Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

The Communicator

OCTOBER 2025
Monthly Newsletter

Glorifying God, Growing in Christ, Giving to Others

Kirkin' o' the Tartans Service to be Held Sunday, October 12, 2025

The rich Scots heritage of the Presbyterian Church will be celebrated on Sunday, October 12, with the Kirkin' o' the Tartans services at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. This tradition was established at B-RPC in 2005. The music of the Montreat Scottish Pipes and Drums will highlight the Kirkin' ceremony. Dr. Keith Thompson will preside at both services.

The colorful opening procession will be led by a Beadle – the layperson who carries the Bible into the church – followed by the Montreat Scottish Pipes and Drums and a parade of large tartan banners carried by church members, many of whom will carry the tartan worn by their Highland Scots ancestors. Brunch will be served at 9:30 a.m. in Davidson River Hall, decorated with 66 different clan tartans, and will feature a traditional haggis which will be brought into the hall on a silver platter to the music of a bagpiper. The "Ode to the Haggis" will be recited and the haggis will be cut with a ceremonial knife.

The Kirkin' o' the Tartans celebration has its origin in the Highlands of Scotland in 1746 following the defeat of Bonnie Prince Charlie by the English. Wearing clothing made from clan tartans was outlawed by the English government. Legend has it that defiant Highlanders braved arrest and imprisonment by smuggling a small piece of their tartan into church (kirk) for a clandestine blessing by the clergy. The Kirkin' o' the Tartans service was created in 1941 by Rev. Peter Marshall at New York Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., and Kirkin' ceremonies are held today by many Presbyterian churches.

The public is invited to attend, and those of Scots descent are encouraged to wear the tartan of their clan.

2025
MINISTRY TEAMS SPOTLIGHT

ADMINISTRATION/FACILITIES DIVISION **Personnel Ministry Team** Freddie Hart, Chair/Lead Elder Richard Black, Elder Frank Porter, Elder Keith Thompson, Staff **Property Ministry Team** Richard Black, Chair/Lead Elder Carlton Ward, Elder Gregg Hall, Staff **Interior Design Subcommittee** Janet Saucier, Chair	**CHURCH FAMILY DIVISION** **Membership Ministry Team** Richard Clark, Chair/Lead Elder Freddie Hart, Elder **Church Family Fellowship Ministry Team** Ginny Bradford, Chair/Elder **Kitchen Subcommittee** Ginny Bradford, Chair/Elder	**OUTREACH DIVISION** **Outreach Ministry Team** John Allemeier, Chair/Lead Elder Gary Seacat, Elder Richard Black, Elder
FINANCE DIVISION **Finance Ministry Team** Frank Porter, Chair/Lead Elder John Allemeier, Elder Frank Anderson, Elder **Generosity Ministry Team** Frank Anderson, Chair/Elder Keith Thompson, Staff	**COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION** **Publicity Ministry Team** Janice Hiner, Chair/Lead Elder Carlton Ward, Elder Tammy Nye, Staff **Information Technology Subcommittee** Frank Anderson, Chair/Elder Tammy Nye, Staff **Photographer** Frank Porter	**PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL DIVISION** **Preschool Ministry Team** Hayden Pollack, Chair/Lead Elder Frank Anderson, Elder Casey Barrow, Staff Keith Thompson, Staff
CARE GIVING DIVISION **Board of Deacons** Ann Hinze, Chair **Memorial Reception Chairs** Ann Hinze, Janet Saucier, Peggy Padgett	**SPIRITUAL LIFE DIVISION** **Worship Ministry Team** Janice Hiner, Chair/Lead Elder Gary Seacat, Elder Michael Helman, Staff Keith Thompson, Staff **Christian Education Ministry Team** Hayden Pollack, Chair/Lead Elder Frank Anderson, Elder Rick Clark, Elder **Earth Care Subcommittee** Judith West, Chair	**STANDING COMMITTES OF THE SESSION** **Committee on Ministry** Ginny Bradford, Chair/Elder **Garden of Remembrance Trustees** John Stroup, Chair **Nominating Committee** Ginny Bradford, Chair/Lead Elder Janice Hiner, Elder

