



**HISTORY
INTEGRITY
TRUTH
SCRIPTURE**

www.wittenbergcomo.com

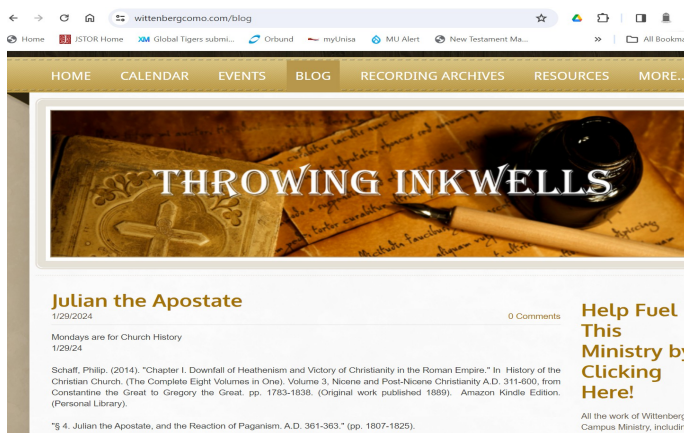


**February 2024
Is there Anyplace that . . .**

In last year's newsletters, I highlighted the different budget categories for Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry. Giving was robust, thanks be to God! I will plan on being a little less specific about the giving categories this year. However, something odd happens when I talk with people about Wittenberg Door. It shouldn't surprise me, because the same thing happens in the life of a teacher, which I have done on and off since the 1990s.

Here's the teacher scenario. On day one of class, the teacher passes out the course syllabus which talks about assignments, due dates, grading policies, attendance, course resources, and contact information. Several sessions into the class, students start asking questions which are answered on the syllabus.

There's a parallel in ministry. Did you know Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry maintains a website including a calendar, a blog, and many other resources? We do! In fact, www.wittenbergcomo.com is the place to find out all sorts of things we are doing, as well as to find other resources.



I want to urge everyone this month to find the blog we maintain, called "Throwing Inkwells." Legend has it that Martin Luther, while at the Wartburg, was awakened during the night with a vision of a spiritual presence. Concerned it was a demonic presence, he threw an inkwell at it, thus leaving a stain on the wall. Though there is more

recent evidence that the stain on the well was periodically refreshed with new ink, so may well have not been authentic, just the same, we named our blog

“Throwing Inkwells.” When confronted by falsehood, what do you do? You write something based on Scriptural truth. You throw an inkwell at it.

Over the years I have spilled rather a lot of ink. Many of the posts on the blog are well categorized, though some of the tagging is doubtless inadequate. One seminary student recently reported to me how many pages of hits I have for “didache” - a rather important component of my writing. There are posts pertaining to almost all the Bible passages you will find in a Lutheran one year or three year lectionary, as well as readings for feast days and commemorations. I've done series of posts on a variety of significant and not-so-significant books that I've read. This includes a good bit of church history, systematic theology, and commentary materials from a number of books of the Bible.

Do you wish you could find something about a passage of Scripture? It's probably there!

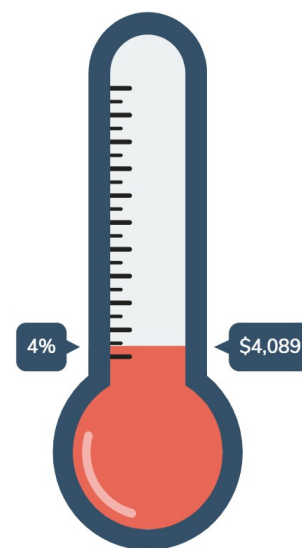
One long-time supporter of Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry suggested to me a couple of years ago that he wishes people would put my website to use. How do we get people to use it? One possible suggestion is to tell you all about the website and ask you to put it to use! Please, let me know if there are topics you want addressed or things which you think should be included. It's there for you!

Wittenberg Door Financial Update

So, on the heels of 2023 when our supporters filled the fundraising thermometer up to 50% of our budget goal, we've started over again! As we discussed near the end of last year, we're going to keep the budget essentially the same for 2024, though a few categories will be tweaked a little bit. Inflation is making one of our primary outreaches, the dinner and conversation evenings, cost more than it has in the past. Mileage may be up some as well. In the end, we will pursue faithful face-to-face campus ministry for as many people as we can reach!

With almost one month of 2024 in, we're right around 4% of our budget raised. Thank you for all your faithful support! It's an honor to work as your campus minister. A few people have observed to me

GOAL: \$100,000



that the bulk of the Wittenberg Door budget goes to keep me on campus, whether by providing transportation, a phone, medical care, housing, or salary. The Gospel is free. Utilities aren't. Please continue to remember this ministry in your giving, and invite others to contribute as well. In this election year, I am impressed by how much people pay to make sure their candidates of choice are able to run a campaign. I pray that Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry would be well supported to run our campaign of bringing God's words of grace, peace, and hope to people from around the world.

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

Please Pray

- for a smooth transition for graduate students who are looking at additional education or moving into the work world,
- for Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry to build a community identity around biblical studies and prayer,
- for safety for all our participants, especially those from places hostile to the Gospel,
- for increased trust in God's Word and promises,
- for opportunity to build lasting and purposeful relationships, especially with our international scholarly community,
- for God to raise up native English speakers who will assist our international ministry,
- for opportunities to reach out to people who are wrapping up high school and will be moving into the collegiate environment soon,
- 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 God's peace and truth will reign in the public square.

Upcoming Activities:

Tuesdays at 12:30 pm – Lunch and Learn Bible discussion, Student Center

Mondays at 7:00 pm Pastor Spotts teaches Greek 2 at www.ALTS.edu

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm “That You May Know” Bible study at Beta Sigma Psi

Thursdays at 10:00 am Greek 2 Study Hall

Thursdays at 5:00 pm Greek Club – studying John's Gospel just now!

Friday, February 2, 6-8 pm Dinner and Conversation Evening

Wednesday, February 14 – Valentine's Day meets Ash Wednesday!

Friday, February 16, 6-8 pm Dinner and Conversation Evening

Friday, March 1, 6-8 pm Dinner and Conversation Evening

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!