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 Cards (pew) or QR code (back)

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

8:30AM MARCH 1, 2026

Welcome

Thrive; Jesus, Strong and Kind; You are Good
(Offering will be received during the third song)

Time of Prayer

Prayer Response: ***Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us***

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-18

Song: ***Kindness***

Life of the Church

Greeting One Another
Children PreK through 1st Grade are released for Children's Church.

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

Sermon: **Be Kind to Each Other, And…**
Dr. Paul Young

Communion:
Let Us Consider; Kindness

Benediction

Acolyte: Sarah Spateholts **Scripture Reader**: Amanda Zambrano

Musicians:
Addie Boon, Angelina Dowling, Jon Hutmire, vocals;
Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Jeff Boon, guitar; David Clem, viola;
Steve Olsen, bass; Dan Zambrano, cajón

Welcome to the Houghton Wesleyan Church. God reveals himself most fully through Jesus Christ's coming. As John says, *"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us."* We gather once again during this Lenten journey—a time of reflection and preparation. May our worship show gratitude for who God is, what he has done, and His sacrificial gift.

Today we will celebrate holy communion. We invite all worshipers to participate; Christ welcomes everyone who sincerely believes and seeks him. Come to the front, receive a piece of unleavened, *gluten-free* bread, dip it in the cup, and eat. You may receive an individual cup from the other server, if you prefer. To be served at your seat, please inform the usher.

Sunday Evening Prayer Gathering Meets at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Next Sunday Morning, Pastor Randy will be back with us. We will gather for worship at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., with the latter being streamed. The Discipleship Hour and Sunday School commence at 9:45 a.m. Our services allow for preferences in worship style and family convenience: the early service is more informal, while the latter is more traditional. Come worship with us again.

Time change: Just a reminder that we turn our clocks ahead just prior to next Sunday, March 8.

Women's Spring Gathering: All women are invited to our Spring Gathering on Saturday, March 14, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Community Room. Robbie Craker will be sharing with us. Join us for music, food, fellowship, and inspiration.

Easter Baptism: If you desire to be baptized on Easter Sunday morning, April 5, contact Pastor Randy or Patty (office@hwchurch.org) about attending the baptism class on March 15, 9:45 a.m.

HWC Kids

- March Lesson Series: "You're Invited: Getting invited to a party is one of the best feelings, and being left out is one of the worst. But there's good news—Jesus never leaves anyone out! He invites everyone to spend time with him, experience his love, and share it with others. This series will remind kids that Jesus' invitation is always open, and we're never too far away to join the party! In this 5-week series, kids will learn that I'm invited to believe in Jesus, love like Jesus does, experience Jesus' miracles, ask Jesus for help, and worship Jesus."
- This week in Kids Connect, kids are invited to hear how Jesus talked to Nicodemus about being born again.
  BIG IDEA: I'm invited to believe in Jesus.
  BIBLE: John 3:1–17; Romans 10:9–13
- March Memory Verse: "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." — John 1:12 (NIV)

YOUTH

- Today in Sunday School (9:45 a.m.) we continue looking at *Revelation*
- Youth Group 6-8 pm, "Me, Myself, and iPhone: Showtime"
- Wednesday Morning Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.

MISSION MOMENT: Jim and Karen Szymanski – TEN3— II Corinthians 12:10 "For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weakness, insults, hardships, persecutions and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong" This has brought comfort with the many health problems that were discovered in 2025 – back pain, vertebrae in the spine needing care and a growth on the thyroid. But PTL there was reduction in Jim's brain tumor. Pray for thyroid surgery in March for the growth there. Pray for the publication of the OT and NT devotional lessons and for continued health for both Jim and Karen.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: $667,095.66 **Monies Received:** $623,843.35

PRAYER CONCERNS: for the Harrison family grieving over the loss of Aaron's mother; for all with health concerns: Ben King, Allen Yanda, Karen and Ken Gaerte, Harold Blew, Nathan Danner, David Pullen, Jane Allen, Terry Ayers, James Bates, Scarlett Gildemeister, Linda Leax, Gary Wickard, Beth Pocock, Kim Pegula, 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 wisdom and peace to prevail in Ukraine, the Middle East, and other places of unrest and war; and for the Angelica United Methodist Church.

Sunday Morning Prayer and Praise