



There is a Redeemer

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, "As you know, Passover begins in two days, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."

(Matthew 26:1-2)

Matthew 26 is a hinge point in the life and ministry of Jesus. The previous chapters detail Jesus' teaching about the last days to come and what it looks like to live in preparation for those days. As Matthew 26 unfolds, Jesus turns his full attention to the cross that looms before him. For this reason, the events of this chapter are significant for us to ponder, particularly during the season of Lent—this time of year when we focus our attention on the passion and death of Jesus and the call of Jesus on our lives.

The cross is first and foremost about Jesus. It is the cross of Jesus and no one else. All that God accomplishes through the cross is because of Jesus and no one else. It is all about him. Any other means of understanding or engaging the cross is wrong. The season of Lent, the cross, everything about the passion is about Jesus.

But there is a way in which that is true and yet not complete. There is a way in which we understand and declare that the cross is all Jesus and at the same time acknowledge that it is also about us.

When we typically think of our connection to the cross it is what the cross does for us. And this is the right way to think. The cross is the pathway to all of the ideas and words that we use to describe the work of Jesus for us—salvation, redemption, atonement, justification, forgiveness. We are the undeserving beneficiaries of the cross, which is why we sing songs like: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, In the Cross of Christ I Glory, Thank You for the Cross, Hallelujah for the Cross*. We sing these songs because we understand the power of the cross to completely change our lives. As odd as it sounds, we celebrate the cross.

But we must understand the cross in an additional light—the cross is not just for us but also about us. Lent is not just about the power of the cross but also about the call of the cross. It is in this understanding that our minds turn to the words of Paul to the Philippians. In chapter two, Paul describes Jesus' self-emptying that leads to the cross. What we often miss is that this description of Jesus is in the context of Paul's admonition: *You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had (NLT)* or *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (KJV)*. Of course, Paul is simply restating Jesus' call to his disciples: *Take up your cross and follow me*.

As much as the cross does for us, we must also recognize that to be disciples of Jesus is to hear and respond to the cross calling us. This is what I see in Matthew 26 as he describes the last hours of Jesus' life.

So, during this Season of Lent, we are going to think about how the cross reveals the nature and mission of Jesus. And how the cross calls us to embrace Jesus by letting his mind be in us—in our thoughts and in our actions. May God fill us with grace to see Jesus and to embody his call.

Blessings
Pastor Wes



GOOD FRIDAY

A JOURNEY TO THE CROSS, FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 10:00 A.M. –6:00 P.M.

EASTER BAPTISM

We are offering baptism on Easter Sunday, April 21 in the 7:45am service. If you are interested in being baptized, please contact Pastor Wes for more information about the process of preparing for this event.

SERMONS ON THE INTERNET & iTUNES

You may access sermons on the church website (www.hwchurch.org) or on iTunes (www.itunes.com). Most weeks the services are available on iTunes by late Sunday afternoon and on our website by late Monday morning.

MEMBERSHIP: Pastor Wes is hosting a membership class in March for all who are interested in becoming members of Houghton Wesleyan and for all who are interested in knowing more about Houghton Wesleyan. The class will focus on our mission, our history, our theological distinctives and our vision for the future as a body of believers. If you are interested in attending, contact the church office (office@hwchurch.org).



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

BEGINS SUNDAY MARCH 10

Please turn your clocks ahead one hour.



Ash Wednesday, March 6, is the beginning of Lent.

You are invited to an Ash Wednesday Service at the church at 6:30pm. During this service, we will begin to contemplate the passion of Christ through scripture, song, and the imposition of ashes.



Stewardship – A Life of Generosity

An annual task of our Finance Committee is to create a financial plan proposal for the Elders to consider and eventually for the congregation to approve. The process started in January and will conclude after the congregation votes in mid-May.

