Houghton
Wesleyan Church

Joyfully loving God,
wholeheartedly
serving others

10/13/26

Dear HWC Friends,

What an exciting fall this has been so far, as we've explored the movement of the Holy Spirit among the first followers of Jesus in the book of Acts, in our sermon series *Empowered*. It's been so exciting to experience God's Spirit working among us too – reconciling, healing, calling, and empowering us to be kingdom people in this time and place. God is truly at work in us, and we give him all the glory for that!

For generations and generations, Christians around the world have prayed to be empowered by the Holy Spirit by using this prayer, attributed to Rabanus Maurus**,** a 9th-century Benedictine monk, archbishop, and saint. We invite you to pray it too.

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator come,
From your bright heavenly throne!
Come, take possession of our souls,
And make them all your own.

You who are called the Paraclete,
Best gift of God above,
The living spring, the living fire,
Sweet unction, and true love!

You who are sevenfold in your grace,
Finger of God's right hand,
His promise, teaching little ones
To speak and understand!

O guide our minds with your blessed light,
With love our hearts inflame,
And with your strength which never decays
Confirm our mortal frame.

Far from us drive our hellish foe
True peace unto us bring,
And through all perils guide us safe
Beneath your sacred wing.

Through you may we the Father know,
Through you the eternal Son
And you the Spirit of them both
Thrice-blessed three in one.

All glory to the Father be,
And to the risen Son;
The same to you, O Paraclete,
While endless ages run. Amen.

God is on the move!
Pastors Kristen & Bill

THIS SUNDAY Pastor Kristen will be preaching from Acts 26: 1-18 (NLT) EMPOWERED: Speak Up

KALEIDOSCOPE Upcoming Kaleidoscope Class Topics
• October 18 - Garrett Luckey & Herb Williams: Everything You Wish You Knew About Funerals from a Funeral Director
• October 25 - Grace Deitrich-Johnson & Cody Johnson: Sharing about their ministry with Global Partners
• November 1 - Sharlini Rodrigo o HWC Missionary in Sri Lanka will give us an update on the work there
• November 8 - Josie & Doyin Adenuga: Tributes to Our Dad
• November 15 - Beth Stevick
• November 22 - Paul Shea: Christmas Offering Project Kick-Off

KIDS MIN

- THIS WEEK IN KIDS CONNECT, kids find out more about loving others by taking a closer look at commandments five, six, and seven.
THE BIG IDEA: We obey God by loving our families.
THE BIBLE: Exodus 20:12-14; Matthew 5:21-24; I Thessalonians 1:2-7
- OCTOBER MEMORY VERSE: Luke 10:27 - "He answered, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself."
- BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY!! Last Sunday, your kiddos were given invites to give to friends to invite them to join us at Church this week! In light of our lessons from Acts from Pastors Kristen and Bill, we are encouraging our HWC Kids to invite others into the awesome things that God is doing in this place and in His Kingdom.
- KIDS CLUB: This Saturday from 9:30-11:00am for PreK - 6th graders. Join us as we travel with Global Partners to the Nune Field and learn from the story of Esther how to stand up for what we believe in.
- PRETEEN HANGOUT: This Sunday from 6:00-8:00pm for grades 5 & 6.

YOUTH

PRAYER BREAKFAST, Wednesday at 7am in the Community Room
NERF NIGHT, Thursday from 7-8pm
YOUTH GROUP AT THE ACADEMY THIS WEEK: 6-8pm Masks 1: The Chameleon-We belong to God, who loves and knows us.

SUNDAY October 18, TOM MACHAMER'S Graveside Committal at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery at 3:00 p.m. (led by Rev. Paul Shea)
3:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the Community Room join a Fellowship of Thanksgiving for God's Goodness and Tom's Life (Light Refreshments) Open mic for memories and reflection

HWC'S PRAYER VIGIL IS BACK! We will be having a week of 24-hour prayer from Sunday, November 15 to Sunday, November 22. Stay tuned for more details!

CHURCH FINANCES Here are the giving totals for the fiscal year (June 2026 – May 2027)

- Budget Needed: $330,538.44 / Budget Received: $300,261.54

Thank you for your generosity that enables us to serve one another and others.

- If you have questions, concerns or needs, do not hesitate to contact us (585-567-2264) or pattystalker@hwchurch.org.