

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
11:00 MORNING WORSHIP
MARCH 1, 2009

*As the prelude begins, let us observe silence as we prayerfully
anticipate this hour of corporate worship of Almighty God.*

Prelude: *My Song is Love Unknown, My Savior's Love to Me*Vaughan Williams

*Call to Worship

Let us worship God, who had done great things.

*We rejoice in our God, who made a way
through the desert of this world.*

Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy
to flow in the wasteland.

*We are the people God formed through Christ;
we worship Him, and we rejoice!*

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

*We praise God for the grace that has saved us.
Alleluia! We rejoice!*

*Invocation

*Hymn 142 *O Love Divine, By Christ Revealed*

Life of the Church

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7 (page 718)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *What Wondrous Love is This?*

Prayer of Confession and Pardon

Holy One, we call to you and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize you in the dailyness of our lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom.

Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset, remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us. Free us from shame and self-doubt.

Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from our wisdom.

Pastoral Prayer / **The Lord's Prayer** (debts/debtors)

*New Testament Reading: Mark 15:33-41 (page 1010)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 251 *Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee*

Sermon: God: **The Unseen Face**
Pastor Wesley Oden

The Lord's Supper

*Hymn 435 *What Wondrous Love is This*

*Benediction

*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

*Postlude: *Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee*Walther

*Please stand if able

Organist: Eileen DeBoer

Worship Leader: Amanda Cox

Acolyte: Tara Beardsley

Children's Worship bulletins are available in the church foyer for ages 3-12.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Children ages 2-5 go directly to Children's Church prior to the service. Children's Church meets in room 116 on the first floor of the Christian Education building.

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. As we contemplate the cross during these Sundays in Lent, may God help us hear the call of Christ to take up our cross and follow Him and in our obedience to experience His transforming presence.

FELLOWSHIP REGISTERS are located in each pew. Please add your name, then pass it both directions in the row to learn new names and to welcome those near you who may be guests.

TONIGHT small groups continue meeting in community homes and at the church.

WEDNESDAY EVENING AT 6:30 ministries are available for all ages. AWANA Puggles & Cubbies, Girls' and Boys' AWANA Clubs meet. The prayer group meets in the sanctuary.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we continue contemplating the faces around the cross. Next week's sermon turns our attention toward The Hypocritical Faces. We gather for worship at 8:20, 9:40 and 11:00.

NEXT SUNDAY EVENING SMALL GROUPS continue meeting.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK: Mission Committee, Wednesday, 7:50 p.m. (Room 105)
Finance Committee, Thursday, Noon

EASTER BAPTISM: If you are interested in being baptized at the 7:45 a.m. Resurrection Service on Easter morning, April 12, please contact Pastor Wes.

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS BEGINS MARCH 15: *Foundation of Apologetics*, by Ravi Zacharias includes topics such as Truth and Reality, The Existence of God, Establishing a Worldview, The Uniqueness of God, and God, Evil, and Suffering.

SUNDAY SERMONS ON THE INTERNET: You may access the Sunday sermon on the church website (www.hwchurch.org) or on iTunes (www.itunes.com).

CHURCH SERVICES ON THE RADIO: You can listen, in the Houghton area, to all of our Sunday morning services at **89.9 FM**.

OUR FAMILY IN MINISTRY: Ogedi Omenyinma (Mission Ministries in Aba, Nigeria) Ogedi recently held a four-day Bible conference outdoors during the rainy season. Four thousand people slept in makeshift beds and ate only rice in order to attend the conference. Many came to know the Lord and were blessed by the singing, praying, and the Gospel story.

YOUTH NEWS:

Sunday (today!) – Super Sunday School – all junior high and senior high students meet in the community room for Sunday school!

Tuesday, Prayer Breakfast 7 a.m. in the Community Room!

Wednesday, Youth Group, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Upcoming event:

Spring Fling – April 3-4th – mark your calendars now!

