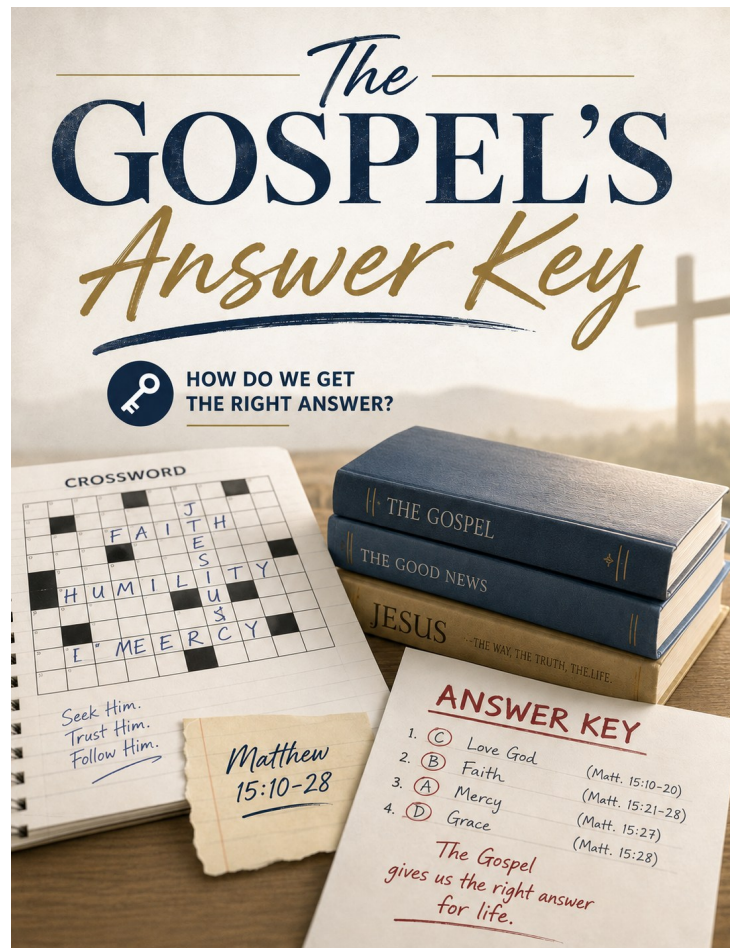


BROWNSON

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

August 16, 2026



2026 SESSION OF BROWNSON

Alex Bowness | Anne Friesen | Art Edgerton | Betsy Robinson | Bill Berger | Charles Harris
Chris Hunt | B. Christian Freberg | David Malan | Donna Chapin | Farra Wilson | Gena Smith
Jane Howard | Jan Stone | Jeff Ward | John Krahnert | Kara Vonderkall
Keith Walvoord | Lisa Hughes | Mandy Berg | Patrick Depenbrock | Pat Henry | Roy Cameron | Ryan Morrison
Ruth Burgin | Hardin Freberg (Y) | Ella Hall (Y)

Rev. John Hage—senior pastor
Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin—associate pastor for congregational care and connection
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 | 10:30 AM
Livestream | 10:30 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 write legibly.

Prelude

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Hunter Monroe, piano

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*

The Praise of God

+Call to Worship

Jesus calls us to listen and understand,
for true faith flows from hearts turned toward God.
We come with open hearts, ready to hear God's Word.
We come trusting in Christ's abundant mercy,
a mercy that reaches beyond every boundary.
Lord, have mercy on us and deepen our faith.
Like the woman who cried out to Jesus and would not lose hope,
we bring before God our needs and the needs of the world.
We trust in Christ, whose grace is greater than we can imagine.
Come, people of God—listen, trust, and worship.
With grateful hearts, let us worship God!

+Hymn 649

Amazing Grace

NEW BRITAIN

Confessing

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that too often our words and actions reveal hearts that have wandered from your ways. We draw boundaries where you offer mercy, judge those we do not understand, and fail to recognize faith in unexpected places. Forgive us when pride keeps us from listening and fear keeps us from loving our neighbors. Give us the persistent faith, and shape our hearts to reflect the compassion and grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Kyrie



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

Cantor to sing first. Congregation will sing when invited 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

Sharon Ramsey & Jeff Gillette

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 175

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

**Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!**

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 15:10-28
The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Holy Bible, page 894

Sermon

The Gospel's Answer Key

Rev. Maggie Beamguard

+Hymn 769

For Everyone Born

FOR EVERYONE BORN

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

The Apostles' Creed

Rev. John Hage, *Senior Pastor*

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

+Gloria

Gloria Patri

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.

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

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

arr. Larson

Liz Cox, soprano and Matt Franks, tenor

+Presentation of Gifts

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

+Prayer of Thanksgiving

B. Christian Freberg

Departing

+Hymn 317

In Christ There Is No East or West

Mc Kee

+Benediction

+Congregational Response 80

You Shall Go Out with Joy

THE TREES OF THE FIELD

Choir:

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands;

Congregation:

**And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;
The trees of the field will clap their hands; *(clap, clap)
The trees of the field will clap their hands; *(clap, clap)
While you go out with joy.**

* See music note on the back of the Bulletin.

