

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. Advent is a bittersweet time: it's a time of hopeful anticipation for what God is going to do and a time of painful waiting for God to do what He has promised. Today, we are reminded that the promises of old are still true and that presence of God with us is still real. May our worship this morning help us maintain our focus on Christ, in whom all the fullness of God dwells.

If you are a guest here today, we welcome you. We are glad that you are here. Please fill out a guest card located in the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the offering plate when it is passed.

TONIGHT AT 6:00 our focus will be on new Wesleyan missionaries from our own congregation. Joel & Kerri Lord will be sharing about their upcoming ministry in the Czech Republic and Jessica Lord will be sharing about her upcoming ministry in New Zealand. Hear how God is preparing them to serve Him overseas and how you can support them.

WEDNESDAY EVENING AT 6:30 AWANA Puggles & Cubbies, Girls' AWANA Club, and Boys' AWANA Club meet. In the sanctuary, Pastor Laurie leads a time of meditation and prayer.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we continue the celebration of Advent. Pastor Wes's sermon, *Why Do We Care About All These People?*, contemplates the family tree of Jesus (Matthew 1:1-17). We gather for worship at 8:20, 9:40 and 11:00.

NEXT SUNDAY EVENING AT 6:00 please join us for a **Musical Celebration** which will include the Children's Choir, the Adult Choir, and several other small ensembles and will be followed by a **Christmas Cookie Reception** in the Community Room. Please bring a plate of your favorite cookies to share and drop them off at the Community Room before the service.

NEWS FOR INVESTORS	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>
Offerings Received	\$ 12,497	\$ 325,612
<u>Budget Needed</u>	<u>\$ 13,612</u>	<u>\$ 340,300</u>
Difference +/-	— \$ 1,115	— \$ 14,688

DAILY ADVENT DEVOTIONALS are available in the sanctuary foyer. Please take as many as you need. The devotionals may also be downloaded from our website at www.hwchurch.org/Advent2009.pdf.

HOLIDAY SERVICES



- Sunday, December 13.....8:20 a.m., 9:40 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Worship Services
6:00 p.m. - Christmas Music Celebration/Cookie Reception
- Sunday, December 20.....10:00 a.m. - Worship Service
6:00 p.m. - Christmas Carol Sing (Bring instruments)
- Thursday, December 24.....7:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- Sunday, December 27.....10:00 a.m. - Worship Service
No Evening Activities
- Sunday, January 3.....10:00 a.m. - Worship Service
No Evening Activities

Did YOU Know: The youth group recently bought two new flat screen comp. monitors for the youth room that were completely paid for with donated printer cartridges and old cell phones! Thanks a ton for your donations!

YOUTH NEWS

Sun HSM – 6pm at the Webbs'
Tues Prayer Breakfast - 7am Community Room
Wed MSM – 6:30pm in the Youth Room

Upcoming Event: Love Mercy 09 Wesleyan Youth Convention! Twenty students and adults from HWC church will be attending this rejuvenating conference Dec. 28th – 31st. We still have room for YOU! See Pastor Jon for details!

PRAYER CONCERNS: for families who have experienced a recent death; for people with health concerns: Bob Smalley, Isobel Alexander, Crystal Blake, Don Scholla (Sheri Reynolds's Father), Quinn Mastin, Jo-Anne Young, Brianna Austin, Ella Woolsey, LaNora Keith, Bonnie MacBeth, Meredith Kellogg, Al Smith, Pierce Samuels, Emily Crikelair, John McCormick (Vicki King's Father), Sharrel McNeill (Rob McNeill's mother), John Johnson (Sharon Johnson's father), and Louis Case (Jon Case's father); for Houghton College, Houghton Academy, area public schools and homeschoolers; for people facing the effects of natural disasters, famine and war, for our soldiers stationed around the world, for the ongoing ministry of Operation Christmas Child; and that God would cause the momentum of our prayer vigil to continue in marvelous ways.