Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

The Communicator

OCTOBER 2026
Monthly Newsletter

Glorifying God, Growing in Christ, Giving to Others

Kirkin' o' the Tartans

Pageantry and bagpipe music will fill our church on Sunday, October 11, when we celebrate the annual Kirkin' o' the Tartans at both the 8:30 a.m. and the 11 a.m. worship services. At 9:30 join us for a special brunch with the piping in of the haggis and the reading of Robert Burns Poem: "Address to a Haggis."

There will be sign-up sheets in the west foyer between the narthex and Davidson River Hall on October 4 asking for tartan carriers. If you have any questions or cannot sign-up to carry a tartan in person, please contact Mary Johnson at (828) 877-4317 or at majohnson2@comporium.net. A rehearsal for the tartan carriers will be held on Saturday, October 10, at 9:00 AM in Davidson River Hall and the sanctuary.

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

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
Sharon Ward, 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

The Finance, Publicity, and Property Teams wish to thank everyone who contributed to the Kitchen Renovation Fund Drive. The cabinets have arrived and will be installed September 30, and the measurements for the quartz countertops can then commence. Thank you and bon appétit!

Monthly Scripture:

[4] Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, rejoice. [5] Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; [6] do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

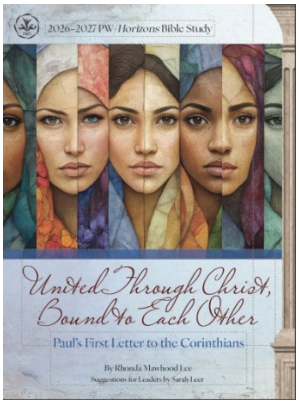
[8] Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. [9] What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. ***Philippians 4:4-9***

October Preaching Schedule

October 4	World Communion Sunday	Phil. 3:4-14b
October 11	Kirkin' o' the Tartans Service	Matthew 22:1-14
October 18	Daily Change Offering	Hymn Sing
October 25		Matthew 22:34-46

Christian Education Ministry Team

Our Sunday School Offering for October goes To Habitat for Humanity.

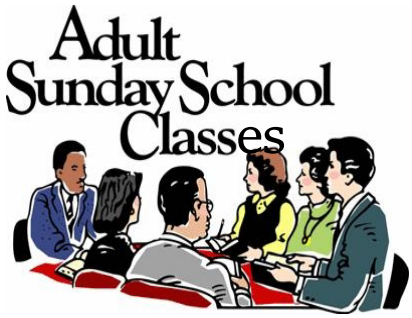


Presbyterian Women Circles

Presbyterian Women Circles meet October 1st – All women in the church are invited to join with a circle as they study "United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other," a look at Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Sarah Ruth Circle meets in the Activity Room at College Walk Lodge, Oct. 1 at 10:30 a.m.

Mary Martha Circle meets in the Church Lounge, Oct 1 at 1 p.m.



The **Faith and Life Sunday School** class welcomes new members each Sunday as they continue their study of a book by scholars, Amy Jill Levine and Mar Zvi Brettier. Using a video by Amy Jill Levine, Larry Sitton leads the discussion on how Christians and Jews read the same Bible stories differently and how these texts speak to different generations under changed circumstances. Join them at 9:45 a.m. in the Davidson River Room, just off Davidson River Hall.

The **Searchers Sunday School** class meets Sundays in Room ED 9 at 9:45 a.m. They follow a format of answering three questions. The class reads and shares thoughts about one of the scriptures assigned for the week in the Revised Common Lectionary. You are invited and welcome to join us!

Women on Wednesdays WOW!

Women on Wednesdays (WOW) meets in the Church Lounge from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. every Wednesday. We would be delighted to have some new members! We have exciting plans for the coming year, including video Bible studies on Genesis and Moses for the first few months. We take turns presenting material, but no one has to do so – you can just listen and respond if you like. We keep in touch by email when members are absent, and prayer is an important part of our time together. Please join us, and bring a friend!!!

Music Ministry

2026-2027 Concert Series

Join us Friday, October 23 @ 7 p.m. for:

The award-winning musicians of the Astralis Chamber Ensemble have been described as "scary good" and "truly riveting." Angela Massey (flute), Seeun Baek (violin), Edward Luengo (cello), and Alexandra Dunbar (harpsichord) present "Masters of the Baroque." The concert will feature works by composers from the Baroque period, including J.S. Bach, Telemann, and Vivaldi. Join us for a brilliant evening of music with the Astralis Chamber Ensemble.

B-DRPC 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 Church 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 September, **Sharon Black:**

I was blessed to grow up in a Christian home in a small town in north central Arkansas. As a child, my immediate family consisted of my parents, an older brother, and my paternal grandfather, who lived with us. It has been a blessing to me to have many strong Christian examples to guide me during my life - both family and friends.

