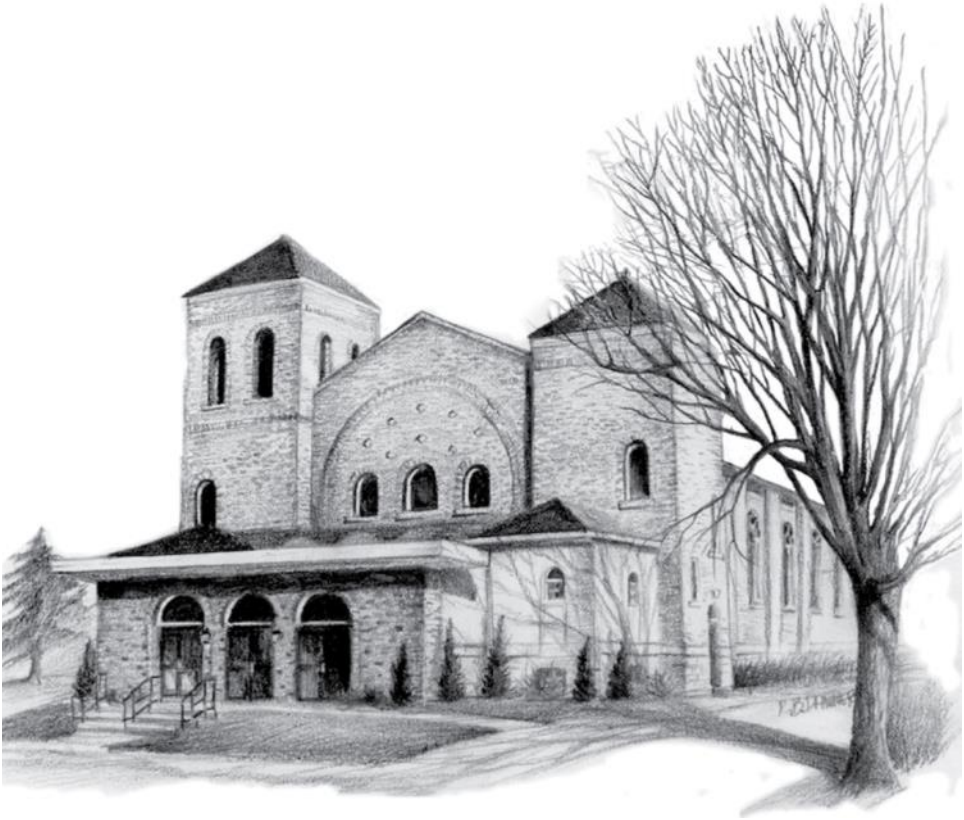
Houghton
Wesleyan Church

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*

P.O. Box 127, Houghton, NY 14744-0127 • (585) 567-2264 • www.hwchurch.org

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

February 12, 2023
11:00 A.M.

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship
Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven,
Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.
For we do not have a high priest
who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses,
but we have one who has been tempted in every way,
just as we are—yet he did not sin.
Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence,
So that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us
in our time of need.

Hymn of Praise 18: ***Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven***

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children's Sermon: ***Opposite Love***

Songs of Adoration: ***Death Was Arrested; Christ is Mine Forevermore***

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

Offertory: *And the Father Will Dance* (Mark Hayes)
(Offering received)

Scripture Reading: Micah 7:14-20
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. ***All: Thanks be to God!***

Hymn 49: ***Children of the Heavenly Father***

Sermon: **Do You Long to Feast Again?**
Pastor David Huizenga

Song: ***There is a Balm; Sons and Daughters***

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon Acolyte: Anna Harrison Scripture Reader: Christian Esh

Music Ministry Team:
Rachael McVeigh, Ethan Carr, vocals; Christopher Moeller, guitar;
Jill Jordan, violin; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Dan Wartinger, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. To be a follower of Christ is to care about the world—the world far beyond us and the world near to us. On this Missions Convention weekend, may God give us a renewed sense of his compassion and grace for the whole world.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service will be streamed. Pastor Wes concludes this series of sermons on metaphors of the church. Next Sunday's sermon is from Matthew 5.

HWC Kids: February in Kids Connect:

- This week in Kid's Connect, kids learn from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount about how to love their enemies. BIG IDEA: Jesus taught us how to love our enemies. BIBLE: Matthew 5:43-48
- February Memory Verse: I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. John 13:15 (NIV)
- Kids' Club: Saturday, February 18th, 9:30-11am (Primary Assembly room). Join us for activities that dive deeper into our Kids' Connect theme of the month as we learn "HOW TO" live more like Jesus by being salt and light, loving our enemies, living generously, and talking to God.

YOUTH GROUP does not meet tonight.

MISSION MOMENT – Drs. Romy and Linda Caringal after six months on new Global Partners assignment in Cambodia, are rejoicing on the variety of church planting and caring ministries they find. This week Romy attended a medical conference in nearby Thailand meeting with other medical missionaries. We pray along with the seven GP missionaries in Cambodia for new avenues of outreach alongside Wesleyan pastors and churches.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – We seldom hear reports of the almost constant subtle attacks on churches and Christians by dictatorial governments in Cuba and Nicaragua. The church has an influence that dictatorships find hard to control. But it is no surprise that Christians thrive in faith and zeal when suppressed. We pray for the witness of believers in these nations.

