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“Notes from the Castle Church Door”

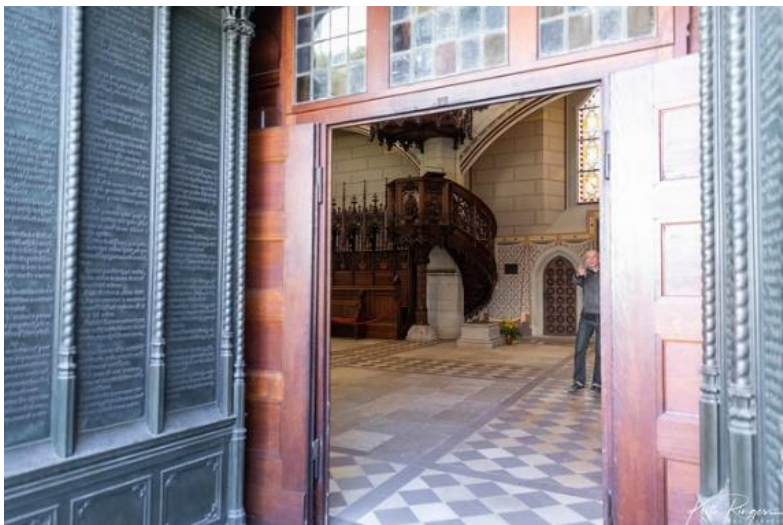
December 2019



In 2019 the Lord again blessed the Wittenberg English Ministry. Thirteen pastors and many spouses had the privilege to serve for

a two-week period. In the previous “Notes from the Castle Church Door” a number of pastors shared

their experiences. We had over 2300 people worship with us which is down a little from previous years. Nonetheless, those 2300+ experienced hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ who came to the earth to bring us the Good News of Salvation.



Left is a picture of the open Theses door with a view of the Castle Church pulpit and Luther's gravestone.

Thoughts from Pastor Keith Ringers and his wife Diane

Our last Saturday in the Castle Church we had a tourist from our state of Alabama - Mary, who was staying in Halle for a few days on business. She saw information somewhere about WEM and took the train to Wittenberg so she could worship in English. She said how meaningful it was and that as a Lutheran pastor's wife, she was going to go back and encourage her husband to apply to be a WEM pastor.

At one of the Castle Church weekday services, we had four young men from Brazil. They mentioned how glad they were to be in Wittenberg on a day that there was an English service they could attend. They saw one of the signs on the street and planned their day around attending the service.



Deputy Director Tim Reaman and WEM pastor, Keith Ringers

From Pastor Tony Metze and his wife Christina (a journal entry recording his thoughts and observations during their two weeks in Wittenberg)

In one of the Saturday services at 5:00, Thomas Herzer, the organist of the Castle Church, had the Gospel Choir sing three times during the service. There were 57 of them and some 46 or so in the congregation. This was a good attendance for an English service. I made the decision to preach from the pulpit of Martin Luther. Indescribable! The day ended as we attended the first time ever "Blue Church" service at the Town Church. The Sanctuary was filled with blue candles and the music was all Jazz.

The pipes of the Ladegast Organ in the Castle Church - built in 1863 and refurbished for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.





We want to thank ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS who make this ministry possible, including those who have designated their **THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS** to WEM. This year we have received \$3,091 from 33 donations through Thrivent.

For updated information on WEM go to www.wittenbergenglishministry.com; for information on Lutherstadt Wittenberg go to www.lutherstadt-wittenberg.de

LIKE us on [Facebook](#) - Wittenberg English Ministry (Lots of pictures!)

Three 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 or emailed to you)

2) **Direct** your **Thrivent Choice Dollars** - www.thrivent.com and log in, then in the top menu bar click on “My Thrivent”. Choose Wittenberg English Ministry from recipients list.

3) **Designate** a free-will offering for Wittenberg English Ministry in your congregation.

4) **Include** WEM in your church’s Mission Support budget and/or Endowment

For more information about Wittenberg English Ministry:

robert.flohrs@gmail.com

www.wittenbergenglishministry.com

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We are also now on Instagram!

Contact Bob Flohrs to schedule him or any deputy director to speak at your church or organization.