I met my husband, Richard, in college. We married right after I graduated from college. We have been married 57 years and have 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

We have lived in Arkansas, Georgia, Oklahoma, and Florida-finally settling in North Carolina. I taught school for 17 years. Because we moved often, I was always "the new teacher" and I taught kindergarten through the 8th grade. In addition to teaching, Richard and I owned a gift shop for several years and I was a realtor for a few years.

When we moved to Brevard we visited several different churches. Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian was the right fit for us. We are thankful to have been led here. I am so honored to serve our congregation as a deacon.

My favorite Bible verse is Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

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.

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

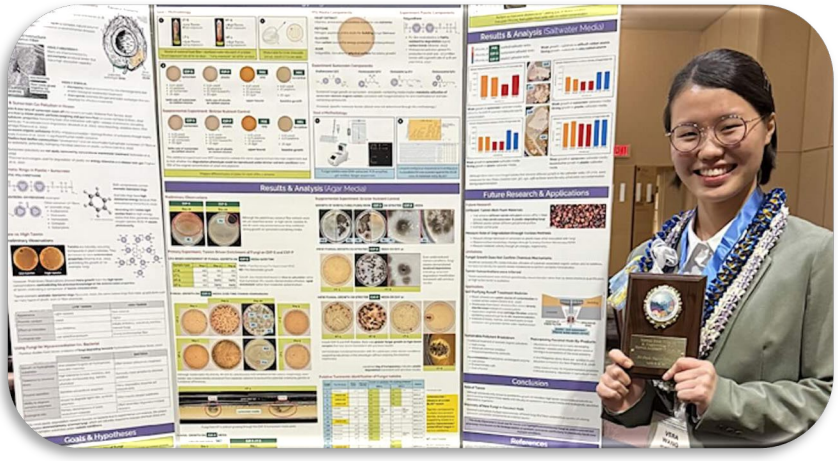
Teen Discovers Coconut Fungi Can Filter Plastic and Sunscreen From Sea—And Wins Science Fair

By Good News Network, September 2026

An East Honolulu high school student discovered a fungi in coconut husks that could clean up plastics and sunscreen from the ocean—and she won multiple awards at the Hawai'i State Science & Engineering Fair.

Vera Wang, a senior at Kaiser High School, won in multiple categories after conducting experiments in Anthony Amend's lab at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. And she qualified for the International Science & Engineering Fair taking place next May in Arizona.

Her science fair success, including the discovery that the fungi may be a previously-uncharacterized species, all began during her sophomore year. Ms. Wang designed and built an ocean filter that removed sunscreen and microplastics from the surface water which was inspired by traditional Polynesian weaving while incorporating modern environmental science. It was not only scientifically effective, but was sustainably made entirely from coconut byproduct waste. Soon, Wang realized that removing the pollutants from water is only part of the problem.



Coconut fungi experiment by Vera Wang wins awards at 2026 Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair – Released by SOEST

The next challenge she considered was how to dispose of them responsibly—and again found success. "I learned that the pore structure of coconut fiber supports the movement of air and water, which can create a favorable environment for microbes," Wang said. "That led me to wonder whether coconut husk could do more than physically capture pollutants. So, this year, my research at the Amend Lab began exploring the fungal communities living in coconut husks and studying their growth and degradation abilities on sunscreen and plastic media." They discovered that fungi found naturally on coconut husks can biodegrade (decompose) sunscreen and plastic, and that a tannin compound can be used to identify sunscreen-and plastic-degrading fungi. The tannins present in the fibers might be encouraging growth of these complex degraders. Additionally, their genetic testing showed that some of the fungal species did not have a match to anything in the world's largest reference database of known genes and genomes, indicating that these may be previously uncharacterized species. Among her awards, Wang's project earned 1st place in the Microbiology category and a scholarship award from the McInerny Foundation.

"I am so grateful to have been given the opportunity to pursue my project in the Amend Lab," said Wang, who worked closely with Kaylee Christensen, a graduate student in the Marine Biology Graduate Program.

"My research would have never, ever, been possible without Anthony and Kaylee. This project has been part of a much longer journey, so having it recognized feels both surreal and deeply rewarding."

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church works closely with many community organizations. These partnerships help us reach people with specific needs in our community and build relationships with the organizations on the front lines who are making Transylvania County a loving, growing, sharing, and caring place to call home.

BREAD OF LIFE IS ONE OF OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS!

(See our website to learn more about our other Ministry Partners!)

