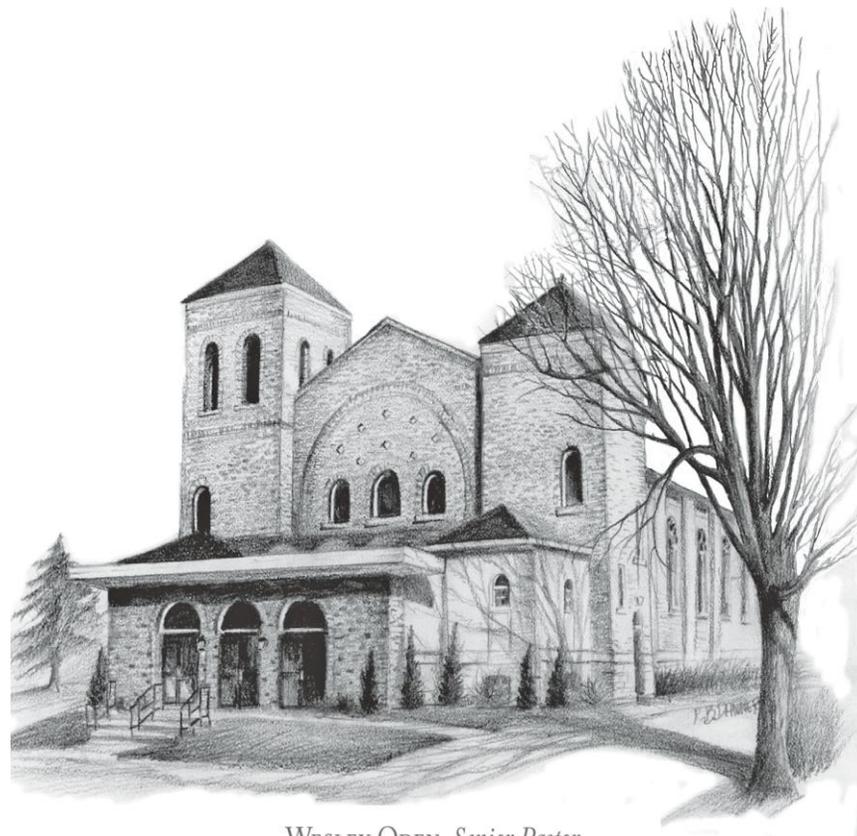
THE PERSECUTED CHURCH: Jesus said, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Many Iranian believers face uncertainty these days. While the church grows some leaders are in prison. We pray for peace and freedom in this troubled region.

STEWARDSHIP Received (June 1—Present): \$ 479,791.08
 Budgeted (June 1—Present): \$ 494,960.96

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Chris Stewart, Karen Szymanski, Phyllis Osgood, 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, 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 Friends in Christ United Methodist Church (Pastor Craig Buelow).



*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*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Director of Children's Ministry*

ANN MCNEILL, *Director of Children's Ministry*

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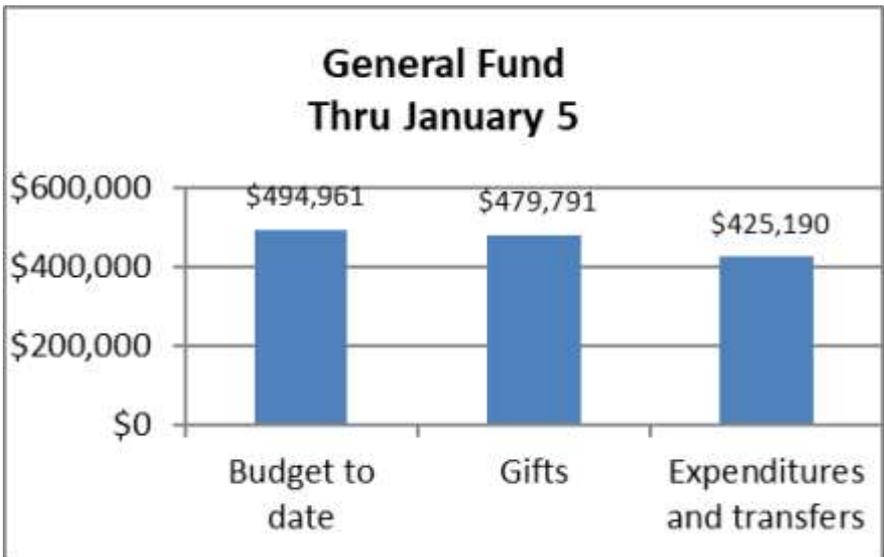
STEWARDSHIP

A Life of Generosity

“Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!” (2 Corinthians 9:15)

God’s radical generosity to us comes in the form of Grace – freely given to all. We respond to this grace with thankfulness and gratitude. Because God’s grace is an “indescribable gift,” one would expect our expressions of gratitude would be radical in return – coming from the very core of who we are. Simply put, stewardship is a spiritual discipline rooted in our relationship with God.

