Houghton Wesleyan Church
Highlights

Joyfully loving God, wholeheartedly serving others

August 2018
Volume 51 No. 3

We are One in Christ

There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.
Galatians 3:28

When I was four or five years old, my uncle came to visit us. He was a gifted singer and musician. When he came, he brought with him some recently purchased records. One of the albums was *Great Gettin' Up Morning* by the gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson. The record quickly became one of my favorites.

As Ms. Jackson sang *God Put a Rainbow in the Sky*, I would dance around the living room and sing at the top of my lungs. I was so enamored by her music that before he left our house, my uncle gave me the album. It is still one of my cherished possessions.

Just a few weeks ago, I finished reading a short biography of Mahalia Jackson. Knowing little about her life, I was intrigued to read the stories of her rise from New Orleans poverty to worldwide stardom, from the granddaughter of slaves to one of the most famous musicians in the world.

Mahalia Jackson was so successful that by 1950 she was earning fifty thousand dollars a year from her singing. She actually could have made more, but she refused the huge offers from nightclub and jazz band leaders because she felt uncomfortable singing with the atmosphere of their establishments. Tragically, despite her success, because of the color of her skin, there were places in America where she was treated shamefully. She wasn't asking to be treated better than others; she was asking to be treated as a human being. She said, "While on the concert stage or in the TV studio white people say they love me. On the street they ignore me."

We all lament the pain of her experience and that of so many others. We condemn it. We abhor it. But we must also acknowledge that racism and other similar behavior continues to be a serious blight on our nation and world. In addition to the way people of color are viewed and treated, it also continues in the way we place value and worth on people who are not like us. It continues in the way we talk about people who have political views that differ from ours. It continues when we stereotype people who follow different religions or who have different ethnic practices. As Christians, these attitudes and behaviors ought to matter to us.

The answer is not ignoring our differences—as if there aren't any—but rather, to see people as Jesus does: with compassion, respect, dignity, grace, love and truth. Perhaps the most significant thing we can do is to put ourselves into the shoes of those who differ from us. There is something healthy and holy about seeing each other as people God loves, as people who are created in the God's image, as people of worth and value.

This is Paul's point when he tells the Galatians that the categories we use to divide us, those categories we use to assign or withhold value and worth are broken down in Christ. But Paul's command is also a subtle warning that how we think about people and treat people who are different shapes who we are and how open we are to God—arrogance toward others is not only sin; it is also a sign of our distance from God.

I wonder what would happen if we prayed for God to change our hearts toward people who are different from us. I suspect that we would see changes in us, in others and in our world.

Blessings,
Pastor Wes

CLEW: Christian Life Emphasis Week is September 2-5.

The Rev. Dr. David Drury, the chief of staff for the international headquarters of The Wesleyan Church, is our speaker. Please be in prayer now that God will use him and that these days will lead students and community members into a deeper relationship with Christ. Learn more about Dr. Drury at his website: http://www.daviddrury.com

Welcome students to the community at the

WELCOME POTLUCK August 19

Welcome students to the community at the Welcome Potluck August 19th
The Welcome-Students-To-Our-Community Potluck/Picnic will be held in the church Community Room and on the church side lawn (weather permitting) on Sunday evening, August 19th at 5:00 p.m. Because the church family will be welcoming 200 athletes and students already on campus to our community, we, the church family, will provide all of the food. The church will provide table service, hot dogs, hot dog buns and beverage Please bring a large salad and /or hot dish and a dessert so we have enough food to serve everyone. The Lay Shepherd groups hosting this event are Belfast/Caneadea/Friendship/Rushford, Centerville Road and Fancher Heights/Luckey/Meadow Lane. Come and enjoy this time of fellowship and food as we welcome Houghton College students to our church and community.