This is not a task the Committee takes lightly. The trustees and pastors work with various groups of people to make a financial plan proposal that will enable each ministry to accomplish its work. By the end of February, the Stewardship Committee begins putting all these proposals together to create a financial plan that will provide necessary funds while being realistic about anticipated giving.

The tension of expanding ministries within the confines of our expected income is not an easy task. The Committee will spend hours in attempt to be fair and equitable about the distribution of funds while at the same time encouraging ministry leaders to envision new ways to help us grow in Christ and to bear witness to Christ.

There is no doubt that we all would love to see us continue to expand our programs and outreach. We would love to do more for the work of God's kingdom around the world. We would love to do more to help people in Allegany County who are struggling with the ups and downs of life. We would love to provide more resources for our children and youth to know and accept the grace of God in their lives. Often we are able to provide for numerous growing opportunities. Sometimes we are not. More often than not, what holds us back is available funds.

We believe the financial plan is one indicator of our priorities as a church. How we spend the money we receive speaks to what is important to us and what we hope to be as the people of God in Houghton. We also believe the financial plan indicates our priorities as individual disciples. How we spend our money shows what is important to us and what we hope to be as followers of Jesus.

As ministries are making financial plan proposals, as the Stewardship Committee and Elders are creating a financial plan, it would be a wonderful time to think about our personal spiritual health as it relates to finances. Give thanks for what God is already enabling you to do and ask God if it is time to trust him even more.

A Quiet Day Retreat

Take time out of your busy life and give yourself the gift of a day away to slow down and experience quiet and time to be with God. There will be an opening and closing prayer time with the rest of the day in silence to rest, pray and enjoy walking in this beautiful setting. Snacks and lunch will be provided. If you feel drawn to a quiet day, please join us! *This retreat is open to men and women.*

When: Saturday, April 6, 2019, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Where: Sally Johnson's home
6433 Dutch Hill Road, Fillmore, NY 14735

Facilitator: Jeanie Little

Cost: \$20 - includes snacks, drinks and lunch

For more information and to **RSVP** (*space is limited*), please call or email **Jeanie Little**, jeanielittle5@gmail.com, 585-610-5999.

"Be still and know that I am God" (Ps. 46:10)



The Annual Buddy Keith Memorial Grand Prix & Sailboat Races

Buddy Keith Memorial Race Day is coming up! On March 20th, we will carry on the tradition of having car and boat races in the Community Room for kids in Kindergarten through 6th grade. This year we are trying something different - we will be racing veggie cars instead of wooden cars for kids 3-6th grade. Kindergarten - 2nd graders will race boats as usual. **3rd-6th graders, don't forget to bring a vegetable no wider than 3 inches with you so we can construct the cars together just before the race.**

All kids are welcome to participate and everyone is welcome to come and watch!

If your kids are planning to participate, and are not part of Kid's Club, please contact Pastor Laurie to get the information you need for the race.



Memory Verse Challenge

We would like to encourage our children, youth and congregation to memorize scripture. Work on learning this verse in March. This verse goes along with our Children's Sunday School Lessons for March:

COMMUNION SUNDAY There will be no Junior Church on March 17.

Enjoy the service with your church family!

Emily and Tim Montanye welcomed Arthur Wyld on 2/10 at 11 pm. 8 lbs, 9 oz and 20.5 inches long.



Congrats to Emily and Tim, big brother Oliver, Grandparents Brenda, Nate and the rest of the family!!



Thank you for praying for our grandson Daniel Robert Smalley, parents Zac and Erin and big brother Peter. Daniel was born on February 21st and appears to be a healthy, happy baby boy! We are so thankful!

Grandparents Bob & Laurie Smalley

W.K.F.M.

March 3: kids in grades 1-5 meet during the Sunday School hour (9:40 to 10:40 a.m.) for Wesleyan Kids For Missions. Dan Zambrano will share about Ecuador.



Rose Jones has been the 4-year-old Sunday School teacher for quite a while! Her students love her kind and patient, loving and thoughtful personality. Rose has been such a blessing to us and the children in her classes - we will certainly miss her! Rose is moving on to a new job in Syracuse but will always hold a special place in our hearts.



