

# A Note from Pastor

Dear Congregation:

As I write this, Joy is in the other room knee-deep in Christmas wrapping paper and presents of all sorts. It can be a lot of work (as if I would know ☺). But picturing the wide-eyes and bright faces of our grandkids as they open them makes it worth it all.

Thinking of gifts, the Bible tells us God has one for every person in the world.

***The gift is eternal life.***

“For the wages of sin is death, but the *gift* of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

***The gift was wrapped.***

“And she brought forth her firstborn son and *wrapped* Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn” (Luke 2:7).

“And this shall be a sign unto you. Ye shall find the babe *wrapped* in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger” (Luke 2:12).

***The gift had a gift tag.***

“For *unto you* is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11).

***The gift was put on the tree, not under the tree.***

“Who His ownself bore our sins in His body *on the tree* (cross), that we, being dead to sin should live unto righteousness” (1 Peter 2:26).

***The gift needs to be opened.***

“He *opened* the scripture to them” (Luke 24:32).

“He *opened* their understanding” (Luke 24:45).

“Whose heart the Lord *opened*” (Acts 16:14).

Have you opened your present from God yet?

In Christ,  
Pastor Lancaster

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For unto us

a

Child

is born!

# Starkey Road Baptist Church

Merry Christmas, December 25, 2011

## 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Pianist: Becky Vick

Organist: Linda Thomas

Worship Choir ..... "Sing We Now of Christmas"  
 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ..... No. 249  
 "What Child Is This?" ..... No. 281  
 Vocal Solo ..... Amy Cleaver  
 "The Birthday of a King" ..... No. 284  
 "O Come, Let Us Adore Him" ..... No. 196  
 Prayer ..... Pastor Lancaster  
 Offertory ..... Orchestra  
 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" ..... No. 277  
 Vocal Solo ..... Delbert Mitten  
 Sermon ..... Pastor Lancaster

"Surprises in the Christmas Story"

*This is the last in a series of three Christmas messages*

## Children's Ministries Today

Nursery is available for infants through 2 year olds.

Children's Churches begin at 10:30 a.m.:

Preschool Church (3 & 4 yr. olds) in the Chapel

Primary Church (K - 2nd grade) in the Fellowship Hall

Junior Church (3rd - 5th grade) upstairs Education Bldg.

Parents, all children grade 2 and under must be picked up in their classroom.

## Meetings and Rehearsals

**There are no meetings or rehearsals today.**

**There is no Evening Service tonight.**

## Important Information

- The Church Office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, December 26th.
- **2012 Offering Envelopes** are available in the Back Foyer.
- **Christmas Mailboxes** are open in the Back Foyer! Please check for cards addressed to you!

## Holiday Services This Week

★ **Wednesday, December 28** - no services (Awana, Student Ministries or Mid-week Bible Study). Please join us Friday for First Night.

★ **Starkey First Night** is an annual tradition to welcome the new year. It will be this Friday, December 30th from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Enjoy the talents of our SRBC family in different venues across the campus. All are welcome!

★ **New Year's Day Service** on Sunday, January 1st will be at 10:30 a.m. Nursery will be provided and Children's Church will be held. There will not be Sunday School, Adult Bible Fellowships or Evening Service.

## Ladies Bible Studies

In January a new Bible Study series will begin entitled "James - Mercy Triumphs" by Beth Moore. It will begin Monday, January 9th at the home of Cindy Gleichman, 4532 Huron Road, St. Petersburg (397-5755) or Tuesday, January 10th at the home of Nancy Walters, 504 6th Ave. SW, Largo (582-9171). Both studies will be from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Cost of the workbook is \$15.00. Please call Cindy or Nancy to register.

## Valentine Weekend Couples Retreat

All couples are invited to join us for a couples retreat on Friday night, February 10 (7:00 - 10:00 p.m.) and Saturday morning, February 11 (8:00 a.m. - noon). Guest speakers will be relationship experts Bill & Pam Farrell, on the subject "Understanding & Delighting in Your Differences." Cost is \$100 and includes not only the speakers but also dinner Friday night and breakfast on Saturday morning. When registering please indicate dinner choices of petit filet or chicken piccata. Register using the church registration envelopes or online at SRBC.org.

## Coming in January

Sunday, Jan. 8	Rich Rudolph (former SRBC intern) Missionary report JOY Fellowship SNAC
Wednesday, Jan. 11	Scarlett Amey, missions report
Friday, Jan. 13	MOPS
Sunday, Jan. 15	Lord's Supper (PM)
Saturday, Jan. 21	"Tea at Two" Women of Hope
Tuesday, Jan. 24	JOY Fellowship Starlight Princess Cruise
Saturday, Jan. 28	Heart to Heart Social

Blessings from December 18, 2011

General Fund .....	\$23,747.49
Missions Fund .....	\$ 5,144.50
Expansion Fund .....	\$ 670.00
Total	\$29,541.99