



HISTORY INTEGRITY TRUTH SCRIPTURE



www.wittenbergcomo.com

November 2024 Who Needs a Calendar?

Please Pray

for Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry to grow in community identity around biblical studies and prayer,

for increased trust in God's Word and promises,

for opportunity to build lasting and purposeful relationships, especially with those we have met recently and our whole international scholarly community,

for the faculty, staff, and students involved in the work of the University of Missouri Hospitals and Clinics, which is more open to Pastor Spotts than it has been in the past,

that the Lord would use our current participants to bring more people they know into our fellowship and to trust in Jesus.

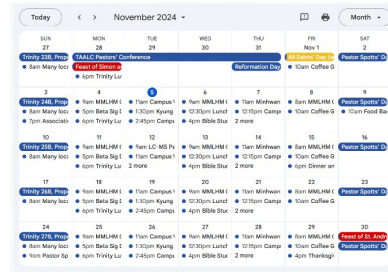
that the church congregations of The AALC will thrive and grow together,

that God's peace and truth will reign in the public square.

Thanks be to God – many of the above prayer requests are showing signs that the Lord is working in our community!

American culture has several ways of looking at time. We sometimes measure in terms of holidays or seasons, including the sport or type of game animal that's in season just now.

One of the challenges of the more historic forms of Christianity has to do with the church calendar. In our tradition, we recognize Christmas and Easter, which the vast majority of Christians and a lot of people who aren't Christians will celebrate in some way. But for many of the less liturgical types, that's as far as it goes.



I'm sure I'm not alone in finding a church calendar makes a helpful framework for the rhythm of life. The year starts with Advent, either beginning the day after Saint Andrew's Day (November 30), or on the Sunday closest to it. Use the time to prepare for Christmas, which begins on December 25 and lasts 12 days. Move on to Epiphany, beginning January 6. That's a season for considering how God has revealed himself in Christ. Ash Wednesday, a movable observance, signals the beginning of Lent, a time to prepare our hearts for the good news of the resurrection. That news comes on Easter Sunday, the start of a seven week Easter season. The risen Christ teaches his people, then ascends to the Father. From that place in heaven, he sends the Holy Spirit, who came upon his people at Pentecost, the historic feast of firstfruits. The Easter season and its movable celebrations



Did You Know?

Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry is not planting a permanent church congregation.

We are a mission outreach of The AALC to college communities.

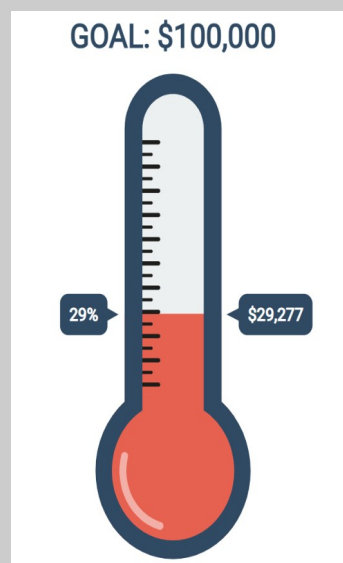
Pastor Spotts is a called and ordained pastor of The AALC.

Pastor Spotts is not on faculty or staff of any of the colleges to which he ministers.

Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry is committed to providing real live, face-to-face, pastoral care to students, faculty, staff, and administration, as well as their families.

The work of Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry mostly reaches to international scholars and their families. Most have very little prior knowledge of Christianity.

We depend on your prayers and financial support.



has come to an end. Then, for about six months, until Advent, we consider the way the Christian life is lived out.

During all this time there are some occasions which are less flashy. They are mostly commemorations of different people who were important for one reason or another.

