

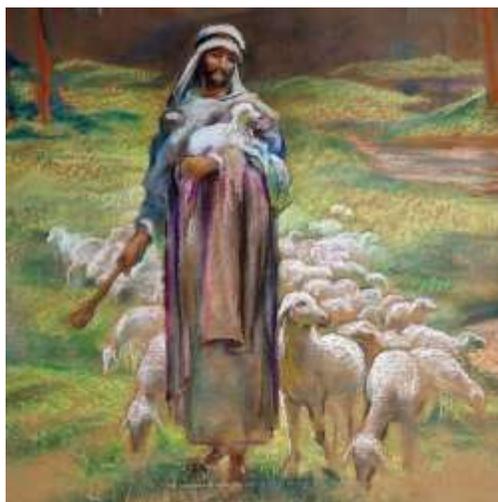


God's Heart and Prayer

As a father has compassion on his children,
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;
Psalm 103:13

Richard Foster begins his book *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*, with these words: Today the heart of God is an open wound of love. He aches over our distance and preoccupation. He mourns that we do not draw near to him. He grieves that we have forgotten him. He weeps over our obsession with muchness and manyness. He longs for our presence. And then a few paragraphs later, he adds: The key to ... this heart of God is prayer. I am here to tell you that the Father's heart is open wide—you are welcome to come in.

There are so many things about prayer that are either uncomfortable for us or confusing to us, or both. We have questions about the nature of prayer, the attitude of prayer, the outcome of prayer, even things like the posture of prayer. These are legitimate questions that we continue to explore because we always want to learn and grow and develop as people who pray. But when all of the questions and answers are summarized, they come back to Foster's analysis: that prayer is responding to the Father's invitation to come and experience his wide-open heart.



This is exactly why we have been and continue to be committed to the ministry of prayer here at HWC. Prayers in worship. Prayers in private. Prayers for ourselves. Prayers for others. And this is why for the past 14 years our community rhythm is to engage in a three-week, 24/7 prayer vigil.

Our theme this year is Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus. We have prepared the room with various elements to help us pray—written guides and images on the walls. Some are meditative and reflective, some tactile and active. There are materials and interactive things for children as well as adults. And all are welcome—those who call HWC home and those who do not. Come as an individual, as a couple, a family, with friends—just hear the invitation to come.

Let me encourage you to take a step of faith and reserve your hour in the prayer room. This link <https://hwchurch.org/prayer/> will take you to the reservation calendar. And check out the Prayer Vigil Experience page on our website as well.

We are gathering in the church sanctuary on Sunday, October 30, 5:30pm to kickoff the vigil. Please join us for this brief time of preparation.

In Christ
Pastor Wes

Signup on the Prayer Vigil Calendar: <https://hwchurch/prayer/> or call the church office 567-2264

Visit the **Prayer Vigil Experience** on our website, (www.hwchurch.org) designed to help off-site participants connect more closely to the on-site prayer room and the experience opportunities it provides. We hope this virtual prayer room will play a helpful part in uniting all who join the vigil as we seek Jesus together.



Stewardship – A Life of Generosity

How is your generosity stewarded for the work of Discipleship & College Ministry?

Often we may be unaware of the ways in which our tithes and offerings are used by the church. Paying utility bills and staff salaries are obvious expenditures, but your investment achieves far more than just the “business” of church! This month, consider a sampling of the ways you are enabling two particular priorities at HWC, Discipleship and College Ministry:

You are...

- funding HU Koinonia, their retreats, printing costs, instrumental expenses, and providing the stipend for the dedicated labors of director Sharon Johnson



- providing small group and banding group materials such as books, study guides, and leadership resources
- covering costs for Pastor David’s connections with students—Java 101 or Dining Hall meetings for mentoring, supporting, leading, counseling, serving
- sponsoring new Men’s Ministry initiatives and their related expenses, paying for the recent “A Life of Love and Purpose” women’s retreat

These are just a few examples of how your generosity bears great fruit for discipleship and college ministry at HWC. Thank you!

