



AMEN NEWS

Connections

Letter from the AMEN Chair

JULIE HUGHES

Dear AMEN friends,

WOW! As I reflect on the last few weeks, the word that comes to mind is **gratitude**. Given all the uncertainty of the past several months and the void that was created due to the cancellation of so many social activities, I was blown away with the joy, love and excitement that flowed on the Bellarmine campus as we celebrated this wonderful organization at the 20th Anniversary Fall Dinner. Bev Bonovich and Heidi Burke truly created the most incredible evening. I do not think that a more perfect night could have taken place. I hope those of you attending felt the same way!

As we head into the Thanksgiving holiday, I cannot help but reflect on all that I am so grateful for. The love of family, the laughter with friends, the afternoon walks with my dog, the facetime calls with my college kids, and the new friends I have made through AMEN. All true blessings. I wish you all much love and happiness throughout the upcoming holiday season.

Many blessings,

Julie Hughes

*Happy Thanksgiving
from morning to night
Hope whatever you do
brings you joy and delight
Hope family and friends
and those you hold dear
Make magical memories
you'll cherish for years*



From Spirituality and Wellness Chairs –

GIGI HARVEY & MARIA VON MASSENHAUSEN

You are invited to a Jesuit Alumni & Friends Morning of Reflection *Cura Personalis - Care for the Whole Person in the time of Covid* which will be held online via Zoom this November.



Jesuit Alumni & Friends Morning of Reflection

“Cura Personalis - Care for the Whole Person in the time of Covid”

Saturday, November 20, 2021

9:30am - 11:30am PST

Online via Zoom

Andy Otto, Presenter
with Alumni Panelists

Please [register](#) by Monday, November 15, 2021

Through this experience of a world-wide pandemic, **we have been called into a new reality where rest and care for our whole selves** has become essential. As alums and friends of Jesuit universities and institutions, **how might we be called into developing our awareness and practice of the Jesuit maxim of *Cura Personalis* (Care for the Whole Person) in our daily lives** – with ourselves, our friends and families, our work and communities?

Presenter Andy Otto of GodInAllThings.com will share opening remarks to begin our morning, followed by an opportunity for individual reflection and an alumni panel who will share their responses, as well as a chance for small group conversation and prayer. **Let us gather for a nourishing morning together!**

[Learn More & Register](#)

[Share our Facebook Event](#)

Upcoming Events From AMEN Social Circles

Garden Circle November Event

LISA CHRISTENSEN & TERESA GIOVANZANA

November Event - "Beyond Van Gogh" at the San Jose Convention Center - [Deadline to sign up is Friday, November 5th. Proof of vaccination is required for entry.](#)

Come stand in the garden in a way you never have. *Beyond Van Gogh* is a rich and unique multimedia experience, taking the viewer on a journey through over 300 iconic artworks including instantly-recognizable classics "The Starry Night", "Sunflowers", and "Cafe Terrace at Night". Set to a symphonic score and using the artist's own dreams, thoughts, and words to drive the experience as a narrative, Van Gogh's art comes to life by appearing and disappearing, flowing across multiple surfaces and heightening the senses with their immense detail.

Where: South Hall, San Jose McEnery Convention Center, 435 South Market Street, San Jose

When: Thursday, November 18th @ 4:00 (event duration is approximately 1 hour) Enjoy a cocktail with your AMEN sisters immediately following the show. Location TBD.

Cost: \$31 (additional taxes or fees may be additional) for group tickets with timed entrance. **Group limit is 20. Sign up before Friday, November 5th.**

Email: Lisa95008@gmail.com to attend and reserve with your payment via check or Venmo.



Upcoming Events From AMEN Social Circles



Examples of charcuterie boards!

In November the baking social circle will continue “A Year of Sweet and Savory” with our next savory event [Grazin’ Through the Holidays](#) on Sunday, November 7th at 11:00AM. The group will be focusing on charcuterie boards. Donna will be teaching how to bake yummy homemade crackers and breadsticks for our boards. Everyone will also learn how to portion a board based on guest number; how color, texture and flavor play into your board; and how to make it festive for the upcoming holidays. We will even make a dessert charcuterie board!

The cost is \$15, and lunch will be served (hint: think charcuterie boards!)

If you are interested in joining the baking social circle and participating in the event please email Donna Gallo at donna@thegallofamily.com All baking levels are welcome!

