Houghton Wesleyan Church

Highlights

Joyfully loving God, wholeheartedly serving others
June 2023
Volume 56, No. 1

Happy Birthday

For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.
(Jeremiah 29:11)

June is the month of birthdays in our family. In our family that extends to parents and the next generation, we celebrate seven birthdays and our anniversary. This means that June is the month when we are most focused on parties and gifts and family gatherings. It's a wonderful time of giving thanks for the life of each person.

Some of the birthdays are for the young. Every year brings new adventures and new things that they are able to do and experience. They look forward with anticipation to their birthday. They are often the ones asking: *How many more days until my birthday?*

Other birthdays are not anticipated quite as enthusiastically. Some feel the natural process of aging with each birthday. There is joy at reaching another milestone, but also a twinge of *how could I already be this old?* These birthdays are a bit more nostalgic than those of the children.

There is nothing wrong with either perspective. It just is. There is something invigorating about celebrating with the young. They are growing and developing and experiencing new things all the time. They engage life with enthusiasm and wonder. There is also something important about celebrating with the not-so-young (however you might define that term). They realize that patterns have developed. They understand the responsibilities of life. They may even feel the solemnity of realizing that more life has happened than will happen.

As I grow older, I am praying that God will help me to live in the reality and joy of both perspectives. Not to deny the reality of aging but not to ignore the joy of life either. I am praying that God will fill me with such a sense of gratitude for life that I can be realistic about life's responsibilities and at the same time live with a sense of wonder about what still lies before me. To give thanks for the experiences I've had while anticipating the experiences yet to come.

I am discovering that as I get older, I can easily trade away joy for fear, hope for despair, peace for chaos, innocent trust for cynical suspicion. This doesn't mean that we don't have a myriad of reasons for fear, despair, chaos and cynicism (we aren't denying reality), but we know that Christ is greater than all of it and the day is coming when he will reveal his greatness in all of his glory.

So, whether your birthday this year makes you feel old or young, invigorated or tired, join me in praying that God will help us see him more clearly and in this new vision, live in the grace that is ours through all that he is, all that he has done, all that is doing and all that he has promised to do—now and forever.

Blessings,
Pastor Wes

ELECTION RESULTS
Elders Secretary: Jim Zoller
Church Treasurer: David Mercer
Facilities Stewards Chair: Mike Spateholts
Elders: Josey Adenuga, Jill Jordan, Carolyn Miller
Nominating Committee: LuAnne Brubaker, Mike Jordan, Betsy Webb
District Conference Delegates: Ken and Barb Bates, Tim and Sharon McGarvey, Mike and Emily Spateholts
Community Financial Plan Vote: Yes – 118 / No – 0

Elders
Tim McGarvey (2024)
Daryl Stevenson (2024)
Donnie Stockin (2024)
Ken Bates (2025)
Jan Schilke (2025)
Paul Young (2025)
Josie Adenuga (2026)
Jill Jordan (2026)
Carolyn Miller (2026)
Jim Zoller, Secretary
David Mercer, Treasurer
Mike Spateholts, Facilities Stewards Chair

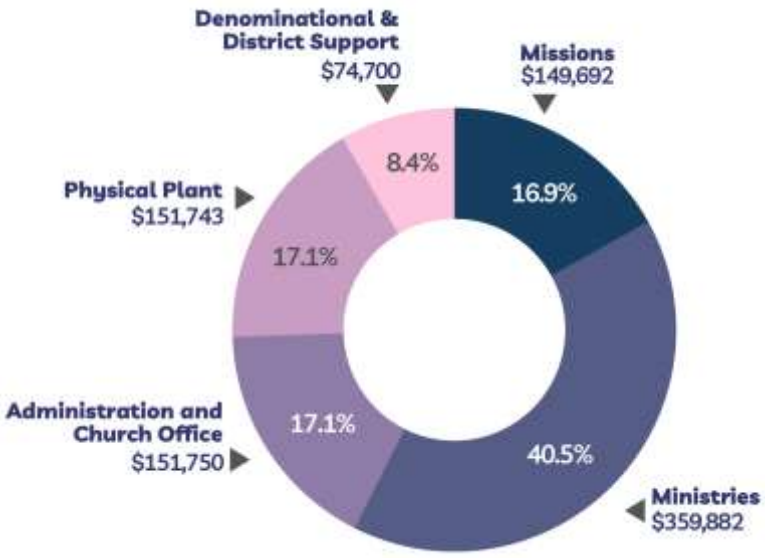
Please continue to pray for our pastors and leaders as we begin a new year of ministry and service in Houghton.