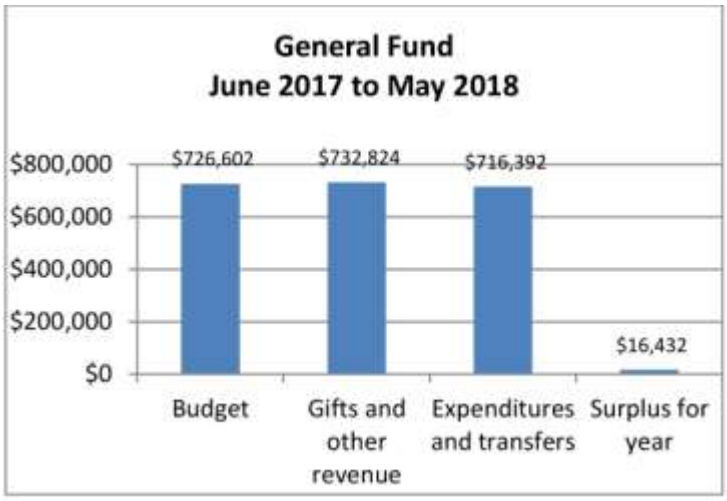
COUNTDOWN!

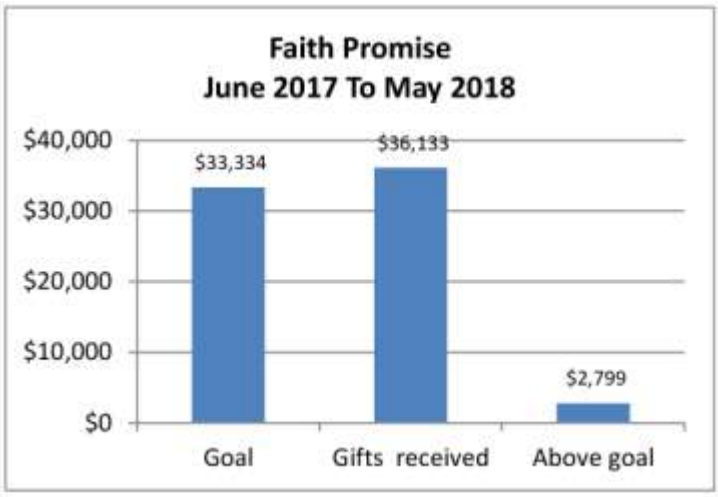
Launch of Fall Adult Ministries begins. Make plans now.

- September 2 – Adult Sunday School – Five classes, something for everyone.
- September 9 – Small Groups – Listing in September Highlights

STEWARDSHIP

We are pleased to report that we ended the fiscal year (June – May) with a surplus balance of about $16,000. We are grateful to God for his blessings and to you for your sacrificial generosity. At their August meeting, the Elders will determine how these funds will be distributed. Again, thank you for your faithful stewardship and thank you for your prayers as we give glory to God through the use of the resources with which he has blessed us—personally and corporately.





MISSION NOTES:

August 5 – Cory and Kris Thede and family (left) from Haiti, visit HWC.

- September – Alan and Cheri Shea and family, from Liberia, visit HWC

  Take the opportunity to get acquainted with our supported missionaries.

  Remember that our mission support is part of HWC's regular financial strategy and giving.

WKFM (Wesleyan Kids For Missions) VOLUNTEERS

☺ Five Sundays throughout the coming church year.

☺ Join as an adult volunteer to assist in this vital missions program for our children. Sunday School. hour sessions in September, November,. January, March and May.

☺ 10-12 volunteers needed. Could this be your niche for service?

Contact Pastor Paul Shea (paulshea@hwchurch.org) immediately to join in planning.

COLLEGE OUTREACH – Discipling college students is one of the historic ministries of HWC. This Fall, consider adopting students for fellowship with your family. New international students, as well, need our love and prayers. Join the Student Welcome Picnic on August 19 at 5:00 p.m.
More info forthcoming…

*Children's Ministry * Children's Ministry*

CONGRATULATIONS...

To Andrew and Melissa Lundeen and siblings Adalynn and Everly at the birth of Cynthia Rose on July 23.

September 2

Sunday School begins for all ages

FALL FUN

We are thinking ahead to the fall when our Children's Ministries begin again and have some awesome opportunities for you, our church family. You can have the amazing experience of working with a Sunday School class, either as a teacher or an assistant this fall! There are openings in the toddler and 4-year-old classes. If you love children and enjoy sharing the love of Jesus, this is the place for you! For our youth, there are also opportunities for teens to help out in Junior Church during the 8:20 Service. Please contact Pastor Laurie (567-2264 / lauriesmalley@hwchurch.org) or Jess Wartinger (330-4628/ sundayschool@hwchurch.org) if you are interested.

