

JUNE 2026



**June Mission of The Month**  
**Center For Domestic Peace**  
**June 7 – Deacon’s Blood Drive**  
**June 15-19 – Vacation Bible School**  
**June 21 – Father’s Day BBQ**



**June 2026**

**“Thank you, Thank you, Thank you,” Rev. Dr. Tony Stiff**

Dear Presbyterian Church of Novato (PCN) family,

I am so thankful for the time I have had journeying with you as your Transition Pastor. I know that many of you feel this way, but PCN is a special church. You are one of the most generous congregations I have ever journeyed with as a Pastor. Generous with your gifts, your time, and your willingness to process changes to reach your neighbors. When I first inquired about opportunities in Redwoods Presbytery, Rev. Ariel Mink and Rev. Eric Beene had glowing reports about the ‘warm and welcoming church called the Presbyterian Church of Novato,’ and all their stories have been true. You cannot get into church on Sunday without being greeted by ten different people who are overflowing with joy about their church family.

As a Transition Pastor, I have seen churches in different seasons of life. Some of them had really challenging growth journeys ahead. Not so with your church family. Your Staff here are deeply gifted and committed. Your Elders are risk takers and innovators who constantly have your well-being and growth on their hearts and minds. Your Deacons are the most gifted team of caregivers I have ever served. As many of you know through personal experience, PCN’s Deacons are second to none!

This is not even to begin to address the health of your church campus and your location in the country. You have a beautiful church campus in one of the most highly sought-after areas in the entire country, Marin County. Once your Pastor position goes live, you are going to have applicants from all over the country who are overjoyed to apply and explore life with you. Having spent time with you this past year, I can say through personal experience that those pastors will be blessed to explore life and ministry with you!

There is really nothing I can say to you but thank you, thank you, thank you. I am grateful that you allowed me to come and experience the hope, peace, and love of God with you here in Novato. I will treasure the time I have had with you and continue to pray for your future long-term Installed Pastor and their family. The best is yet to come for PCN’s faithful witness in Marin County! You are not waiting for your future, you are taking action toward it, and that has been truly inspiring to join in with you!

Pastor Tony



## *Session*

### Session Highlights – May 2026

At the May 20, 2026 meeting:

Session approved a Congregational Meeting on June 14, 2026, immediately after worship, for the purpose of electing Elders, Deacons, and a Pastor Nominating Committee

Kathy Takemoto  
Clerk of Session

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Our Mission Study Team is currently working hard at completing the final report. The team plans to present and provide the completed report to Session at its June 17 meeting. We appreciate the congregation's continued prayers, support, and patience as this important work is finalized.

**Your Mission Study Team**  
**Karen Marks, Greg Smith, Robert Coleman, Delane Ramser, Becky Moser**

## June Mission Opportunities!

**CENTER FOR DOMESTIC  
PEACE.**

Working Together to End Domestic Violence



### **CENTER FOR DOMESTIC PEACE SHELTER PANTRY GROCERY DRIVE!**

Help families with healthy grocery items and household needs.

#### **Collections will be received from June 28-30.**

Dry Food: rice, pasta, tomato sauce, beans, olive oil, cookies, cooking spices, soy sauce or coconut aminos, toddler snacks, Snacks for children, Pancake mix, Pancake syrup, Coconut milk or cream cans

For the home: Tide laundry detergent, dishwashing soap, kitchen sponges, hand soap, body soap, brooms, dustpans, mops, and dish towels.

Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

## CENTER FOR DOMESTIC PEACE

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT: BACKPACKS!

Join us as we collect essential back-to-school items from **June 15–19** to support children in our local community.

During the final days of VBS, our children will come together to assemble backpacks filled with these supplies. This hands-on experience does so much more than prepare students for school—it opens hearts. Our VBS kids learn that there are children right here in our community who may be starting the school year without the basic tools they need to succeed.

Through this project, they discover that ***they can make a real difference***. They learn compassion, generosity, and the joy of helping others. And for the children receiving these backpacks, it's more than just supplies—it's confidence, dignity, and the reassurance that they are seen, cared for, and not alone.

Together, we are not only filling backpacks—we are shaping caring hearts and supporting brighter futures for every child.



**Our 2025 donation of 60 complete backpacks!**



**CAMP COMPASSION** is most grateful for PCN's meal service to feed approximately 30 individuals on the third Wednesday of each month (**June 17<sup>th</sup>!**). The location is [Novato Skate Park Picnic Area](#) 1200 Hamilton Parkway, one block from Nave Drive.

You can sign up to help provide food. [Sign Up](#)  
Questions? Contact Hilary Kinney at 415-577-8616 (text) or [hilarykinney@yahoo.com](mailto:hilarykinney@yahoo.com)

# PacificSun

*This is an excerpt from the article in the Pacific Sun dated May 19, 2026.*

**The Presbyterian Church of Novato** became involved with the Lee Gerner campers in 2021, when the City of Novato first authorized the encampment. Hilary Kinney volunteered as the church's faith ambassador to the camp, visiting on Sundays with other congregants to serve coffee and donuts.

