

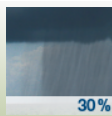
Bellarmine Alumni Mothers Extended Network

May 28, 2026



May 28 forecast for ZIP Code 95126

This Afternoon: Chance Rain Showers 70°; Friday: Mostly Sunny 70°; Saturday: Mostly Sunny 75° [click for current weather]



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A.M.E.N. Monthly Newsletter

May, 2026

President's Message

Dear Bellarmine Alumni Mothers,

As I sit down to write this final message for our last newsletter of the school year, I'm filled with gratitude for this community and for the many ways we've stayed connected throughout the year.

As Chair of A.M.E.N. this year, I was honored to serve alongside our Steering Committee- a dedicated group of volunteers passionate about building community, offering support, and carrying forward the spirit of Bellarmine long after graduation. This year, our theme was "Mothers for Others," inspired by Bellarmine's mission of forming men and women for and with others. Whether through acts of kindness, volunteer work, or simply being a source of encouragement, we embraced our shared calling to lead with compassion and purpose.

We celebrated with our Fall and Spring Dinners, spent a meaningful day at a retreat by the ocean, actively participated in community service opportunities, and enjoyed time together connecting on shared interests like hiking, reading, needlepoint, pickleball, wine tasting, and so much more. Every gathering reminded me what makes A.M.E.N. so special: community, faith, and enduring connection.

As we wrap up the school year, I'm excited to share that Jeanne Villegas will be stepping into the role of incoming Chair. Jeanne brings wonderful energy and heart to A.M.E.N., and I know she will continue to strengthen the legacy of this community and the friendships that keep us connected well beyond the Bellarmine campus. I would also like to extend my deepest gratitude to this past year's Steering Committee. I'm so grateful for your time, ideas, and steady commitment. You make this community run, and you make it welcoming.

It has truly been my pleasure and honor to serve as Chair this year and celebrating alongside so many remarkable "Mothers for Others." GO BELLS!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Julie Paulsen

Chair, A.M.E.N. Steering Committee

Event Highlights

The AMEN Spring Dinner, "Rooted in Friendship", was held on Thursday, April 30th. Attendees enjoyed a social hour accompanied by a 4-piece jazz combo on Bellarmine's Moley Quad,

comprised of student performers, before proceeding into dinner. Our featured guest speaker for the evening was Bellarmine's Chief of Staff, Dr. Sonya Arriola. Dr. Arriola spoke on her career at Bellarmine over the years, and in particular about being a woman in leadership at a male institution. She is inspired by the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young students to achieve their maximum potential. It was great to see so many old and new faces attending this AMEN event.



Upcoming Events

Pickleball 9am on Mondays

Greetings from AMEN Pickleball!!



We continue to meet on the second and fourth Monday each month at 9 am at Arena Green! We welcome new and experienced players. For new players, we'll break off to a separate court and teach you the basics. Come join us!

Contact us with questions or to be added to the distribution list. Mary (cookiefisher08@gmail.com) Liz (eapage3@gmail.com)

A.M.E.N./LAMP Hiking Group

AMEN is hiking once a month on the weekend, with the LAMP group from Presentation! If you would like to join the group, please contact Ashley Hopkins at ashleychp66@gmail.com.

June Hike: Calero Park

July Hike : Crystal Springs Huddard Park

The AMEN College Mentor Program

We been in full swing connecting graduating BCP seniors and their families with BCP alumni families who have had sons attend the universities to which they've been accepted to assist in making a final college decision. In total, over 20 BCP families have benefited from this service. If you are interested in being added to the College Mentor Program database, please contact Susan Munne (susan@munne.com).

Thank you Interest Group Leaders!

Lisa Christensen and Teresa Giovanzana have led the Gardening Group for the past 10 years. Over the years, they have organized many wonderful gardening events, with their farewell event held last month at Gamble Gardens. We extend our heartfelt thanks to both Lisa and Teresa for sharing their love of gardening with AMEN.

We also want to recognize Susan Munne, who has led the College Mentoring Moms Group for the past 8 years. Each spring, Susan helps connect Moms of graduating seniors with alumni Moms to support and share insight around the college decision-making process. Thank you, Susan, for fostering these valuable connections.

We deeply appreciate the time, energy, and dedication these women have given to AMEN and our community.

We are currently looking for members interested in taking over these leadership roles. If you are interested, please contact Maggie Pecoraro at jammpec@yahoo.com.

Membership for 26-27

Don't miss out on next year's great events and activities - **look for an email in July with information about 2026-2027 membership registration.**

Join an Interest Group!

Hiking? Baking? Reading? Golfing? There is a group for you! **Below is a list of the A.M.E.N. Interest Groups along with the contact person.** Remember to renew your AMEN membership before joining an interest group! Contact Maggie Pecoraro at jammpec@yahoo.com, for more information or if you would like to start your own group.

Book Clubs: We have 5 active Book Clubs! See below for the contact information.

College Mentoring is looking for a new lead! Contact Maggie Pecoraro (jammpec@yahoo.com) if you are interested: This group connects graduating BCP students and their families with families who have had sons (or daughters) attend the college or university they are considering. Lead by Susan Munne, susan.munne@gmail.com.

Community Volunteers/Helping Hands: Led by Linda Chin, chindalin@aol.com

Elderly Parents Support Group: providing an opportunity for us to seek advice and vent our frustrations. Topics include but are not limited to: Fall prevention. What to do when our parents are hospitalized? How to choose a rehabilitation center? What are the differences between home health agencies and home care companies? How to choose between Palliative and Hospice care? Contact Alice Ng, OTR/L, otaliceng@gmail.com or 650-255-1838.

Gardening Group: Led by Lisa Christensen & Teresa Giovanzana, lisa95008@gmail.com

Golf Group: Led by Catherine Christofferson, catherine@icreatemovies.com.

Gourmet Groups: Each group has 4 cook teams of 4 women each, for a total of 16 women in each Gourmet group, rotating hosting duties amongst all members. Gourmet skills are not required! If there are multiple women on a waiting list, the next member is chosen by blind lottery.

The Wednesday group meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month. To be added to the wait list, email Jody Knauf, jodyknauf@gmail.com

The Saturday group meets the first Saturday of the month. To be added to the wait list, email Betsy Leff, bleff75@gmail.com

Hiking Group: Meets Monday mornings at 8:15, locations vary. Led by Teresa Giovanzana, teresagiovanzana@comcast.net.

Mahjong Group: Led by Nancy Janda and and Bik Wah, calpolyglot@aol.com.

Knitting Group: We will meet the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 12-2, rotating the location amongst our members. Newbies welcome! Led by Katherine Pompili, kpompili@pacbell.net.

Needlepoint Group: All levels welcome! Led by Maria von Massenhäusen, mtvonmassenhausen@gmail.com.

Pickleball Group: Led by Liz Page and Mary Lavelle, cookiefisher08@gmail.com

Ski Club: Led by Michelle Abene, wow123@me.com

Spirituality Group: Changing format and will meet 1X per month now. Led by Sarah Bonini, sarahjbonini@gmail.com.

Wine Tasting: *Meet at Testarossa for private wine tasting and charcuterie. Dates TBD. Led by Michelle Abene, wow123@me.com*

Book Clubs: To join one of our many Book Clubs, email Maggie Pecoraro, jammpec@yahoo.com

Go Bells!



Bellarmino Alumni Mothers Extended Network; San Jose, California 95126-1215

