

## Where the Twain Meet: Faith & Culture Conference Balances the Weights *Strong Messages Compensate for Logistical Challenges as Attendees Judge 2019 Event a Win*

By Anastasia Howland

It was a full house. Every morning. Students packed into pews, filled the balcony, and even sat on the floor in Graham Chapel each day at 10 a.m. to listen to speakers at Montreat College's Faith and Culture Symposium, held November 11-13. These speakers included the director of an arts center, a tattoo-researching, bar-roving pastor, and a Christian hip-hop artist. Each of these individuals shared stories of how they're seeking to bring beauty into a broken world. Explaining the selection of speakers, Rachel Toone, Dean of Spiritual Formation and the event's coordinator, said, "I want to hold up models [...] so students can see and experience what faith actually looks like on the ground in culture."

Joanna Beatty Taft was the first batter up on Tuesday morning. Taft is the executive director of the Harrison Center in Indianapolis—a non-profit organization which was originally opened by a church. Though the center now has no current religious affiliation, Taft has no problem reconciling her Christian faith with her work. "I believe that it is my call to help repair broken systems to help bring about justice and mercy," she commented. At the Harrison Center, Taft seeks to partner with community artists, and to bring about revitalization of the neighborhood in a grassroots style. "PreEnactIndy," one of the Center's events, is emblematic of the rest of Taft's work there: for one day each year, acting groups use a three-block abandoned strip along one of Indianapolis's main streets as their stage. They bring in painted building facades and act out what a just, equitable, vibrant community might look like, one where people of all races and backgrounds are employed together and engage with one another over warm food, good art, and real conversation. Many students at the Nov. 11 presentation critiqued Taft's chapel presentation — where she listed project after project which her Center had completed — for its



"Holding up models of what faith actually looks like on the ground in culture": Joanna Beatty Taft of Indianapolis' Harrison Center conversed with students in Howerton Dining Hall after her Tuesday presentation. Photo by Kylee Friedrichs

style, claiming that it seemed like more of a donor presentation than an actual message. However, her overall message was applauded by others. Junior Cierra Hunter said, "I liked what Joanna Taft had to say about the value of art in culture, and I think it's cool that she uses people's interests and talents to connect with them and showcase how they can bring something back into their own community."

Self-styled 'Blues-Bar Pastor' Allan Dayhoff spoke the following morning of November 12. The former minister of a successful suburban church who left the formal pastorate to pursue outreach with the unchurched talked about his interest in tattoos, which developed three years ago when he was interviewing a woman he'd met in a bar. "I asked her, 'Does your tattoo have a story?' And she poured out all the secrets of her soul. And I said, 'How did I miss this for 55 years?'" Since then, Dayhoff has conducted over 3000 interviews with people about the meanings behind their

tattoos — often encountering people who tell him the ink portrays their deepest feelings, such as resentment towards religion or grief over the loss of a child. "The image of God has gotten so desperate to talk, it's writing on its wrapper in permanent ink," he said. Despite his fascination with them, Dayhoff has no tattoos himself — but he wants to be there to hear the stories of those who do, to befriend them, and to care for them in their hurt.

Some students and professors critiqued his model of church, claiming that his work in a blues-bar is more properly identified as mission work versus pastoral care. But others resonated with the main points of his presentation. "Dayhoff has highlighted for me the importance of listening to stories — specifically the stories that those who live around us may feel unable to share," commented junior Emily Erlie. > See **SYMPOSIUM** Page Six

## Team Draws Up Blueprint to Satisfy SACSCC and Foster Critical Thinking

By Madeline Sides and Lydia Wilson

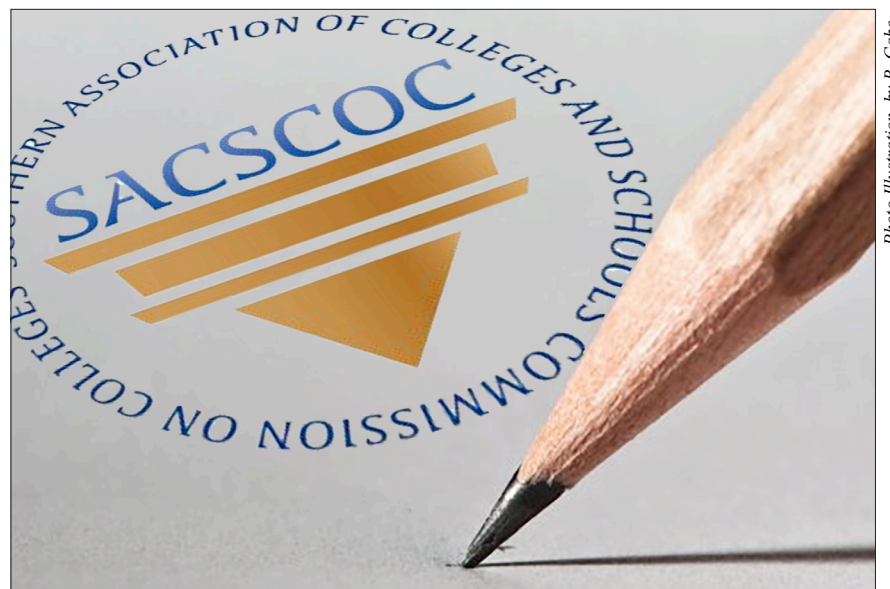
Even as athletes train, leaves fall, and students study, some faculty and staff members at Montreat College have been busy in their academic kitchen cooking up something new and interesting. The main course is called "QEP" which stands for Quality Enhancement Plan. QEP is a campus-wide initiative to encourage development of critical thinking of campus members both inside and outside the classroom.

