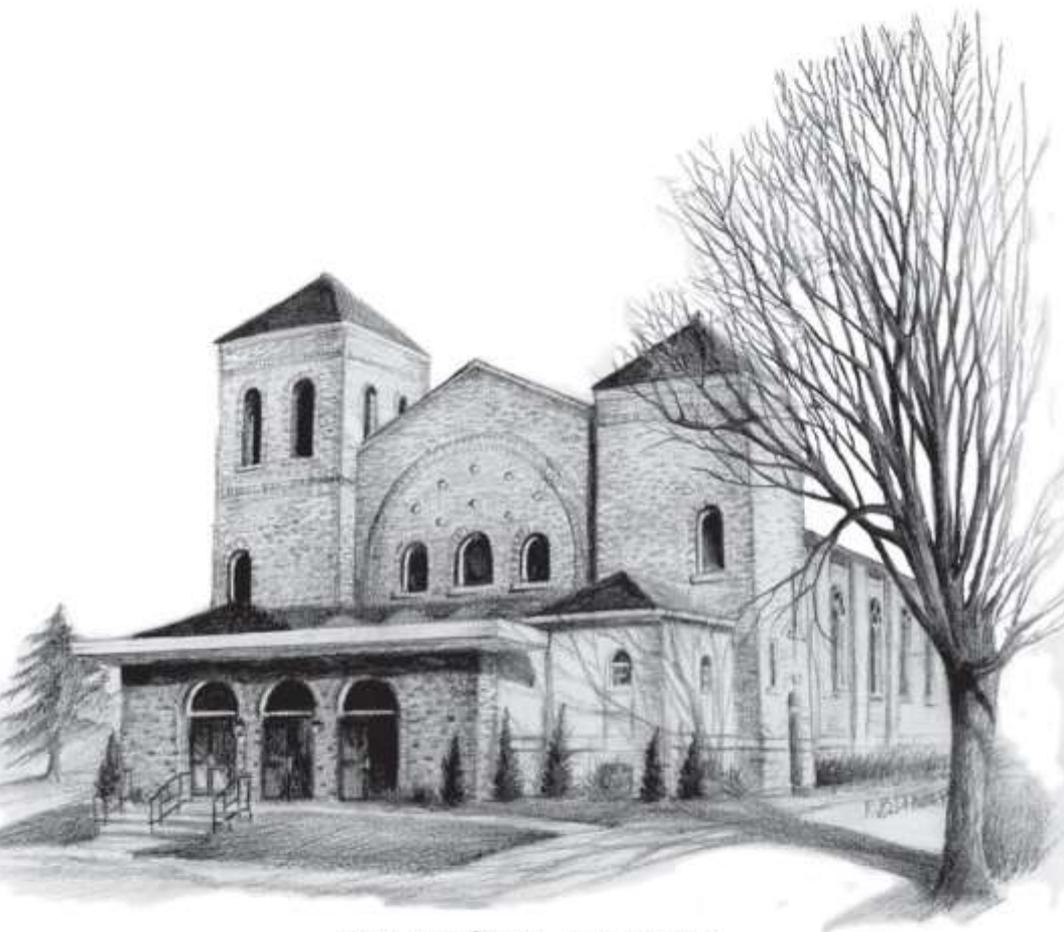




# Houghton

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*

# TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 1, 2021

10:00 STREAMING SERVICE

---

Prelude: Psalm 19: “The Heavens are Telling” (B. Marcello)

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise 357: *Be Thou My Vision*

Words of Greeting and Peace

We Dedicate our Children to God: Samuel James Spateholts

Children’s Sermon: Emily Spateholts

Songs of Adoration: *Song of My Heart; I Will Lift My Eyes*

Prayer of Confession

Most Gracious and Loving Father, we cannot hide or deny our sin any longer.

Our self-centered attitudes, decisions, and behavior cause more hurt and **pain than we are often willing to admit. We hear your children’s cries for help**

but do not respond. We feel the burden of sin all around us, yet we give minimal time and energy to others. We doubt your unconditional love for us and your everlasting desire for us. Father, forgive us. Turn us from self-focus to Christ-focus. Open our eyes to see and hear your passionate yearning for us. Let us experience your forgiving and restoring grace and lead us in the way everlasting through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Time of Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Esther 4:1-5:8 (selected verses)

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

Hymn 351: *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

Sermon: **How Does God Accomplish His Purposes in the World?**

Pastor Wes Oden

Closing Song: *Holy Spirit*

Benediction

---

Organist: Judy Congdon

Scripture Reader: Daryl Stevenson

Music Ministry Team:

Levi Webb, vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Caleb Hilsher, guitar;  
Bekah Brennan, keyboard & vocals; Dan Zambrano, cajón

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** God has blessed us this summer. In the highs and lows of life, God is our constant help and strength. This morning, we worship to offer our gratitude for His numerous blessings and to ask for His power and love in the days ahead.

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

**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.

**MEMBERSHIP:** If you are interested in becoming a member of HWC or are interested in knowing more about membership at HWC, contact me right away. Pastor Wes is hosting a membership class on Monday, August 16, 7:00pm..

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Children ages PreK-6th grade can join us in the Community Room during the sermon for a time of learning and fun. Our August series, "Famous," begins today! Here's what GROW has to say: " Lots of kids dream about becoming famous . . . and why shouldn't they? It sounds awesome to have fans who celebrate your wins with you! On the flip side, it would be pretty tough to have people always watching, even when you're not having the best day. In Famous, we are going to talk about a family in the Bible who lived in such a spotlight. Through their stories, kids will learn that no matter our celebrity status, we can make things right, God gives us friends, we can ask for God's guidance, we can give God what we have. Fame and fans may come and go, but you don't need to be liked by everyone when you're loved by God!" *Reminder: Because our children are not eligible for the vaccination at this time and the CDC and our Task Force recommend masking for those that are unvaccinated, please remember to send your child(ren) with a mask for Sunday School for their protection and the protection of others. Thanks!*

**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.

**WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP** – Special missionary guests: John and Patricia Fraser, who serve with Teach Beyond in Budapest, Hungary, will share this week, Wednesday, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 105 (Community Room if more space needed). **All are invited to meet the Frasers** and join in prayer time together.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** resumes meeting this week. Hope to see both new and old faces again on Thursday evenings, 7:00 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Room!

**STEWARDSHIP Budget Needed: \$128,408.32/ Budget Received: \$112,618.19**

**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/>

**MISSION MOMENT** - John and Tricia Fraser serve with Teach Beyond in Budapest, Hungary, teaching and training others to introduce people to Jesus. John has authored *The Growing Disciple: Seven Attributes of a Transformed Life*. Their son Matthew joins older sister Hannah attending Houghton College this Fall. We pray for their family and their vital work in Hungary. (See Wednesday Prayer Group).

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** –Pray for the minority Christians not to give up when so often disappointed in sharing Christ in hostile places. A new version of the *Jesus Film* for the Alagwa people in East Africa has ignited interest. Pray against Satan stealing the seeds of curiosity and conviction as neighbors discuss the story of Jesus. May persecution and hardship give way to rejoicing.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with concerns: Denise Zambrano, 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 Elijah 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 Watermark Wesleyan Church (South Creek Campus), Eden (Pastor Trevor Kaufman).