During May and June, after our college volunteers are gone, we will have openings during the 11:00 service for those who would enjoy helping out with the Children's Church ministry. Also, during the 6 weeks of Summer Sabbath, we will offer two Children's Church classes during the 10:00 service. Please let Pastor Laurie know if you are interested in helping.

From the Library Shelves



Have you looked at our CD shelves lately? We have a number of books on CD just waiting for you! There are fiction CDs by such authors as Karen Kingsbury, Lynn Austin, Robert Whitlow and others. We also have some biographical CDs about Corrie Ten Boom, Hudson Taylor, Billy Graham and more. And then we have more Christian living CDs about marriage, parenting, prayers, heaven and other subjects.

As we start the Lenten season during March, we have a number of books, such as He Chose the Nails, The Lenten Tree and Were You There?, on Lent and Easter itself. Our children's area also has a number of books on Easter such as The Wonderful Surprise, Mr. Washington's Traveling Music, and Peter's First Easter. Come see what we have!!

As always, PLEASE remember to return your books when finished so others may enjoy them as you have. THANKS!!

HOUGHTON / FILLMORE
WESLEYAN CHURCH
YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES
CALENDAR
MARCH 2019



30 Hour Famine
May 3-4
JUST HUNGER.
Hunger isn't just. But your hunger can be.

E416
Retreat
At Houghton College
March 30 - 10am-4pm
Equipping youth pastors, youth leaders, volunteers, high school students, and middle school students to be people of influence in Christ.
Save the date and look for sign-ups at youth group!
Eph 4:16 - "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 SS Life Groups! 6pm	4 5 Prayer Break-fast @7:00am	6 7 8 9	10 SS Life Groups! 6pm	11 12 Prayer Break-fast @7:00am 13 14 15 16	17 SS Life Groups! 6pm	18 19 Prayer Breakfast @7:00am 20 21 22 23
24 SS Life Groups! 6pm	25 26 Prayer Break-fast @7:00am	27 28 29 30 E416 10am-4pm	31 SS Life Groups! 6pm			

March Lifegroups...
Mar 3 Made 3— You were made to be the boss of your body.
Gal 5:1; I Cor 6:12
Mar 10 Made 4— You were made for more than sex.
Gen 29-30; Psalm 139:14
Mar 17 Famous Last Words 1— Remember what God has done for you! -
Luke 22:39-44
Mar 24 FLW 2—Unity starts with you! John 17:20-23
Mar 31 FLW 3 - Because of Jesus, we can be close to God.
John 15:37-38



HOPE
POVERTY SIMULATION

The Poverty Simulation is
High school Only!
Tuesday 12th
Or
Wednesday 13th
Just let Pastor Jon know that you are coming!

Famous Last Words

BY THIS EVERYONE
WILL KNOW THAT YOU
ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU

LOVE
ONE ANOTHER.

JOHN 13:35 NIV

Easter Series begins March 17!

Wellspring Ministries

Having Donnie Stockin, Barbara Elliott, Bob Stalker, Rich Stegen, and Gudy Stevenson on the Wellspring team is a blessing. Recently, four retired men from HWC appeared to help us clear the porch and carry items to the sorting room. What a boost to our spirits, and especially to Jim Arthur, our CEO, who now in his 70s, often has to do that alone!



If the Holy Spirit nudges you to even just visit, and share coffee with folks, or greet them at the door, do follow that nudge. Our desire is not just to provide 'things' and meals, but to develop relationships that can lead to friendships and spiritual conversations where an opportunity is opened to share Jesus. Please pray for this to happen.

With another 4-5 weeks of cold weather, we could use bedding, blankets, towels, and small appliances. The kitchen and linen rooms are 'low'. We do accept used prom dresses. Thank you for your open hand to us. The Beardsley porch on Chamberlain St. will take donations Mondays and Tuesdays, please. No need to call.

