

## Dharma Service with Rev. Aoki on Zoom

Please contact Rev. Aoki at:  
**rev.aoki@gmail.com**  
to receive the Zoom link  
or check the temple website

(Service takes approximately 30  
minutes - Meditation, Sutra Chanting,  
and Dharma Talk)

Saturday, November 21 at 10AM

Saturday, November 28 at 10AM

Saturday, December 5 at 10AM



Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>  
@ 10:30 a.m.

Eitaikyō/Eshinni/

Pet & Shotsuki

Memorial



\* Please RSVP if you would like to attend

Also available on YouTube Live  
via the temple website

**The following service/activity  
at the VBT is**

**cancelled**

\* **Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup>** -  
Temple Year-end Clean-up

Vancouver Buddhist Temple



220 Jackson Avenue  
Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3

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604-253-7033

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temple.vbt@gmail.com

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vancouverbuddhisttemple.com



# Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

November 2020, Issue #442

## A Message from our Mother Temple in Kyoto

### Peace Declaration

We are gathered here today on September 18 to observe the 40th Annual Memorial Service for All Who Perished in War, and particularly, this year marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. Unfortunately, however, the entire world is facing a crisis that humanity has never experienced, at least in modern times. Last December, a mysterious pneumonia-like disease was reported by the media, and within a blink of an eye, the virus has been rampaging throughout the world. This new infectious disease was named COVID-19, and its pathogen has yet to be specified. At present, the death toll count is more than 900,000 and there is no sign of it slowing down. Nonetheless, under such circumstances, we have the determination to maintain the tradition of holding the memorial because we find it meaningful to reflect on the significance of having it.

In 2015 on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the end of the war, we released a recorded discussion that resulted from a dialogue on peace. Here, we pointed out the necessity of 'positive peace,' which can be achieved only by overcoming various social or systematic problems that could induce warfare. Social inequality, violation of basic human rights like freedom of religion, hunger, and even environmental crisis are all the issues that we need to deal with to realize a peaceful society.

However, in a surge of the pandemic, many people hoarded facemasks and other necessities, which were then in short supply, and there were even instances of some who resold those products at a greatly inflated price. Furthermore, another outstanding concern is the social exclusion of those who were infected with the disease, and this discrimination is directed even toward the patients' families. Thus, this new infectious disease is disclosing our hidden self-centeredness as well as ignorance that easily violates the dignity of other lives.

Our Head Priest, Monshu Sennyō states in his message, 'A Way of Living as a Nembutsu Follower' as follows,

*Continued on page 2...*

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*In today's world, there is an endless list of difficult global issues that are directly related to the existence of humanity such as terrorist attacks, armed conflicts, widening economic gap, global warming, mishandling of nuclear waste, and violation of human rights through discrimination. Such are the result of our ignorance and blind passions in which we fail to see the true nature of ourselves.*

Through this message, he clarifies that our egoistic human nature is the very origin of many of the global issues, and we must take this seriously.

Monshu also introduces the following Buddhist principle in the same message,

*Buddhism describes the true reality of this world and humanity using such phrases as 'impermanence' and 'dependent origination.' 'Impermanence' refers to the fact that everything changes moment by moment. On the other hand, 'dependent origination' explains that all things and phenomena are interconnected with one another, which bring about various causes and conditions that then give another set of causes and conditions and so on and so forth. Therefore, in this world we cannot find an unchanging and fixed 'self.'*

Now I would like to introduce the following haiku poem composed by Nagayama Shusei,

*In the middle of rice planting, the rain comes, and everything becomes even more lively.*

Every life receives the benevolence of nature. None can survive without air, soil, or water. It goes without saying for us humans as well. We are enabled to live because we take other lives to receive nourishment from them. We all are interrelated to one another and everyone is enabled to live because things allow us to be. In addition, things are changing at every moment, which means there is no solid or unchangeable matter or phenomenon in this world.

Therefore, once we realize this ultimate reality of dependent origination, we cannot help but want to make efforts for the benefit of ourselves as well as others even though the result of our efforts is unknown, because unlike the Buddha who has boundless wisdom and compassion, we are imperfect and our ability is limited. Being fully aware of our own limitedness, still we can try as hard as we can to control and minimize our ego, arrogance, attachment, and belligerence, feeling close to other people's joy and sadness. The path to our ideal peaceful world can be found only when we overcome the current hardship by making sincere efforts to realize a society of peace and harmony, not one of conflicts and exclusion.