Postlude

Amy Shortt, organ

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

Announcements

Note for Families - At Brownson, we believe that *to wiggle is to worship!* Children are a joyful and important part of our life together, and we welcome them fully in worship- wiggles, movement, noise, and simply being the children they were created to be. We invite you to relax and feel at home as it's a joy to worship God together!

5th Annual Church Retreat - All are invited to join us for the Brownson Church Retreat Nov. 13-15 at Caraway Conference Center. The theme for this year's retreat is **"Bind Us Together"** and will be woven through preaching, discussion, music, recreation, fellowship and creative offerings. We also welcome back Rev. Ernie Thompson as the retreat speaker. Rev. Thompson is a retired PC(USA) pastor who served congregations in Greensboro and Wilmington during his ministry. ALL ARE WELCOME! Registration is open and can be found on the Brownson website. Any questions can be brought to Kelli Garbett or Erin Pollock.

Shoe Drive: It's that time of year again...Children are heading back to school so we're holding our **3rd Annual Shoe Drive for Northern Moore Family Resource Center** in Robbins. We're setting an ambitious goal of 200 pairs of new gym shoes for students ages 4-18! We'll be collecting each Sunday starting August 2 through September! Watch for collection containers in the Narthex and Atrium.

Guest Preacher—Rev. Maggie Beamguard: We welcome Maggie to the pulpit today! A native of the South Carolina lowcountry, Maggie has served as a Minister of Word and Sacrament for over 20 years in alongside congregations in Tennessee, South Carolina, and North Carolina. She currently works as a staff writer for The Pilot and as editor the special publication, the Seven Lakes Insider. She has two daughters who have recently flown the nest she shares with her husband, David, in Seven Lakes. Maggie is pursuing her Doctor of Ministry in creative writing and public theology at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

Mid-Year Financial Forum: Please join us **on Sunday, August 30 at 11:30 AM** in Fellowship Hall for our Mid-Year Financial Forum. Leaders of the Stewardship Ministry Team will be on hand to provide Brownson's first half of 2026 financial review.

During the potluck lunch, we will gather at the table for a *Tell Me A Story* time. We will have conversations about when we have seen Brownson at its best and discuss moments that reveal the church's DNA and core values. We look forward to you joining us for this special time in the All Together Initiative process.

Serving Today

Thank you to our Greeters serving today:

(10:30 AM) Head Usher: Frank Dean, Bill Berger, Don Hiscott, Sara James Reinemann, Ryan Ciccone, John Cates

The Adult Discipleship Team invites you to a Dinner Conversation! All are invited to a Taco Bar dinner in Fellowship Hall on August 26 at 5 PM. Beginning at 5:30 PM, childcare will be available in the Education building for kids up to 5th grade.

Following dinner, we will hear from Dr. Mark Chaves from Duke Divinity School. Dr. Chaves is a professor of sociology and religion who will lead us in a conversation *Continuity and Change in American Religion* on the religious landscape of America in the 21st century. He will discuss current trends in church life and the forces shaping participation in religious institutions. We hope you will join us as we learn together and consider how Brownson might continue to grow and serve in the time in which we live.

Registration is available on the church website. If you have any questions, please contact Adult Discipleship Ministry Team Chair, Bill Berger, at bill.ctr.berger1@gmail.com, or Rev. Elizabeth Doolin at Elizabeth@brownsonchurch.org.

We are excited to tell you about our new partnership with Boys and Girls Club Trinity Center, located in the old Southern Pines Elementary School. Choose your day(s), Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays, and your choice of activities, not just academics. If your love is tutoring, you can sign up for Power Hour, 2:45-3:45, to assist with learning activities, reading and homework help. If you want something different, you can sign up for the activities hour, 3:30-4:30, which includes crafts, games, etc. Contact Caryl Schunk, 336-312-2216, or Sara Conti, 937-725-3016 for more details.

Still Us - August 27, September 24, October 22, 2:30-4 PM in Conference Room A: Join Dr. Karen Sullivan for three community gatherings to learn about the exciting progress of the Still Us Foundation and discover meaningful ways to get involved in creating a more dementia-inclusive community. Whether you're simply curious or ready to volunteer, everyone is welcome!

Music Notes

Our closing response, *"You Shall Go Out with Joy,"* is based on Isaiah 55:12: *"You shall go out in joy... the trees of the field shall clap their hands."* Throughout Scripture, clapping is also a joyful expression of praise (Psalm 47:1; Psalm 98:8). As we sing, the clapping is not applause, but a simple act of worship that echoes creation's joyful response to the abundant life given in and through God.

If clapping is not your preferred way of participating, please feel free to simply sing with joy. Whether through singing, clapping, or quiet reflection, may we all leave worship carrying Christ's joy into the world.

The choir will take a well-deserved break during August and will resume on **Kickoff Sunday, September 13**. Stay tuned for more details—and if you joined us this summer, we hope you'll continue singing with us whenever you can!

Prayers and Praise

Member Death: We share in the hope of the risen Christ with the family of Hank Wallace, upon his death on August 10, 2026. Service details are pending.

Member Death: We share in the hope of the risen Christ with the family of Mike Conry, upon his death on August 5, 2026. Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held at Brownson on Thursday, August 20 at 11 AM. Reception by Martha's friends to follow.

Service info for Tom Nacca: Visitation will be held at Boles Funeral Home in Southern Pines on August 21 from 4–6 PM. Service will be held at Boles Funeral Home in Southern Pines on August 22 at 11 AM.