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

Glorifying God, Growing in Christ, Giving to Others

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church
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Brevard, NC 28712
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www.bdrpc.org

You will not fear the terror of the night or the arrow that flies by day . . . Psalm 91:5

October Preaching Schedule

October 5, 2025	Dr. Keith Thompson	Isaiah 40:28-31 *World Communion Sunday*
October 12, 2025	Dr. Keith Thompson	*Kirkin' o' The Tartans Sunday* Luke 17:11-19
October 19, 2025	Glen Rainsley, guest preacher	1 Samuel 16:6-13 11 Corinthians 5:14-19
October 26, 2025	Dr. Keith Thommpson	Luke 18:9-14

Earth Care Subcommittee

THIS MONTH'S NUMBERS

Our Numbers: (9/1/2025 –9/29/2025): Energy Production: 5.59 MWh

Eco-friendly Celebrations and Traditions in a Season of Giving

From 2025 Presbyterians for Earth Care.

We are a consumer-driven society and oftentimes, in our attempts to celebrate with decorations, parties, and gifts, we damage, even desecrate, creation. As we conscientiously work to conserve natural resources by using eco-friendly products, sustainable and local foods, we use less water, impose less on our land, and use fewer minerals. Remember the three Rs, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle that contribute to treading more gently? The first of these is reduce, which is to make less, so we want to make less our impact on creation in all that we do, less in our consuming, especially throughout our upcoming holidays of Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

How can we start? Use natural products for decorations, such as hay bales, pumpkins, and sheaves of corn, to decorate your home. Decorate the table with a cornucopia with fruits and veggies that you can use later in the kitchen. Ditch the plastic and beware of greenwashing, a deceptive marketing practice where companies misleadingly present their products, services, or overall operations as more environmentally friendly or sustainable than they actually are.

When it comes to gift giving, here are some alternatives to big box stores and online shopping. Give gifts of experience or gifts of time. Share plants, consumables, or give something you've made yourself. Consider giving alternative gifts, contributing to a charity, or supporting Presbyterians for Earth Care. Host an alternative gift market at your church. Explore companies that are good at supporting small businesses and treading gently such as Uncommon Goods and Ten Thousand Villages. Consider alternatives to Amazon ordering. Pick and choose carefully from among those gifts that say they are green. Explore what can be done with seed paper, or make your own seed bombs.

Create a beautiful table with dishes, silverware, cloth napkins, and glassware. Buy local ingredients, consider plant-based opportunities for meals.

These pillars of creation care begin with making less, making less stuff, imposing fewer demands on the earth, spending less time buying things, while creating thoughtful, welcoming hospitality for friends and family.

Let us know what you do to entertain while treading gently on the earth.

Music Ministry

2025-2026 Concert Series

Christmas Choral Concert - Sunday, December 7 at 11:00 AM

The B-DRPC Cancel Choir will present a program entitled "A Glorious Christmas." The Choir will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra and present music which includes the angel's message: "Gloria in Excelsis Deo!"

Asheville Jazz Orchestra - Sunday, February 15 at 3:00 PM

For almost 20 years the Asheville Jazz Orchestra (AJO) has brought the energy and excitement of live jazz to western North Carolina! From the dance-floor favorites of the Swing Era to timeless classics by legends like Count Basie and Buddy Rich, the AJO's performances are a celebration of jazz at its finest. Adding a modern twist, the band also showcases fresh, original compositions crafted by its talented members. Whether you're a jazz enthusiast or a newcomer to the genre, the AJO promises an unforgettable musical experience.