SHORT TERM MISSIONS: Support applications can be downloaded from the church website and sent to paulshea@hwchurch.org or mailed to the church office. See Global Outreach page on the website and click on "Short term mission trips application."

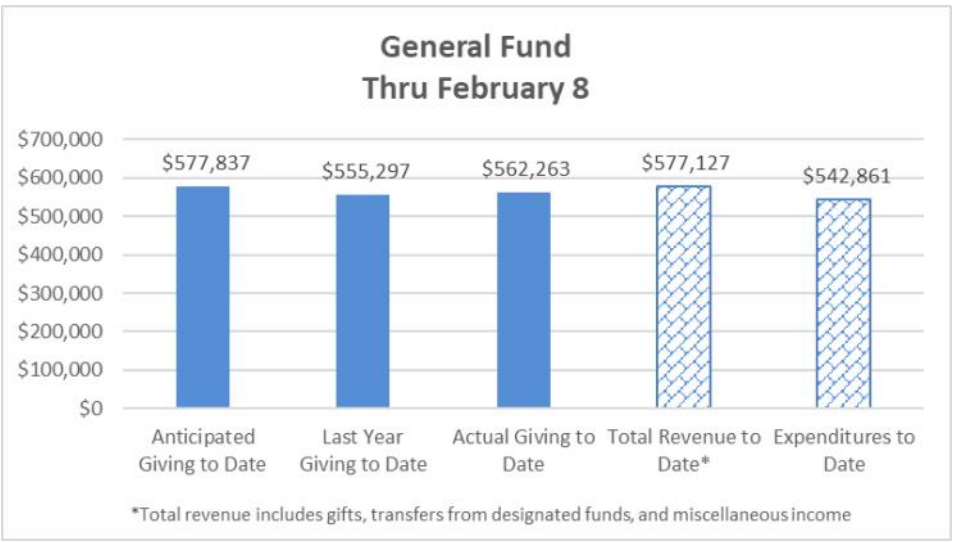
FOOD PANTRY: Thank you to everyone who faithfully gives to HWC's Food Pantry where those in need may request resources twice a year, and those in crisis may request assistance immediately. We currently have an abundance of spaghetti and sauce, mac and cheese, and pumpkin puree. Items that would be helpful compliments to them include: parmesan cheese, butter, shelf-stable mini-cartons of milk, and canned milk. Items may be left inside the side door near the Food Pantry or deposited in the blue tub by the coffee station in the foyer.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: $577,837.44 / Budget Received: $562,262.50

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Jerry Brown, Bill Oden, 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, 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 Swain United Methodist Church.

"Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God." 2 Cor. 9:11 NLT



STEWARDSHIP – A Life of Generosity

I am grateful for the opportunity to update you on the ways your generous giving continues to support us in the area of music and worship. As we are all very much aware, the worship life of our church over the past few years has had to stretch and evolve in ways we would have never previously anticipated. We have had to exercise creativity and push the bounds of our resourcefulness as we seek to engage and encourage the church family in a challenging environment, even into new possibilities. God continues to provide us with the strength, inspiration, and endurance that we need!

Beyond serving and worshiping with the congregation who is able to join us in person, we are engaging with streaming worshipers from around our area, the country, and even the world. On Sunday, January 15, we had 330 people joining us via streaming in real time as we celebrated in church together. Many others choose to watch our streaming services at other times during the week. Over the last month we had 1,340 viewers spread out over every day of the week! We are so grateful for the remarkable work of our dedicated tech team.

On any given Sunday there are at least five tech team volunteers working on our streaming service, as well as tech for the early/outdoor service and Sunday School class streaming. The crew (currently 13 people) each work on average every other Sunday. If you glance up into the balcony, you'll see them at various stations. Our tech team members work with both skill and artistry as they support our service, managing numerous cameras and an average of 15 microphones in each service.

Special thanks to Ken Bates, who served skillfully and graciously leading our tech team – the Balcony Bandits – from the beginning of the pandemic until just a few months ago. We have now transitioned to the capable leadership of Doyin Adenuga, and we are so grateful for his willingness to take on this important role! Doyin would also like to thank the church for our support in sending three of our volunteers – Doyin, Jeff Babbitt, and Kurt Habecker – to a recent training seminar at Family Life Ministries on "Shaping the Worship Sound." They bring back new ideas and insights to continue improving what we do.

We are thankful for the encouragement, financial support, and prayers of our church family as we continue to do our best to facilitate the worship life of our congregation. Also, **we are currently looking for 2-3 more people to add to our tech team!** All are welcome – including high schoolers! – and all necessary training will be provided. If you have ever considered joining – or even if you have not – please feel free to contact Doyin Adenuga (streaming@hwchurch.org) for more information. We would be deeply grateful to have you! —*Amanda Cox*