

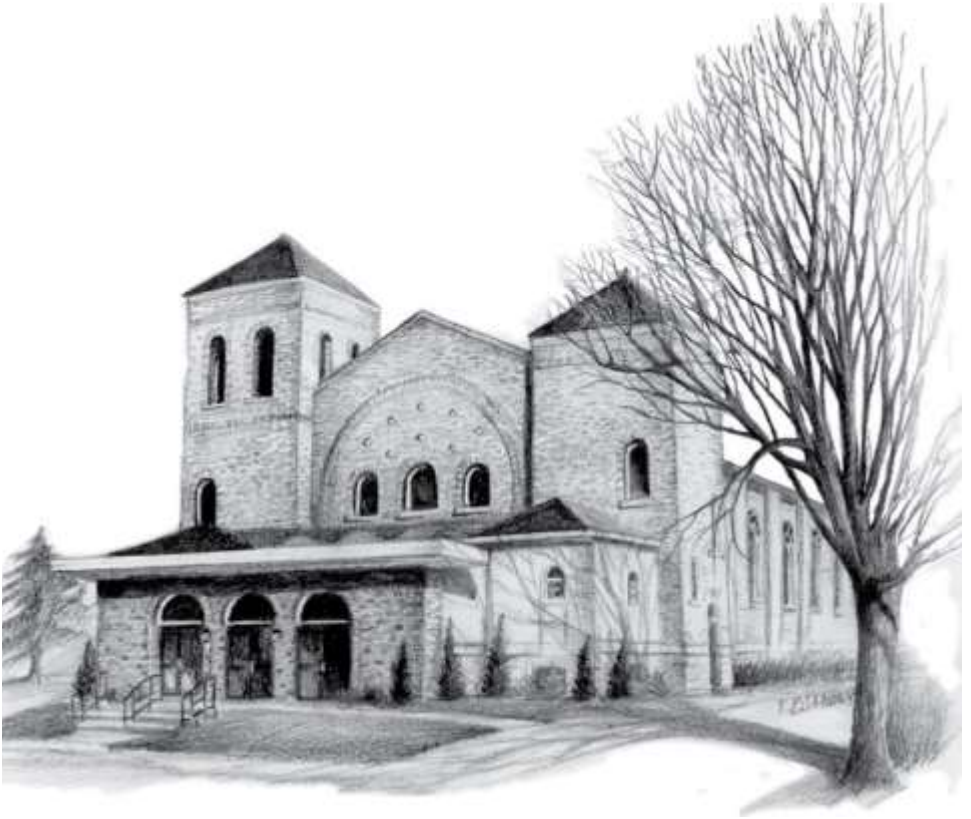


# Houghton

WESLEYAN CHURCH

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*Joyfully loving God,  
wholeheartedly serving others*



WESLEY ODEN, *Senior Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

DAVID HUIZENGA, *Discipleship and College Pastor*

CINDY ODEN, *Assistant Pastor*

PAUL SHEA, *Volunteer Assistant Pastor*

AMANDA COX, *Music and Worship Director*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 8, 2023

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Prelude: : Das alte Jahr vergangen ist, BWV 614 (J.S. Bach)

Welcome

Hymn of Praise 449: *Like a River Glorious*

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children's Sermon: *Do Love*

Songs of Adoration: *King of Kings; Restless*  
(Offering will be received during the first song)

Prayer of Confession

**God of Mercy, we begin this New Year with a passion to know you. Forgive us when in the past year the noise of our world too often made us deaf to your words of love. Forgive us when in the past year we allowed the busyness of our lives to minimize our thoughts of your life-giving grace. Forgive us when in the past year the attraction of self-interest too often turned our attention away from the peace you offer us. Today, help us to hear your words of pardon that if we confess our sins, you are faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and will fill us with an ever-growing joy in surrendering all that we are to you. Amen.**

Time of Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Mark 2:23-3:6

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

*During the hymn, children ages 2-5 may be dismissed for Children's Church*

Hymn 370: *Come, Ye Disconsolate*

Sermon: **Rest for the Soul**

Pastor David Huizenga

Communion:

***Behold the Lamb; Be Still, My Soul***

Benediction

Postlude: Allegro maestoso e vivace from Sonata No. 2 (F. Mendelssohn)

