# The Communicator

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

**AUGUST 2026**
Monthly Newsletter

## Glorifying God, Growing in Christ, Giving to Others

Dear friends in the Lord,

On Sunday, August 23, Nick Benson begins his work as our Director of Children and Youth Ministries. For the past few years, Nick has served in that same capacity at Westminister Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) in Snellville, Georgia.

Nick will be pursuing a degree in Outdoor Education at Brevard College. As a full-time student, his hours will be limited to Sunday morning worship, the Sunday school hour and Children's Church.

I hope you will all make it a point to welcome and get to know this fine young man who will be joining us in ministry later this month.

In Christ's service together,

Keith

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# MINISTRY TEAMS SPOTLIGHT

**ADMINISTRATION/FACILITIES DIVISION**

**Personnel Ministry Team**
Frank Porter, Chair/Elder
Keith Thompson, Staff

**Property Ministry Team**
Richard Black, Chair/Lead Elder
Carlton Ward, Elder
Gregg Hall, Staff

**Interior Design Subcommittee**
Janet Saucier, Chair; Janice Hiner, Lavonne Ellis

**CHURCH FAMILY DIVISION**

**Membership Ministry Team**
Richard Clark, Chair/Elder

**Nursery Subcommittee**
Nursery Coordinator TBA

**Church Family Fellowship Ministry Team**
Ginny Bradford, Chair/Elder

**Kitchen Subcommittee**
Ginny Bradford, Chair/Elder

**OUTREACH DIVISION**

**Outreach Ministry Team**
Gary Seacat, Chair/Lead Elder
John Allemeier, Elder
Richard Black, Elder

**FINANCE DIVISION**

**Finance Ministry Team**
Frank Anderson, Chair/Lead Elder
John Allemeier, Elder

**Generosity Ministry Team**
Frank Porter, Chair/Elder
Keith Thompson, Staff

**COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION**

**Publicity Ministry Team**
Carlton Ward, Chair/Lead Elder
Hayden Pollack, Elder
Tammy Nye, Staff

**Information Technology Subcommittee**
Website: Frank Anderson
Photographer: Frank Porter
Live Steaming: Janice Hiner, Frank Porter

**PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL DIVISION**

**Preschool Ministry Team**
Janice Hiner, Chair/Lead Elder
Frank Anderson, Elder
Casey Barrow, Director
Emily Worley, Assistant Director
Keith Thompson, Staff

**Scholarship Subcommittee**
Janice Hiner, Chair/Lead Elder
Frank Anderson, Elder
Ann Hollingsworth, Kathi Clark

**CARE GIVING DIVISION**

**Board of Deacons**
Missy Seacat, Chair

**Memorial Reception Chairs**
Ann Hinze, Peggy Padgett, Janet Saucier

**SPIRITUAL LIFE DIVISION**

**Worship Ministry Team**
Mary Johnson, 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
Mary Johnson, Elder

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

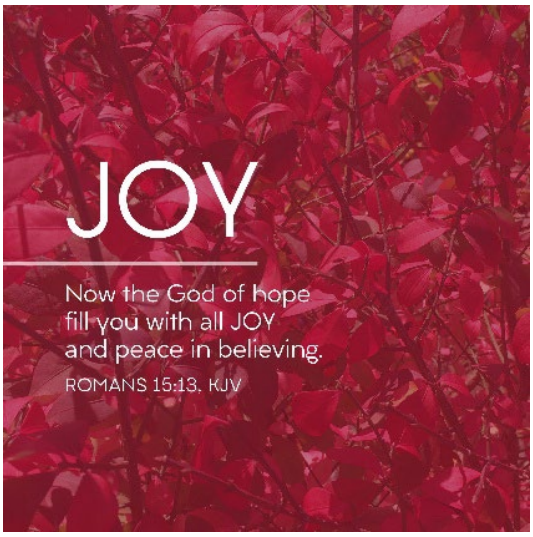
*Glorifying God, Growing in Christ, Giving to Others*

**Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church**
**249 East Main St**
**Brevard, NC 28712**
**(828) 884-2645, churchoffice@bdrpc.org**
**www.bdrpc.org**

