



PResPRes **2016**

July/August

**Presbyterian Church of Novato, 710 Wilson Ave. Box 631, Novato, CA
94948**

KENT'S COMMENTS

*"For by grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God –
not the result of works, so that no one may boast.
For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life."
- Paul at Ephesians 2:8-10*

During this past month Muhammad Ali, perhaps the greatest boxer who ever lived and one of the greatest athletes of all time died. A faithful Muslim, at Muhammad Ali's funeral, one of those eulogizing him said that he attempted to do a good deed every day so that he might gain entrance into heaven. That motivation makes sense in the world of Islam, which is devoid of the grace Paul describes above, in his Letter to the Church at Ephesus.

Many people in our culture assume that Islam and Christianity are basically alike. They do share a number of common elements, that is true, and yet they are also very unlike in many respects. While both seek salvation and teach the existence of an afterlife, they chart very distinct courses for how to pursue a right relationship with God.

One of the ingredients of the Christian faith which sets it apart from Islam and from most of the world's religions is its emphasis on salvation by grace through faith, as stated above by the Apostle Paul. What confuses many people is the relationship between grace, faith, and our good works, i.e., our efforts at obedience. Too often we think that our obedience, our religious achievements and good works are a necessary pre-condition for receiving God's love and acceptance and salvation in Christ, when precisely the opposite is true! Instead of attempting to earn or merit our salvation, the gospel is the announcement of the good news of the saving work God has already done for us through Christ, taking the initiative to love and forgive us, a gift which we receive by faith. While good works are important as an expression of our grateful response for God's gift of grace in Christ, they cannot gain us entrance into the afterlife.

If you haven't yet registered for the class entitled "The Bible and the Quran" comparing the teachings of Christianity and Islam I'll be offering this Fall, I hope you'll consider doing so! It begins on Monday September 12 and is offered both from 9:30 – 11 a.m. and from 7 – 8:30 p.m. The book we'll be using by Presbyterian minister Mateen Ellass is an excellent summary of the similarities and differences between Christianity and Islam. We're requesting a \$20 donation to cover the costs of our textbook and handouts. Please prayerfully consider joining the 90 others who have already registered -

Warmly in Christ,
Kent

MESSAGE FROM ARIEL

When the Nominating Committee Calls – Ariel Mink

One of the best ways to engage in the life of a congregation is to find a ministry through which you can serve Christ and others. There are numerous volunteer opportunities at PCN, which range from preparing and serving meals, participation in a mission trip, making phone calls, greeting on Sunday mornings, running the sound board, being a youth leader or Sunday School teacher, or serving as an Elder or Deacon.

“Presbuteros” in Greek means Elder; the Presbyterian Church gets its name from that type of polity of church government that is described in the scriptures, as a government ruled by Elders. The Ruling Elders are ordained to the ministry of governing and equipping the church for mission and ministry. Deacons are especially charged with ministries of mercy, especially towards the sick and the poor. The word “deacon” is derived from the Greek word diakonos, meaning servant.

According to the Book of Order (Part II of our Presbyterian constitution), *Ruling Elders, together with Teaching Elders exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of the congregation as well as the whole Church. (G-2.0301)*

The ministry of Deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. (G-2.0201)

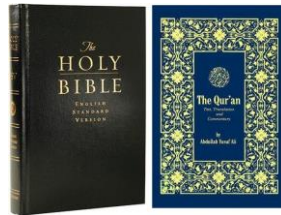
Members serve in either of these two ordained positions (Elder or Deacon) typically for a term of three years at PCN.

Think about your God-given talents. If the Nominating Committee calls to ask you to serve as an Elder or Deacon, please prayerfully consider that request.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Summer Sunday school is at 10:00 each Sunday from now through September 11.

“Kent’s Fall Class”



“The Bible and the Qur’an” – *Comparing the beliefs and Practices of Islam and Christianity*, will be offered September 12 through November 14, 2016. Monday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00am and Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30pm. Course fee - \$20.00 includes book and hand-outs. Registration is open to all interested adults. Let us know if you need child care when you register. There will be a table in the Narthex after worship to sign up.



SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study



"THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD"

The Sunday Adult Bible Study will begin the new quarter on Sunday, September 4, 2016 at 8:30 A.M. in the Library.

