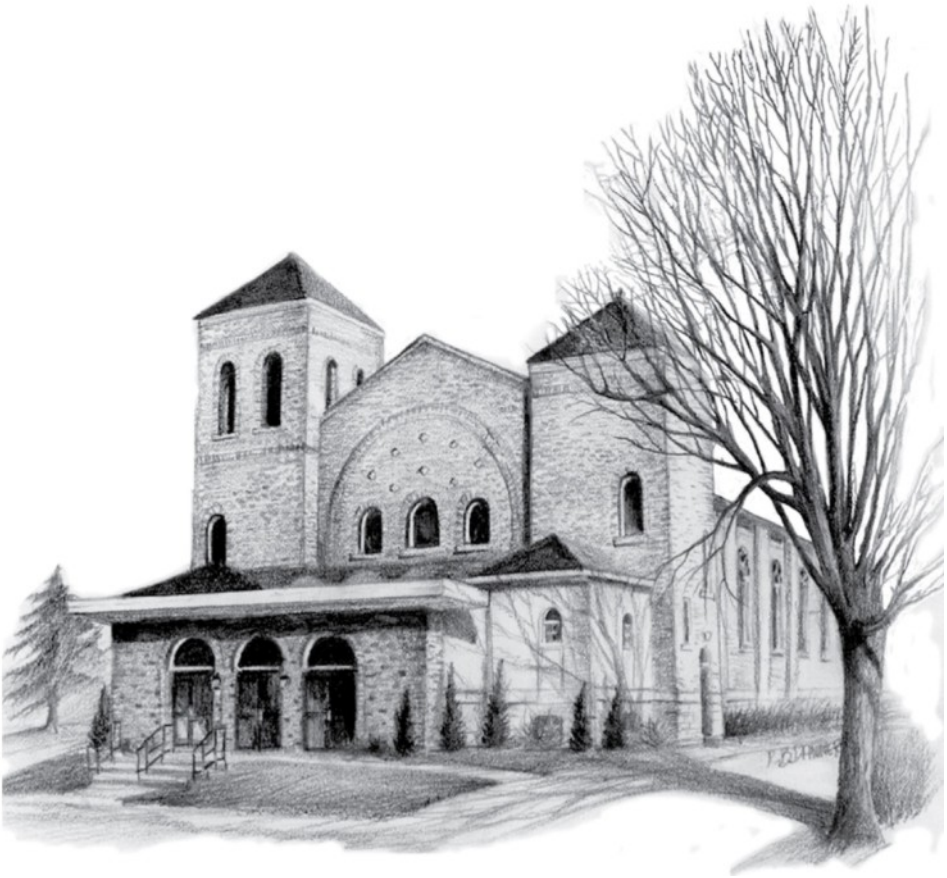
Houghton
WESLEYAN CHURCH

Joyfully loving God,
wholeheartedly serving others



RANDY CRAKER, *Interim Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

DAVID HUIZENGA, *Assistant Pastor*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

AMANDA COX, *Music and Worship Director*

JUDY CONGDON, *Organist and Choir Director*

Prayer Requests may be submitted by Prayer Card (pew) or QR Code (back)

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

11:00AM NOVEMBER 9, 2025

Prelude: Prière (Prayer) from *Suite Gothique* .....Leon Boëllman

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 25)

Show us your ways, Lord, teach us your paths.

Guide us in your truth and teach us, for you are God our Savior, and our hope is in you all day long.

Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.

Do not remember our sins and our rebellious ways; according to your love remember us, for you, Lord, are good.

Guard our lives and rescue us; do not let us be put to shame, for we take refuge in you.

May integrity and uprightness protect us, because our hope, Lord, is in you.

*Hymn 69 ***Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah***

Life of the Church

Children's Sermon: *Superhero*

*Songs of Adoration: ***Death Was Arrested; Give Us Your Heart***
(Offering will be received during the first song)

Prayer of Confession

Father in heaven, we gather humbly this morning and before you, we say out loud that we are sinners. We bring our known and unknown sins – our hurtful words, hateful thoughts, unjust acts, and selfish attitudes – to your gracious feet. We ask that you free us from the habits of our acts of hostility and damage that causes others such pain. Thank you for the deep love and forgiveness that you gift to us over and over and over again. Mold us like clay to be more compassionate sons and daughters of your kingdom. We trust your word that assures us that our confessions are not ignored but are received by the faithful, compassionate God of the universe who makes us whole. We pray this in Christ's holy name. Amen.

