

WITTENBERG DOOR
---CAMPUS MINISTRY---

HISTORY INTEGRITY TRUTH SCRIPTURE

www.wittenbergcomo.com



July 2023 On the Road Again

June has been a whirlwind month of travel, church presentations, making new connections, and refreshing old friendships! At the start of the month, with things pretty quiet on campus due to the smaller summer sessions, I took up an offer to go to a campus ministry conference with our friends in the LC-MS – off to Luther House in Minneapolis! Back at home, lots of clean-up work on the storeroom and garage (places where entropy can happen too quickly), as well as visiting people on campus and working on the dissertation. I filled a pulpit in mid-Missouri on June 18, then the



serious whirlwind started, with a trip back to St. Paul, Minnesota for a short course on Lutheran Liturgy. Immediately afterward, I got to stop for about a half hour in Holstein, Iowa, where I set up a Wittenberg Door display table for the AALC Greater Heartland Regional Conference. The next day, back in Columbia, I had an interview with a local television station, speaking on the



pro-life side for a report on the first anniversary of the Dobbs decision. The next day, off to Charleston, West Virginia, where I filled the pulpit and introduced Wittenberg Door to an AALC congregation, before staying for another few days with a display table, a presentation to the AALC Eastern Region Conference, and a chance to catch up with more people I hadn't seen for some time. Whew! We hit the road again and are back in Columbia, preparing the Intergalactic Headquarters for a July 4 cookout.



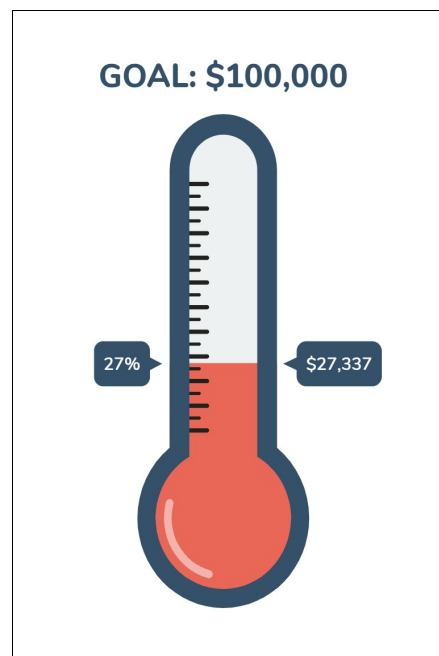
Why am I on the go so much just now? People are giving me the opportunity to tell them, face to face, about the work of Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry. Our work, in accord with Ephesians chapter six, is to encourage people to take every thought captive, in obedience to Christ, the creator, redeemer, and ruler of all. We trust that our Lord and Savior is making this happen, through ministry of His Word, through the prayers of the saints, and, through the life of the body of His people assembled.

Wittenberg Door Financial Update

I promised in February to keep speaking very specifically about the Wittenberg Door finances. This month, let's look at a category that's been busy - "conferences." Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry budgeted \$1,000.00 for attendance at various conferences this year. At the halfway point of the year, it's overspent by a few dollars. However, the good news is that the registration and housing for the October Pastors' Conference has already been paid. To my knowledge, we're probably finished with spending from that part of the budget.

It's important for me to show up at different ministry conferences. Not only does it provide me with an opportunity to learn and grow, thus being a more effective pastor, but it also reinforces connections I have with others in ministry, and introduces me to more pastors and members of church congregations. This is especially important as I work on raising support for Wittenberg Door. It is even more important as it opens the doors of communication and helps us all know how we should be praying for one another.

A side benefit of attendance at conferences is the protection it offers. For instance, when I missed attending the Greater Heartland Regional Conference, I was elected as the (unpaid) assistant Regional Pastor. I don't mind the responsibility of checking on churches and pastors in our region. However, it does illustrate that things can happen when you miss a meeting!



As always, thank you for your support! We can always use more individual and congregational regular donors as part of the Wittenberg Door 300! Year to date, with about 50% of the year completed, we have raised about 27% 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!

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. A fellow chaplain has also introduced me to Apple Pay, which can be done through text messaging. Giving is easy! Simply visit our website at www.wittenbergcomo.com and click on "about" and "support us" to learn more.

Did Someone Say Graduate School?

How's the project going? Like most men, I have an inaccurate idea of how long a project will take. Have you been there? "I'll take care of this little household project in a jiffy, maybe 15 minutes." And three hours later you're still working on it.

Pulling ideas from a few years of research notes into the body of a dissertation is harder than I had expected. It's one thing to pull resources into a document of 20-30 pages. It's another thing altogether to do it with a document of over 200 pages. Keeping the mental organization of the whole work is a big challenge. It will happen, but it's taking a while.

As I mentioned last month, though, it's a good process. The practice of asking and answering questions is always helpful, across many disciplines. In a ministry position among academics it's fitting to be doing academic work. And the work reminds me, day by day, of God's grace and mercy as evidenced in the life of Christians gathered around baptism, prayer, and communion.

Please Pray

for increased trust in God's Word and promises,
for opportunity to build lasting and purposeful relationships,
for God to raise up native English speakers who will assist our international ministry,
that the Lord will draw people into discipleship relationships,
for peace and safety for Christ's people,
for increased ability to care for and bring Christ's mercy to all our community,
that the church congregations of The AALC will thrive and grow together,
that we may be diligent about the vocations the Lord has given us.

Upcoming Activities:

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

Tuesday, July 4 – Cookout at the Spotts' House – 7 pm until dark

Sunday, July 23 – Pastor Spotts at St. John's Lutheran Church, Lohman, MO

Sunday, July 30 – Pastor Spotts at St. John's Lutheran Church, Lohman, MO

Sunday, July 13 – Pastor Spotts at the Boonville Tri-Parish Congregations

Sunday, August 20 – Pastor Spotts at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Napoleon Township, OH

Sunday, October 15 – Pastor Spotts at Trinity Lutheran Church, Clarks Fork, 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 wittenbergcomo.com to provide financial support. The Wittenberg Door 300 needs you!