

BROWNSON

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A missional community called to love and live in Christ

August 24, 2025



2025 Session of Brownson

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)

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

330 South May Street, Southern Pines, North Carolina 28387

www.brownsonchurch.org — 910.692.6252

Sunday Worship | 10 AM

Livestream | 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 *Song of the Redeemed* Robert J. Powell
Diana Kirkpatrick, organ

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

News of the Church Alive Rev. Austin Vernon, *Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Missions*

The Praise of God

+Call to Worship One thing we ask, this we seek—
To dwell in the house of the Lord all our days.
To gaze upon the beauty of the Lord,
To seek God in His holy presence.
Come, let us worship the Lord who calls us to seek, to come, and to abide.

+Hymn 317 *In Christ There Is No East or West* MC KEE

Confessing

Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, You call us, as You once called those first disciples, to see the Lamb of God and to follow. Yet we confess that too often we do not follow where You lead. You invite us to come and see, but we are distracted by many voices and many pursuits. You ask us, "What are you looking for?" but we chase after what cannot satisfy, instead of seeking Your presence. Forgive us, Lord. Turn us again to Jesus, our Teacher and our Savior. Help us to remain with You, to walk in Your way, and to bear witness to the One who is the Lamb of God. In His name we pray. 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	John 1:35-39 The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.	Holy Bible, page 969
Sermon	Come and See	Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
+Hymn	<i>Open Our Eyes</i> Congregation joins on repeat Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus; to reach out and touch him and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord; and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus.	arr. Cull

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> 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
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+Gloria	<i>Gloria Patri</i>	GREATOREX 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.
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Prayers of the People		
The Lord's Prayer	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.	

Invitation to the Offering		
Offertory	<i>I Saw Jesus in You</i> The Chancel Choir	arr. Hamilton

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

+Hymn 726	<i>Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)</i>	KELVINGROVE
+Benediction		Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
+Choral Response	<i>Go Ye Now in Peace</i> The Chancel Choir	Joyce Eilers

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

Postlude	<i>Grand Choeur</i>	Gordon Young
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Announcements

Summer in the Psalms - This summer, a take-home devotional will be provided that guides you through the riches of the book of Psalms by studying one Psalm per week. This faith formation resource is geared toward all ages and families. The study will be available in the Atrium.

Summer Giving - As you travel this summer, please consider continuing your giving while you are away. We tend to see a decline in giving, while our expenses remain the same. You can do this through our website: brownsonchurch.org/give and schedule a weekly or monthly payment, or through your bank's bill pay option or by using this QR code.



Congregational Meeting—Sunday, September 7, 2025: There will be a Congregational Meeting immediately following 10 AM worship. The purpose of this meeting is to elect the Elder Class of 2028.

Save the Date - Church Family Meal: Join us on Sunday, September 7 for our annual Church Picnic and Family Meal. There will be one service at 10 AM with the meal following at 11 AM in Fellowship Hall. There is no cost for the meal and no need to register. **The church will provide the fried chicken and barbecue and would love for our Brownson family to provide all of the sides for the meal. Plan to bring things like baked beans, potato salad, macaroni salad, coleslaw, fruit and dessert.** If you would like to volunteer to set up or clean up, please contact Jane Howard, jphtravel@gmail.com.

A Fall Bible Study on the Book of Matthew: Back-to-School means back to Bible Study in our neck of the woods. In September, join Alice Herrington's in-depth Bible study which begins on September 10, from 10:30 AM - 12 PM in the Cornerstone Conference Room. It will be a 10-week study. If you have questions, please contact Bill Berger @ bill.ctr.berger1@gmail.com or 334.398.1941 or Rev. Austin Vernon discipleship@brownsonchurch.org.

Join us for the 2025 Church Retreat – Register now for the 2025 Brownson Church Retreat! The retreat is November 7-9 at Camp Caraway. The retreat speaker is Rev. Ernie Thompson and he will be speaking on the theme "Fully Alive". For the past three years, the retreat has served as a wonderful time of fellowship, laughter, great food, fun activities and worship. It is for ALL ages and all size families! Register by Sept 21 at www.brownsonchurch.org/registration.

Music Notes

COME SING WITH US!

Chancel Choir rehearsals resume in September. Bell Choir will also kick off rehearsals in September! Stay tuned for more details. We'd love to have you make music with us! For questions, please contact Amy Shortt, Director of Music Ministries at music@brownsonchurch.org.

Prayers and Praise

Today's **Chancel Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Chesley and Beverly Powell in celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Christian Sympathy to Cornelia Morris upon the death of her mother, Cornelia "Shep" Porter Wallace on August 20, 2025. Shep was also the grandmother of Mary Mitchell and George Morris.

Serving Today

Thank you to our Greeters serving today:

Head Usher: Frank Dean, Bill Berger, Don Hiscott, Sara James Reinemann.

Sunday Morning

NURSERY

During the 10 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 9 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 9 AM. Led by Linda Branch and Mary Margaret McNeill.

Donuts and Devotionals—Join us in Conference Room C at 9 AM. We discuss some of the most important stories in the Bible. Led by Rev. Austin Vernon.

Kids & Youth Connect

KIDS CONNECT

Join us after worship today on the lawn by BLC for our Back to School Bash! There will be popsicles, yard games, a prayer station, a few resources for the school year ahead, and great fellowship!

Reach out to Kelli at children@brownsonchurch.org with any questions.

YOUTH CONNECT

Youth group kickoff is Sept 7! All youth (grades 6-12) and their parents are invited to the kickoff 5-7 PM in Fellowship Hall. Dinner provided.

If you have any questions about youth events, please contact Erin Pollock at youth@brownsonchurch.org.

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.

THE FOOD BANK

- Pack food boxes for low income seniors.
- Sign up to volunteer on the 4th Thursday of each month, 1-3 PM.
- Contact: Don Branch at 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 grades K-12 in the collection bins, which will be located in the Atrium. Our goal this year is 130 pairs of shoes!

FAMILY PROMISE

- Assisting homeless women with children. Volunteers needed for providing dinners and overnight hosts.
- Dates: September 9—13, 2025
- Contact: Chris DiMarco, cdimarco@nc.rr.com.