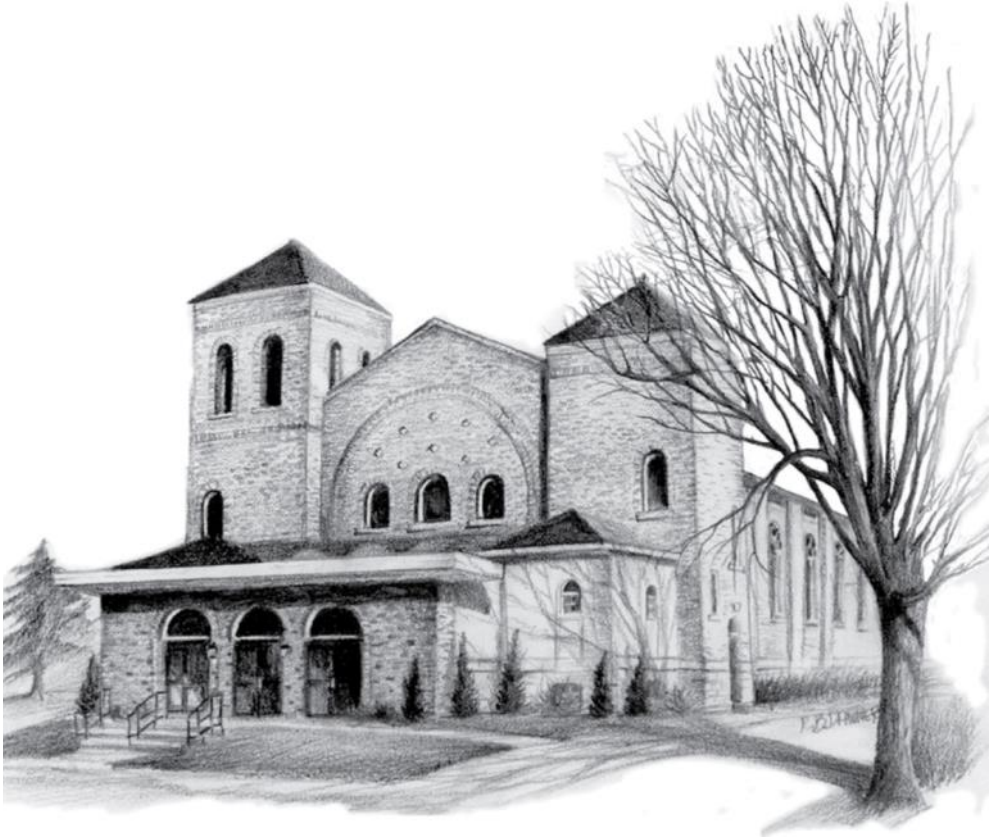




Houghton

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*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 30, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Prelude: Andante (from Sonata No. 6).....F. Mendelssohn

Welcome

Hymn of Praise 404: ***How Firm a Foundation***

Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Youth

Children's Sermon

Songs of Adoration: ***Do it Again; Champion; I Know Whom I Have Believed***
(Offering will be received during the third song)

Prayer of Confession

Merciful Lord, You have told us that if we love You, then we are to do so with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength. While knowing this command, we confess that instead of living in total surrender, we have resolved to give You 'just enough.' We declare 'You are Lord' with our mouths, but we do not affirm it with our lives. We follow the path of ease and comfort instead of choosing to live in faithful obedience. We hoard all that we can instead of trusting You for our daily bread. We seek vain recognition instead of bringing You glory. Forgive us, Lord—our thoughts, attitudes and actions that have hindered us and other people from experiencing Your great love. Amen.

Time of Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Psalm 6

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

Anthem: *The Call* (Leo Nestor)

What is God Doing When Life Pushes in on Us?

