



PresPress

October

4th World Communion Sunday
Rev. Cathy Chang Luncheon
11th PCN LAST Farmers Market
11th Prayer Blanket Making
12th Office Closed: Indigenous Peoples' Day
18th Consecration Sunday
18th Ministry Fair!
21st Camp Compassion
31 Halloween



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEES

Friends,

We hope you have heard the call of our video series on recent Sundays, *"Building Tomorrow, Together."* You've heard intergenerational excitement and appeal.

You see, something really exciting is happening at PCN: we are at a significant moment in time, faced with the opportunity to build out *the next season vision* of the church where grandparents, parents, singles, young adults, teenagers, and children are not just welcomed, but all growing together in faith and Christian love. The work has begun!

Building this next season requires commitment, working together, and yes, bigger investments and resources. Even more than in the past, *this* stewardship season brings a special calling...God calls us to meet this rare moment-in-time, this exciting opportunity to build our next season, to be that church, to *Build Tomorrow, Together.*

The coming year is the turning point for our church as we invest in the foundation of the future we are building together. Significant investments are required as we move into this next, exciting season for PCN. It will definitely not be "business as usual" in any sense - giving us pause to reflect on how God might be calling each of us, as individuals and families, to stretch ourselves to become key contributors to the foundation we are laying today to advance His kingdom here at PCN. Your financial generosity will transform our worship, music, youth and family ministry, mission, and community outreach; fund the hiring of the new Pastor; and meet our increasing budget needs to build, sustain and grow these ministries.

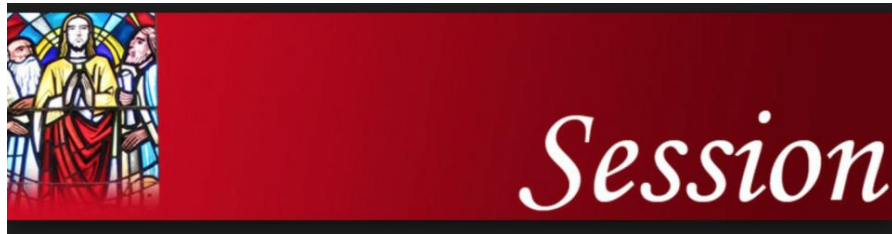
We ask you to prayerfully consider this special challenge, to get involved in ministries, and increase your financial giving by 10-15% or more if able. Pledges will be received and blessed on Consecration Sunday, October 18th (or your "My Calling" pledge card can be returned to the PCN office no later than October 31st). This due date is so important in order for our Session leaders and Committee Chairs to

build their budgets based on sound forecasted income. The later the pledge commitments are made, the tougher it is for Session to support investments in existing and transformative ministry programs and staffing planning required to be approved in November. Please, we need your help! Financially, our message is this: we can keep building toward our PCN vision and next season with substantial support. The challenge, and opportunity, lie in our timely increased and generous sharing of the treasures God has blessed us with. With your generous support, personally and financially, we can *BUILD TOMORROW TOGETHER*.

Anticipate receiving our PCN “My Calling” card and Stewardship information in the mail the 2nd week of October, and plan on joining us on Consecration Sunday and the Ministry Fair on October 18th.

Thank you for your continuing generous sharing of your time, talents and finances and faith. God bless you.

Stewardship Team
Brad Praun, George Pilloton, Greg Smith, Margie Betts, Bruce Stahley,
Art Plumstead



Session Highlights – September 2026

At the September 16, 2026, Session meeting:

- Session approved changing the date of Stewardship Sunday to October 18, 2026. The Ministry Fair will follow worship.
- The Engagement Group will conduct meetings with the PCN team on September 23 - 24, 2028 and again on November 4, 2026.
- The Pastor Nominating Committee reported the *Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP)*, a required document in the pastor search process, was submitted to the Presbytery Committee on Ministry (COM). COM will review the MDP at their October 2, 2026, meeting. If approved, the pastor search process will begin. The MDP was prepared using information from the Mission Study Report and population data and characteristics compiled by the Engagement Group for PCN.



