

# BROWNSON

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

## September 28, 2025



*Hold On Until the Morning Light*

Alex Bowness | Andrew Benbow | Anne Friesen | Art Edgerton | Betsy Robinson | Bill Berger  
Chris Hunt | B. Christian Freberg | David Malan | David Wood | Gena Smith | Jane Howard | Kara Vonderkall  
Kamron Monroe | Kathy McPherson | Keith Walvoord | Lee Pittman | Lisa Hughes | Mandy Berg  
Mollie Calhoun | Morgan Strickland | Pat Henry | Roy Cameron | Ryan Morrison | Luke Markotich (Y) | Janie Monroe (Y)

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**Rev. John Hage**—senior pastor  
**Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin**—associate pastor for congregational care and connection  
**Rev. Austin Vernon**—associate pastor of discipleship and missions  
**Kelli Garbett**—director of children and their families  
**Erin Pollock**—director of youth and their families  
**Amy Shortt**—director of music ministries and organist

330 South May Street, Southern Pines, North Carolina 28387  
[www.brownsonchurch.org](http://www.brownsonchurch.org) — 910.692.6252  
Sunday Worship | 9 & 11:10 AM  
Livestream | 11:10 AM



## Gathering

*Please pass the Friendship Pad down each pew and back again after signing. If you are visiting, please provide your email address or phone number as we would love to connect with you. Please print legibly.*

**Prelude** **Trumpet Tune on Ash Grove** (Welsh melody) arr. David Lasky  
Amy Shortt, organ

**Ritual of Friendship** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**News of the Church Alive** Rev. John Hage, *Senior Pastor*

**Minute for Mission** Brownson Buddies Pat Allen

## The Praise of God

**+Call to Worship** Come, all who are weary, (9 AM) David French  
and carry burdens too heavy to bear.

**Come, all who seek God's presence,  
longing for peace, hope, and renewal.**

Come, you who wrestle with questions,  
and you who wait in the silence of faith.

**Come, you who rejoice with gratitude,  
and you who come with tears.**

Let us worship the One who claims us, names us, and never lets us go.

**+Hymn 475** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

## Confessing

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, We confess that we often wrestle with fear, doubt, and our own ambitions. We cling to what we can control and resist the blessing You offer freely. Forgive us for the ways we rely on our strength rather than Your grace. Teach us to hold on until the morning light, trusting Your love and mercy to guide us. Amen.

**Kyrie**



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

Cantor to sing first. Congregation on repeat

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Passing of the Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*The passing of the peace is an element of worship which traditionally follows the assurance of pardon. Sharing a sign of peace signifies our reconciliation and peace with God and one another. You are invited to pass the peace in the manner that is most comfortable to you.*

**+Congregational Response** *We Are Forgiven* Hal H. Hopson, 1995  
**We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. (repeat)**

## The Proclamation of the Word

**Moment with Children**

Kelli Garbett, *Director of Children and their Families*

Children age four to fifth grade may depart for Kids Worship.

We have a nursery for children ages 0-3. There is also a family room for watching the service in the Parlor.

**Song of Illumination 698**

*Take, O Take Me as I Am*

TAKE ME AS I AM

**Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

*Congregation to join on repeat.*

Scripture Lesson	Genesis 32:22–31 The Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	Holy Bible, page 29
Sermon	Hold On Until the Morning Light	Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
Musical Meditation	<i>Bright Morning Stars</i>	Kentucky Folk Hymn arr. Althouse Quartet

## Responding

According to the PCUSA Book of Order, the Affirmation of Faith is a response to the Word proclaimed that affirms our faith in the holy, triune God. The affirmation of faith can be drawn from a variety of sources, including Scripture, creeds, confession, catechisms, hymns, or personal testimony.

+Affirmation of Faith	Apostle's Creed	Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, <i>Associate Pastor for Congregational Care</i>
	<b>I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen</b>	

+Gloria	<i>Gloria Patri</i>	GREATOREX
	<b>Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen. Amen.</b>	

### Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer	<b>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.</b>	
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### Invitation to the Offering

Offertory	(9 AM) <i>Come, Ye Disconsolate</i>	arr. Terre Johnson
	Quartet	
	(11:10 AM) <i>Come Ye Disconsolate</i>	arr. Terre Johnson
	The Chancel Choir	

+Presentation of Gifts	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	OLD HUNDREDTH
	<b>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.</b>	

+Prayer of Thanksgiving	(9 AM) Larry Riggan (11:10 AM) David Wood
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## Departing

+Hymn 314	<i>Christ, Be Our Light</i>	CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT
+Benediction		Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
+Choral Response	<i>Go Ye Now in Peace</i>	Joyce Eilers
	The Chancel Choir	

*A moment of silence followed by three chimes, signifying the Trinity, concludes Worship.*

Postlude	<i>Bouree'</i>	Charles Stanford
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## Announcements

**New Member Meet & Greet—TODAY at 10:15 AM** in the Parlor. Join us to learn more about becoming a member of Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at 3 PM in Conference Room C. All knitters and crocheters are welcome!

**Blessing of the Animals – Sunday September 28, 4PM - Grass Parking Lot**  
This service will celebrate the gift of God's creation, especially the gift of our pets. Pet owners are invited to attend with their pets for a brief service of prayer, scripture reading, music, and blessing our special animal friends. *All pets must be up to date on vaccines; dogs must be leashed; cats and small animals must be in a carrier.* If your pet does not do well in social situations, you are welcome to bring a collar, tag, or picture of your pet. We will also be accepting donations of dry dog and cat food to contribute to the Sandhills Coalition Pet Pantry. We hope you will join us as we give thanks to God for the animals in our lives. Contact Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin with any questions.