KIDS' CLUB on Wednesday nights will start on October 10th

for kids from 1st through 6th grades

We welcome anyone who would like to join the team. We can always use extra hands in our three stations: Bible Lesson, Crafts, and Game Time. Donna Blew has a special Junior Kid's Club for the younger kids and is in need of one or two assistants to help with that program.

BIKES ON THE QUAD

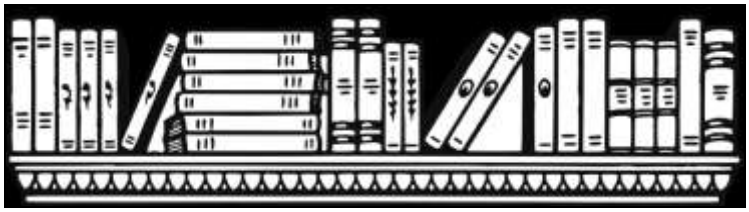
Join us on the Houghton College Quad on Wednesday nights at 6:30 for a time of family fellowship while the kids ride the quad. We meet every Wednesday through August 22..

A Thank You to Jon-Loran Bintz for drawing the coloring pictures for our Kids' Activity Bags. (Activity bags are on the upper level of the church foyer.) Budding artists are welcome to create coloring pages.

August Memory Verse

Apply Now For 2018-19
We meet 9:00 - 11:45 a.m.
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
September through May
Be a Part of Our 50th Year!
VALLEY PRESCHOOL
Serving the Community for Generations
Houghton Wesleyan Church Houghton, NY
VPS children enjoy quality, safe, fun, and cost-effective pre-K education. Kids ages 3-5
Reduced tuition option through our new Stone Soup Fund
Larger scholarships are also available
For more information or an application contact Casda Danner (director) at 567-4314 or casdadanner@hwchurch.org or call Houghton Wesleyan Church at 567-2264
Valley Preschool admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin

From the
Library Shelves



Your church library is always open when the building is unlocked. Come on in and see what we have. There are books for your whole family to choose and enjoy.

If you are thinking ahead to fall about a possible Bible study, we have some available on top of the cupboard in the back room. Many are by Beth Moore, but we do have a few other authors also.

Come in from the heat and enjoy our cool library!

Wellspring Ministries

Summer is upon us with many 'shopper's and 'donators' coming and going. We see a few more children, too, and love when families can stay for a meal. Do plan on a Wednesday or Friday lunch with us.

PRAISE:

- ☺ We thank God for a successful volunteer recognition dinner in June, with a program featuring show tunes by Amanda Cox and friends.
- ☺ It was a treat for us to have a meal prepared and served by the Genesis Bible Church Men's Group, and the Sheriff's Dept. in July. They plan to come back and do it again August 22.
- ☺ Thank you for your support as a church and as individuals. We feel it.

PRAYER:

- ☺ for one or two regular kitchen helpers who could help weekly or bi-weekly for a 3 hr. period
- ☺ Also we could benefit from someone who would vacuum, and do some light cleaning weekly or bi-weekly.
- ☺ For those who present the Word each week before meals, that they would be led by the Holy Spirit, so hearts are impacted by the Gospel
- ☺ For direction from the Lord as we pray for new board members

NOTE:

- ☺ we are closed Friday, August 31 for the long Labor Day weekend
- ☺ Light items may continue to be placed on the Beardsley porch any Monday or Tuesday, except August 27,28 and September 3,4.