September 27 Congregational Meeting Update

The congregation voted unanimously to approve Kathy Wright as Deacon and Sandy Fong as a PNC committee member.



The Presbyterian Church of Novato History from 1957-1987

In 1957, three and three-fourth acres of land were purchased on Wilson Avenue. Later in 1962 the original property on Sherman and DeLong was sold to the newly incorporated City of Novato to be used as the City Hall and Police Department. The exteriors of the buildings were painted red to match the Community Hall. The steeple was left intact.

Planning began for an Educational Building on the new site. In 1963, the building was completed and the first services were held in the new facility on Wilson Avenue. In 1972, a Debt Retirement Celebration was held and the mortgage burned. Four years later in 1976, a new Building Committee began a campaign to raise funds for construction of the Sanctuary. The bell in the City Hall steeple was removed and transferred to the Wilson Avenue site where it waited for the construction of a bell Tower.

On March 4, 1978, the congregation met in Trevitt Hall in the Educational Building and after the Call to Worship, everyone processed to the new sanctuary to the ringing of the church bell.

In 1982, the beautiful 600-year-old oak tree, which shaded the patio area, died and had to be removed. In 1987 the patio trellis was constructed.

Reported by Kathy Takemoto, Clerk of Session



LUNCHEON & SPEAKER THIS SUNDAY!

The Rev. Cathy Chang and her family will be visiting PCN on
October 4th!

She will lead our worship service and there will be a luncheon
immediately following.

[Click here for Cathy's bio](#)

RSVPS to Becky Praun beckypraun@yahoo.com or 415.827.7685



Prayer Blanket Making!

Join us immediately following the Worship Service on
October 11

to make prayer blankets. These go out to by request to individuals
who are experiencing tough times.

Come be a part of this inspiring ministry! We need your help!

The Prayer Blanket Ministry, an important mission effort of PCN, has been blessing people with fleece blankets for over 5 years. The Deacons have faithfully supported this mission, covering the expenses of the fabric, cards and mailing, since April of 2021.

This mission opportunity is now looking for a few additional team members, to
keep this ministry strong and vital.

[Click here for ways to get more involved!](#)



This is a reminder that our **Ministry Fair is coming up on October 18th!** Please help spread the word to your committees, ministry teams, life groups, supper clubs, Bible studies, Sunday School classes, prayer groups, and any other groups or gatherings that help make PCN such a vibrant community.

As we prepare, I encourage us to think of the Ministry Fair as much more than a sign-up event, although we certainly hope it inspires people to get involved. Its larger purpose is to create an experience that helps people see who we are as a church and the many ways God is at work in our congregation, especially for those who are newer to PCN.

Unlike Coffee Hour, where conversations often happen within familiar circles, the Ministry Fair provides a unique opportunity for people to connect with ministry leaders and participants from across the church. It offers a visible and personal picture of our congregation's life, helping people discover ministries, groups, and opportunities they may not even know exist.

The Ministry Fair puts faces to ministries, creates meaningful connections, and allows people to experience the breadth and vitality of our church community in one place. If someone signs up to serve or participate, that's wonderful. More importantly, we want people to leave with a deeper understanding of who we are, a stronger sense of belonging, and a clearer picture of how they can participate in the life and mission of PCN.

This will be a wonderful opportunity for every ministry, group, and fellowship activity to share its story. Whether your focus is worship, mission, discipleship, fellowship, education, care, or outreach, we want people to see the many ways they can connect, grow, serve, and build relationships within our church family.

Additional details, timelines, table information, and participation guidelines will be distributed soon. For now, please begin talking with your groups and consider how you might best represent and celebrate your ministry's impact and invitation to others.

As we move through this stewardship season, we have an opportunity to celebrate and share what we do best. Let's make this a joyful and welcoming event that reflects the heart of PCN and helps every person discover a place to **Believe. Belong. Become.**

Together.

Thank you for your partnership and support.



Supper clubs are forming!