With the wish for peace, temple bells shall be tolled across Japan. Our aspiration for peace for the world, which reverberates through the sound of the bells, shall reach our children and grandchildren. Now let us continue our efforts together.

September 18, 2020

Governor General Iwagami Chiko  
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha





## **Message from the VBT Board**

The in-person Shotsuki services for September and October have been successfully observed. A special committee has worked hard to incorporate all necessary health measures for the safety of people wishing to attend our services. The two monthly services were observed with no reported issues. The next in-person service will be the November 8th Shotsuki service held in conjunction with Eitaikyo and Eshinni services. We ask that anyone wishing to attend the service to please telephone or email the temple to pre-register. Special safety procedures for COVID-19 will be observed which includes completing a health questionnaire for every attendee. For safety measures a maximum of 30 people will be allowed.

The operating expense of our temple since the pandemic has not seriously impacted our treasury. Rental of some of our unused areas has provided some revenue. The unused parking stalls during the weekdays has brought in some much-needed revenue and we have received donations from generous and thoughtful members and supporters, earmarked for temple operating costs impacted by the pandemic. A special source of funds came in the form of a bento fund-raising project. Sales for the pick-up only event was 174 tasty Japanese bentos. Thank you to the people who helped with the preparations, and sales and of course, to everyone who enjoyed the bentos. Also, a huge thank you to Keith Tsukishima for donating ten bentos, from our September fund-raiser, to the temple staff and volunteers. We are planning to have another such event slated for the end of November. Don't miss out on the next delicious bento event!

Namo Amida Butsu

The Board

Thomas Renovich: 2020 VBT \$1000  
Scholarship Award recipient.  
Presentation of the award was made  
at the October Shotsuki service.  
Thomas is currently studying at UBC.





## About our Tradition - Rites of Passage

In our tradition there is a process called *hatsumairi*. This is a ceremony in which a young infant or child is formally presented for the first time to the Buddha and the *sangha* (the Buddhist community of temple members and friends). The ceremony may be a private family observance officiated by the minister or part of a regularly scheduled service which is ideal for the family and attendees to share in the joy of the happy occasion. In Japan, the marriage ceremony called *kekkon shiki*. Generally, the wedding ceremony is held at a temple or a facility such as a hotel with a small gathering of family and close friends. A wedding in North America, on the other hand, is a blend of western customs with the formal ceremony held at a temple officiated by the minister. A reception is held in a social hall or facility which may include food, dancing and entertainment. The confirmation ceremony, called *kikkyoshiki* is a ceremony which confirms a person's commitment to follow the path of Nembutsu. The ritual is conducted by the Gomonshu or by a district bishop (*socho*). A buddhist name is given to the person who has been confirmed. The *homyo* (Dharma name) is made up of two Chinese characters preceded by the character "*Shaku*". The prefix means a disciple of the Buddha. In Japan, this ritual is performed only at Nishi Hongwanji, our mother temple. For individuals who have shown exceptional dedication throughout their lives and contributed in ways to advance the propagation of Jodo Shinshu teachings, a special honorific title is granted posthumously. This *ingo* confirmation is initiated by the minister and board of the temple and finally certified by the Gomonshu at the mother temple in Kyoto.

Namo Amida Butsu

## Elevator Update

The repair and improvements of the elevator are now completed. However, for normal operation, a telephone line with its own designated number is required in case of emergency. The telephone installation will be completed soon, at which time we will be able to enjoy the use of the elevator for upcoming services and events. We are targeting the November Shotoshi service as our start up date. We thank all those who have made donations specific to elevator repairs and upgrades.

Arigato gozai mashita.



## How To Make Donations to VBT Online

1. **e-transfer** to: temple.vbt@gmail.com  
(this is our preferred on-line method of payment)



2. **Paypal** @ VBT Website  
www.vancouverbuddhisttemple.com

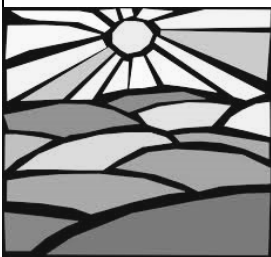


3. "**Canada Helps**" online donation site for charity groups  
www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/vancouver-buddhist-temple/

Or simply go to [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org) and search for "Vancouver Buddhist Church"



## Greetings from the Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple



Greetings from the Valley,

Hello everyone. It is now 7 months since we held our March service and we miss seeing your faces.