Furman University Ensembles - Sunday, April 12 at 4:00 PM

Belle Voci (Beautiful Voices) is a treble choir that seeks to share music that not only expresses the art of beautiful singing but hopes that the language of music can be a connection to help find our common humanity, and to create a supportive and nurturing community of artists and scholars. They are conducted by Dr. Stephen Gusukuma, Director of Choral Activities at Furman University.

Hartness and Gladden String Quartets are the flagship ensembles of the Furman University Department of Music's Chamber Music Program. Generously supported by the Hartness and Gladden families, these quartets are selected each fall through a competitive audition process. Members perform together throughout the academic year, receive scholarships in recognition of their commitment and artistry, and are coached by Stephan Fillare, Director of Orchestral Activities at Furman University.

To keep our concerts free for our members and the public, we are asking you to be a sponsor of the series. Sponsorship levels can be found below. Consider being a patron of the arts here at B-DRPC.

Bronze Level - $50 - $100 Silver Level - $101 - $250
Gold Level - $251 - $500 Platinum Level - $501 - $750

*An Additional Concert Opportunity

Brevard Philharmonic Strings - Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 PM

The annual chamber music concert is a cornerstone of every Brevard Philharmonic season. Past year's concertgoers have delighted in the unique intimacy this accessible musical experience provides for both audience and musicians. This years' concert, Chamber Orchestra, held at Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, promises to be even more awe inspiring. This is a ticketed event and tickets can be purchased by going to the Philharmonic's website: brevardphilharmonic.org.

Peace & Global Witness Offering

Our participation in *A Season of Peace*, culminating with our receiving the Peace & Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday draws Presbyterians together to support our brothers and sisters in Christ who work for peace every day. Your support of this offering helps encourage our church partners as they struggle against the trauma of war. It helps congregations address the growing mental health crisis and the increase in the number of suicides in their communities. It provides resources for congregations seeking to address issues of gun violence in their communities.

This is why we give generously to the Peace & Global Witness offering. We give because we know that every level of society needs Christ's peace. From our congregation, where we retain 25 percent of this Offering to support Habitat for Humanity of Transylvania County and its important role in our community; to the region, where 25 percent is retained by mid councils to support peacemaking efforts with our neighboring congregations; and to the ends of the Earth, where the remaining 50 percent is used by the Interim Unified Agency to join the peacemaking efforts of church partners all over the globe. We join these monetary gifts with our prayers for peace and our work for justice.

You are invited to visit the Peace & Global Witness website (pcusa.org/peace-global) to learn how your support of this offering helps peacemaking efforts both in the United States and around the world. As a community of faith, we want to deepen our commitment to peacemaking so that it becomes a visible and profound witness to our community. Be challenged to consider how we might increase our witness and our giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Pray that the God of Peace might open the generosity in our hearts to join with Christians all over the country on World Communion Sunday, October 5, in response to the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

As Presbyterians, we claim Jesus Christ as the Prince of Peace and pattern our lives in the compassion, kindness and grace that He shows us. God is with us. May we joyfully bring that peace to all those we care for, love and serve.

Christian Education Ministry Team

***Our Sunday School Offering For October goes to Habitat for Humanity ***

Unraveling Revelation

Let's unravel the rich symbolism, bizarre images and raw history behind Revelation. This won't be a verse-by-verse study but a look at broad Bible themes and topics.

Reading between the lines, we'll also take a look at some very unexpected things such as: Christmas in Revelation, the Last Judgment as something good, the Second Coming (the "Rapture" and Armageddon) as being "Already but Not Yet."

Finally, we'll see how, when fully unraveled, it reveals Genesis at the heart of it!

Join us beginning Sunday, October 5, at 9:45 a.m. in Davidson River Room, just off Davidson River Hall! Everyone is invited!

Presbyterian Women

WOW (Women on Wednesdays)

Women on Wednesdays Bible Study meets every Wednesday from 9-10 AM in the Church Lounge. Women of all denominations are welcome to join this weekly opportunity for study, prayer, and fellowship. For further information, call Ellie Mercer at 828-577-4949.

