

AMEN November 2023 Newsletter

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

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

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Bellarmino Alumni Mothers Extended Network

November 1, 2023



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Alumni Mothers Extended Network November 2023

Welcome to our new AMEN newsletter on the new GroupVine platform! You'll still see all the important AMEN updates included here and can still find the newsletter on our website, but we hope you enjoy it coming straight to your inbox.

President's message

As we approach the holiday season, I imagine many of us are filled with ideas and preparations for family gatherings. And, as I write this newsletter message, the AMEN Steering Committee is hard at work preparing for the upcoming Fall Dinner (which I hope you attend), organizing our Interest Groups, ordering new merchandise for our Pop-Up store, imagining new events and spreading the word about our Alumni Mothers Extended Network.

During this season of thanksgiving, we are grateful for our members who continue to remind us of the special community we share. Wishing you a season that fills you with gratitude. Happy Thanksgiving!

Lisa Christensen

“Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.” – Maya Angelou



“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.” Genesis 8:22

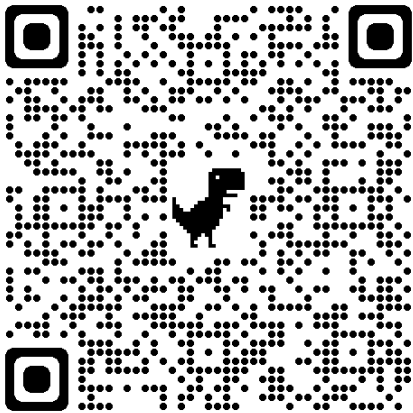
Upcoming Events

11/4		Saturday Gourmet Group (FULL but taking alternates)	Angela Dong
11/5	11:00 a.m.	Baking Group	Donna Gallo
11/6	8:15 a.m.	Hiking Group	Teresa Giovanzana
11/7	any hours between 10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Home First	Linda Chin
11/8	1:30-3:30 p.m.	Fall Service Project at Second Harvest of Silicon Valley	Sylvia Seidel
11/8	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Globelles group meeting	Catherine Edwards
11/10	7:00 p.m.	Vegan Thanksgiving Dinner	Michelle Abene
11/13	8:15 a.m.	Hiking Group	Teresa Giovanzana
11/14	any hours between 10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Home First	Linda Chin

11/15		Knitting Group	Kathy Pompili
11/15	10 a.m.	Needlepoint Group	Maria von Massenhausen
11/20	8:15 a.m.	Hiking Group	Teresa Giovanzana
11/21	any hours between 10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Home First	Linda Chin
11/27	8:15 a.m.	Hiking Group	Teresa Giovanzana
11/28	any hours between 10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Home First	Linda Chin
12/7	3:00 p.m.	Garden Group - Shopping at Ladera Garden & Holiday Lights at Filoli	Lisa Christensen

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!).



Next Baking Group Gathering on Nov. 5

This year the baking group is going to attempt to create many of our favorite baked goods. We kicked off the year making the most DELICIOUS knock-off bagels like Noah's bagels! We boiled them, baked them, then devoured them at lunch! Donna made every imaginable filling to fill them up! Yummy!!! On **November 5th at 11 a.m.** we are going to attempt to create the Rebel muffin from Craftsman and Wolves. If you would like to join the baking group then please scan the QR code above and select the Baking Group. Happy Baking!



AMEN & LAMP Joint Movie Night at Montalvo Arts Center: November 8th

Join a group of Bell and Pres alumni moms in the Carriage House Theatre for a special movie screening of the Bay Area-based film [Fremont](#), followed by a Q&A with producer Sudnya Shroff and star Anaita Wali Zada.

6:00: Reception at Montalvo Arts Center (email lgrant@scu.edu to RSVP)

7:00: Movie

8:30: Q&A

To join this event, purchase your general admission movie ticket [here](#). If you would like to attend the pre-movie reception, please email Lenore Grant at lgrant@scu.edu.

Globelles to meet November 8

Please join AMEN Globelles during our first meeting of the 2023-2024 year to discuss Travel: Where you have been recently and where you plan to visit in the near future. Our geographic focus this time will be Australia & New Zealand. Globelles will meet on Wednesday, November 8 at 3 pm in the Community Room at the Rose Garden Branch Library, 1580 Naglee Ave., San Jose. RSVP to [Catherine Edwards](#).

Gardening Group – A Taste of Honey

In October, the AMEN Garden Group gathered for a tour and honey tasting in the Bellarmine Garden. New Bellarmine Garden Steward, Collin Del Carlo, '19, led the group on the garden tour where he described the steps in composting, reviewed the various seasonal vegetables planted, introduced the goats and chickens, and identified the many fruit varieties ready for fall harvest: grapes, pears, apples, persimmon, and figs. At the

center, the garden's honeybee boxes and the adjacent natural pollinator garden were teeming with butterflies and bees. The tasting included both the '22 and '23 early fall honey harvest, as well as two others from the Santa Cruz Mountains. The mountain honey was darker in color and had a dramatically different smell and taste from the Bellarmine Garden honey. These differences are attributed to the different plant species available for pollen collection. The garden tour concluded with sweet treats baked with honey by co-chairs, Teresa and Lisa, as well as freshly pressed apple cider. What a magical place for students and the larger Bellarmine community to learn about the wonder of nature.