"It really was to build that relationship with people," Kinney said. "We provided our compassion, literally just our compassion, so they could see that they had neighbors who cared."

Once the campers relocated to Hamilton last year, Kinney reached out to homeless advocates to find out how the Presbyterian Church of Novato could be of service. They told her about the success of the community dinners. Since then, congregants have been preparing meals every month.

Kinney says the food has been a hit with the campers. Around St. Patrick's Day, they served corned beef and cabbage and potatoes. The previous month, it was ham, cheese scalloped potatoes and fruit salad.

"These are the most vulnerable people in our community, and somehow we can't find them proper care and shelter," Kinney said. "The minimum we can do, giving them a hot meal, is so rewarding."

For the full article click here [Link to the Pacific Sun article May 19, 2026](#)

## PCN Safety Team: Responding to Red Flag Warnings



It seems we're gearing up for another active wildfire season. Let's stay alert for signs that we may need to ramp up our evacuation preparedness. Windy, hot, and dry days create ideal conditions for fires to start and spread quickly. If a Red Flag Warning is issued, stay alert, monitor the news, and be ready to leave if necessary. Take a moment to review your wildfire evacuation checklist, make sure your family and pets are prepared, and keep your go-bags nearby. Make sure your car has a full tank of gas or is fully charged. Make sure your cell phone is fully charged.

If time permits, additional steps to take include:

Walk around outside of your house and clear anything combustible, including:

- Leaves from roofs, gutters, and around the base of walls
- Wicker lawn furniture and all cushions
- Wood piles or debris near structures
- Flammable door mats

Avoid these activities:

- Don't use any heat sources or open flames outdoors, including barbecues, fire pits, cookware, power tools (gas or electric), or mowers.
- Don't smoke outdoors.
- Avoid driving or parking in dry grass or vegetation.
- Avoid closed areas and stay alert while visiting open spaces.

If you then receive an Evacuation Warning, there is a potential threat to life or property, and you should finalize your preparations for a possible evacuation. An Evacuation Order indicates an immediate threat to life or property. It is a lawful order to LEAVE NOW.

While no list can cover everything you may need to do to prepare, your Safety Team hopes this information serves as a quick reference in a potentially critical situation. For more information, visit [firesafemarin.org](http://firesafemarin.org), where you will find a Wildfire Evacuation Survival Checklist.



## FINISH THE FIGHT



Relay for Life is the major fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, which funds research, rides, wigs, and lodging. PCN has a team registered to take part in this event.

We, as a church, are taking part in Relay for Life for the mission and outreach. In the past we have been known as a missional church. We are challenged with serving others beyond the the walls of PCN. Many of us already do that in various ways. However, only twice a year are we clearly able to show the community that we are Christians with publicly visible signs: The Buckaroo Breakfast and Relay for Life. Wouldn't it be a thrill to have a great turnout of church members at Relay on July 18-19? What a way to show the larger community what a great community of faith we have.

Here is the link to sign up: [https://secure.acsevents.org/site/STR?pg=entry&fr\\_id=111826](https://secure.acsevents.org/site/STR?pg=entry&fr_id=111826)

If you need help with registering or you have any questions, please contact Marion Hune @ 1.415.287.2146 or by email: [crabbyone46@verizon.net](mailto:crabbyone46@verizon.net).

How else can you participate? Be a fundraiser and ask your company to match donations raised; purchase a luminaria, or better yet, become the luminaria chair. You can also help Marion Hune and Sally Carbonaro manage the team.



**Help save a life! Donate Blood!**

Go to [Vitalant](#) and enter our zip code 94947, to search for PCN.  
Register today!

**Sunday June 7 is the Deacons Semi Annual Blood Drive**

from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Please sign up to donate blood on Sunday, June 7 from 8am - 12pm!

16 years old and older are eligible.

It's easy and helps the greater Bay Area for those in need.

Go to [www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org) to register.

Walk-Ins Welcome!

Questions? Contact Brook Stahley,  
[brookstahley@yahoo.com](mailto:brookstahley@yahoo.com) or 415.290.0020.



*At Rainforest Falls, kids explore the nature of God! Rainforest Falls is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Hands-on science experiments, team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life.*

*Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings®. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot!*

**Preschool through 6th graders** are invited to participate! Join us for 5 fun days, from June 15th - 19th, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Registration is \$60 for one child and \$40 for each additional child. Confidential scholarships are available! We do not want anything to prevent you from coming!!

[Register Here](#)

**Middle and High Schoolers** – We have a spot for you as well!! Come join us as a crew leader! We offer community service hours! The crew leader will lead a small crew of five elementary-aged kids. A crew leader is a friend and helper for the kids and station leaders. A one-hour group training is provided.

[Register Here](#)

**Adults** - We need YOU, and there are so many ways to be involved! Even if you are not available on the VBS dates, you can still help with the preparations. We have a place just for you!

🌿 Tree-mendous adventure awaits! 🌿  
Your Rainforest Falls Director,  
Miss Sydney



**Save The Date!**

**June 21st**

**Father's Day Barbeque!**

Immediately following our Worship service!