The Heart of Christmas



Please join us on Saturday, November 26, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. All are invited to 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.

Chester Barker commissioned H. Willard Ortlip to create this example of installation art around 1950.. For several years Mr. Barker erected the painted plywood display each Christmas season in the village park adjacent to the store (River Dog Fly Fishing today) on Route 19. He then donated the piece to Houghton Wesleyan Church which continued its seasonal exhibition on church property. As time and weather took their toll, Aileen Ortlip Shea and Marjorie Ortlip Stockin periodically restored their father’s work. The annual display was discontinued in the 1980s, but the tradition was restored in 2001 for the church sesquicentennial and again last Christmas. May its display

Please join us on Saturday, November 26, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:0 noon. All are invited to help decorate the sanctuary for Advent. Please email Linda lindashea.knapp@gmail.com, if you have any questions about decorating, if you want to let Linda know you are planning to come help or you may just come on November 26th to help decorate. Thank you!



**Help Us “Spruce”
Up the Church!**



Our Heartfelt Sympathy and Prayers Go Out for the Family of

**** John Miller who Died October 10***

**** Jake Jacobson who Died October 17; a Celebration of Life will take place in the Community Room on December 3 at 2 o'clock.***

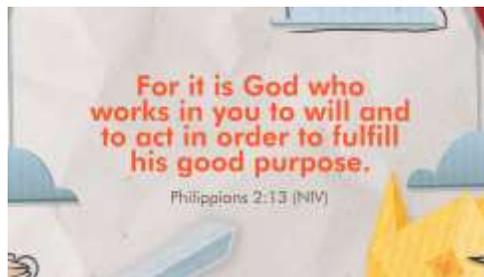
**** Donna Hess who Died October 18***



November Kids Connect: The most important part of any play is what happens “behind the scenes.” There’s lighting, wardrobe, casting, playwriting — so much has to happen perfectly to bring the production together! In the story of Esther, there is a whole lot going on behind the scenes, too. In this four-week series, kids will discover the most important character in Esther’s story isn’t always center-stage, but can often be found behind the scenes working, helping, giving support and giving peace. (Spoiler alert: It’s God!)



- November Memory Verse



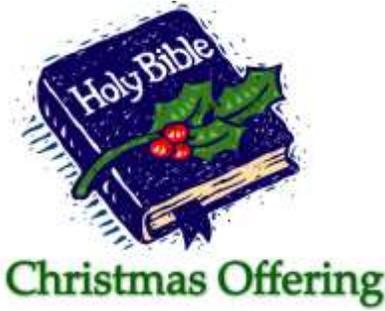
Operation Christmas Child: Get those shoebox gifts ready to bless children around the world! Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are due to the Church by **Sunday, November 13th**. Any shoe box will do, but printed shoeboxes as well as packing suggestions, tracking labels, and "get to know me" sheets are available in the CE building foyer. More than ever gifts such as school and hygiene supplies, toys and clothing are needed. Thank you for your generosity and love.

HWC Kids Club: Celebrate "[Thanks]Giving" with kids club on Saturday, November 19th from 9:30-11am.

Kids ages PreK - 6th grade are invited to participate in several discipleship and service activities and games related to giving thanks and blessing others. Watch the Tuesday letter, Facebook, and email for more details to come.

Thank you to the over 50 volunteers and those that donated food and candy for helping to make our annual family Harvest Festival a success! We had a blast welcoming our community into our Church for a time of fall fun and can't wait for next year.

ANNOUNCING 2022 HWC CHRISTMAS OFFERING WYCLIFFE THAILAND OFFICE/HEADQUARTERS CENTER



One of this church's longstanding goals is to advance the translation and spread of **GOD'S WORD in the local/heart languages of people around the world**. A major region that John and Carolyn Miller, Steve and Margie Doty and our most recent worker, L.D., have served in is South East Asia. **Wycliffe Thailand**, the indigenous branch of Bible translators, has embarked on a move from rented space to a permanent headquarters and office center. Training and leadership for the region will flow from this place. Land is already purchased and a first phase is paid for and underway. **Our goal is to trigger a matching grant up to \$26,000 from partners in Singapore for phase two.** Let us pray for God to again bless our Annual Christmas Eve Offering. More info forthcoming!

