



# AMEN NEWS

Alumni Mothers Extended Network

DECEMBER 2022

Dear Amen Sisters,

The holidays are here with excitement for family gatherings, unfolding stained, grubby grocery lists, finding new recipes, decorating, sending cards, and buying gifts. Although these seem like added duties, when I reminisce, only funny moments and longstanding traditions stand out. I'm also finding new traditions to savor the Christmas spirit without kids at home to lead the charge.

One is visiting Filoli to see the lights, enjoy mulled wine, and do some shopping. I went several years ago with the Gardening Group, and when they organized it this year, I registered immediately! The Community Service Group is also helping those in need with collections, reminding me of a little family long ago who needed help on a cold night. I hope you find time to gather with your Amen friends to celebrate this beautiful Christmas season!

Also take time to embrace the frenetic pace and added activities with a joyful spirit. Enjoy moments of grace to stop and gaze at Christmas lights, smell fir trees and spices, taste delicious holiday treats, listen to Christmas carols while shopping, and enjoy big hugs at family reunions.

May holiday blessings and graces abound,



Sarah Bonini  
Steering Committee Chair



**"May your walls know  
joy, may every room  
hold laughter, and  
every window open to  
great possibility."**

**- Mary Anne  
Radmacher**

AMEN raises funds through membership donations, the Fall and Spring Dinners, and purchases from our online store. Donations to The Angel Fund support students who need assistance through the Magis Scholar Program. Become a Member Today to be a part of this amazing group!

# Events

## Share the Joy of the Season



Get into the holiday mood by wrapping gifts for children who are housed in HomeFirst's family shelters. HomeFirst is one of the recipients of Bellarmine's Winter Warmth Drive.

We'll gather at 10 am on Wednesday, December 14th at HomeFirst's office in Milpitas, near the intersection of 880 and 237, and should be done between noon and 1pm. Space is limited so RSVP early! Please email Linda Chin at [chindalin@aol.com](mailto:chindalin@aol.com) for details and to RSVP.

She'll also be glad to collect gently used bedding of all sizes, toiletries, and basic kitchenware for HomeFirst clients that are moving into housing.

DATE	AMEN EVENT	CONTACT
Wed. Dec. 7 9 AM	Golf Group Pruneridge Golf Course Santa Clara	<u><a href="#">Catherine Christofferson</a></u>
Wednesday Dec. 14 10 AM	Gift wrapping at HomeFirst Milpitas	<u><a href="mailto:Linda.Chin@chindalin@aol.com">Linda Chin chindalin@aol.c om</a></u>
	<b>Happy Holidays!</b>	



A great time was had by all who joined the November "Thirsty Thursday" event at Gali Vineyards tasting room in Los Gatos. Thanks for coming!



# Interest Groups

## Get Involved! Interest Groups

Hiking? Baking? Reading?  
Golfing? We've created an easy way to express that you want to get involved in an Interest Group. Just scan the QR code on your phone, and it will direct you to a form to complete. Your information will be shared to the Interest Group chair and she will reach out about joining the group. Contact [Kathy Armistead](#) for more info!



AMEN Interest Groups Sign Up  
[docs.google.com](https://docs.google.com)



The gourmet group gathers to celebrate the gift of gratitude.

### **Gourmet with Gratitude**

The Wednesday Gourmet Group met on November 9th to celebrate the gift of gratitude with a spicy bourbon cocktail; baked brie with roasted apples; beet and goat cheese salad; herbed pork tenderloin with curried couscous; and pumpkin spice latte cookies.

AMEN currently has two Gourmet Groups of 16 women each. We take turns cooking and hosting and cherish the memories and meals we build together. One group meets on the second Wednesday of each month during the school year, the other on the second Saturday of each month. If you'd like to be placed on the substitute list to fill an empty seat at an upcoming luncheon, or to be placed on the waiting list to join one of the groups as a member, or to start a third group, please contact Interest Group Chair [Kathy Armistead](#).



### **AMEN Retreat March 11, 2023**

The AMEN one day retreat will be held on Saturday, March 11th, 2023 at Santa Clara University in Bannan Alumni House. Please mark your calendars for a day to reflect and enjoy some Spiritual Time as Spring approaches! More details and registration information will follow as the day becomes closer. We hope to see you there!





### **Baking Group Gathers for "Let's Go Nuts" event**

The Baking Group had 27 ladies join in our Let's Go Nuts event. We made Chocolate, Peanut Butter, Protein Smoothies (25 grams of protein without protein powder), Healthy Chocolate, Peanut Butter protein Bars, and Gluten Free Chewy Nut and Seed Bars (aka Kind Bars). The recipes were delicious! Many wonderful baking tips were shared amongst us making the event quite lively!



Donna Gallo made the most heavenly lunch that included a Lemony Farro Pasta Salad with Goat Cheese and Mint, and a Fennel, Endive and Walnut Salad that had the most delicious pink and white apples in it! Donna also made Seeded Za'atar crackers and Seedy Oat crackers! Lunch was heavenly! Our next Plant based Baking event will be on December 11 at 11:00 at Donna Gallo's home. We will be baking an Upside-down Pear Gingerbread cake. We will also be having a cookie exchange on the same day.

To join the baking group please email Donna Gallo at [donna@thegallofamily.com](mailto:donna@thegallofamily.com) All baking levels are welcome!

## **BCP Campus Corner**

**Did you know...**BCP is reputed for its graduates' contributions and powerful influence in the Bay Area. Bellarmine's list of notable alumni includes 4 Olympians (six Gold Medals combined), 2 living Billionaires, 3 Mayors of San Jose, the former team owners of the San Francisco Giants and Oakland Athletics, 3 World Series Champions, 2 Super Bowl Champions, 1 Academy-Award Winner, 1 Pulitzer Prize Winner, 28 Professional MLB athletes, numerous award-winning authors and several state politicians.

To stay up to date with **BCP Alumni News** click **this page!**

## **Virtual Connections**

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