Thank you to Elders, Doyin Adenuga and Alicia Mucher and to Trustees, Harold Blew and Judi Mayhle whose terms have expired. We appreciate the thoughtful and godly leadership that each person has given us in the past years.

STEWARDSHIP- A Life of Generosity
"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand," 1 Chronicles 29:14.

Everything we have belongs to God. We are only stewards. It's important to recognize this truth in every area of our lives. Take a moment right now and thank the Lord for the many blessings He has provided.

No matter how young or old we are, our lives belong to the Lord and everything we own, love and cherish are His. The apostle Paul urged the church in Rome to view their bodies as living sacrifices and present them to God. "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God- this is your true and proper worship," Romans 12:1.



As you are hopefully aware, since the beginning of 2023, our giving has exceeded human expectations. In less than five months, we have eliminated a more than $40,000 shortfall to end the fiscal year with a small surplus in giving. We are grateful to God for his generosity and to you for your generosity. Thank you for your sacrificial giving that enables us to serve each other and the world beyond us—near and far.

As the new year commences, we encourage you to once again think and pray about what God might be leading you to give this year.

The Stewardship Committee

HWC Kids Summer Schedule

- Children's Church: the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the summer during the 8:30am service (June 4, 11, 25, July 9 & 23, August 13 & 27, Sept. 10, back to normal schedule) - special lesson activity packets will be provided on the "off weeks"
- Nursery: every Sunday during 8:30am service
- June 24th, 10am - 1pm, Kids Summer Kickoff VBS event at Fillmore park, playground, and pavilion
- July 22nd - Wacky Water event (more details to come)
- August 26th, special VBS-type event (more details to come)
- Family Fridays: all Fridays in July and August, 6:30-8:00pm, various locations to be advertised later.

Kids Connect in June

Make It or Break It: Whether it's with LEGO bricks, Minecraft, or Roblox, kids (and adults!) love to make things — and sometimes break them. In this four-week series from the very beginning of the Bible, we'll compare God's ability to make good things with our tendency to break them. Through the stories of creation, the fall, Cain and Abel, and the Tower of Babel, we'll see that God makes good things, unbreaks what's been broken, and made us different on purpose, so we should honor God with the things we make.

JUNE Memory Verse

Bikes on the Quad

Bring your bikes, balls, scooters, frisbees, and other outdoor toys to the University Quad, Wednesdays in July and August (informal start time of 6:30pm).

Drop your kids off (or stick around!)
for a day of fun, games, and food!

- Includes lunch, prizes, kickball, crafts, games, music and friends!
- Kids ages 3* - 12 are invited to come! (*Children must be fully potty trained to attend.)*
- There will be special programming just for our pre-school-aged kids!
- The event will utilize the Pavilion, play area, and baseball field next to the park in Fillmore.

Pre-registration is recommended but not required: https://hwc.breezechms.com/form/035e87

Brought to you in partnership from
Houghton Wesleyan Church, Fillmore Wesleyan Church and Northern KonXions UMC.

A celebration of David Willard Ortlip's life will be held at the Houghton Wesleyan Church, 9712 NY-19, Houghton at 2:00 PM on Sunday June 4, 2023. Pastor Paul Shea will officiate. Burial will be in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Houghton.

Royal Family Kids' Camp (RFKC)

Royal Family Kids' Camp needs new (and returning) prayer partners for 2023! If you're willing to pray for a child or staff member attending this year's camp (to be held July 9-14 at Camp Asbury in Silver Springs), writing him or her a note (provided to you ahead of time) and then praying for him or her daily during camp itself, please email Laurie.Dashnau@houghton.edu. Thank you for considering being part of this vital ministry!

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve hurting people in our community? We all face hurts, hang-ups, habits and struggles in life. We often feel alone and isolated during these times. Celebrate Recovery provides warm, accepting, non-judgmental support that not only helps us recover from our dark times, but find victory through the healing power of Jesus Christ.

We are looking for new leaders, two men as well as two women, who will commit to Celebrate Recovery training and weekly meetings.

