

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
11:00 MORNING WORSHIP SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

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

Prelude: *If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee*Walther

*Call to Worship

People of God, worship the living God today!

We come before our God in praise and adoration.

Remember that out of nothing God created the heavens and the earth.

*Remember that God raised Jesus from the powerlessness of death
to the power of His right hand.*

Remember that not even the gates of hell can stand against God's purposes.

We behold our God, who reigns now and forever! Alleluia!

*Invocation

*Hymn 18 *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

Passing the Peace

God's peace be with you.

And also with you.

Life of the Church

Anthem: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*arr. Hayes

Paul DeBoer & Matthew Kay, trumpets

(Please join us in singing the final stanza of our anthem: Verse four of Hymn 63.)

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 119:9-16; 105-112 (page 607)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Doxology *Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;*

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* (Chorale from Cantata No. 147) Bach / arr. Hess

Sharon Johnson, piano

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

*New Testament Reading: Matthew 11:25-30 (page 966)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*The New Testament scripture will be read in German this morning,
considering our sisters and brothers around the world
and our connection to them as part of the global body of believers.*

*Hymn 294 *Take My Life and Let it Be* (tune of Hymn 87)

Sermon: **A Learning Church**

Pastor Wesley Oden

Commissioning of Ministry Volunteers

*Hymn *Lord, We Hear Your Word with Gladness* (see insert)

*Benediction

*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

*Postlude: *Fugue in D minor*Bach

*Please stand if able

Organist: Eileen DeBoer

Worship Leader: Gudy Stevenson

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. The Psalmist proclaims: "Blessed is the one who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in His commands" (112:1). Let us gather today as an act of faith proclaiming our reverence for God and our joy in obeying all of His commands.

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 small groups continue meeting in Houghton and surrounding communities. A group meets in the Youth Room located below the sanctuary at 6:00. **Total Recall** meets at 6:00 PM in the Community Room. **KOINONIA** meets at 7:00 PM in Wesley Chapel.

WEDNESDAY EVENING AT 6:30 AWANA Puggles & Cubbies, Girls' AWANA Club, and Boys' AWANA Club meet. The prayer group meets in the church sanctuary and junior high youth meet in the upstairs youth room.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we invite you to worship with us at 8:20, 9:40 and 11:00 as Pastor Wes begins a series of sermons on prayer. Next Sunday's sermon focuses on the disciples' question of Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1).

NEXT SUNDAY EVENING small groups continue meeting at the church and in various homes in Houghton and surrounding communities.

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WATER LINE UPGRADE: Beginning Monday morning and continuing through Wednesday afternoon, the Houghton Water and Sewer District is installing a new line into the church. The water to the church will be shut off during this time: bathroom facilities, faucets and drinking fountains will be unusable. We are making arrangements for the Youth Prayer Breakfast and Valley Preschool, which will meet as usual, and the church offices will be open, though on a potentially limited basis. Other ministries and events are asked to cancel or move to a different venue. Thank you for your patience while we endure this short-term inconvenience in order to improve our long-term water supply.

YOUTH NEWS

- Senior High Youth, Sept. 27, 6 p.m. – Martins' house on Seymour
- Prayer Breakfast Tuesday, **7:15 a.m.** (note later time) Community Room
- Middle School Ministries, Wed., 6:30 p.m.
- Senior High Youth, Oct. 4, 3:30 PM (permission slip required): Storm the Heights, followed by chili, corn bread and a warm bonfire.

H1N1 VIRUS AWARENESS: With the current outbreak and potential threat of future outbreaks of the H1N1 virus, we are encouraging prudence in our church gatherings. The CDC recommends that you limit your contact with others if you have a cough or sore throat associated fever higher than 100 degrees and that you should avoid going out until you have been free of the fever for one day (without medications). Because the virus is spread primarily through the air, as well as by physical contact, handshakes likely pose no more risk of transmission than a close conversation. However, if you are sick, it would be prudent to not only cover your coughs and sneezes and keep your hands clean, but also to excuse yourself from shaking hands.

