

Dec. 2023 Newsletter

AMEN Bellarmine <amen{bcp.org}@groupvine.com>

Wed 12/6/2023 6:45 PM

To: Bellarmine Alumni Mothers Extended Network <amenbcp@groupvine.com>

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Bellarmino Alumni Mothers Extended Network

December 7, 2023



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President's message

Happy December!

All over the world, December is a time for families, friends and loved ones to come together, throw or attend parties, vacation together, exchange gifts and spread good cheer.

St. Nicholas Day on December 6th celebrates the Christian saint known for generosity and kindness, which inspires acts of charity in December. Bodhi Day on December 8th is the Buddhist holiday that celebrates Buddha's day of enlightenment. Trees are often decorated with colored lights symbolizing enlightenment.

These are just a few of the many December holidays celebrated. Although there are differences, they all share the best of humankind. And, the recognition of our common humanity provides us with the opportunity to cherish our differences.

So, no matter what brings you together this holiday season, may you cherish those you are with and may the gift of peace be yours.

Cheers to 2024!

Lisa Christensen
AMEN Steering Committee Chair



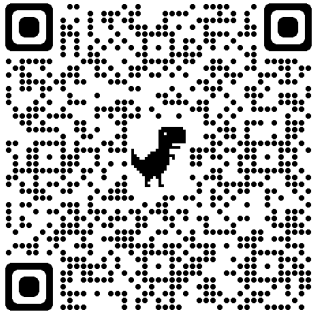
Upcoming Events

12/2	8:50	Hike with LAMP-Heitz/Belgatos Park 119 Regent Park Dr Los Gatos-Open	Ashley Hopkins ashleychp66@gmail.com
12/3	11:00	Baking Group - Hidden places waffles & cookie exchange	Donna Gallo donna@thegallofamily.com
12/4	8:15	Hiking SC	Teresa Giovanzana teresagiovanzana@comcast.net
12/5	10-1:00	Home First volunteer	Linda Chin chindalin@aol.com
12/6	9:00	Golf Group - Pruneridge	Catherine Christoffersen- catherineamengolf@gmail.com
12/7	3:00 onward	Garden Group - Holidays at Filoli and Ladera Garden & Gifts	Lisa Christensen - lisa95008@gmail.com
12/7	10-3	Home First holiday gift wrapping	Linda Chin chindalin@aol.com
12/8	4-6 pm	Food & Wine Testarossa Premium Wine Tasting	Lenore Grant lgrant@SCU.edu
12/10	2:00	Smuin Ballet-Sold out Theatre Works Mountain View	Ashley Hopkins ashleychp66@gmail.com
12/11	8:15	Hiking SC	Teresa Giovanzana teresagiovanzana@comcast.net

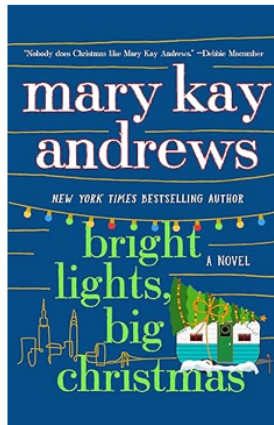
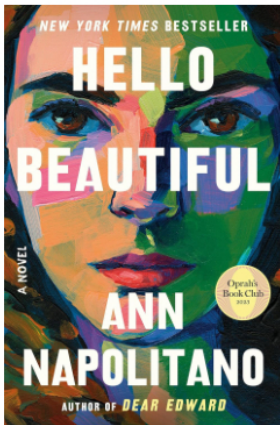
12/12	10-1:00	Home First volunteer	Linda Chin chindalin@aol.com
12/14	10:00-12:00	Vegan Gourmet Group breakfast - Crepes Bistro 57 Washington Santa Clara	Michelle Abene 408-656-1399
12/18	8:15	Hiking SC	Teresa Giovanzana teresagiovanzana@comcast.net
12/19	10-1:00	Home First volunteer	Linda Chin chindalin@aol.com
12/25		MERRY CHRISTMAS!	
1/1/24		HAPPY NEW YEAR!	
1/4	7:00 pm	An Evening with Pádraig Ó Tuama <i>See details below.</i>	Trish Cook trish.cook@gmail.com
1/8	8:15	Hiking SC	Teresa Giovanzana teresagiovanzana@comcast.net
1/9	10-1:00	Home First volunteer	Linda Chin chindalin@aol.com
1/10	5:30	Soup & Stitch	Maria von Massenhausen mtvonmassenhausen@gmail.com
1/15	8:15	Hiking SC	Teresa Giovanzana teresagiovanzana@comcast.net
1/16	10-1:00	Home First volunteer	Linda Chin chindalin@aol.com
1/22	8:15	Hiking SC	Teresa Giovanzana teresagiovanzana@comcast.net
1/23	10-1:00	Home First volunteer	Linda Chin chindalin@aol.com
1/29	8:15	Hiking SC	Teresa Giovanzana teresagiovanzana@comcast.net
1/30	10-1:00	Home First volunteer	Linda Chin chindalin@aol.com
2/4	11-2	Baking Group Gideon's Cookies	Donna Gallo donna@thegalloffamily.com
2/7	4:00	Globelles-Africa -Coffee Costa	Catherine Edwards catherine9257@gmail.com
2/10	9-2:30	AMEN Retreat- Making Decisions with St. Ignatius	Becky Muise , Sylvia Seidel sbseidel@icloud.com

Get involved! Join an Interest Group

Want to be part of the fun? Scan this QR code and join an interest group (or two or three!).



