



October 5, 2021

Dear Houghton Church Friends,

Here is some information for this week.

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:45 a.m. – Outdoor (If the weather—lightning or torrential rain—prevents us meeting outdoors, we will move into the sanctuary). Coffee is available before and after the outdoor service.

9:45 a.m. – Sunday School (Children, Youth and Adults)

11:00 a.m. – Indoor/Streaming Blended Worship

Sermon Series

This Sunday, I continue a series of sermons that focus on some of the myths that all of us are tempted to believe. We tend to be susceptible to these myths because they are not totally false (in fact, they contain much truth), but they don't tell us the whole picture. And any idea that skews the truth, even just a little, eventually skews our view of God, of ourselves and of others. This week's sermon turns our attention to *The Myth that Makes Us Cold* (1 Thessalonians 4).

Prayer Vigil: We are in the final week of our annual prayer vigil. Canopies are set up on the north church lawn. Prayer stations have been set up under the canopies. You may sign up for an hour time slot on the church website or by using [this link](#).

Adult Sunday School: Adult Sunday School opportunities

- Dr. Paul Young: Bible Exposition on I John (Community Room).
- Book Discussion Group (Outdoors).
- "Chosen" following the film series (Room 105).
- Mothers that Pray (Outdoors).

HWC Kids:

- We're jumping into the book of Job in our new October Sunday School series - Big and Small - this week. Here's what Grow has to say: " Do you ever stop and think about how big God must be? God created this whole world, all of the planets, and stars in the sky . . . God is really big! Knowing God is big can make us feel small and inconsequential. But the truth is, even the small things are a big deal to God. The story of Job will help everyone realize that even though we are small, God listens to our big feelings, God sees the big picture, God cares about every small problem, and we can also be a big help in small ways."
- We are hosting our annual Harvest Fest as a Drive-Through on October 30th from 10am - noon and are requesting donations for individually wrapped candy and personal sized bags of goldfish, pretzels, and fruit snacks. Donation baskets will be set out on Sundays near the services and outside the church office during the week. Thank you!

Stewards of Children Training: The safety of our HWC Kids and Youth is important to us. You're invited to participate in our Stewards of Children sexual abuse prevention training this Saturday, October 9th from 9-11am. Join us to see how you can be a part of creating a safe, welcoming Church for our young people. Anyone working in kids or youth ministry is required to renew the training every 3 years. Questions or RSVP to Jon Cole (joncole@hwchurch.org) or Emily Spateholts (emilyspateholts@hwchurch.org). For more information on the training we use visit this site: <https://www.d21.org/education/stewards-of-children/>.

Kids' Club Starts This Wednesday: Children in 1st through 6th grade, have we got some fun Bible learning for you! Drop off is at 6:15 and we end at 7:30. God invites everyone into his Kingdom, and we kids can be an active part of spreading that message. Miss Ann, Mr. Blew, and Mrs. Moore and their helpers are excited to see you again. :) (Please remember that we will follow masking protocols during Club unless we are outdoors.)

Outdoor Service Set Up: We are excited about the popularity of the outdoor service. We are looking for people to assist with set up and take down. If you would like to be on a rotating schedule, please contact the church office (office@hwchurch.org / 567-2264).

Church Choir: The Church Choir is back! Come and join us as we meet and sing twice a month this semester. If you've never sung with us before, come and check it out! Contact Amanda Cox (amandacox@hwchurch.org) for details!

Tables Available: Need a table? We've upgraded our tables in our preschool classrooms and have eight, heavy duty, 6-foot children's tables for FREE! Please contact Emily if you are interested in one.

Harvest Event Donations: It's that time of year again! We're preparing for our annual Harvest event. We welcome your donations of candy and individually packaged snack items (goldfish and pretzels). Please drop items off at the office by October 24th. Thank you!

Church Finances

- Here are the giving totals as we begin a new fiscal year (June 2021 – May 2022).

Budget Needed: \$288,918.72 / **Budget Received:** \$261,472.59

- 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.

Streaming Information

- Send your comments, ideas or words of gratitude about the streaming to streaming@hwchurch.org.

Resources

- Even though life is moving toward a level of normalcy, we recognize that ongoing and acute needs are still prevalent. 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