All women in the church are invited and encouraged to attend WOW & our Women's Circles!!

It’s Quite the Collection!
Are you missing Something?

The Lost & Found Box is in the Office Suite in the first drawer closest to the back door under the Officer Mailboxes. Come check it out if you’re missing something or if you recognize something in the above picture.

OCTOBER EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MT = Ministry Team **Bell Choir = Westminster Ringers**			1 WOW, (Women on Wednesdays), 9 am Christian Education MT, 3 pm	2 Sarah Ruth Circle 10:30 am Mary Martha Circle 1 pm	3	4
5 Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am Communion	6 Staff Meeting 1:15 pm Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm	7 Bell Choir, 5:15 pm	8 WOW, (Women on Wednesdays), 9 am Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	9 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Set up All Day	10 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Set up All Day	11 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Set up All Day Rehearsal for Kirkin' at 9:00 AM
12 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am	13 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Tear Down Finance MT, 2 pm Membership MT 3 pm	14 Earth Care Sub Comm.,11 am Preschool MT, 12:30 pm Worship MT, 1 pm Publicity MT, 2 pm Bell Choir, 5:15 pm	15 WOW, (Women on Wednesdays), 9 am Outreach MT 10:30 am Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	16	17	18
19 Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am Daily Change Offering	20 Staff Meeting 1:15 pm Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm	21 Bell Choir, 5:15 pm Community-Wide Dinner, 5:30 pm	22 WOW, (Women on Wednesdays), 9 am Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	23	24 Session Stated Meeting, 10 am	25
26 Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am	27	28 Bell Choir, 5:15 pm	29 WOW, (Women on Wednesdays), 9 am Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	30	31 Happy Halloween!	

