



Let's Be World Christians

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

(Revelation 7:9-10, NIV)

I suspect that from the very first service in 1852 of the Houghton Wesleyan Church this congregation has been concerned about the world. Our church has a long and storied history of involvement in the work of God's kingdom around the globe and around the county. Our vision statement affirms this reality as one of the foundational elements of who we are; we celebrate the many people who have in the past sacrificed to take or to send the Gospel of Jesus Christ to foreign countries of our world and to needy places of our county and continue to do so.

As the new school year unfolds, we are proposing to continue and enhance our world connections by bringing more of the world to us rather than primarily sending more of what we do to them. On a couple of Sundays a month, we will incorporate a variety of global elements into our worship services: global music, reading scripture in other languages, inviting prayers in different languages. In addition, the Houghton College Gospel Choir will be periodically assisting us in musical worship.

In adding this element to worship, we are not only connecting more effectively with international students on our campuses, but we are recognizing that God is at work all around the world and that we have much to learn from the worship of other cultures. I believe that this humble approach to worship will not only help us see the world more clearly, compassionately and humbly, but it will make us more sensitive to the contributions and concerns of diverse people right around us.

The image of celestial worship as described in Revelation has worldwide representation. Notice that every tribe and tongue is contributing to the worship in its own way and experiences. I cannot imagine that after creating the world with so much variety that God would desire worship around the throne to be neither monotone nor monochrome. People add their unique contribution to worship. It's this spirit of global worship to which we are attempting to connect through this new mindset of worship, realizing that we have much to offer the world and that the world has much to offer us.

I invite you to enter every worship service in a spirit of joy, excitement and expectation for what God is doing in you personally and in us corporately, giving thanks for all of God's people throughout the world.

In Christ,
Pastor Wes

Join Believers at the
County Courthouse for a
New Christ-Awakening in
our Nation on
September 11, 2009
at 12:00 noon.
www.awakeningamerica.us

SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

September 6 (8:20, 9:40, 11:00, 6:30pm)

a.m. CLEW: Dr. Joy Moore (Church)

p.m. CLEW: Dr. Joy Moore (Wesley Chapel)

September 13 (8:20, 9:40, 11:00, 6:00pm)

a.m. *Are You Rules and Positions or Humble Faith?* (Matt. 8)

p.m. Small Groups

September 20 (8:20, 9:40, 11:00)

a.m. *Who Are We?*

p.m. Small Groups

September 27 (8:20, 9:40, 11:00)

a.m. *What Is Important to Us?*

p.m. Small Groups

FROM THE ASSISTANT PASTOR

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

– John 13:34-35 (NIV)

One of the great things about the Body of Christ is the love, support and encouragement we give to and receive from one another as we travel through life together on our journey of faith in Christ. The Bible tells us repeatedly that we need each other, and every Christian has something to contribute to the Body of Christ.

Are you involved in the life of the church here at Houghton Wesleyan? In a church this size it's pretty difficult to know and be known by everyone in a personal, intimate way. But we all need at least a handful of other believers with whom we can connect on a deeper level. One way to accomplish this is through **small groups**.

Small groups are a great way to connect with other people. They foster a sense of belonging and provide a warm atmosphere of love and acceptance where members can share openly with one another, pray for one another, and care for each other's needs.

We would love to have YOU join one of our small groups!

Small groups will begin on Sunday evening, September 13th. We will have a number of groups in Houghton and the surrounding communities, and sign-up opportunities will be available to you in the next few weeks. I encourage you to consider getting involved in our small group ministry and connecting in a deeper way with other members of the church. Please feel free to contact me about this at 567-2264. I'd love to help you become part of a small group.

With Joy in Him and Love For You,

Pastor Todd

Church Choir: Attention all singers! The Church Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings at 7pm in the sanctuary – we welcome any and all new members! Please contact Amanda Cox with any questions (567-4870, acox@hwchurch.org).

ALL WOMEN: Plan now to join us at the **Ladies' Fall Gathering, *The Seasons of Our Lives***, on **Saturday, September 26** from 9 am to Noon in the South End of Houghton College Dining Hall (catered by Pioneer). In addition to a panel of our friends sharing about the joys and challenges of various seasons of life, we will hear from a special guest speaker, Jennifer Burman, who will offer her insights into the topic, *Praying Prodigals Home*. Childcare will be provided. Watch for more details.

WANTED: your candid photos from recent church events to put in the Church Family Album. Send digital photos to Shelley at shelley.noyes@gmail.com or send hard copies to 9751 Fancher Heights, Houghton NY 14744. For more information, call Shelley at 585-207-4031.

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Carol Montanye who died July 27, to Jane Zike and her family at the death of her mother, Marjorie Stevenson on July 28, to Pastor Laurie and her family at the death of her father, Larry Middleton on July 30, and to Ray Gordon and family at the death of Lillian on August 5.