We look forward to baking with you!
Donna Gallo and Bev Bonovich

Upcoming Events From AMEN Social Circles

Garden Circle December Event

LISA CHRISTENSEN & TERESA GIOVANZANA

December Event - Succulent Garden Wreath Crafting at Succulent Gardens in Castroville

Celebrate the beginning of the holidays by crafting a Christmas Grapevine Wreath that will last through the season! 🎄 Succulent Gardens in Castroville will provide fresh Christmas greens, succulent cuttings, lichen, pinecones, and other dried botanicals to create a beautiful 12" wreath to display in your home. Learn all of the tips and tricks from in-house designer Simone, to create a beautifully composed design. This event will be a private class for AMEN participants only. Class cost is \$37.71 (includes taxes) and includes all materials needed. If you would like to make two wreaths, cost will be \$75.42. **Group limited 20 participants.**

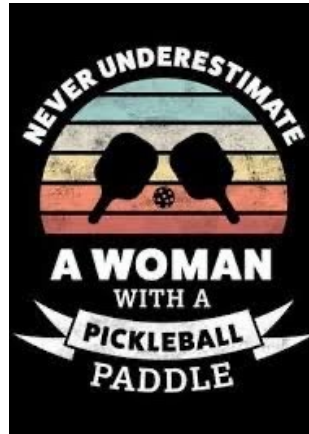
Monday, December 6th, 10:00 AM to 12 PM at Succulent Gardens Nursery + Lunch at Phil's, Moss Landing (immediately following class)

2133 Elkhorn Road, Castroville

Email Lisa95008@gmail.com if you would like to attend and reserve with your payment via check or Venmo.



Monthly Events From AMEN Social Circles



Don't forget PickleBall- if you would like to join in!! All levels, including beginners, are welcome.

This Social Circle will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Get your paddles ready!

Coming up - Weds. **November 10, 2021** from **3:30 - 5:30 pm** at Willow Glen Middle School. For more information and to sign up, please contact either Kathy Armistead (kathy.armistead@gmail.com) or Kim Loquaci (kimloquaci@msn.com)



Also Wine Wednesday! These are both standing monthly events!

Join us for some casual conversation and fun on November 10th! As we will need a reservation, please RSVP if you plan to attend by November 5th. Location TBD but will be someplace in Los Gatos this month.

RSVP to julievhughes@gmail.com.

Updates From Amen Social Circles

AMEN Fall Dinner Write Up

JULIE HUGHES

It truly was an *Angelic* evening – Celebrating 20 years of AMEN!

The October Fall Dinner celebration held under the stars at Bellarmine was a sparkling success thanks to Bev Bonovich and Heidi Burke, AMEN’s Fall Dinner Chairs. They created an incredible and memorable evening for all! The evening began on the campus quad where members were treated to delicious appetizers provided by our very own AMEN gourmet circle and past AMEN chair, Betsy Noonan, poured a special angelic cocktail. Raffle tickets were sold benefitting the Angel Fund and lucky members walked away at the end of the evening with incredible baskets created by the gourmet group, the book group, the garden group and the hiking group. Our membership consists of so many incredibly talented and generous women. The garden circle created the most stunning pumpkin and succulent center pieces and the baking circle provided the sweet ending for the evening – beautiful angel cookies!



Centerpieces created by the Gardening Circle



Angel cookies created by the baking circle.



Angelic cocktail created by Betsy Noonan!



Bina Patel, Linda Chin and Teresa Giovanzana

The highlight of the evening was celebrating the **20th Anniversary of AMEN**. It was an honor to be able to have the “*Original Greats*” in attendance with us... Celeste Melehan, Linda Okenquist, Tracie Frandsen, Denise Bacharach, Nancy Franich, Carmen McHugh and Barb Gentzkow and of course, Father Wade.



The first AMEN meeting, held on Feb. 28, 2001

We are truly grateful for Celeste Melehan’s planted seed of love to keep the Bellarmine Moms together after their Bellarmine Boys graduated and to all the original AMEN board of Angels who watered the seed and brought AMEN to life. We are also grateful for Father Wade who has spiritually directed the most amazing and passionate organization of Angels, and continues to be a blessing in all of our lives.



Fall Dinner- Oct. 19, 2021 - Father Wade, Celeste Melehan’s and Linda Okenquist

We were so blessed to celebrate such a magical evening with all of you AMEN Angels – this group of women, based on friendship and love, is such an amazing organization. Cheers to all of you!



Gigi Harvey, Father Wade



Gigi Harvey, Susan Tuttle



AMEN Angels!



Julie Hughes, Amen Chair 2021



AMEN Angels!



Thank you again to all of our incredible Angels who contributed to making this such a beautiful evening. The baking group, the hiking group, the garden group, the gourmet groups – you truly outdid yourselves. It truly takes a village, and our village is the best!!



Baking Social Circle

A YEAR OF SWEET AND SAVORY

BEV BONOVIK AND DONNA GALLO

The baking social circle has been very busy! In September they kicked off “A Year of Sweet and Savory” with [We Knead Each Other](#) a welcome back bagel making event. Everyone learned how to make the most delicious, savory bagels which they enjoyed over lunch. Many tips and techniques were shared so everyone could repeat the recipe at home. Here is the recipe, and a few YouTube videos with directions, and a picture of the bakers and the bagels.

