

November 3, 2020

Dear Houghton Church Friends,

In the midst of snow and cold, here is some information for the life of our church.

Thursday Organ Program: This Thursday, November 5, 6:30 p.m., Judy Congdon will present an organ program through the regular streaming channels, [the website](#) and [Facebook](#).

Sunday Worship

- **Streaming Worship Service 10:00 a.m.:** During this time of pausing indoor gatherings at the church, you are invited to [stream this service](#).
- **Outdoor Live Service 11:15 a.m.** We would love to continue meeting outdoors for as long as possible. Bring your chairs or blankets or both, a cup of coffee or hot chocolate, dress warmly (we do have firepits) and experience the joy of worshipping together in the church parking lot. *We hope to meet outdoors even if it is raining, but some weather may prevent this from happening. If the weather is uncertain, we will make a decision by 8:30 Sunday morning and post on the church website. Check the church website before coming.* We have plenty of space.
- This Sunday we continue thinking about our *Joy in the Journey with Jesus*, using road signs as metaphors. This week's sermon addresses The Sign that Depends from Ecclesiastes 3 to which we might declare: *But I Know What I'm Doing*
- The weekly bulletin, which includes the worship order, financial information, prayer concerns and events in the life of our church, is [available each week on the church website](#) or by contacting the church office.

Thank You: I and our entire staff want to thank you for your loving and generous expressions of gratitude this past month. We also want to express our gratitude to you. You are a joy and a blessing to us. We are privileged to serve with you in ministry here at HWC.

Operation Christmas Child: Only 17 more days left in our Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift effort. Gifts can be tracked, so your family can know the destination country of your presents. A \$9 shipping gift is much appreciated by Samaritan's Purse. Check out the videos on their website to see how kids and their families are impacted through this ministry. November 20th is our collection date. Here's the online link for virtual packing: [HERE](#). Thank you!

Koinonia: Due to the pause on indoor gatherings at the church, Koinonia will be [a streaming-only event](#) this Sunday, 7:00 p.m.

Youth Group: Youth Group meets on Sunday: Junior High (3:00-4:30) and Senior High (5:00-6:30).

Freezer Meals

- The Lay Shepherd leaders and Lay Shepherd groups continue to reach out to help their neighborhoods and area when someone has a baby, is ill or has surgery. This is a tremendous ministry but during these extra busy and often stress filled days, it can be difficult to help others as we desire. Because of this, we are inviting you to make a freezer meal or two when you have time, to have on hand in the church freezer. In this way, when a need arises meals are readily available. It could be a meal of soup or a casserole for one person or two people or for a family. If you would be able to help us stock up on meals for people in times of need or if you have any questions, please contact Cindy Oden (567-2024/cindyoden@hwchurch.org). Meals may be dropped off at the church office during office hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Please include what your freezer meal is and instructions on baking or warming it. Thank you!
- Thank you all for the many ways you are serving and helping one another! We so appreciate each one of you and all that you do.

Streaming Information

- Send your comments, ideas or words of gratitude about the streaming to streaming@hwchurch.org.
- If you need assistance with streaming on the website or Facebook, contact Patty Stalker (585-610-6883).
- If you need assistance with streaming on a device (Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire, etc.), contact Nathan Danner (585-567-4314).

Church Finances

- Here are the giving totals for our fiscal year (June – May) to date

Budget Needed: \$346,829.56 / **Budget Received:** \$315,18.07

- God continues to bless us through your generosity. The weekly bulletin contains up to date financial information. For financial gifts, we encourage you to use [ONLINE GIVING](#) or to mail your check to the church (P.O. Box 127, Houghton, NY 14744).
- If you would like to see any church financial information, contact the church office.

Resources

- Even though we are not together, our pastors and church family are here for you. On the [COVID-19 section](#) of the church website, you will see three buttons: [Get Help](#), [Give Help](#) and [Let's Talk](#). This is an easy way to let us know how we might engage with you. Do not hesitate to use those, to call the church, or to call one of the pastors if any of those buttons reflect what you would like to communicate with us.
- If you use YouTube, subscribe to our [Houghton Wesleyan Church YouTube Channel](#).

If you have questions, concerns or needs, do not hesitate to contact us (585-567-2264, office@hwchurch.org, or any of us individually). If you have needs in the coming weeks, please let us know.

You continue to be in our prayers. We pray God's grace and comfort upon you.

Blessings,
Pastor Wes