



# Houghton

WESLEYAN CHURCH

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*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*

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**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**SEPTEMBER 26, 2021**  
**11:00 STREAMING SERVICE**

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Prelude: *Prelude and Fugue in F major*, BWV 556 (J. S. Bach)

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise 335: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 10: 5-18

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

Sermon: **The Myth that Makes Us Average**  
Pastor Wes Oden

Meditation: *Look What You've Done*

Time of Prayer

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

Songs of Response:  
*O to Be Like Thee* (Hymn 301); *Thrive; Build My Life*

Celebration of Ministry: Prayer Vigil  
Josie Adenuga

Reception of New Members

Children's Sermon: Emily Spateholts

Closing Song: *Surrender All*

Benediction

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Organist: Judy Congdon

Scripture Reader: Josey Ikker

Music Ministry Team:

Bekah Scharf, vocals; Alison Young Reusser, guitar & vocals;  
Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Betsy Webb, keyboard & vocals;  
Dan Zambrano, cajón

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** The prophet Isaiah declares to God's people: "Come, all who are thirsty, come to the waters... Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near" (55:1,6, NIV). As we ponder the gracious invitation of God for His people, may God inspire us to take Him up on His offer, knowing that He who calls us loves us and wants to do above and beyond what we are able to ask or imagine.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING:** Pastor Wes continues this series of sermons that focus on Myths that Make Us. Next week's sermon is from Mark 5 addressing The Myth that Makes Us Barter. Please join us for outdoor worship 8:45 a.m. and for indoor/streaming blended worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages is at 9:45 a.m.

**PRAYER VIGIL:** For the past 11 years, we have hosted a 3-week, 24-hour prayer vigil. Because of Covid-19, last year's vigil was moved from the Prayer Room to outdoors. This year's event will also be outdoors and begins today at 5:00 p.m. and concludes October 10 at 5:00 p.m. We have designed prayer stations (under the canopies on the north lawn) that will lead us through an hour of prayer. You may sign up for a time slot on the church website or by using [this link](#).

**CONNECTING:** We continue to update email addresses and phone numbers for texting so that everyone who desires receives information from the church. If you are not currently receiving either a text or email for Pastor Wes's weekly letter and weekly video chat and would like to, please contact the church office and we will update your information.

**YOUTH GROUP:** YG starts at 6pm and will be finished by about 8pm. Both Junior High and Senior High students will join us for that time. We will often be outdoors if the weather is nice, but will be indoors, wearing masks, when the weather does not co-operate. Please be sure to bring a mask!

**WEDNESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**—9:30 a.m. in the Good Shepherd Room (lower level of the sanctuary).

**WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP** – Room 105 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY MEETS THURSDAY EVENINGS** 7:00 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Room or outdoors if weather permits.

**KIDS' CLUB** for children grades 1-6 starts Wednesday, October 6 at 6:30 in the Community Room. Great Stories of the Old Testament is our topic this year for Bible, Activities, and Crafts. See you there, kids!

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

**Budget Needed:** \$256,816.64 / **Budget Received:** \$230,271.84

**MISSION MOMENT** - Kevin and Cindy Austin, on home ministry will be visiting Houghton Wesleyan October 24<sup>th</sup> before their late November return to Czech Republic. They are visiting churches and supporters and praying for the 25% of support funding needed. We pray for success and praise God for the arrival of their 7<sup>th</sup> grandchild last month.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** –The newly elected ruling party in the Moroccan parliament hopefully favors more religious freedom, as opposed to the former majority Islamists who wished to impose sharia law among other restrictions. We pray for Christians to be bold in their witness for Christ in this dominantly Muslim country where three years in prison has been normal punishment for sharing your faith.

**BANDING TOGETHER** – Those interested in information about joining two or three others in discipleship groups can request more information from Pastor Paul Shea. [paulshea@hwchurch.org](mailto:paulshea@hwchurch.org).

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with concerns: Sith Sanasith (Souly's brother), Mildred Congdon (Judy's mother), Denise Zambrano, 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), 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, 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, particularly Afghanis; for peace amid threats of war; for the Joy Community Church, Machias (Pastor Judy Gallegos).

For more information about church activities, please visit our website: [www.hwchurch.org](http://www.hwchurch.org) or email us at [office@hwchurch.org](mailto:office@hwchurch.org).