

# THE CHRISTIAN OBSERVER

Silver Lake Baptist Church

Christian New Years--Pursue Godly Goals

Pursuing Godly Goals will Bring Favor and Blessing

For Christians, if God is central in the New Year's resolution, it has a better chance for success. God gave human beings free will, and He never oversteps that freedom to make choices. God's Word certainly has made clear which choices are better than others, but God never forces His people to comply. Choosing to do the will of God is always a right choice and, of course, has God's endorsement. God's favor and blessings should be incentive enough to pursue Godly goals. God's Word is filled with what is right and good, therefore reading and learning the Bible is a good place to start and a good place to stay. The Christian's first priority should be making time or more time to read and study the Word of God. This may necessitate getting up an hour earlier, or maybe less TV time. One will always make time for whatever or whoever is loved. Jesus said, *"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."* (Matthew 22:37-39)

This is a good place to start for any believer. Goals set in this light would include spending more time in personal devotion to God, Bible reading and time in prayer. This time is usually best first thing in the day, before all the demands and activities of daily life make quiet time with God impossible.

Other resolutions might include memorizing verses of Scripture, perhaps one a day or one a week. Pick positive and encouraging passages, and inspirational promises of God. Prayer time should be purposeful, perhaps with a list of people or situations that need prayer. One might even have a prayer journal, jotting down how and when God answers the prayers.

Financial giving is certainly a solid Biblical principle which includes tithing and special additional offerings for different church needs or perhaps for the support of missions work. The only way to improve on the principle of tithing is to increase the proportion of the amount. It may be that in order to give more, the resolution might include spending less on sodas, or coffees or movie rentals. These kinds of resolutions are blessed decisions. If one has more time than money to offer, perhaps volunteer in the children's department at church, or make a plan to visit the sick or elderly. Maybe it's time to restore a damaged relationship with a family member or an old friend.

Personal resolutions might include watching less TV, spending more time with spouse or children, such as playing games or going out to sports events or picnics in the park. Resolutions might include planning dinner parties for friends and neighbors, becoming better organized at home, in the office or garage, or maybe getting additional education on a subject by taking a community college course or online class. Better financial management is an important goal, which could include renegotiating insurance policies, utility expenses, reevaluating food costs and auto usage, and perhaps making a savings plan for a family vacation.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 says, *"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might,"* and similarly, Colossians 3:23 and 24 state, *"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."* Loving God first with heart, soul and mind includes and can be expressed in having an enthusiasm and exuberance for many things in life. God's desire is for His people to live life to the fullest and to flourish, having good health and prosperity, among many other blessings. Resolutions and goals selected with love for God and done thoughtfully in prayer can be life enhancing and enriching.

JANUARY



## 2 Corinthians

**5:17** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (NKJV)*

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### WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

#### SUNDAY:

9:30am - 10:20am	Sunday School
10:30am	Worship Service
10:30am	Children's Church
5:00pm - 7:00pm	Youth Meeting

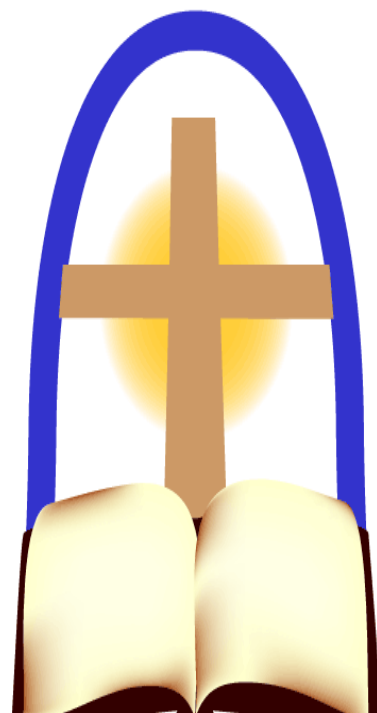
#### WEDNESDAY:

6:00pm - 6:45pm	Wednesday Dinner
7:00pm	Adult Bible Study
7:00pm	Children's Ministry
7:00pm	Youth Meeting

#### THURSDAY:

10:00am	Bible Study
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**A nursery is provided for the 10:30am Worship service for children ages birth through three years old.**



#### UPCOMING EVENTS

January 1:	<b>New Year's Day</b>
January 5:	7:00pm - Council Meeting
January 17:	6:00pm - Business Meeting
January 20:	Registration costs are due for Ladies Spring Prayer Retreat.
January 21:	12:00pm - WMU Meeting
January 23:	7:30am - 12:00pm - Church Yard Sale
	<b>(Please no clothes)</b> Proceeds will go towards the youth ski trip. (Fore more info. Contact Vickery Jackson)
January 24:	2:30pm - Autumn Care Nursing Home Visit
February 5 - 7:	Youth Ski Trip
March 12 - 13:	Ladies Spring Prayer Retreat

