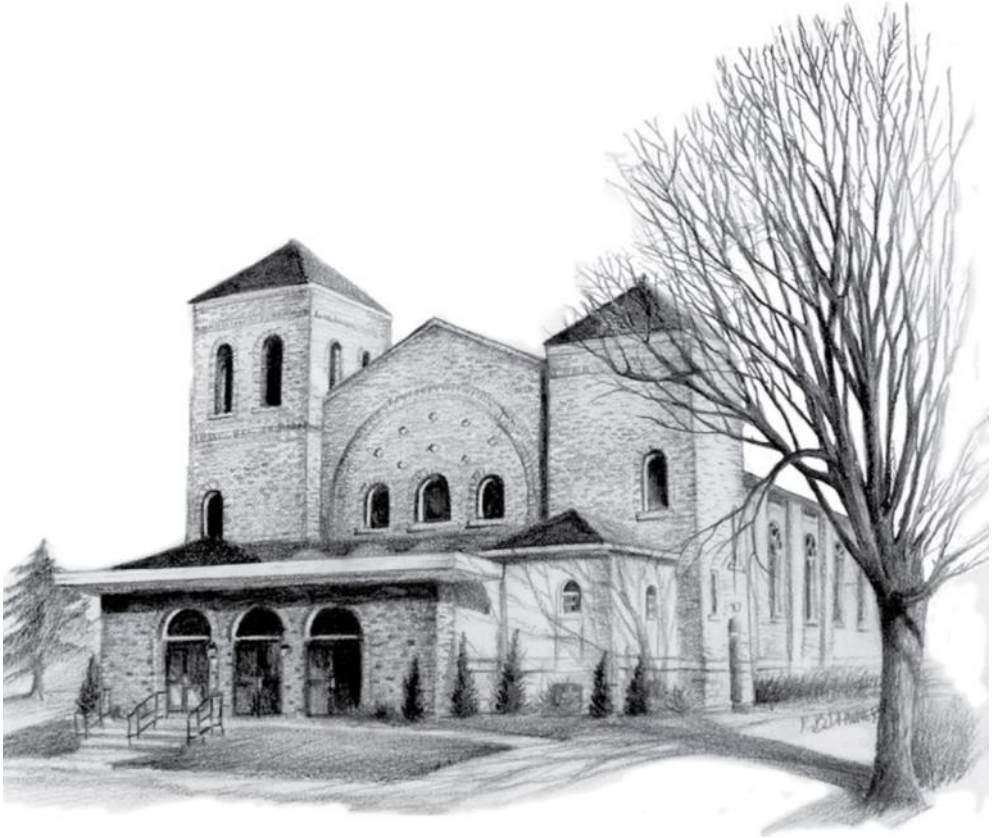




Houghton

WESLEYAN CHURCH

*Joyfully loving God,
wholeheartedly serving others*



WESLEY ODEN, *Senior Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

DAVID HUIZENGA, *Assistant Pastor*

CINDY ODEN, *Assistant Pastor*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

JUDY CONGDON, *Organist and Choir Director*

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 23, 2023

10:00 A.M.

Prelude: *Invocation*

C. Calahan

Welcome & Prayer

Hymn of Assurance: **#501 *The Church's One Foundation***

Announcements & Greeting One Another

Children's Sermon: *Stairs and Families*

Open Up the Heavens, Sons & Daughters of God (offering received)

Prayer of Confession

Lord, though you should guide us, we inform ourselves; though you should rule us, we control ourselves; though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves. We think your truth too high, your will too hard, your power too remote, your love too free. But they are not! And without them, we are of all people most miserable. Now heal our confused minds with your word, heal our divided wills with your law, heal our troubled consciences with your love, heal our anxious hearts with your presence, all for the sake of your Son, who loved us and gave himself for us. Amen

Time of Prayer

Response: Chorus of ***It is Well***

Scripture Reading: Genesis 18:16-33

Jeremy Bialek

Sermon: *Called to Be Partners With God*

Dr. Andrew Walton

Hymn of Devotion: **#336 *Breath on Me, Breath of God***

Benediction

Postlude: *Poco Vivace*

H. Schroeder

Organist: Judy Congdon

Acolyte: Avery Chapman

Music Ministry Team:

Alison Young Ruesser (guitar and vocals), Kristen Sanasith (vocals), Hilary Gunning (vocals), Nico Seddio (cajòn), Jan Schilke (keyboard)

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist encourages us to enter God's gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise (100:4). This morning we worship to rejoice in God's blessings and to ask for His help in our struggles. Wherever we are, God is with us! Let us open our lives to Him.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING Pastor Wes will preach from 1 Thessalonians 2, *Subversive Living in Enemy-Occupied Territory*.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

July 23 – 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

- HWC Kids: This week, kids hear about the dream Jacob had and the message he received. **BIG IDEA:** We always belong in God's family. **BIBLE:** Genesis 28:10-19a
- Valley Preschool: Turn in your applications today for a fun and faith-filled opportunity for 2 - 5 year olds in the fall! Applications available at the Church Office or online at hwchurch.org/valley-preschool/.
- Bikes on the Quad: Wednesday, 6:30pm, HU quad
- Family Friday: Friday, July 28, 6:30-8pm, Tanners' house (6096 Mechanic St., Wiscoy)

REFRESH RETREAT & FAMILY CAMP July 30-August 4 on the Houghton University Campus. Go to refreshathoughton.com for resources and registration.

“RISE UP AND PRAY” with MOMS IN PRAYER, an international ministry with focus on women desiring to pray for their children and schools. They will meet on Saturday, August 12 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Community Room. RSVP to Barbara Rubino by August 5 at connectmomsinprayer62@gmail.com. Light refreshments will be served. Invite a friend.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$117,021.17 / **Budget Received:** \$102,701.98

MISSION MOMENT - Pray for Ben and Christine Hegeman who depart this week for a 1 ½ month teaching ministry on the “Role of the Holy Spirit” for pastors in Benin, W. Africa. Teaching and materials are in French and Baatanu languages. Don Little later joins the first week of September for LTC training in Ministry among Muslims in East Africa. We pray for safety, strength, wisdom and God’s fruit.

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH - Patience, prayer, and public engagement with God’s blessing can bring about change where persecution has prevailed. Recent elections in Karnataka State in SW India has resulted in reversals of oppressive laws against minority religions, including Christians. Improvements in education opportunities, health care, and employment are anticipated. Pray for Christian witness to grow along with this good news.

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 the Levant Wesleyan Church (Pastor Al Meyers).