

## Who Runs the World?

By Alex Osborne

Here we are again, mid-March and exhausted from midterm exams, just trying to catch a break. It's nice to take a breather sometimes and put things in perspective, so since its Women's History Month, let's give it up to the hard working ladies who helped get us to where we are today, activists like Susan B. Anthony, teachers like Anne Sullivan and servants of the Lord like Mother Theresa have forced the world to recognize the value of women has no bounds.

Recently, gender equality has been a hot topic in the papers, with issues spanning from equal pay to gender-neutral bathrooms to trans-women's rights (?). For college campuses like UNCA you would expect a large span of activism supporting these ideas, but what about at Montreat?

Let's take the issue down a notch and just evaluate the word feminism. We've all seen a version of it plastered behind Beyoncé and have perhaps heard the term femi-nazi online, but the dictionary definition of the word is "the belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities". If that's the definition, then why do so many cringe when they hear "I'm a feminist". Unfortunately, it's due to the fact that behind every movement there's a small section of people who derail the cause. In this case, there are women who use the label to pursue a goal focused on misogyny, the active hatred of males. So what can we do to continue the pur-

suit of a society that holds its citizens to equal standing despite their gender identity?

What we can do is educate, learn from those that came before us and strengthen your rhetoric so you can defend your beliefs rooted in equality. Look at the statistics, know your facts and push until the dream that was conceived generations before us is finally achieved. Look to the important women in your life and recognize their value to you. Imagine a world where they don't have the right to vote, own property, or divorce. Recognize that there are many women just like them who have no say in their life and are viewed simply as an extension of their husband. There are women who are belittled in their workplace simple due to gender. As a woman, you are more likely to be viewed as a sexual object than an actual person. This idea leads to cat-calling and sexual harassment. In response to these injustices, take a stand and be a part of an empowering movement that brings the humanity back to lives that have been stripped of it, the right to stand as a self-sufficient individual among the masses, to be respected as a person placed on this blue/green planet by the same Creator as everyone else. Fight so that every woman can know that they too run this world.



## Faith Corner By Elizabeth Cerrina

"Shepherd" By Bethel Music and Amanda Cook

In the process, in the waiting, You're making melodies over me.

And You're presence is the promise, for I am a pilgrim on a journey.

You will lift my head above the mighty waves.

You are able to keep me from stumbling

And in my weakness You are the strength that comes from within.

Good Shepherd of my soul, take my hand and lead me on.

Oh how I love You, how I love You.

You have not forsaken me.

Oh how I love You, how I love You.

With You is where I want to be.

Waiting is something that we as a Western society are quickly becoming unfamiliar with. Hungry and don't feel like cooking? Go grab some fast food. Have a question and need to know the answer to it? Google it. Starbucks even has a feature on their app where

you can order your drink online and it'll be ready when you get there. No more waiting.

Personally, if I know I have to wait for something, I end up looking for ways to shorten my waiting time. Just yesterday I was looking for something on Google and the Wi-Fi was being slow, so I just turned my Wi-Fi off hoping that my LTE would find me an answer sooner.

The same is true when we're waiting for answers from God. We become impatient with God and become unwilling to trust His perfect timing. We think that our own timing is better than what God has planned for us.

Last semester I found myself questioning God's timing every day, feeling that I'd been forgotten. That's a hard place to be in. What I've found is that God uses this waiting period as a time where He calls us to press into Him rather than practice self-reliance and figure things out on our own.

Just as a shepherd guides his sheep, The Lord will lead us. A good shepherd leads his sheep on the path he chooses and makes sure that each one of his sheep are safe when they get to their destination. Don't mistake the waiting period as being forsaken. When you don't have the answers, actively and prayerfully seek them. Press into the Savior and He will lead you.

## Zootopia: Animation for Today

By Joshua Isiguzo

"Zootopia" is a fast-paced, beautiful and thrilling film crafted around a resounding narrative that addresses key issues in our world today with creative grace and animated quirkiness. The hardest thing perhaps in making anthropomorphic animal characters is making them relatable without relying too much on their perceived nature. Disney has accomplished this before, as seen with the masterpiece that is "The Lion King". "Zootopia" is no exception; the characters are not only relatable but develop in such astounding ways that one is totally caught up in their world only ten minutes in. Far from being a masterpiece of solely character creation, "Zootopia" carries with it a personal and societal message.

The protagonist of the story is Judy Hopps, a young rabbit with lofty dreams of travelling to Zootopia and becoming a police officer despite there never having been a rabbit cop in known history. Her parents try their best to dissuade her, urging her to settle down in their rural town and take over the family business. Spurred on by her own sheer will and a childhood encounter with a certain fox, Judy is set on seeing that her goals are met. What ensues is an emotional battle with herself, society and her colleagues, one that we all face in our quest to define ourselves. The movie throws Judy into humongous odds that threaten the reachability of her dreams, but her resilience allows Judy to see that prejudice and societal labels do not rob her of her belief in her dreams and ambitions.

As Judy fights her battles and makes new allies and enemies, she is sucked into what seems an easy investigation but has startling complications. The city of Zootopia, which has a vision of peace through animal evolution, is slowly being unraveled by a ruthless mastermind who seeks to turn the animals back to their savage ways. Through this narrative the movie provides a look into issues that plague us in our present time, issues such as racism, social violence, media-skewed perceptions and demagogues who seek to use fear to empower themselves. "Zootopia" offers a comical yet stern look at a society buffeted by change but afraid of rising above its own prejudice and embracing its differences. Not only does this movie contain aesthetic brilliance, but it also contains a truth that is embedded in every beatifically animated fang, bushy tail and horn.



## SGA Update By Tyler Lee

Montreat College's SGA is excited to announce the results of this semester's Week of Encouragement. This year, we reached a high only matched by the impressive amount of notes written last semester. 1,505 notes of encouragement were written throughout the week, exceeding SGA's goal of 1,500 notes! In reiteration, Week of Encourage is an SGA-sponsored event held every semester to provide students, faculty and staff an opportunity to write notes of encouragement, thanks or sympathy. This semester, SGA provided additional ways to submit notes, setting up in the Caf from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in addition to the table set up in Lower Belk from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Also, a table was set up in each residence hall on Wednesday night.

In addition, SGA applications are now out and we encourage you to apply! 5 executive positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Information Officer) and 2 representatives for each dorm are open. SGA provides an opportunity to serve and represent both the student body and Christ through its leadership on campus. As a part of being on SGA, each member is awarded a \$1000 Student

Leadership Excellence Scholarship.

The application form was sent out in an email from SGA and should be turned in either to the Student Services office or via email response to SGA@montreat.edu by 12 p.m. on April 1. Please make sure you fill out the proper application for the position you desire, whether it be as an executive member or representative. In terms of a future timeline, there will be a mandatory candidate meeting at 12:20 p.m. on April 5 in the side room of Howerton Dining Hall. Campaigning officially starts on April 6, while voting is on April 12 and 13.

We encourage you to apply for SGA, as it is an excellent opportunity to serve your fellow students and help make the visceral change you want to see on campus. Be on the lookout for further updates on future events, SGA elections and more through email, *The Whetstone* and on the SGA Facebook page.