We would love to get together again, but with Covid-19 cases again on the rise, we prefer to keep you safe and will not be holding in-person services for the next while.

Thank you as well to the many people who have continued to support our temple by sending in donations to help cover ongoing expenses. If you wish to send a donation, please mail it to PO Box 1619, Aldergrove, BC V4W 2V1.

You may also support our temple by turning in any beverage containers to the Return-It Express Depots and use the Drop off service. Bag all of your beverage cans, bottles, and containers in a clear bag and enter the phone # 604.351.7183 at the kiosk. Place the label that is printed on the bag and leave the bag at the drop off place. The deposits on the containers will be credited to the FVBT account.

Stay safe,

In gassho

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple



## Donations to the Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

### In Memory of Mrs. Hideko Yoshioka

Frank & Pat Hamanishi

Itoko and Roy Akune

Naomi Shikaze

Bob & Misaye Hamaura

Mrs. May Mukaida

Amy Nagamatsu

Genevieve Iwata

Wendy Hatanaka

Marion Fujita

Kuniko & June Ikuta

John & Masuko Kamimura

Christopher Coldham

Jean Nakatsui

Maureen Hatanaka and Mike Aggassiz

George & Lorraine Shikaze

### In Memory of Jack & Kenny

Pat & Sam Yoshioka

### In Memory of H. Matsui

Mrs. May Mukaida

### August/September Donations

Stan & Lucy Yoshioka

Greg & Lynn Smith

Hiroshi Ross & Ruth Honkawa

Marion Fujita

Chieko Takasaki

Denise Cork

Mrs. May Mukaida

John & Masuko Kamimura

Mitsuo Saito

## NOVEMBER Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The November Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. **Please RSVP beforehand.**

### 1951

ARAKI, Satoshi

### 1959

NAGANO, Saburo

HASEBE, Aizo

KAKUTANI, Genichi

FURUKAWA, Shinnosuke

### 1960

AOKI, Ichiji

IWASE, Yoshi

SAKAI, Susumu

### 1961

KATAYAMA, Isao

### 1962

YANAGIMOTO, Katsujiro

### 1963

TAKEBAYASHI, Tadasuke

### 1964

OTSUJI, Yaeko

IMADA, Mitsugu

EDAMURA, Sowa

### 1967

ANDO, Yoshi

HAMAGUCHI, Masu

### 1968

SHINTANI, Sadasuke

### 1969

MATSUTANI, Inosuke

HINATSU, Ito

KAWASHIMA, Fumiko

### 1970

KURAMITSU, Yoshiko

### 1971 - (50<sup>th</sup> Year)

YAMAMOTO, Fujino

### 1972

ISHIGURO, Shigesaburo

IWATA, Kinichi

UCHIYAMA, Kenroku

### 1973

FUKAWA, Toki

KAJIRO, Fumio

NAKAGAWA, Shio

### 1974

MORITA, Emi

SHIMIZU, Yoshiharu

### 1975

SAKAI, Fuji

TANAKA, Hatsuye

### 1976

YAMADA, Shohei

### 1977

EBATA, Shinkichi

MINAGAWA, Katsuo

MURATA, Tadao

### 1978

KASUYA, Moto

NAKATANI, Tomiye

### 1979

ARATAKE, Shigeru

### 1980

ENJO, Denzo

TAKASAKI, Sakiye

### 1981

HIRAI, Heishiro

TABATA, Shizu

### 1982

OKABE, Sueko

### 1983

YAMANOUCHI, Sada

### 1984

ITSUI, Masao

SHIKAZE, Noriko

### 1985

SHINTANI, Kohatsu

### 1986

DEGUCHI, Haruye

### 1988 - (33<sup>rd</sup> year)

NAKATA, Chiyo

HAMAKAWA, Yosaburo

OIKAWA, Kengo

HIGUCHI, Kiyokazu

KIMURA, Mitsuo

MAEDA, Genzo

### 1989

OHARA, Tsuru

TANAKA, Zenno

### 1990

FURUKAWA, Matsu

WAKABAYASHI, Gentaro

### 1991

KURAMOTO, Masaaki

### 1992

IKEDA, Teruhiko

MIZUYABU, Tokuchio

### 1993

HAMAKAWA, Yoshio

KOYANAGI, Tad

MURAMOTO, Emiko

### 1994

BANNO, Masakazu

KUMAMOTO, Toshiko

TANOUE, Kokichi K.

