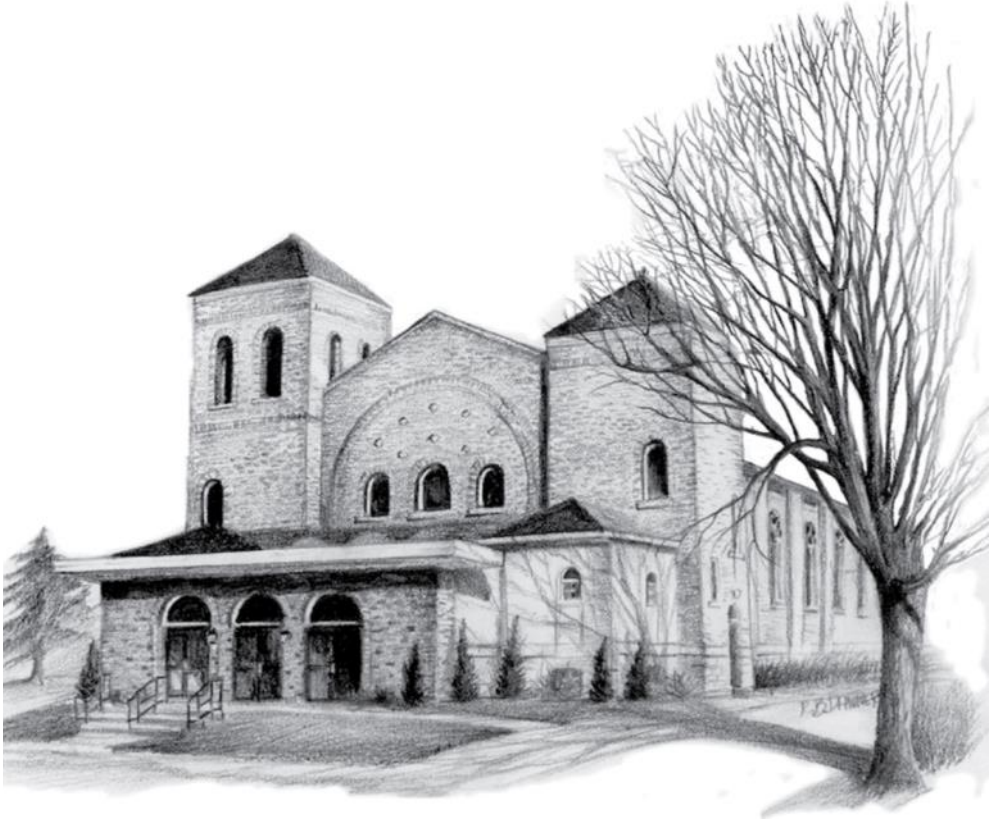




Houghton

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*

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 15, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Prelude: *Variations on "Old Hundred" (1-3)*

J.K. Paine

Invocation

Hymn of Praise: #33 ***For the Beauty of the Earth***

Announcements & Greeting One Another

The Praise is Yours; The Lord's Prayer
(Offering received during first song)

Children's Sermon: *The Best Directions*

Celebration of Ministry: Martin & Sheri Hegeman

Commemoration of Those We Lost Too Soon

Unison Lament (Psalm 80:14-19)

Return to us, God Almighty! Look down from heaven and see! Watch over this vine, the root your right hand has planted, the branch you have raised up for yourself. Your vine is cut down, it is burned with fire; at your rebuke your people perish. Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have raised up for yourself. Then we will not turn away from you; revive us, and we will call on your name. Restore us, Lord God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

Time of Prayer

Response: ***I Will Give You Rest***

Scripture: Matthew 4:12-22

Sermon: *When You Feel Your Plans Crumbling*

My Worth is Not in What I Own

Benediction

Postlude: *Variations on "Old Hundred" (Finale)*

J.K. Paine

Acolytes: Kadee and Joseph Hoffman

Reader: Harold Blew

Musicians:

Alison Young Ruesser (vocal & guitar), Michael Jordan (vocal), Robin Pawling (vocal), Jill Jordan (violin), Gabe Huizenga (cajòn), David Huizenga (piano)

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The goodness of God is evident in His wondrous gift of creation. At this time of year when the leaves are changing and the air is cooler, we rejoice in our creative God. On this day set aside for corporate worship, let us turn our full attention to Him and give thanks for every gift of His grace.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING: Pastor Wes explores another of the stories of people who are like us. Next week's sermon focuses our attention on the synagogue attendant mentioned in Luke 4. The sermon focuses on the idea: When You Feel the Status Quo Shifting. Next Sunday we gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00, both indoors. The 11:00 service will be streamed. Adult Discipleship Hour, Youth Sunday School and Kids Connect is at 9:45 a.m.

PRAYER VIGIL PROMOTION: When you consider the connection between *prayer* and the *faithfulness of God*, what particular experience, event, or spiritual season comes to mind? Would you share that story with us? We are looking for stories to highlight our 15-year prayer vigil tradition in a series of videos. If you and/or your family would like to share your 10-second or 10-minute story, contact Pastor Grace at gracedeitrick@hwchurch.org to film this week or at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

KIDS CONNECT : This week, kids hear about the golden calf and the trouble it caused. BIG IDEA: We can turn to God when we're lost. BIBLE: Exodus 32:1-14; Philippians 4:4-9

October Memory Verse: I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." — Isaiah 43:19b (NIV)

Harvest Festival: Help make our outreach event a success! Sign up today (<https://www.PerfectPotluck.com/MNBK2950>) to contribute baked goods or enter the soup cook-off. Donate candy or individually packed snacks to be used in our goody bags; drop items off in the CE building foyer or at the Church office today. Thanks!

October is Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Loss Awareness Month: In lieu of our traditional Bereavement Service, we are choosing to honor our children lost too soon and their families in a couple of different ways this year. "Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day is observed on October 15th each year. In the United States, 1 out of every 4 pregnancies ends in miscarriage and 1 and every 160 pregnancies end in stillbirth." (<https://pregnancyafterlosssupport.org>) Please take a look at the special display in the nursery to honor and remember the children in our Church that are waiting for us in Heaven. Additionally, we encourage anyone interested to participate in the "Pink and Blue Awareness Project - The Pink and Blue Awareness Project is a 100% volunteer run project that makes and donates bracelets to be worn in October for Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. We wear these bracelets beginning in October to raise awareness and to honor the thousands of babies lost to pregnancy and infant loss every year. One in four women suffer pregnancy and infant loss, often in silence. Wearing this bracelet shows your support for these families." (<https://www.thecooperproject.org/pink-and-blue-project>) Pick up a bracelet at the CE Welcome Desk to wear during the month of October.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$317,628.89 / **Budget Received:** \$291,559.46

MISSION MOMENT – We welcome Martin and Sheri Hegeman and children, Nicholas and Lynae, here to report after serving on the staff of Sahel Academy in Niger for the past several years. We've frequently prayed for them and workers there in a country now filled with uncertainty. We pray for guidance as they discern next steps working with SIM Mission. (They speak at Kaleidoscope in gym at 9:45).

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Christians around the world are not cut off from us -- they ARE the Body of Christ. When they suffer, we suffer. Their prevailing joy and triumph in suffering inspires and empowers us. Today we pray for believers remaining in earthquake ravaged parts of Afghanistan, who could face death if their faith were made public.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Betsy Webb, Paul Roth, Matthew Pierson (Kim Prins-Moeller's brother-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 peace in the conflict in Israel and help for those caught in the crossfire of war; for a Chinese pastor who has been detained for more than a year; for the Fellowship Wesleyan Church, West Seneca (Pastor David Schutte).