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

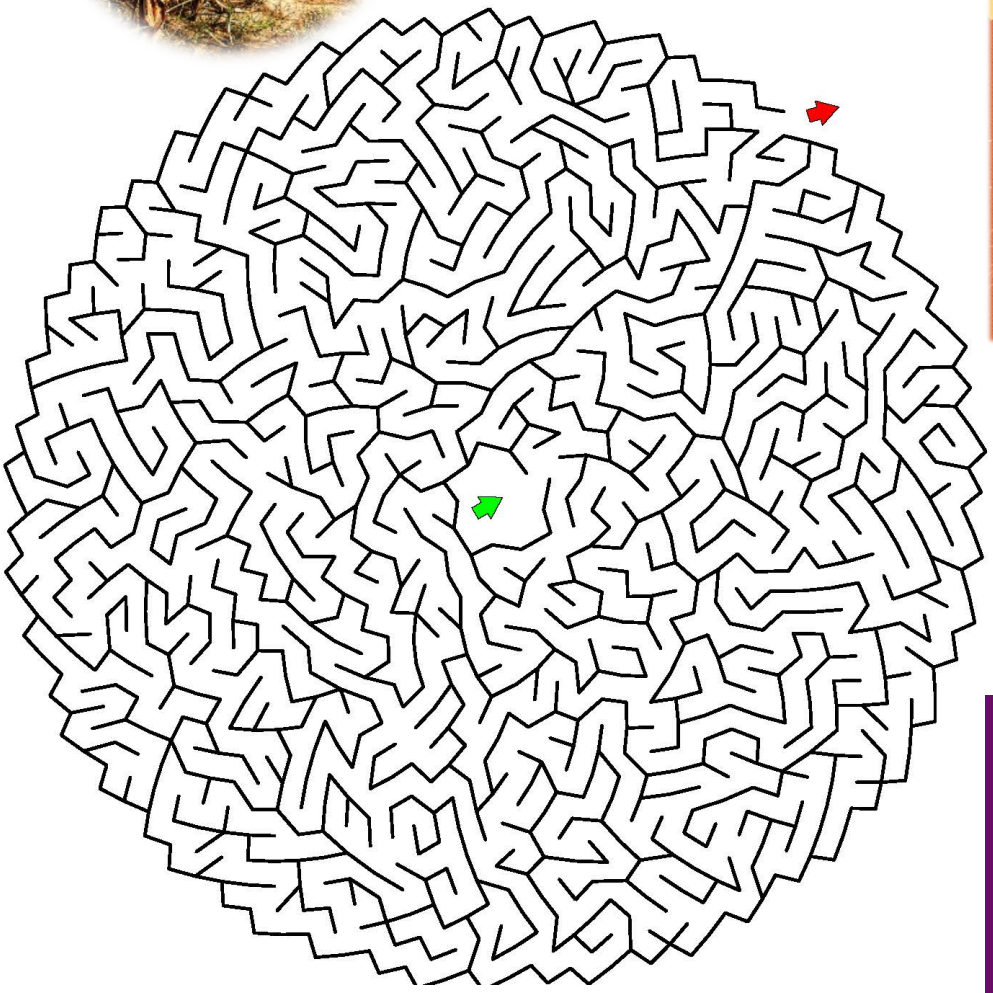
- Landon Deal – October 4th
- Grayson Kelley – October 4th
- Leslie Cole – October 4th
- Carlo Colombo – October 5th
- Jim Ansley – October 6th
- Miles Johnson – October 7th
- Kay Fleming – October 9th
- William Monzingo – October 10th
- Ed & Stephanie Ramsey – October 11th
- Cindy Trowbridge – October 11th
- Woodie Dyches – October 12th
- Matt Huggins – October 13th
- Wilda Strigo – October 14th
- Danielle Colombo – October 14th
- Chris Bergner – October 14th
- Arlene Murphy – October 15th
- Ray Tuers – October 15th
- Keith Thompson – October 16th
- Charlie Steele – October 17th
- Ezra Greene – October 17th
- David & Catherine Nielsen – October 18th
- Nathan & Emilie Johnson – October 19th
- Sue Macoy – October 19th
- Richard Black – October 19th
- Ruth Ellen Polito – October 20th
- Dorothy Knowles – October 21st
- David Trowbridge – October 21st
- Linda Dense – October 22nd
- Fred Nebrig – October 22nd
- Margaret Riecke – October 22nd
- Edwin Jones – October 23rd
- Margaret Selle – October 23rd
- Jim Farley – October 24th
- Elsie Ann Thompson – October 24th
- Bill Born – October 25th
- Art & Leslie Cole – October 26th
- Sandy Matheny – October 27th
- Ellie Mercer – October 27th
- Sam McManus – October 29th
- Stephen & Hayden Pollack – October 30th
- Jeannie Smith – October 30th
- Steve Letterman – October 30th
- John Allemeier – October 30th
- Jimmie & Sandy Howell – October 31st
- Jordan Masterson – October 31st

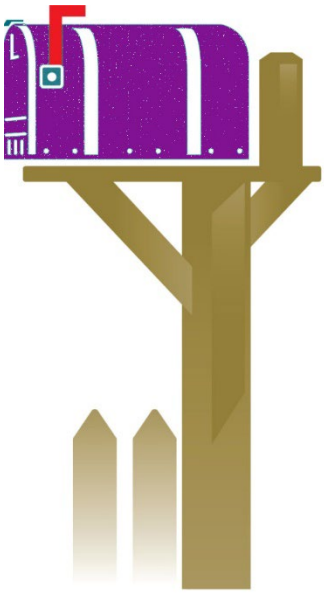
JUST FOR FUN

RIDDLE:
What does a house wear?

Oh No! You Are Trapped In A Corn Maze.

Can You Find Your Way Out?





Answer:
An Ad-Dress!

KRAZYDAD.COM/PUZZLES
Need the answer? http://krazydad.com/mazes/answers

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