Bagels

Ingredients

- 8 cups of Bread Flour
- Water – 55% of the weight of the bread flour (55% hydration)
- 1 package active dry yeast (red packets NOT the blue) or 2 ½ teaspoons
- 1 Tablespoon sugar
- 20 grams of salt
- 5 Tablespoons barley malt extract divided (3 T for bagels, 2T for boiling)
- ***can use maple syrup or honey as a substitute.
- 1 T baking soda
- Corn meal optional
- Toppings of choice

Instructions

Weigh out all ingredients. Warm ½ cup of the weighed water and add yeast and sugar. Set aside and let activate for 15 minutes.

Mix flour, water, yeast/water mixture, salt, and 3T malted syrup in a mixing bowl with a dough hook for 20 minutes. (Can knead by hand for 20 minutes). If adding chocolate chips or raisins, add desired amount at the end of the 20 minutes and mix until just incorporated. Do not overmix or chocolate chips will melt. You can knead in by hand.

Sprinkle cutting board or counter with flour. Dump dough onto the flour surface and let relax for 20 minutes-do not cover. This process is called proofing (rising). Cut into 150-gram pieces (should be around 12). Roll out like a snake and wrap around your hand so the ends overlap by about 3 inches. Press together and roll back and forth on a counter while still around your hand to seal the two ends. The whole should be around 2-3”. Place on a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper (can sprinkle parchment paper with corn meal to help prevent bagels from sticking or if you like a little crunch on the bottom of your bagels. Refrigerate overnight WITHOUT any cover on top of the bagels.

Next morning:

Preheat oven to 500 degrees. Fill a large pot with around 4-5” of water, add 2T malted barley extract, baking soda and bring to a boil. Boil bagels for 1 minute on each side. Remove and cover both sides with topping (It is easiest to put the toppings in a pie pan and turn once pressing lightly so topping sticks). Place on cookie sheet with freshly lined parchment paper.

Bake for 10 minutes. Turn bagels and cook for 5 minutes or until golden brown.

Suggestion: Use King Arthur’s All-Purpose Flour for this recipe.

Suggested YouTube videos

Pro Home Cooks

<https://youtu.be/qYq0D9tK2dk>

Claire Saffitz

<https://youtu.be/8l8BheCDjeA>



Baking Social Circle

NOTHING BUNDT BELLS EVENTS

BEV BONOVICH AND DONNA GALLO

In October the baking social circle helped bakers prepare for the holidays with four sweet, easy, make ahead or make last minute, bundt cakes in our [Nothing Bundt Bells](#) event. We made Pumpkin Cream Cheese, Kahlua Chocolate, Glazed Apple, and Almond-Amaretto bundt cakes. The bundt cakes were simple and divine! Here are the recipes to try:

<https://sallysbakingaddiction.com/pumpkin-cream-cheese-bundt-cake/>

<http://www.flourarrangements.org/2013/04/kahlua-chocolate-cake/>

<https://sallysbakingaddiction.com/glazed-apple-bundt-cake/>

<https://www.dixiecrystals.com/recipes/Almond-Amaretto-Poundcake>



Nothing Bundt Bells event – Note: There were many tips shared at the event.



Bellarmino News

Everyone had a blast at the 67th Annual Bellarmine Mothers' Guild Fashion Show in October! It was wonderful to welcome so many guests on such a beautiful day to Bellarmine's first Fashion Show on campus in front of a live audience. Thank you to all who attended and supported the show - we couldn't have done it without you! You may still donate at <https://bellarmine.ejoinme.org/fashionshow> 📷 Al Bacosa at Bacosa Photography #BellarmineFashionShow #BellFashionShow #BMG #BellMoms #VivaLaVidaFashionShow- Always a special occasion! Go BELLS!





Bellarmino News

Many thanks to the Latino Student Union and Familias Unidas for hosting this weekend's Día de los Muertos celebration! Día de los Muertos honors both life and death by combining indigenous traditions from Latin America with Catholicism to show love and respect for loved ones who have passed on.



All are invited to the first Bay Area Jesuit Alumni Mass and Service Project, taking place November 7th at Santa Clara University!

Alumni from Jesuit high schools and colleges are welcome to attend 10 AM Mass at Mission Santa Clara, then join us in making bag lunches for Loaves & Fishes Family Kitchen to distribute to seniors.

Register here:

[https://www.scu.edu/alumni/events/eventcalendar/...](https://www.scu.edu/alumni/events/eventcalendar/)



Virtual Connections

AMEN Website	https://www.bcp.org/amen
AMEN Membership	https://www.bcp.org/amen/membership
AMEN Social Circles	https://www.bcp.org/amen/socialcircles
The Angel Fund	Donate
AMEN Merchandise	https://www.bcp.org/amen/fundraising
AMEN Facebook Group	https://www.facebook.com/groups/663667830385009/about/