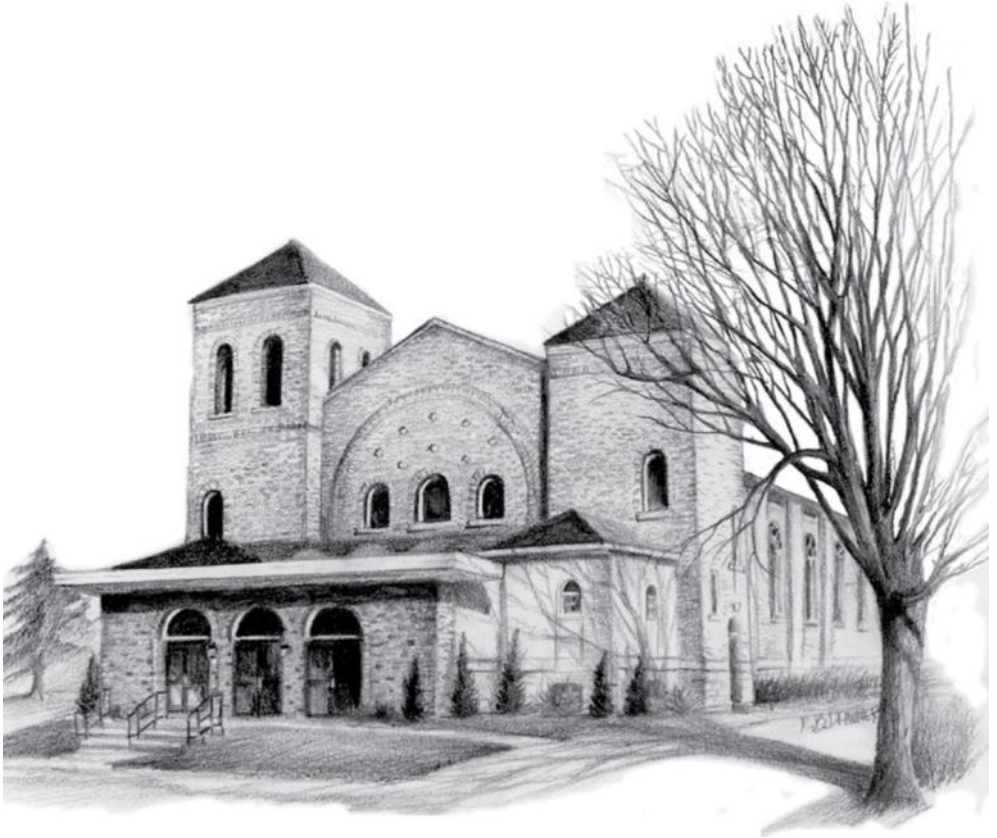




Houghton

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*

AMANDA COX, *Music and Worship Director*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 18, 2023

10:00 A.M.

Prelude: *Aria* (Flor Peeters)

Welcome

Call to Worship (from Hebrews 4)

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 457: ***My Hope is in the Lord***

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children's Sermon: ***Different on Purpose***

Songs of Adoration: ***Living Hope; King of Kings; Death Was Arrested***
(Offering will be received during the third 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.*

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

Song: ***Be Still, My Soul***

Sermon: **Hope in Enemy-Occupied Territory**

Pastor Wes Oden

Hymn 65: ***This is My Father's World***

Benediction

Postlude: *Prelude in Classic Style* (Gordon Young)

Organist: Judy Congdon **Acolyte:** Anna Harrison **Scripture Reader:** Sarah Derck

Music Ministry Team:

Evie Cox, Nathan Tanner, vocals; Matt Cox, guitar & vocals;

Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Jan Schilke, keyboard; Nico Seddio, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist writes, “Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom” (145:3). We gather for worship today to proclaim once again that God is great and to offer him our highest praise. As we worship this morning, let us open our hearts and minds to him in praise, adoration and celebration for who he is and for all that he has done.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING Pastor Wes will preach from 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 about *Dancing in Enemy-Occupied Territory*. We gather for worship at 8:30am (Outdoors) and 10:00am (Indoors/Streaming).

FAREWELL CELEBRATION: Next Sunday, June 25, 6:00pm, you are invited to a farewell celebration in honor of Pastor Paul Shea and Amanda Cox. Paul is retiring from his role as an Assistant Pastor and Amanda is concluding her 20 years of ministry as our Music and Worship Director. Along with food and an opportunity to express your appreciation to Paul and Amanda, there will be a brief program and presentation.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June 18 – September 3

8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship

10:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

September 10 – October 29

8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship

9:45 a.m. Discipleship Hour

11:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

HWC KIDS

- **Kids Summer Kickoff:** Saturday, June 24th, 10am-1pm - Adults and kids can both join the fun and spend three hours celebrating summer and sharing God's word! Adults, we need people to join our team to help with food, games, crafts, as group leaders, etc. Email Emily at emilyspate-holts@hwchurch.org to sign up to help today. Kids, sign up to join in the fun today at <https://hwc.breezechms.com/form/035e87>.
- **Kids Connect** may be done for the school year, but there is still so much to learn! Digital materials will continue to be sent home via email over the summer. Children's Church for PreK-1st graders will be offered on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.
- **This week**, kids learn about what happened between Cain and Abel. BIG IDEA: God made us different on purpose. BIBLE: Genesis 4:1-16.
- **Valley Preschool:** Applications for VPS for the fall are available now for kids ages 2-5. VPS meets MWF from 9:00-11:45am. Scholarships are available to most students. Email Casda Danner at casdadanner@hwchurch.org with questions or for more information.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$33,434.62 / **Budget Received:** \$33,686.79

MISSION MOMENT Again – the importance of ministry to children! This week we pray for a TEN3 Kids Conference at the Tanzania TEN3 Director’s elementary school later this month. 500-600 children 2-13 years old will be surrounded by the Love of Christ through His word in stories, games, safety skills, and Godly Use of Technology Skills (GUTS).

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH TEN3 President, Christie Dasaro, and her team in Nigeria are assisting 20,000 displaced people in their area in Central Nigeria. Six villages were attacked and destroyed in the ongoing opposition by Jihadists in Nigeria. We pray for God’s people to experience God’s strength and have perseverance in the midst of these challenges.

PRAYER CONCERNS: PRAYER CONCERNS: for the family and friends of Tim Fuller and for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Bob Stalker, 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 Anchor Church, Buffalo (Pastor Steve Johnson).