



DECEMBER 9, 1971

A Deep and Meaningful Christmas

Isn't it funny how stories that are passed down through the ages become more and more slanted, twisted, or misinterpreted? Let's view the Christmas story in this light.

It is true, I suppose, that the Wise Men brought gifts to the new born savior. The fact that material gifts were brought, however, is not of vital importance to the interpretation and appreciation of what happened approximately two thousand years ago. Yet each Christmas millions of dollars are spent on gifts to commemorate the birth of Christ.

Should Christmas be something more than a commercial enterprise? Should it signify more than an excuse to give brother the electric train he has wanted?

I am *not* implying that gift giving is irrelevant to the Christmas season. I am referring to the context in which gifts are given as irrelevant. Jesus Christ gave us one of the greatest gifts of all—salvation. Can we learn to give as Jesus did—unselfishly and with thoughts of salvation?

This year let's think of others less fortunate than ourselves, and give to them in the spirit of giving exemplified by Christ. Let's try to forget our own wants and needs. But of utmost importance, let's remember *what* we are celebrating each Christmas, and not *how* we are celebrating.

Let's have a deep and meaningful Christmas—not a simply "merry" one.

SUW

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

As a result of a statement in Dean Burris' recent commentary on the proposal submitted to him concerning self-limiting hours, the members of the Student Life Committee feel that the purpose, method, and the authority of the Committee need to be Clarified. The Dean's statement mistakenly implied that the whole purpose of the Student Life Committee is to approve or reject the proposals which it receives from the Legislative Board. The committee does review these proposals and either returns them to Legislative Board for review or submits them to the President of the College for his approval. But the purpose and authority of the Student Life Committee does not end here.

The Student Life Committee is composed of representatives from the faculty, the administration, and the student body so that the best possible dialogue can take place between these groups. Ideally, the Student Life Committee should be the nucleus for many of the changes and improvements which take place in life on the Meredith campus. In addition to approving legislative and constitutional changes, the *Meredith College Self-Study and Planning Report* recommends that the committee have additional authority in the following areas:

- 1) Discussing issues of concern to the non-academic life, making recommendations and policy changes where appropriate.
- 2) Hearing special requests from the College community.

In addition, the Constitution of the Student Government Association charges the committee with the responsibility to see that the "... College's philosophy finds expression in

True Christmas Message Found In Christ

By Dr. Roger Crook

How long is it 'till Christmas?

Last week we mailed Christmas presents to our son in Viet Nam. Sunday afternoon we went to an Advent service. Yesterday we received our first Christmas card. Tonight we are taking the younger sons Christmas shopping. And we are looking forward to having some students come caroling at our house.

I almost forgot: there was a Christmas parade sometime ago. But our sons are now neither young enough nor old enough to enjoy going to the parade.

Christmas is already here. It is not just a day. It is everything that leads up to that day. It is anticipation and preparation. It is shopping and wrapping gifts. It is mailing cards to friends and receiving cards from them. It is an exciting, joyful, deeply sentimental series of events that reaches a grand climax on December 25.

Of course Christmas is commercialized. The last days before Christmas get to be a rat race and we get tired and tense and quarrelsome and reckless. We have long forgotten that that jolly old elf Santa Claus, used to be a Christian saint. Most of our Christmas music has nothing to do with religion. But is that necessarily bad? All of it is a part of our expression of joy and anticipation.

Christmas is a holy day because it celebrates the birth of the Prince of Peace. We long for the day when nations will no longer be at war, when neighbors will live in peace with one another, when we can all be secure. We want peace with ourselves, with our neighbors, with God. The Christmas message is the good news that in Christ God has made this kind of peace possible.

the College community."

Student Life Committee meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday and the second Thursday of each month, and are usually held in the Board Room on the second floor of Johnson Hall beginning at 7:30 p.m. The meetings are open to interested groups or persons who feel that they have a recommendation to make to that Committee.

The Student Life Committee has great possibility, and is certainly not limited to "rubber-stamping." It is up to the members of the Student Life Committee to exercise their responsibility so that the best possible community life results.

Student Life Committee
1971-72

Dear Editor,

I want to use the TWIG to thank all of those who have communicated to me their thoughts on my recent action on self-limiting hours. The direct response has not been large, but of those who did make direct comment, about 75% have been in opposition to my decision. Although I think that many of those did not fully understand my points, I do not wish to debate the issue further here.