Congratulations to those in our congregation who have been married this summer:

Kaylan Reynolds and John Buteyn, May 23
Rachael Allison and Josiah Snelgrove, July 25
Bethany Lewis and Kyle Alcott, August 8
Vara Whiting and Aaron Morley, August 15
Abby Schmidt and Jeremy Schirle, August 22

CLEW: Christian Life Emphasis Week is September 6-9. Our speaker is Dr. Joy Moore, Associate Dean for Black Church Studies and Church Relations and Adjunct Professor of Homiletics and the Practice of Ministry at Duke University Divinity School.



Dr. Moore will be sharing about “Remembering Rightly: Christian Community in a Post-Christian Culture.”

Please be in prayer that God will use her to reach college and academy students and all of us. We need a deeper relationship with Christ. If you are interested in hosting Dr. Moore for a meal while she is in Houghton, please contact the church office.

CLEW SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 6

- 8:20 am Worship Service (Houghton Church)
- 9:40 am Worship Service (Houghton Church)
- 11:00 am Worship Service (Houghton Church)
- 6:30 pm Evening Service (Wesley Chapel)

Monday, September 7

- 10:00 am Chapel Service (Wesley Chapel)
- 6:30 pm Evening Service (Wesley Chapel)

Tuesday, September 8

- 9:10 am Academy Chapel (Houghton Academy)
- 10:00 am Chapel Service (Wesley Chapel)
- 6:30 pm Evening Service (Wesley Chapel)

Wednesday, September 9

- 10:00 am Chapel Service (Wesley Chapel)

THE LIBRARY CORNER



This past summer we were given two books by Robert Whitlow. One is *Life Support* and the other is *Jimmy*. Whitlow is a lawyer turned author. His style has been described as “somewhere between Frank Peretti and John Grisham.” We also have two other of his books in our collection: *The Trial* and *The List*.

Another author, Randy Singer, also writes legal thrillers. *Publishers Weekly* said, “There is plenty of room in evangelical Christian fiction . . . legal thrillers are gaining ground in the evangelical Christian market and this (book), *Irreparable Harm*, is an agreeable addition to the genre.” Randy Singer is a graduate of Houghton College. He and his wife taught for three years at Houghton Academy. Today he serves on the Board of Legal Advisors for the

American Center for Law and Justice as well as preaching and teaching in Virginia. Robin Pawling continues to read and critique his books before they are published. *Irreparable Harm* and *Dying Declaration* are new volumes added recently to our collection.

Another gift to the Library is *Finding Peace* by Charles Stanley. A review states, “Dr. Stanley has crafted an essential read for all who wrestle with daily turmoil in an uncertain world.”

The movie, *Left Behind*, is available on DVDs. *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien is available on CDs.

Little People, Big Discoveries from Blue Clues can be found on VHS tape for small children.

For those who enjoy Beverly Lewis’s books, *The Brethren* is now available in large print.

WKFM Corner: "WE'RE GOING TO CAMP! Yes, Wesleyan Kids for Missions is going to Camp Promise... Where God's Promises are Ignited! Each month campers will visit different camps and learn that God can be trusted to keep His promises. From Salvation Camp to Adventure Camp to Family Camp, we will visit with kids from Indonesia, Haiti, The Czech Republic, Africa, Papua New Guinea, Russia, and the US.

The GOAL this year is that children will learn to trust Jesus as their Saviour, to share His love with others, to care for people of different cultures, to hide God's Word in their hearts, to tell others about Jesus, to pray and correspond with missionaries and their kids, and to become missionaries where they are.

SEPTEMBER 20 is our first meeting for children in grades 1-5 at 9:40 (regular SS time) in the Primary Assembly Room of the Christian Educ. Bldg. of the church. This is **MEMBERSHIP MONTH**. **We encourage each child to become a member by giving 52 CENTS**. Whole families may join and people in the larger church family as well. (We have both active and honorary members!!) We always will meet the **THIRD SUNDAY** of the month. So, start getting ready for **CAMP PROMISE!** We look forward to seeing your child at 'Camp' on September 20.

Staff: Grade 1: Connie Smith
2: Beth Beardsley
3: Casda Danner
4: Audrey Pocock
5: Betty Lou Pollock/Deb Shea

Gotta go and start packing our gear for the trails ahead!

Because He ALWAYS keeps His promises!
Beth Beardsley/Deb Shea, Coordinators

Prayer Chain Ministry:

The apostle Paul in Colossians 4:2 admonishes us to, "Devote ourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." This admonition is also a powerful reminder to us as Christians that prayer is essential in our lives. With this in mind we invite more men and women to become involved in the prayer chain ministry of our church. If you are already on the Prayer Chain, your name will remain on the list unless you contact us otherwise. If you want to receive the prayer chain requests via the phone or via e-mail, please contact Pastor Cindy or the church office by Monday, September 21st, to let us know. Thank you.

