



Rev. Scott Stedman
Pastor

“Jesus on The Main Line”

December 2015

Starbucks, Red Cups, and Jesus

Earlier this holiday season, there was an outrage among Christians that Starbucks was having a blank red cup, instead of what they have had in the past with having Christmas theme decorations on the red cup (reindeer, Christmas trees, snowflakes, etc.). Evangelical Preachers, like Joshua Feuerstein, declared that there is a war on Christmas. All over the news and social media, people are weighing in on this “War on Christmas” and have made threats to ban Starbucks and other businesses who have apparently declared war on Christmas.

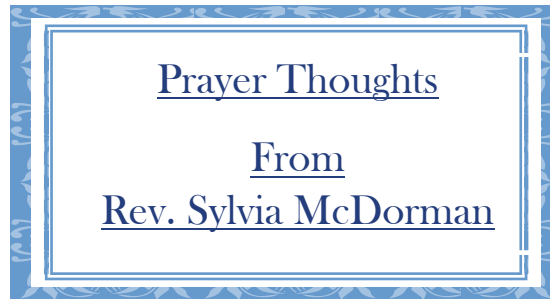
Then there is me, who was disappointed when I got a white cup instead of a red cup when I ordered by tall peppermint mocha. Why? Should I have grabbed by torch and pitchfork and started protesting a red cup? No. Christmas is not defined by a red cup. It is define by the birth of the Savior Jesus Christ. Let us look at Matthew’s account of Jesus’ Birth.

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.^a

¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,^{1a} because he will save his people from their sins."^b (Mat 1:18-21 NIV)

Christmas is not about snowflakes, Santa Clause, lighted trees, presents, etc. It is about Jesus who saves all of humanity from their sins. Christmas is about people knowing Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. This is why I think the blank red cups are more “Christian” than the previous ones. Because a red cup can symbolize Jesus’ blood that he shed for the sins of many, and through his blood we are cleansed white as snow. So the next time you drive past a Starbucks, unclench your fist, buy a drink, and be reminded of the sacrifice Jesus did for you, your family, and for others.

So when you know of someone who is going through loss, be in the moment with them, walk along beside them during this difficult journey, and be intentional when pouring into them the love of Christ.



Ways to Pray at Christmas

- 1. Pray in thankfulness for the greatest Christmas gift of all, Jesus Christ.**
- 2. Pray as the countdown to Christmas Day draws closer you will find ways to give the gift of hope and encouragement to others.**
- 3. Pray you will "Go and Tell" the good news of Jesus' Birth.**
- 4. Pray the true spirit of Christmas, which is love, will permeate all you do and say.**
- 5. Pray the world will see and know that Jesus Christ is Lord and the true reason for the season.**
- 6. Pray peace would come to our world and it would begin with you.**
- 7. Pray you will keep the Christ Child the focus of Christmas.**
- 8. Pray that joy will be in your heart and on your face as you sing the carols of Christmas.**
- 9. Pray you give as Christ gave sacrificially and without restraint and experience the true joy of giving.**
- 10. Pray for the care, companionship, and comfort of those who are alone or experiencing their first Christmas without a loved one.**
- 11. Pray the baby Jesus born in Bethlehem would become a reality to each person who hears the telling or the retelling of the Christmas story.**
- 12. Pray the sights, smells, and sounds of Christmas will heighten your awareness of our Savior's Birth and prompt you to rejoice, give thanks, and praise God each day.**

Adapted from "Prayers for Christmas"

A Note from the Elder Board

The Annual Business meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 6:30 PM. We will need the ministry teams reports and the financial report in the main church office no later than Sunday January 10th.

The reports needed are:

Pastor's Report

Worship Arts

Passionate Growth

Loving Relationships

CWC

Prayer Breakfast

TLC

LOVE, Inc

Treasurer's Report

Audit Report

Business Meeting minutes from the year.

The Elder Board,
Jamie Hendricks, Chair
Debbie Brown, Secretary
Terry Morris
Wanda Saufley
Nathan Simmons
Bernie Wilcott

*Merry
Christmas*



...Her Special
Missions
Rev. Debbie Brown



HAVE A HEART

There are still many struggling to put food on the table for their families. The Food Bank has a great need for all items.

So, let's have a heart and fill the Food Barrel in the narthex.

Don't forget to have a heart !



Dates to Remember: For August 2015

December 5, 2015

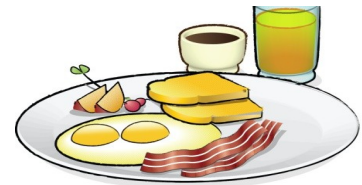
CWC Christmas Party

6:00 pm

December 12, 2015

Family Prayer Breakfast

8:00 am



snappobjects
Free Complete Breakfast Vector

December 13, 2015

Christmas Canes in the Park

6:00 pm



We wish every one a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS and a
glorious **NEW YEAR**.

We hope each of you will be
able to spend some most
precious time with your
families and close friends.

Remember, Jesus is the reason for the Season.



Love INC

Love In the Name of Christ

Christmas Open House!

ALL WEEK!

November 30 - December 5

Treasures For Love Resale Store

2296 Jefferson Highway
Waynesboro

(next to Brothers' Pizza and
Waynesboro Golf n' Games)

**Door Prizes
Each Day!**

All sales support





The officers for the coming year for CWC are:

Wanda Saufley– President

Rose Cox – Vice President

Judy Huffer – Secretary

Abby McDorman – Treasurer

Sylvia McDorman – Spiritual Life/Missions Coordinator

Barbara Truxell – Friendship and Enlistment Coordinator

Terry Morris – Historian

The CWC Christmas Party will be December 7, 2015 at Country Cookin at 6:00 pm. If you would like to join us, please sign up on the sheet in the Northex.

We will not be having a CWC meeting in January. Our meetings will begin again in February and we will give you more information about the date later. Thanks to everyone for all of their help this past year.

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E-Mail: svacog@verizon.net
www.stauntonfirstchurchofgod.org



Our Vision

*Is to impact our community with the Love of God
and to provide a Spirit-filled harbor for the lost and the hurting.*

WEEKLY SERVICES

SUNDAY

Sunday School 9:45AM

For All Ages

Worship Service

10:45 AM

Everyone Welcome

WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM

Awana

6:30 PM

Adult Bible Study

Have you remembered to "cross" someone?
Remember the cross cards are available in the narthex.
Take a few cards with you, do little acts of kindness and
give them a cross card.
Be a blessing to others and share the love of Christ!!



"Jesus on the Main Line" Newsletter Published Monthly. To Submit an article or idea
contact: Judy Huffer: jhuffer@staunton.k12.va.us or 540-290-1374
All Articles must be turned by the 20th of each month. Thank you.

December 2015

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 CWC Christmas Party County Cookin	8	9 Adult Bible Study	10	11	12 Family Prayer Breakfast 8:00 am Life Center in use (Huffer family) 2:00
13 Christmas in the Park 6:00 pm	14	15	16 Adult Bible Study	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Life Center in use (Brown Family)	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

December 2015

Happy Birthday & Anniversary

SUN	MON	THUS	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Birthday Clara Wright	3	4	5
6	7 Birthday Aarlin Wy- mer	8	9	10 Birthday Kaden Welcher	11	12 Birthday Conner Brown Michael Wilmott
13	14	15	16	17 Birthday Kimberley Rauschen- berg	18	19
20	21	22 Birthday Margo Deihl	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		