Heard at our recent missions conference from a World Hope missionary:

"The roots of poverty are spiritual."

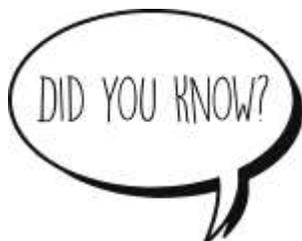
Beth Beardsley (for the Board)



Short Term Mission Applications

People seeking financial assistance for late Spring or Summer short term missions ministry must apply to the **Mission Committee by March 15.**

Application Forms are available at the church office (585-567-2264) or online at <https://www.hwchurch.org/www17/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Shortterm-MissionApp.pdf>



If you are traveling or homebound or want to share a service that is especially meaningful to you, services are offered "live" and also archived for "on-demand" viewing later from both the church website and our Facebook page. People watch from Europe, Africa, Australia, Canada, all over the U.S. and central America. In the last 30 days 242 unique viewers watched from the website (115 watched "live" & 127 watched later at their convenience). Many people watch more than once a month: in February there were 3,681 views of the website-linked page and 609 people watched from Facebook!

Interestingly, on 2/20, the night of the storm, 272 people watched church services!

Houghton Wesleyan Church "streams" and archives all of our Sunday services from our website,

<https://www.hwchurch.org>

Services are also offered "LIVE" and archived on our Facebook page,

<https://www.facebook.com/HoughtonWesleyanChurch/>



HOPE
INTERNATIONAL

POVERTY SIMULATION

Houghton Community Room: 6:30-9:30 p.m. March 12 or March 13.
Don't miss out.

Register now on line and select Houghton the night of your choice..

www.hopeinternational.org/simulation

(age 14 and up urged to attend.)

Leave with a deeper, wider, fuller understanding of poverty both in Allegany County and globally. Expect to never be the same!

end it week

Houghton College Annual Anti Trafficking & Slavery Focus
Join the gathering of students, faculty and community members for these events.

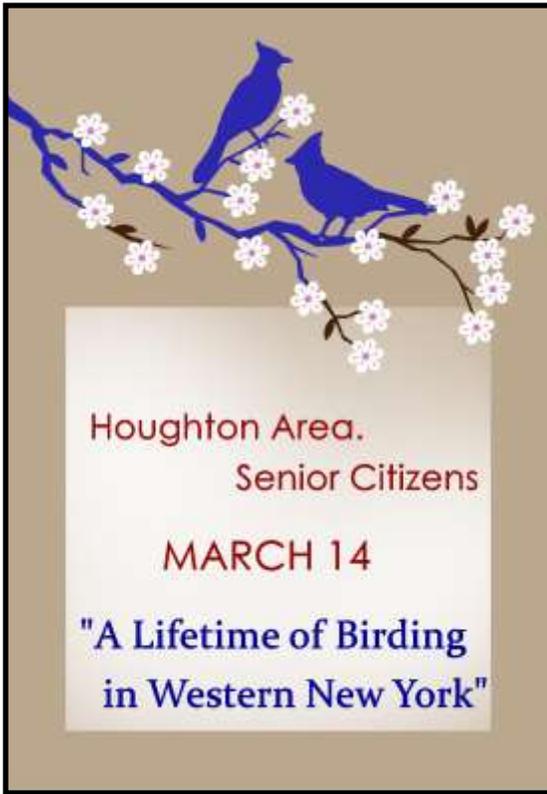
3.13.19 | Wed. | 8-9pm
Campus Center Basement
coffeehouse
a night of educational awareness,
learning, and music

3.14.19 | Thurs. | 7:30pm
Van Dyke Lounge
prayer walk
lantern walk & prayer for victims
of trafficking



3.14.19 | Thurs. | 8-10pm
Presser Hall
prayer night
a night of prayer & reflection

3.15.19 | Fri. | 11-30am-3pm
Van Dyke Lounge
W.A.R. sale
support victims by purchasing
handcrafted items made by
at-risk people worldwide



A Lifetime of Birding in Western New York

Karl Schmidt, a longtime local birder, will guide us through a beautiful image gallery of birds he has encountered in his travels and share his enthusiasm for birding.

