



# AMEN NEWS

Alumni Mothers Extended Network

JANUARY 2023

Happy New Year!

Dear Amen Sisters,

In the words of Oprah Winfrey, "Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right." These positive thoughts are a great toast as we move into 2023.

The holidays are a sweet memory now, and Amen December events like visiting Filoli Gardens at night all lit up like a magical fairytale and joining the Steering Committee for a fun evening at Uncorked! in Saratoga make me excited for more Amen events in 2023. Stay tuned for Bocce Ball with the Dogs (Dads of Grads) group, the Amen retreat in March, and our Spring Dinner in April. Join an interest group or, consider being a part of the 2023-2024 Steering Committee. Have a great January, and a healthy and prosperous New Year!

GO BELLS!

Sarah Bonini

Steering Committee Chair



More than 20 AMEN members braved the storm Dec. 1 to see the beauty of Filoli Gardens' holiday decorations.



# Events

## AMEN Christmas Elves Deliver



On Wednesday, December 14th, AMEN volunteers wrapped Christmas gifts for the children and teens in HomeFirst's family shelters and assembled 50 gift bags for veterans in their programs, including warm new gloves donated by AMEN's Steering Committee. What better way to share the joy and blessings of the season!

And how heartwarming to meet in person to catch up with old friends and meet new ones...and to sample homemade *cucidati* (Italian fig cookies) made by HomeFirst's volunteer coordinator for our great enjoyment. Hope to see you at our next volunteer event!

DATE	AMEN EVENT	CONTACT
Sunday Jan. 15 11 AM	Baking Group - Power Bars	<u>Bev Bonovich</u> and Donna Gallo
Wed. Feb. 1 9 AM	Golf Group Pruneridge Golf Course Santa Clara	<u>Catherine Christofferson</u>
Sunday Feb. 12 11 AM	Baking Group - Chocolate	<u>Bev Bonovich</u> and Donna Gallo



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

# 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)



Please join us for the Amen Retreat on Saturday, March 11, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Santa Clara University's Bannan Alumni House. Come spend a day in fellowship and learn about Saint Ignatius, one of the founders of the Jesuits, and his journey with the Spiritual Exercises during his 4-week, 325 mile journey on the Camino de Santiago.

[Click to Sign up!](#)

The Spiritual Exercises are a series of directed meditations on the purpose of life and contemplations on the life of Christ. Facilitators Katie Metzger and Terry Jelley will walk us through the Spiritual Exercises which include:

Week 1- Loved, Broken & Healed,  
Week 2-The Way of Jesus  
Week 3-Passion  
Week 4- New Life

Vicki Pope will then take us on a mini Camino de Santiago walk through the beautiful grounds of Santa Clara University where we will practice the Spiritual Exercises.

Cost is \$50 per person. Continental breakfast and lunch included. We look forward to journeying with you!

Becky Muise and Bev Bonovich- AMEN Retreat Coordinators



## Baking Group Update

The baking group ended 2022 with a festive celebration in Donna's beautiful home! We made four Caramelized Pear Upside Down cakes that were shared amongst the 22 bakers. Donna served a delicious lentil soup and a couscous salad. After lunch we had our Christmas Cookie Exchange. There were SO many yummy cookies baked by AMEN ladies. We look forward to baking with you in the New Year!



## BCP Campus Corner

Are you a BCP alumnus practicing law? You're invited to join Jeff Smyth, Carlos Rosario, Abe Andrade, and Joe Naegele (all from the class of 2001) to kick off the new Bellarmine Alumni Attorney Networking Group with a happy hour event in downtown San Jose!

Date: Thursday, January 12

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Location: SP2 (72 N. Almaden Ave, San Jose, CA 95110)

Please RSVP to Jeff Smyth at [jeffrey.smyth@finnegan.com](mailto:jeffrey.smyth@finnegan.com)!

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