The best way to discover if CR is for you, is to come and experience it. We meet on Thursday nights at 7pm in room 105 across from the library. We'd love to have you join us !

Congratulations to new members:

Earl and Vicki White, Jason and Rachel Decker, Andy Walton and Sam Malafy.

Final Drive Through Food Distribution in the church parking lot. To register call 585-209-0052 after 8:30 a.m. on June 6.. Leave your name, phone number and the number of families you are picking up for. The Cuba Cultural Center will return your call and give you a time and number.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Condolences to the family and friends of Dale Howard who died on Saturday, May 13.
Condolences to the family and friends of Buddy Bramer who died on Thursday, May 17.

From the
Library Shelves

Welcome to summer---almost! As you finish up the school year, we have books about far away, and not so far away, places that might interest you. If you are planning to read together as a family this summer, come in, look at the series we have that you might like, or find other books that would work for you and your family.

Come, find your adventure in our church library!

Wellspring Ministries

Dear HWC Family,

It seems like life at Wellspring is leveling out three years after COVID began.
- Lunches are well attended. Chatter at tables abounds.
- Donations are consistent, and often of good quality.
- 'Shoppers' new and previous, keep us busy and blessed.

Yes, the scissors lift is installed and working well. What a help to the 'haulers' (*Picture on the right: Bill D. and John R. looking at lift items)* who previously had to use the stairs. John R. so adeptly installed the new Automated External Defibrillator (AED) on a dining room wall.

As you sort and pass on items, thank you for remembering us. Families will be needing summer wear, books, games, toys, porch furniture, garden tools, etc. We love to have Bibles on hand as well. We gladly accept extra garden produce, too.

Thank you for your regular giving to Wellspring which enables us to give from our benevolent fund for things like car repairs, rent assistance, utility bills, etc. We pray for wisdom, love, and the direction of the Holy Spirit as we listen to, and respond to those with specific needs. Put us on your "Places to Visit" list this summer. You just may be blessed and so may we!

We are open every Wednesday. and Friday from 10 am to 1:15, with lunch at 11:50. Coffee and pastries are available, too. No money is exchanged.
(We welcome children anytime.)

Note: Closed **Friday, May 26**, and **Wednesday, July 5** (part of Independence Day celebration)

Grateful for HWC -
Beth Beardsley (for the Bd.)

"Rich and poor are alike in this: each depends on God for light." Proverbs 29:13

YOUTH

Save-the-Date for these Summer Events:

June 30-Darien Lake Trip - $40, Deadline to sign up is June 9.
July 23 – 27 – ADK's canoeing and hiking –Space is limited! - $200; Deadline to sign up – July 1
July 30 – August 3 – Refresh Family Camp – Youth Track

CompassCare WALK FOR LIFE

This year CompassCare's Walk for Life is breaking out from just three NY park walks to hundreds of local, hosted walks. The goal of the Walk for Life is to double the number of women served and babies saved from abortion through CompassCare in 2023.

I'm hosting a local CompassCare Walk for Life Saturday, June 10, 10-11:30am.

Meet at Houghton Wesleyan Church. Stay for a picnic lunch afterwards. If you didn't have a chance to join a walk in May, come join us June 10th.

Becky Hutton, 567-2727, lindolruthhutton@hotmail.com

FILLMORE POWERHOUSE

Paid working opportunity 3 days a week (Tues., Wed. Thurs.) to assist with the summer program that runs from June 27 to August 3...for about 3-4 hrs. a day.

Summer Programs 2023 (June 27th-August 3rd)

Free Lunch Program (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) 11:15-12:15 (Grades K-12)
Free Lunch and Snack provided to all children Pre-K -12th
Summer Recreation (Monday-Wednesday) 11:15-3:15 (Grades K-12)
Spray Pool, Skatepark, Gardening, Crafts, Music, Bible Study, and Games.
Teen Program (Tuesday & Wednesday) 6:00-8:00 pm (Grades 5-12)
Games, Recreation, Snacks, Skatepark, Teen Clubs

*If interested in working in any of our programs please contact Executive Director Marcie Brooks at mhbrook1@yahoo.com or text 585-315-9076.

