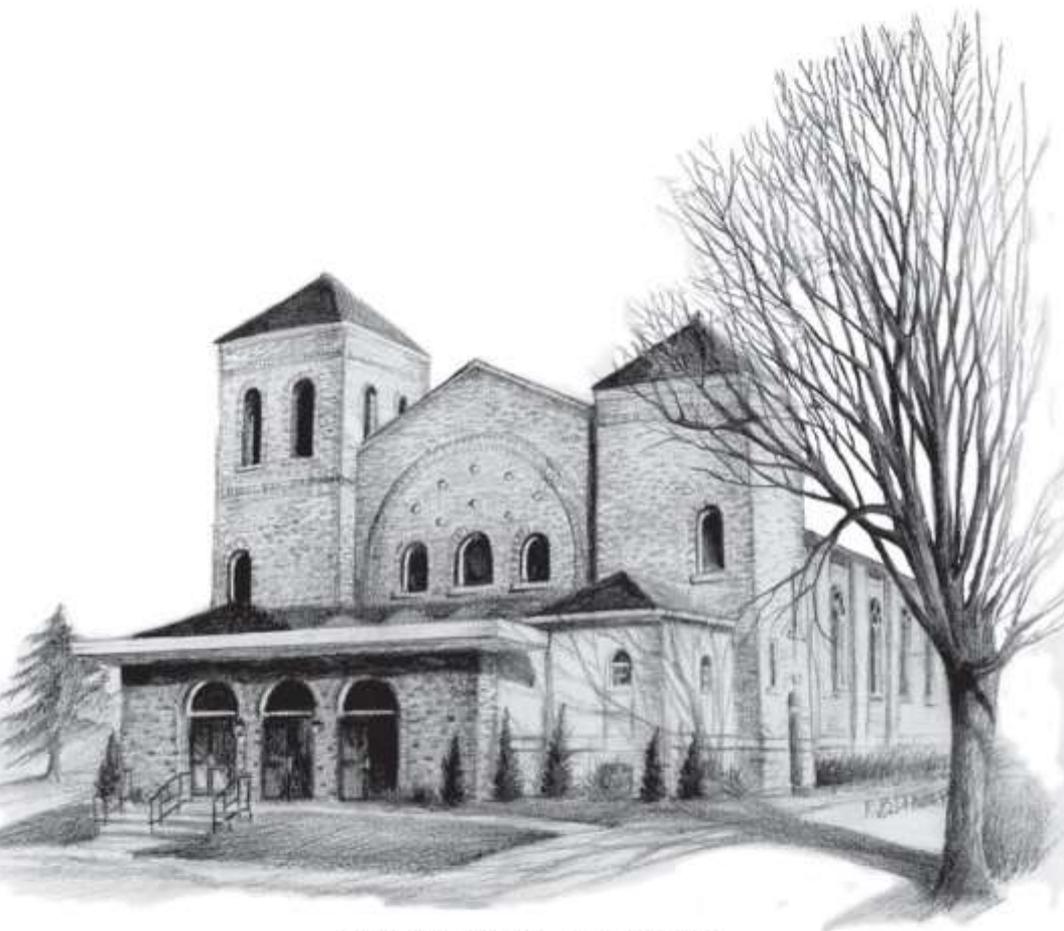




Houghton

WESLEYAN CHURCH

*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 Ministries*

ANN MCNEILL, *Director of Children's Ministries*

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 16, 2021

10:00 STREAMING SERVICE

Prelude: *Ascension Suite, Mvmt 1* by Olivier Messiaen

Welcome

Call to Worship

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven,
Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our
weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just
as we are—yet he did not sin.*

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence,
So that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise 184: *God is Gone Up on High*

Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Celebrate Recovery

Children's Sermon: Emily Spateholts

Songs of Adoration: *Your Great Name; Overcome*

Time of Prayer

Please feel free sit, stand, or kneel as we bow in humility before our loving heavenly Father.

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. *All: Thanks be to God!*

Hymn 101: *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

Sermon: **We've Been Left Behind... and That's a Good Thing**

Pastor Wes Oden

Song: *What a Beautiful Name*

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon

Scripture Reader: Jessica Romance

Music Ministry Team:

Jeff Babbitt & Evelyn Cox, vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Caleb Hilsher, guitar

The rose on the pulpit is in honor of Hazel Harper Gildemeister who was born on September 12, 2018 and was adopted on April 24, 2021 by T.J. and Carlos and siblings Zechariah, Emilia, Carlos, Sofia, Scarlett, and Ruby.



WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. As we gather each week in our separate places for corporate worship, we are blessed to know that God promises to be with us wherever we are. Knowing that God's Spirit is at work today let us prepare to hear him and to receive from him abundant grace.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING Pastor Paul preaches from Acts 2, "The Church's Birthday *Present*." as we celebrate Pentecost. We gather for worship online and in person at 10:00 a.m.

IN-PERSON PROTOCOLS: In order to protect everyone who is attending in person this morning, please note the information on the Protocols Card, including that masks are required to be worn throughout the service. Thank you for your acts of love for each other.

SUNDAY MORNING ZOOM NEXT SUNDAY at 9:00am continues with a discussion of the role of the Holy Spirit. Dr. Sarah Derck will help us think through the Holy Spirit from the OT, Dr. Ken Schenck from the Gospels and Dr. Terry Paige from Paul's Epistles. Here is the ZOOM Link: <https://zoom.us/j/93689062279>. Contact Pastor Paul Shea or the church office for the Zoom passcode.

CHURCH SURVEY: Please add your voice to a congregational survey which you can access on the church website. The survey will be functional until Sunday, May 23. Paper copies are available in the church office.

ELECTION BALLOT AND COMMUNITY FINANCIAL PLAN: The proposed Community Financial Plan and the Election ballot has been posted on the church website. Because of the nature of our gatherings right now, we will, as we did last year, conduct the election and the budget approval vote online and by paper. We will send a link to access the election online. Contact the church office to receive a paper ballot.

STEWARDSHIP Budget Needed: \$772,484.02 / Budget Received: \$763,943.83

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Midweek check in - Wed at 1:15pm

Zoom Sunday School at 9am this week - 1 Thessalonians

This week, we continue our 30 Hour Famine series.

JR High YG - 3-4pm

Sr. High YG - 5-6pm

30-hour famine update - Thank you so much for your generosity and support of the youth groups 30 Hour Famine! Around 20 students participated at various times in this year's event, and we raised a total of \$2377.00!

CELEBRATE RECOVERY - resumes meeting at the church on Thursdays at 7 pm in the back parking lot and then moves inside for part of our meeting.

HWC Kids:

HWC Kids, you're invited back to "Children's Church!" We are now offering a modified children's church for children in preschool through 6th grade. During Pastor Wes' sermon, we will be meeting in the community room for crafts, activities, games, and/or a brief lesson. If the weather is nice, we will plan on being outside in the side lawn or on the playground. We can't wait to see you there!! Covid protocols will be in place, including sanitizing, masks, and social distancing as well as our normal safety and security precautions. Parents, please drop your child/ren off during the song before the sermon in order to check them in and receive your pick-up tag.

Kids' Club Year-End Celebration -Let's celebrate Kids' Club with a fishing party at the McNeill's place in Rushford on Wednesday, May 26th at 6 p.m. Bring your family and your fishing gear if you have any - we have a couple poles too. We'll grill and play outdoors concluding our year of knowing Jesus better. RSVP to Miss Ann by Tuesday, the 25th at annmcneill@hwchurch.org. Hope to see you there!

MISSION MOMENT - Four months ago Chris and Melissa George with Makayla, **Dawson and Brayden returned to Perth, Australia from WNY. Since then they've** confronted bush fires, illness, and opportunities for sharing the Gospel, and other challenges. **We mustn't forget to pray for those even on the opposite side of the world who are ambassadors for Christ.**

PERSECUTED CHURCH - **We pray for those who sensed Jesus' call of forgiveness,** hope and love during the recently completed Ramadan month. We ask God, the Holy Spirit, to draw many to Himself and give them courage as they face the pull and pressure of family and friends to reject the Gospel.

STAYING CONNECTED: During this unusual time, we want to stay as connected to you as possible. Pastor Wes is sending out a weekly letter on Tuesdays and video on Thursdays. Both are distributed through email and text, and may be accessed on the church website (hwchurch.org) and Facebook pages. If you are not receiving these communications and would like to do so, please send your contact information to office@hwchurch.org.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with concerns: Carlos Gildemeister, Orah Andalora (Terry Sweet's mother), Peter Luckey, Cameron Green, Vangie Grant, Karen Gaerte, Lenore Paige, Gary Heil (Janet Stegen's brother), Amy Ortiz (Luke Ogden's sister), Sarah Gurley, Grace Taylor, Wendy Ott, Chelsea Ellis, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), Cindy Lastoria, Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Emily Hood (A.C. Taylor's cousin), Bill Getty, Nancy Cole, Eileen Spear, Evelyn Heil, Dan Gurley, Phil Main, Emily Crikelair, Mike Raybuck, Eila Shea, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and **Karen's daughter-in-law**), Peter Lingenfelter; for all effected by the coronavirus—grieving, ill, healthcare professionals, the workforce at risk and leaders; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the Christ Church, Cuba (Pastor Richard Hamlin).