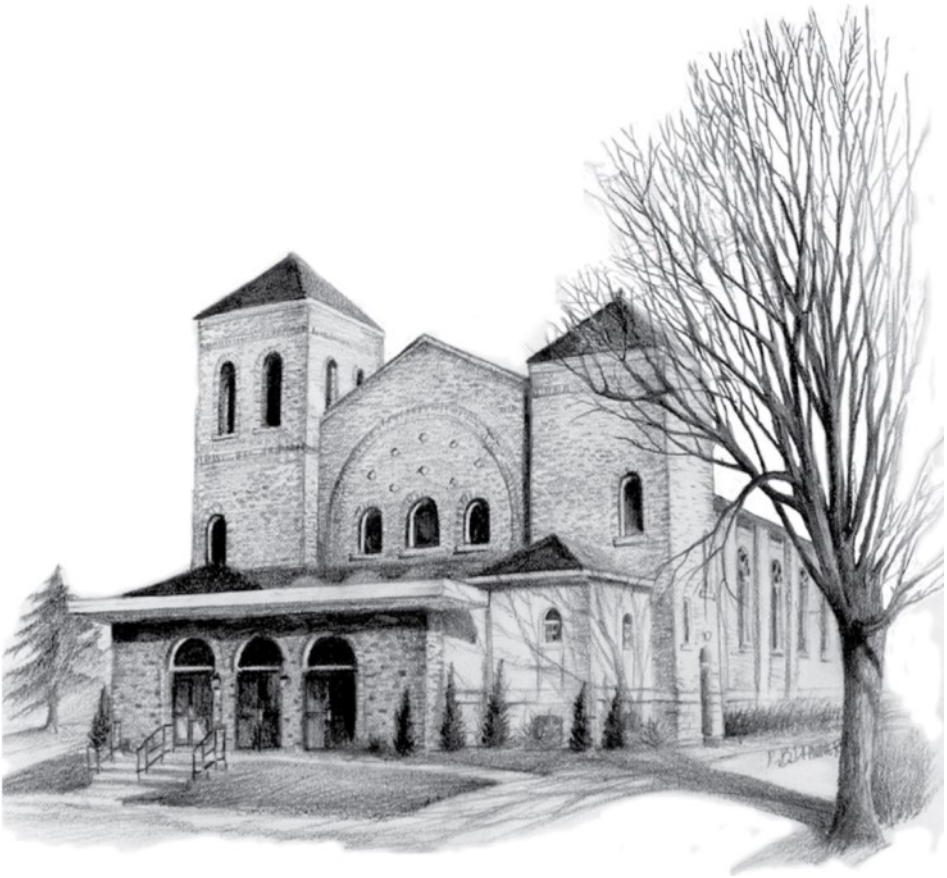
Houghton
Wesleyan Church

Joyfully loving God,
wholeheartedly serving others



Wesley Oden, *Senior Pastor*

Jon Cole, *Youth Pastor*

David Huizenga, *Assistant Pastor*

Cindy Oden, *Assistant Pastor*

Amanda Cox, *Music and Worship Director*

Emily Spateholts, *Children's Ministry Director*

Judy Congdon, *Organist and Choir Director*

Second Sunday after Epiphany
8:30am January 19, 2025

Welcome

Lord, You are Good; Peace, Be Still; Oceans
(Offering will be received during the third song)

Time of Prayer

Prayer Response: ***You are Good***

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:24-2:4

Celebration of Ministry: College Ministries

Children's Sermon: **Small but Mighty**

Life of the Church

Greeting One Another
Children in grades Pre-K through 1st are dismissed for Children's Church

Sermon: **The Most Rhythmic Number in the Bible**
Pastor Wes Oden

Be Still, My Soul

Benediction

Acolyte: Isobel Walton **Scripture Reader:** Kim Prins Moeller

Musicians:
Gracie Gasparri, Mike Jordan, vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Jill Jordan, violin; Alison Young Reusser, guitar & vocals; Steve Olsen, bass; Dan Zambrano cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. Life is a maze of ups and downs, of joys and sorrows. In the midst of our lives, we live with confidence that Jesus is Lord, and that this truth is the bedrock of how we live. In our worship today, may God open our eyes to the power and grace of Jesus for us and for the whole world.

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 numbers in the Bible. Next Sunday's sermon is from Matthew 25: *The Most Freeing Number in the Bible.*

BUILDING PROJECT: We are continuing to raise funds for the building project to create an indoor, accessible walkway between our buildings, upgrade the sanctuary basement, expand our current handicap parking, upgrade our maxed-out electrical service and add a layer of security to our buildings.
Here is an update on giving for the building project:

Fundraising Goal:		$250,000
Gifts Received:	$133,264	
Pledges Outstanding:	$ 99,800	
TOTAL RECEIVED:		$233,064
Remaining to Goal		**$ 16,936**

YOUTH: TIME CHANGE! Tonight's (1/19) youth group will be from 4 pm - 6pm. Go Bills!

The Annual Valley Preschool STONE SOUP DINNER is Friday, January 31! Twelve of our seventeen students are benefiting from having a discount on tuition from the funds raised last year. We will have beef or vegetable soup, breads/rolls, and dessert available for eat-in or pick-up. We are looking for people (or groups) to make cookies or brownies for dessert for our event. If you can help with this, please contact Casda Danner casdadanner@hwchurch.org. Come enjoy some warm soup on a cold evening and support Valley Preschool!

HWC KIDS

- Kids Connect resumes this week! This week we're jumping into Jesus' early ministry; kids will learn about how Jesus is tempted in the wilderness and used God's words to defend against the tempter.
    - BIG IDEA: I believe God is powerful.
    - BIBLE: Matthew 4:1–11; Psalm 36:5–10
- Preteen Hangout tonight from 4-6pm for 5th and 6th graders! Note the change in time this week!

MISSION MOMENT: Stacia, our partner in ministry from Eastern Europe, will be presenting in Koinonia next Sunday (1/26 at 9:45 a.m.) on connecting well with God, ourselves, and each other.

STEWARDSHIP:

Budget Needed: $559,549.25 / **Budget Received:** $556,751.69

PERSECUTED CHURCH IN NIGERIA: Life is a constant struggle for our persecuted Christian family in northeastern Nigeria. Gwom's husband, a pastor, was killed after he and several other men traveled to a neighboring village to help victims of an attack by militant Fulani Muslims. The men traveling with Gwom's husband as well as 17 men from the village were also murdered, presumably by the militants. Gwom doesn't know how her husband died or where he is buried, but today she wants others to know the God who has restored her soul."I want people to know that God is a merciful God," Gwom said. "He knows us and our destiny. He does things in a way that man cannot understand unless you give your life to him." Please pray for our Nigerian brothers and sisters.

PRAYER CONCERNS: all who are grieving; for all with health concerns: Beth Beardsley, Gary Wickard, Dick Pocock, Peter Lingenfelter, Linda Leax, Beth Pocock, Paul and Linda Roth, James Bates, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, Karen Gaerte, 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 many places of conflict, including Syria; for all recovering from recent tragedies and disasters; for Shongo Country Chapel, Wellsville.