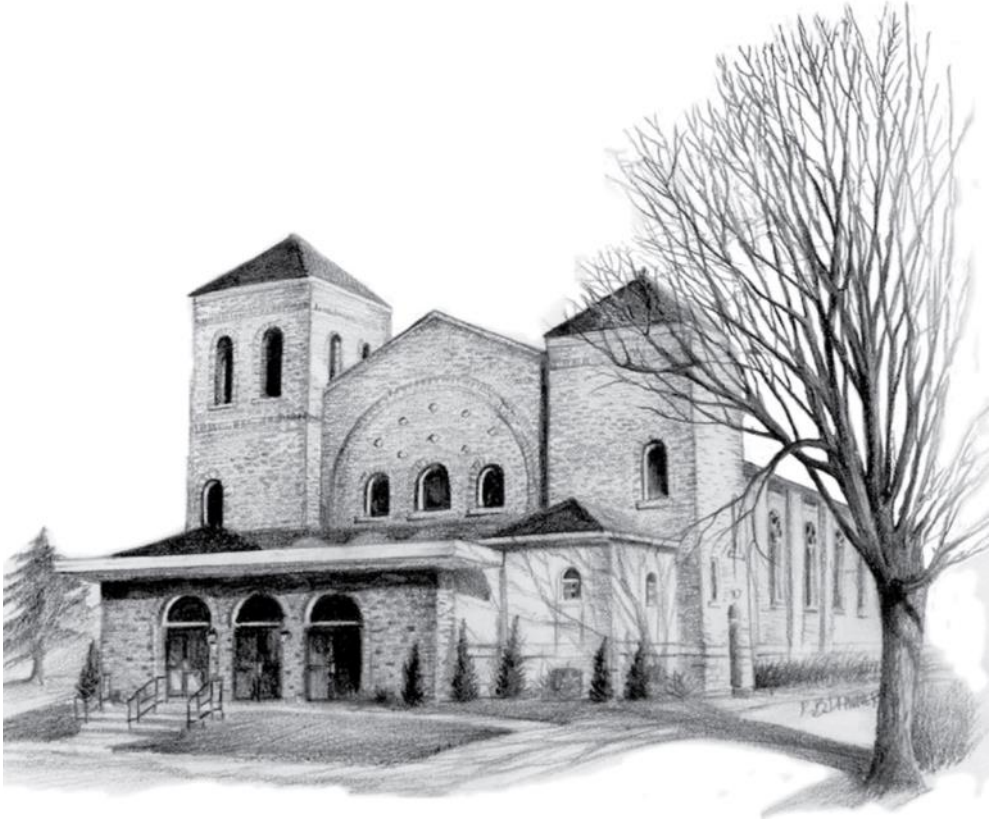




Houghton

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*

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 14, 2024

11:00 A.M.

Prelude: *Chorale Prelude on "Nun bitten wir den Heiligen Geist"*

D. Buxtehude

Call to Worship

Stand Up and Bless the Lord (#20)

Life of the Church

Children's Sermon: *The Great Physician*

Reckless Love; No Longer Slaves

Offering received during songs.

Confession & Time of Prayer

God of Grace, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Pursue us, O Father. Christ Jesus, forgive our sin and dismiss the accusations of the evil one. Holy Spirit, restore to us the joy of our salvation, we pray. Amen.

Response: *Take Me As I Am*

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:11-32

Greeting One Another

Sermon: *A Glimpse into God's Heart*

Communion

Christ is Mine Forevermore; Rescuer; All My Life Long I Had Panted

Benediction

Postlude: *Menuet Gothique*

L. Boellman

Acolyte: Alexander Zambrano

Reader: James Adenuga

Musicians:

Kristen Sanasith (vocals), Grace Deitrick (vocals),
Heidi Huizenga (vocals), Christopher Moeller (guitar),
Gabe Huizenga (cajòn & ukulele),
Jill Jordan (violin), David Huizenga (piano)

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.

Worship is both a privilege and a responsibility. We rejoice that the Almighty God inhabits the praise and worship of his people. We also feel the weight of worship as an act of surrender to God and his kingdom purposes. As we worship today from wherever we are, may the privilege and responsibility of worship lead us to give glory to God in this time and in every time.

THE LORD'S SUPPER: This morning we are receiving the elements of communion by intinction (to dip in). When your row is released, come to the front, tear off a piece of bread, dip it into the cup and eat it. You may return to your seat by the outside aisle. As an alternative to intinction, we have set up stations with trays of bread and cups as well as gluten-free bread. If you prefer to use these elements, feel free to walk past the intinction servers and proceed to the trays. If coming to the front is difficult for you or if you prefer, please inform the usher and we will serve you in your seat.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service will be streamed. Pastor Wes continues this series of sermons on hospitality. Next Sunday is from Genesis 18: *Christlike Living Unawares*.

HWC KIDS

- Nursery, Children's Church, and Kids Connect are back on the regular schedule this week!
- Kids Connect: This week, kids see how Jesus called Philip and Nathanael to follow him. BIG IDEA: I can trust Jesus knows me. BIBLE: John 1:43–51; Psalm 139:13–18
- Memory Verse: “I can do all this through him who gives me strength.” — Philippians 4:13 (NIV)
- Kids Club: Kids ages PreK–6th, join us on January 20th, 9:30–11am, for a mashup of activities from our curriculum provider, GROW, focusing on two of the spiritual habits: using our gifts and spending time with God. Kids will spend time exploring how God uniquely made them and how they can use those unique qualities to love God, love others, and impact the world around them. They will then adopt a new stuffed buddy as they learn how spending time growing in relationship with God through personal times of prayer, reading Scripture, reflection, and worship can help us discover our gifts and God's love. Join us!

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$534,953.92 / Budget Received: \$504,873.96

MISSION MOMENT- Fresh news from Romy and Linda Caringal in Cambodia tell of visits to three different small churches on Christmas Day in this mostly Buddhist land. Pray that young and old who heard the story of why Jesus came for the first time will seek to follow Him.

PERSECUTED CHURCH - Is it too bold to ask God to break through and transform the lives of the leaders of violent movements in the Sahel region of Africa? May 2024 be a year of de-escalation of violence in that region.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Beth Pocock, Jim Arthur, 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, 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 Higgins Wesleyan Church (Pastor Bruce Smith).