

BROWNSON

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A missional community called to love and live in Christ

Bells Newsletter April 2023

Celebrating
EASTER
at Brownson






COMMUNION
 Join us on
 these Sundays
 Sunday, **April 2**
 Sunday, **May 7**
 Sunday, **June 4**

SESSION DIGEST

The Session of Brownson meet on Monday, March 20 at 6:30 PM. We welcomed six new members to our church family: Emily & Casey Wood (Mallory), Dennis & Trina Baggett, Cindy Strohm, and Joan Boeger.

The Session participated in a devotional led by Elder Sara James on *Be Still and know that I am God*.

Larry Riggan and Stacey Ostlund presented revisions to the Employee Handbook. The Handbook was voted on and approved.

Session received an update on Candidate for Ordination Hannah Ostlund. Hannah has been selected as a Lake Fellow at Second Presbyterian Church Indianapolis where she will serve in a two-year residency program. The Lake Fellow Residency is a unique, two-year developmental program for seminary graduates who hold a Master of Divinity degree and are on track for ordination in the PC(USA). Under the direct supervision of the senior pastor at Second Presbyterian Church, Fellows gain invaluable experience in parish ministry, church leadership, continued academic study, and much more, serving and learning in this large church setting.

The Manual of Administrative Operations is being updated by each Ministry Team and revisions will be reviewed by Coordinating Council on April 17. The 2023 document will be voted on by Session at the April 24 meeting. Art and Ann Edgerton provided a written recap of the full Presbytery meeting that took place on March 4.

- 2023 Session of Brownson**
- Alice Herrington
 - Alicia Riggan
 - Amelia Kirkland
 - Andrew Benbow
 - Ann Edgerton
 - Art Edgerton
 - Beverley Pellom
 - Charlene Kinelski
 - Chris Jordan
 - David McNeill
 - David Wood
 - Dixie Parks
 - Don Branch
 - Don Power
 - John Bullard
 - Kathy McPherson
 - Ken Goodman
 - Larry Riggan
 - Lee Pittman
 - Mollie Calhoun
 - Morgan Strickland
 - Ryan Ciccone
 - Sara Conti
 - Sara James
 - Scout Cain (Y)
 - Wesley Little (Y)

Dear Brownson Church,

I know you are busy and I know that some of you might be traveling but I want to personally invite you to enter into the story of Holy Week and Easter. This is the most important story of our lives but I wonder will you take the time to enter into it?

We invite you to journey with Jesus as we begin on Palm Sunday where we will conclude our series Meeting Jesus at the Table with a meal together at our church barbecue following the 11:10 AM service.

On Palm Sunday, the children will be singing, we will be waving palm branches as we remember Jesus entering into Jerusalem. For Christians, it is a reminder of the welcoming of Jesus into our hearts and of our willingness to follow him.

On Maundy Thursday, join us for a powerful service in shadows along with the sacrament of holy communion. We remember Christ's last supper with his disciples and through a series of dimming lights, we also remember the sacrifice Christ made for us. Many people have called this one of the most powerful services of the year.

On Good Friday, we offer a Prayer Service at noon in the Sanctuary. This is a time of reflection as we remember the death of our Lord Jesus on the Cross during this meaningful prayer service.


On Easter Sunday, we enter in darkness and we then celebrate He is Risen! He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! With the sounds of trumpets, drums and magnificent music - it is the most moving celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Following worship, you and your family and friends are welcome to help flower the cross outside the church, take family pictures and help us celebrate this glorious day as a church family.

We welcome you to bring a friend to our church barbecue on Palm Sunday or to any service throughout Holy Week and Easter Sunday - All are welcome to our vibrant, growing church! If you or someone you know are looking for a church home - we welcome you to reach out! We will have a new member gathering after Easter and hope that you will join us!

