Annual Christmas on Campus Asks "What is Christmas?"

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DAYTON, Ohio, November 27, 1974 --- "What Is Christmas?" is the question that will be asked at the University of Dayton on Sunday, December 8, during the celebration of the 11th Annual Christmas on Campus beginning at 6:15 P.M. Children of all ages are invited to come to UD to look for the answer and to share in the festivities.

A thousand inner-city children (from the first, second, and third grades) will be brought to campus on a fleet of busses. Among other Daytonians joining them at UD will be senior citizens from several locations.

Hosting these guests will be hundreds of UD students and other members of the University community.

As visitors arrive on campus (welcomed by Yogi Bear and Scooby Doo from Kings Island), they can be entertained by clowns and by a carnival, by puppets and by a variety show, by Sing Out Troy and by the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company's production of "The Littlest Angel." They can see Christmas customs of various lands, and they can visit Santa.

After the games and Santa, the puppets and clowns, the celebration will culminate with three rituals: the lighting of the Christmas tree, a Christmas pageant, and the sacrifice of the Mass.

The tree, appropriately for the occasion, will be a gift (from Janet Barkmeyer) cut and transported with donated services (from Cundiff Tree Service). The pageant will point to the essential answer of this year's theme of "What Is Christmas?" And the Mass will provide the basic Christian ritual of community.

Christmas on Campus is traditionally celebrated at UD on December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, the patroness of the University. The celebration has come to symbolize the ties of members of the University to each other and to the larger community.

11th Annual Christmas on Campus
December 8, 1974

6 p.m. Children arrive
6:15 - 8:45 p.m. Clowns Alley (Fieldhouse)
Carnival (Women's Gym)
Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, "Littlest Angel" (Kennedy Union Ballroom)
Variety Show (KU Ballroom)
Puppets of Lothlorien (KU Snack Bar)
Sing Out Troy (KU El Granada)
Ethnic Groups (KU rooms)
Santa Land (KU Torch Lounge)
Hanna-Barbera's Yogi Bear & Scooby Doo from King's Island (throughout the area)

8 - 9:15 p.m. UD Choir Concert (Chapel)
Tree Lighting Ceremony (KU Plaza)

9:10 p.m. Children depart
9:15 p.m. Carols by Singers from Sunday Mass Choirs (Chapel)
10 p.m. Mass