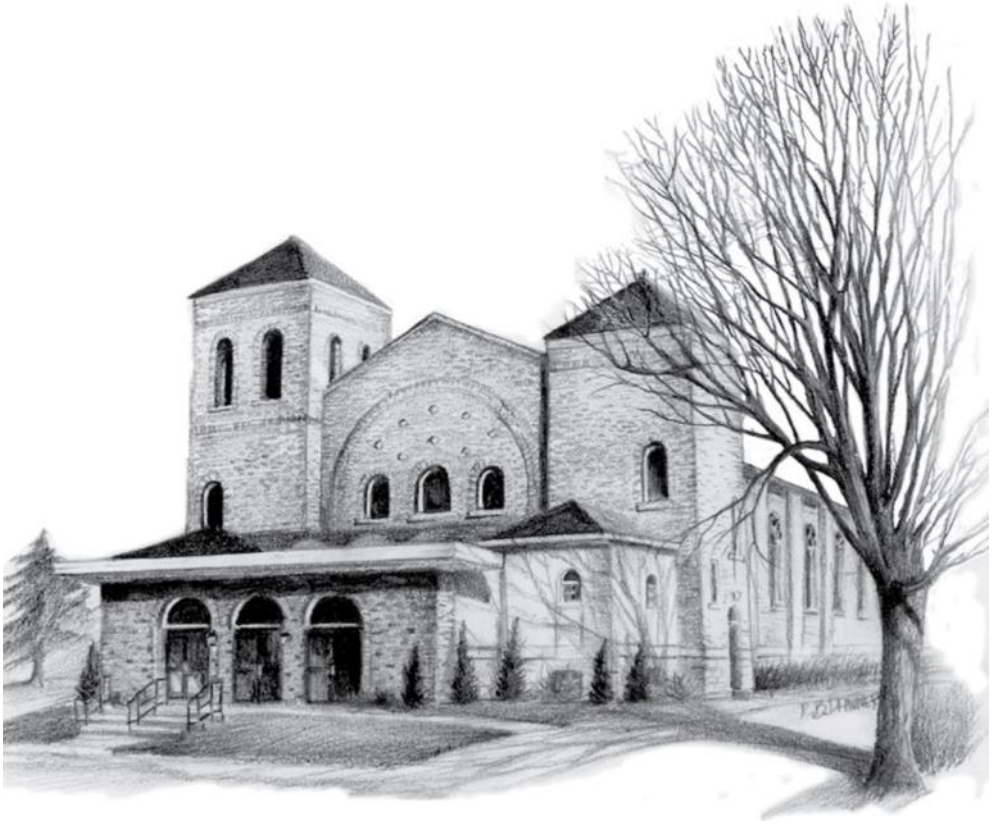




Houghton
WESLEYAN CHURCH

*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*

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 28, 2024

11:00 A.M.

Prelude: *Prayer*

L. Boellman

Call to Worship & Prayer

Choral Anthem: *Neither Death Nor Life*

M. Haugen

Greeting One Another and Life of the Church

Celebration of Ministry: Acolyte Ministry

The Praise is Yours; Fairest Lord Jesus

Children's Sermon: *Even Me*

Preparation for Prayer: ***We Fall Down*** (offering taken during this song)

Confession & Time of Prayer

O God, whose chosen dwelling is the heart that longs for Your presence and humbly seeks Your love, we come to You to acknowledge and confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved You with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, nor have we loved our neighbor ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and for the good we have left undone. Because You, O Lord, are full of compassion, gracious, slow to anger, and plentiful in mercy, there is forgiveness with You. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, and make it overflow into the lives of all those around us. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

Scripture Reading: Luke 7:36-50

Sermon: *Redefining Hospitality*

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Benediction

Postlude: *Toccata in E Minor*

J. Pachelbel

Acolyte: Cora Bates

Reader: Jamie Mullen

Musicians:

Mike Cox (vocals), Selah Kurtz (vocals),
Betsy Webb (vocals and keyboard), Dan Zambrano (cajòn),
Aidan Schooley (guitar), David Huizenga (piano)

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.

The 23rd Psalm describes God as the shepherd of his people. Jesus declares that he is the Good Shepherd who cares for his sheep. As we worship today, we remember that God promises to care for all that he has made and in response, we worship him.

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's sermon is from Acts 2: *A Culture of Hospitality*.

YOUTH GROUP does not meet tonight.

THE WEDNESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets every Wednesday through mid May at 9:30-10:45 a.m. This week they meet in **ROOM 105** across from the church Library We would be glad to have you come for a time of Bible study and prayer.

HWC KIDS

- Kids Connect: This week, kids see how Jesus called someone unexpected like Matthew to follow him.
- BIG IDEA: I can include people who aren't like me.
- BIBLE: Matthew 9:9–13; Psalm 111
- January Memory Verse: "I can do all this through him who gives me strength." — Philippians 4:13 (NIV)

MISSION MOMENT— On February 25 Chris and Melissa George will visit HWC just before their return to Western Australia. In 19 years, they have been at the forefront of establishing a whole new Wesleyan Church District with 5 diverse congregations. Both Chris and Melissa pastor a church, encourage others, train leaders and actively represent Christ in the community. They ask us to pray for God to provide necessary monthly support in these remaining weeks.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Persecution of Christians is often out of view and not reported. Columbia, South America, is a case where rural pastors are often harassed, extorted and even murdered by gangs because the church teaches godly living to youth and oppose criminal activity, drug trafficking and corruption of all kinds. Believers face threats, capture, abuse and loss of access to basic needs all under the radar! We pray for courage and relief.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$568,388.54 / **Budget Received:** \$544,552.26

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Jack and Linda Leax, Jim Arthur, Beth Pocock, 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 Centerville United Methodist Church, Hume (Pastor Robert Schooley).

MISSED YOUR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM HWC?

If you aren't getting our mailings and would like to receive:

- The *Highlights* Monthly Newsletter
- Weekly Updates Letter from Pastor Wes
- Information about Special Events
- Ministry Information /Announcements (Children, Youth, etc.)
- Changes in the service schedule (weather updates)

Send your name, preferred email / cellphone number to the church at office@hwchurch.org and we will add you to our mailing list by your preferred contact method. This information is for our internal database only and will not be shared with outside organizations.