Happy Easter!
John

Holy Week

Schedule of Events



Sunday, April 2—Palm Sunday—9 & 11 AM

Join us for this special Sunday with a Palm procession, trumpets, welcoming new members, and you are invited to an all-church Barbecue. We hope you will invite a friend and join us as we begin Holy Week.

Thursday, April 6—Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service @ 7 PM

Join us for this powerful service in shadows with communion. We remember Christ's last supper with his disciples and through a series of dimming lights, we remember the sacrifice of Christ. Many people have called this one of the most powerful services of the year.

Friday, April 7—Good Friday Prayer Service @ 12 PM

On Good Friday we remember the death of our Lord Jesus on the Cross during this meaningful prayer service.

Sunday, April 9—Easter Sunday—9 & 11 AM

On Easter we invite you to join in the Hallelujah Chorus, to flower the Cross, and join us for worship!

brownsonchurch.org

Congregational Care

A NOTE FROM ELIZABETH...



Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin,
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care and Connection
elizabeth@brownsonchurch.org



As you are reading this, we are approaching Holy Week! During this special week of the Christian year, we gather at the Last Supper, journey to the cross with Jesus, mourn his death, and celebrate the resurrection. We will wave our palms, sing the Hallelujah chorus, and for many of us – hunt for Easter eggs with children and grandchildren.

But after Easter comes and goes, many of us might be asking, what now? We will have witnessed Jesus dying and rising to new life, and God's victory over the grave. But where do we find new life? How do we continue to experience Christ's resurrection, and live as Easter people?

One of the ways I have witnessed resurrection at Brownson Church recently is through our Wednesday night Mom's Bible Study. In this collection of women parenting across life's stages – from moms of newborns to grandmothers, a loving community has been formed coming together around the challenges and joys of parenting and faith. We have shared our stories with one another, holding each other's griefs, frustrations, and moments of gratitude. It has been a delight to watch the new life springing forth in this group as we shared our lives around God's word together.

Another way that we are sharing the love of Christ is through our Easter lily delivery. During Holy week, our Easter lily team will be delivering Easter lilies to family of Brownson members who have died in the past year, along with our homebound members. We hope that these deliveries, both of the flowers and in the visits from our team, will share Christ's love and light with our Brownson family as we care member to member.

Even as we celebrate the joy of the resurrection, I know there are many who feel weary, and are still seeking new life. If you are feeling this weariness, weather from grief, loss, the tedium of caregiving, divorce, a diagnosis, or any number of life's challenges, please know that our Stephen Ministry team is here and equipped to support you. Our Stephen Ministers are Brownson members trained in the art of listening and journeying with people through life's challenges – not as fixers, but as fellow travelers, helping to make space for God's light to shine through the cracks. If you feel like you or anyone you know could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, please contact me.

Blessings that you may know the truth of the resurrection when you are weary, and experience the love and renewal made manifest in Christ!

In Christ's peace, *Elizabeth*



stephen MINISTRY®

MAY GOD BRING ALL OF US NEW
LIFE IN JESUS THE CHRIST THIS
EASTER AND ALWAYS.



**Give
yourself,
a friend,**

**a family
member,
someone
you just
met in
need of**

**care the
gift of a
Stephen
Minister.**

There are times in our lives when we experience tremendous loss...of a loved one, a relationship, a job or even our own faith... feeling like a death more than a transition in life. This is the time in your life when God reveals his omnipotence and his deepest, widest, and highest love for you. God's love for the human race is so profound that God will not allow anything to prevent us from finding and receiving the new life God wishes to offer us.

The power of the Resurrection does not lie in the empty tomb. The tomb is not the point of the story. Jesus was with the living and sent to manifest the outlandish love of God and he calls us all to become transformed.

Transformation is not an easy part of the journey and does not have to be entered into alone. Brownson's tenet of Caring Member to Member is revealed in every moment of compassion toward the broken or hurting and in defense of the weak.

Our Stephen Ministry is a caregiving ministry where commissioned Brownson members walk alongside those who are hurting and provide Christ-centered care.

