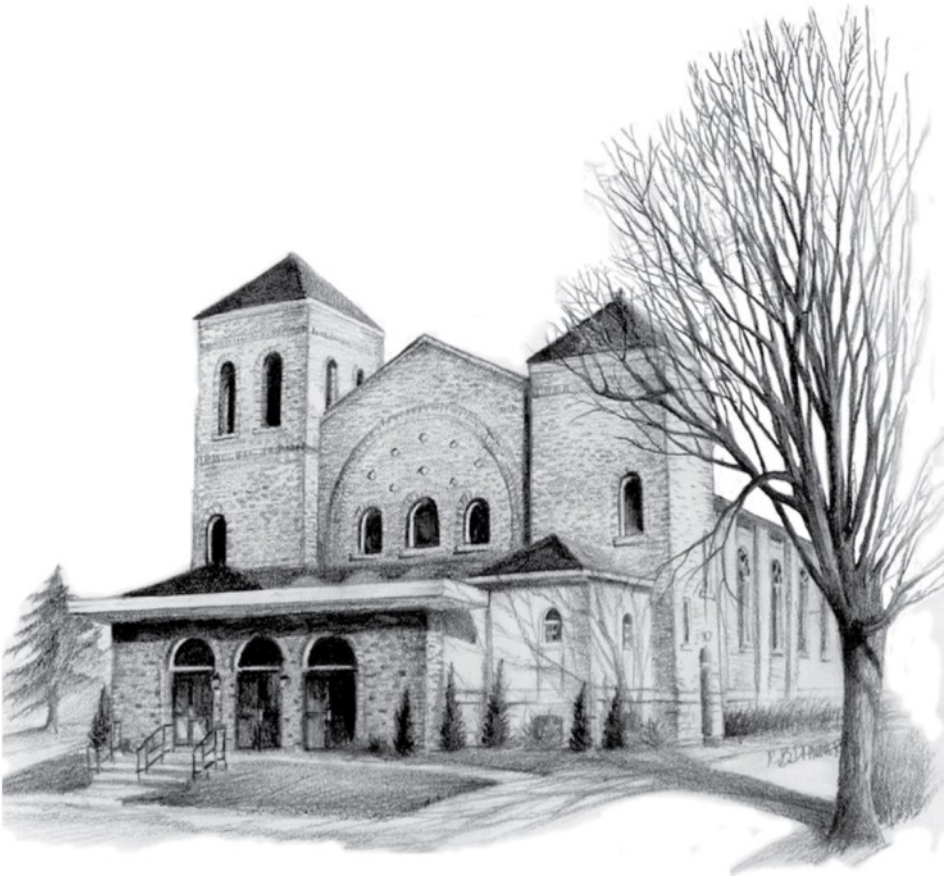
Houghton
WESLEYAN CHURCH

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

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

11:00 A.M. NOVEMBER 23, 2025

Prelude: *Hast Thou Not Seen* ……...arr. Gloria Huizenga

Welcome and Introduction

Scripture Reading: Psalm 136:1-3

*Song: ***Shout to the Lord***

*Scripture Reading: Psalm 138:1-2

*Song: ***In Christ Alone***

College Collage of Testimonies

Song: ***Gratitude***

Scripture Reading: Psalm 67:1-7

Updates: Ken Bates and Paul Young

*Hymn 43: ***Great is Thy Faithfulness***
(the offering will be received during this song)

Baby Baptism: Eliana Ayub, parents Azmat and Shewon, brother Elijah

Testimony of Thanksgiving: Gudy Stevenson

Prayer Report and Time of Prayer: Josie Adenuga

Homily: *A Thankful People* Pastor Randy Craker

*Hymn 9: ***Now Thank We All Our God***

*Benediction

*Postlude: *Triumphal March on "Now Thank We All Our God*…S. Karg-Elert

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*Please stand if able Acolyte: Izzy Reusser

Readers: Grayson Cox, Josiah Tucker, and Emmalyn Mucher

Musicians:

Chase Bailey, piano & vocals; Rylee Sorrells and Angelina Dowling, vocals; Jackson Collins, Guitar; Sam Cornwell, keyboard; Tywala Stafford, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The spirit of thanksgiving is not limited to one day a year; it is an imperative for every day. Because of all that God has done for us, we have every reason to give thanks. Even when life brings difficulty and pain, we know that God is good, and we give thanks. So today, let us continue to give thanks.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING is the First Sunday of Advent. As we consider Characters of Christmas, we begin pondering Zechariah and Elizabeth's "Hope" for a child and in their "old age" Gabriel announces it will happen! We invite you to join us for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service is also streamed.

DECORATING FOR ADVENT Please join us Saturday, November 29, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. All are invited to help decorate the sanctuary for Advent. Please email **lindashea.knapp@gmail.com**, if you have any questions about decorating, if you want to let Linda Knapp know you are planning to come or you may just show up November 29 to help decorate. Thank you!

HWC Kids:

- This week in Kids Connect, kids uncover the story of how Mordecai was honored for protecting the king. BIG IDEA: I can follow God even when nobody's watching.
  BIBLE: Esther 2:21–23, 6:1–11; Colossians 1:9–14
- November Memory Verse: "The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good." — Proverbs 15:3 (NIV)
- There will be **NO Children's Church** today because of our special Thanksgiving service.

RFKC Christmas Giving Trees are set up, one in the CE building foyer and one in the sanctuary foyer. These trees 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 next to the church office by December 14th. Your gifts last year were an incredible blessing to RFKC, saving hundreds of dollars and making the campers feel very loved.

MISSION MOMENT: Leah Doty (Wycliffe) praise for safe travels in US sharing about the ministry, enjoying time with family and friends, and for the continuation of the Oby translations while being away. Leah requests prayer for a safe way to distribute the translations of Mark in the country. Pray that as they work on translation and literacy, they will be united in Spirit and committed to bringing good news to the Oby people.

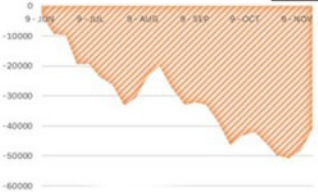
ROYAL FAMILY KIDS CAMP "OPEN" POSITIONS FOR 2026: Director and Assistant Director in training (incoming individuals would shadow the current Director in 2026); Hopper (serves camper meals family style); Individual Counselors and Roving Counselors; Activities assistants (crafts, take apart, fishing, etc). For more information, including application deadlines, go to https://www.houghtonrfkc.com or contact Nancy Murphy at **houghton.rfkc@gmail.com**

PRAYER CONCERNS: for the Sanasith and Grant families and all who are grieving; for all with health concerns: Harold Blew, Paul Roth, 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, 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 St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Fillmore, and Father John Cullen

Weekly giving has been trending upward (dotted line), but is usually less than the budget seeks (solid horizontal line)

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

With few exceptions, the budget deficit has steadily increased so far this year, to $40,907.



Giving to the budget in 2025 is $36,433 less than it was at this point in 2024.