**Monthly Scripture:**

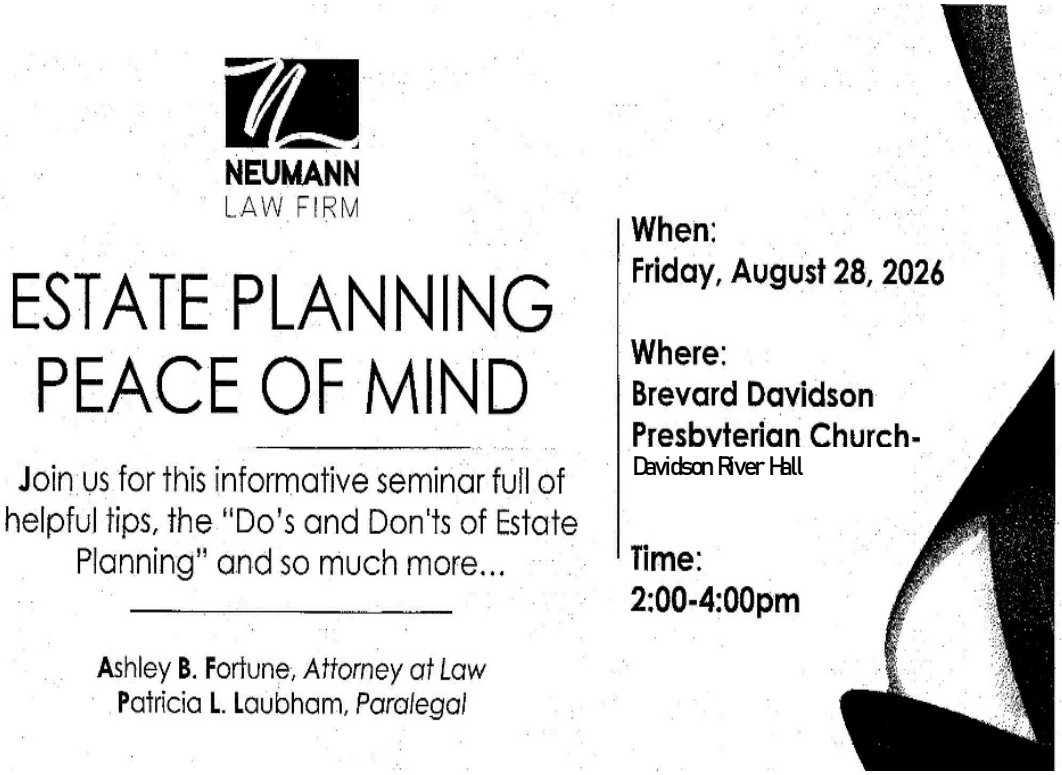
10 For one believes with the heart, leading to
righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth,
leading to salvation. 11 The scripture says, "No one who
believes in Him will be put to shame." 12 For there is no
distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is
Lord of all and is generous to all who call on
Him. 13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord
shall be saved."

*Romans 10:10-13*




## August Preaching Schedule

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| August 2 | Philippians 1:1-6 | Communion – KT preaching |
| August 9 | Matthew 14:22-33 | KT preaching |
| August 16 | Guest Preacher | Shelly Webb |
| August 23 | Matthew 16:13-20 | KT preaching |
| August 30 | Matthew 16:21-28 | KT preaching |



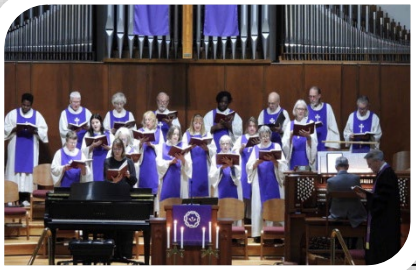
## Christian Education Ministry Team

**Our Sunday School Offering For August goes To The Haven.**

## Presbyterian Women Circles

This year Presbyterian Women circles will be studying 1st Corinthians, Paul's letter to the young church at Corinth, beginning at their September meetings. In the study, "United in Christ, Bound To Each Other," they will read about early church conflicts and see how some of the same problems persist today. This should be an engaging study with rich discussions.

Our two circles meet on September 3: Sarah Ruth Circle meets in the activity room at College Walk at 10:30 a.m., and the Mary Martha Circle meets at 1 p.m. in the Church Lounge. Both circles invite visitors and new members. Mark you calendar now and come join them!

## Music Ministry

Are you interested in joining the Choir
or the Westminster Ringers?
Contact Michael Helman
at 884-2645,
or email music@bdrpc.org.