A slogan contest was held for the QEP, and the winning entry was "T2I." That acronym stands for "Think to Impact," and it was created by freshman Will Cheek. Dr. Megan Clunan, Professor of Psychology and Human Services, stated that "The T2I campaign is a major part of Montreat College's reaccreditation process with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCC)." Explaining the motivation of the program, she added, "We must have a QEP that is focused on further developing our students in ways which are reliable and valid, so as to ensure we are indeed doing what we say we are doing. A successful QEP will not only benefit our students today, but benefit students for decades to come. The goal is to create something for the greater good of current and future students."

Along with Dr. Clunan, the QEP steering committee includes Prof. Kevin Auman, Prof. Ben Brandenburg, Mr. David Friedrichs, Prof. Josh Holbrook, Mrs. Beth Maslin, and Dr. Alex Sosler. Prior to the rollout of T2I, Montreat

College did not have a specific, campus-wide plan for the development of critical thinking. But the hope for this new overture is that it promotes creative thinking and problem solving over simple advocacy of personal opinion and emotional reasoning.

To this end, the three Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for Montreat College's 2020 QEP, T2I: Think2Impact, are: Think Creatively, Learn and Problem Solve, and Communicate. To *Think Creatively* means students will be able to identify or derive various interpretations from pools of data or observations, recognize new information that might support or negate a hypothesis, and explain how new information can change one's understanding and ability to address a problem. To *Learn and Problem Solve* means students will learn to separate relevant from tangential or irrelevant information, integrate multiple sources to bring fresh solutions to problems, and learn to apply new information to the task of solving real-world challenges. Finally, To



Montreat educators are spelling out the fine points of a critical thinking process that will enliven campus and satisfy requirements outlined by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

*Communicate* means students will focus on sharing ideas graciously so engagement with the world around them can be done with effectiveness and precision.

The goal is for SLOs to be realized via a three-tier approach that's being identified as 'Launch, Reinforce, and Impact.' > See **T2I** Page Six



# Montreatians Debate Social Drift & Religious Freedom Under Branches of the Liberty Tree

By Kali Zakariasen

Fifteen Montreat College students spent the weekend of October 25-26 grappling with issues of religious freedom as they participated in a Liberty Tree Seminar on campus. Funded by the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation, the Liberty Tree Seminars (a non-partisan organization) travels around Christian campuses in the United States running intensive seminars with students on a variety of topics.

The Liberty Tree weekend at Montreat began with a lecture on Friday, Oct. 25 by Prof. Trey Dimsdale, JD, of the Action Institute, and a scrumptious formal dinner in Gaither Fellowship Hall. Students attended the event looking sharp, decked out in business attire. Saturday was spent in major sessions and breakouts. Major sessions — dealing with discrimination in the workplace, legal boundaries involving religious practices, and potential abuses of religious freedom (by employment of the ‘Ministerial Exemption’ Clause by churches — were facilitated by Dimsdale, Dr. Greg Schaller (President of the John Jay Institute and professor at Cairn University), and Dr. Kevin Cooney (professor at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University).

The Montreatians-turned-Liberty Tree fellows spent all day Saturday delving into constitutional issues and real world dilemmas with vigor and excitement. Splitting into groups in the Belk and McGowan Buildings, they debated their conclusions in a mock court session, navigating difficult and frustrating legal precedents involving issues of global ethics and religious liberty. Sometimes groups came to a consensus vote for or against an issue, but at other times groups found themselves divided between differing viewpoints. Heated, if respectful, debate took points during the day. One participant who wished to remain anonymous remarked, “I was not expecting to actively debate these issues, but that was actually the highlight of the weekend!” After each discussion, Dimsdale would present the actual case the students had been discussing or the ‘big picture’ in a concluding address.

A breakout session discussion that proved particularly eye opening to participants focused on the direction of contemporary legal currents in American society. A court case in Utah was examined, one in which a man was suing the state over legal prohibition of polygamy. The plaintiff insisted his religious rights were being violated of his religious liberty, since he claimed religious motivation for marrying three women with whom he and his wife shared a house. When the State of Utah later inadvertently discovered the illegal unions, it declared the marriages null and void. Discussing the case, participants pointed out that most Christians believe that polygamy is socially unhealthy as well as sinful. Yet when it came to the question of whether our court system should place a ban on this right or not, examples from contemporary society complicated the debate.

A specific point made by Liberty fellows tied today’s legal confusion to the fact that absolute standards of truth have been removed from the court system. Though the American founders never intended their government to promote only the Christian faith when they established this country, they created a legal framework derived from biblical principles. But in the present day God has been effectively removed from the governmental arena, and the concept of truth has increasingly been preempted by relativism. Understanding such change, students were challenged to consider how they still might bring their Christian views into the public square, and to pray for spiritual revival in America.

Participants were positive about the weekend. Senior Timothy Strange gave an enthusiastic review, and said, “It was great to spend a large part of a weekend focused just on religious liberty, as it allowed me to delve into the topic without the regular distractions of a class and work schedule.” Dr. Lisa Toland, Director of the Montreat Honors Program and host of the seminar, stated, “At its heart, this seminar gets students at Christian colleges to think carefully about what it means to live in a pluralistic republic that... seeks to find the common good for the flourishing of the state and its people.”