#### YOUTH NEWS

The youth group will be taking orders for boxes of inspirational cards through the end of January. The boxes are \$8 a box. For more information contact Vickery Jackson at 520-7780 or [vickeryjackson@yahoo.com](mailto:vickeryjackson@yahoo.com)

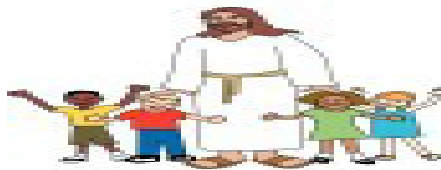
\*On Wednesday nights the youth and brotherhood alternate each week to prepare a meal beginning at 6pm. Plates are \$5 per person





**Nursery Schedule**

- Jan. 3: Lisa Gregg  
Madelyn Hoffman
- Jan. 10: Natasha Johnson  
Mary Ellen Smith
- Jan. 17: Barbara Todd  
Jessica Camburger
- Jan. 24: Sue Sigmon



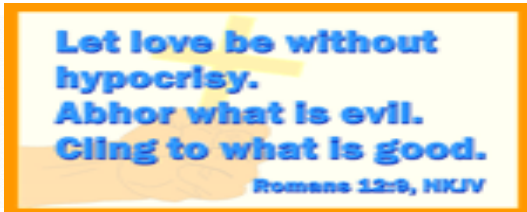
**Children's Church Schedule**

- Jan. 3: Angie & Randy Fisher
- Jan. 10: Chris & Chela Criag  
Gayle Tipper
- Jan 17: Lee & Leandra Dewyea
- Jan. 24: Kathy Miller & Michelle Canady  
Gayle Tipper
- Jan. 31: Natasha Johnson & Melynda Powers



**DEACON NEWS**

Larry Tipper was voted as a Deacon on December 27, 2009.



- Jan. 1: Rick & Kathy Oxyer  
David & Donna Pardue

- Jan 1: Mike Rhodes
- Jan. 2 Elizabeth Williams
- Jan. 4: Gene Killette
- Jan 6: David Robbins
- Jan 9: Darrin Powers
- Jan 14: Jenna Cartrette
- Jan 15: Ruby Williams
- Jan. 16: Sonny Jordan
- Jan 17: Kevin Merritt

**REMEMBER**

There is nothing that God can't handle. May faithfulness be your encouragement for today and all your tomorrows.



**BROTHERHOOD**



We are always looking for teachers and helpers for Children's Church! If you would like to learn more about Silver Lake Kidstyle, please contact:

Gayle Tipper at [gtipper@ec.rr.com](mailto:gtipper@ec.rr.com) or call 508-9504

To all men at Silver Lake Baptist Church. All interested in being involved in the Brotherhood, please call or email:

Larry Tipper

(910)508-9505

Email: [hhmassagenc@gmail.com](mailto:hhmassagenc@gmail.com)

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### WMU NEWS

The WMU Ladies of Silver Lake wishes to thank you for your contributions for the year 2009. We Thank God for everyone who reached out and helped in your own special way. We also know that a lot of prayers have been heard and blessed.

BAPTIST CHILDREN HOME OFFERING was \$801.56

ANNIE AREMSTRONG OFFERING was \$1061.00

SAMARITIAN'S PURSE postage for SHOEBOXES \$373.00

PURE WATER PURE LOVE OFFERING \$230

PREGNANCY CENTER OFFERING (baby bottles) \$370.00

NORTH CAROLINA STATE MISSIONS OFFERING \$373.00 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING (so far) \$1381.50

SEVERAL LOVE OFFERINGS and many contributions not listed.

We have had many blessings in our Group this year as we tried to meet the needs of our Mission Projects. One big blessing is spending time with wonderful sisters in Christ, as we planned Baby Showers and made sweet little girls reversible dresses for the mission field. Each month there is a different mission as well as on going missions. Baby Mia is still being ministered to through Brenda Hunt, She helps each week.

Another blessing was going to the LADIES SPRING PRAYER RETREAT at the Caswell Baptist Conference Center Oak Island, NC. We encourage all ladies of the Church to join us on the next Retreat coming up March 12-13, 2010. Registration cost is \$25.00 due by January 20. Sign up with Eloise.