B-DRPC

**2026-2027**
**Concert Series**

**Concert Series programs for 2026-2027**

Friday, October 23 @ 7 p.m. – Astralis Chamber Ensemble
"An Evening of Baroque Music"

Sunday, December 6 @ the 11 a.m. Worship Service
B-DRPC Chancel Choir and chamber orchestra will present an "American Christmas"

Sunday, February 7 @ 3 p.m. – Organ Recital
Members of the Blue Ridge Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will present their annual members recital.

Sunday, May 9 @ 4 p.m. – Blue Ridge Ringers
The Blue Ridge Ringers return with another varied program of handbell music.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS:

Friday, November 20 @ 5 p.m. – Evensong Service
B-DRPC Chancel Choir and Westminster Ringers will join with the choirs from St. Philip's Episcopal for a celebratory Evensong Service at St. Philips. This service celebrates St. Philip's 100th Anniversary.

Sunday, March 14, 3 p.m. – Brevard Philharmonic Chamber Concert
This is a ticketed event and tickets can be purchased on the Philharmonic website.

Concert Sponsorship

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

# Deacons Den

Greetings from your deacons.
Deacons serve as ministers of compassion and care, focusing on the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of the congregation and community. We are here to help spread kindness and compassion to our parishioners.

Meet Your Deacon for August: **Louise Stroup**

Louise can't remember a time when God and the church were not a major part of her life. Being raised in the church, (although a Baptist Church), meant Sunday mornings, Sunday nights, Wednesday nights, and Vacation Bible School with Bible drills. Church was and is still a major player in her life.

Her value system, her ethics, her upbringing, her life was permeated with the belief in God and living by the "Good Book."

Everything she needed to know, she learned from her Mama and her church.

She believes that you live your faith by actions, not necessarily by words.

She and John were married at Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church by the Rev. Dan McCall 57 years ago. It became their church home as they raised their family, participated in church activities over the years, and they have always considered B-DRPC to be their church family.

Her daily prayer is that they will do some "good" each day, and that they will touch some life in some small way to make someone happy and valued.

Her favorite verse, "In the beginning God created . . . Genesis 1 . . . and God did create this wonderful place. God has blessed her with the gift of gardening. Her love of gardening finds her many days on her knees in the flower beds around our church campus. She uses this gift to do her part to take care of God's gift to us, this creation. She loves being immersed in the outdoor life, hiking, gardening, and "digging in the dirt." Her favorite song is Louis Armstrong's version of, "What a Wonderful World." She believes the lyrics are pretty special and they give you an outlook on life that can't be beat.

DEACONS Note

Are you praying for someone you know to get better, to find peace, or just thinking about them? Please let us know the name and address of the person, as well as the reason, and our deacons will send them a card. Call or email Missy Seacat with requests and she will pass them on to the deacons. Missy can be reached at mlagaccia@gmail.com or 239-898-4681. Also, if you have any greeting cards, excluding Christmas cards, please consider donating them to the deacons. You can place them in the Deacons mailbox in the Office Suite. Also, look for our prayer request box that is in the narthex. Prayer request cards are in the pews. If you have a prayer request that is more personal, you may place your request in the prayer box. The deacons will be bringing these prayer requests to God weekly, and your identity and requests will be kept confidential.

One final note: Praise to the God of All Comfort - *2 Corinthians 1:3-4* "Praise be to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

## Troop 703 Summer Update

With summer winding down and kids heading back to school we wanted to give you all an update on Scout Troop 703. We wrapped up our year of scouting with a couple of great trips that have helped our Scouts grow their life skills, leadership skills, and fellowship. These great activities have helped our troop nearly double in size to 20 Scouts.

In April we went rock climbing in Linville Gorge and for Memorial Day we placed flags on the graves of soldiers in two of our local cemeteries. This was special for us as one of the families came up to thank us wondering how we even knew their father was a recently buried veteran.