(Clockwise from Left) Liam Munholand, Kelly Meade (at the board), Donovan Weir, Aidan Reyna, Timothy Strange, Anna Helen Marshall (hand visible!) and Cierra Hunter deliberate, debate, and discuss the ethical dimensions of freedom and religious liberty at the Liberty Tree Seminar held on campus in October. Photo by Lisa Toland

## Faith + Culture

# An Evening with The Tattoo Whisperer Leaves Indelible Impressions

By William H. Boyer

Allan Dayhoff had been a pastor in Virginia for two decades and overseen a successful \$5 million building program. But one Sunday after preaching to a full sanctuary he walked out the church doors and never looked back. He later explained, “The tipping point was realizing that I had become so disconnected from the non-Christian world... I’d been walking on Christian carpet and drinking Christian coffee all those years; I suddenly felt an element of despair. But I didn’t know what to do next.”



Photo courtesy ByFaith Magazine

What he did do was start hanging out at a local blues bar where he shared the faith with the regulars there. When he tried to invite them to an Easter service, “Every one of them said, ‘No, we do not go in buildings like that. If you want to do church, do it in the blues bar.’” So he started a church that would meet in a bar. And then he started taking noticing people’s tattoos — and learned to regard the ink as something more than mere images, more than just something skin deep.

The blues bar pastor was featured as a guest speaker during day two of Montreat’s Faith and Culture Symposium on Nov. 12. He told his audience that he has been called “the tattoo prophet,” “tattoo whisperer,” and simply a tattoo investigator. Yet Dayhoff himself doesn’t even have a tattoo of his own (if he were to get one, the tattoo would have a message to his grandkids over his heart reading: “I cannot love you more than I already do”). Dayhoff claimed every tattoo has a message, whether the owner was conscious of it at the time it was etched into their skin or not. He has found that some tattoos can take years to reveal their message, while others gain unique meanings as they are worn over time.

The minister said he routinely receives messages from people quoting Leviticus 19:28, a verse that sates, “Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am the Lord.” People understandably have interpreted this as a blanket condemnation of skin ink. He counters the naysayers with two other verses. The first is Revelation 19:16, which Dayhoff said insinuates Jesus possibly having markings on his own skin: “And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King Of Kings, and Lord of Lords.” And another passage, from Isaiah 49:16, that says “Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.”

After chapel, Dayhoff hosted a question and answer session in the Howerton Dining Hall side room where he took on student’s questions. In this session, he spoke on how each generation seeks to offend the last generation and set themselves apart to make a distinctive mark on the world. But he also noted that today, close to 40 percent of U.S. adults between 26 and 40 have at least one tattoo; so the markings have become more mainstream. In the course of his research he has interviewed over 300 people about their body markings.

The evening also included an open mic time where people could talk about their tattoos. Several students and faculty talked about the stories that inspired their tattoos. One student mentioned wanting to honor the woman in his family for her strength. Another got a tattoo to create a family tradition. A powerful quote that captured the spirit of the night was, “Tattoos stand between two worlds — they have voices, ignite the senses.” More information on Dayhoff’s research can be found at < <https://tattoostoryhunters.com> >.



THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF MONTREAT COLLEGE  
Established 1909  
Montreat, North Carolina 28757

*“Any patch of sunlight in a wood will show you something about the sun which you could never get from reading books on astronomy. These pure and spontaneous pleasures are ‘patches of Godlight’ in the woods of our experience.” —C.S. Lewis*

*“Most Christian writers today want to be up to date, relevant, and ‘speak to their generation.’ They want to be creative and original. And they end up saying the same things and going out of date very quickly. Lewis just tells the truth as he sees it, and ends up being original. He does what Thoreau advises: ‘Read not the Times, read the eternities.’ —Peter Kreeft*

*“Journalism is literature in a hurry.” —Matthew Arnold*

The Whetstone aspires to journalistic excellence characterized by reporting precision, literary verve, intellectual integrity, social consciousness, and Christian conviction. Using words and images, this student newspaper communicates campus news, shares stories, and provides a platform for voices, all with the goal of fostering creativity, growth, and community. Officially published by Montreat College, The Whetstone is written, edited and produced by its students. Opinions are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the administration, faculty, or staff. Articles and letters to The Whetstone will be edited prior to publication. All submissions become the property of the newspaper.

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PUBLISHER Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs

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# IT WAS A MONSTER MASH!

Costumes, smoke, and costumes were all on display in Anderson House on October 31 when Montreat College hosted the second annual ‘Anderson House Spooktacular.’ This event was a Halloween party that has generated a lot of interest within the student body. The Spooktacular has an interesting origin story. In October a year ago, a group of female residents wanted to celebrate some birthdays, and asked the Resident Assistant Lucinda Gonzalez about throwing a house party. Word soon got out and the Zack Jackson, Director of Student Engagement, approached Gonzalez about the possibility of including the entire student body in the fun. Gonzalez agreed, and almost 100 guests later the party was a hit. The math was simple: Halloween decorations + a 100 year old house + music + a smoke machine, food lights... All these added up to a party ‘s both spooky and fun.