Garden Group: Christmas at Filoli....and some holiday shopping too!

Please join the AMEN Garden Group for another magical visit to Filoli Gardens in Woodside again this year! The event will begin at 3pm on Thursday, December 7th with shopping at **Ladera Garden & Gifts** in Portola Valley. Holiday wreaths, winter annuals, decorations and gifts galore will awaken the holiday spirit. A few miles to the north Filoli awaits beginning with the historical house tour. Step into the magic of the house decked in holiday cheer and explore the winter garden, where inspiration glows. Cozy up to a firepit on the Woodland Court and stop by the bar for holiday libations from mulled wine to whiskey cider and hot chocolate.

Specially priced member tickets for \$35 are available through Lisa Christensen and are limited. Presale ticket price goes up November 15th, so don't delay. Please RSVP by

email to Lisa Christensen to reserve your spot for this cherished event at lisa95008@gmail.com

New Interest Group Alert! Vegan Gourmet Group

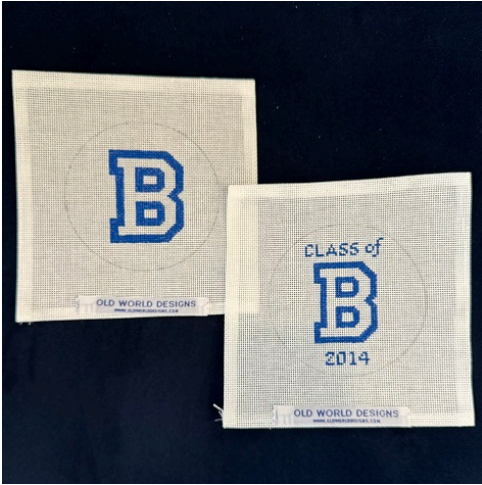
Are you committed to a whole-food plant-based (WFPB) vegan lifestyle, or are you curious about crafting delectable WFPB vegan dishes? If so, this group was tailor-made for you! Meet Michelle Abene and Debbie Newcomb, both interested in a vegan way of life, eager to savor meals and swap recipes, resources, and tips for embracing this lifestyle. Our group will convene multiple times throughout the year to relish vegan-themed dinners and venture out to explore vegan dining establishments in the Bay Area. Secure your spot now and be part of our inaugural WFPB Thanksgiving-themed gathering on Friday, November 10th at 7:00 pm. Please email Michelle at wow123@me.com or Debbie at dwnewcombfamily@gmail.com. To join the Vegan Gourmet Group please scan the QR code above and add the Vegan Gourmet group. Maximum group capacity: 16 members

What is a Whole Food Plant-Based Lifestyle, you ask? It's simpler than it sounds! It entails bidding farewell to animal products (no meat, fish, eggs, or dairy) and saying hello to a hearty plate filled with nourishing whole foods like veggies, fruits, legumes, whole grains, and nuts.

Needlepoint Group to Meet Nov. 15

The **NEW** Needlepoint Group will be meeting on Wednesday, November 15 at 10:00 a.m. at [Coffeebar](#) in Menlo Park. We will get to know each other and walk over to [Old World Designs](#) for some fun. Bring your current project and get in some stitching or find a new one for your stash. All levels are welcome! Contact Maria von Massenhausen with any questions at mtvonmassenhausen@gmail.com.

And if that isn't exciting enough, Old World Designs has created two custom Bellarmine ornament canvases for us, made to order with any class year. They can be purchased directly from OWD by calling the store at (650)321-3494.



Events Interest Group

Ashley Hopkins has organized two amazing events for the AMEN interest group:

SMUIN Christmas Ballet

Mountain View Center for Performing Arts

Sunday Dec 10, 2:00 pm. Contact [Ashley Hopkins](#) if you're interested in attending



MJ the Musical

Orpheum Theater San Francisco

Sunday February 11, 2024 at 1 pm

Contact [Ashley Hopkins](#) if interested in attending



Seeking Interest Group Leaders

Join us and add some fun to AMEN - Interest groups! Leaders needed. We are searching for interest group leaders for the following groups:

New Book Group

AMEN Events

Mahjong

Daytime Movie Group

Pickleball

Food and Wine Group

Senior Parent Resources Group - Alice Ng needs a co-leader who likes to organize the events.

Most of the groups have members. Donna Gallo and Bev Bonovich will mentor you throughout the year and can help find locations to meet if needed. If interested, please email bevbonovich@gmail.com.

Get your Holiday Merchandise at the Nov. 14 Mothers' Guild Meeting

Shop for the holidays online or stop by at our next pop up shop on Tuesday, November 14th at the Mothers' Guild Meeting. All proceeds support the Bellarmine Tuition Assistance Fund. Here is our online [order form](#). Items can be picked up at Reception in Mathewson Hall at Bellarmine campus.



Bellarmino Campus Corner

Still feel that “Go Bells” spirit? Here are two ways to help Bellarmine this month:

The **BMG Happy Harvest Staff Appreciation Breakfast** takes place on Thursday November 9th. Homemade treats and/or monetary contributions are welcome. [Details and sign-ups here!](#)

Bellarmino’s **Winter Warmth Drive** runs from Nov. 7-17. We’re looking for toiletries, baby formula and/or diapers. Contact trish.cook@gmail.com for more details.



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