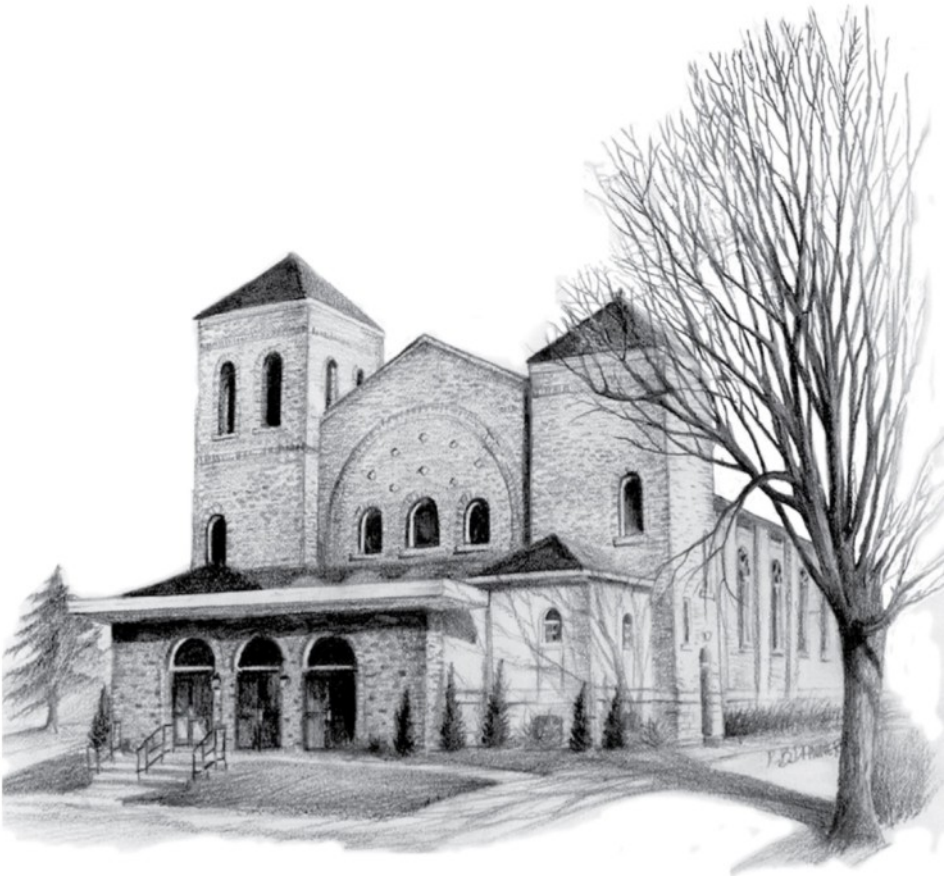
Houghton
WESLEYAN CHURCH

Joyfully loving God,
wholeheartedly serving others



RANDY CRAKER, *Interim Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

DAVID HUIZENGA, *Assistant Pastor*

KEVIN DIBBLE, *Music and Worship Director*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

JUDY CONGDON, *Organist and Choir Director*

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 A.M. AUGUST 3, 2025

Prelude: *Hymn Prelude: Come!* Gloria Huizenga

* Call to Worship (from Psalm 84)

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!

My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

Lord Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you.

*Hymn 26: ***_All Creatures of Our God and King_**

Life of the Church

Celebration of Ministry

*Songs of Praise: ***_Hymn of Heaven; Speak, O Lord_**

(Offering will be received during the first song)

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, there is not a gift we have received, a thing we own, or an ability we possess that has not come from you. Nevertheless, we confess that we often struggle to trust that you meet our needs. Forgive us for doubting your provision. Remind us daily of the reality that you are our provider and sustainer and may we live our lives to proclaim this truth. Amen.