This year’s celebration built on and expanded upon the original model. Student Activities staff, decked out in costumes, greeted guests at the door. Decorations were a mixture of cobwebs, black lights, caution tape, and glow sticks. The dance floor was the hottest place in the haunted house, with a smoke machine fogging things up before Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” played in the room. For those not wanting to dance, another creepy option was available on the TV screen in another room, where a group jumped at unexpected moments in the movie *Insidious*. There were also snacks and drinks in the kitchen area.

Over 60 guests participated in the Spooktacular — a little less than last year’s 100. But the house still seemed to have a revolving door, and for duration people flocked in, from the opening at 7:00 p.m. until the party shut down at 11pm. Asked about how they thought the party went, the staff consensus was that the event had a pretty good turn out and everyone had a good time.

## a SPOOKTACULAR

PHOTO ESSAY BY  
ELIZABETH BEARY +  
HANNAH THOMPSON

SNAPSHOTS (clockwise from upper left):  
Zoe Evans, Naomi Haifromlu,  
Lillie Siniard, and Luke Levonius;  
a nefarious pumpkin; Burn, baby, burn;  
DJ Kevin Collins mixing a spooky  
soundtrack; revelers dancing in the dark.





# It's Good to Be King

## In Which Two Reporters Sit Down with a Campus Icon to Talk About Lessons Learned from an Oxford Don

This month a major conference on Clive Staples Lewis was sponsored by The Presbyterian Heritage Center across the cove from Montreat College's campus. Lewis (incidentally not a Presbyterian) was a British writer whose fame has exploded since his death in 1963. Best known for works like *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *Mere Christianity*, he wrote more than thirty books that have been translated into more than thirty languages and have sold millions of copies. He has been quoted so often in Christian circles that he's been dubbed 'The Patron Saint of Evangelicals.'

'C.S. Lewis: His Influence & Relevance Today' was a three-day event attended by over 600 guests who traveled from across the country to hear major speakers discuss their spiritual and intellectual debt to the literary legacy of this famous Christian author. These included the only surviving member of the Lewis family—stepson Douglas Gresham, who also serves as executor of the estate and executive producer of the *Narnia* Films by Disney and soon-to-be films and series from Netflix. The conference was organized by Professor **Don W. King**, who has taught at Montreat for 46 years, edited *The Christian Scholars Review* for sixteen years, and has published 10 books on Lewis. Because of Lewis' celebrity profile and King's own academic achievements and tenure at Montreat, The Whetstone deemed it an opportune time to check in with one of the campus's most esteemed professors. **Emily Williams and Lexi Hudson** sat down with King to talk about his longstanding relationship to Montreat and the books of C.S. Lewis.

### How did you first become interested in Lewis and his works?

I first got interested in reading when I was in high school. I wandered into the library and found Edgar Allen Poe and *Sherlock Holmes*, and that got me interested in literature. Years later I was working in the dining hall at Virginia Tech, and at the end of a shift someone gave me a copy of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. I fell in love with it — and read the other six books in the series that same week (a crazy idea considering it was exam week).

After shifting from wanting to be an engineer to studying English, I took upper level literature courses and read things like Lewis's *A Preface to Paradise Lost* and *The Allegory of Love*. Lewis was someone I came to respect as a Christian and equally as a literary critic. There were a lot of people my age who grew up in the church, but we didn't see the Christianity we were brought up in as the kind of Christianity that thinks. Lewis dealt with a lot of the questions I had. I saw somebody that was not only an emotionally responding Christian, but also a thinking Christian.

### What is your favorite Lewis book?

The book I come back to the most is *The Screwtape Letters* because I find it to be spiritually challenging. But I guess I would say the *Narnia* stories too. Right now I am enjoying reading *The Silver Chair*. And I also love *Perelandra*.

### Favorite Lewis poem?

"All This Is Flashy Rhetoric About Loving You."

### That's actually a Lewis poem?

Yes. And in it Lewis realizes all his love has been selfish love. He wanted everything to be about himself but (wife) Joy Davidman's dying was showing him the disconnect between

should think about signing up. But we limit it to five students, so only those serious about researching and focusing upon Lewis (or another Inking) should apply.

### Have you ever had any bizarre or moments throughout your many trips to Oxford?

I've probably traveled to Oxford a dozen times or so, and the most bizarre things have been seeing numerous fist fights in airports, outside the iconic red phone booths, and even on buses. Once when I was in London, a prostitute tried to "pick me up" but I just kept walking; she trailed behind, telling me of all the different kinds of women she could procure for me. Sheesh!

### You have researched Lewis for most of your life. Do you ever get tired of learning about him or researching his work?

No, because I'm usually going off in other directions. There's always something new to find out. Just like anything, you're never really going to reach the end of it.

### What is the farthest length you've gone to attain a piece of information about Lewis?

I was researching when I was writing Ruth Pitter's biography, and I had come up with information that she'd corresponded with Lewis about taking the end of *Perelandra* and turning it into poetry. (Some say Lewis's best poetry can be found in his prose.) That set me off on a six-month search for her poetic transcription of *Perelandra*. At the end of the trip I hadn't been able to find any help. I was at the Bodleian Library at the University of Oxford about to leave and went to the guy

with whom I was working. I asked if he had the poet Ruth Pitter's papers and he told me yes. I looked through 36 boxes of material. On the next to the last page of the manuscript notebook I opened up, sure enough there were her poetic transcriptions.