From the Library Committee

"...and how much goes out of the world when a good man dies."

Alexander Smellie, *In the Secret Place*

Or woman! With deep sadness the church library committee notes the sudden death of member Carol Montanye. We thank God for her faithful, loving service to the church library for many years. She will be greatly missed. The committee donated Gideon Bibles in her honor, and a new reference book, *The Wesley Study Bible*, has been added to the collection in her memory.

We thank you each one for your kind words of condolence at the death of Jane's mother, Marjorie Stevenson, and the expressions of appreciation for her life, as well as your prayers for our family.

Wilbur & Jane Zike

Thank you so much for all the prayers and expressions of sympathy during this time of saying goodbye to my dad. I so appreciate you all and praise the Lord for the family he has given me - back at home and here at church.

*With love and grateful hearts,
Pastor Laurie, Bob, Angie and Zac*

Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers during Hannah's recent illness.

Peter and Faith Roeske

Women's Bible Study & Prayer Groups

Tuesday Morning Groups

10:00 a.m.

This group meets in the home of Esther Smith. They meet every Tuesday year 'round. The group reads a Scripture passage allowing time for discussion and sharing. Much time is given to prayer with an emphasis on intercessory prayer.

Contact Person: Esther Smith, 567-8391

10:00 a.m.

This group meets every Tuesday morning at 10:00 and the group members take turns hosting the study. They are continuing study of Beth Moore's *The Patriarchs* on September 8.

Contact: Doris Nielsen (567-8667) or Marilyn Hiler (567-8966) for more information.

Wednesday Morning Group

9:30-10:45 a.m.

The Ladies' Wednesday Morning Bible Study in the Youth Room. Pastor Laurie is teaching I and II Samuel. Their first meeting is September 16.

Contact Laurie Smalley (567-8302)

Wednesday Evening Group

6:30 -7:45 p.m. in Room 214

The Ladies' Wednesday Evening Bible Study is studying Beth Moore's *Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman* beginning on September 23. Contact Mary Leach (567-8288 or marywleach@yahoo.com) with questions. Workbooks are available at the campus bookstore after Sept. 1 (ask for them at the register).

Friday Morning Group

9 am to 10:45 am.

Make plans now to join us for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship this fall. We begin *Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman by Beth Moore* on September 18; childcare is provided for children 5 and under.

Workbooks are available after September 1 at the campus bookstore. Ask for them at the register. If you have questions, call Kelley Hijleh at 567-4707 or email Kelley.Hijleh@houghton.edu.

Fall Sunday School Opportunities For Adults

(9:40 to 10:40 a.m.)

All adults, college students, and community members are invited to take advantage of these opportunities for discipleship.

Kaleidoscope – presents a “kaleidoscope” of topics including Bible study, missions, current events, spiritual journeys and fellowship. Kaleidoscope meets in the **Community Room** on the first floor of the Christian Education Building.

Devotional Classics – this book study/discussion-style class meets in **Room 9** on the lower level of the main church. This semester they will study, *The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives* by Dallas Willard.

The Sermons of Jesus – this Bible study class taught by Paul Young meets in the **Youth Room** on the lower level of the main church.

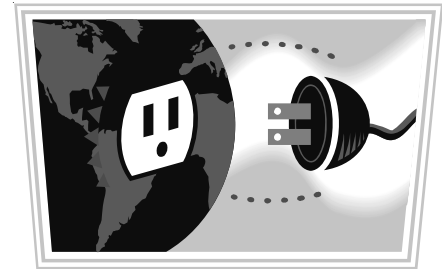
Foundation of Apologetics – meets in **Room 105** on the first floor of the Christian Education Building and is led by Bryan Mastin.

Fireproof Your Marriage - this study is based on Biblical principles for strong, God-centered, lifelong marriages. They will use video clips from the original video along with thought-provoking discussion questions and individual and couples' devotionals. This class meets in the **Jr. Assembly Room** on the 2nd floor of the Christian Education Building. Marilyn and Ralph Kerr lead this class.

When Mothers Pray – this class coordinated by Eileen Swanson, meets in **Room 7** on the lower level of the main church. This class is geared to mothers of teenagers and young adults.