Our noon luncheon is in the Houghton Wesleyan Church Community Room. Our potluck meal this time follows this schedule: last name initials A-F bring desserts, G-N bring casseroles, and O-Z bring salads (you may swap with a friend). Bring your own table service. Anyone reaching the mature age of 55, and any caregivers, will be warmly welcomed. Bring a friend who may not normally attend.

Questions: Daryl Stevenson 716-397-6864

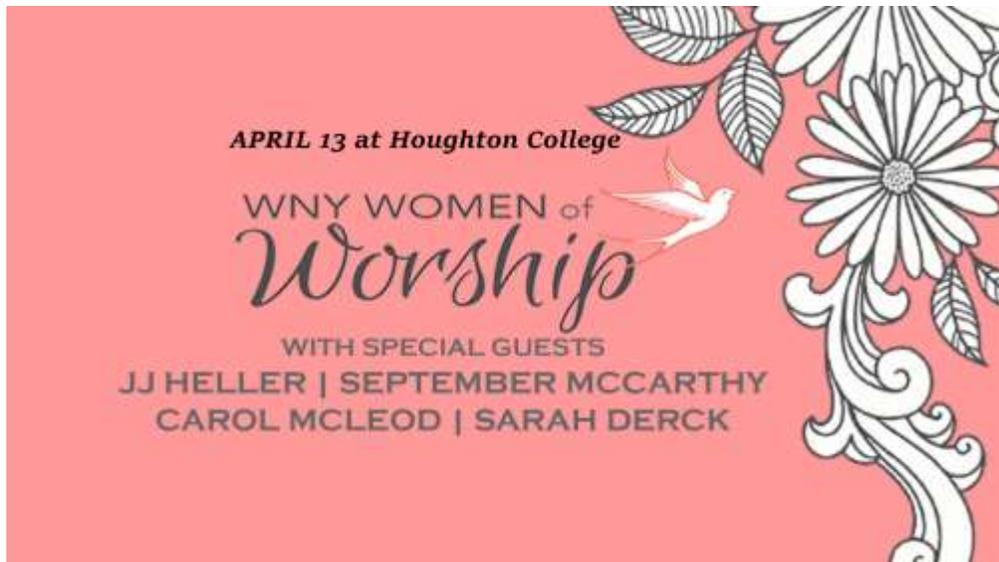


There have been so many ways in which members of this community and church family have come to our aid during my recent heart procedure and convalescence, it's absolutely overwhelming! Our heartfelt thanks for the concerns, prayers, cards, calls and food brought to us, as well as the shoveling help from this recent storm. Recovery is proceeding slowly but surely, as anticipated.

We are incredibly grateful for the Lord's merciful intervention in this unexpected event, and are also blessed by the support of this community.

Our sincere thanks again.

John & Sandy Roederer





Houghton Vol. Fire Department Spring Fundraiser

Pulled Pork Dinner
Saturday, March 16th
5:00-7:00pm



In the Community Room at the Houghton Wesleyan Church

\$9.00 for adults, \$6.00 for kids, \$30.00 for families

Dinner includes:

Pulled Pork Sandwiches

Macaroni Salad

Coleslaw

Tossed Salad

Beverages

Homemade Desserts

There will be gluten-free options

If you would like to donate a dessert, please contact Mae at 210-827-2562 or Maegan.stadelmaier@houghtonvfd.org

The Bramer Family Benefit has been cancelled.