Prayer Binder Workshop – November 12 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Have you found yourself overwhelmed by your ever-growing prayer list? Have you ever told someone you would pray for them and then never followed up on that? Do you feel guilty for just deleting the missionary newsletters instead of praying for the many needs listed in them? I (Katrina Koehler) have been there and felt all this shame and guilt. When I discovered the idea of a prayer binder and how you can manage not only all your prayer requests in a non-burdensome way, but also find artistic joy in the visual expression of prayers for worship, confession, and thanksgiving in addition to the myriad of concerns to bring to God. Join me (Katrina Koehler) in the Good Shepherd Room at Houghton Wesleyan Church to learn more about these prayer binders, make your own, and even practice using it! Charge: \$10 for students and \$15 for community members to cover supplies. Sign-up deadline is November 7.

To register, please email Katrina Koehler at katrina.koehler@houghton.edu.

From the Library Shelves



Prayer. It is how we talk with God; how we praise and thank Him; how we ask for His help and guidance. Prayer is simply conversing with God, not just talking, but listening too.

In our church library you will find a number of books on prayer. In the adult room look on the shelves at section 242 through 248.8. You will find books to fit your life now, whether it is just exploring prayer, praying for and with your children and spouse, praying about and for specific things in your life, you can find it there.

In the children's room you will find *What Happens When Children Pray* by Evelyn Christenson, and *I Can Pray!* By Jennifer Holder. There is also *Night Night Blessings* by Amy Parker, and *Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer* by Laura Wifler. And in the Hermie and Friends DVD series: *Milo: the Mantis Who Wouldn't Pray*.

We love to have you use our church library, so come on in!

Kaleidoscope Class

9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. in
the Community Room

Nov 6: Good News in Global Mission (Paul Shea)

Nov 13: Good News in Global Mission (Donna & Jim Zoller)

Nov 20: Good News in Global Mission (Paul Shea)

Nov 27: TBA

Dec 4: Caregiving Through the Holidays (Claire, WNY Office of the Aging)

Dec 11: Special Needs = Special Joys (Heather Templeton)

November 2022 HWC Youth News:

Youth Group in November – “The Good Life” Continues...

- Nov 6 – TGL 3 – If you want to live the good life you have to understand what it is.
- Nov 13 – TGL 4 – Following the HS leads to experiencing the good life
- Nov 20 – TGL 5 – The Spirit helps you see the good life.
- Nov 27 – Advent!



Prayer Breakfast 7am in the Community Room

**PB is on for Nov 1,8,15 and 29.
No PB on November 22!**

(For the [HWCYG annual permission slip click here](#). Or scan here!) ----->



Discipleship Hour (SS) in November – a four week series on the Psalms

Nov 6, 13, 20, 27

It's been called "Israel's hymnbook", but the book of Psalms is an intricately designed collection of poetry that recounts Israel's history and God's covenant promises! It's also been called the "heart" of the scriptures, not only because the book is physically in the middle of your bible, but also because every human emotion is represented and bursts from the pages. We can't wait to explore this book with you. **See you in church!**





THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE NOVEMBER 20

On Sunday, November 20, we will collect food for the Food Pantry at both services. To help us run the food pantry more efficiently and due to space limitations, please limit your donations to the items on the following list when shopping.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------|
| -Pasta | -Spaghetti sauce* | -Macaroni & cheese |
| -Canned tuna | -Canned chicken | -Ramen noodles |
| -Baked beans | -Canned chili | -Canned beef stew |
| -Soup | -Boxed rice | -Boxed oatmeal packets |
| -Canned fruit* | -Canned vegetables | -Peanut butter* |
| -Cereal | -Jelly or jam* | -Jarred applesauce |
| -Syrup* | -Granola bars | -Boxed pancake mix |
| -Canned pasta (Spaghettios, Ravioli) | | -Boxed potato mixes |
| -Helpers (Hamburger, Tuna, Chicken) | | -Fruit juices/juice boxes |
| -Snacks (cookies, crackers, jello, pudding, fruit snacks) | | |

*An item with an asterisks donates a traditionally high need item.