This is an opportunity for you to join 6-8 other people for a meal four times a year and get to know each another. For more information and to sign up contact Janalee Holmes at 415.860.0275, EB Hanlein 415.225.6496, or Delane Ramser 415.858.5265



Coming back to PCN in November!

CLASS DATES: Tuesdays 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 12/1, 12/8 Thursdays 11/19, 12/3

CLASS TIME: 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

NO CLASS THE WEEK OF THANKSGIVING

For more information or to register, please contact:
Beverly Winsor, A Matter of Balance Master Trainer
415-99FALLS (415-993-2557) or email mob.beverly@gmail.com

[Click here for the full brochure](#)

September Memories

Professional Photo Shoot on September 23!



Thank You, Church Family!

We are incredibly grateful to everyone in our congregation who answered the call to participate in our all-church professional photo shoot!

More than 100 people of all ages joined us for a wonderful evening filled with fellowship, laughter, conversation, pizza, and plenty of photos. Your enthusiasm, patience, and joyful spirit made the day truly special. While it may have felt like we entered and re-entered the sanctuary ten times, the footage and images captured are absolutely stunning, and the final results were well worth it!

Choosing just a few photos to share was no easy task because every image reflects the warmth, diversity, and vibrant life of our church community. We are excited to give you this small preview and look forward to sharing many more in the weeks ahead.

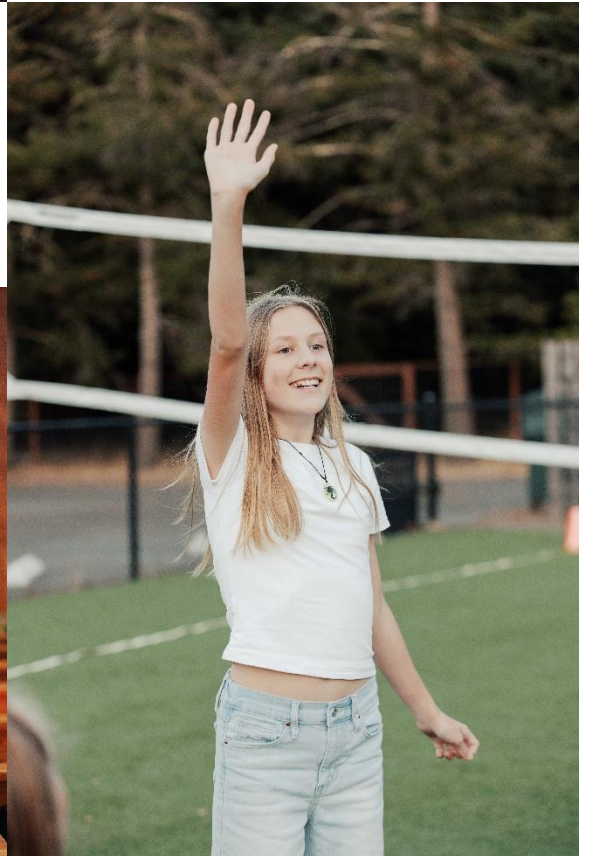
Thank you for helping us tell the story of our church through these beautiful images. We are blessed by each and every one of you!

More photos to come!





