



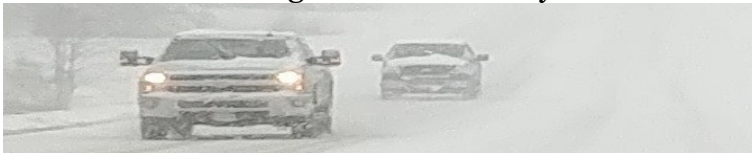
HISTORY INTEGRITY TRUTH SCRIPTURE

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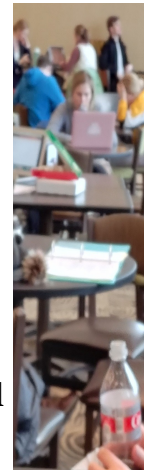


February 2019 Newsletter Where Have You Been?

“Where have you been?” I get this question quite a bit. Normally it’s after having my schedule interrupted by one thing or another. We settled for a December/January newsletter about the time a second round of antibiotics was overcoming a bad case of bronchitis which was aggravated by a busy activity schedule. Where was I? I don’t quite remember, but I’m here now. Some of the interruptions are more personally specific. On the way to a visit a pastor may field a question from someone in trouble, concerned about his or her place in this world, the reality of sin, or fear of the present or future. We stop and try to care for the troubled conscience. Since Wittenberg Door is still not in a position to provide the pastor with a salary, interruptions sometimes take the form of chances to preach, teach, or provide other care for people in exchange for money from a local church. But even that can be bumped on the schedule. For instance, there’s an elderly couple I have had set up for two visits during periods when the road was impassible. “Don’t try coming through this, Pastor, we’re all right.” The day before I wrote this, I managed to visit with them, thanks in part to four wheel drive. It was a delight to see that they were indeed all right.



The work of Wittenberg Door involves on-site pastoral care. This means, even if I am sometimes here, sometimes there, sometimes early, sometimes late, my concern is for every last person the Lord brings my way. “Where have you been?” “I’m here now, for you.” Every last one of Christ’s people is precious in His sight, wherever they are. So, if possible, I’ll be there also, to pray, to encourage, to counsel, and to console. As long as people have eternal souls, the Christian pastor will try to be present.



How Are We Doing on Being Present?

In our last newsletter the big event on the horizon was a January 18 dinner and game night for the internationals in our community. Thanks to the snowstorm pictured above and a threat of another snowstorm which was due to hit on the 18th, we rescheduled that activity for February 1. We got to meet, play games, and eat with several families we had never met before and some we already knew. It was a great success, and a fine kickoff to our dinner and conversation evenings which meet every other Friday! We're also working with a noon Bible discussion at the Mizzou Student Center, a Tuesday evening group (Real God, Real Answers) at The Heidelberg, and lots of opportunities to be face to face with people on campus. Because many of our international scholars are postgraduate researchers, they often bring family with them. Many are also interested in Jesus and Christianity, wanting to learn more in this culture which much of the world thinks is a Christian culture. We get to welcome our visitors and help them find and become family right here!



You're Invited!

Who: You, Your Friends, and Your Family
What: Dinner and Conversation
When: Alternating Fridays 6-8 pm starting Feb. 15
Where: 6610 South Old Village Road, Columbia

Try plain, traditional American foods in a low-risk environment. Practice speaking English and learning about people from around the world.

As a Christian ministry we have a brief time of prayer and Bible reading as well. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend, make a friend. Please let us know by Wednesday evening if you plan to come on Friday.

<https://www.wittenbergcomo.com/events/february-01st-2019>

See you there!
Dave Spotts, Pastor
wittenbergcomo@gmail.com
(573) 355-0347



Bible Discussion Thursdays @ 12:00

We at Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry are very glad you are here in Columbia. The college life is a great adventure. While we live and work around the University we learn about our academic subjects and about ourselves. It's a challenge to be faced and enjoyed.

Part of learning about our world and life is how our spiritual life is important to understanding all that we are doing. Christians believe the Bible will speak to all areas of life. Join with us to see how!