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**Organist:** Judy Congdon

**Acolyte:** Junie Babbitt

**Scripture Reader:** Pastor Cindy Oden

**Music Ministry Team:**

Bridget Walton, Luke Ogden, vocals; Caleb Hilsher, guitar;

Betsy Webb, keyboard & vocals;

Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Barb Raymond, bass; Dan Wartinger, cajón

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** The season of Epiphany celebrates the revelation of God in Christ to the whole world. This season of the Church year is also a time to remember God's calling on the Church to bear witness to Christ. As we worship this morning, may God open our eyes to His call on us and His plan for the world.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** we return to our regular worship schedule (8:30 and 11:00). The 11:00 service will be streamed. Pastor Wes starts a brief series of sermons on metaphors of the church. Next Sunday is from Luke 10: The Church Is Like a ....

**CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING:** We give thanks to God and to all who gave generously to our Christmas Eve offering. As of this time, we have received \$23,351. If you have not given and would like to, please send your gift to the church or use the online giving option.

### **HWC Kids**

- No in-person Kids Connect this week, but in our virtual materials kids hear about Jesus at the temple as a boy and what others learned from him. **BIG IDEA:** We can love God with our actions. **BIBLE:** Luke 2:41-52
- Kids Connect returns next Sunday, January 15th at 9:45am.
- Kids Club - Saturday, January 21st from 9:30-11 - More details to come!

**DISCIPLESHIP HOUR** returns next week at 9:45 am in the Community Room with a joint gathering of all adults and youth. Pastor David will be presenting *A Commitment to Sabbath Rest*. On January 22, the entire schedule of regular classes resumes.

### **YOUTH GROUP**

- Discipleship hour on Jan 15th is "Go to SS with your parents' day!" Youth Staff will meet in the youth room during the discipleship hour.
- Youth group on January 15th begins our two-part series called, "Exclusive Drop" – a series about our identity in Christ. See you in youth group!

**ATTENTION BAKERS!** Donations of cookies and brownies for dessert at Valley Preschool's Stone Soup Dinner are needed. With the return of our in-person event, we are looking for people to donate a dozen or two (or more!) cookies or brownies on Friday, January 27. This would be a great service project for a Bible study, team, family, or other group. Please contact Casda Danner at [casdadanner@hwchurch.org](mailto:casdadanner@hwchurch.org). or 567-4314 if you are able to help.

**MISSION MOMENT**—Kris and Cory Thede in Zambia need to gain new work visas with complications for the status of their adopted Haitian son, Fritz. Meanwhile they ask prayer for the work they had to leave behind in Haiti and for intervention to bring peace to that nation.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** – A first-hand report from a N. African country tells of a handful of believers meeting secretly but always facing interrogation from authorities who probe for information about their friends.

Others who are deciding whether to openly choose Christ are weighing the costs and threats they will face. We pray for God's spirit to encourage both believers and seekers.

### **DATES IN JANUARY:**

- January 11 (9:30-10:45am) Women's Bible Study resumes
- January 14 (8am) Men's Breakfast
- January 17 (7am) Youth Breakfast
- January 18 (7-8pm) Sharing the Journey: Banding Groups' Stories
- January 21 (9:30-11am) Kids Club
- January 25 Food Drive-through (reservations begin Jan. 17)
- January 27 (5:15-6:30pm) Stone Soup Fundraiser for Valley Pre-School
- January 27-29 Youth Retreat at PennYork (reservations by Jan. 15)

See the January *Highlights* newsletter for more information.

### **STEWARDSHIP**

**Budget Needed:** \$497,582.24 / **Budget Received:** \$472,826.33

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Jeff LaLonde (Andrea Tanner's father), David Ortlip, Vesta Mullen, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, Mim Case, Grace Taylor, Karen Gaerte, Bill Getty, Don Yeddo (Paul Rowley's step-father), Andy Mikolajczyk (Mary Lingenfelter's brother), Sith Sanasith (Souly's brother), Denise Zambrano, Cameron Green, Vangie Grant, Lenore Paige, Gary Heil (Janet Stegen's brother), Dan and Sarah Gurley, Chelsea Ellis, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Emily Crikelair; for all dealing with tragedies and disasters including the recent storms; for refugees throughout the world; for protection, wisdom and peace in Ukraine; for a Chinese pastor who has been detained since last December; for Hallsport Christian Church (Pastor Mike Brady).