### 1995

SAKATA, Ayame

MIYASHITA, Ichiji

MURAO, Jean Nobuko

FUJINO, Yoshio

### 1996 - (25<sup>th</sup> Year)

NITSUI, Yoshio Roy

HAMAZAKI, Hiroshi

KAZUTA, Kathy Noriko

### 1997

SHOJI, Inosuke

SAKAI, Yaeko

LEE, Shirley Michiko

SAWADA, Katsuko

### 1999

CHIBA, Fukuyo

WAKABAYASHI, Hikoichi

### 2000

SAKAMOTO, Hideo W.

IKARI, Chiyoko

### 2001

YADA, Genichiro Frank

MIZUTA, Tane

### 2002

HAMAGUCHI, Tatsuko

YOSHIDA, Umeyo

TANAKA, Sonoko

### 2003

MOCHIZUKI, Fumiye

HAYASHI, Hisae

TAKIMOTO, Takie

NISHIKIHAMA, Teruo

### 2004 - (17<sup>th</sup> Year)

YOSHIDA, Yoshiye

SHIBATA, Takeo

### 2005

ARITA, Hajime

KUROYAMA, Tsutomu

### 2006

OKAMURA, Yukio

SAITO, Fuyuko

### 2007

MORI, Fumi

### 2008 - (13<sup>th</sup> Year)

TAMURA, Naoharu

NAKATSU Kimiyo

### 2009

HIRATA, Emmie

### 2010

KAWAHIRA, Masanobu

YOSHIDA, Sue

ATAGI, Suetsugu

### 2011

WEBB, Michael David

SUGIYAMA, Yukiko

TERASHITA, Keiko

FUCHIHARA, Tsumae

### 2012

MEYER-FUNATSU, Miho

NISHIMURA, Fusae

### 2014 - (7<sup>th</sup> year)

DAR, Emi Isla

### 2015

FUJII, Chiyoko

SAKAI, Naomi

### 2016

MOCHIZUKI, Ichiya

KAWASHIMA, Kazuo

MANIWA, Reiko

### 2017

MASUHARA, Takayasu F.

### 2018 - (3<sup>rd</sup> year)

JANG, Lawrence

TAMOTO, Miyoko

### 2019 - (1<sup>st</sup> year)

Tsuru Shibata

## Passings

Our deepest  
condolences go to the  
families and friends of

Mr. Tom Okada (96)  
September 20

Mr. Eiji Uyeda (92)  
September 25

Mr. Dean Okamura (53)  
October 18

Mrs. Miki Shimabukuro (94)  
October 23

\*\*The 10:30 a.m. Shotsuki  
Service will also be  
broadcasted on YouTube  
Live via Rev. Aoki's Channel

# **The Temple Has Reopened For Shotsuki Services**

It has been a long time since the start of Covid-19 Pandemic restrictions. Some people have joined temple services through our YouTube presentations. Since this does not work for everyone, the temple started special limited openings for live Shotsuki Memorial Services since September in the Temple Hondo with consideration of Phase 3 provincial guidelines for physical distancing, self-screening and contact tracing.

## **Reservations RSVP Required**

Due to a maximum of 30 attendees, those who would like to attend must make a reservation and follow strict pandemic guidelines.

To make reservations for the Shotsuki Memorial Service, please contact the VBT office at either (604)253-7033 or [temple.vbt@gmail.com](mailto:temple.vbt@gmail.com).



## **Additional Times for Shotsuki Memorial Service, if necessary**

Depending upon the demand, the temple will make more time available for Shotsuki service. The service will be at 10:30 a.m. When requests for that service is filled, a second service at 12pm will be held. The service will continue to be broadcast live through the temple YouTube channel.