Time of Prayer

Prayer Response: ***I Will Wait for You***

*Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:5-15 –*The Message*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 30 ***The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want***

*Greeting One Another (Children PreK through 1st Grade released for Children's Church)

*Song of Gathering: ***The Doxology***

Sermon: ***Receiving and Giving—Bread and Forgiveness***
Pastor Randy Craker

*Song ***Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me***

*Benediction

*Postlude: *Menuet gothique* ……..Leon Boëllman

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*Please stand if able **Acolyte**: Daniel Mulema **Scripture Reader**: Gudy Stevenson

Musicians:
Evie Cox, Mike Cox, vocals; Alison Young Reusser, guitar & vocals;
Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Betsy Webb, keyboard & vocals;
Dianna Clem, flute; Steve Olsen, bass; Dan Zambrano, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. In a world of brokenness, we engage in worship to remember that God is present in the struggles and that God is greater than the struggles. During our time of prayer, song, and active worship today, may God give us grace to feel him near, grace to hear him speak, and grace to see him at work.

TODAY AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY: Fifty years ago on this day, the Lord answered the prayers of many people, and John, Carolyn, and LuAnne Miller arrived back in Houghton after almost eight months of captivity in Vietnam. The Miller/Brubaker/Doty families are planning an informal get-together. We're planning to sing some of the songs that were especially significant to them during that time, and Carolyn will share some of her memories.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING: we will conclude our look at the prayer Jesus taught his disciples to pray. Our final portion is...***"Don't lead us into temptation but rescue us from the evil one. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever."*** Next Sunday we gather for worship at 8:30 Early Worship Service and 11:00 Late Worship Service, which will be streamed. Adult Discipleship Hour, Youth Sunday School and Kids Connect are at 9:45 a.m.

HWC KIDS

- This week in Kids Connect, kids uncover the story of Haman's plot against God's people. BIG IDEA: Nothing will turn me away from God. BIBLE: Esther 3:1-15; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17
- November Memory Verse: "The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good." Proverbs 15:3 (NIV)
- Calendar: Kids Club from 9:30-11:00 a.m. on November 15th and Preteen Hangout from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on the 16th

RFKC CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE: Once again, we have the opportunity to support our chapter of Royal Family Kids Camp through our giving tree initiative. Starting today, two Christmas trees are set up, one in the CE building foyer and one in the sanctuary foyer. These trees will have tags on them with supplies needed by RFKC, ranging from toiletries for campers to birthday gifts for the "all-kids birthday" celebration at camp. Grab a tag (or two or three), shop for the new, quality item, and return it to the box near the tree or to the Church office by December 14th. Your gifts last year were an incredible blessing to camp, saving hundreds of dollars and making the campers feel very loved.

MISSION MOMENT: Cory &; Kris Thede (Haiti & Zambia) praise God that many schools reopened in Haiti with continued activity in Kids Clubs and opportunities to connect with people. Please pray for Haiti as Hurricane Melissa has brought rain causing deaths from landslides; Gang violence continues on LaGonave which makes it hard to get necessary resources; the LaGonave School of Nursing needs finances and staff to continue their program. Pray too for Corey's Zambian work permit renewal so they can return to Zambia to continue to help with the agricultural program.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: $389,861.10 /Monies Received: $339,216.01

PRAYER CONCERNS: for the Roeske, Roth, and Dover families and all who are grieving; for all with health concerns: Harold Blew, Paul Roth, Daryl Stevenson, Kristen Massey, Nathan Danner, Mike Mathiason, David Pullen, Jane Allen, Terry Ayers, James Bates, Scarlett Gildemeister, Bruce Hess, Linda Leax, Gary Wickard, Beth Pocock, Kim Pegula, Karen Gaerte, Cameron Green, Vangie Grant, Dan and Sarah Gurley, Chelsea Ellis, Mark Mayhle, Jeshu, Kurtis, and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, and Emily Crikelair; for anguished refugees and displaced persons in the U.S. and across the world; for cessation of hostilities, wisdom, and peace in Ukraine, the Middle East, and other places of unrest and war; for New Hope Assembly of God in Fillmore.

Sunday Morning Prayer & Praise Requests
&/or sign up for Monday Hourly Prayer Prompts 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.