We will be looking at three books -- one from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament. The books are Isaiah, Hebrews and Revelation. The theme from all three is ***The Sovereignty of God.***"

The sovereign nature of God is seen through the visionary images of the authors of Isaiah, Hebrews, and Revelation. Isaiah has images of the reign of God over the whole world as a peaceful kingdom, His mountain, the foundations of the earth, and a new and everlasting covenant.

In Hebrews, we see how God comes to lead us in the person of Jesus, and we study images of the reign of the resurrected Christ -- He is the imprint of God, the owner of a household, the great high priest, a priest forever, and the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

In the Revelation of John we will see the one who makes all things new, a vision of a New Jerusalem, a river of life and a proclamation of the imminent second coming of Christ.

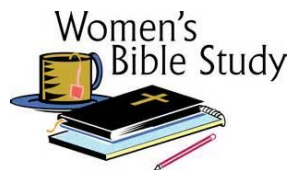
Come and join us and receive the following items to help you in your study of Isaiah, Hebrews, and Revelation:

Comprehensive Bible Study: an adult-level student booklet providing you with commentary on the Scriptures and application to your daily life.

Power For Living: an adult, magazine-style paper profiling Christians serving the Lord all over the world, along with daily Bible readings, puzzles, poems, book excerpts and updates on spiritual trends.

The Quiet Hour: daily devotionals coordinated with the Daily Bible Readings listed in the Comprehensive Bible Study student booklet. For each day, you'll read through the recommended passage of Scripture, consider how a fellow believer has applied the passage's theme to daily life, and be encouraged to step into the day living with God in your life.

Carol Dacquisto,
Study Leader



The Women's Bible Study will resume its study in the *Gospel of Luke* on Thursday morning September 8th at 9:30 A.M. in the Christensen Room.

What a wonderful selection that the ladies made in March 2016. The Gospel of Luke is unique in at least two ways. First, it is the longest Gospel and contains 1,151 verses. Second, it is the only Gospel with a sequel.

Luke must have shared some of Jesus' deep understanding of people's heartaches because he shows amazing insight as he notes again and again how Jesus related to people, especially those who had needs: women, children, the sick and disabled, the poor, and the oppressed. Luke also makes special mention that in addition to the twelve disciples who traveled with Jesus, there were other followers, including women. Luke's care in telling about specific individuals not mentioned in the other Gospels - widows, children, and babies -- point to him as a heart specialist, a doctor of the soul.

We would like would like to invite all the women to come and join us as we study Luke's Gospel and benefit in three important ways that can be life changing:

- Achieve a firm understanding of the book -- its historical context, purpose, structure, and meaning.
- Apply its powerful, relevant wisdom to needs and issues your are currently working through.
- Acquire personal study skills and a thirst to return to the book on your own so you keep going deeper into its life-transforming truths.

We have a special place just for you. Come for a life-changing encounter with God's Word from the book of Luke.

Carol Dacquisto,
Study Leader

DEACONS

First Sunday of each month the Deacon's offering is received.



PCN KIDS

Letter from Sally

Love Your Neighbor

Our May Summer Seekers was a visit to the Novato Police Department. "What is a *public* servant? Who do they serve?"

We made a Thank You banner and brought brownies to share. The 25-minute tour lasted an hour and ten minutes. Inquiring Seekers want to know everything! Everyone got their picture taken in a police car with the lights flashing, it was awesome. We learned dispatch is open for calls 24 hours a day, every single day and two way mirrors are really fun. We ended with brief but thoughtful, deep discussion. Are there bad people?

“Yes!”. Does God make bad people? “No”. People make bad choices. So are there bad people? . . . “no”. No there are not. Does God only love people who make good choices? “No”. Are there people God does not love? . . .”no”. No there are not. God loves everyone. He wants us to do the same.

How can we love when there is so much hate? And how can we love the ones who hate? Our children understand this! They get that God doesn’t make bad people. They understand people make bad choices. They know God loves those same people who make bad choices. God loves the people who hate.

If we agree, and I believe we all do, that having God in our lives forever changes us. God can change people who hate.

God’s commandment is specific, love your neighbor. What matters is what we do, not what the neighbor does or doesn’t do. In fact, what they do is irrelevant.