Pastor Wes Oden

Song: ***Great is Thy Faithfulness***

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon **Acolyte:** Grayson Cox **Scripture Reader:** Christian Esh

Music Ministry Team:

Emily Quick, Rachael McVeigh, Ethan Carr, vocals; Christopher Moeller, guitar;
Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; David Clem, viola; Nico Seddio, cajón

The rose on the pulpit is in honor of the birth of Fredrick Roger Reusser, born on Tuesday, March 7 to parents Alison and George and big siblings Izzy, Aggie, and Paul and grandparents Paul and Debbie Young.

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist proclaims, “The LORD is king! He is robed in majesty. Indeed, the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength. The world is firmly established; it cannot be shaken” (93:1, NLT). We come together today to worship the Lord who is king and sovereign over all the earth through the resurrection of Christ.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING Pastor Wes will preach from Matthew 6 about *The Resurrection and Our Possessions*. Join us for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service will be streamed as usual. Kids Connect, Youth Sunday School and Adult Discipleship are at 9:45.

SERVICE OF LAMENT IN A WORLD OF VIOLENCE: Tomorrow, May 1, 6:30pm. All are welcome to attend this time of prayer, scripture readings, and grieving together over the many practices of violence throughout the world today.

BIBLE TRANSLATION DISPLAY: Our weekend of global engagement was a powerful time of catching a glimpse of how God’s Word is impacting people all over the world. This engagement continues today through the Bible Translation Display, a hands-on display of dozens of Bible Translation copies, historic items, and photos from this church’s years of support for putting God’s “Unchained Word” in the hands of people of every language. Visit today before, between, or after services, and all day on this last day to view the Bible Display with actual copies of translations, the result of the labors and love of folks from this church or supported by us. Location, below sanctuary near the prayer rooms.

HWC KIDS

- Kids Connect: This week, kids hear about the time Jesus restored Peter. **BIG IDEA:** I can share God’s love every day. **BIBLE:** John 21:1-17
- Summer Sundays for HWC Kids: In order to offer children's programming during the summer, we need people to teach and assist in Children's Church (PreK-1st grade) during the 8:30am services from June 18 - Sept. 3. Please contact Emily at emilyspateholts@hwchurch.org with questions or interest. Thanks!

ANNUAL ELECTION: The Nominating Committee has put together a ballot for this year’s election of church leader. Sample ballots are posted in various places around the church. The election of leaders will take place on Sunday May 14 (in person) and the week of May 8-14 (online).

CHURCH WORK DAY: We are hosting our annual work day on Saturday, May 6, 8:30 a.m. – Noon. You can stay the whole time or part of it. We will be working mostly outside and mostly sprucing up the grounds. We will supply some tools. If you have tools you can bring, be sure to label them. We will provide cinnamon rolls and coffee. Bring your children: families are welcome. It's a great time to meet new people as we work together.

MISSION MOMENT– Thanks to all who planned, prepared and participated in our recent mission focus. Hopefully we have been challenged to keep praying for our workers and all God's people in many corners of the globe. Haiti, home to dozens of Wesleyan churches and many Christians needs God's intervention to bring peace and stability. We pray. (I Timothy 2:1-2)

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Are there Christian brothers and sisters in Sudan where a civil war rages? Yes, nearly two million believers in Jesus, but they are only 4% or less of the population. Is there persecution? It has always been severe but perhaps a bit less so in recent years. But both sides of the current fighting are anti-Christian. Christians, like all people of Sudan, are suffering greatly in the current crisis. May God's peace prevail for all.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$754,398.88 / **Budget Received:** \$754,911.97

STAYING CONNECTED: Pastor Wes continues sending out a weekly update on Tuesday and a video meditation on Thursday. Both can be accessed through email, text or the church website and Facebook pages. If you are not receiving these communications and would like to, please contact the church office (office@hwchurch.org) or 585-567-2264.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Darwin and Fauhn Schierer, Vesta Mullen, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, Mim Case, Grace Taylor, Karen Gaerte, Bill Getty, Andy Mikolajczyk (Mary Lingenfelter'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, the recent acts of violence; 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 Christ Episcopal Church, Cuba (Pastor Richard Hamlin).