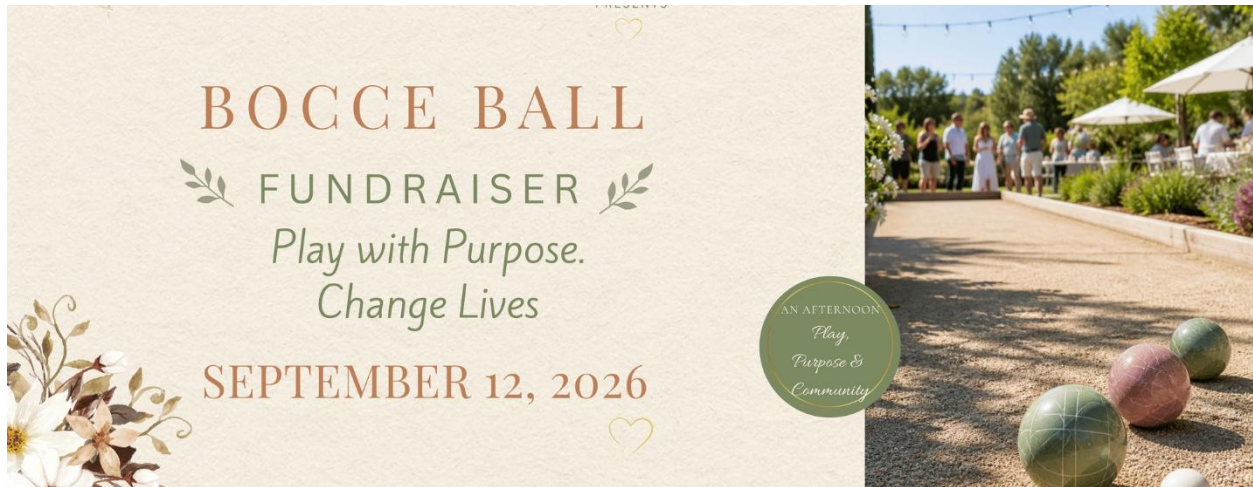


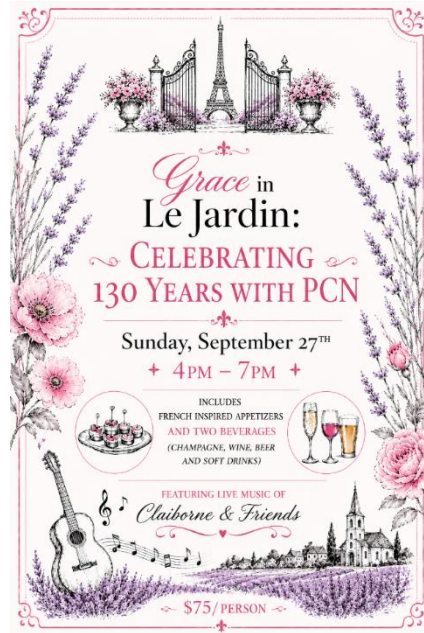


The Gilead House Fundraising Event was a big success!

Thank you to everyone who participated and donated!

We played for the mothers and children of Gilead House as they build lives filled with hope, healing, and stability. Together, we create a brighter future for the moms and children of Gilead House.





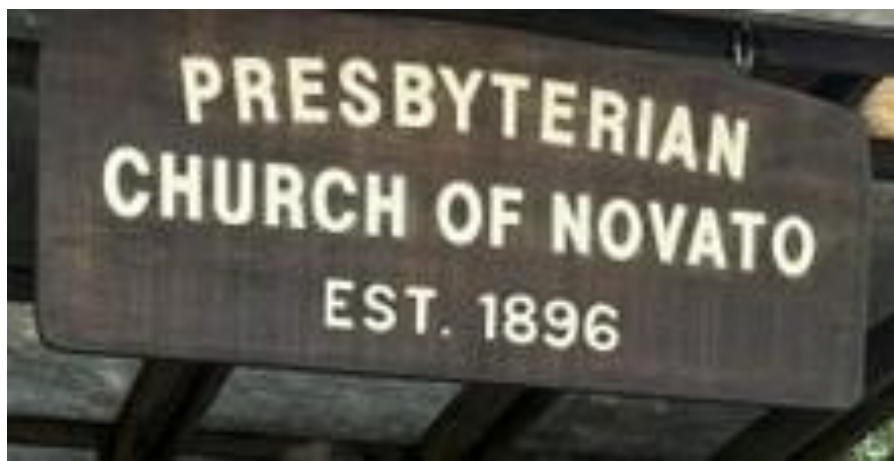
Merci, merci! What a magnifique afternoon of delicious food, beautiful music, laughter, and community!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our French-inspired fundraiser and helped make the afternoon so special. We are incredibly grateful for the generosity, enthusiasm, and wonderful spirit of togetherness that filled the patio.