For our last adventure in June, we did our annual backpacking trip to Camp Daniel Boone for scout camp. This year was special because we had 24 scouts and adult volunteers, the most I have seen in the years I have been involved in scouting. We began the three-day trip on the Blue Ridge Parkway, hiked along Flat Laurel Creek, and camped the first night at a beautiful stream where the Scouts could swim and play in the creek. All along the way, Scouts led the trip and worked on rank requirements such as map navigation and leadership. On day two, our large group was able to split into two groups once we went over 6,214' Black Balsam Knob and 6,040' Tenant Mountain on the Art Loeb trail. What beautiful views on that beautiful day. After lunch one group went "up and over" on the rugged and steep Art Loeb Trail while the other went "down and around" to the wilderness area on Little East Fork. On day three, we all met up at the terminus of the Art Loeb Trail where it enters Camp Daniel Boone and hiked into camp in silent reverence on Sunday. It is always an amazing experience to walk into camp after three days in the wilderness with everything you need on your back through God's beautiful creations. Someone from another troop asked where we came from and I said, "Brevard, NC." One of the camp staff said to the other troop, "they do this every year." The other troop was shocked!

While at camp our Scouts earned 65 Merit Badges, many rank requirements and built lifelong relationships with friends. We celebrated our last night by cooking several trout that the scouts caught, cleaned, and cooked on the fire. This week we have another Life Scout sitting for his Eagle Scout Board of Review and hope to have another Eagle Scout we can celebrate.

Next Month we will start off our year of scouting with our French Broad River canoe trip where we "do a good turn" and clean up trash on the river.

We greatly appreciate all of the support we receive from Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church and the congregation. We look forward to many more adventures where we can share the faith-based values of scouting with our Scouts.

*HOPEFUL ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS – a new monthly feature from the Earth Care Team*

# India uses color psychology to prevent wildlife collisions: Red roads, green intent.

By Megan Cook for https//www.goodgoodgood.co/

As 2025 came to a close, a new chapter was unfolding in Madhya Pradesh, India.

In December 2025, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and the National Highways Authority of India unveiled new updates to a highway that cut through the Verrangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve. The massive wildlife park is home to a wide variety of animals, including Bengal tigers, leopards, wolves, panthers, and the four-horned antelope. And like many roadways that cut through natural wildlife corridors, vehicle collisions posed a growing threat to animals and drivers alike.

NHAI has taken the threat of wildlife collisions seriously, adding 25 wildlife underpasses to points along the 7.5-mile stretch of highway that have been identified as critical animal movement locations. Research estimates that one wildlife crossing can prevent about 1,400 accidents over a 70-year lifespan. "These underpasses are integrated with natural ground levels and drainage paths to encourage regular animal use," the NHAI and MoRTH said in a join press release.

"Continuous chain-link fencing . . . has been installed on both sides of the highway to prevent animals from entering the carriageway and to guide them toward underpasses."

India has been building wildlife crossings at an increasing rate in recent years. On April 14, the NHAI opened the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway, a six-lane highway underlined by a 6.8-mile corridor for animals. Within a 40-day window, before construction was even completed, researchers recorded over 40,000 images of animals using the crossing. In addition to golden jackals, spotted deer, leopards, and peacocks, there were over 60 instances of elephants using the corridor.

But the NHAI hasn't stopped there. In addition to giving animals alternate routes, the agency has employed an innovative technique to encourage drivers to slow down and keep an eye out for wildlife that may slip through the cracks. And they did it with color psychology. On a critical 1.2-mile stretch of highway through the Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve, the NHAI applied red, 5-millimeter-thick thermoplastic surface layers to the roads. "The bright red colour immediately alerts drivers that they are entering a speed-restricted, wildlife-sensitive corridor," the NHAI and MoRTH stated.

There's a scientific reason why red is typically chosen for stoplights, brake lights, and emergency signage. Red has the longest wavelength of visible light, which makes it highly visible in rainy or foggy weather. Studies show that the human brain processes the color red up to 10% faster than any other color.

In addition to the red color, the slightly raised surface generates mild tactile and audible feedback, naturally encouraging drivers to slow down, without causing discomfort or sudden braking," the NHAI and MoRTH said in the press release.

Overall, India's first "red road" is meant to reduce accidents, protect wildlife, and make travel safer for all. "As India continues to build critical infrastructure through diverse landscapes, this project sets a benchmark for environmentally responsible, people-centric, and wildlife-sensitive highway development, where red roads signal not danger, but thoughtful design and green intent," the agencies emphasized.