Childlike faith is not just for children. Sometimes knowing what we know gets in the way of following God. Love your neighbor – just do it. Don’t over think it. Our kids do it, they pray for bullies at school, for kids who bug them.

If our kids can pray for the bullies at school, we can pray for people who make bad choices, for people who hate. As any giving, we are changed by doing so. Our perspective changes, we begin to understand God on a much deeper level. Like the children, we will stand in awe of how mighty our God is to change the hate in the world. What seems to be out of our hands, is in our hands.

Thank you all for praying for the kids during the summer months.

Pray they remember God loves them always and unconditionally.

Pray they can talk to God about anything, anytime, and anywhere.

Pray they give God their hurts and worries and not have to think about them again

Sally Carbonaro
Director of Children’s Ministry



SEEkers Summer Mission Nights

Mark your calendar for these Summer Mission events.

July 12; Aug 16; September 13



Summer Sunday School Teachers

Yes, summer is here and we are in need of some folks to teach our Summer Sunday school class. **Summer Sunday School is going on now until September 11th.** We would love for people to take one Sunday and spend time with our youngest members. Look for the sign up sheet at the VBS table between services each Sunday.



PCN YOUTH – HIGH SCHOOL & JR. HIGH



Dudes and Dads,

It's not easy to be a dude. I've lost count of the sitcoms that portray men as silly oblivious oafs who bumble through life. I think we have lost the story when it comes to respecting men, honoring guys and showing boys how to become men.

Thank you for manning up and taking responsibility day-in and day-out in a world that often caricatures you. Thank you for doing the honorable and difficult thing when no one else is looking. Thank you for being faithful and consistent in a world that glorifies fickleness masquerading as freedom. Thank you for shouldering the burdens that create the shelter those around you need to flourish.

In first Corinthians 16:13-14 Paul says: Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.



This verse makes sense to me because I've seen it in your lives. "Act like men" means to both "be strong" and "let all that you do be done in love." A man is both tough and tender.

As someone who loves and cares for teens and children I have a unique insight into the powerful difference you make. When you show up as a dad or mentor for kids and teen you create the stability they need to thrive.

Thank you for being tough by handling your responsibilities, working hard to provide for those who need you, and protecting women, children and the weak.

Thank you for being tender as you listen to and create space for the women in your lives, as you show up in the lives of kids (yours and others), as you engage in acts of compassion. Thank you for modeling for both men and women what it means to be truly human.



Whether you can see it or not, what you do matters to those around you. The decisions you make and the ways you leverage your strength have a lasting impact for good or for bad. Whether or not someone calls you dad, you're a dude to someone. On their behalf and on God's: thank you for showing up for them.

Jeff Page - Director of Student Ministry

God make us men with thick skin and soft hearts. Make us men who are tough and tender. Make us tough so we can handle life. Make us tender so we can love people. God make us men. -Darren Patrick, Author and Pastor.



July Youth Calendar

3rd Marin County Fair 4 – 10:15 pm

RSVP by 4pm TODAY to reserve a ride.

4th Buckaroo Breakfast 7 – 10am at the Redwood Credit Union Parking Lot

Sign up – <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10cod4ba4ad2ea2fe3-2016>

9th Mission Trip Dinner for Team and their families

6-8 pm Check in Luggage, dinner for all participants and their families, bring packed bags (carry on)

10th Summer Mission Trip July 10 – 16

17th Combined Youth Group 6-8

24th-30th High School Summer Camp Westminster Woods

31st Combined Youth Group 6-8

August save the dates

August 7-9 Paint and Pizza

Painting the youth group meeting room sometime over this weekend. Details to follow.

August 19m20,21 Student Leadership Retreat. Details coming soon along with the application for high schoolers for Student Leadership.

MEMBERSHIP AND OUTREACH

PCN Heritage Day
July 24, 2016

A dark blue rectangular box with white text centered inside. The text reads "PCN Heritage Day" on the first line and "July 24, 2016" on the second line.

Please join us at church on Heritage Day, a celebration to thank and honor those who have been a member of PCN for 50 years or more.

A coffee reception will be held for the honorees at 9:00 am in the Christiansen Room. The entire congregation is invited to join the celebration on the patio after worship service.