Grateful for the bond we share
Beth Beardsley for the Board

"If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord - and He will repay you." Psalm 19:13

refresh
retreat & family camp

18 83
HOUGHTON
COLLEGE

2018 MAIN SERVICE SPEAKERS

SUNDAY, 7/29 at 6:45 PM
JUSTIN LEININGER
Lead Pastor, North Collins Wesleyan Church (North Collins, NY)
Houghton College Class of 2005

MONDAY, 7/30 at 6:45 PM
KEN NASH
Lead Pastor, Watermark Wesleyan Church (Hamburg, NY)

TUESDAY, 7/31 at 6:45 PM
AARON DUVALL
Teaching Pastor, Victory Highway Wesleyan Church (Painted Post, NY)

WEDNESDAY, 8/1 at 6:45 PM
WALLY FLEMING
Director of Chapel, Roberts Wesleyan College (Chili, NY)
Houghton College Class of 1976

THURSDAY, 8/2 at 6:45 PM
MICHAEL WALTERS
Emeritus Professor of Christian Ministry, Houghton College
Houghton College Class of 1986

FRIDAY, 8/3 AT 11:00 AM
JOEY JENNINGS
District Superintendent, WNY District of The Wesleyan Church
Houghton College Class of 1986

The Wesleyan Women of WNY, Houghton College women, and area church women's groups are headed to Watermark Church in Hamburg (formally known as the Wesleyan Church of Hamburg) on October 11, 2018 for The Freedom Project Tour led by Jennie Allen (author of *Nothing to Prove* and founder of the "If Gathering" worship by Christie Nockles.

General Admission: $15
Doors open @ 6:30 p.m. with event 7-10 p.m.
Buy tickets online: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-freedom-project-tour-tickets-43199475795
Event Location: Wesleyan Church of Hamburg, 4999 McKinley Parkway, Hamburg, NY 14075

Yes, it's a Thursday evening!... drink more coffee the next morning ;)
Leading up to the Freedom Project Tour, Kristen will be co-hosting a book club review in her home (9701 Route 19 Houghton, NY 14744) the two Thursday evenings before: September 27 and October 4 @ 8:00
Read "Nothing to Prove" in its entirety, buy your ticket to the Freedom Tour, and come hungry for fellowship and brownies! (side not: even if you can't go to the event on the 11th and don't read books, we would love to have you at the Sanasith house!!!)

Childcare during Worship

NURSERY: We provide a fully staffed nursery for infants up to two years of age. The nursery is located on the first floor of the Christian Education Building and is available during services.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Children ages 2-5 are dismissed during the song before the sermon for Children's Church which meets in rooms 115 and 116 on the first floor of the Christian Education Building.

Is Hospitality Your Gift?

Be a welcoming and friendly face on Sunday mornings as people arrive for the worship services. Greeters help prepare the hearts of members for worship as they welcome guests with a smile and warm handshake. If you enjoy meeting new people and have a genuine desire to make them feel comfortable, this may be the ministry for you. Please call Janyce Smithley at 585-307-0228. You may also fill-out the form below to put in the offering plate or send to the church office. Janyce will be organizing a Greeter Calendar for the school year. Thank you.

The Greeter Ministry is looking for Greeters

Would you be willing to help with this ministry by giving a friendly handshake and warm smile to people as they enter our worship services? If so, please print your name and contact info below and check off which service you can help with and put in the offering plate or send to the church office.
We welcome college, academy and high school student involvement. Thank you for considering becoming part of this ministry of the Houghton Wesleyan Church!

Your name_____

Your phone/email_____

Address/CPO_____

Service you prefer to be a greeter:_____8:20_____9:40_____11:00 a.m

Houghton Area Senior Citizens

The Houghton Area Seniors from northern Allegany County meet monthly on the second Thursday for fellowship, food, and an interesting program—sometimes music, sometimes a travelogue, sometimes local color, sometimes valuable information—always interesting.

Our September 13 luncheon will begin at noon in the Community Room. Bring a dish to pass as indicated by the first letter of your last name:

A-F Desserts G-N Casseroles O-Z Salads

At 1:00 p.m. the program will be stories from Africa by Jon Arensen.

New members age 55+ always welcome ~ caregivers, also, regardless of age.

Save October 11, November 8, December 13, January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, and June 13 on your calendar!

The Valley Theatre presents the 10th anniversary production of our first musical!