Nursery Schedule for March 8:

8:20 Joyce Taylor, Kelly Harty, Caroline Murphy, Nancy Murphy, Allyson Murphy

9:40 Brenda Montanye, Denise Campbell, Tierza Rangel

11:00 Rachael Allison, Cecilia Yang

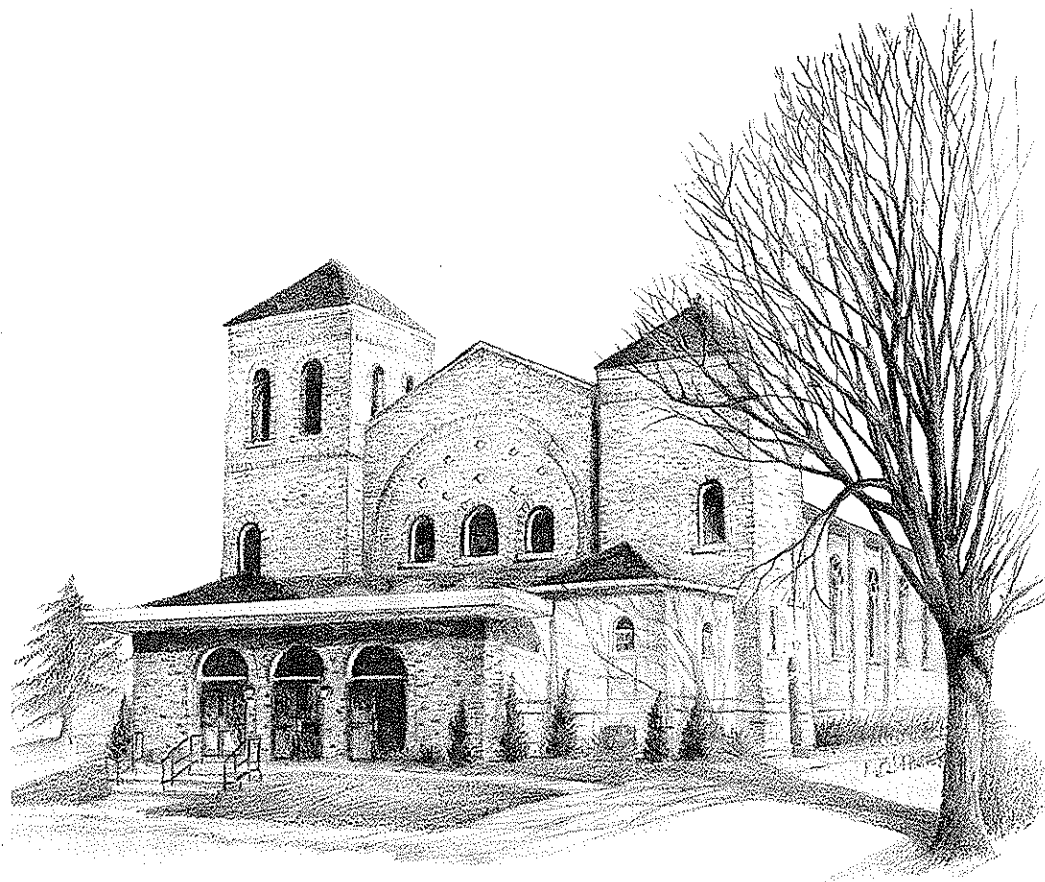
NEWS FOR INVESTORS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>
Offerings Received	\$ 10,946	\$ 499,386
<u>Budget Needed</u>	<u>\$ 13,354</u>	<u>\$ 520,806</u>
Difference +/-	— \$ 2,407	— \$ 21,420

PRAYER CONCERNS: for the families of Marie Hughes (Marilyn Main's mother), Marjorie Burch, Ginny Olsen (JoAnne Young's mother), Ruth Luckey, and Rick Winchip, who died recently; for people struggling with or recovering from illness or injury: Claire Schilke, Arthur Stegen (Rich's father), David and Isobel Alexander, Pierce Samuels, Ben Lingenfelter, Emily Crikelair, Tom Fuoco, Glenn Weaver, Lillian Gordon, Richard Schmidt (Karl's father), and Louis Case (Jon Case's father); for people in our community who are need of work; for our leaders, our nation, and other nations in the current financial crisis; for President Obama and his advisers as he leads our nation in the midst of very difficult circumstances; and for students returning from the college break today.



*Joyfully loving God,
wholeheartedly serving others*



WESLEY ODEN, *Senior Pastor*
TODD LEACH, *Assistant Pastor*
JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*
CINDY ODEN, *Discipleship Pastor*
AMANDA COX, *Music and Worship Director*
LAURIE SMALLEY, *Volunteer Pastor for Outreach*