When we lean forward into an unknown future, we are living the Resurrection...the new life given to us by a generous and loving God.

stephen
MINISTRY.

Please reach out to
Elizabeth Doolin for
more information on
our Stephen
Ministry program.





On Saturday, March 18, 2023, Pack 73 Cub Scouts sponsored by Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church, hosted the Sandhill District Pinewood Derby for 2023 where over 100 Cub Scouts and their families participating along with 300 Cubs and family members in attendance.

53 Cubs raced in the Speed Event; 23 Cubs participated in the Unique Car event and 21 Cubs competed in the Traditional Car event.

Racing started at 12 Noon and was completed at 2:30 PM with winners awarded their trophies where they placed their winning cars.

Pack 73 gives special thanks to Lou Distefano - Pack 73 Committee Chair and Troop 223 led by Wesley Little - Senior Patrol Leader for assistance in clean up and to Matt Hall, District Program Chair.



What a joy it is to share some highlights of spring with you.

BROWNSON KIDS

- On one of our Nights of Service, a group of Brownson Kids sang and visited a senior living facility, as well as visited several of our members who can't easily get to church. On that same night, another group served at The Coalition, packing food boxes and birthday bags for those who have food insecurity in our community. Both groups were blessings to those they served, and really demonstrated what it means to serve with gladness!
- Our nursery has exploded, and we're so thankful for all these new babies we get to love! You can see precious pictures of them singing with their teachers and reading their Bible story. What a privilege to teach even our youngest friends about the love of Jesus!
- Each family left our Family Worship and Easter Adventure Kickoff Night with a basket of Family Devotions to carry through Lent. We couldn't be more excited to equip families with the tools to study together, learn together, have fun together, and grow in faith together!

Upcoming Events for Brownson Kids:

- April 16 – Backwards Night for Grades K – 5 (Matthew 20:16)
- April 23 – Color Wars for Grades K – 5 (Understanding Forgiveness)
- April 28 – Preschool and Babies Pizza in the Park
- April 29 – JAMS (Jesus and Me Saturday/Sunday lock in) for Grades K – 5
- April 30 - JAMS Breakfast and Kiddos in Jammies





BROWNSON YOUTH

Youth Events

There will be no youth group on Sunday, April 2 and Sunday, April 9. He is Risen!

On Sunday, April 30 we will celebrate Confirmation Sunday and welcome the confirmands as members of Brownson Church. These young people have spent ten weeks studying, conversing, reflecting, and exploring aspects of the Christian faith as demonstrated through Jesus' ministry. Some of the questions they have encountered include how do we know and trust God, what does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus, who is our Lord and Savior and what does it mean to show Christ's love. On April 30 they will present their faith stories and their chosen Scripture passages to Session before being confirmed as members of the church during the 11:10 AM service. Please join us as we welcome these youth into our church family!

Reminder: final payments for Montreat, Massanetta and ASP are due May 1. Look for more information from Erin this month about our summer opportunities.

The Youth Pancake Breakfast was a huge success and all of us give a huge thank you to all who came out to support our Youth Programs! The funds raised will support ASP this summer





Easter Blessings

Easter blessings from the Brownson Learning Center! One of our primary purposes here at the BLC is to share the good news of the risen Savior with our preschool students. We savor the opportunity to teach these young friends how much Jesus loves them and to encourage them to share that love and light with their friends and families.



WE ARE SO THANKFUL FOR ALL OUR FAMILIES - ESPECIALLY OUR BROWNSON CHURCH FAMILY!

A Note From Your Moderator

As we embark on the events that occurred during Jesus' pivotal week in Jerusalem, I believe that each daily story has something to teach us about human nature, our temptations and indiscretions, and enduring faith. Let us maximize this opportunity to become more courageous disciples of Jesus, striving to share our lives, embrace diversity, and learn to love at a deeper, more sacrificial level. Only in that way can we truly carry out the mission of Presbyterian Women, while experiencing the peace that comes once we have truly attained a transformational change within us.