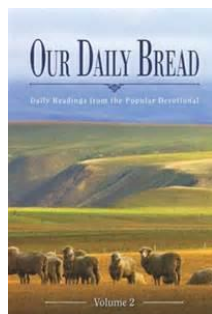
Bruce Stahley, 892-2248, or Kathy Takemoto, 884-9204, can answer any questions you may have.

Following is a list of 25+ years of membership as of December 31, 2015.

Last	First	Date joined	Years of Membership
Sundberg	Tali	3/25/1956	59
Patterson	Libba	6/16/1957	58
Dreosch	Mary Jo	10/5/1958	57
Dreosch	Russell	10/5/1958	57
Harrington	Betty	10/4/1959	56
Jensvold	Sylvia	10/4/1959	56
Convis	Jeanne	3/19/1961	54
Convis	Polly	3/19/1961	54
Hayford	George	3/19/1961	54
Douglass	Frances	11/25/1962	53
Douglass	Robert	11/25/1962	53
May	Chelta	9/29/1963	52
Nye	James	9/26/1965	50
Nye	Shirley	9/26/1965	50
Shannon	Joan	9/26/1965	50
Pfeffer	Marilyn	9/24/1967	48
Shaver	LaVerda	9/24/1967	48
Chipman	Ramona	3/31/1968	47
Dacquisto	Carol	10/6/1968	47
Last	First	Date Joined	Years of Membership
Dacquisto	Lawrence	10/6/1968	47
Rayment	Virginia	11/2/1969	46
Van Winkle	Katherine	12/8/1969	46
Van Winkle	William	12/8/1969	46
Bell	William	11/1/1970	45
Fischer	Connie	5/3/1970	45
Fischer	Ed	5/3/1970	45
Hune	Marion	12/3/1970	45
Pilotte	Marian	11/1/1970	45
Rudy	Priscilla	5/3/1970	45
Rudy Jr.	Richard	5/3/1970	45
Shanahan	Shirley	5/3/1970	45
Bowman	Joann	11/7/1971	44
Crocker	Joanne	4/4/1971	44
Crocker	Richard	4/4/1971	44
Pearce	Beverly	5/27/1971	44
Pearce	Richard	5/27/1971	44
Richman	Jo Anne	11/5/1972	43
Tofanelli	Mary	3/19/1972	43

Wolff	Lynn	11/5/1972	43
Wolff	William	11/5/1972	43
Wood	Stan	11/5/1972	43
Sundberg	Robert	12/19/1973	42
Penfield	Gail	5/5/1974	41
Ramser	Delane	10/6/1974	41
Spratling	Dolores	5/5/1974	41
Cobb	Beverly	4/18/1976	39
Crawford	Patricia	4/11/1976	39
Pfeiff	Donna	4/11/1976	39
Dubyak	Jane	11/27/1977	38
Haas	Ruth	10/30/1977	38
McGinnis	Billie	11/27/1977	38
Paff	Douglas	3/16/1977	38
Bodipo-Memba	Eleuteria	4/2/1978	37
DiDomenico	Maria	5/7/1978	37
Dunham	Alan	3/19/1978	37
Dunham	Roberta	3/19/1978	37
Hanlein	E.B.	2/15/1978	37
Hanlein	Jonathan	2/15/1978	37
Last	First	Date Joined	Years of Membership
Bartholomew	Harland	11/18/1979	36
Botko	Katherine	11/18/1979	36
Draeger	Loree	2/11/1979	36
Tank	Kaaren	5/20/1979	36
Botko	James	4/18/1980	35
Clausen	Ann	4/27/1980	35
Clausen	Robert	4/27/1980	35
Eakle	Sheila	10/5/1980	35
Eakle	Steve	10/5/1980	35
Hurst	Patricia	11/23/1980	35
MacDonald	Fran	4/20/1980	35
Mclvor	Brenda	3/16/1980	35
Taylor	Donaldson	6/8/1980	35
Thompson	Donald	6/1/1980	35
Thompson	Judith	6/1/1980	35
Jamieson	Frank	4/5/1981	34
Jamieson	Linda	4/5/1981	34
Jones	David	2/8/1981	34
Jones	Kay	2/8/1981	34
Brand	Donald	6/6/1982	33
Ibanez	Amparo	10/10/1982	33
Stahley	Ann	2/21/1982	33
Stahley	Bruce	2/21/1982	33