### What was your favorite moment at the Symposium?

I enjoyed the standing ovations some of the speakers got. You don't usually see that kind of thing at a conference, it was really spectacular.

### What was the motivation behind the event?

It was done by the Presbyterian Heritage Center as an effort to figure out a way to bring all the disparate groups of Presbyterians together. *Mere Christianity* was something they were hoping would bond these different groups. There were people in the audience who would have otherwise never been there before, so apparently it worked. There were over 600 people; I think it's the largest gathering ever of Lewis enthusiasts in one place. > See **KING** Page Five



Dr. Don King in a moment of repose (above); With students visiting "lots of favorite places" during a 2014 trip to Oxford, England.

the way he loved and the way she loved.

### What about Lewis's personal life fascinates you the most?

The fact that he lived with Ms. Moore for all of those years when it was clear she was not easy to get along with. He took seriously that WWI commitment that he promised friend Paddy Moore — he'd take care of his mother. He did that for 30 years despite Ms. Moore's behavior.

### What are your favorite places to visit during the summer Oxford trip? [Every other year Dr. King leads an Independent Study trip to England on which travelers get to see for themselves the locations that provided the setting for Lewis's life and writings].

Lots of favorite places including numerous pubs (The Eagle & Child, The Lamb & Flag, The Turf, Head of the River, The Trout, The Perch, and more!), Lewis's college for 30 years—Magdalen College, his home, The Kilns, his church, Holy Trinity, Christ Church meadow, Portmeadow, the Bodleian Library, and lots of coffeehouses and bookstores. I also enjoy the walks along the rivers and popping into various churches.

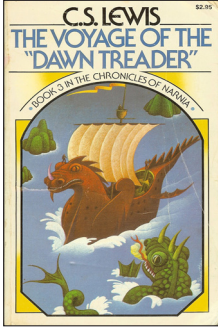
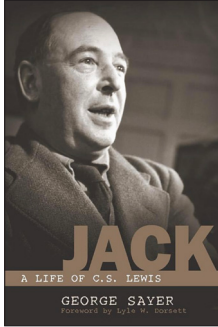
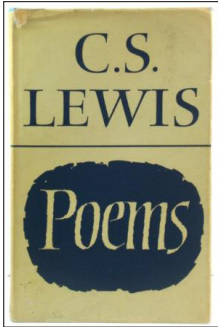
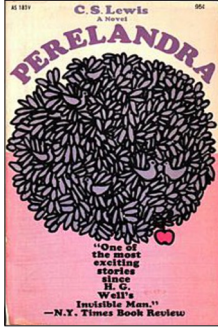
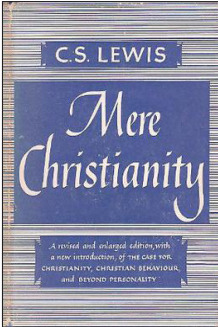
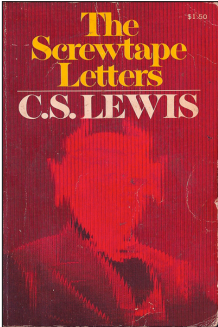
### Why should students consider signing up for it?

If they like any of the things I've already mentioned, they

## A C.S. Lewis Six-Pack: Some Starting Points for the Uninitiated

The *New Yorker* says "C. S. Lewis has been dead for nearly fifty years, but talk about Christianity long enough and you'll likely hear his name. Evangelicals, Protestants, and Catholics all lay claim to him. Children read his 'Chronicles of Narnia' and grow into reading his more formal works of memoir and theology. *The Screwtape Letters* though, remains one of his most popular works. Continuously in print since Lewis published it in 1942, the novel about the Devil has been adapted into plays, made into a comic book, and recorded as an audio drama by John Cleese. Fox owns the film rights, and Ralph Winter, best known for blockbusters like *X-Men* has said he will produce it. ❑ Of *Mere Christianity*, The Wall Street Journal observes, "Lewis's first ambition had been to be a poet. It shows in the prose, where meaning is often conveyed through vivid analogies. Lewis writes that when God enters your life, he begins 'to turn the tin soldier into a live man. The part of you that does not like it is the part that is still tin.' He explains that becoming Christian isn't an improvement but a transformation, like a horse becoming a Pegasus." ❑ The *New York Times* judges *Perelandra* to be "one of the most exciting stories since H.G. Wells' Invisible Man. ❑ Of George Sayer's biography *Jack*, *GoodReads* notes, "No other biography brings the reader closer to the real Lewis, a man who was a very human, sometimes faulty or mistaken,

but somehow all the greater for those weaknesses." ❑ And reviewers aside, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* begins with what may be one of the greatest opening lines in all of literature: "There was a boy called Eustace Clarence Scrubb, and he almost deserved it."





Screening Room

# Metal Flies, Hearts Break Amidst the Cinematic Clashes at *Midway*

New Film Courts National Pride as it Pays Homage to the Heroism of World War II Soldiers and Remembers Countries at War

By Lillian Queen

War movies seem to be making a comeback in Hollywood. Last year brought the critically lauded *They Shall Not Grow Old*, a black and white WWI tribute. Just a year later comes Director Roldan Emmerich’s splashier *Midway*, a dramatic reimagining of the key battle of World War II. And judging opening weekend box office returns (*Forbes* reported \$17.5 million), viewers are showing little sign of battle fatigue.