Joyce Cleverger, Executive Director of C.A.R.E Group, led a panel discussion on Connecting Available Resources for Education, Mentoring, and Literacy in Moore County.

Joyce



PW Scholarship

Application Deadline: April 15

Applications are in the office or on our webpage. For more information, contact Linda Webb at 910.690.2919. THANK YOU!

Together in Service

PW is known for its Circles which provide a small group setting for monthly Bible study. But more importantly, we are Christian women who put our faith into action, serving on Session and on all Brownson Ministry teams. Additionally, we reach beyond our walls by supporting our local community with our time and talents. Our hands get busy preparing meals for Family Promise; buying/wrapping gifts for families at Christmastime; collecting clothes, household and personal items for the Coalition and Tandra Place; and making Linus blankets for the pre-K class at Southern Pines Elementary. On a global level, 300 hygiene kits were prepared and sent overseas for Ukrainian refugees.

Through Circle offerings, we financially support local organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club, Sandhills Student Assistance, Moore Free & Charitable Clinic, Christmas for Moore, Friend to Friend, and our own PW Scholarships. On a national level, financial support goes to the CROP Hunger Walk, Presbyterian Disaster Relief, and PW (PCUSA) Mission Fund. Proceeds from our recent notecard fundraiser went toward global mission projects.

Join us on April 16 for Gifts of Women Sunday as we celebrate the faithful participation of women at Brownson and in the community.



Presbyterian Women

Nuture Faith, Support Mission, Work for Justice & Peace, & Build Community



WANT TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN PW?

Contact Moderator Betsy Robinson at 910.639.0695
or Membership Leader Nancy Ahlfeld at 910.235.4646.

Circle 1	4 th Thursday, 7 PM	Atrium	Crystal Blue/Trish Harris	910.850.1982 / 910.690.9202
Circle 2	2 nd Tuesday, 10 AM	Conf Rm C	Linda Bryant	910.992.8256
Circle 3	2 nd Monday, 12 PM	Conf Rm C	Sandra Olbon	910.603.4804
Circle 4	2 Thursday, 10:15 AM	Conf Rm C	Kathy McPherson	910.420.0413
Circle 6	2 nd Monday, 10 AM	Conf Rm A	Libby Marsh	910.690.9600
Circle 7	3 rd Thursday, 4 PM	Conf Rm C	Robyn Lam/Sara James	910.603.1450 / 910.690.5361



Presbyterian Women gathering

MARCH 20, 2023



Mission Fund

Many of you purchased notecards at our fundraiser last year. Thanks to your generosity, \$3,350 was raised for our Mission Fund. After reviewing mission project applications and researching different organizations, we chose the following ways to donate this money worldwide through PW PCUSA:

- \$1,500 for a garden well—Access to clean water close to home can transform a life, improving health, hygiene, and daily living.
- \$1,750 to build 5 latrines—In many countries, rural areas lack access to basic sanitation. For women in particular, latrines promote dignity and safety. Latrines also improve hygiene and health for whole communities.
- \$100 for a Women's Empowerment Project—When women receive education and economic opportunity, communities thrive.

Adult Discipleship

BROWNSON
connects

Brownson Connects, our Sunday morning programs, meet at 10:15 AM in the Atrium. After connecting with friends over coffee and donuts at Higher Grounds, children, youth, and adults break off into their respective classes, which are called connect groups. You can find a list of adult connect groups below.

Connect groups offer the friendship of a small group, the fellowship of a large group, and the depth of Sunday School. Take a step toward deeper discipleship by joining a connect group!

You can find a list of adult connect groups below.

Connect Groups

The Ligon Bible Class - This connect group studies scripture and biblical themes through *The Present Word* quarterly curriculum. Join us on Sunday mornings in Conference Room B. All are welcome! Led by Linda Branch and Mary Margaret McNeill.

