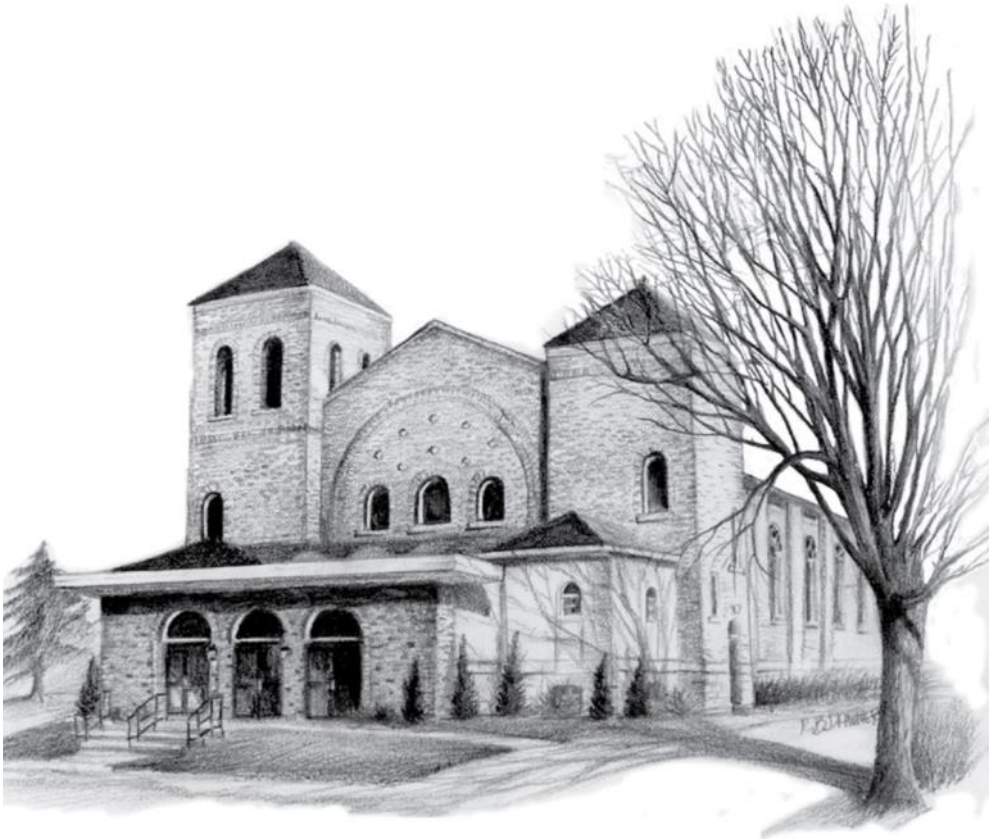




Houghton

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*

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 7, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Prelude: Processional on “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (Martin Shaw)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Shout for joy to God, all the earth!

Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious.

Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth bows down to you;

they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of your name.”

Come and see what God has done, his awesome deeds for humankind!

**He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot –
come, let us rejoice in him.**

**He rules forever by his power, his eyes watch the nations –
let not the rebellious rise up against him.**

Hymn of Praise 41: **Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above**

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children’s Sermon: **Superheroes**

Songs of Adoration: **Living Hope; Sons and Daughters**

(Offering will be received during the second song)

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.*

Anthem: *Prayer* (René Clausen, text by Mother Teresa of Calcutta)

Scripture Reading: Psalm 49

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

Hymn 367: **O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee**

Sermon: **The Challenge of Wealth**

Pastor Wes Oden

Communion: **My Worth is Not in What I Own; Is He Worthy?**

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon **Acolytes:** Kadee Hoffman and Joseph Hoffman

Scripture Reader: Pastor Jon Cole

Music Ministry Team:

Bridget Walton, Sophia Templeton, Luke Ogden, vocals; Caleb Hilsher, guitar;
Jan Schilke, keyboard; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Jill Jordan, violin

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. Our worship continues to be centered in the resurrection of Jesus Christ—the cornerstone of our faith. As resurrection people we celebrate the victory that is ours in Christ and we offer our lives in gratitude for his love and mercy.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING Pastor Wes will preach from Psalm 96: I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing. Join us for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. Kids Connect, Youth Sunday School and Adult Discipleship is at 9:45.

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. If you would like for the Nominating Committee to consider any other potential nominees, please contact Pastor Wes by Wednesday, April 26. The election of leaders will take place on Sunday May 14 (in person) and the week of May 8-14 (online).

ELECTION BALLOT: The Nominating Committee has completed the ballot for this year's elections. Sample ballots are posted around the church. Online voting will begin tomorrow, May 8 and be available through 12:30 next Sunday. In-person voting will take place next Sunday morning, May 14. If you would like a mail-in ballot, contact the church office (office@hwchurch.org).

HWC KIDS

- **May Kids Connect:** Every kid wishes they had superpowers, but with Jesus, we don't need x-ray vision or invisibility to be heroes! In this four-week series, kids will hear stories about the heroes of the Early Church — the apostles and disciples who used their unique abilities to spread the good news of Jesus. Through their stories, we'll see that anyone can do great things for God because God gives everyone a mission, the Holy Spirit gives us power, and we're heroic when we work as a team!
- **May Memory Verse:** "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self discipline." — 2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV)
- **Kids Connect:** This week, kids learn how Jesus comforted his disciples when he knew he would soon be going away. **BIG IDEA:** Anyone can do great things for God. **BIBLE:** John 14:1–14; 1 Peter 2:9–10
- **Valley Preschool Visit Day:** Kids ages 2 - 5 are invited to visit Valley Preschool with a parent(s) on Friday, May 12th from 11:15-11:45am for prospective student day. Visit the teachers, current students, classrooms, and the very popular messy room to see what Valley Preschool is all about. Email Casda Danner at casdadanner@hwchurch.org for more details or with questions.

MISSION MOMENT– Over the next several weeks, eight of our young adults (Emma Cole, Mason Cool, Julius Klohr, Jayden Mucher, Sophia Templeton, Esther Webb, Levi Webb, Tobias Webb) are traveling to Brazil, Nicaragua, and Zambia on HU and IWU sports and music ministry teams. Let us support players, singers, coaches, and national host ministries with our prayers.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Last Monday’s Service of Lament reminded us of the violence and suffering the world over. We prayed with the Psalmist “You, Lord, hear the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry.” Let us not grow weary repeatedly upholding nations and people the world over. They count on our prayers.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$770,449.92 / **Budget Received:** \$767,564.70

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 Angola Wesleyan Church (Pastor Mike Trippett).