**Fall Small Group Series** – Join a small group this fall (October 5—November 6) as we explore God's faithfulness in scripture and throughout Brownson's 90-year history. You can register for a small group online or by contacting the church office at 910-692-6252. Small groups of all different meeting times and locations begin the week of October 5. To register online go to [brownsonchurch.org/registration](http://brownsonchurch.org/registration).

## Music Notes

Do you play an instrument? Would you like to play Christmas carols in a brass ensemble for a Christmas Eve service? We would love for you to share your talents with us in worship! All ages and abilities welcome. Bell Choir is off to a great start! We have room for a few more ringers. Join the fun! Chancel Choir has begun preparations for Christmas Cantata *Kneeling in Bethlehem* by Michael Burkhardt including poetry of Ann Weem which will be presented in worship on December 14. Come sing with us!

## Prayers and Praise

Today's **Chancel Flowers** are dedicated to the Glory of God given in loving memory of Mary "Mac" McLaughlin Pope by Jim and Linda Webb.

**Hospital/Rehab:** Jeff Gillette (Duke)

**Member Death:** We share in the hope of the risen Christ with the family of Judy Harte upon her death on August 17, 2025. A service was held in Greenville, SC on August 23, 2025.

## Local Missions | Ways to Serve

### SANDHILLS COALITION

DONATION PRIORITIES: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Rice and Mac & Cheese.

DROP OFF LOCATION: Baskets in the Narthex

Questions? Contact Caryl Schunk, [cschunk@guilford.edu](mailto:cschunk@guilford.edu).

### THE FOOD BANK

- Pack food boxes for low income seniors.
- Sign up to volunteer on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 1-3 PM.
- Contact: Don Branch at [debranch@gmail.com](mailto:debranch@gmail.com).

### NORTHERN MOORE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Brownson is hosting its second annual summer shoe drive for the children at Northern Moore Family Resource Center. Please consider donating new shoes for children in grades K-12 to the collection bins located in the atrium. Our goal this year is 130 pairs of shoes! Deadline is September 30, 2025. During the week, shoe drop off is in the church office.

### BROWNSON BUDDIES

Brownson Buddies Homework Helpers will start their fourth year of tutoring at Southern Pines Elementary School on October 6. A tutor spends an hour a week (2:30-3:30 PM) with a third-grade student, helping them with reading homework. Please contact Rev. Austin Vernon at [discipleship@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:discipleship@brownsonchurch.org) if you are interested in becoming a tutor.

## Sunday Morning

### NURSERY

During the 9 & 11 AM service, Brownson has a full service nursery in the Education Building for children 3 and under, where loving staff are ready to welcome your children. Please see an usher for assistance.

### CHILDREN and YOUTH

Kids, pre-K through grade 5, are invited after Moment with the Children to join Kids Worship. Parents, if your child is participating, please fill out a Brownson Kids sticker for each child, place it on them before they come to the front. Stickers are in the pews.

### ADULT GROUPS

**The Living Word Today**—Non-partisan current events are discussed each Sunday morning using *The Wired Word* curriculum with Biblical references. Conference Room A at 10 AM or Zoom. Log in to Zoom.com: Meeting ID: 825 8501 9818 Passcode: 664945.

**The Ligon Bible Class**—This class studies: *The Present Word* quarterly curriculum. Join us in Conference Room B at 10 AM. Led by Linda Branch and Mary Margaret McNeill.

**Donuts and Devotionals**—Join us in Conference Room C at 10 AM. We discuss some of the most important stories in the Bible. Led by Rev. Austin Vernon.

**Care 101** – Join us today at 10 AM in the Cornerstone Room. Jeannine Caracciolo, Chaplain from First Health Hospice, along with Maggie Bonecutter, Hospice & Palliative Care Liaison from First Health, will present on *Caring In Death and Dying*.

### HIGHER GROUNDS

Everyone is welcome to join in a time of fellowship, coffee and donuts in the Atrium during the 10 o'clock hour.

## Kids & Youth Connect

### KIDS CONNECT

Brownson Little Friends (geared towards ages 2-5) and their families are invited for our 4th Sunday in the Fellowship Hall at 10:15 this morning. We'll have snacks, songs, and a story about how "God Made Everything!"

Kids Connect meets tonight from 5:00 - 6:45, beginning on the basketball court. We will be looking at God's promises to Abraham and having Glow Night! Wear white!

If you have any questions about kids programs, please reach out to Kelli at [children@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:children@brownsonchurch.org).

### YOUTH CONNECT

Youth group is tonight for middle school only. Join us in the youth suite 5-7 PM for food, fellowship and fun!

High school Bible study is Thursday morning 7:30-8:20 AM at PineScone Southern Pines..

If you have any questions about youth events, please contact Erin Pollock at [youth@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:youth@brownsonchurch.org).

## Mid Week Adult Connect Groups

*Bible study groups invite everyone of the church to join in their Bible Study and fellowship.*

**Book of Matthew Fall Bible Study:** Wednesday, October 1, at 10:30 AM, Cornerstone Conference Room. Led by Alice Herrington.

## Serving Today

**Thank you to our Greeters serving today:**

**(9 AM)** Head Usher: Steve Brooks, Debbie Brooks, Frank Quis, Rick & Ruth Burgin, Don & Shirley Rufty.

**(11:10 AM)** Head Ushers: Charles Harris and Patrick Depenbrock, Gregg Allen, Wes Little, Ed Monroe, Michael & Sarah Garry.