The Living Word Today (hybrid) - This connect group takes a non-partisan approach to Bible study, looking at current events through the lens of our Christian faith. Weekly discussions are based on *The Wired Word* curriculum, which pairs current events with scriptural insights. Join us on Sunday mornings in Conference Room A or on Zoom! Meeting ID: 825 8501 9818. Passcode: 664945.

Donuts and Devotionals - This connect group explores some of the most important passages in the Bible. This month we will be studying the theme "Love God, Neighbor, Enemy." Bring your coffee and donuts to Conference Room C and join the conversation! Led by Austin Vernon.

Bible Studies

Theology on Tap - A Bible study for the men of the church that meets on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM. Through the month of February, we will be going through a study called "The God Who Speaks." Join us at Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Rd, Pinehurst, NC 28374. All are welcome! Led by Charles Harris and Gerald Ostlund.

Men's Tuesday Fellowship Breakfast - This group meets the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7 AM at Sizzlin' Steak or Eggs. Each meeting begins with a meal and concludes with a devotional. All men of the church are welcome to join! Please contact Bill Berger at bill.ctr.berger1@gmail.com for more information.



Tuesday
Afternoon
Group



Taking the journey with
2023
lenten
small group series

lenten small group series



Monday Evening Group



Sisters in Faith



The **Seekers**



Theology on Tap



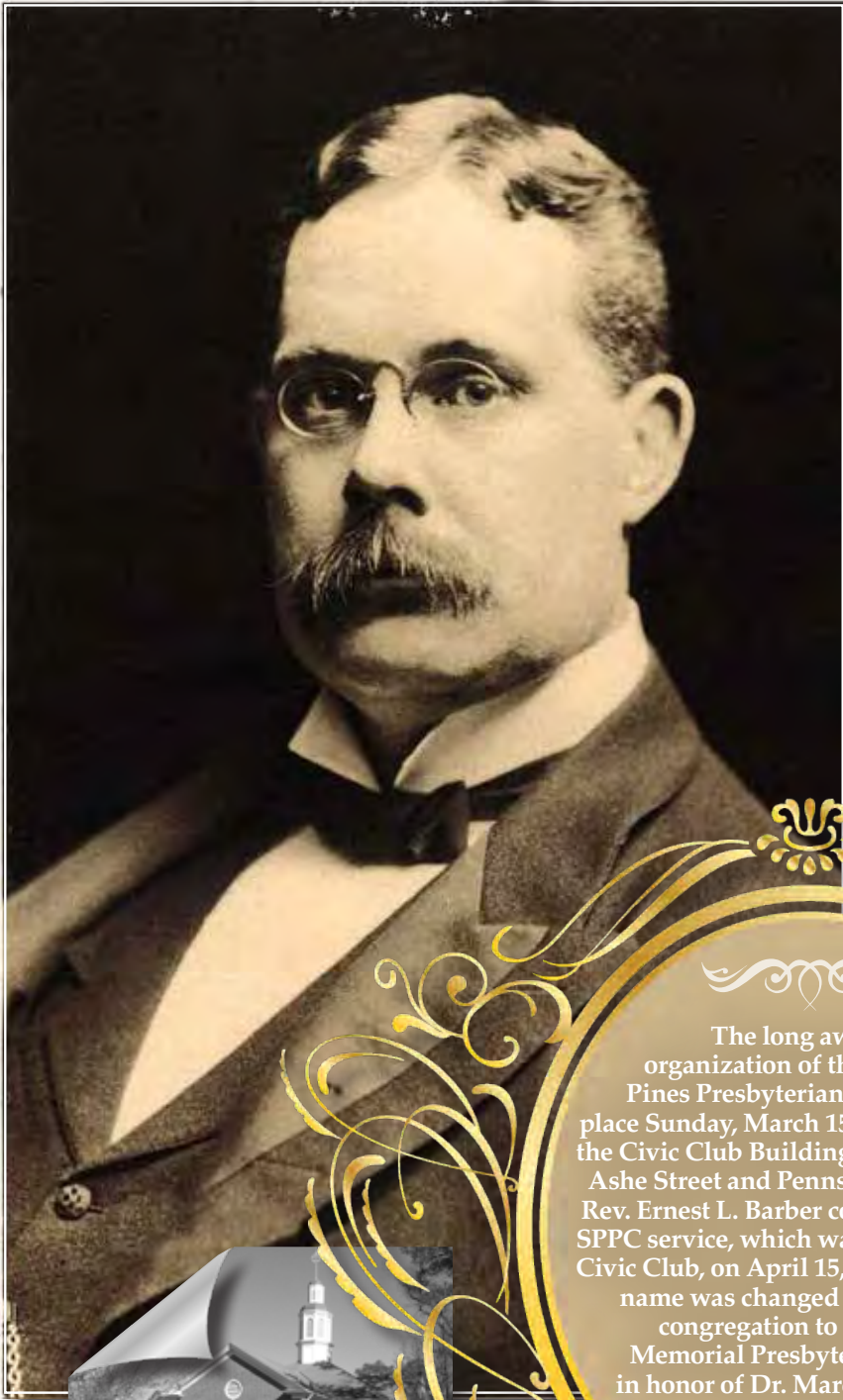
Thursday Afternoon Group



Donuts and Devotionals



Sunday Morning Group



Happy Birthday to Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church

The long awaited organization of the Southern Pines Presbyterian Church took place Sunday, March 15, 1936, at 3 PM in the Civic Club Building, on the corner of Ashe Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. Rev. Ernest L. Barber conducted the first SPPC service, which was also held in the Civic Club, on April 15, 1935. The church name was changed by vote of the congregation to Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church in honor of Dr. Marcus Brownson on June 23, 1937.



