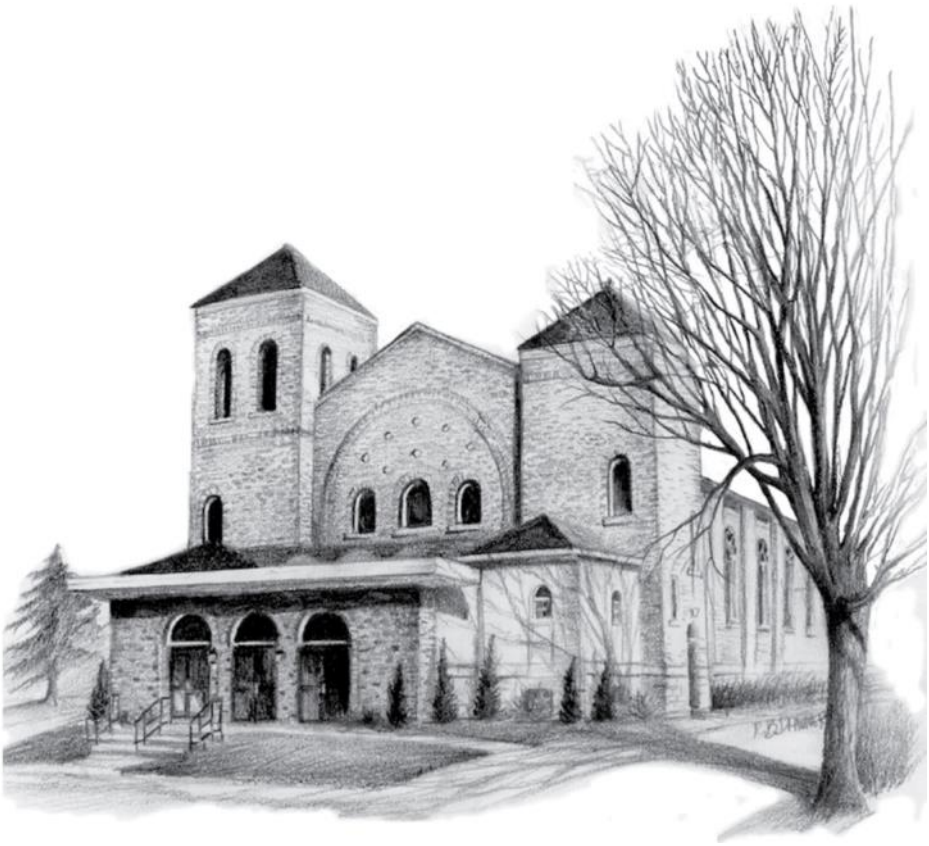
Houghton
WESLEYAN CHURCH

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*

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 7, 2024 10:00 a.m.

Prelude: David Huizenga, piano

Call to Worship (from Philippians 4)

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

***And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.***

*Hymn 2 ***O Worship the King***

Life of the Church

Celebration of Ministry: Royal Family Kids Camp

*Songs of Adoration: ***He Is Exalted; Sons and Daughters***
(Offering will be received during the second song)

Prayer of Confession

Merciful Lord, You have told us that if we love You, then we are to do so with all of our hearth, soul, mind, and strength. While knowing this comand, we confess that instead of living in total surrender, we have resolved to give You 'just enough.' We declare 'You are Lord' with our mouths, but we do not affirm it with our lives. We follow the path of ease and comfort instead of choosing to live in faithful obedience. We hoard all that we can instead of trusting you for our daily bread. We seek vain recognition instead of bringing You glory. Forgive us, Lord—our thoughts, attitudes, and actions that have hindered us and other people from experiencing Your great love. Amen.