At the dawn of the New Year we can be filled with hope for what is to come as we are mindful of His many blessings in the year just past. A new year is also an opportunity to look for ways to do things better in the coming year. How can we be better stewards of what God has entrusted to our care – resources like time, energy, and money?



May you find freedom and joy in the discipline and obedience of radical generosity.

THANK YOU

**Adult Sunday School Classes & Youth combine
today in the Community Room to hear a full report from
Chris and Melissa George**

Meet the George Family

Perth, Australia



FINAL WEEK!

Once again, Jr. Church is accepting donations of winter coats, hats, and gloves for a local charity! If you have items to donate, please drop them by either Emily and Ann's office, the primary assembly room, or the box in the CE foyer.

KIDS' CLUB 2020 STARTS on JANUARY 15th

6:00 to 7:15 p.m.

January lessons and activities address being honest about how sin affects us and Jesus' power to forgive us and change our lives. The fun part of the LET'S FACE IT unit will be using our artistic talents to create fun masks for telling the Big Bible Story.

You are invited to a

Celebrate Recovery Dinner at Houghton Wesleyan Church



On Thursday, January 16th, we will be starting season 2 of Celebrate Recovery! We will begin with a dinner at 6:00 p.m. followed by a testimony by Bob & Patty Stalker and a program explaining what CR is and what we do each week. We'd love to have an opportunity to share a meal with you and allow you to experience what CR is all about!

Contact Carolyn Miller if you can join us for the evening!
(585) 748-9692 or
John-Carolyn_miller@sil.org

It's time for our third community-wide

Stone Soup Dinner

This donation dinner gives our church family, current and former Valley Pre-school families, and the greater community an opportunity to contribute to a general fund to help off-set rising tuition costs in the coming years. Ten of our nineteen students have benefited by being able to have a \$10 per month discount on tuition from the funds raised last year! Come enjoy some warm soup on a cold evening and support Valley Preschool.



Date – Friday, January 24, 2020

Time – 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Place – Houghton Wesleyan Church community room

Food – Stone Soup (beef soup or vegetable soup) and breads/rolls/dessert

Eat In or Take Out

You can contribute by donating at the dinner and/or by **providing cookies and brownies** to be our desserts for the evening. We welcome other help as well, so if you can assist in some way or if you have questions, please contact Casda Danner at 567-4314 or casdadanner@hwchurch.org.

Don't Miss it!
2020 MISSIONS WEEK



*Steve and Margie Doty,
Wycliffe Bible Translators*



“Whatever you do, whether in Word or Deed.
Do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus...”- Col 3:17

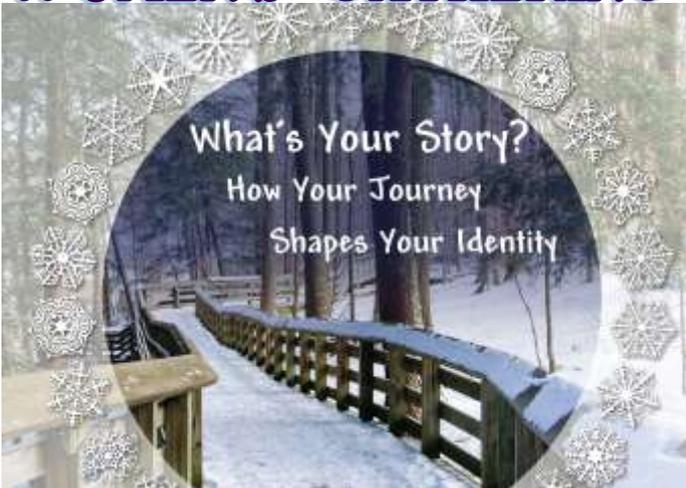
February 5 – Kid’s Club Missions Night
6:00—7:15 p.m.

February 9 – Mission Sunday Worship Services
8:20, 9:40 & 11:00 a.m.
9:40 Sunday School
6:00 Youth



*Dan Irvine,
World Hope International*

WOMEN'S GATHERING



Escape the wintry cold!

Join us for a morning of inspiration, yummy food, and fellowship on Saturday, February 8 from 9 am to 11 am in the Community Room.

Child-care provided.

No need to sign up. Just show up and enjoy!