**Due to health and safety concerns, we do not accept opened items or home-baked goods.

***We can also use your recycled plastic shopping bags if you would like to donate them.

NOTE: Monetary Donations (checks to Houghton Wesleyan Church with "FOOD PANTRY" on the Memo Line) provide fresh fruits and vegetables, bread, eggs, cheese, and milk, as well as emergency groceries for families in our community. The Food Pantry has a refrigerator and a freezer to store items. NOTE: Perishable Pantry Donations may be brought to the church office throughout the year. Thank you for your continued donations!

Wellspring Words



WAITING...

- for the delivery of the scissors lift. All is ready inside, and we look forward to not having to haul donated items down the stairs.
- for the return of our CEO, Jim Arthur, after knee replacement surgery. We praise the Lord for good progress
- for another joyous holiday season beginning with the opening of our "Christmas Room" November 16, and our delicious Thanksgiving dinner November 18 at 11:30 am. (**Note - we are closed Thanksgiving week.**)
- We are happy to receive new unwrapped gifts, or money to purchase them, for the "Christmas Room". Parents of children ages birth to 18 years are able to "shop", and love to choose an item or two per child. If you would like to help with this, please label the item specifically for this room.

GRATEFUL...

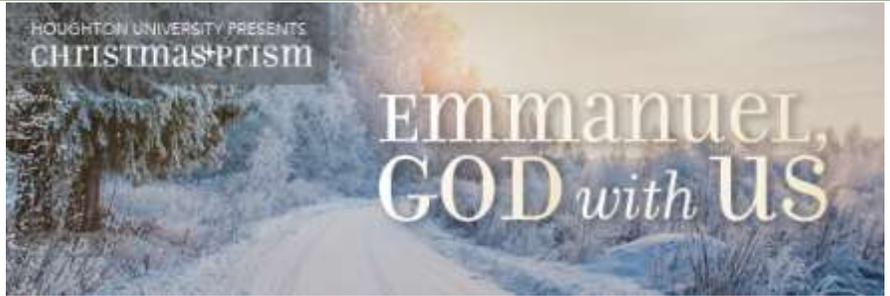
- for a monetary gift of \$281.00 plus groceries from Armstrong, the local high speed internet option company. Their *Breaking Bread Initiative* in September was called, 'Avenging Hunger Month', and Wellspring was the recipient.
- for our faithful volunteers, several of whom are from HWChurch. The Lord has been helping us to be 'strong' in Jim's absence. How we thank the Lord for the connection with Houghton Church!

PRAYING...

- for us to be faithful followers and witnesses as we interface with different folks - some with difficult needs.

For the Board, Beth Beardsley

"... Christ makes us one body and individuals who are CONNECTED to each other." Romans 12:5



Congratulations

to Steven Schell, David Davies,
and George and Alison Reusser
who were introduced
as new members on October 2.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:30 PM - Concert

Victory Highway Wesleyan Church, Painted Post, NY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

6:00 PM - Dinner

Houghton University, Reinhold Campus Center

8:00 PM - Concert

Houghton University, John & Charles Wesley Chapel

TICKET PRICING

\$5.00 - Child (0-12) & Senior (65+)

\$10.00 - Adult

\$35.00 - Saturday Dinner & Performance

FOR MORE INFO and to PURCHASE TICKETS:

www.houghton.edu/prism



Drive-Thru Food Distribution

Registration is required and opens November 1 for the November 9 Drive-Thru. Call 585-209-0052 and 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 to come on November 9. (NOTE: Registration opens December 6 for the December 14 Drive-Thru)