Eloise Roseman

WMU Director





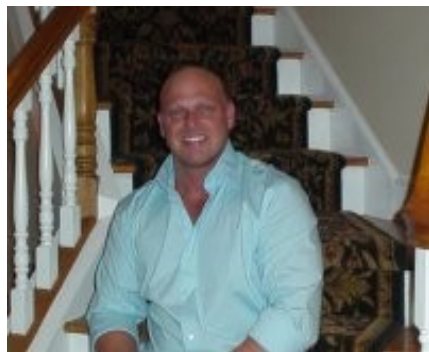
# Adam and Stephanie Swain's Wedding

Nov. 14, 2009





## DEACON'S CORNER



**Tim Russell**



As we venture into a new year my prayer is that we become closer as a church and grow in the body of Christ. 1st Peter Chapter 4 verse 7-11 says, "The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and Self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all Love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If any one serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and power forever and ever. Amen. Often times we get into these mindsets that cause us to disconnect with the spirit and then it separates us as a church. The word tells us to be clear minded and self-controlled so we can pray. This new year lets look at things as if we were looking at them through the eyes of Christ. I'm thankful for my Pastor. I'm thankful for our youth leaders. I'm thankful for our new Minister of education. I'm thankful for the band and our music leader. I'm thankful for those who teach Sunday school. I'm thankful for the guys in the sound and media booth. I'm thankful for the deacons. I'm thankful for those who attend our church. We all have our shortcomings in one area or another, but lets not forget that we should always encourage and lift each other up. We should always try to show the love of Christ in all situations. We never know when it may change someone's life and lead them to the Lord. All the angels in Heaven celebrate when one soul is saved. And remember....., Love covers over a multitude of sins. Of faith hope and love, the greatest of these is love. Lets all Love deeper in 2010.



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**THE CHRISTIAN OBSERVER**


**NOVEMBER 2009 UPDATE  
FOR  
MIA ADISON HOLLAND**

Dear Friends,

Since the last update Mia has been very busy. She continues to work with her four therapists throughout the week. Her physical therapy has been cut to once a week. She still needs work on balance, but she often has blisters on her feet which makes it difficult. One of the main goals was to help her learn to walk...and she is walking, and climbing. She has occupational therapy two times a week where she is working primarily on feeding herself and trying new textures. She is no longer on baby food and is feeding herself for the most part. She has cognitive development therapy once a week where she works on serious play that challenges her thought processes. Speech therapy has been increased to three times a week. While still not talking, Mia is getting close and making all kinds of sounds—probably somewhat due to her very verbal seven month old sister!

Our family was able to get away for a long weekend over Labor Day at Topsail Beach with our extended family. Mia absolutely loved the ocean and being outside, but we couldn't let her play in the sand due to her open blisters. We don't spend much time outside as we have had to be careful of the heat...and Mia still does not usually wear shoes. Most of the time she only wears socks. She likes excitement...like riding in a convertible with the wind blowing her hair or letting her daddy "toss" her around. She laughs and squeals like most children do.



Mia still cries every morning during the dressing change. We continue to pray that her condition will improve to the point that the dressing each morning is much less painful, that she will blister less, and it will take less time. God is answering that prayer! In the last few months Mia has had fewer blisters (although she still has serious outbreaks) and so the morning ritual has been done in about an hour (sometimes less) instead of 1 ½ hours. She only has to wear a bandage piece around her trunk to help protect it from the diapers. She is in regular (soft) clothes. Her mother keeps her in cute little outfits and fixes her hair using her own home-made hair bows.



We should tell you that Mia had the eye surgery she needed and her eyes are straight now. Her glasses prescription has actually decreased slightly. We are working on better eye contact when we speak with her.

Mia is very good with her little sister Sophie. She even will pick up the pacifier and put it back in Sophie's mouth and tries to help feed her. Casey is wonderful with both girls--a huge help to his mother.

As always, we thank God for your prayers and support for Mia and our whole family. Your witness to God's love is strong and very visible to us and those who love Mia. Please continue to pray for the following:

That God would continue his healing work in her and protect her from disease.

That the dressing change will be less painful for her.

That Mia continues to catch up developmentally.

Your prayers and support have encouraged and strengthened us. God continues to provide for our needs and he continues to work through his people. Thank you for your prayers and the many ways that you have helped. Mia's grandparents Ralph & Connie Holland and Roy & Bebe Brewton thank you also!

Feel free to contact us at home and come by for a visit:

Byron & Becky Holland

4105-I Simmons Heights Rd.

