



# HISTORY INTEGRITY TRUTH SCRIPTURE



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

## December 2024-January 2025 Renovations

### 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,

that the Lord would raise up the right individual for Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry to call to serve as the next chaplain,

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.

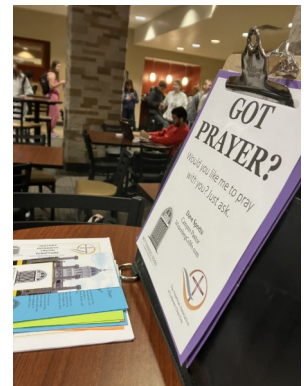
that the church congregations of The AALC will thrive and grow together,

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

It seems Wittenberg Door is always going through renovations. I hinted at this in the last newsletter, back in early November.

One of our renovations is a little complicated, but I think it needs to be shared in the newsletter. In the nearly ten years Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry has been in existence, we have always been working toward a goal of the ministry being able to call and support a full time campus chaplain. Support raising has moved gradually toward that level. Though 2024 saw a smaller income than 2023, it was considerably above the level for 2022.

We aren't yet ready to support a full time chaplain, but there's plenty of work to be done. Numerous people have come into our community wanting to explore historic Christianity. Several are becoming involved in local church congregations. A number of people are now asking for a Wittenberg Door adult confirmation class.



*Through campus visibility, Pastor Spotts typically has several conversations with new contacts each week.*



*Photo Credit: University of Missouri*

At the same time, Pastor Spotts has been working with the Mid-Missouri Lutheran Hospital Ministry, paying visits to Lutherans (and others) in the nine hospitals in Columbia. This provides a needed supplement to his income, brings him into purposeful contact with the many university staff who work

## 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.

THEN HE SAID TO HIS  
DISCIPLES, "THE HARVEST  
IS PLENTIFUL, BUT THE  
WORKERS ARE FEW."  
- MATTHEW 9:37

in the UMHC environment, and and serves as employment for the time he will need to retire from the rather demanding work of campus ministry.

Because of having fewer hours available for campus ministry and because of frank consideration of an eventual need to slow down, the Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry Board of Directors recently approved contact with leadership of The American Association of Lutheran Churches to begin the process of calling a pastor who could serve Wittenberg Door on a part-time basis while continuing to raise support and to move the ministry into its next phase.



We will be cutting back some activities which are not entirely essential. The *Throwing Inkwells* blog will have a reduction



in its schedule. Pastor Spotts will be cutting back on English conversation coaching so as to focus more on enabling emerging leaders in their outreach skills. The newsletter will probably be released only five or six times a year.

For the time being, we plan to continue our dinner and conversation evenings, which are an excellent tool for networking and helping newcomers become involved in our primary work of biblical and theological education and pastoral care on campus. As always, we would especially encourage participation in this ready-made opportunity to shine the light of Christ to others. We hope more people who are involved in local Lutheran churches will come, befriend our newcomers, and care for them as Christians in the community. Encouraging contact, rides to church, and providing a listening ear makes a huge impact on those who are exploring Christianity.



I hope the challenge here is evident. We're growing in what we are doing at the same time that we must shrink in terms of available staffing hours. The fields are white for the harvest, but the laborers are few (Matthew 9:37-38). Please continue to pray for us as we bring God's Word to every situation we find on and around the college campuses. Please continue to support this ministry financially and urge others to do so. We pray the Lord would continue to work through His Word, which is powerful and accomplishes God's purposes!

### **Wittenberg Door Financial Update**

Thanks to all our generous supporters! As of the end of 2024, thanks to your help, we raised just over \$38,200. This compares to 2023 with \$51,500, 2022 with \$20,900, and 2021 with \$20,000. In 2023 several people made special and substantial gifts which we had no expectation to be repeated. Our finances are growing, and we can continue to pray and hope that the budget will soon be able to support a full-time campus chaplain! If you have made contributions during 2024, please watch your mail for a giving record which can be used in itemization of donations at tax time.

Our budget to include a full-time chaplain is a bit over \$100,000.00. If you have not contributed regularly in the past, 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](http://www.wittenbergcomo.com) and click on "about" and "support us" to learn more.

## **Upcoming Activities:**

**Weekly – Thursdays 12:30 pm** – Lunch and Learn Bible discussion, Student Center – Matthew's Gospel

**Weekly – Day and Time TBA** – Christianity 101 Adult Course

**Weekly – Day and Time TBA** – Bible study @ Beta Sigma Psi

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

**Friday, January 17 6:00-8:00 pm** Dinner and Conversation Evening @ Spotts' House

**Friday, January 31 6:00-8:00 pm** Dinner and Conversation Evening @ Spotts' House

**Friday, February 14 6:00-8:00 pm** Dinner and Conversation Evening @ Spotts' House

**Saturday, February 15** - Pastor Spotts at Beta Sigma Psi Conference and Awards Ceremonies (all day)

**Friday, February 28 6:00-8:00 pm** Dinner and Conversation Evening @ Spotts' House

**Wednesday, March 5 – Ash Wednesday, the Start of Lent**

**Friday, March 14 6:00-8:00 pm** Dinner and Conversation Evening @ Spotts' House

**Friday, April 11 6:00-8:00 pm** Dinner and Conversation Evening @ Spotts' House

**Sunday, April 20 – Easter Sunday, the Day of Resurrection**

**Friday, April 25 6:00-8:00 pm** Dinner and Conversation Evening @ Spotts' House

**May 16-18, many graduation ceremonies**

Watch the calendar at [www.wittenbergcomo.com](http://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](http://wittenbergcomo.com) to provide financial support. The Wittenberg Door 300 needs you!