# AUGUST EVENTS CALENDAR

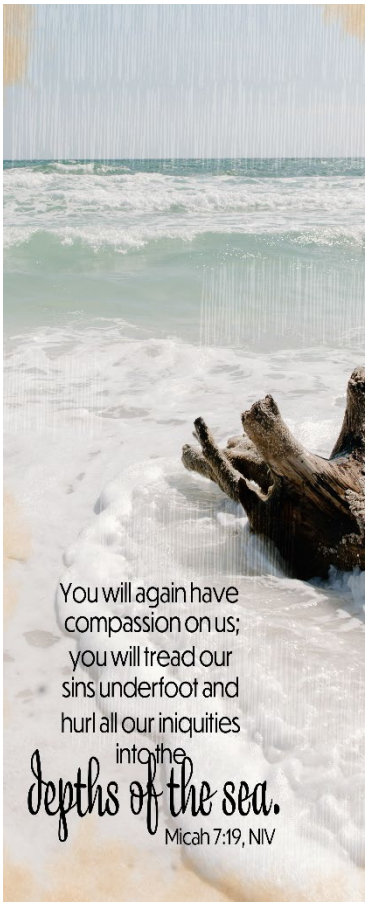
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Bell Choir = Westminster Ringers**<br>**MT = Ministry Teams** | | | | | | 1<br>2 PM<br>Freddie Hart's Memorial Service |
| 2<br>Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am | 3<br>Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm | 4 | 5<br>Chancel Choir 6:30 pm | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9<br>Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am | 10<br>Staff Meeting 1:15 pm<br>Membership MT 3 pm | 11<br>Preschool MT, 12:30 pm<br>Publicity MT, 2 pm<br>Worship MT, 2 pm | 12<br>Outreach MT, 10 am | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16<br>Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am<br>Daily Change Offering | 17<br>Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm | 18<br>Earth Care Subcomm.,11 am<br>**Community-Wide Dinner, 5:30 pm** | 19<br>Chancel Choir 6:30 pm | 20 | 21<br>Session Stated Meeting, 10 am | 22 |
| 23<br>Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am | 24<br>Staff Meeting 1:15 pm | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28<br>Estate Planning Seminar, 2 pm | 29 |
| 30<br>Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am | 31 | | | | | |