Castle Hayne, NC 28429

Casey Jones, Mia, & Sophia Holland

910-210-3105

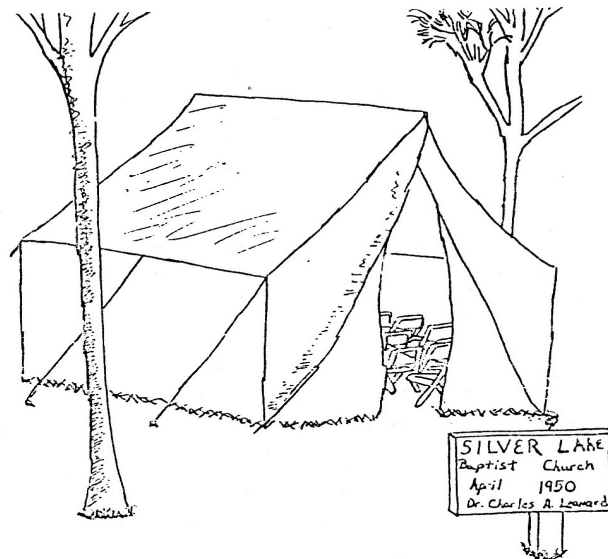
[Beck1885@ec.rr.com](mailto:Beck1885@ec.rr.com)

In Christ,

Becky and Byron Holland

Casey, Mia and Sophia

God doesn't give you the people you want; He gives you the people you **NEED...** to help you, to hurt you, to leave you, to love you and to make you into the person you were meant to be.



The Silver Lake Baptist Church was organized in April 1950 by a small group of Christians who felt led by the Lord to establish a place of worship in the Carolina Beach Road Community known as Masonboro Township, a place not only to worship, but also to advance the Lord's work. Cottage prayer meetings were held weekly to receive God's leadership and guidance in building the church. Most of these meetings were conducted by Reverend Floyd Davis, who from the beginning gave valuable service and assistance to this group of Christians. The meetings were held in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Lawson, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Downing, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mason, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Skipper, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Sykes and many were encouraged with the help from numerous individuals outside the church. A conference was called in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Downing with the hope of starting a church. At this, residential lots were being purchased on Silver Lake Road. Frank Collier offered five lots for the church building. Lots on Carolina Beach road were offered by others, but these were either not well located or too close to the road. The lots #85 - #89 at 400 Silver Lake Road was accepted. Trees were cut down to make room for an Association Gospel Tent that was set up as a temporary place of worship. Parking spaces were prepared and sawdust scattered under and in front of the tent. Services were held by pastors of neighboring Baptist churches. It could be seen from the beginning that the interest, enthusiasm and cooperation that those people shared, that the church would be a success. The attendance grew night after night in the tent meetings. It was a beautiful sight to see the tent conducted in a church building. There was the added attraction of being in the open. People who did not ordinarily attend, might feel free to go to a tent meeting without dressing up. Then, when they became Christians, they might attend more formal worship. The preaching was done largely by ministers from the Wilmington District without pay and furnishing their own transportation. The offering that was taken up was used through a local treasurer for the expense of the tent, lights and piano.



**SILVER LAKE BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

4715 Carolina Beach Road  
Wilmington, NC 28412

910-791-9171  
Email: dpowers677@aol.com

We're on the web!

[www.Silverlakebaptist.com](http://www.Silverlakebaptist.com)



Hope everyone has a safe and healthy new year! See you next month.

Sue Riggs

**A NEW YEAR PRAYER**

Holy Father,

God of our yesterdays, our today, and our tomorrows.

We praise You for Your unequaled greatness.

Thank You for the year behind us and for the year ahead.

Help us in Your new year, Father, to fret less and laugh more.

To teach our children to laugh by laughing with them.

To teach others to love by loving them.

Knowing, when Love came to the stable in Bethlehem, He came for us.

So that Love could be with us, and we could know You.

That we could share Love with others.

Help us, Father, to hear Your love song in every sunrise,

in the chirping of sparrows in our backyards,

in the stories of our old folks, and the fantasies of our children.

Help us to stop and listen to Your love songs,

so that we may know You better and better.

We rejoice in the world You loved into being.

Thank You for another new year and for new chances every day.

We pray for peace, for light, and for hope, that we might spread them to others.

Forgive us for falling short this past year.

We leave the irreparable past in your hands, and step out into the unknown new year knowing You will go with us.

We accept Your gift of a new year and we rejoice in what's ahead, depending on You to help us do exactly what You want..

I say it again, we rejoice!

In Jesus name,

Amen.

