



# HISTORY INTEGRITY TRUTH SCRIPTURE



[www.wittenbergcomo.com](http://www.wittenbergcomo.com)

## August 2019 Newsletter Gearing Up for the Future

It's hard for me to believe that I'm already writing to introduce our Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry activities for the 2019-2020 academic year. It's also hard for me to remember that it all starts in August. When I went to school, back when the dinosaurs still roamed Missouri, it seemed more normal for school to start in September. But the International Welcome picnic at Mizzou is Tuesday, August 13. That's right around the corner! So it's time for our plans to come roaring to life.

We've recently walked through our philosophical commitment to history, integrity, truth, and Scripture. How will that be played out in real life? A friend recently asked me about my interpretation of James 2:14-18, speaking of how we show our faith by our works, since without works it is invisible. What will those works of Wittenberg Door look like?

I've been asked to lead a weekly Bible discussion at a fraternity house, dealing with Bible passages that talk about life together. This is a great opportunity. While we think the initial core group of young men is probably going to be fairly small, we will hope and pray that the biblical teaching about that community we have in Christ will take root and thrive, helping the men to live redemptively together.

I've also been asked to attend more of the Stephens College athletic events and possibly gather with those athletes and others who want the encouragement of a Christian pastor. This is a great opportunity, as some of my sources within the college have told me people who would like to attend Stephens College ask if they will be able to live out their Christian faith on campus. The answer to that question is a simple "Yes, we are there for you. Go Stars!"

We will continue working on the Mizzou campus with visibility and midday Bible discussions, still in public places. Rather than working through the lectionary readings appointed for the upcoming Sunday, we're going to walk through Paul's Epistle to the Galatians. We're coordinating several people's schedules, but it looks rather like we will be meeting on Thursdays. Watch the calendar at [WittenbergCoMo.com](http://WittenbergCoMo.com) for details.

### *Mere Christians*

What: Wrestling with tough questions while enjoying food and drink specials!  
When: Tuesdays 5:30 pm during school terms  
Where: The Old Heidelberg, 410 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St.

Explore the intersection of Christianity and the contemporary world. Currently we're reading and discussing *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis. Read along with us or bring your questions about Jesus and what he has to say about the issues we face today.

Everybody's Invited

Make a friend, bring a friend!

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*Real God  
Real Answers*



Last year we did a guided discussion time on Tuesday evenings at the Heidelberg, near the Mizzou campus. We're keeping the idea but making it more specific, as a book discussion. We'll start out with C.S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity* and then move to something else when we reach the end of that very thought-provoking book. The group will gather at the Heidelberg at 5:30 on Tuesday evenings starting August 20, taking advantage of the special menu deals at that time.

***That Dinner Gathering***

What: Food, Drink, Friends, and Christ's Love  
When: Friday 6 pm (alternating weeks)  
Where: Spotts' House 6610 S. Old Village Rd.,  
Columbia, MO 65203

Friends who care for each other.

English conversation and American culture.

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

Make a friend, bring a friend!

Text or call to let us know you are coming.

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*Real God*  
*Real Answers*

WITTENBERG DOOR  
--- CAMPUS MINISTRY ---

Last year I was slow getting off the starting blocks with English conversation coaching. This year I'm putting the offer out there right away. In the past the one-on-one or small group coaching has been a great way to welcome newcomers to Columbia and help our internationals gain comfort not only with speaking and hearing English, but also with many of the little cultural details they find puzzling.

In the past many of our internationals have come to the dinners we have every other Friday. This year we're promoting it as our big gathering for everybody. Thanks to a brainstorm from a pastor friend, we have developed a list of Bible episodes to retell in oral story form, one for each dinner, as the start for after-dinner discussion. We will also have a study sheet for those who wish to investigate the Bible passages in more depth. I hope this will prove useful to people of every background. We had a preparatory dinner on August 2. We'll start with the stories on August 16.

As always, I will remind our Wittenberg Door supporters that we could not do this without you. We believe the Lord answers your prayers for our safety, our good communication with others, our good reputation in the community, and our ability to stand firmly for the Gospel of Christ in a world that wants to look anywhere and everywhere else for the truth. We know for certain that it is only through the giving of committed people and congregations that we are able to afford to bring real, live, face-to-face pastoral care to the campus communities day after day. Please, keep praying, giving, and telling others about this ministry. There's always more we can do.

### **Wittenberg Door Financial Update**

Thanks for all your help keeping us going with real, face-to-face pastoral care on the college campuses in Columbia! Remember that we are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax exempt organization and that 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](http://www.wittenbergcomo.com) and click on "about" and "support us." I always love to visit churches and other groups to tell them how they can participate in our worldwide Christian ministry.

## Uganda Update:

You may remember that I'm going to participate in a trip to visit our friends in Uganda in January. Much of my job while there will be to teach a seminary level course for Simon Peter as well as other pastors and Christian workers who are in the area. He tells me I should expect about 50 participants. We're going to be working on little details like food and housing in the near future. While there, I'll also help our friends at Eleos (mercy) ministries who are sponsoring the trip. They are currently working on a school supply drive, as well as gathering funds and know-how for an agricultural project by which poor families will be able to benefit from a goat and, together, build a herd. Eleos has also been instrumental in bringing encouragement to many orphans who are learning at the schools Simon Peter has founded. We want to be sure we learn as much as we can about these children, their situations, and how to pray for and encourage them.



A church congregation recently contacted me about contributing the proceeds from a rummage sale to this effort. There are certainly plenty of needs, and we will never turn down any help! The trip this January is almost certainly only the start of an ongoing series of trips to bring training, counsel, and comfort to our friends in Christ.

It's back to school sale time! If you wish to help some of the students in Kaliro Uganda have what they need, and if you want to buy it on sale, have at it! I'm sure the people at Eleos can put more school supplies into the right hands.

## Upcoming Activities:

Tuesdays 5:30 pm (starting August 20) – Mere Christians – at The Heidelberg  
Thursdays at noon – Bible discussion at Mizzou Student Center

August 12 – International Welcome Activities at Mizzou  
August 13 – International Welcome Picnic 1-3 pm, Mizzou Rec Center  
August 15 - That Friday Dinner 6 pm Spotts House  
August 18 – Pastor Spotts at Christ Lutheran Church, Duluth Minnesota  
August 30 – That Friday Dinner 6 pm Spotts House  
September 13 – That Friday Dinner 6 pm Spotts House  
September 18-20 – TAALC Greater Heartland Regional Convention, Ames, Iowa  
September 27 – That Friday Dinner 6 pm Spotts House  
September 28 – Hold the Line Conference, Waseca, Minnesota

**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!**