Forbes	Donald	12/11/1983	32
Forbes	Margo	12/11/1983	32
Foster	Nancy	3/13/1983	32
King	Fred	12/11/1983	32
King	Carolyn	12/11/1983	32
Mink	Ariel	4/17/1983	32
Robinson	Carol	12/11/1983	32
Saysette	Douglas	12/11/1983	32
Saysette	Virginia	12/11/1983	32
Wayne	Jay	12/11/1983	32
Gerrans	Carolyn	6/20/1984	31
Ward	Linda	6/20/1984	31
Doerksen	Betty	11/10/1985	30
Rolka	Gail	4/17/1985	30
Rolka	James	4/17/1985	30
Fong	Garrick	5/11/1986	29
Last	First	Date Joined	Years of Membership
Fong	Sandra	5/11/1986	29
Mclvor-Tingle	Allison	5/11/1986	29
Stutzman	Shirley	10/26/1986	29
Tharin	Connie	3/22/1987	28
Winsor	Beverly	10/4/1987	28
Winsor	Michael	10/4/1987	28
Wannenmacher	Nelly	5/22/1988	27
Acosta	Kay	3/12/1989	26
Breazeale	David	5/7/1989	26
Breazeale	Ellen	5/7/1989	26
Glazner	Anna	3/12/1989	26
Monahan	Stephanie	2/21/1990	25
Peterson	Randall	4/25/1990	25
Peterson	Sandra	4/25/1990	25



Pick up your copy of **“Our Daily Bread”** for **June*July*August 2016** on the hall table in the office. Helping you connect with God every day.

**New Members:**

Carolyn Ainsworth, 646 Canyon Rd. #203, Novato, CA 94947 415 895-8425
Stephanie & Todd Paddack, 1921 Marion Avenue, Novato, CA 94947,
415218-9238

Trudi Licht, 420 So Palm Dr. #207, Novato, CA, 415 342-6631

Donna Shepherd 31 Pinheiro Cr. F20, Novato, CA 94945, 415 233-1494

Change of address:

Dave and Judy Snyder, 1000 Ignacio Blvd. #12, Novato, CA 94949

**PROGRAM AND FELLOWSHIP**

SHINE ON HARVEST MOON SHINDIG, a PCN adult harvest gathering
Saturday, October 15, 5:00 - 9:00 PM, Bahia Clubhouse. Dancing, Dining,
Discourse

Sunday, October 23, **Trunk, Trick or Treat for PCN youth.**

PCN Men's Group

The PCN Men's Group is a Bible study group for men of all ages. Come join us for study and fellowship. We meet every Wednesday at 7:30am in the Christensen Room. Contact Phil Dougherty for more information.

Singles Group

The singles group is extending an invitation to everyone. The group meets at **Round Table Pizza** every 3rd Friday of the month at 5:30pm. For more information call Eleuteria Memba at 707 539-6078.

Coffee each Thursday at 2:00 at Creekside Bakery.

**MISSIONS****JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST ARE THE HARDEST MONTHS TO FILL AT MILL STREET HOMELESS CENTER!**

Mill Street Center in San Rafael is Marin County's only night-to-night emergency shelter for homeless individuals. A network of volunteer community groups shares a monthly rotation to provide a home-cooked hot meal each day. This significant gift has endured for more than 25 years. If you would like to contribute, please contact Patty Reed (415.699.5246)

pdreed@sbcglobal.net or Annie Clausen (415.892.4127) annieclausen62@gmail.com. You can also sign up directly to provide food through signupgenius.com. It's easy and fun! Click on "find a Sign Up", enter Patty's email, pdreed@sbcglobal.net, to locate our Mill Street signup sheet.

DONATIONS are welcome! We are glad to shop for you! Make out your check to PCN, marked "Mill Street".

Mission Trip – Juarez, Mexico, October 19-22, 2016 * Save the Date!

Come join the Juarez mission team!

Four days of great company, good food, travel...and did I mention we will build a home for a family! All are welcome!