A very special **merci** to our Fellowship Team for all the time, creativity, and care they put into creating such a memorable event—and to our talented musicians for filling the afternoon with beautiful music.

We're delighted to share a few photos from the day, capturing the joy, laughter, and connections that make our church community so special.

Merci beaucoup!



















CAMP COMPASSION is most grateful for PCN's meal service to feed approximately 30 individuals on the third Wednesday of each month (**October 21st!**). The location is [Novato Skate Park Picnic Area](#) 1200 Hamilton Parkway, one block from Nave Drive. You can sign up to help provide food. [You can sign up to help provide food, click here!](#) Questions? Contact Hilary Kinney at 415-577-8616 (text) or hilarykinney@yahoo.com

A Family Life Group Is Forming!



A new Life Group for young families is forming! If you are interested in connecting with other families for fellowship, support, and spiritual growth, we would love to hear from you. Please respond to this email for more information.

EMERGENCY TEAM



The CBERT (Church Building Emergency Response Team) needs you to join for duty.

- Open to all
- Duty specific job description provided by leader
- Perform duty just once a month during the worship service, then coffee time
- Training provided by experienced current member
 - Wear yellow vest and carry two-way radio
- Enjoy the prestige and feeling of worth and pride
 - No pay or benefits
- Contact church office (415) 897-6152) and/or Bruce Stahley (415-328-9278) to volunteer



Dear Friends,

As food insecurity persists and inflation continues to raise prices of essential goods, please be reminded that many people in the Presbytery of the Redwoods and throughout the world are relying on your Cents-Ability donations to sustain them in their times of need.

The Presbytery of the Redwoods Hunger Action Group has been hard at work this year, reviewing grant requests and has funded 10 timely, creative, innovative and necessary projects. Through your contributions and by God's grace, we have awarded \$20,960.00 to date to support hunger alleviation projects in our communities. Some of our 2026 grantees to date are:

- 1) Heritage Presbyterian Church, Benicia to purchase food for community meals: \$3,000**

- 2) Windsor Presbyterian Church to purchase food for the food pantry: \$2,000
3) San Geronimo Presbyterian Church for Extra Food.org to purchase equipment which will assist in recovering, rescuing and redistributing food in Marin County: \$3,000

To date, the Cents-Ability account balance is approximately \$1,000.00. With Thanksgiving and Christmas approaching, The Hunger Action Group will receive and consider for funding many more applications over these next few months. Please continue to promote Cents-Ability within your congregation and contribute to Cents-Ability generously. Please mail in all Cents-Ability funds collected to date to the Presbytery office as soon as possible.

The Hunger Task Force thanks God and you for your willingness to support the fight against hunger in our communities.

Peace and blessings,

Corinne L. Quinn
Presbytery of the Redwoods Hunger Action Advocate
[\(510\) 589-2777](tel:5105892777) (cell)



Pedal for Protein (P4P) is a group ride sponsored by the Presbytery of the Redwoods, Hunger Task Force based in Napa, California.

All funds raised are donated to Northern California Food Banks for local food pantries and one international hunger relief project. Participation helps many grassroots food pantries that are struggling to provide quality protein food such as canned tuna, peanut butter, canned beans, yogurt, eggs and more to hungry families, seniors and children along the Northern California Coast from the Golden Gate Bridge to Crescent City, also including Napa, Solano and Lake Counties.

Pedal for Protein raised over \$25,000 in 2025. In its first twelve years, riders have raised collectively \$490,000!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN - Pedal for Protein 2026

Pedal for Protein (P4P) is returning to a multi-day event - October 20 - 23, 2026!

[For more information and to Register, click here!](#)



LAST ONE OF THE SEASON, OCTOBER 11TH!

Thank You
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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The Property Team would like to give a "Big Thank You", to the Presbyterian Women's Group for covering the cost of the new art work in the Women's Bathroom, in the CE Building.

Additional thanks to the Praun Family for the patching, painting and hanging the art work.