<https://www.wittenbergcomo.com/events/bible-discussions-thursdays-1200>

See you there!
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Real God Real Answers

What: Food, Drink, and Biblical Q&A
When: Tuesdays 5:30 pm
Where: The Heidelberg, 410 South 9th Street

Ask questions about Christianity or follow along with biblical topics presented.

Learn in a give and take atmosphere.

Half price appetizers!

See you there!

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Wittenberg Door Financial Update

As you know, Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry is entirely funded by the generosity of individuals and groups who want to help us bring on-site pastoral care to our campuses. This year's fundraising goal includes not only operational expenses, but some of the living expenses needed to keep this work going. Specifically, we're asking our supporters to help with housing and medical care expenses, aside from the regular operating expenses. This means we're asking for about \$60,000.00 from our supporters this year. So far, we've brought in almost \$3,900. The year is young, and there are lots of people out there who value the kind of care we can provide. Giving is easy! Simply visit our website at www.wittenbergcomo.com or our fundraising site at <https://www.gofundme.com/wittenberg-door-campus-ministry-2019>. Remember the snowy picture from page 1? That was taken on the way to a presentation I made to a church congregation in Iowa. I'm always glad to tell church groups about what we do to make a difference on our local campuses and around the world.



Uganda Update:

What's the latest on our friend Alice from Uganda? For those of you who are new to our newsletter, Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry has been raising funds to help with medical expenses for the wife of Pastor Simon Peter Waako, who lives and works in a rural area of Uganda. Alice seems a little camera shy so I don't have a very recent picture of her. Alice had an operable brain tumor which was threatening her life. Late in 2017 we helped her obtain surgery, but it was only partially successful. Since then, she's been having ongoing therapy and visits on a monthly basis. There are no facilities in Uganda that can take care of her, so she takes an overnight bus trip with her husband and their toddler each month to receive treatment in Nairobi, Kenya. We had been waiting for a result from an MRI, which finally happened in early December. The doctor was very pleased. In Alice's last doctor visit, early this week, she was told they expected a fairly full recovery within about ten months from now.

We have been helping with medical expenses because, frankly, Simon Peter could work for several years to earn enough money to pay for one month's treatment. The current cost is

about \$2,200 per month. Simon Peter is faithful about showing receipts and updating us about Alice's progress. Please consider helping with Alice's ongoing treatment. The family would not be able to afford this care in any way without help. A link to give follows.

<https://www.gofundme.com/alice-waako-brain-surgery>

Meanwhile, last month, in partnership with Love Uganda and Where We Begin Ministries, Simon Peter and his church leaders were able to provide a festive Christmas dinner for some of the many orphans he works with. There are a lot of orphans in Uganda, where the AIDS epidemic has hit the adult population very hard. Thankfully, there are local heroes such as Simon Peter who will try to see that they have food, clothing, education, and that they are welcome to hear God's words of eternal life in Christ! I found a couple of pictures of people, dressed in their very best clothes, gathered for this special occasion. Simon Peter is the man giving out a few presents. Please be aware that in the local culture, people try to look as serious as possible in photographs.



Upcoming Activities:

Mondays at 11:00 – Bible Study at Cedarhurst (formerly Provision Living)
Tuesdays at 5:130pm – Real God, Real Answers - at The Heidelberg Restaurant
Thursdays at 12:00 – Bible Discussion at Mizzou Student Center
Alternating Fridays from 6-8 pm – Dinner and Conversation Night

Sunday, February 10 – 3:00 Pastor installation at Zion Lutheran in Moberly MO
Friday, February 15 – 6-8 pm Dinner and Conversation at Spotts House
Sunday, February 24 – Pastor Spotts at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Perham, MN
Monday, February 25-Tuesday, February 26 – Pastor Spotts with TAALC Clergy Commission, Minneapolis, MN
Friday, March 1 – 6-8 pm Dinner and Conversation at Spotts House

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 <https://www.wittenbergcomo.com/support-us.html> to provide financial support. The Wittenberg Door 300 needs you!