Get Connected in Ministry

We invite you to prayerfully consider involving yourself in one of the many ministries of our church. It is always exciting to be a part of God's work. We have a number of opportunities for service in our children's ministries. We look forward to talking with you about these opportunities and the best fit for you and the gifts God has given you. Please contact any of the following Ministry Leaders or Pastor Cindy for more information about our children's ministries. Volunteers are needed in:



Nursery

Ministry Leader: Jan Schilke

Nursery Volunteers for the 8:20, 9:40, and 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning worship services

Children's Church

Ministry Leaders: Mary Anne Majoros, Kathy Bogdan, Bitsy Mayhle & Karry Beardsley

Teachers and Assistant Teachers for the 8:20 and 11:00 a.m. worship services

Sunday School

Ministry Leader: Robin Pawling

Leader/s for Primary Song time which meets the first 20 minutes of Sunday School, and substitute teachers for the college break weekends. Sunday School meets from 9:40-10:40 on Sunday mornings

AWANA Puggles & Cubbies

Ministry Leaders: Jessica Mullen and Donna Blew

Teachers and Assistant Teachers for various ages from 6:30-7:45 on Wednesday Evenings

Girls' AWANA Club

Ministry Leaders: Heather Hannan and Kerri Lord

Teachers and Assistant Teachers for various grade levels between Kindergarten and 6th grade from 6:30-7:45 on Wednesday evenings

Boys' AWANA Club

Ministry Leaders: Emily & Brandon Hoffman and Stephanie & Chad Wittenrich

Teachers and Assistant Teacher for various grade levels between Kindergarten and 6th grade from 6:30-7:45 on Wednesday evenings

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27

Wednesday Evening Children's Ministries Registration

Wednesday evening, September 16th in the Community Room/Gym on the first floor of the Christian Education Building from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The registration includes the following ministries:

AWANA Puggles & Cubbies for children ages two through four

Girls' AWANA Club for girls grades Kindergarten through 6th grade

Boys' AWANA Club for boys grades Kindergarten through 6th grade

Children's Choir for children grades 1st-6th

There is a \$5.00 registration (donation) fee per child in the AWANA Puggles and Cubbies, Children's Choir, Girls' AWANA, and Boys' AWANA Club with a cap of \$20.00 per families with multiple children. This registration (donation) fee is to help cover the cost of handbooks and other supplies for the year.

**AWANA Puggles & Cubbies, Girls' AWANA Club, and Boys' AWANA Club
will begin on
Wednesday evening, September 23rd, at 6:30 p.m.**

Sunday School Promotion Sunday is September 6th.

**On Sunday, September 27th, we will commission all of our volunteers
for this coming year of service in our morning worship services.**



Karl and Jill Schmidt are blest to announce the marriage of their daughter, Abigail, to Jeremy Schirle on Friday, August 21, 2009, at Houghton Wesleyan Church. The couple resides in West Palm Beach, Florida.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Piano and Violin Lessons: My credentials include a Bachelor's Degree in String Music and experience as a music teacher in Korea (three years) and in the U.S. I enjoy teaching privately. If anyone wishes for lessons, my e-mail address is YoonHee_violinist@yahoo.com, and my phone number is 567-4759.

For Rent: upstairs apartment, 7 minute walk from campus; 1 Large Bedroom, Living Room, Bath, Kitchen, Hall/ Study, Partially Furnished, Private Entrance and Deck. No pets. No Laundry. Renter provides phone service. \$700/month includes utilities. YoonHee_violinist@yahoo.com

HVFD YARD SALE & Chicken BBQ

Saturday, September 5, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(BBQ pickup noon-1 p.m.)

Houghton College Maintenance Parking Lot, Route 19
Reserve a Space by calling (585) 567-9679

FREE TO A GOOD HOME: a white, handcrafted bookcase twin-size headboard.
Delivery not included. Contact Carol Stonemetz - 567-4292.

Houghton Area Senior Citizens meet September 10, 12:15

Program: Senior Citizens and Scams-Presentation, Q & A by a representative from the NYS Attorney General's office.
Bring table setting & a dish-to-pass according to surname initial:
A-F, Salad G-O, Dessert P-Z, Casserole

Childcare needed for Toddler M, T, TH, F, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please call Michelle Bower at 567-8523.

CHURCH STAFF

Wes Oden, Senior Pastor, 567-2024, woden@hwchurch.org

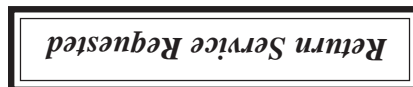
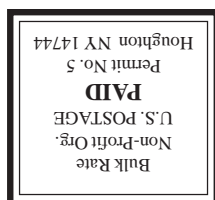
Todd Leach, Assistant Pastor, 567-8288, tleach@hwchurch.org

Jon Cole, Youth Pastor, 307-9950, jcole@hwchurch.org

Cindy Oden, Discipleship Pastor, 567-2024, coden@hwchurch.org

Amanda Cox, Worship Director, 567-4870, acox@hwchurch.org

Laurie Smalley, Volunteer Pastor for Outreach, 567-8302, lsmalley@hwchurch.org



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