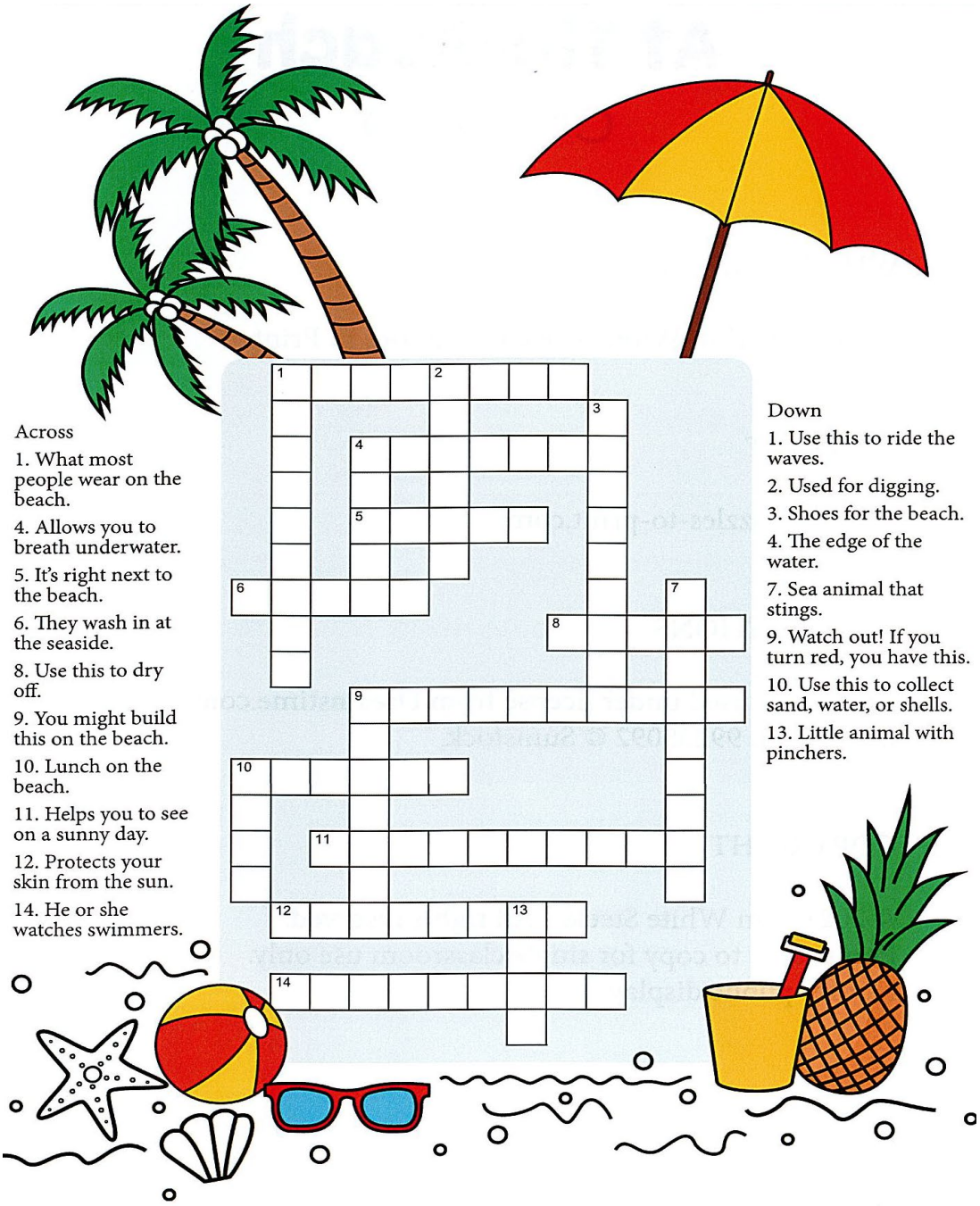
- Andi Williams – August 1st
- Susan Edmunds – August 1st
- August Nye – August 2nd
- John & Louise Stroup – August 2nd
- Jack Baldrige – August 3rd
- Carolyn Russell Abriola – August 5th
- Dan & Ann Hollingsworth – August 5th
- Bob & Sara Kellar – August 5th
- Fred & Judy Nebrig – August 6th
- Rod Nunnelee – August 6th
- Jimmie Howell – August 8th
- Norm & Lisanne Masterson – August 8th
- Gail Rockey – August 8th
- Carolyn Winchester – August 9th
- Kelsey Perley – August 9th
- Jodi Huggins – August 11th
- John & Sandy Hemmer – August 12th
- Gail Blunt – August 13th
- Larrry & Anne Jennings – August 13th
- Debbie Thompson – August 14th
- Zoob Gentle – August 14th
- Jim Hughart – August 14th
- Judith West – August 15th
- Grace Tiffany – August 15th
- Art Schultz – August 15th
- Dick Benson – August 15th
- Barbara Ambler – August 16th
- Art Schultz & Beverly Thomes – August 16th
- Pati Laubham – August 17th
- Georgia Gerring – August 18th
- Mary Hollingsworth – August 18th
- Gary & Missy Seacat – August 18th
- Roy Cowan – August 19th
- Jim & Kim Spencer – August 19th
- Frank Anderson – August 22nd
- Sandy Hemmer – August 23rd
- Bob & Janice Hiner – August 23rd
- Jack Thompson – August 24th
- Shirley Hallblade – August 24th
- Jo Stewart – August 25th
- Rich & Wendy Warwick – August 26th
- Steve & Treese Lawlis – August 27th
- Judy Welch – August 28th
- Jamie Carter – August 28th
- Ed Ramsey – August 28th
- Loren Bowie – August 30th
- Judy Nebrig – August 31st

# JUST FOR FUN

## RIDDLE:

**What question can you never answer yes to?**



**Across**

1. What most people wear on the beach.
4. Allows you to breath underwater.
5. It's right next to the beach.
6. They wash in at the seaside.
8. Use this to dry off.
9. You might build this on the beach.
10. Lunch on the beach.
11. Helps you to see on a sunny day.
12. Protects your skin from the sun.
14. He or she watches swimmers.

**Down**

1. Use this to ride the waves.
2. Used for digging.
3. Shoes for the beach.
4. The edge of the water.
7. Sea animal that stings.
9. Watch out! If you turn red, you have this.
10. Use this to collect sand, water, or shells.
13. Little animal with pinchers.

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**Answer:**
**Are you asleep yet?**