One thing that does emerge from the letters and from other sources is that there is need of a thorough examination of the rights and responsibilities necessary for dormitory life at Meredith. Contrary to the assumption in my rationale on self-limiting hours, the Student Life Committee does have the responsibility and the authority to initiate action and to amend proposals of the Legislative Board. I have, therefore, asked the Student Life Committee to conduct such an examination so that there will be a sound philosophical and objective base upon which to proceed with the process of change.

Sincerely,
ALLEN BURRIS
Acting President

Special Thanks From Lynda

A Christmas dance, sponsored by the Student Activities Board, was held in Belk Dining Hall on Thursday night, December 2. The semi-formal or formal dance featured the Atlantic Sound Show who performed four shows. Lasting from 8:00 to 12:00, the dance was attended by many Meredith students and their dates. Lynda Bell, SAB president, noted that the dance was a success and that the profits from the dance will enable the SAB to start work on plans for a spring dance.

Lynda would like to thank all those who helped with the dance, especially those who served on the dance committee: Jeanie Brown and Pam Stowe, refreshments; Vivian Craig, decorations; Sally Welling, B. J. George, Chris Beeker, Nancy Gill, tickets; Patty Bridges, band; Mary Jo Sherridan, tree; also, Ann Goodson, Sandra Clemmons, Nancy Price, Elaine Williams, Hope Faircloth, Meredith Neill, and Mary Elizabeth Bradley. Special thanks go to Dean Mason, Mrs. Teague, and Mr. Taylor and the cafeteria staff.

ATTENTION

Mrs. Audrey Gardner, Financial Aid Assistant, reports that any student planning to apply for financial aid for 1972-1973 who has not already done so should come by her office without further delay to obtain the necessary forms for filing application. She would like these forms completed and returned to the financial aid office before the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. Gardner reminds all students currently receiving financial aid that a new application must be filed annually.

Academics and Fun Mix in Semester Abroad in London

Dear Students,

As my days here in London draw to a close, I spend a lot of time in reflection over the entire semester—its experiences and the impressions it has made on me. Although I am really looking forward to being back at Meredith, these months in London, getting to know a new country, a new people, and even new American friends, have been some of the best of my life. Living in a coed situation and going to school with guys again has been a real treat after three years in Stringfield and Poteat, and developing a new "grapevine" has been refreshing as well as intriguing. The academics are what you make of them, as there are no quizzes, no classes on Friday, and one independent research paper due at the end of the semester. Weekends are long and travel is encouraged. I have been to Scotland and Wales, but other kids have been to the Continent as well. Thumbing here is well accepted, even for girls, and the trains are inexpensive.

The weather this fall was great and the stories of "rainy London" have seemed mere rumors. It was warm here until the second week in November, just as I was beginning to wonder if I would get to wear all the heavy wool Mother bundle me off with in September.

I could tell you much more, but I hope some of you will want to find out for yourselves. I highly recommend this semester to girls in any of the social science majors. If you want academics, they are here; if you want fun, it is here—you can have whatever you want. Anyway you look at it, it's a wonderful experience and I hope more of you will decide to come.

Good luck on exams and I'll see you in January.

CLAIRE SULLIVAN

MCA, BSU Send Gift

A check for \$200.00 was recently sent to Fruitland Bible Institute near Hendersonville, N. C. from Meredith students and administration. The Meredith Christian Association and Baptist Student Union joined in the room-to-room collection effort receiving \$87.18. The remaining amount was given by the administration to express concern and support during Fruitland's crisis.

Last August the school's only classroom building was burned to the ground by an arsonist. Plans for building a new facility are progressing but replacement cost is extremely high.

Suggestions!

By Carole Ellsworth

If you are really short of cash, but want to give your roommate something nice, you could:

- Promise to scratch her back each night for a month
- clean up her side of the room
- fix her hair for her

Most importantly, remember that gift giving is just a small part of the true Christmas spirit. The best gift you could ever give is still and always will be love.

Craighead Recital

Tuesday, December 7, at 8:00 p.m. David Craighead, head of the Organ Department of the Eastman School of Music performed in recital in the Wesley Norwood Jones Auditorium.

Mr. Craighead, a reknowned organist who has performed in New York, Denver, Boston, and Toronto, remained at Meredith on Wednesday to conduct a Master Class.