Contact Tonya Church to volunteer!

[tonya.church@comcast.net](mailto:tonya.church@comcast.net)



**ANNUAL BUCKAROO PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

If you're interested in helping, please contact Steve Kinney at [stephen\\_kinney@yahoo.com](mailto:stephen_kinney@yahoo.com).  
Buckaroo Breakfast Volunteer [Signup link](#):

We expect to have another fabulous year serving the community and know it takes everyone at PCN for the Buckaroo Breakfast to be successful.

*Steve Kinney, Big Buckaroo*



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVATO

# ★★★2nd Annual★★★ Buckaroo Breakfast



**July 4th, 7am - 10am  
Before the Parade**

**Pancakes\* | Eggs | Sausage\***

**\*Gluten Free & Vegetarian  
Options Available!**

**Suggested Donation:  
\$12 Adults & \$7 Children**

**At Redwood Credit Union  
Parking Lot, 1010 Grant Avenue**



[www.pcnovato.org](http://www.pcnovato.org)



**Net Proceeds Benefit:**



**NORTH MARIN  
COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**FOOD PANTRY**

*Thank You*  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

shutterstock.com - 2720840737

*"Thank you for all your care during my time of recovery. I am so appreciative of your thoughts, prayers, cards, and overwhelming support.*

*Sylvia Jensvold*

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The Stan Wood family would like to thank the Deacons and our church family for helping with dad's celebration of life that was held on May 16th. It was a very special service to honor our dad and we couldn't have done it without the supportive help from the congregation.

Thank you for all the cards, calls and especially the prayers for our family. We are so very grateful.

*Blessings to all,  
The Stan Wood family*



**"Homeward Bound Wagster Sale - A Sellout!"**

A sincere "Thank You" to all of those who purchased Wagster Dog Treats last Sunday. Sixty treat bags were sold. With PCN matching sale amounts, the total amount raised, approximately \$1,200, will enhance Homeward Bound's addressing homelessness. Hope you all enjoyed meeting our mystery guests "Yellowstone and Trevor".



## PCN CHURCH OFFICE

**The office will be closed on Monday, June 22- Thursday, June 25.**

Please contact specific program staff with any urgent needs.

**Sydney Fletcher**, Director of Family Ministries, [communications@pcnovato.org](mailto:communications@pcnovato.org)

**Sally Carbonaro**, Sr. Director of Connection & Belonging [community@pcnovato.org](mailto:community@pcnovato.org)

**Art Maramba**, Music Director, [musicdirector@pcnovato.org](mailto:musicdirector@pcnovato.org)

**Suzanne Schmidt**, Finance Secretary, [finance1@pcnovato.org](mailto:finance1@pcnovato.org)

Or leave a message with the office 415.897.6152 [pcnadmin@pcnovato.org](mailto:pcnadmin@pcnovato.org).



Are you interested in a closer walk and relationship with God? The Women's Bible Study group is open to all women. We gather every Thursday morning at 10am - 11:30am, on zoom for study, fellowship and prayers. Coffee and PJ's are optional. We are currently doing a free form study on the Old Testament - Numbers. We'd love to have you. For more information please reach out to Becky Praun, [beckypraun@yahoo.com](mailto:beckypraun@yahoo.com). 415 472 -1733

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86913616907?pwd=gsbDqww6cuwPq9qtsmCVMQ2ZE28u6P.1>

Meeting ID: 869 1361 6907 Passcode: pcnovato



## Sunday Morning Bible Study

All signs point to Jesus! Come join us via Zoom Sunday mornings from 8 to 9 a.m. Your study leaders are Larry Dacquisto (415.577.2115), Karen Carlson and Doris Dooley.

Link for the Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82970812537?pwd=eGZESUo3dzQ4NXh3WFFNT3AvQmpDdz09>

Meeting ID: 829 7081 2537 Passcode: pcnovato



Are you a newer member of our PCN family? Are you looking for a way to meet people and be of service? An ideal solution for you might be to volunteer as a member of the PCN Usher and Greeters Ministry. Be part of the team that is an integral part of each Sunday morning's worship service. For more information, contact Bill Bradfield at 415-408-3427.



**REQUESTING A PRAYER BLANKET** is easy. Email Tonya Church or Carol Robinson. Give us the recipient's first and last name, address, phone number, and what colors they like. We try to send a prayer blanket that is meaningful for the recipient. Questions? Contact Tonya at [tonya.church@comcast.net](mailto:tonya.church@comcast.net) or Carol at [carol001@comcast.net](mailto:carol001@comcast.net).



### **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Come join us for study and fellowship. We meet every **Wednesday at 7:15 a.m.** via Zoom. All men are welcome. To be added to the Zoom contact list, contact Walt Campbell at (415) 497-5157 or email [walterlcampbell@aol.com](mailto:walterlcampbell@aol.com).



Here's an important number to jot down: (415) 472-0911. This is the **non-injury** lift assist phone number from the Novato Fire Department. If you or someone you know has fallen and you can't lift him/her, the fire department will come help!