As I pointed out earlier, many in American Christianity get rid of this church calendar. They don't want to be bound by tradition. However, did you ever notice they make substitute traditions? Rather than Pentecost or All Saints, they have a memorial service at Memorial Day. Rather than remembering the innocent martyrs on December 28 as a day to lobby for the inherent value of human life, they place it on the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade ruling which asserted that abortion at any stage for any reason would be legal. Rather than tying the start of a church school year to a fall holiday like Saint Michael's Day, churches will promote school participants in a service tied to Labor Day, a holiday founded to celebrate communist rejection of the majority economic systems of the world. Do I need to mention the great Christian feast day with competitive cooking on the high holiday of Super Bowl Sunday?

We humans like our calendars. They help us keep our bearings. It's great that within the Christian tradition we already have a calendar. Here's a challenge. This newsletter will come out too late for Reformation Day October 31 or All Saints' Day November 1. I challenge you to look up some of the upcoming days on the church calendar and try to remember how they related to you and your world.

Written on the occasion of the Feast of James of Jerusalem, 2024.

Wittenberg Door Financial Update

Thanks to all our generous supporters! With about 83% of the year gone, our budget is only about 29% met. We are currently considering whether Wittenberg Door will remain a part-time ministry rather than move toward calling and supporting a full-time, permanent chaplain for this Christ-centered work. If you know of others who would be able to join in support (including prayer), please let us know.

I hope you'll think about joining those people in the Wittenberg Door 300! If we have 300 regular donors, our calculation says we are very likely to have a budget adequate to sustain this work in the long run.

As you consider your giving, I urge you to think of what it means to open a door into the heart and life of a young family who need the hope of life in Christ!

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 www.wittenbergcomo.com and click on "about" and "support us" to learn more.

The Mizzou International Center is in need of volunteers to participate in welcome activities the week of January 12-18. We'd love to have a good group of people who not only welcome people to Mizzou but also to our savior, Jesus. Please let Pastor Spotts know at 573-355-0347 if you think you might be able to serve as a welcome volunteer!

Upcoming Activities:

Wednesday 11/6/24 12:30 pm – Lunch and Learn Bible discussion, Student Center – Matthew's Gospel

Wednesday 11/6/24 4:00 pm – Christianity 101 @ Beta Sigma Psi

Thursday 11/7/24 5:00 pm Greek Club – studying John's Gospel just now!

Wednesday 11/13/24 12:30 pm – Lunch and Learn Bible discussion, Student Center – Matthew's Gospel

Wednesday 11/13/24 4:00 pm – Christianity 101 @ Beta Sigma Psi

Thursday 11/14/24 5:00 pm Greek Club – studying John's Gospel just now!

Friday 11/15/24 6-8 pm – Potluck Dinner and Conversation Evening at the Spotts' House (reserve your space by the end of Wednesday the 13th).

Wednesday 11/10/24 12:30 pm – Lunch and Learn Bible discussion, Student Center – Matthew's Gospel

Wednesday 11/10/24 4:00 pm – Christianity 101 @ Beta Sigma Psi

Thursday 11/21/24 5:00 pm Greek Club – studying John's Gospel just now!

Mizzou Thanksgiving Break – Field Trip? Details TBA

Friday 11/29/24 4-7 pm – American Style Thanksgiving Dinner at the Spotts' House (reserve your space by the end of Tuesday the 26th). Space may be limited.

Wednesday 12/4/24 12:30 pm – Lunch and Learn Bible discussion, Student Center – Matthew's Gospel

Wednesday 12/4/24 4:00 pm – Christianity 101 @ Beta Sigma Psi

Thursday 12/5/24 5:00 pm Greek Club – studying John's Gospel just now!

Sunday 12/8/24 3:00-5:00 pm Cookies and Hot Chocolate at the Spotts' House – Congratulations on a great semester!

Wednesday 12/11/24 12:30 pm – Lunch and Learn Bible discussion, Student Center – Matthew's Gospel

Thursday 12/12/24 5:00 pm Greek Club – studying John's Gospel just now!

No Regularly Scheduled Activities 12/13/24 through 1/12/24.

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 X. 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!