Thank-you

*To our PCN Family,
Thank you for all of your prayers meals cards and flowers. They were all
deeply appreciated.
Rhea and Irv Hirsch*

MISCELLANEOUS

Recipe in 1992 PCN cookbook from Lora Lou Smith

“MORE” (casserole)

2lb ground beef	1 lb. elbow macaroni
2 garlic cloves	1 large can tomatoes
2 large onions	1 8oz can tomato sauce
¼ c. oil	1 can cream-style corn
1 jar pimiento	1 can peas (or frozen)
1 can ripe olives (pitted)	1 lb. American cheese, grated

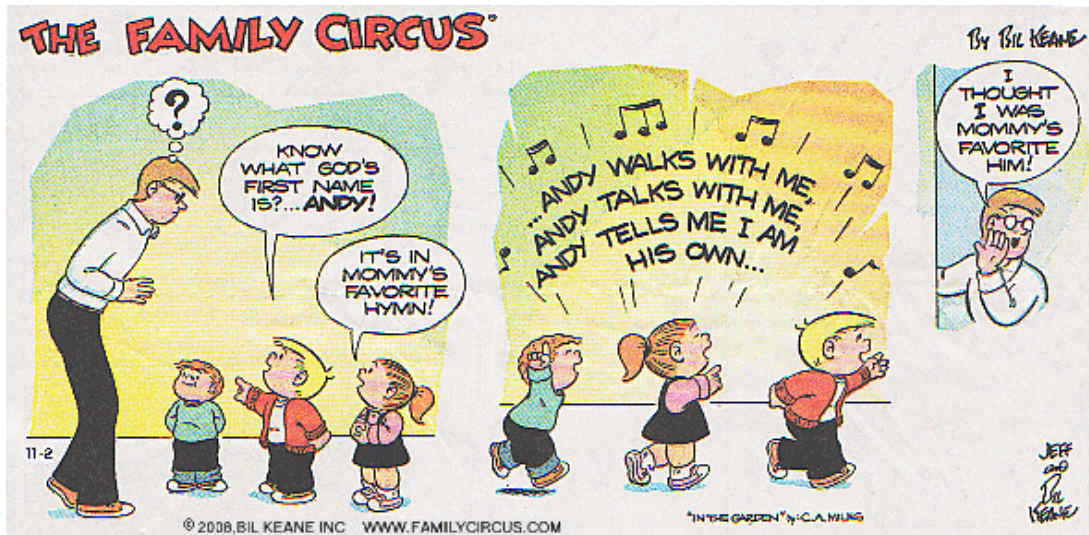
Cook and drain macaroni. Mince onion and garlic and fry in hot oil with meat until partially done. Combine all ingredients and place in large, greased baking dish. Bake approximately 1 hour at 350 (covered). Will serve 20 generously.

History Corner

Are you comfortable as you sit in our padded pews each Sunday? When we first moved to Wilson Avenue, we met for services in Trevitt Hall, where we now have coffee after church in the winter. Our pews were simply squared off wooden pews, hardly comfortable for any period of sitting. One Sunday, having endured the discomfort just long enough, Dorothy Ballard beloved wife of the retired pastor who often helped us, stood up at the end of the service and asked for our attention. She pointed out how we “felt” and said that she had measured all the pews, had priced material, and had determined how much it would cost to make cushions for all of the pews. In addition she had determined how much it would cost for each “bottom” to be comfortable. I know that she had permission from the powers that be to do this and she had the offering plates passed a second time, requesting that each family determine what it would cost for their family to sit in comfort on Sunday and to put that amount, or a pledge for the amount, in the collection plate. The plates were passed, the service ended, the “sitting” collection was counted and enough had been collected or pledged to make us all comfortable. What a relief.

- Tali Sundburg

Just a little humor



PResPRes editor Needed!!!

After four years, Kai Lancaster is leaving the position of PResPRes editor to dedicate more time to the youth program. This means that we are in need of someone to take over the task of creating the monthly newsletter. If interested, please contact Ariel at Ariel_Mink@Gallup.com or Kai at KaiLancaster@hotmail.com

In the mean time, until we get a new editor please send your articles and information for the PResPRes to pcnadmin@earthlink.net

Feel free to send any little PCN history tidbit you may know for our 'History Corner'.

STAFF

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