The official groundbreaking was held for the original Sanctuary on June 23, 1937 and the first worship service was held in the original Sanctuary on June 10, 1938.





Dennis
& Trina
Baggett



Joan Boeger



Cynthia
Strohm



Emily, Casey
& Mallory
Wood

A warm welcome to the **six** newest Brownson members.

Brownson Welcomed six
new members to our church
family at our Session meeting
on March 20.

New Members in **March**



Brownson Buddies

Brownson Buddies Homework Helpers have returned to Southern Pines Elementary School for the second semester! Students and tutors are hard at work improving reading comprehension, spelling and math skills. We have tackled some growing pains since we started the program, and we hope to continue in the 2023-2024 school year.



Meet and Greet

The Local Missions Ministry Team wants to expose our congregation, especially our new members, to our many partners that we support both financially and through volunteering. We began our Meet & Greet time with Habitat for Humanity during Higher Grounds in March. Stay tuned for a new partner each month so you can decide what area you would like to learn more about!

local Missions



Produce Bags

Many hands packaged over 100 produce bags filled with sweet potatoes! These bags will be sent to local food pantries to add some needed fresh produce to local diets! Our dates for the next few months will be April 11, May 9 and June 13. Sign up at foodbankcenc.org or contact Bob McCall at rdm36@icloud.com

BROWNSON LIBRARY



Brownson Church **Library**

Brownson has an excellent library on the second floor in Cornerstone!

Resources are available for Ligon Class , Connect Groups , Youth, art, hymnals, Book of Order, Presbyterian Women, the Prayer Team, Session and more!

How about some art? A study of the Creeds? The Psalms? Periodicals like Daily Bread, Horizons, and Outlook?

Excellent theological resources including many versions of the Bible, commentaries, atlases, dictionaries, devotions, art, music, biographies, are ready for use.

The Archives and Library are staffed on Wednesday mornings.

Request forms for archival information are in the office and library.

Thank you in advance for your use and care of these resources as we move forward together in learning more about the work of the Church!



BMPC Archives:

Forms for inquiries are located in the library and in the church office.