Thursday and Friday, September 13 and 14 at 7pm
in the Houghton Wesleyan Church Community Room

Saturday, September 15 at 7pm and
Sunday, September 16 at 2pm in the David A. Howe Public Library, Wellsville
Contact Amanda Cox with any questions! (amandacox@hwchurch.org)

We are out of or low on the following items:

- **Canned fruits & vegetables**
- **Tuna**
- **Flour & Sugar**
- **Baked beans**
- **Breakfast cereal**
- **Margarine, oil**
- **Cheese**
- **Spaghetti sauce**
- **Soups, Chili, and Stew**
- **Instant potatoes, Rice**
- **Jelly and Jam**
- **Pancake Mix and syrup**
- **Macaroni & Cheese**
- **Shampoo, soap, deodorant**
- **Toilet paper**
- **Laundry detergent, dish soap**

Two-day Auction August 24 & 25
—The Larry Wilson Estate—
Victorian Home and Contents
9703 Route 19 in Houghton

Friday begins at 1:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.
(preview 2 hours prior to auction start each day)
Antiques, hunting, fishing items, surprises!

Spruce up day

Two recent additions to our community need your help to keep looking their best. Without treatment the Leonard Park pergola (next to Subway) and the Caneadea Town Park entrance (behind the fire hall) will lose their beautiful new wood look and turn a dull weathered gray.

Join us Saturday, August 11, 8am- 12pm to brush on wood protector.
Bring a brush. Come when you can, leave when you need. Snacks provided.
Rain date August 18th.

Let us know if you are coming. Interested, have questions?
contact Becky Hutton, 585-567-2727, lindolruthhutton@hotmail.com or
Daryl Stevenson, Daryl.Stevenson@houghton.edu .

The Genesee Rapids have completed their 2018 season. While the players, coaches and entire organization were disappointed with the win/lose record there were many other highlights which everyone is happy with.

1. Players assisted with the students Field Day at Fillmore Central School
2. Players read books to children at the Rushford and Fillmore Library
3. Players shared their testimonies at the Houghton Wesleyan Church and the Hallsport Christian Church in Wellsville.
4. Players and coaches led two weeks of Kids Baseball Camp. Nearly 100 campers participated. Campers and parents comments were very favorable.
5. Hosted a Kids Day game with over 1200 students and teachers attending.
6. Participated in the Big Moose Golf Tournament which raises money to support the Rapids and awards student scholarships
7. Co-sponsored Houghton College Alumni Night which concluded with a huge fireworks display provided by Young's Explosives of Rochester
8. Four players were selected to the New York Collegiate Baseball League 2018 All Star Game in Syracuse
9. Hosted First Responders Recognition Night
10. Hosted D.S.S. and Foster Family Night

Thanks to all the host families, volunteers and great fans who attended Rapids games and made our players and their families feel the warmth and friendship of people in our region.

Puerto Rico Mission Trip

From Grace:

God is so good. He took this group of twenty three Houghton-ers and bonded us together as family this week. Our eyes were opened to the world around us, to the people around us. We learned more than we would have ever expected, worked harder than we thought possible, grew spiritually, and created relationships that will last a lifetime. It was incredible to see God at work this week. Thank you all for your prayers and support, we appreciate it more than you know. Please continue to pray for the people of Puerto Rico and Vieques; God's not finished.

Sundays in August

August 5 (10:00 am)
am Dr. Jon Case

August 12 (10:00 am)
am How Do the Guilty Sing? (Psalm 126)

August 19 (8:20 am, 9:40 am and 11:00 am, 5:00 pm)
No Sunday School
am When We Feel Humiliated (Psalm 83)
p.m. Welcome Potluck

August 26 (8:20am, 9:40am and 11:00am, 5:00 pm)
No Sunday School
am Our Most Appropriate Response to God (Psalm 1 and 150)

CHURCH STAFF

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

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

Cindy Oden, *Assistant Pastor*
567-2024 **cindyoden@hwchurch.org**

Paul Shea, *Assistant Pastor*
567-4597 **paulshea@hwchurch.org**

Amanda Cox, Music & *Worship Director*
567-4870 **amandacox@hwchurch.org**

Laurie Smalley, *Children's Ministry Director*
567-8302 **lauriesmalley@hwchurch.org**

Church Office, M-F, 8 AM-Noon & 1-5 PM,
567-2264 **office@hwchurch.org**