Because everyone knows how the story ends, the Emm-erich’s film doesn’t expend too much energy on plot develop-ment or clarifying a compli-cated historical conflict. What it does instead is give its leads interesting roles to play amidst all the surprises and explosions. This is a movie with large cast comprised of old hands and newer faces: Ed Skrein, Patrick Wilson, Woody Harrel-son, Dennis Quaid, Etsushi Toyokawa, Mandy Moore (as a wife left at home), and Nick Jonas (who proves he can handle the big screen as well as TV and boyband duties).

But the real star of *Midway*, as it should be, is the battle itself — and the convincing-if-gamified CGI that recreates ship decks, cockpits, and an arsenal of battle-field pyrotechnics is only a little short of stunning. The effects capture what another critic described as a “de-structive colliding of metal-on-metal,” and it’s that force — and the realization of the horrors of war — that makes *Midway* stand out from typical studio fare.



In Roland Emmerich’s World War II drama *Midway*, Nick Jonas plays Bruno Gaido, the real aviation machinist who gunned down an incoming Japanese kamikaze plane that attempted to slam into the USS Enterprise aircraft carrier in 1942.

Photo courtesy Lionsgate Studios

*Midway* submerges its audience in the messy grief and devasta-tion felt by the soldiers even after victory. It continuously switches perspectives from that of the Americans to the Japanese, revealing the human elements on both sides of battle lines. This also allows the audi-ence to understand the contrast between the way each side defined honor and victory.

The one inexplicable prob-lem with *Midway* has nothing to do with what appears on screen — and that’s its lack of marketing. Despite little hype, it had impressive opening weekend numbers, a fact that demonstrates there is indeed an audience for this genre at the cineplex. So why the tepid promotional campaign? Hardly anyone knew that *Midway* ex-isted before it came out (even if launching it the week of Veter-

an’s Day was a nice touch), and now that it is here, there doesn’t seem to be much change in awareness. That’s a shame, since its battle scenes are captivating, and many of the film’s moments are absolutely heartbreaking to watch. War movies are supposed to match spectacle with heartbreak. *Midway* does this well. Artful and impactful, it pays action-packed tribute to the heroism of a generation.

## Prof. King Talks Inklings & Blessings, Looks Back on the Graces of Campus Friends & Classic Books

> From KING Page Four

Once they started talking about it – it had always been something I was interested in doing – I was thinking, *I can’t do it by myself*. I was a total figurehead, Ron Vincent gets credit for all the logistics, but I did help arrange the speakers. And as a result of working with the Heritage Center, I made a bunch of new friends.

**How does it feel to be familiar with the stepson of your favorite author?**  
It’s not like we’re best buddies but we’ve known each other over 20 years. It’s assuring that I can email him any time and he’ll answer. The fact that you can have that fam-ilarity with someone like that is cool. He’s so genuine that if you want to know what he thinks, he’ll tell you.

**Would Lewis be comfortable if he came through a hole in time and landed on campus?**  
I think he would love Montreat. Natural beauty had a real draw on him, and he often took hikes with his brother. He would want to tackle Graybeard Trail, though I am not sure he would have gone all the way to Mt. Mitchell.

**You have taught at Montreat for forty-six years. What was the first class you taught here?**  
It was an Academic Enrichment course for students who could just get barely meet admissions standards.

**And what has kept you here?**  
I’d say the students — they keep you young — and my faculty colleagues. And I have stayed because from the start I have felt called to be here. I remember the first time my wife and I visited the college, as we drove over the rise and saw Lake Susan, thinking, *This must be the promised land*. If I could have written the script for my career forty-six years ago, I don’t think I could have imagined anything better.

**After several decades, you have probably seen more than your share of interesting things.**  
Well, at different points I was Dean, and briefly Interim President, so I joke that I know where a lot of the bodies are buried.

**Have there been patterns to the ongoing changes you’ve witnessed?**  
There have been lots of ups and downs over the years, but my gut tells me right now we are on a good trajec-tory. I believe we are in good hands under the leadership of Paul Maurer, and I am encouraged by the quality of our incoming students and our younger faculty (and our adjuncts). When people come to me worried about tomorrow, I tell them the same thing I have always said: small colleges by their nature have challenges, but if God wants us to remain open, we will be open. And if He doesn’t, we won’t. That said, everything I see now points to a positive future.

**Not to become overly serious or try to provoke you to indulge in platitudes, but do you have any hopes or sage advice for Montreat’s future?**  
I don’t know that I have any unique insight, but I have thought this: a college should have one over-riding concern: the pursuit of learning. Everything should turn on that. I’m by no means dissing athletics or cybersecurity or any other area. But we need to remember that when we get away from the objective of learning — when anything else wags the tale of the dog — we set ourselves up for trouble. We should always consciously be first about learning. I want to make my students become scholars in whatever academic field they choose. I want them to dive deeply.

**On that note, maybe we should wrap things up so we can get in some studying. Thank you for our meeting.**  
Thank you both very much for speaking with me.

