

March 8, 2022

Dear Houghton Church Friends,

I want to thank you for your prayers and support this past week during my hospitalization and recovery. I am feeling much better though I am intentionally resuming activities gradually. Cindy and I are so grateful for all of you.

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

### Sunday Worship Schedule

8:45 a.m. – Outdoor (Based on the predicted weather, we may well be indoors this week. As we get closer to the weekend, we will communicate the decision)

9:45 a.m. – Sunday School continues this week with classes for all ages (see announcement below)

11:00 a.m. – Indoor/Streaming Worship

This Sunday, I will be preaching. Because I missed the first sermon in my planned series through Leviticus, I am going to postpone that series. I promise that I will come back to it. Instead, I will preach about *The Scandal of the Cross* from 1 Corinthians 1:18-25.

**Time Change:** Remember that we turn our clocks forward one hour this Saturday night.

### Outdoor Service

- We are planning to continue with the outdoor service for a while longer.
- We appreciate help picking up after the service. **In order to continue this service, we do, however, need some help setting up prior to the service.** If you would be able to come early and help with setup, please contact the church ([office@hwchurch.org](mailto:office@hwchurch.org)).

### HWC Kids:

- Sunday School & Children's Church: This week, kids learn who Jesus is through the transfiguration. THE BIG IDEA: Jesus is with us even though we can't see him. THE BIBLE: Luke 9:28-36; Romans 8:31-39
- Sunday School: This week, kids hear the exciting story of Jesus chasing away demons. THE BIG IDEA: God is more powerful than evil. THE BIBLE: Luke 9:37-43a; Psalm 27
- **March memory verse:** But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one. II Thessalonians 3:3 (NIV)

### Adult Sunday School

- Something New this Sunday - "945 LIGHT" — a gathering for college/ grad students and others meets at 9:45 hour below the sanctuary room #9. Pray for this new outreach to our students.
- I John, The Chosen, Book Discussion, and "Mom's that Pray" groups continue as well.

## Let's Welcome Our New Afghan Neighbors

- This Thursday, March 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the church Community Room you are invited to the next "Town Meeting" to discuss how we can help Afghan Newcomers. Contact is [annmcneill@hwchurch.org](mailto:annmcneill@hwchurch.org).

## Drive Through Food Distribution Tomorrow: March 9 we host a Pop-Up Pantry in the church parking lot.

Registration is required and opened Tuesday, March 1 at 8:30 am. Call 585-209-0052. Leave your name, phone number and the number of families you are picking up for. The Cuba Cultural Center will return your call and give you a time and number.

## Church Finances

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

**Budget Needed: \$642,041.60 / Budget Received: \$606,238.21**

- Thank you for your ongoing generosity. Thank you for your prayers as the Stewardship Committee and Elders begins the process of creating a 2022-2023 budget proposal.
- 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](mailto:streaming@hwchurch.org).

If you have questions, concerns or needs, do not hesitate to contact us (585-567-2264, [office@hwchurch.org](mailto: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