

November 9, 2021

Dear Houghton Church Friends,

Here is some information for this week. New items are highlighted.

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

Sunday Morning:

- This Sunday, I continue a series of sermons that focus on some of the myths that all of us are tempted to believe. This week's sermon turns our attention to God's rewards and *The Myth that Makes Us Ungrateful* (Psalm 17).
- I want to remind you that the outdoor service is broadcast on a radio frequency that enables you to remain in your car and listen to the service.

Memorial Service for Mary Boomhower will be held at the church this Saturday, 11:00 a.m.

HWC Kids:

- Join us this week for the second portion of the "Plate It" Sunday School series as we read the story of Hannah and see what can happen when we "Step Two: Talk To God!"
- Join us in memorizing this month's verse: Ephesian 2:10 - For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
- Kids' Club members are getting to know God better through the Great events of the Bible. Upcoming evenings review the stories of God's promise to Abraham, Sarah's laughter, and God's provision at Isaac's sacrifice. Come learn and sing and craft with us on Wednesday nights at 6:15.

Outdoor Service Set Up: If you are interested in being on a rotating outdoor service set up/take down 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!

Operation Christmas Child: How many boxes will we donate children around the world through Operation Christmas Child? We are on our way to blessing many! Won't you join us by dropping your gift box off by noon on November 20th or going online [here](#) to pack a shoebox full of gifts [at this link](#)? You may include a picture of yourself or family and even a special message to the child who will receive your package. Box sponsorship checks may be made out to Samaritan's Purse with OCC on the memo line. Let's make 2021 our best giving year ever!

Food Pantry Collection: On Sunday, November 21, please bring any food items as donations for the Food Pantry. We are running low on most items, so any contributions would be appreciated. We would love to fill up the Pantry for the holiday season of need.

Drive-Through Food Give-Away: We are excited to continue to host the area food give-away each month. You are welcome to come and receive food (this is open to everyone) this Wednesday (November 10) in the afternoon. To sign up, call today to pre-register at 585-209-0052. Leave your name, phone number, and the number of families you will be picking up for. You will receive a return call with the time for your arrival tomorrow.

Advent Decorating: Saturday, November 27, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon all are invited to help decorate the sanctuary for Advent or join us outside to help put up The Heart of Christmas display on the front lawn of the church. All ages are invited to help us decorate inside and outside.

Church Finances

- Here are the giving totals for the fiscal year (June 2021 – May 2022).

Budget Needed: \$369,173.92 / Budget Received: \$326,547.25

- 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