Volunteers are also needed

The Rapids are Coming

Important Dates for the 2023 Season

All Rapids Home Games are played at Houghton University Baseball Stadium

Thursday, June 1 Players Arrive in Houghton
Sunday, June 4, Old Timers Game 2pm
Wednesday, June 7, Home Opener, 4pm & 7pm
Friday, June 9, Kids Day, 10am, sponsored by Armstrong One Wire
Friday, June 23, Fireworks Display after the game sponsored by Black River Entertainment
Monday, July 10, NYCBL All Star Game, 6:30 @ Houghton University

CAMPS
Wednesday, June 29 - Friday, June 30, Basic Skills Baseball Camp
Tuesday, July 11 - Thursday, July 13, Advanced Skills Baseball Camp

Complete schedule at geneseeeapidsbaseball.com

Ministry Opportunities at Houghton Academy

⇒ **Admissions Coordinator/Boarding Program Assistant**: Responsibilities include guiding prospective local and international students and parents through the application, acceptance, and acclimation process and working with the Resident Life Support Team to ensure boarding students are holistically cared for. 12-month position. Full-time with summer flexibility.

⇒ **Art Teacher**: Responsibilities include providing art instruction for varied proficiency levels to students in grades 6-12. 10-month position. Part-time.

⇒ **Cook:** Responsibilities include setting up, preparing food, serving, and cleaning up for school day hot lunches and continental breakfasts for boarders while using student work support. 9+-month position. Part -time (approximately 10 am – 2 pm daily, Monday-Friday).

⇒ **Registrar/Guidance Counselor:** Responsibilities include college advisement, coordination with colleges and universities, close collaboration with Houghton University, master schedule, school data management, academic testing, coordination of dual, online, and AP classes, admissions support and program development while collaborating with Leadership Team. 10-month position with limited summer responsibilities. Full or Part Time.

⇒ **Resident Assistant**: Responsibilities include providing a safe, orderly, and affirming atmosphere that provides opportunities for academic support, personal growth, and lifetime friendships. 10-month position. Part-time.

⇒ **Office Support Staff**: Help with basic Business Office functions and general office support. 12-month position. Part-time (8-10 hours weekly) with summer flexibility.

Visit **www.HoughtonAcademy.org** > Careers for more information.

CHURCH STAFF

Wes Oden, Senior Pastor , 567-2024 wesoden@hwchurch.org
David Huizenga, Assistant Pastor, 365-5863, davidhuizenga@hwchurch.org
Jon Cole, Youth Pastor , 307-9950 joncole@hwchurch.org
Cindy Oden, Assistant Pastor , 567-2024 cindyoden@hwchurch.org
Amanda Cox, Music & Worship Director amandacox@hwchurch.org
Emily Spateholts, Children's Ministry , 808-8925 emilyspateholts@hwchurch.org
Church Office, M-F, 8 AM-Noon & 1-4 PM, 567-2264 office@hwchurch.org

Phil Merrill (585) 610-8882
Painting (Inside and Outside)
&
Power Washing Houses & Decks

We welcome any flowers that you would like to donate for Sunday morning services throughout the summer. Please contact Linda Knapp at 585-365-3805. Thank you.

REFRESH
RETREAT & FAMILY CAMP

July 30—August 4, 2023
A vacation with a purpose to relax, refocus on God's presence, reconnect with family and friends, and replenish your body and spirit..
RefreshAtHoughton.com

FOOD PANTRY

DONATIONS MAY BE LEFT AT THE FOOD PANTRY DOOR OR AT THE CHURCH OFFICE (especially perishables.)

In appreciation for the years of ministry at HWC, you are invited to a come-and-go reception June 25, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. honoring Amanda Cox and Paul Shea. Mark this important gathering on your calendar.

SUNDAYS IN JUNE

June 4 (8:30 a.m. Outdoors / 9:45 a.m. Discipleship Hour / 11:00 a.m. Indoors/Streaming)
a.m. Pastor David Huizenga

June 11 (8:30 a.m. Outdoors / 9:45 a.m. Discipleship Hour / 11:00 a.m. Indoors/Streaming)
a.m. Dr. Paul Young

June 18 (8:30 a.m. Outdoors / 10:00 a.m. Indoors/Streaming)
a.m. *Hope in Enemy-Occupied Territory* (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

June 25 (8:30 a.m. Outdoors / 10:00 a.m. Indoors/Streaming)
a.m. *Holy Living in Enemy-Occupied Territory* (1 Thessalonians 4:1-12)