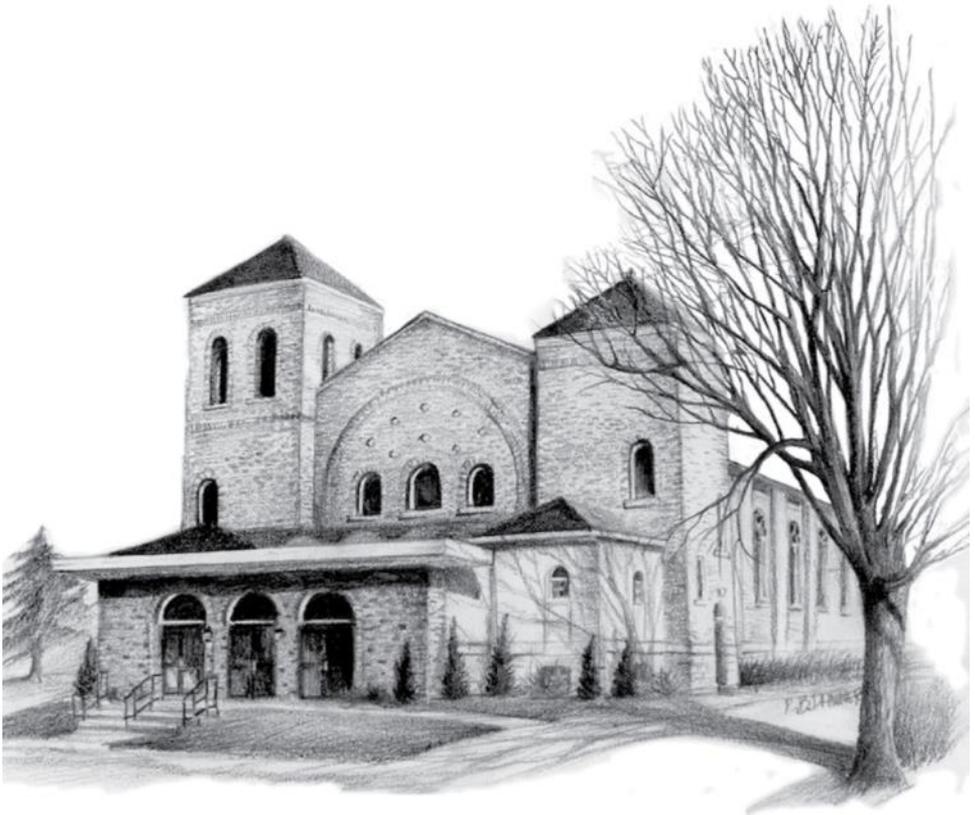




Houghton

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*

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 5, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Prelude: Variations on THIRD MODE MELODY (S. Gay)

Welcome

Hymn of Praise 87: *Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know*

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children's Sermon: *Changed* (Adapted from *Sunday School Works*)

Songs of Adoration: *Song of My Heart; Champion*

Prayer of Confession

Powerful and Forgiving Lord, by enduring the pain of the cross, You have shown us the price love must pay for taking sin seriously. The nails. The crown. The humiliation, mockery and shame You went through delivered us from the stronghold of sin, enabled us to live in the freedom only You can give and opened the way for all to know life in you. Unfortunately, in our contentment we forsake the transforming work of the cross. In our disobedience, we reject the redeeming and forgiving power of the cross. Forgive us, Lord, for the ways in which we do not take our sin as seriously as You do—for what it costs us daily is nothing in comparison to what You have already paid. Help us to reflect on the mercies of Your cross, and as we do, give us the strength and grace to take up our own and to follow. In confessing our sins, let us hear your words of assurance:

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

Time of Prayer

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

Offertory: *Out of the Depths* (arr. John Ferguson)

Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:47-56

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

Hymn 155: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

Sermon: **Don't You Know that I Could Call Angels?**

Pastor Wes Oden

Communion: ***Behold the Lamb; Jesus Paid it All***

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon

Acolyte: Miriam Derck

Scripture Reader: Pastor David Huizenga

Music Ministry Team:

Emily Quick, Bridget Walton, vocals; Caleb Hilsher, guitar; Jan Schilke, keyboard;
Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Jill Jordan, violin; Dan Zambrano, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. Lent is a time to remind Christ's disciples that the passion, suffering and death of Christ are central to our faith. Though this is a solemn season in which we contemplate our sin, it is also a season to give thanks that Jesus goes to the cross to be our Redeemer and the Redeemer of all people and to call us to be agents of his redemption for others.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING is the Third Sunday in Lent. Pastor Wes will preach about another question of Jesus: *Why Are You Asking Me This Question?* from John 18. We gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service will be streamed.

MEN'S BREAKFAST SATURDAY: 8-9:30 in the Community Room

TIME CHANGE: Just a reminder that we turn our clocks ahead next Sunday.

EASTER BAPTISM: If you are interested in being baptized on Easter Sunday morning, contact Pastor Wes (office@hwchurch.org).

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: If you are interested in becoming a member of HWC or in knowing more about membership at HWC, contact Pastor Wes (office@hwchurch.org). He will be hosting a membership class later this month.

HWC Kids:

- March in Kids Connect: "Changing Gears" - Clank! Beep! Clunk! Kids love robots, especially ones that can transform into something new or have really cool abilities. In this four-week series from Jesus' ministry on earth, you'll introduce kids to a different story each week that shows us how God's truths never change, but Jesus changes everything — including us! We'll see that we change when we know who God is, our past doesn't change God's love for us, and that Jesus changes how we see things because Jesus can change anything!
- Kids Connect: This week, kids hear about the transfiguration of Jesus and what the disciples learned from this. BIG IDEA: We change when we know who God is. BIBLE: Matthew 17:1-9; Romans 12:1-3
- March Memory Verse: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! — 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)
- Kids' Club: Saturday, March 18th, 9:30-11am, more details to come!

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$625,990.56 / Budget Received: \$617,375.17

REMINDER: The Women's Bible Study meets 9:30 to 10:45 on Wednesday mornings in the Good Shepherd Room.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS the Prayer Group meets in the Conference Room from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY meets Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 105 across from the church library. Celebrate Recovery is a safe place to find community and freedom from the issues that are controlling our lives.

MISSION MOMENT—The oldest Wesleyan mission work in West Africa began in Sierra Leone in 1889. Some of our most recent church plants under indigenous leaders are actually in Nigeria. Other newer West African fields are Ghana and Burkina Faso. We pray for Nigeria, Africa's largest populated nation, in the wake of last week's national elections. May God bring bold, wise, and peacemaking leadership especially to protect churches and lives in the troubled northern states. (I Timothy 2:1-2)

PERSECUTED CHURCH – There have an increase recently of reports of police actions against unregistered Protestant and Catholic churches and leaders across China likely in connection with tightened security surrounding the annual National People's Congress sessions beginning this week. At least three pastors have been taken into custody and severely mistreated. (CSW) Let us pray for our brothers and sisters in China.

CONCERT AND HYMN SING March 19 (6:00 p.m.) at Eastern Hills Church with the Houghton University Choir, Kevin Dibble, Conductor, and The Buffalo Niagara Praise Orchestra, Gary Stith, Conductor.

ALL WOMEN: Come relax together with Breakfast and a Movie on Saturday, April 1, beginning at 9 am. We'll enjoy watching the love story of Catherine Marshall - the author of the novel Christy - and her husband Peter, who became the chaplain of the U. S. Senate. Watch for more details.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Jerry Brown, 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 particularly the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria; for refugees throughout the world; for protection, wisdom and peace in Ukraine; for a Chinese pastor who has been detained for more than a year; for Wellsville Bible Church (Pastor Dan Kenyon).