

she wanted to do, what she knew she needed to do, and what her advisors said she needed to do.

While taking summer school classes and working seem to be prevalent for many students, there are some other interesting things that Meredith women will be doing as well. Junior **Dee Edwards** will be working as a church intern at First Baptist Church in Asheboro. She is doing this because she is “thinking about a career in missions and wants to get practical experience”. Her decision was based on the fact that she knew that she wanted to dedicate her summer to Jesus and she felt Him leading her to this decision. **Ashley Hovis**, a sophomore at Meredith, will be taking high school girls to Saranac Lake Camp, doing missions in Kenya for a month, and going to the beach with her family. In talking about why she is doing these things, Ashley says “I have a huge heart for high school students and the children in Africa so that is why I am going there”. Her decisions were based on dreams that she had since she was in high school. Sophomore **Mary-Grace Moon** will be traveling to Colorado to live with her mom, attend summer school, and obtain an internship with an interior designer firm. She made her decision after realizing that this was the best experience to help further her career, it provided a change in environment, and it allowed her the opportunity to spend the summer with her mom.

Although many Meredith women are doing fun and exciting things, there is another group of Meredith women who must think more realistically. Many Meredith women will be graduating in May and will be considering the possibility of graduate school or finding a job. Senior **Christi Mckee** hopes she will be beginning a full-time job shortly after graduation. She is doing this for financial reasons and believes that it is time to “begin to explore the ‘real world’”. **Megan Arnold**, also a senior, says that she “will be working somewhere” because “I’m graduating and my parents have said they are no longer supporting me financially as of May 15th”. Senior **Jordan Dickerson** will be working with children, possibly at a summer camp. Jordan says “I would like to work in a summer camp to help me transition into the real world for the fall”. In the midst of getting a job, senior **Amber Lumley** will be taking a break before she starts teaching in August in order to have “peace of mind and a little bit of fun”. Senior **Leslie van den berg** will be “going to Peru for 12 days in June to teach VBS to children and to help with medical care”. Once she returns, she will be preparing to teach in August. She said that she is doing these things because she loves children, traveling, and serving the Lord. She made her decision after praying about what to do and waiting to hear from the Lord. Leslie says, “I based my decision on what I am passionate about and how I feel I can best serve God”. Although many seniors do have to get a job, there is still time for a little fun.

Although many Meredith women have already decided what they will do this summer, perhaps you still haven’t decided exactly what you will do with the upcoming 3 months of freedom. Senior **Nicole Armstrong** is still undecided as to what she will do but is exploring many different options. Nicole explains, “In making this decision I will think about the experience and the knowledge I will gain, the ability to network with more professionals, the significance of my position in service to others, the impact I will make, the impact it will have on my physical, emotional and mental health, the flexibility of the job, the growth I will have as a leader, and paying off loans and finances”. If you are still undecided, keep searching, weigh it out with the pros and cons, and decide which option will be best for you and your needs. From summer school to traveling to Africa, it is apparent that Meredith women are not just beach bums, but are instead spending their summers doing very interesting things. Whether their decisions were based out of pure fun or were made from a more realistic viewpoint, it is exciting