AMEN Book Groups: Bell Book Babes



Each month we meet for lunch and enjoy a lively discussion about our selection. At November's meeting we discussed "Hello Beautiful" by Ann Napolitano. We decided to do something lighter and holiday themed next, so in December we will talk about "Bright Lights, Big Christmas" by Mary Kay Andrews.

Tuesday Night Book Group



Here we are reviewing Lady Clementine. A thoroughly enjoyable read with lots of interesting information about the history behind Winston Churchill—a strong, intelligent, independent woman!

New Book Group

We have a new AMEN book group getting ready to launch. Rosemary Mayle will be leading the group. If you would like to join please scan the QR code and add the Book group.

Needlepoint Group



Our first event ever took place in Menlo Park on November 15th. We started out with a

coffee and headed over to Old World Designs. We stitched, visited, and two gals found new projects to dig into. This group welcomes all levels. It is a great reason to get together and make something to treasure. Old World Designs has created two Bellarmine ornament canvases (shown above) for purchase. They will customize any class year that you like. Call the store to order at (650)321-3494. Create a wonderful keepsake for someone special!

Our next event, Soup & Stitch, will take place at the home of Maria von Massenhausen on January 10th, starting at 5:30p.m. Get in some stitching, or come to visit and learn how to get started. If you would like to join please scan the QR code above and add the needlepoint group.

Baking Group

In November the baking group set out to create The Rebel Within Muffin from Craftsman and Wolves in San Francisco. There is an urban legend that the muffin has yet to be copied. We researched various recipes and modified and combined a few recipes and Wa-La! We mastered the unimaginable...a perfect copy of the Rebel! The group cheered when we cut the muffin in half and found perfection!



Our next event is February 4th at 11:00 where we will try to create Gideon's cookies. If you are interested in joining the baking group please scan the QR code and add the Baking group.

Food and Wine Group

Lenore Grant is leading the new Food & Wine Group. They will have their first event at Testarossa on Friday December 8th from 4-6:00. The group will enjoy a premium wine

sampling and charcuterie board on the terrace. If you would like to join the group please scan the QR code and add the Food & Wine group.

Pickleball is Back

Pickleball is back and will begin meeting in mid-January! Leah Schnoor is leading the group and is planning to meet twice a month in San Jose. If you would like to join Pickleball please scan the QR code and add the Pickleball group.

Golf Group

The Golf group is meeting once a month and golfing in and around San Jose. Catherine Christofferson is leading the group. If you would like to join please scan the QR code and add the Golf group.

Daytime Movie Group

The Daytime Movie group is back and is being led by Mary Atler. If you are interested in joining the daytime movie group please scan the QR code and add the Daytime Movie group.

Globelles

Globelles members met on November 8 and shared stories about their post pandemic travels as well as their upcoming plans. We also discussed travel to Australia and New Zealand. Globelles will meet next on Wednesday, February 7 at 4 pm at Bellarmine in the Costa Coffey conference room, the focus will be on Africa. Catherine Edwards is leading the Globelles group. If you would like to join please scan the QR code above and add the Globelles group.

Volunteering at Second Harvest: Kind Deeds Make A Difference!



On November 8, 2023 AMEN Members serviced Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties by volunteering to sort food at Second Harvest of Silicon Valley's Brennan Warehouse. Second Harvest provides food on average to 500,000 people a month in these counties. On that day AMEN, along with fellow community volunteers, sorted 13,179 pounds of food! Their generosity of time and endeavor are earnestly appreciated.

A Special Event with LAMP



A group of AMEN and LAMP (Loving Alumni Mothers of Presentation) ladies joined together for a Movie Night at Montalvo Arts Center last month. After a private reception in the Villa's library, the group watched a screening of the movie, Fremont, followed by a

Q&A session with the director and the lead actress.

AMEN Events

Ashley Hopkins is leading the Events group. AMEN Events group and has tickets reserved for the events listed below. If you are interested in joining the Events Group please scan the QR code above and add the Events group.

- **[SMUIN Christmas Ballet - SOLD OUT EVENT](#)**
Mountain View Center for Performing Arts on Sunday December 10, 2:00 pm
- **[MJ the Musical - DATE CHANGE seating is limited so sign up soon!](#)**
Orpheum Theater San Francisco on **Saturday February 10, 2024 at 1 pm**
<https://mjthemusical.com/>
- **[Mrs. Doubtfire, the new Musical Comedy](#)**
Orpheum Theater San Francisco July 14 Sunday 1 pm
<https://mrsdoubtfirebroadway.com/>
- **[Girl from the North Country](#)**
Golden Gate Theatre San Francisco August 18 Sunday 1 pm
<https://northcountrytour.com/>
- **Upcoming AMEN Art Event:**
[Paint & Sip by The Art Beat](#)
Spring Event in Campbell

January 4! An Exceptional Opportunity for Parents



PRAYERS FOR A NEW YEAR

Bellarmino will host acclaimed poet and theologian Pádraig Ó Tuama on January 4th at 7pm in the Leontyne Chapel.



Join us for words of wisdom and time to consider what is most important for each of our families in the new year. You can stay after the talk to enjoy hot chocolate and cookies, to have a book signed, or to write your personal prayer for the new year.



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