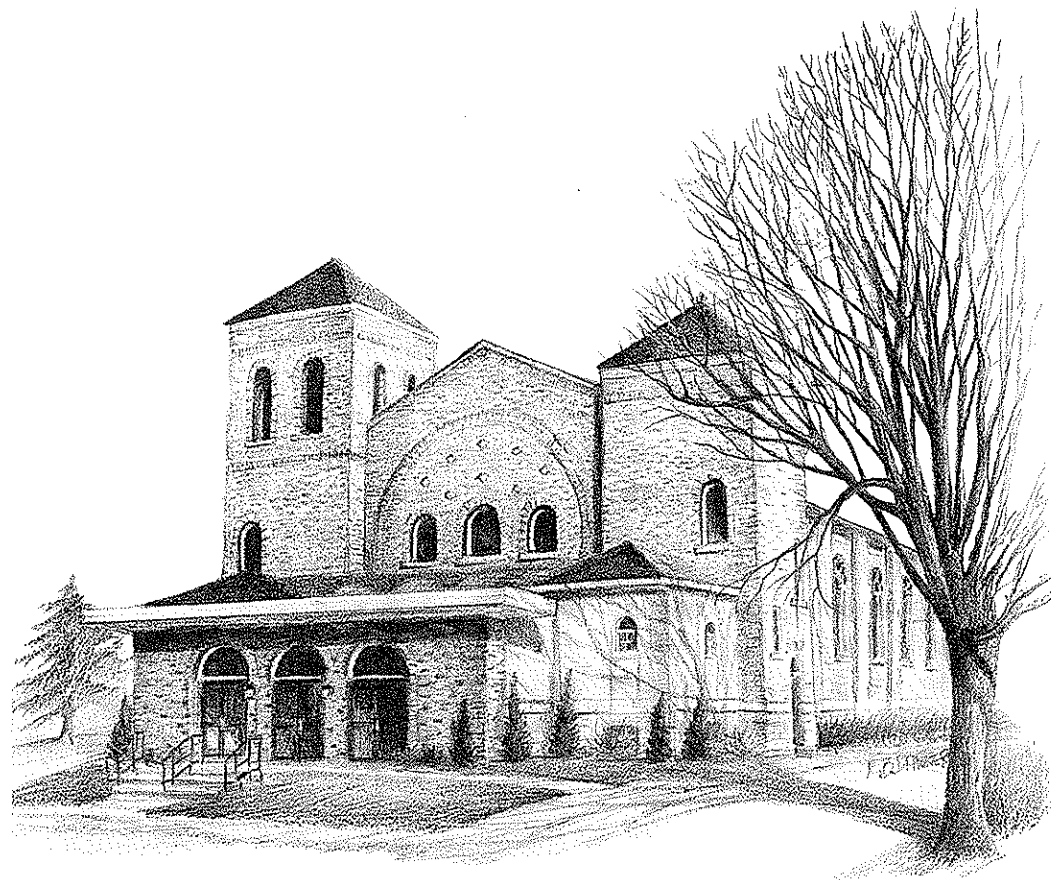
NEWS FOR INVESTORS	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>
Offerings Received	\$ 11,159	\$ 196,231
<u>Budget Needed</u>	<u>\$ 13,612</u>	<u>\$ 217,792</u>
Difference +/-	—\$ 2,453	—\$ 21,561

PRAYER CONCERNS: for Wil Zike and family at the death of his brother, Byron, this week; for Florence Teuber and family at the death of her sister Ann Gaffney this week, and for others who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Carol Getty, Ella Woolsey, John McCormick (Vicki King's Father), Johnny Kimani, LaNora Keith, Ann Irving (Ann McNeil's mother), Bonnie MacBeth, Robbie Taylor, Sue McNeil, Fred Libick, Meredith Kellogg, Al Smith, John Johnson (Sharon Johnson's father), Pierce Samuels, Emily Crikelair, Richard Schmidt (Karl's father), and Louis Case (Jon Case's father); for Houghton College, Houghton Academy, area public schools and homeschoolers; and for immediate and long-term results of Christian Life Emphasis Week.

For more information about church activities, please visit our website:
www.hwchurch.org or email us at info@hwchurch.org.



*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*