Baking for Dummies

### It’s the Great Pumpkin Bread, Charlie Brown!

As we all know, the holidays are just around the corner. Time spent with family often brings joy, and the odds of a happy gathering can be increased when there are yummy treats on hand to be shared. There’s absolutely nothing like the warm comforting scent of freshly baked goods wafting through the kitchen air to generate good-will. Here’s a simple, easy-to-prepare recipe that will give you something to bring to the table to share with your family and friends this Thanks-giving. Do not fret if you are a newbie in the kitchen. I am no Gordon Ramsay by any means, so if I can successfully bake this culinary item, you most certainly can too. Apron and chef’s hat are optional.

GREAT PUMPKIN BREAD	
2 cups flour	2 eggs
1 1/4 cup sugar	1 tsp. vanilla extract
1/2 tsp. nutmeg	One 15 oz. can of pumpkin puree
1 tbs. pumpkin spice	Optional but Recommended
1 tsp. baking soda	1/2 cup of nuts (pecans work the best)
1/2 tsp. salt	-or-
1/2 cup of vegetable oil	1/2 cup of milk chocolate chips
1/2 cup of butter	

- Steps*
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
  2. Combine all of the dry ingredients with a whisk in a large mixing bowl. Add all of the wet ingredients gradually into the dry mixture. Mix in hand with a spatula until well-blended. Add nuts or chocolate chips (or both!).
  3. Grease one large loaf pan with butter, margarine, or a baking spray.
  4. Bake for about 1 hour and 15 minutes. At intervals check ito see if your pumpkin bread is ready using a toothpick. Do not overcook.
  5. Cool it, cut it.
  6. Eat it (with milk or other suitable beverage).
  7. Wrap what’s left with foil so that it will keep moist and can be shared.
- This easy recipe will provide you with a reliable hit for upcoming holiday gatherings. It’s one of my fall favorites, and it not difficult to prepare. Just set aside an hour to whip this bad boy up and — *voila!* — a delicious pumpkin bread will make you the talk of the party. —Lexi Hudson



# Track & Field Demands Character Along with Competitive Spirit

By Addi Teter

Montreat’s spring sports teams are gearing up for prime time. New recruits, high expectations, and loaded schedules — with morning workouts and afternoon practices — have all combined to create an energy-charged lead up to a new season. Montreat Track and Field is no exception when it comes to Montreat’s intentional manner of doing business, and team members are ready for new challenges.

The recruitment process for new Track and Field members focuses on skills and times, however it is not the only focus. Coaches also weigh other considerations. When looking for athletes, Coaches Jason Lewkowicz (affectionately call “Coach Lewk”), Jason Scott, and Britton Olinger take a different approach from other colleges to signing athletes. They scout for personalities with character, ones that can meet the high-caliber expectations that they set for all of the team. It makes for a completely different experience for incoming athletes who are used to spouting off their PRs to potential coaches in hopes of securing a spot on a team.

At Montreat, if the coaches think an athlete would make a good fit with the family, he or she can expect a friendly phone conversation and an invitation to come meet the team.

Prospects will discover that character building, spiritual growth, and a selfless mindset are the higher order finish lines set for all Montreat Track and Field athletes. Each team at Montreat is its own unique ecosystem, and Track has built itself upon skills that go beyond running fast or throwing far. The coaches and returners know, teach, and model motivation based on the conviction that there is more to this world than track, and they put in the effort to make each person know they are seen and esteemed by their team and loved by their



Runner Mark Lattimore: “I am part of an organization bigger than myself.”

Photo courtesy Daniel Brunson Photography

Creator. Athletes are trained and mentored, but coaches also know that it is the Lord who has bestowed the talent and who will follow through in the lives of their athletes.

When you talk with a track athlete about their team, the most common topics brought up are how they are cared for and how they reminded of spiritual realities. Katie Colenda, a May 2019 graduate who is still competing this season commented, “Just the other day, I was thinking about a conversation Coach Lewk and I had after I had performed poorly...He wasn’t talking to me as an athlete; he was talking to me as a person. He cared about what was going on in my life, and helped coach me through the mental trials of athleticism.”

Humility within the team is also encouraged and modeled by the upperclassmen. Senior sprinter Mark Lattimore commented, “Our success hasn’t come from being the most gifted or talented, but through the submission of our talents to God, our coaches, and our school. Over the past four years, I’ve grown to realize that I am part of an organization bigger than myself, and a legacy that will continue to reach the threshold of its purpose.”

Competitive success for the team began two years ago, building on the work of the previous teams and expanding with an infusion of incoming talent. The Men’s team began to win conference championships and even broke several established conference records. On the Women’s side, each year has seen growth and progress as a foundation is laid that will withstand the competition they will meet on the track. The 2019-2020 season looks to be another leap forward for both teams, with the women having the more dedicated athletes than they have had in years, and the men on the right path to bringing home a “threepeat” championship. Go Cavs!

# Cavs Baseball Takes the Off Ramp to One Very Loud Mosh Pit

By Nathan Rutter & Christian Gonzalez

Great Stage Park in Manchester, TN is the site of an annual Bonnaroo festival, but last month the crowds surrounding stages at the park were chanting anything but ‘Happy ‘Roo.’ They were there instead for ‘Festival Exit 111,’ a huge outdoor celebration of hard-edged rock featuring a Who’s Who of headbangers. The roster for Festival Exit 111 ran the gamut from Guns N’ Roses and Def Leppard to ZZ Top and Lynyrd Skynyrd to longtime Ozzy Osbourne guitarist Zakk Wylde (who performed with his band Black Label Society). The loud and wet weekend might have seemed like an unlikely spot to find members of the Montreat Baseball team, there they were. The Cavaliers traveled to Tennessee on the weekend of October 11-13 as part of a fundraising initiative. Supplying manpower for this event gave many of the athletes a chance to experience a once in a lifetime kind of event which helps the program in the end. The concert’s planners chose the name because of its proximity to the Exit 111 interchange on Interstate 24 in Tennessee.