Brad, Stephanie, Kimi and Becky.

Enjoy the new art Floral Prints and Proverbs 31:25 scripture.

*She is clothed in
Dignity and Strength
and she Laughs
without fear of the future.*

Proverbs 31:25



**I CAN DO
ALL THINGS
THROUGH
CHRIST
WHO STRENGTHENS ME**

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

FISHERS OF MEN



AND JESUS SAID TO THEM,
"FOLLOW ME, AND I WILL MAKE
YOU BECOME FISHERS OF MEN."

MARK 1:17

**"Thank you to everyone for the cards, letters and love that you gave me during
this difficult time with the passing of my daughter, Kristina"
Kaaren Tank**

DEACONS PRAYER

*Dear Father,
We are trusting your plan for growth and honoring patience
in ourselves as life changes. Amen.*



All Dressed Up Prison Ministry

Led by Mike Robinson, a part of PCN's Matthew 25 Ministry comes alongside men returning home from San Quentin, meeting their immediate clothing and basic needs with care and dignity."



PCN CHURCH OFFICE

**The office will be closed from Monday, October 12 for
Indigenous Peoples' Day**

The PCN Office is open Monday – Thursday, 9:00-12:00

Please feel free to contact specific program staff directly, anytime.

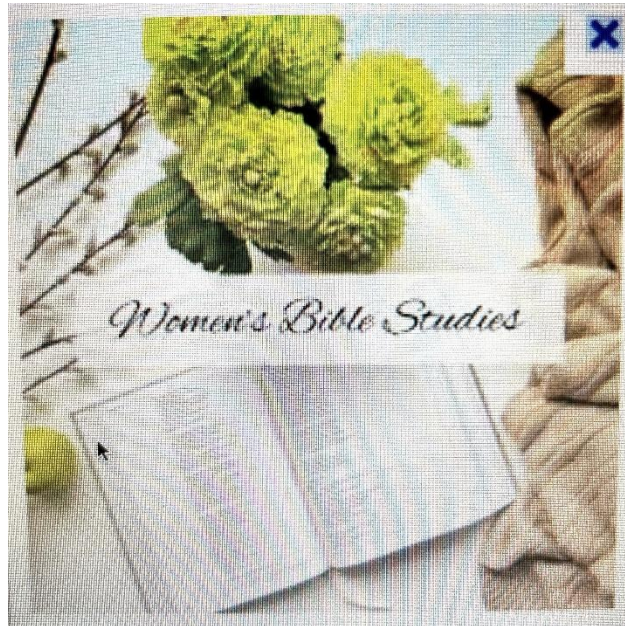
Sally Carbonaro, Sr. Director of Connection & Belonging community@pcnovato.org

Sydney Fletcher, Director of Family Ministries, sydneyf@pcnovato.org

Art Maramba, Music Director, musicdirector@pcnovato.org

Suzanne Schmidt, Finance Secretary, finance1@pcnovato.org

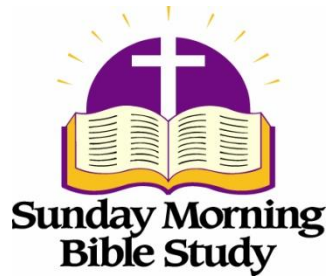
Or leave a message with the office 415.897.6152 pcnadmin@pcnovato.org.



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. 415 472 -1733

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

Meeting ID: 869 1361 6907 Passcode: pcnovato



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 friend 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 for the 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.



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Come join us for study and fellowship. We meet every **Wednesday at 7:15 a.m.** in person and on 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.



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!



Suicide & Crisis Line 24/7

Call 9-8-8

2-1-1 Bay Area is a program of [United Way Bay Area](https://www.unitedwaybayarea.org/)

Call with ANY questions about ANYthing



United Way Bay Area

**"MATTHEW, MARK, AND LUKE, SEE ME
AFTER CLASS."**



**"YOUR BOOK REPORTS ARE SURPRISINGLY
SIMILAR."**