Time of Prayer

Prayer Response: ***_Jesus Draw Me Close_**

*Scripture Reading: Luke 9:28-36

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

***_People: Thanks be to God!_**

*Greeting One Another

Sermon: **Journeying Together**

Pastor Randy Craker

Communion

*Songs: ***_Lead Me to the Cross; The Goodness of God_**

*Hymn 356 ***_Jesus, My Lord, My Life, My All_**

*Benediction

*Postlude: *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* arr. William T. Allen

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*Please stand if able Acolyte: Izzy Reusser Scripture Reader: Chris Esh

Musicians:
Mike Cox, Josey Ikker, vocals; Christopher Moeller, guitar;
Sharon Johnson, piano & vocals; David Clem, Viola

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist exclaims, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!" We come to worship today to offer to God our praise. May God fill our hearts and lives with his glorious presence.

WELCOME TO OUR INTERIM PASTOR: Today we are pleased to welcome Pastor Randy Craker, as our interim pastor. Pastor Craker and his wife, Robbie, recently arrived from Idaho. Welcome them warmly.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING will be a special day of worship and fellowship. We will gather for one outdoor service at 10:00 a.m., led by Pastor Randy, followed by an all-church barbeque. The service will be streamed (though lower quality than typical) and a radio broadcast will be available for all who desire to remain in a vehicle. The church will provide meat and table service. We ask you to bring a couple of dishes to share. You are also invited to bring lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on in case we run out of table space. We will have games for children. In the case of inclement weather, all activities will be moved inside.

MISSION MOMENT: Martin & Sheri Hegeman – SIM--Praise for safety as they travel across the country, for a special trip to Martin's parents to visit family and for the vehicle they purchased in February to use on their trip. Please pray: for continued ministry to missionary kids in Dallas; for colleagues to be encouraged and assisted by them; for the remaining $380 needed each month for support; and for growth in their walk with the Lord in their training.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
August 10
10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship (streaming) / Pig Roast and Picnic
August 17 – August 24
8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship / 10:00 a.m. Indoor Worship /Streaming
August 31 – October 28
8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship / 11:00 a.m. Indoor Worship /Streaming
September 7
9:45 a.m. Discipleship Hour restarts

HWC KIDS

- VBS begins tomorrow! August 4-7 from 6-8 pm for grades PreK-6th. Sign up today at https://hwc.breezechms.com/form/035e873815. Interested in helping out with crafts, games, food, science, or leading a group? We would love to have you on our team, but don't wait. Sign up to volunteer here: https://hwc.breezechms.com/form/035e87381555.
- Nursery (both services) and Children's Church (early service) will continue through the summer.
- This week in Children's Church and online, kids learn about how much God's people are loved through the prophet Hosea. BIG IDEA: God's love is timeless. BIBLE: Hosea 11:1–11; Hebrews 10:19–25
- New August series: "Timeless" Time travel is such an exciting concept to imagine! If we could hop into a time machine and visit the past, we might be surprised by how much has changed—and how some things stay exactly the same. One thing we'd discover is that God's love and faithfulness are timeless. In this 5-week series, kids will explore how God's messages to us never change, no matter the time or place. They will learn that God's love is timeless, we can seek God any time, God is good all the time, God takes the time to forgive, and God is with us at all times.
- August Memory Verse: "He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart."

STEWARDSHIP:

Budget Needed: $147,280.86 **Monies Received:** $114,139.06

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for all with health concerns: Nathan Danner, Kristen Massey, Mike Mathiason (Doug Mayhle's colleague), Doug Melton (Sharon Johnson's uncle), David Mercer, David Pullen, Jane Allen, Terry Ayers, James Bates, Scarlett Gildemeister, Bruce Hess, Linda Leax, Jane Roeske, Gary Wickard, Beth Pocock, Paul and Linda Roth, 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 Ukraine, the Middle East and other places of war; for our church and leadership during our journey with Pastor Randy Craker, our interim pastor; and Lockport Wesleyan Church, Lockport, NY, and Pastor Matt Rose.