OCTOBER EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Bell Choir = Westminster Ringers **MT = Ministry Teams** **WOW = Women on Wednesday**				1 Sarah Ruth Circle 10:30 am Mary Martha Circle 1 pm	2	3 *Memorial Service and Reception for Bob Smith* *2:30 pm*
4 Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am	5 Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm	6 Bell Choir, 5 pm	7 WOW, 9 am Christian Ed MT, 4:30 pm Chancel Choir 6:30 p.m.	8 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Setup	9 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Setup	10 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Setup w/ Rehearsal at 9 a.m. for Tartan Carriers.
11 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Worship Service – 8:30 am & 11 am	12 Kirkin' o' the Tartans Take Down Staff Meeting 1:15 pm Membership MT, 3 pm	13 Publicity MT, 2 pm Worship MT, 2 pm Bell Choir, 5 pm	14 WOW, 9 am Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	15	16	17 *Memorial Service and Reception for Bill Fleming* *2 pm*
18 Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am Daily Change Offering	19 Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm	20 Preschool MT, 12:30 pm Earth Care Subcomm.,11 am Bell Choir, 5 pm **Community-Wide Dinner, 5:30 pm**	21 WOW, 9 am Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	22	23 Session Stated Meeting, 10 am **Concert Series – Astralis Chamber Ensemble, 7 pm**	24
25 Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am	26 Staff Meeting 1:15 pm	27 Bell Choir 5 pm	28 WOW, 9 am Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	29	30	31

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Grayson Kelley – October 4th
- Leslie Cole – October 4th
- Carlo Colombo – October 5th
- Miles Johnson – October 7th
- Kay Fleming – October 9th
- Lauren Wolf – October 9th
- Matt Cook – October 11th
- ♥ Ed & Stephanie Ramsey – October 11th
- Cindy Trowbridge – October 11th
- Woodie Dyches – October 12th
- Matt Huggins – October 13th
- Chris Bergner – October 14th
- Danielle Colombo – October 14th
- ♥ Bob & Susan Edmunds – October 14th
- Wilda Strigo – October 14th
- Arlene Murphy – October 15th
- Ray Tuers – October 15th
- Keith Thompson – October 16th
- Ezra Greene – October 17th
- ♥ David & Catherine Nielsen – October 18th
- Richard Black – October 19th
- ♥ Nathan & Emilie Johnson – October 19th
- Sue Macoy – October 19th
- Ruth Ellen Polito – October 20th
- Dorothy Knowles – October 21st
- David Trowbridge – October 21st
- ♥ Matt Cook & Lauren Wolf – October 22nd
- 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
- Evelyn Perley – October 29th
- John Allemeier – October 30th
- Steve Letterman – October 30th
- Stephen & Hayden Pollack – October 30th
- Jeannie Smith – October 30th
- ♥ Jimmie & Sandy Howell – October 31st
- Jordan Masterson – October 31st

JUST FOR FUN

RIDDLE:

Why didn't the cactus hang out with the mushrooms?

Raccoon

Word Search

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

R	G	O	P	P	O	R	T	U	N	I	S	T	I	C	S	Z
O	N	R	J	Q	S	C	A	V	E	N	G	E	W	L	A	G
P	I	I	G	H	A	R	A	K	U	N	A	H	H	E	E	N
R	S	U	I	B	J	B	E	R	O	V	I	N	M	O	L	I
O	U	F	T	A	T	X	D	L	L	S	T	P	O	L	P	G
T	O	O	A	N	A	B	V	M	K	R	R	H	I	N	R	A
D	D	K	C	D	C	I	V	E	D	E	S	T	P	M	O	R
E	Z	I	T	I	S	G	R	H	Y	D	T	U	L	C	C	O
X	J	T	I	T	A	S	F	Z	V	E	P	N	A	S	Y	F
T	E	D	L	L	C	I	O	W	R	N	Q	D	N	Z	O	H
E	E	H	E	A	D	A	P	T	A	B	L	E	R	L	N	A
R	Q	A	C	P	N	N	A	D	W	D	N	R	U	A	K	B
O	Y	V	F	A	L	D	Q	B	J	F	J	F	T	T	U	I
U	D	J	Y	Q	P	R	Q	P	G	Z	B	U	C	R	R	T
S	I	T	J	U	U	A	M	A	S	K	D	R	O	I	W	A
X	T	L	A	M	M	A	M	M	U	P	X	B	N	N	M	T
D	I	I	D	Z	T	I	N	V	A	S	I	V	E	E	G	M

ADAPTABLE
ARAKUN
BANDIT
DEN
DEXTEROUS
DOUSING
FORAGING
GAIT
HABITAT
INVASIVE
KIT
LATRINE
LITTER
MAMMAL
MAPACHE
MASK
NOCTURNAL
OMNIVORE
OPPORTUNISTIC
PREY
PROCYON
SCAT
SCAVENGE
TACTILE
TORPOR
UNDERFUR
WHISKERS

© 2026 puzzles-to-print.com

Answer:
He wasn't a fungi.