

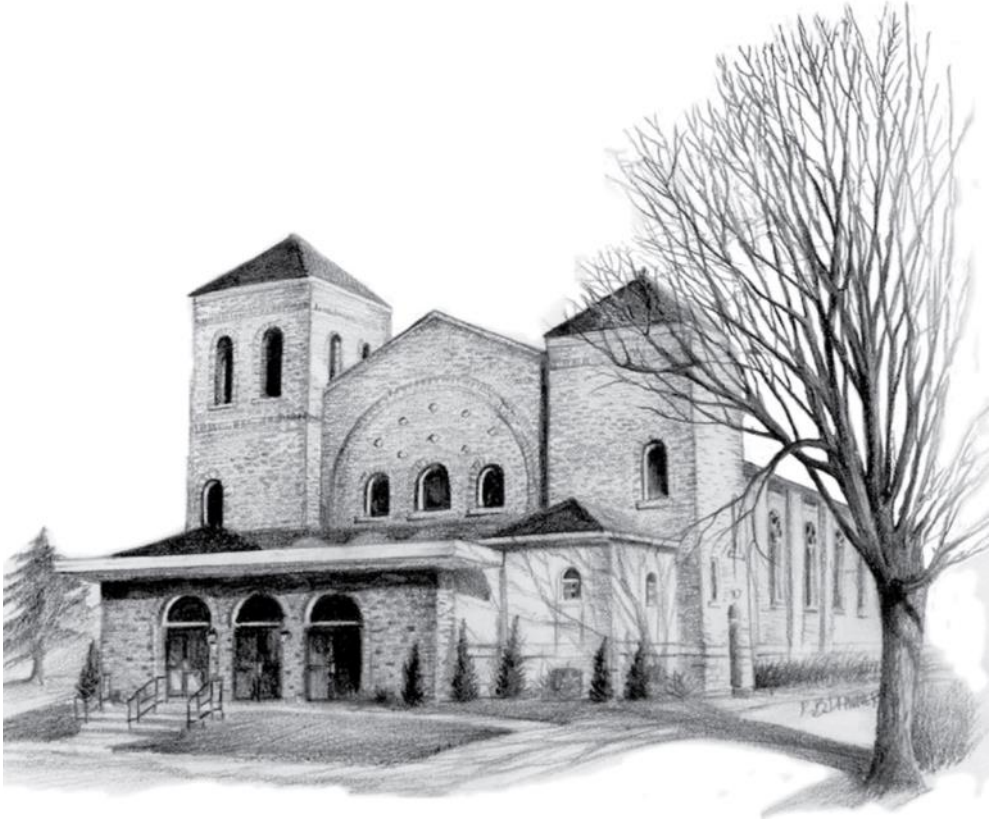


# Houghton

WESLEYAN CHURCH

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*Joyfully loving God,  
wholeheartedly serving others*



WESLEY ODEN, *Senior Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

DAVID HUIZENGA, *Assistant Pastor*

CINDY ODEN, *Assistant Pastor*

GRACE DEITRICK, *Assistant Pastor*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

JUDY CONGDON, *Organist and Choir Director*

# TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 20, 2023

10:00 A.M.

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Prelude: *Partita on "Showalter"* (Leaning on the Everlasting Arms) J. Spong

Invocation

Hymn of Praise: #502 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* (v.1-3)

Announcements & Greeting One Another

Celebrating God's Glory: *He Reigns Forever, A Thousand Hallelujahs*  
(offering received)

Children's Sermon: *God Never Sleeps*

Prayer of Confession

*Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor, nation against nation, even disciple against disciple. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us through the promise of Christ. In his name, set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Time of Prayer

Response: *Tu Fidelidad & Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, 4:9-12

Hymn of Preparation: #315 *Come, Holy Spirit, God and Lord*

Sermon: *Living Together in Enemy Occupied Territory*

Song of Aspiration: *Let it Be Said of Us*

Benediction

Postlude: *Trumpet Voluntary*

C. Callahan

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Acolyte: Cora Bates

Reader: Robin Pawling

Musicians: Alison Reusser Young (vocals), Bridget Walton (vocals),  
Luke Ogden (vocals), Gabe Huizenga (cajón), David Huizenga (piano)

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** Every Sunday is a time for remembering all that God has done and to celebrate the victory of Christ's resurrection. May God open our eyes, our ears, our minds and our hearts to him.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING:** The timing of the reappearing of Christ has been a topic of conversation and interest for centuries. Next Sunday, Pastor Wes brings this topic to our attention in a sermon from 1 Thessalonians 5, *Waiting in Enemy-Occupied Territory*. Come and engage in worship: outdoors at 8:30 and indoors/streaming at 11:00.

**ICE CREAM GATHERING:** Today 3:30 – 4:30, come enjoy some ice cream and fellowship as we welcome Houghton University students who are already on campus. Just come and enjoy some fellowship and an opportunity to connect with some university students. Please use the south driveway to enter and park.

**CONNECTING:** We are in the process of updating email addresses and phone numbers for texting so that everyone who desires receives information from the church. If you are not currently receiving either a text or email for Pastor Wes's weekly letter and weekly video chat, please contact the church office and we will update your information.

**SMALL GROUP LEADER ORIENTATION AUGUST 29, 7:00 P.M. (COMMUNITY ROOM)** - A new school year is fast approaching, and with it comes new schedules, new commitments, perhaps new neighbors, and possibly... a new commitment to discipleship via a banding group or small group? Pray about it and take the leap! One focus that the adult discipleship team has for this year is expanding efforts to equip and support small group leaders. This kicks off with a gathering for leaders and potential leaders or those simply curious about what small group leadership would entail.

## **UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

### **August 20 – August 27**

8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship

10:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

### **September 3 – September 24**

8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship

11:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

## **HWC Kids**

- This week, kids hear how Joseph reunited with his brothers and showed them kindness. **BIG IDEA:** God will make things right. **BIBLE:** Genesis 42:1-8; 45; Isaiah 56:1,6-8
- August Memory Verse: "By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me." — Psalm 42:8a (NIV)
- Reminder: There will be nursery this week; there will NOT be Children's Church
- Family Friday at the Jacobys' this week!
- Valley Preschool: Apply today for your spot in the fall! For more information or to apply visit <https://hwchurch.org/valley-preschool/> Contact Casda Danner at [casdadanner@hwchurch.org](mailto:casdadanner@hwchurch.org).

## **STEWARDSHIP**

**Budget Needed: \$183,890.41 / Budget Received: \$158,798.14**

**MISSION MOMENT** – Pray for Alan Shea who is two days into a ten-day intense work blitz at ELWA hospital and radio station in Monrovia, Liberia. Projects include oxygen plant, fiber optics, generator control upgrades among others. Immediately Alan travels on to Burundi with I-TEC and solar installation projects for Christian ministries. We pray for wisdom, health and safety over the next intense weeks.

**THE PERSECUTED CHURCH** – The Enemy behind persecution specializes in dividing believers. We pray for Christian unity in places where Satan is attacking the Church both blatantly and subtly around the globe.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for the family of Bill Getty who died this week (visitation Tuesday at the church from 2-4 p.m. followed by the service at 4 p.m.) and for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Vesta Mullen, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, Mim Case, Grace Taylor, Karen Gaerte, 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 fires in Lahaina, Hawaii, 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 Little Valley Wesleyan Church (Pastor Dan Butcher).