ACCOMMODATION & APPROXIMATION

Theological Foundations for Faithful Engagement in the World Today

We are pleased to announce our
**2022 Woolsey Lecture Series in Theology and Culture at
Houghton University
Thursday & Friday, November 10 & 11, 2022
Guest lecturer: Dr. Douglas Cullum
from Northeastern Seminary
Topic: 'Accommodation & Approximation:
Theological Foundations for Faithful Engagement
in the World Today'**



Barbara Elliott (585-808-4662)

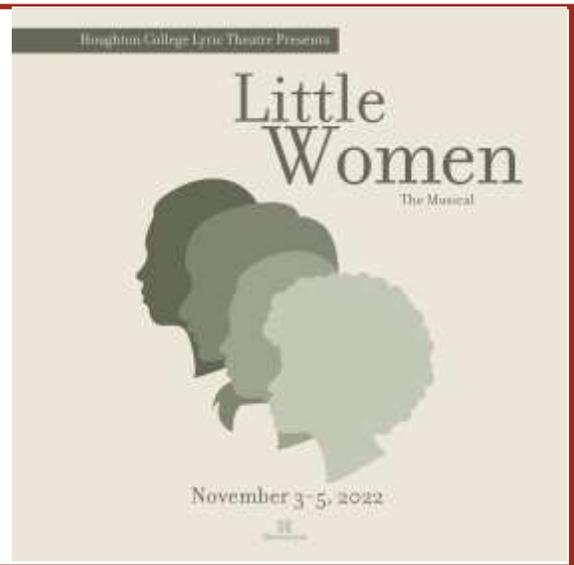
I am looking for a new (to me) car
with low mileage. I am hoping for
another Dodge Caravan with low
mileage, and am willing to make
payments.

I drive for the Amish and others.

**Houghton University
Lyric Theatre presents:**

Little Women

There will be three performances:
Thursday, November 3rd at 7pm,
Friday, November 4th at 7pm,
Saturday, November 5th at 7pm



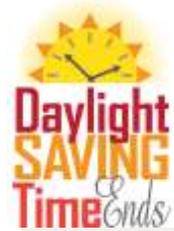
SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER

November 6 (8:30 Indoors / 11:00 Indoor/Streaming)
Prayer with Care (Luke 18)

November 13 (8:30 Indoors / 11:00 Indoor/Streaming)
Prayer with Others (1 Kings 8)

November 20 (8:30 Indoors / 11:00 Indoor/Streaming)
Prayer for Life (Luke 23)

November 27 (8:30 Indoors / 11:00 Indoor/Streaming)
Angelic Good News in Our Brokenness (Luke 1)



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS:

Please remember that you need to turn back your clocks one hour on Saturday night, November 5.

CHURCH STAFF

Wes Oden, Senior Pastor
567-2024 wesoden@hwchurch.org

Jon Cole, Youth Pastor
307-9950 joncole@hwchurch.org

David Huizenga, Discipleship & College Pastor
585-365-5863 davidhuizenga@hwchurch.org

Cindy Oden, Assistant Pastor
567-2024 cindyoden@hwchurch.org

Paul Shea Volunteer Assistant Pastor
567-4597 paulshea@hwchurch.org

Amanda Cox, Music & Worship Director
amandacox@hwchurch.org

Emily Spateholts, Children's Ministry
808-8925 emilyspateholts@hwchurch.org

Church Office, M-F, 8 AM-Noon & 1-4 PM,
567-2264 office@hwchurch.org

WEEKLY LETTER AND WEEKLY VIDEO: Each week Pastor Wes sends out a letter with information related to the life of our church and a brief video with a devotional thought. If you are not now receiving these communications and would like to, please contact the church office. Both the letter and the video are distributed by email and text, depending on your preference.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: On Saturday, November 5, there will be a Men's Breakfast at 8am in the Community Room. We'll gather for fellowship, a survey about future men's ministry needs, and to hear Faith Journeys from a few brothers in Christ. Planning to come? A heads up would be helpful. Email davidhuizenga@hwchurch.org or text David (585-365-5863).

