



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*

GRACE DEITRICK, *Assistant Pastor*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

JUDY CONGDON, *Organist and Choir Director*

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Prelude: Prelude on *Hail, Ye Sighing Sons of Sorrow*

G. Read

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise: **#2 O Worship the King**

Welcome & Announcements

Back to School Blessing

Greeting One Another

Songs of God's Greatness: ***Receive Glory, Hymn of Heaven***

Confession & Time of Prayer

Most gracious heavenly Father, you have proven to us that you are good. You create and rule over all that is. Nevertheless, so often we allow ourselves to be overwhelmed with anxiety and fear about possessions we crave, the needs of everyday life, the present and the future. We confess that our worry is rooted in a skewed view of who you are. Forgive us for doubting your care and for doubting the truth about who you are. Fill us with faith to seek you and to trust that you are more than enough. Through Christ, Amen.

Response: ***Santo, Santo, Santo*** (*Holy, Holy, Holy*)

Scripture: from Genesis 40&41

Sermon: *When You Feel Forgotten*

Hymn of Assurance: **#406 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**

Benediction

Postlude: *Paeon* ("Hymn of Praise")

R. Lau

Acolyte: Emma Oden

Reader: Sharon Hamilton

Musicians:

Alison Young-Reusser (vocal & guitar), Michael Jordan (vocal), Selah Kurtz (vocal), Lee James (cajón), Jill Jordan (violin), Tim McGarvey (horn), David Huizenga (piano)

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist proclaims: “Blessed is the one who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in His commands” (112:1). We come to worship today because we want to delight in God whose commands are given out of His heart of love. We pray that you experience the joy of God as we worship together.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING: Pastor Wes explores the story of another biblical character (actually, next week, two characters): the Hebrew midwives, Puah and Shiphrah. Their story is found in the first chapter of Exodus and it leads us to ask *Where Is God When We Come Face to Face with Evil?* Please join us for outdoor worship 8:30 a.m. and for indoor/streaming worship at 11:00 a.m. Discipleship Hour , Youth Sunday School and Kids Connect is at 9:45 a.m.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

September 10 – September 24

8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship

9:45 a.m. Kids Connect, Youth Sunday School,
Adult Discipleship Hour

11:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

October 1 – December 10

8:30 a.m. Indoor Worship

9:45 a.m. Kids Connect, Youth Sunday School,
Adult Discipleship Hour

11:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

YOUTH GROUP NEWS FOR TODAY

**9:45 a.m. “Youth Go to Sunday School with Your Parents” while
Youth Staff meet**

6-8pm tonight - See you at YG!

THE WEDNESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 9:30-10:45 am in the Good Shepherd Room (under the sanctuary). This first session will be a time of getting acquainted, introducing the study and having a time of prayer. We will be studying Profiles of Perseverance – Joseph, David, Elijah, Nehemiah, using Melanie Newton's easy to follow study guide. Since we don't have a permanent leader, each member will participate in facilitating sessions throughout the year. If you are interested, please come join us.

HWC NURSERY NOTE Hello wonderful nursery volunteers! We are so grateful for your service to the babies of HWC and their families! **We have only had 4 responses to volunteer for this coming school year.** We have an urgent need for more! If you haven't yet turned in your response, or are contemplating whether or not you might, please prayerfully discern if this is something you feel led to do and let Jan Schilke know ASAP. You may call or text her (716-904-2678) or notify the church office. Thank you so much for considering this plea! Many blessings on you and all the ways you touch the lives of others!

HWC KIDS - - Kids Connect starts TODAY at 9:45am! Sign in at the Welcome Desk and we'll help you find where you need to go. We can't wait to see you there!

- Kids Connect: This week, kids see how God protected the Israelites during the ten plagues and the Passover.
BIG IDEA: We follow God's Lead.
BIBLE: Exodus 7:14–10:29, 12:1–14; 1 Peter 1:13–21
- September Memory Verse: "Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths." — Psalm 25:4 (NIV)
- Kids Club: "Let's Kick It" kickoff event on Saturday, September 16th from 9:30-11am. Preschool - 6th grade; nursery provided.
- Stewards of Children training: Tuesday, Sept. 12th from 8-10:30pm

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$234,042.34 / **Budget Received:** \$ 210,723.53

MISSION MOMENT – Jim and Karen Szymanski, working out of Houghton with SIM/TEN3 in Christian use of computer technology for African school children, have been on an extended mid-west tour to supporting churches. They've shipped hundreds of reconditioned laptops to schools. Pray for Jim as he speaks and for both as they travel back this way in the coming weeks.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – There are four legally recognized religions in Eritrea: Sunni Islam, Eritrean Orthodox, Catholic, and Evangelical Lutheran. All others are subject to surveillance, raids, and imprisonment. There are 350 Christians thought to currently be in prison, under some of the harshest conditions in the world – often shipping containers in the desert heat, or underground cells, held without charge or trials. We pray.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Joe Scarcella (Ken and Karen Gaerte's son-in-law), James Bates, 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 Elijah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Emily Crikelair; for all dealing with tragedies and disasters; 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 North Collins Wesleyan Church (Pastor Jordan Kizewski).