Montreat’s baseballs coaches decided to accept the invitation to work at the event because it would provide an opportunity for witness as well as a quick means to raise funds for a new turf field planned for spring 2020. (The turf field is big news in itself for the Cavalier Baseball so work opportunity was welcomed.) The drive to the event was long (close to five hours), and once they arrived the Cavaliers had little time to adapt. Players worked security at the toll booths and the different stages and as well as taking on

other tasks as requested. There were three stages: Main Stage, Hell Stage, and Heaven stage. The stages gave fans an opportunity to rock out to various degrees based on the ‘hardcore factor’ of the performers. Heavy music would be on the Hell Stage while slower rock music would be on the Heaven stage. Because stages were close together, it was easy for fans to go back and forth between the three performances, and a flow of constant energy resulted. Even through mild conditions (little rain), the event continued to rock throughout the day. In many ways, this heightened the experience for many members of the team to be able to see the bands rock out in imperfect conditions.

Since working a classic rock venue is not something with which most collegians are familiar, the experience proved to be loud but also gave the guys a new experience that many of them enjoyed. Pitcher Will Price, a junior, stated, “The event was unique in its setup, and just seeing the diverse people engaged in the music was amazing to see. Overall, the work ended up being fun — listening to the bands perform made everything feel worth it throughout the day.”

Although the baseball team conditions a good bit, this was a different kind of conditioning, as the work was constant through the shifts, with very little time to take breaks. Junior Ryan Pereda says, “Though the work was long, there was something interesting to see each and every day with all the bands. It was fun and I hope it helps our team in a big way. All-and-all it was a real experience.”



## Jumps

# “There’s a Way to Engage Culture Without Compromising Who You Are”

> From SYMPOSIUM Page One

The symposium’s final speaker was hip-hop artist Sho Baraka. Born in Canada, but raised near Los Angeles, Baraka realized at a young age he wasn’t going to be a professional football player like his father, so he decided to join a gang. “But I realized that I was allergic to bullets,” Baraka explained to his audience, so he decided to attend college instead. In his second year at Tuskegee University, Baraka attended a Christian conference where he was converted and where he first encountered Christian hip-hop music. “It was this group called Cross Movement which was like the equivalent of a Christian Wu Tang. ‘This is strange,’ I thought. These are Christians all wearing baggy pants and Timberlands. I didn’t know they could do that!” Baraka had always wrestled with the utility of Christianity: “I struggled to see how it was useful for my friend that just got shot on this corner.” But with this group, he saw Christians answering that objection, and dealing head on with the struggles of the world around them. “It made me realize that there is a way to engage culture while at the same time holding to the fidelity of the Scriptures and maintaining a lifestyle and a heart posture towards the gospel of Jesus without compromising who you are.”

Baraka explained how he seeks to do this with his own music now — challenging issues of race and sexual morality, while also seeking to praise God, all in an artful fashion. He also performed some of his original music on Wednesday evening, and seemed to receive the most positive feedback from the Montreat community out of all the three speakers. “I’ve been a big Sho Baraka fan since high school, so it was really cool to see him here,” remarked junior Dawson Lytle. “I found a lot of wisdom in his words and appreciated his ability to speak his mind on controversial issues,” said sophomore Luke Levonius. Both issues with technology and space dampened more than a few students’ enthusiasm about the symposium. Some of the sessions began late or were interrupted by problems with the projector, creating awkward moments of silence while the AV team rushed to solve the glitches. Crowded quarters in Graham Chapel also pointed to the fact that it may be ill-suited to meet the needs of Montreat’s growing student body, especially when there is

not enough seating room for an event like the Faith and Culture Symposium where student attendance is required.

Open conversations were held in Howerton’s side dining hall after both the sessions featuring Taft and Dayhoff. Some students thought that more opportunities for critical thinking like these should be made available. Two years ago, the biannual symposium did include workshops of this nature. “I feel like those spaces cultivate critical thinking because I enjoy thinking and reflecting, but I need to be given the space to do it,” Hunter remarked. Logistical concerns aside, many students enjoyed the content of this year’s symposium and the speakers’ messages. Levonius summed it up: “I think the symposium is valuable because it enables us to hear from a variety of different speakers. Even if I thought they varied in quality and I didn’t agree with all of them, I think it was still valuable to hear from them, and the symposium provided that opportunity.” Montreat’s official website explains that the college educates students “through intellectual inquiry, spiritual formation, and preparation for calling and career.” In retrospect, this year’s Symposium on Faith and Culture appears to have done just that. Look for a new version in 2021.

## Quality Enhancement Program Gathers Steam

> From T2I Page One

students will be introduced to the habit of creatively embracing critical thinking. Reinforcement will take place within students’ major course work, for the sake of continuing to develop critical thinking muscles. Impact will be reached within a senior seminar or capstone course, with the purpose of empowering students to implement the skills developed through Launch and Reinforcement. At this Impact level they will demonstrate skill in communicating thoughtful engagement with a relevant topic integrating their area of study with contemporary society.