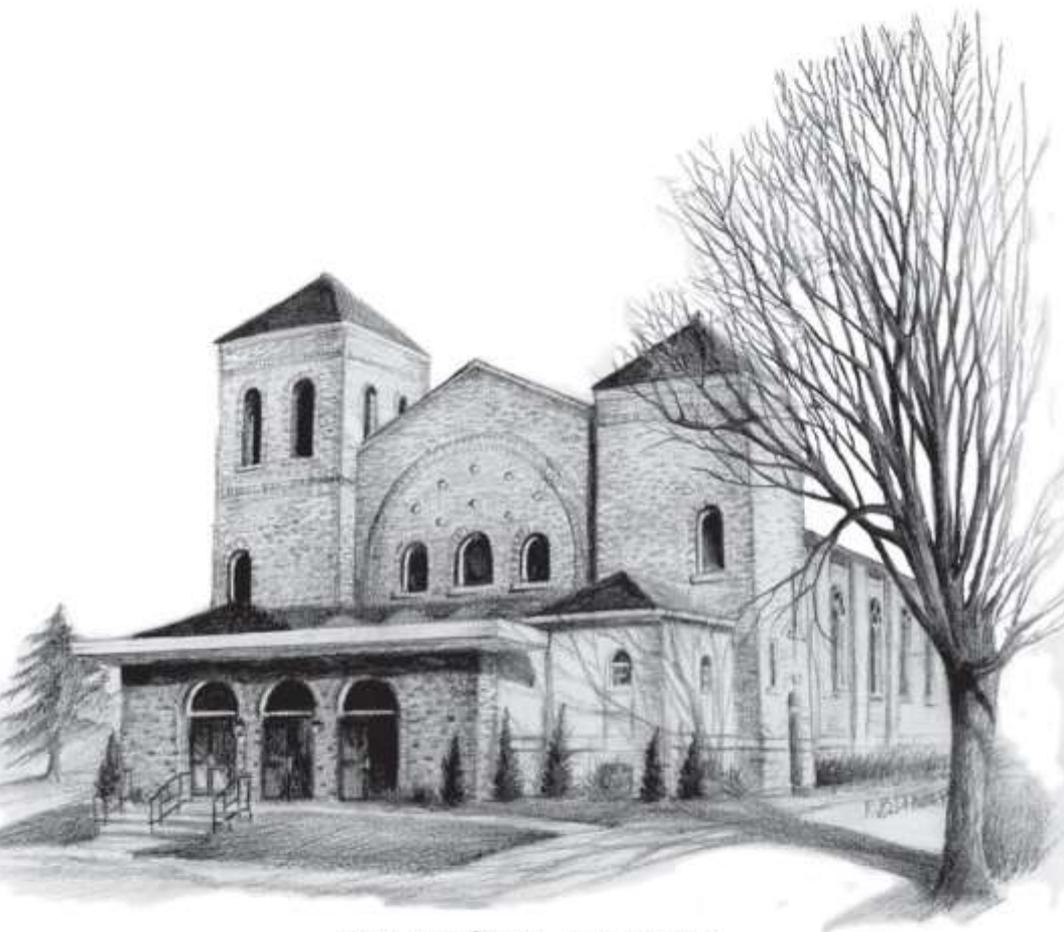




Houghton

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*

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 18, 2021
10:00 STREAMING SERVICE

Prelude: *It is Well With My Soul* (Craig Phillips)

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise 444: ***When Peace Like a River***

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children's Sermon: Emily Spateholts

Songs of Adoration: ***Oceans; Good to Me***

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you love us, but we are often hesitant to love you.

You call, but we are often hesitant to listen.

We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns.
God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy,
we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who has promised that
if we confess our sins, he will indeed forgive us our sins.
Amen.

Time of Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:24-27

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

Hymn 449: ***Like a River Glorious***

(Children PreK-6th Grade dismissed for Children's Sunday School in the Community Room)

Sermon: **Thriving Through Life's Storms**

Rev. Dr. Joey Jennings

Closing Song: ***Lord, I Need You***

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon

Scripture Reader: James Mullen

Music Ministry Team:

Jessica Romance, vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals;

Matt Cox, guitar & vocals;

Grace Deitrick, keyboard & vocals

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. Whether you are a guest or a regular participant in the worship of this congregation, we join together to remember the many blessings of God upon our lives and to respond to him in thanksgiving and obedience. As we sing, pray, read scripture, and hear the word of God proclaimed, let us open our hearts to him and in so doing receive peace, strength and love from his gracious hand.

GUEST PREACHER: Today we welcome the Rev. Dr. Joey Jennings as our guest preacher. Joey is Superintendent of the Western New York District of The Wesleyan Church. We appreciate his willingness to share God's Word with us today.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Children ages PreK-6th grade can join us in the Community Room during the sermon for a time of learning and fun.

THE FAMILY ROOM IS OPEN FOR USE! Your children are ALWAYS welcome in the sanctuary but this cozy space across from the prayer room is available for parents or guardians to take a child who needs food, a clean diaper, or space to wiggle and play. A TV for streaming the service is also available.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we gather for online and in-person worship at 10:00 and for outdoor worship at 11:15. The Rev. Dr. Sarah Derck will be preaching.

ODENS ON VACATION: Pastors Wes and Cindy will be on vacation this coming week. While they are gone, we will publish a weekly letter, but Pastor Wes will not be sending out a weekly video.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 105 across from the Library. All are welcome to join us.

BAPTISM AND DEDICATIONS: In light of the vaccination progress and the low positivity rate, we are ready to resume baptisms and dedications. If you or someone in your family is interested in being baptized or in having your children dedicated, please let me know.

VALLEY PRESCHOOL APPLICATIONS are available at the VPS Bulletin Board, in the church office, and online at <https://hwchurch.org/2021-22-vps-application-fillable/>

CELEBRATE RECOVERY will not be meeting for the next two weeks. Hope to see both new and old faces again in August!

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$96,729.90 / Budget Received: \$80,199.29

DISCIPLESHIP – Are you interested in growing deeper in your walk with Christ and fellow believers? Bible Study Groups and accountability bands for the Fall are taking shape. Please contact Pastor Paul with your questions, suggestions and desire to participate. Paulshea@hwchurch.org

MISSION MOMENT - Recent correspondence from Martin and Sheri Hegeman at Sahel Academy in Niamey, Niger reveals a busy summer with Martin acting as facilities manager at both the old Campus (suffering severe flood damage) and the two new properties rented across the city; Sheri is administrative secretary for SIM Niger Director – all while being forced to change housing. They rejoice for the privilege of impacting wonderful students. They covet our prayers.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Yes, the Wesleyan churches in Cuba have been blessed with growth and opportunities to shine for Christ. But there is no question that there are restrictions that they deal with, creating all the more reason to pray for all Christians in the midst of civic unrest in that land. We pray for freedom to worship and witness Christ the Lord.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with concerns: Denise Zambrano, Carlos Gildemeister, 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 affected 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 ZionQuest Christian Fellowship, Cheektowaga (Pastor Kim Gladden).