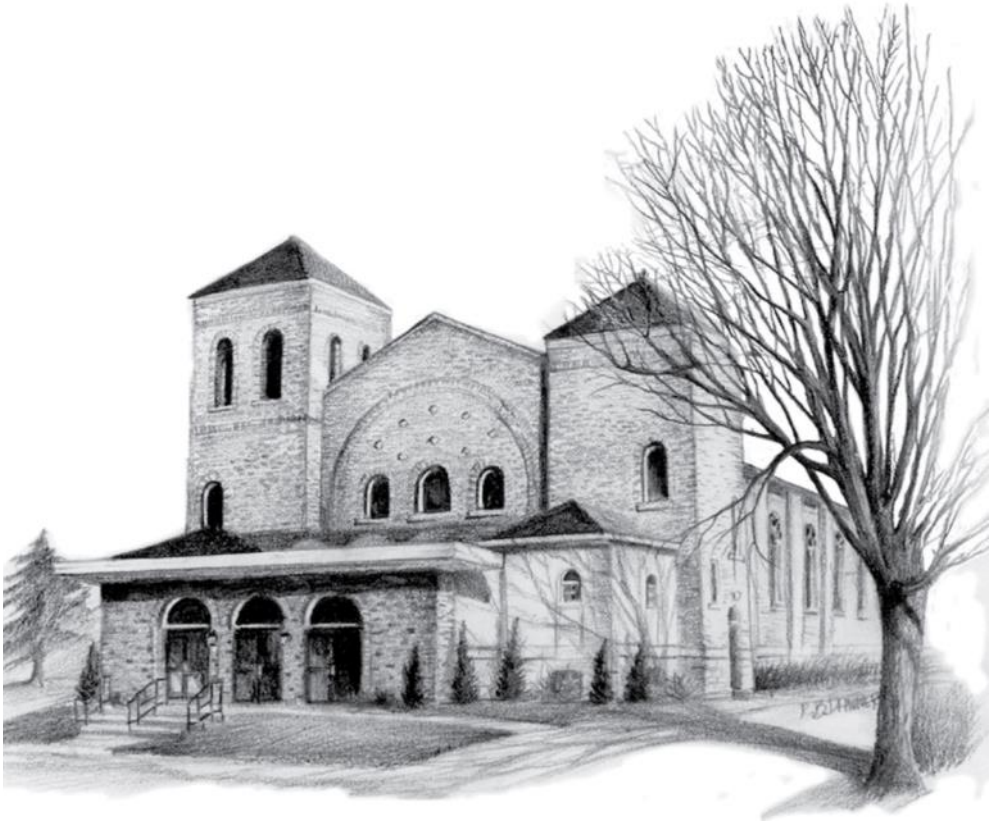




Houghton

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*

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Prelude: Prelude in A Major, BWV 536

J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

Introit: *Sanctus*

Houghton Church Choir

C. Gounod

Welcome & Announcements

Celebration of Ministry: Global Partners (Vienna)

Children's Sermon: *God Leads Us to Safety*

Greeting One Another

Songs of Conviction: ***You are God Alone, Speak to the Mountains***

Confession & Time of Prayer

Gracious God, we confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world. We have loved the gifts more than the giver. In your mercy, help us to see that all the things we pine for are shadows, but you are substance; that they are quicksands, but you are mountain; that they are shifting, but you are anchor. We plead your forgiveness on the merits of Jesus Christ. Accept his worthiness for our unworthiness, his sinlessness for our transgressions, his fullness for our emptiness, his glory for our shame, his righteousness for our dead works, his death for our life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Response: ***There is a Balm in Gilead***

Scripture: Exodus 1

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: *When You Feel the Reality of Evil*

Hymn of Confidence: **#65 *This is My Father's World***

Benediction

Postlude: *Allegro* from Sonata No. 2

F. Mendelssohn

Acolyte: Isabel Walton

Readers: Kristin Massey, Indigo Knapp

Musicians:

Cody Johnson (vocal), Robin Pawling (vocal), Grace Deitrick (vocal), Christopher Moeller (guitar), Gabe Huizenga (cajón & recorder), David Huizenga (piano)

WE ARE GRATEFUL for guest organist Jonathan Niemi, tenor Luke Ogden, and flutist Dianna Clem for enhancing our worship with their gifts this morning. Thank you!

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist proclaims: “The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and is armed with strength... Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity” (93:1-2). We worship today to affirm the Psalmist’s proclamation—with our words and with our lives. As we worship God the Father Almighty, may His Spirit fill us with the joy of worship that we might go forth to live in the presence of His power and love.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING: Pastor Wes explores the story of another biblical character: David’s brother, Eliab. We encounter him primarily in 1 Samuel 17 and it leads us to ask *When You Feel Overshadowed*. 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 17 – 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. This week we will be in Matthew

6-8 p.m. tonight - See you at YG!

HWC KIDS - -

- Kids Connect: We had a GREAT week with you all last week! See you again this Sunday at 9:45am. This week, kids see how God helped Moses lead the Israelites out of Egypt and through the Red Sea. BIG IDEA: God leads us to safety. BIBLE: Exodus 13:17-15:21; Psalm 91
- September Memory Verse: "Show me your ways Lord, teach me your paths." Psalm 25:4

MISSION MOMENT – Our partner, Stacia, in Eastern Europe requests urgent prayer this week for comings and goings of faithful servants and potential new team members. These transitions are critical to the ongoing ministry of this small band of Christian workers among in a challenging context.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – We pray as tens of thousands are impacted by flooding and earthquakes in Libya and Morocco -- nations overwhelmingly Sunni Muslim and which prohibit Christian activity. Yet the tiny minority of local and expat Believers are boldly responding with the compassion of Christ. Outside Christian agencies are sending aide by partnering with networks on site to bring shelter, medicine, and comfort. We may respond through www.worldhope.org or www.horizonsinternational.org.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$250,759.65 / **Budget Received:** \$230,663.46

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 Eliyah 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 Joy Community Church, Machias (Pastor Judy Gallegos).

For more information about church activities, visit our website:
www.hwchurch.org