



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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**A Weekly Column for the
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The Reason for the Season

JEFFERSON CITY – This month, many of us have been taking the time to shop for gifts for loved ones, spend time with family and friends, and do what we can to spread holiday cheer. This time of year is a special time when many of us try to focus on what is truly important. I hope all of you will be able to enjoy the blessings of a loving family and caring friends.

No other season better captures the goodness and joy of the human heart than Christmas. Each year, December 25th holds the keys to a season of giving that is unmatched by any other. This joy is expressed through gifts for others and can come in traditional as well as unusual ways. This model is the one given to us through the example of the wise men bringing their best to celebrate the birth of Jesus some 2000 years ago – the real reason for the season.

The message of the very first Christmas was one of peace and goodwill towards mankind.

“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.’ Suddenly, a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests.’” –Luke 2:8-14

For this is the spirit of the season and the reason we celebrate by giving our best to others.

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Here are a few suggestions for special gifts:

- A firm handshake to a shaky soul;
- A kind word to a lonely person;
- A warm smile to the disheartened;
- A sincere concern for someone troubled;
- A feeling of compassion for the neglected;
- A comforting thought for the bereaved;
- A respect for the dignity of others;
- A word of witness to help a seeking soul;
- A Merry Christmas to all.

If you have questions or comments about this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me at 573-751-8793 or by e-mail at: delbertscott@senate.mo.gov.

Senator Delbert Scott represents the people of Barton, Benton, Cedar, Dallas, Henry, Hickory, Pettis, Polk and St. Clair counties in the Missouri Senate.