

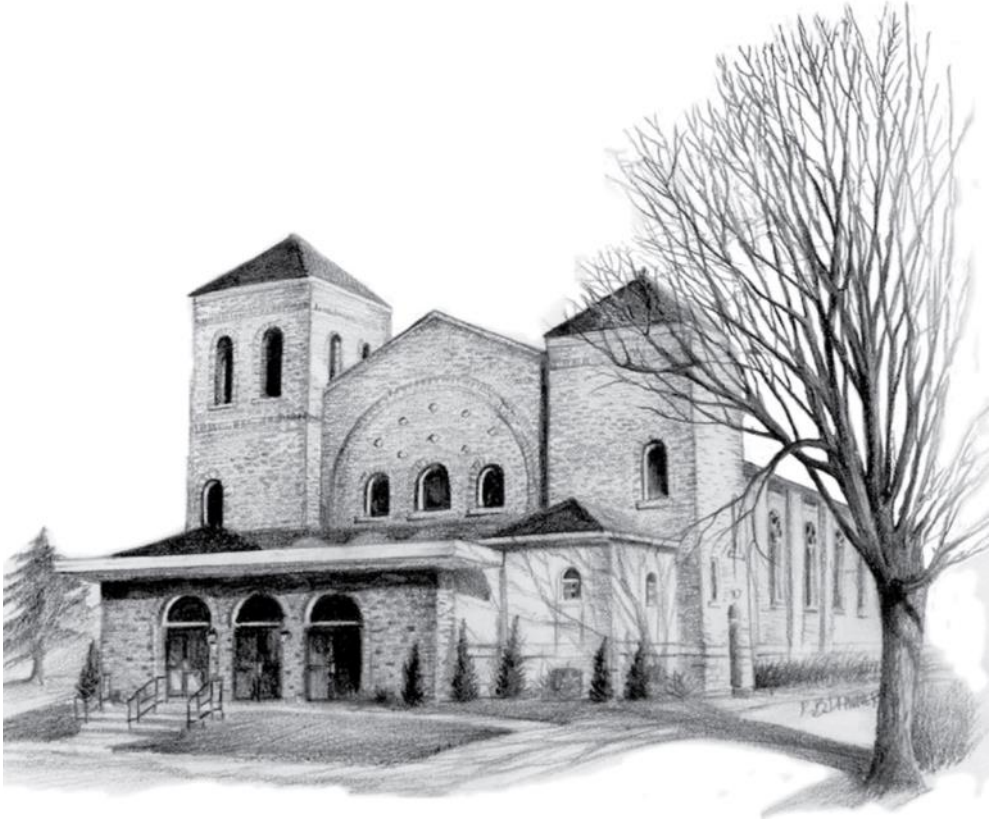


# Houghton

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*

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**  
NOVEMBER 5, 2023  
8:30 A.M.

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***Behold Our God***

***God Help Me***

Offering will be received during this song

Prayer Vigil Video

Welcome & Announcements

Children's Sermon: *Obstacles*

Time of Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen*

Response: ***Take Me as I Am***

Scripture Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

Greeting One Another

(Children Ages Preschool through First Grade Dismissed)

Sermon: *When You Feel That You Have to Convince God*

Communion

***Same God; Hymn of Heaven***

Benediction

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Acolyte: Oakley Wartinger

Reader: Terry Ayers (video)

**Musicians:**

Bridget Walton (vocal), Susannah Denham (vocal), Selah Kurtz (vocal),  
Ryan Kullander (guitar), Dan Zambrano (cajón), Jan Schilke (keyboard),  
David Huizenga (piano)

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** As we worship today, we praise God for who he is and we give thanks to God for all that he has done for us and for this world. May our worship enable us to open our hearts and lives to all that he desires to say to us and do in us.

**PRAYER VIGIL EVENT:** Our three-week, 24-hour a day prayer vigil is now one week in. You can sign up this morning in the sanctuary foyer or anytime online ([hwchurch.org](http://hwchurch.org)) for an hour or more. Please contact the church office if you do not have internet access or are unsure about signing up online. The prayer room has been designed in a variety of ways to help us experience this theme. We have also designed a new prayer page on our website with all prayer materials and prayer room pictures.



**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING:** Pastor Wes explores another of the stories of people who are like us. Next week's sermon focuses our attention on Phoebe who Paul mentions in Romans 16: When You Are Called to Lead. Next Sunday we gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service will be streamed. Adult Discipleship Hour, Youth Sunday School and Kids Connect is at 9:45 a.m.

**NOVEMBER IN HWC KIDS - "On the Right Track":** Racers, start your engines! In a race, you might need to navigate obstacles, pit stops, and tight turns in order to stay on the right track. As you're zooming through the track, there's so much to think about and it can be hard to stay focused on what's most important! In this four-week series, we'll learn some important stories from Joshua about how obstacles are no problem for God and courage comes from knowing God's words. No matter how long the race, God can use someone like you because with God, there is victory!

- November Memory Verse: "Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful." — Hebrews 10:23 (NIV)
- Kids Connect: This week, kids learn about the spies in the Promised Land.  
BIG IDEA: Obstacles are no problem for God.  
BIBLE: Numbers 13–14:9; Psalm 107:1–7,33–37
- Kids Club: Saturday, November 18, 9:30-11:00am, PreK - 6th Grade  
Do you love show-and-tell? It is so much more than a chance to show off your favorite stuff — it is a chance to tell stories about the people, experiences, and memories that matter most to you. This month, we're practicing the spiritual habit of sharing your story of faith with a new spin on show and-tell! In this version, you will have the opportunity to hear faith stories and creatively create and share your own story! For those interested, we will be filming the kids sharing their stories to be shared in an upcoming service.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:** Shoeboxes due no later than Wednesday, November 15th.

## **STEWARDSHIP**

**Budget Needed:** \$367,780.82 / **Budget Received:** \$333,051.17

**MISSION MOMENT**— The Bible Translation work in the Oby language is gaining traction, according to missionary, Leah in recent contact. This means that more of our support in this region is equipping her local translation and literacy colleagues. We pray for continued success in getting God's Word in the hands of the people in this S. E. Asia land.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** – Today is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church with millions of Believers joining hearts in prayer for their sisters and brothers around the world. Just this week word came from one of our own missionary's colleagues in northern Nigeria that bandits raided their mission station, kidnapping some and scattering others. We pray that God will help all to escape and be safe.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Kyle Boon, Linda Roth, Paul Roth, Matthew Pierson (Kim Prins-Moeller's brother-in-law), James Bates, Vesta Mullen, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, 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 including the recent storms; for refugees throughout the world; for protection, wisdom and peace in Ukraine and in Israel, Gaza and the entire Middle East; for a Chinese pastor who has been detained by the police for more than a year; for Mission of Christ Church, Buffalo (Pastor Yoshua Bashizi).