## **Pandemic Guidelines**

### Upon entry to the building:

- masks/face coverings must always be worn
- sanitize hands
- complete questionnaire/waiver/contact information sheet (see an example on the next page)
  - ◆ emailed prior, upon request
- follow direction arrows and go directly to your assigned seat
  - ◆ household members may sit together
  - ◆ please do not leave your assigned seat, and remember to stay socially distant (2 metres)
- large bags and backpacks are not permitted in the Hondo
  - ◆ a plastic bag will be supplied

### During your visit:

- line up 2 metres between households/bubbles and use incense from the small cups for Oshoko
- one person at a time in the washrooms
- the Social Hall and Kitchen are not available for use

### Upon exiting the building:

- sanitize hands
- exit promptly and do not stay and mingle with others
- exit either onto Jackson Street (Hondo exit) or through the garage
  - ◆ follow the direction arrows

**As requirements are constantly changing, please check our website:**

**[vancouverbuddhisttemple.com](http://vancouverbuddhisttemple.com) for updates...**

**LET'S ALL BE CAREFUL, CALM and KIND**



**Vancouver Buddhist Temple  
COVID19 Questionnaire, Waiver,  
and Contact Tracing Information**

**Questionnaire**

**To prevent the spread of COVID19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure to our staff and members, we ask you to complete the following:**

\* Do you have any symptoms of illness such as cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell?

☐ yes ☐ no

\* Have you or anyone in your household/‘social bubble’ traveled outside of British Columbia within the last 14 days?

☐ yes ☐ no

\* Have you or anyone in your household/‘social bubble’ been in contact with someone who has visited or worked at an outbreak location in the last 14 days?

☐ yes ☐ no

\* Have you had contact with anyone who has travelled outside of Canada within the last 14 days?

☐ yes ☐ no

\* Have you been in physical or close contact with or cared for anyone diagnosed with COVID19 within the last 14 days?

☐ yes ☐ no

\* Do you live with anyone that is currently self-isolating?

☐ yes ☐ no

If you answered ‘yes’ to any of these questions, we ask that you do not enter the building at this time.

**Waiver**

**I acknowledge** the contagious nature of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 and that the BCCDC and many other public health authorities still recommend practicing social distancing.

**I further acknowledge** that the Vancouver Buddhist Temple has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

**I further acknowledge** that the Vancouver Buddhist Temple cannot guarantee that I will not become infected with the Coronavirus/Covid-19.

**I voluntarily** attend activities, events, and services provided by the Vancouver Buddhist Temple and acknowledge that I am increasing my risk to exposure to the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

**I acknowledge** that I must comply with all set procedures to reduce the spread while attending.

I have read and understand the above waiver. \_\_\_\_\_ initials

**Contact Tracing Information**

If we are informed of anyone who has attended our service/program and has been infected with the COVID19 virus, we would like to have your contact information, so that we may be able to contact anyone who may have been exposed. Please fill in your contact information.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pew/Seat number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Bento Box

Thank you to all who ordered our September and October bento boxes, and for supporting our fundraising efforts. Bentos will not be on sale at the end of December, but we will offer MOCHI sales. Details will be in the December Bodhi Mind. Bento sales will resume on the last Sunday of each month, starting in January. 😊

To order, please return the order form, with payment to the Vancouver Buddhist Temple via mail, email ([temple.vbt@gmail.com](mailto:temple.vbt@gmail.com)) or call (604 253-7033).

For November 29<sup>th</sup>, the bento will include:

- Spring salmon teriyaki
- Gyoza (3)
- Asian chicken salad
- Shiraae
- Rice
- Tsukemono (2 kinds)



**Cost:** \$15.00

Orders must be prepaid (cash, cheque, or e-transfer). Last day to order is Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Pick-up:** Between 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on November 29<sup>th</sup> at the Social Hall entrance.

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## November 29<sup>th</sup> Bento Order Form

Number of: Bento \_\_\_\_x \$15.00

**Total cost:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_



### **The VBT's Bento Fund-raiser**

As many of you know, the temple started a bento fund-raiser in September. Thanks to your support and donations, it has been a success. We just completed our October bento. The bento included beef curry, korokke, shredded cabbage, rice, and fukujinzuke. We also offered chicken udon, and manju for sale. As you can see from the photos, it takes quite a bit of preparation and our volunteers worked tirelessly all week-end to get the delicious bentos ready for you. We were able to make and sell 115 bento, 94 udon, 68 packages of manju, plus extra beef curry and korokke. We are now taking orders for our November bento. We hope to see many of you at the end of November when we serve up our next tasty treat.