April Birthdays Celebrations

April 2

Pat Keffer
Liz Meares

April 3

Bill Bower
Penny Enroth
Ashley Molloy

April 4

Susie Boals
Robert Fitch
Gail Hicks
Ross Leonard, II
Justine Ostlund

April 5

Callip Hall

April 6

Steve Good
Elaine Sills

April 7

Joe Cain
E. G. Good
Ashley Haddock
Abby Pittman

April 8

Grace Ames
Frank Dean
Pam Ferguson
Michael Pandich
Bill Reynolds

April 9

Sam Depenbrock
Mara Fiskin
Jacob Myrick
Jim Patterson

April 10

Pat Dean
Kacy Depenbrock
Mary Edwards
Asa Moran
Grace Morrison
Kristen Ward

April 11

Anne Callison
Stacey Ostlund
Reagan Parsons
Gladys Willer

April 12

Don Crowder
Don Dowd
Pat Groseth
Cara Herring
Legrand Scruggs
Mickey Wilson

April 13

Marcia Davis
John Krahnert
Kathy McPherson

April 15

Emi Briggs
Nick Chandler
Steve Floyd
James Murphy

April 16

Lisa Hughes

April 17

Melinda Parker

April 18

Susan Bowness
Norma Henderson
Melissa Mang
David Martin
Bill Rock

April 19

Lois Holt

April 20

Katie Kuester
Susan Sanders

April 21

Chris DiMarco
Mark Futrell
Carol Peters

April 23

Pat Allen
Missy Brown
Butch Chandler, Jr.

April 24

Susan Bachelder
Allie Ballard
Dan Bennett
Bill Giles
Mia Martin
Shirley McIver

April 25

Barry Blasko, III
Matthew Eddy
Carol Lamphier
Mark Lindstrom
Carolyn Pratlley

April 26

Max Henson
Frank Shaw

April 27

Laura Gates

April 28

Sue Davis
Cathy Coats Harpster
Harry Berg

April 29

Pearl Hage
Nancy Lopez
Jackson Smith

April 30

John Cates
Pennie Duggins
Sandy McIver
Alice Thomas

April Anniversaries

April 1

James & Kay Demyan

April 2

Paul Whit & Jane Howard

April 3

Craig & Beth Pryor

April 4

William & Sara Dent
Gates & Trish Harris

April 6

Brian & Leigh Ann Platt

April 7

Mike & Bea Fields

April 9

Joe Kling & Pat Maxwell

April 10

Jim & Gail Hicks
Kent & Ulli Misegades
Jeff & Kristen Ward

April 12

Rob & Erin Pollock

April 13

Kyle & Janelle Henson

April 14

Dennis & Dee Lombard
Ezra & Bonnie Quesenberry

April 16

Don & Linda Branch

April 17

John & Sherry Kimbell
Tom & Nancy Reams

April 21

Fred & Carol Monroe

April 23

Xan & Gena Smith

April 25

Bobby & Josephine Vause

April 27

John & Doris McPhaul
Jackson & Laura Sveen

April 28

Drew & Laura Kessell
Rusty & Allison Smith

April 29

David Ray & Crystal Blue
Marcus & Cathy Larose
Charlie & Davene Patterson

April 30

Nick & Kjirsti Myles

BROWNSON

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A missional community called to love and live in Christ

Rev. John Hage, Senior Pastor
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Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care and Connection
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Kelli Garbett, Director of Children and their Families
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Erin Pollock, Director of Youth and their Families
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Stacey Ostlund, Church Administrator

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Kacy Depenbrock, Director of Brownson Learning Center
blcdirector@brownsonchurch.org

Jed & Jenny Koball - Mission Co-Workers in Peru

910.692.6252

www.brownsonchurch.org

BROWNSON MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

330 S. May Street
Southern Pines, NC 28387

Sunday Worship
9 AM in-person

11:10 AM in-person and online @
brownsonchurch.org

Office hours

Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

910.692.6252

www.brownsonchurch.org

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