

WITTENBERG DOOR
---CAMBUS MINISTRY---

HISTORY INTEGRITY TRUTH SCRIPTURE

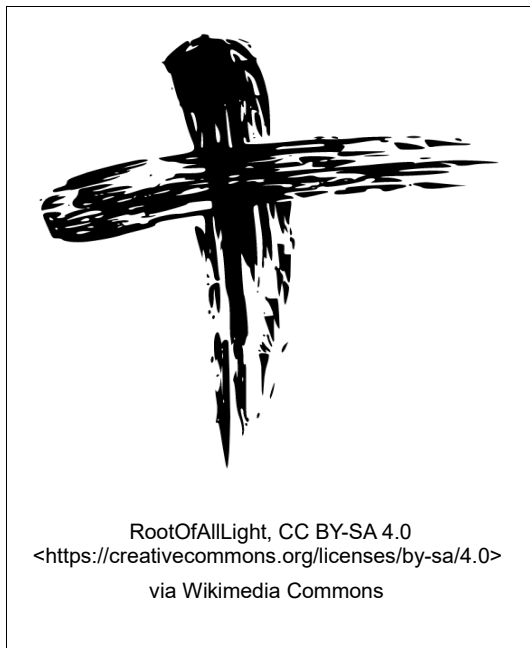
www.wittenbergcomo.com



March 2023 Reality – in Sorrow and in Victory

Christianity is the faith by which we believe, teach, and confess that we have a hope and a future (Jeremiah 29:11). The Christian knows the perfect love of God which casts out fear (1 John 4:18). There is no condemnation for Christians, nothing whatsoever to fear (Romans 8). So why are we troubled? Or, rather, why do we trouble ourselves? On "Ash Wednesday," which was February 22 this year, Christians began a journey, lasting 40 days (not including Sundays), with a reminder from Genesis 3:19. "you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Many churches accompany this message with a pastor drawing a cross on people's foreheads, a cross made from the ashes of palm leaves.

Why do we take this time, a month and a half each year, and concentrate on the frailty we bear because of sin? It's a time to remember that in our strength we are unable to attain to the positive messages I referred to in the last paragraph. The



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Christian hope is not something I generate. I don't make my future, though my actions may have an influence on it. It isn't my love, but Jesus' love which removes fear. In myself, I have plenty of condemnation. I will fail, and eventually, I will die. My hope cannot be in myself. It must be fixed on Jesus, who rose from the dead. He is our hope, our future, the one who loves us, the one who casts out fear, who received the condemnation we deserved. He is also the one who rose from the dead, which we remember and celebrate every Lord's Day, but especially on Easter Sunday.

As we approach the time of Easter, then, when we celebrate Jesus bringing life out of death, we remember our mortality. Truly we need Jesus' resurrection. He can even raise dust to life.

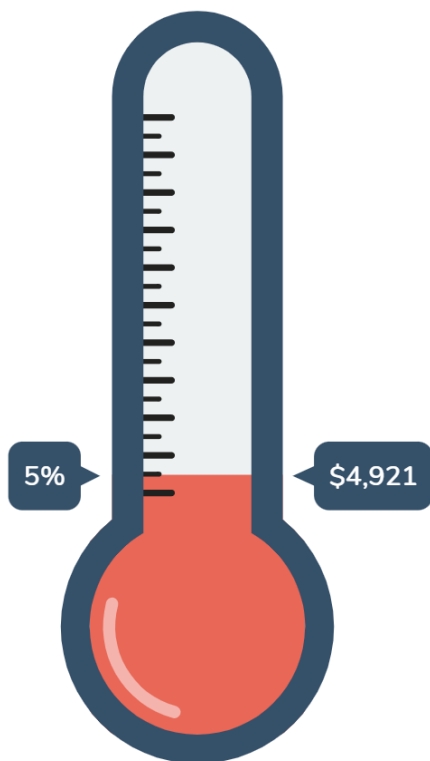
Our campus communities are full of people who have been told of hope, of future, and of that hope and future being something they control or will implement. They are the hope and future of our society. It hardly ever fails that, when given a promise (or a demand) like that, we will become acutely aware of our failure, our inadequacy, and the enormity of the task before us. That's one of the reasons Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry is on campus. Students, faculty, staff, and administrators who have been confronted by themselves or others with their inability to be the change they want to see in the world, come for prayer, for words of comfort, to redirect their attention to the risen Lord Jesus, who is their true hope.



The Resurrection by Piero della Francesca
Museo Civico, Sansepolcro, Italy

Wittenberg Door Financial Update

GOAL: \$100,000



I promised in February to keep speaking very specifically about the Wittenberg Door finances. This month, let's look at the office budget. Even though we don't rent an office anywhere, and I mostly work from my briefcase, we do have office expenses which are budgeted. About a year ago, our board of directors decided we should mail print copies of newsletters to churches, pastors, and other supporters. Printing and mailing this newsletter is the single largest item in our office budget. We also maintain an internet connection, website, computer, printer, cell phone, a mailbox, and every once in a while we need the same kind of office supplies any organization might have. One of these years I will even need to buy another box of staples! Our office budget makes it possible for Wittenberg Door to be visible to those who come for pastoral care, help, and counsel.

As always, thank you for your support! We can always use more regular donors as part of the Wittenberg Door 300! Year to date, with

almost 17% of the year completed, we have raised about 5% of our budget. There's still a long way to go, but we trust Christ's people will keep us busy bringing face to face pastoral care to our campus communities!

I do observe that our mailing list leaves about half a sheet of mailing labels unused each month. Here's a challenge for you. Invite people who would appreciate the work of Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry and might like to receive the newsletter to check out our website! I'd love to fill up those fifteen or so blank labels with names and addresses next month.

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 as well. Giving is easy! Simply visit our website at www.wittenbergcomo.com and click on "about" and "support us."

Upcoming Activities:

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

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

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

Mondays at 7:00 pm – ALTS course on Ephesians ends March 13

Thursdays at 7:00 pm – ALTS Greek 2 course ends March 16

Friday, March 3 – 6-8 pm Dinner and Conversation Evening

Tuesday, March 7 at 12:30 pm – Study of *The Spirituality of the Cross* at MU Student Center

Friday, March 17 – 6-8 pm Dinner and Conversation Evening

Tuesday, March 21 at 12:30 pm (tentative) Study of *The Spirituality of the Cross* at MU Student Center

Mizzou Spring Break begins Saturday, March 25.

Friday, March 31 – Dinner and Conversation Evening? Field trip? Evening off?

Sunday, April 30 and Monday, May 1 – Pastor Spotts at Trinity Lutheran Church, Columbia, MO

Sunday, May 7 – Pastor Spotts at Ascension Lutheran Church, Ames, IA

Monday through Thursday, June 19-22 ALTS Summer Intensive Course on Liturgy – St. Paul, MN

Sunday, June 25 – Pastor Spotts at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Charleston, WV

Monday through Wednesday, June 26-28 Eastern Regional Conference of The AALC, Charleston, WV

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 wittenbergcomo.com to provide financial support. The Wittenberg Door 300 needs you!