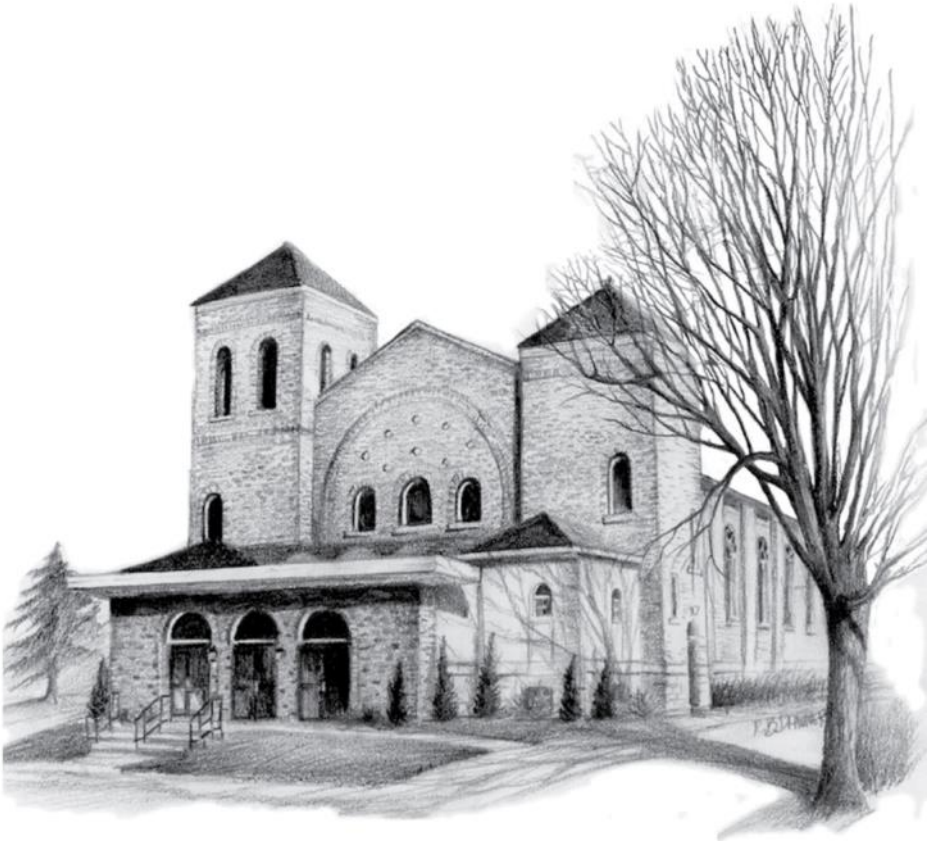
Houghton
WESLEYAN CHURCH

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*

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024
8:30 A.M.

Speak to the Mountains

Life of the Church

Celebration of Ministry: Walk for Life

Children's Sermon: *Wake Up Call*

Goodness of God; No Longer Slaves
Offering will be received during the first song.

Time of Prayer

Response: ***Speak O Lord***

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:13-20

Greeting One Another (Children Ages Preschool through First Grade Dismissed)

Sermon: *Good Fruit*

By Our Love

Benediction

Acolyte: Kallan Sanasith **Reader**: Matthew Foster

Musicians:
Mike Jordan, Cody Johnson (vocals),
Alison Young Reusser (vocals & guitar), Simon Sardina (cajòn),
Jan Schilke (keyboard), David Huizenga (piano)

Welcome to the Houghton Wesleyan Church. The Psalmist proclaims, "The LORD is king! He is robed in majesty. Indeed, the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength. The world is firmly established; it cannot be shaken" (93:1, NLT). We come together today to worship the Lord who is king and sovereign over all the earth through the resurrection of Christ.

Next Sunday Morning Instead of a typical sermon, the pastors and elders will be available to pray for all who desire it—for yourself or for someone else. The 11:00 service will be streamed as usual. Kids Connect, Youth Sunday School and Adult Discipleship are at 9:45.

Annual Meeting: Everyone—those who are members and those who are not—are invited to a gathering of our congregation on Tuesday, May 14, 6:30pm in the Community Room. You will hear brief reports from Pastor Wes, the Elders, Facilities Stewards, and our church treasurer. In addition, you will have opportunities to discuss and ask questions about the budget or anything else. Childcare will be provided.

Annual Election: The Nominating Committee has put together a ballot for this year's election of church leaders. Sample ballots are posted in various places around the church. If you would like for the Nominating Committee to consider any other potential nominees, please contact Pastor Wes by Wednesday, April 24. The election of leaders will take place on Sunday May 19 (in person) and the week of May 13 (online).

Church Work Day: We are hosting our annual work day on Saturday, May 4, 8:30 a.m. – Noon. You can stay the whole time or part of it. We will be working mostly outside and mostly sprucing up the grounds. We will supply some tools. If you have tools you can bring, be sure to label them. We will provide cinnamon rolls and coffee. Bring your children: families are welcome. It's a great time to meet new people as we work together.

Staying Connected: Pastor Wes continues sending out a weekly update on Tuesday and a video meditation on Thursday. Both can be accessed through email, text or the church website and Facebook pages. If you are not receiving these communications and would like to, please contact the church office (office@hwchurch.org) or 585-567-2264.

HWC KIDS

- Kids Connect: This week, kids hear Jesus share a story about a rich man and a poor man named Lazarus. BIG IDEA: Love always needs action. BIBLE: Luke 16:19–31; 1 John 4:7–21
- April Memory Verse: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."— Hebrews 13:8 (NIV)

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: $785,713.57 / **Budget Received:** $768.007.83

MISSION MOMENT – A recent letter from Rev. Cedric Rodrigo, our pastor in Sri Lanka, praises God for growing opportunities in children's outreach with two new locations for kids ministry in the capital, Colombo. More and more children are turning to education in English and the need for programs in English is growing. Let's pray for God to reach the hearts of children in Sri Lanka.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Christians are fewer than 10% of Sri Lanka's population. Conversion from Buddhism (68%), Hinduism (13%), or Islam(7%) are very rare. Attacks on churches and other Christian institutions are rising and Christians face increased restrictions on their activities. National identity focuses on Buddhism. We pray for vibrant Christian witness to shine the Light of Christ in spite of obstacles.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for all with health concerns: Jane Roeske, Jack and Linda Leax, Jim Arthur, Beth Pocock, Kyle Boon, Linda Roth, Paul Roth, James Bates, Vesta Mullen, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, Karen Gaerte, 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 refugees throughout the world; for protection, wisdom and peace in Ukraine and throughout the Middle East; for Belmont Gospel Fellowship Church (Pastor Patrick Lyons).

For more information about church activities, to read Pastor Wes's weekly letter, or to watch Pastor Wes's weekly video, to receive periodic updates, visit our website: www.hwchurch.org.