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“Notes from the Castle Church Door” Spring 2017



Highlights of our annual Board of Directors Meeting February 21-22, 2017

We thank St Luke Lutheran Church, Mesa, AZ, for again allowing us to use their facilities for our annual meeting. There were also 4 families who hosted members of the Board in their homes for 2 nights. We appreciate the support this congregation gives us.



John and Norma Speckhard with Director Bob Flohrs

We thankfully acknowledged the retirement of one of our long-time Deputy Directors, John Speckhard of St Louis. John served in Wittenberg for 16 years, sometimes twice in a season. Thank you, John, for your service to God and WEM!

The 3 days following the Board meeting we had a table at the **Best Practices In Ministry Conference** in Phoenix where we talked to people about WEM and answered a lot of questions. Hopefully, this introduced WEM to many new people – especially those who will travel to Germany in the next years.

Due to all the activities associated with the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, our service times and places for 2017 will be as follows, beginning April 19.

New: **Monday** from 12:00 to 12:20 in the Castle Church, beginning May 1.

The following begin at 3:00 p.m. and last approximately 30 minutes

- 1) **Wednesday** in the Sacristy of the Town Church
- 2) **Thursday** in the Castle Church
- 3) **Friday** in the Corpus Christi Chapel next to the Town Church

The one hour **Saturday** service remains the same, at 5 p.m., in either the Castle Church or the Town Church.

The following pastors will be serving WEM this season:

April 18 – April 25	Rev Robert Flohrs	WEM Executive Director	Locust Grove, VA
April 25 - May 9	Rev Murray Finck	Retired	Santa Ana, CA
May 9 – May 16	Rev Kevin Strickland	Assistant to the presiding Bishop/ Executive for Worship	Chicago, IL
May 16 – May 30	Rev Greg Heidorn	Grace Lutheran Church	Rochester, MN
May 30 – June 13	Rev Christian Tiewes	Trinity Lutheran Church	Okmulgee, OK
June 13 – June 27	Rev Nilo Figur	Lutheran Hour Ministries	St. Louis, MO
		Regional Director-Latin America and the Caribbean	

2017 WEM Worship Services

June 27 – July 11	Rev Chris Heavner	Clemson Un. Lutheran Campus Ministry	Clemson, SC
July 11 – July 18	Rev Roger Zieger	Mission Exec for Independent Lutheran Church in Germany	St. Louis, MO
July 18 – July 25	Rev Greg Seltz	Speaker - Lutheran Hour Ministries	Wexford, PA
July 25 – August 8	Rev Dennis Ferguson	Perry Hwy Evangelical Lutheran Ch.	Stanchfield, MN
August 8 – Aug 22	Rev Delwayne Hahn	Retired	Medina, OH
August 22 – Sept 5	Rev Michael Koch	Retired	Peoria, AZ
Sept 5 – Sept 19	Rev Tim Wright	Community of Grace Lutheran Church	St. Louis, MO
Sept 19 – Oct 3	Rev David Mahsman	Retired	St. Paul, MN
Oct 3 – Oct 17	Rev Robert Holst	Retired - President Emeritus	
		Concordia University, St. Paul, MN	
Oct. 18 – Oct 31	Rev William Otte	Retired	Rochester, MN
	Rev Keith Loesch	Retired - Exec. Dir. Emeritus-WEM	Lees Summit, MO
Oct 31 – Nov 17	Rev Robert Flohrs	WEM Executive Director	Locust Grove, VA

Due to the interest shown in having services into the middle of November, our season will be extended this year.

Our Deputy Directors serving this season:

Bob Flohrs – April 18 to May 10	Don and Cheryl Klein – May 9 to June 12
Jack Pfitzer – June 11 to July 17	Beth Schnabel – July 16 to August 21
Tim and Pat Reaman – August 20 to October 1	Bob Flohrs – September 30 to November 17



We want to thank ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS who make this ministry possible, including those who have designated their **THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS** to WEM.

Through March, we have received \$2,202 in 18 donations through Thrivent.

For updated information on Wittenberg go to <http://www.lutherstadt-wittenberg.de/en/culture/english-ministry/>

LIKE us on Facebook_ - Wittenberg English Ministry

FOUR ways are available to **financially support** WEM, a 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization.

- 1) **Make checks payable** to “Wittenberg English Ministry” and send them to: Rev. Robert Flohrs, 104 Jefferson Avenue, Locust Grove VA 22508 (A tax receipt will be mailed to you)
- 2) **Direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars** - www.thrivent.com and log in, then in the top menu bar click on “My Thrivent”
- 3) **Designate a free-will offering** in your congregation for Wittenberg English Ministry
- 4) Order from **Amazon** using AmazonSmile <http://smile.amazon.com> (a percentage of the price of eligible products is donated to WEM at no cost to the buyer).

From the Director, Bob Flohrs

Martin Luther once said “We need to hear the Gospel every day, because we forget it every day.”

For many years worship services, activities and events have been planned to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Wittenberg English Ministry is honored to be a small part of the celebration as we host worship services for the next few months. While it isn't every day, it is five times in a week as you see in the schedule above.

Please pray for our pastors who will proclaim the Gospel as we know it from Holy Scripture. As Luther also says, “The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me.” Let us continue to place God's Holy Word at the center of our lives and ministry no matter what part of the world we live in. Hope to see some of you in Wittenberg this year!!!

New link for Wittenberg 2017 activities: <https://r2017.org/en/>



BOD: L-R Back: Bob & Rita Flohrs, Keith Loesch. Front: Beth Schnabel, Tim Reaman, Jack Pfitzer, Don & Cheryl Klein, John Speckhard, Mark Scott. (Missing; Len Dale)