



HISTORY INTEGRITY TRUTH SCRIPTURE

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December 2022 Giving Thanks – into a New Year!



In the United States we have just celebrated a harvest festival which we call Thanksgiving Day. The Bible is full of language about giving thanks. In easy or difficult times alike, we are told, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NKJV). Our thanksgiving is directed toward God. He is the one who shows himself to be truly good. “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! For His mercy endures forever” (1 Chronicles 16:34, NKJV).

At this time of year, Christians around the world recognize the start of a new Church year, which begins on the fourth Sunday before December 25. At the start of the year comes the season of Advent, in which we thank God for the coming of Christ to be the savior of the world, which is celebrated on Christmas, December 25. At the same time, we recognize that all is not well in our world. We pray that the Lord would

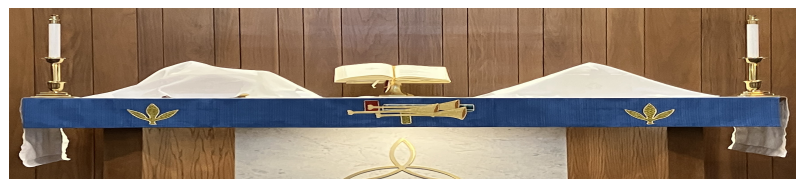
hurry and come to set everything right and usher in his eternal kingdom.



In the meantime, the life of the Christian is a life of repentance and forgiveness. By “repentance” we mean we are sorry for our sin and ask God to forgive us. The Bible gives us a rich promise in this regard. “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9, NKJV). As Christ's forgiven people, then, we forgive others as well. “Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors” (Matthew 6:12, NKJV), we pray.

All the while, during this season of Advent, we especially focus on sorrow for our sin and the joy which comes when Christ bursts onto the scene! Even the decor in our more traditional church buildings, as well as on our more traditional pastors, describes this scene. In blue or violet, colors of both sorrow and royalty, we see scenes of the coming of Christ.

I pray that this time of year will be a time of rededication, repentance, and joyful reception of God's forgiveness in Christ for all my readers. The Lord bless you in every way!



Wittenberg Door Financial Update



Before you go any farther, I need to tell you something serious, and ask you to take whatever action you can. In August of 2022 we ramped up support raising efforts so that our Christ-centered ministry of face-to-face pastoral care could be available to people on campus on a full time basis. While we have been welcomed to make presentations in a number of churches and have seen a number of additional people request to receive our newsletter and pledge to pray with us, the activity has not yet led to the kind of increase in giving which will be needed to keep Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry afloat. **It is very important that we**

gather as many new regular contributors as possible in the immediate future. The Wittenberg Door 300 needs to be up to about 300 individuals as soon as possible so we can continue the care of souls on campus.

What am I asking you to do? If you are not already part of the Wittenberg Door 300, please join with us. Consider making a contribution in the name of someone who is hard to shop for. Tell those who don't know about the life-changing work of Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry that they can also take part in our ministry. Refer them to our website and, if they are in the Columbia area, invite them to our activities.

Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Checks mailed to us are deposited with no commission paid to any intermediary. Most of our contributions are actually received this way, but we can receive funds sent through Paypal or Google Pay as well. Giving is easy! Simply visit our website at www.wittenbergcomo.com and click on "about" and "support us."

Special Prayer Updates

We have seen an increase in people stopping by the "Free Listens and Prayers" sign in the Bengal Lair and the Student Center.

Pray that the Lord will draw those who are struggling in their lives to come and receive the peace of the Lord which passes all understanding.

We haven't had people taking advantage of English coaching as in the past.

Pray that we will find many meaningful ways to reach into lives, make new friends, and introducing them to Jesus and his love.

Pray that our relationships within the fraternity and sorority system will grow in a Christ-honoring manner and that the young people will grow in their desire to live out a Christian life in all things.

Our study of John's Gospel is under way! You can join in by visiting www.wittenbergcomo.com and clicking on the picture of John the Evangelist!

Pray that the Lord's Word will show itself powerful to draw people to him.

In all things I give thanks for you and your care which you have shown for me, both now and over the past several years!

Upcoming Activities:

Mondays at 5:00 pm – Fraternity Dinner and Chapter Meeting through December 5

Tuesdays at 5:30 pm – Heidelberg Discussions (at the Heidelberg!) through December 13

Thursdays at 12:30 pm – Lunch and Learn Bible discussion at the MU Student Center through December 15

Sunday, December 4 – Pastor Spotts at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Centralia, MO

Friday, December 9 – the epic event – a Christmas party (look to the right)

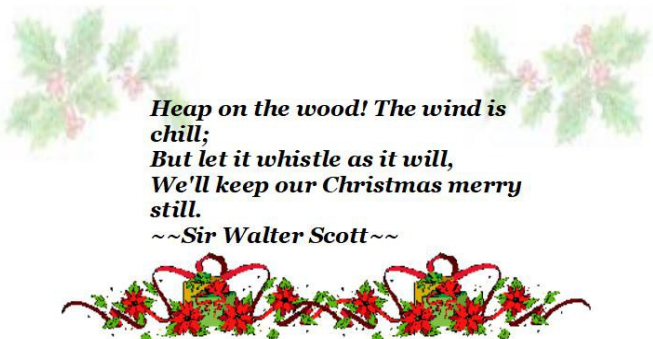
Sunday, December 11 – Pastor Spotts at the ordination and installation of Rev. Dr. Chris Caughey, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Augusta, KY

Sunday, January 1 – Pastor Spotts at St. John's Lutheran Church, Lohman, MO

Remember to get your church on my calendar!

Watch the calendar at www.wittenbergcomo.com, follow our Facebook page, and friend WDCM Chaplain on Facebook to see times and places where Pastor Spotts can be found around campuses in coffee shops or restaurants!

We always have something new at the website, the blog, and the activities calendar. Please be a friend on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. If you're in Columbia, let's get together on or near campus. Go to www.wittenbergcomo.com to provide financial support. The Wittenberg Door 300 needs you!



*Heap on the wood! The wind is chill;
But let it whistle as it will,
We'll keep our Christmas merry still.
~~Sir Walter Scott~~*

**You are invited to the Spotts and Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry Annual Christmas Party!
Food – Games – Merriment!**

**Friday, December 9, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
6610 South Old Village Road**

**Please RSVP by December 7.
573-355-0347 or WittenbergCoMo@gmail.com
Finger foods/desserts welcome
but not required.**