Houghton Academy will present "Arsenic and Old Lace" on April 4-6 at 7:00 PM in the Rosemary Tysinger Auditorium at Houghton Academy. Tickets will cost \$2 for students and senior citizens, and \$4 for adults. The eccentric and farcical story of "Arsenic and Old Lace" follows Mortimer Brewster, a writer and notorious marriage detractor who has fallen for and married the girl-next-door, Elaine Harper. When he returns home to deliver the news of his marriage he soon realizes his family is even crazier than he thought.

Houghton Academy's production of "Arsenic and Old Lace", directed by Janyce Smithley, stars Katie Brubaker '19 as Abby Brewster, Josie Lipscomb '20 as Martha Brewster, Gabe Huizenga '19 as Mortimer Brewster, Vanessa Farnsworth '19 as Elaine Harper, Warren Torraca '22 as Jonathan Brewster, and Silas DeGoyer '19 as Teddy Brewster.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" was written by Joseph Kesselring and is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

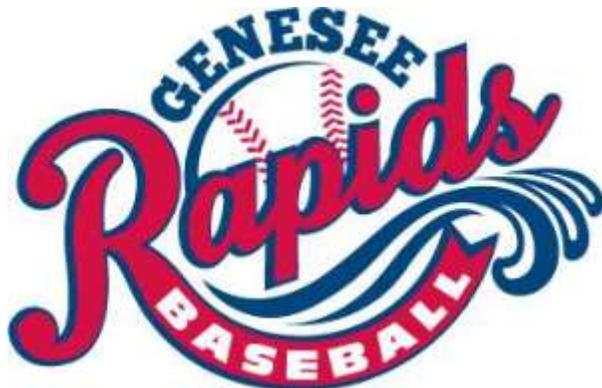
Dear Church Family,

As I prepare to move to Syracuse, NY shortly after March 12th, I am thankful as I reflect on the great privilege it has been to be part of the Houghton Wesleyan congregation for the last 15 years. I arrived as a freshman at Houghton in 2004 and I was warmly welcomed by people who sat with me in church and Sunday school, invited me into their homes, and offered opportunities to get involved in ministries. It has been very meaningful to belong to a community and to witness the heartbeat of the church as we celebrate new births, dedicate children, welcome new members, support each other in sickness and hardship, celebrate weddings and milestones, mourn the loss of loved ones, and serve others in the community and around the world. When I attend Houghton Wesleyan Church, I am surrounded by the most people who love me in one place under one roof. Thank you for being a treasured part of my life.

*Sincerely,
Rose Jones*

FOR RENT: 4 Room House

**Route 19...within walking distance to the college. Available now.
Phone 567-8885**



The Genesee Rapids are in need of Host Families for the baseball players coming in June. This involves providing a bed and breakfast for a player or players. All other meals are provided. Great relationships have been formed with host families in past years.

For more information call Ralph Kerr 716-969-0688



An Invitation!

Come greet our Russian guests who will be here in March. The Potluck meal will be Monday, March 11, at 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of Houghton Church. Come and fellowship with us and share your dish with the group. We will supply the place settings and the cups. Come drink some Russian tea with us!

-Dan and Kathy Moore



At Eastern Hills...



SUNDAYS IN MARCH

- March 3** (8:20 am / 9:40 am / 11:00 am)
a.m. *Where Does Amazement with Jesus Lead Us?* (Mt. 21:18-22)
p.m. Small Groups
- March 10:** (8:20 am / 9:40 am / 11:00 am)
a.m. *Anointed for Death* (Mt. 26:1-16)
p.m. Small Groups
- March 17** (8:20 am / 9:40 am / 11:00 am)
a.m. *Broken for the World* (Mt. 26:17-30)
p.m. Small Groups
- March 24** (8:20 am / 9:40 am / 11:00 am)
a.m. *United with the Father's Will* (Mt. 26:30-46)
p.m. Small Groups
- March 31** (8:20 am / 9:40 am / 11:00 am)
a.m. *Betrayed by Love* (Mt. 26:47-56)
p.m. Small Groups

CHURCH STAFF

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