Time of Prayer

Song of Response: ***Hiding in Thee (O Safe to the Rock)***

Scripture Reading: Psalm 77

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Greeting One Another

Sermon: *Struggling with God*
Pastor Wesley Oden

Communion ***Windows; All My Life Long I Had Panted***

*Benediction

*Please stand if able Acolytes: Kailyn & Lauren Cox

Scripture Reader: Kevin Dibble

Musicians:
Kevin Dibble, vocals; Alison Young Reusser, guitar & vocals; Betsy Webb, keyboard & vocals; Dianna Clem, flute; Dan Wartinger, cajón

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WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. Though we come to this time of worship from a variety of circumstances and situations, we come together on this summer Sunday morning for the purpose of giving thanks to God through our Lord Jesus Christ and to receive his word to us. During this hour may you sense God's grace, mercy and word upon your life.

HOLY COMMUNION: This morning, we are receiving Holy Communion. Rows will be released to the front where bread and cup are available. If you prefer, we have trays of bread (including gluten-free wafers) and cups available as well. All who desire to follow Jesus in trust and love and who desire to live in fellowship and love with others are invited to receive.

PASTOR WES will be speaking at the Lighthouse Christian Camp in Lamar, PA this week. Please pray that God will make the camp fruitful.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING the Rev. Paul Rowley will preach.

FIRESIDE CHATS FOR MARRIED COUPLES continue this Sunday evening at 6:00 PM. For the next 4 weeks, we'll converse about a different topic. Open to all couples—new or experienced, wisdom-givers or struggling, you are welcome. Location is the church outside, weather permitting. Message Jon Cole with questions.

HWC KIDS:

- New July series for Children's Church and home: "Turn It Up": What do you do when you hear your favorite song? Turn it up, of course! While we might love blasting our favorite music, we can also learn how to turn up God's voice in our lives. In this four-week series, kids will follow some key moments in the life of David, the famous musician, poet, and king, and they'll learn about some of the ways David trusted God during some difficult times in his life. Through each story, we'll learn God is with us when we feel weak,God helps us overcome big things, God comforts us when we're afraid, and God helps us live in harmony."
- July Memory verse: "Sing to the Lord with grateful praise; make music to God on the harp." - Psalm 147:7
- This week, kids learn how Samuel anointed David to become king after Saul. BIG IDEA: God, you're with me when I feel weak. BIBLE: 1 Samuel 15:1-23, 16:1-13, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10.
- Coming events: Family Friday on the 19th and Kids Club ("Wacky Water" slip-n-slide and water games) on the 20th.

Mission Moment – "You prayed, God answered," is how Martin and Sherry Hegeman started their newsletter this week. They've embarked on a new one year commitment working with dozens of MK's in Dallas, TX and beyond. Martin started with a bang involved in an intensive five-day conference investing in youth from various organizations. Thank God for this "perfect fit" ministry this summer and for the next year in Dallas and beyond.

Persecuted Church – We pray for MEDAIR and similar organizations working in refugee campus and war zones throughout the world to bring essential health care, food and other necessities in the name of Jesus to the thousands suffering amidst violence and displacement. An example is Mudja camp in Goma, DRC , with 20,000 people and more arriving every week fleeing armed clashes.

Stewardship— Budget Needed: $77,476.05 / **Budget Received:** $56,618.13

Summer Worship Schedule

July 14-August 25
8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship
11:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

August 11
10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship / Pig Roast and Picnic

September 2 – September 29
8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship
11:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

September 9
9:45 a.m. Discipleship Hour restarts

Prayer Concerns: for the family and friends of Vesta Mullen and all who are grieving; for all with health concerns: Jane Roeske, Jack and Linda Leax, Patty Stalker, Jim Arthur, Beth Pocock, Kyle Boon, Paul and Linda Roth, James Bates, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, Karen Gaerte, Denise Zambrano, Cameron Green, Vangie Grant, Dan and Sarah Gurley, Chelsea Ellis, Mark Mayhle, Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Emily Crikelair; for refugees throughout the world; for protection, wisdom and peace in Ukraine, the Middle East and other places of war; for Dalton Assembly of God.

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