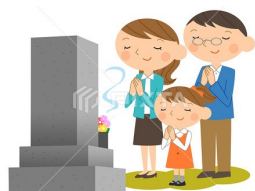


OBON Cemetery & Temple Services	
Wednesday, July 3	
10:00 AM	Maple Ridge
10:30 AM	Whonnock
11:00 AM	Hatzic (Mission)
Sunday, July 7	
9:30 AM	Forest Lawn
10:00 AM	Ocean View
10:30 AM	Mountain View @ North
10:45 AM	@South by the crematorium
Sunday, July 7	
4:00 PM	Valley View (Surrey)
4:40 PM	New Westminster
5:00 PM	Coquitlam
Saturday, July 13	
2:00 PM	Aldergrove Cemetery
3:00 PM	FVBT Obon Service & Bon Dance
Sunday, July 14	
2:00 PM	VVBT Obon & Shotsuki Service
4:00 PM	Bon Dance



Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

April 2019, Issue #425

Message on “Our Pledge” [Monshu Kojun OTANI]

Thank you for attending the perpetual memorial and autumn service at Hongwanji today. This annual service is in remembrance of all the Jodo Shinshu followers who passed away during the year. Let us take this opportunity to appreciate the Dharma with a feeling of respect to our deceased predecessors.

Society today is facing concerns including the depopulation of rural areas, declining birth rate, rapidly aging population, and diversification of values, and such issues have greatly transformed the close ties created for a long time between Buddhist temples and their members in Japan. This social trend makes difficult the long established Japanese custom that religious tradition is handed down within the household from generation to generation to remain intact, and consequently, has led to the weakening connection between the people and temple.

Resulting from this social trend however, with conventional ties between the temple and its members changing, quite a few people have begun seeking spiritual comfort in teachings like Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu. To be able to address the individual's spiritual quest and for the sake of coming generations, it obliges us to follow in the footsteps of our forebears to pass the Nembutsu teaching on correctly and in a way that is easy to understand.

On the first day of the Commemoration on the Accession of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition, I delivered a message entitled “A Way of Living as a Nembutsu Follower,” expressing how we should live in the real world as one who encounters the great wisdom and compassion of Amida Tathagata. Although Sakyamuni Buddha expounds the truth of this world in the principle of impermanence or dependent origination and other teachings, we are unable to accept reality as it is and have a tendency to view things through our own egocentric point of view. As a result, we ourselves become disheartened and become embroiled in quarrels with others. Saddened by our ignorance, Amida Tathagata has vowed to continue working to save us just as we are.

In truly appreciating the Buddha's compassionate aspiration directed to each of us, we naturally become enabled to aspire to act and speak in accordance with the Buddha's wish and feel the joy and sadness of others as our own. It is totally apart from the self-destructive attitude that takes advantage of our selfish human nature as an excuse for giving up any good-deeds and doing nothing, or thinking “we can do whatever we want because we are foolish beings.” Thus, our efforts of

Cont'd on pg 2

Vancouver Buddhist Temple



220 Jackson Avenue
Vancouver, BC,
V6A 3B3

Phone: 604-253-7033

Email:

temple.vbt@gmail.com

Website:

vancouverbuddhisttemple.com

Cont'd from pg 1 trying to be in accord with the Buddha's wish is the first step toward realization of a society in which everyone can live life spiritually fulfilled.

On this occasion, with the hope of presenting it in a more familiar and understandable way, I have summarized the essence of the message into the following four verses of "Our Pledge."

Our Pledge

Breaking out of my shell

I shall carefully share a warm smile and speak gentle words

Just like the kind Buddha.

Not becoming lost in my greed, anger, and ignorance

I shall be open-minded and act accordingly

Just like the calm and peaceful Buddha

Not putting myself first

I shall share in the joy and sadness of others

Just like the compassionate Buddha

Realizing the gift of life we have received

I shall live each day to its fullest

Like the Buddha who continues to emancipate all.

In today's day and age where it is said that the younger generations are distancing themselves from religion, it is my hope that these verses will be used during various engagements and gatherings. Let us continue on the path of the Nembutsu, as we have engraved in our hearts, that we must pass on to the coming generations far and wide, the Jodo Shinshu teaching that was carefully transmitted to us by our forebears.

November 23, 2018

OHTANI Kojun

Monshu, Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

Message from the VBT Board



Thank you members for voting for a new board of directors to lead our temple for the next two years. You the members have made the choice of leaders who will lead our temple as we move into the future. The names of the directors shall be announced after confirmation by those elected, followed by the installation ceremony at our monthly memorial service.

The budget for 2019 has been approved by the board. It closely resembles that of the 2018 budget, which concluded in a positive revenue position. We are again, at the least, planning for a balanced budget.

The recent spring bazaar (Food Fair) turned out to be a huge success with more people attending than witnessed in many, many years. Of course, the udon was a big favorite. By the end of the event not a thing remained unsold. Thank you to our members and friends who worked so hard for three consecutive days. We hope our fall event proves to be even closely successful.

Hana matsuri is fast approaching, so check our temple calendar for events around the occasion. Rev. Michael Endo from San Francisco will be our guest minister. He is the executive secretary to the Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America. Lunch for that day will be special because we will be honouring our seniors. It is the annual Keirokai. Please encourage all our seniors to attend and give them a ride to the temple if you are able.

Gassho,

From the Board

HATSUMAIRI (Sun, April 14th)

Infant Presentation Ceremony



Hatsumairi literally means "first Buddhist service". Often translated as "Infant Presentation Service", Hatsumairi represents the first opportunity for families to bring infants who were born during the previous year to Temple. At the same time, it gives our Temple the opportunity to give expression to the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha, which embraces people of all ages, genders, races, and social strata.

Registration deadline **Wednesday, April 10.**

Hanamatsuri (Buddha's Birthday)

Sunday, April 14 at 10:30 am—VBT

Hanamatsuri, literally flower festival, is celebrated on April 8, commemorating the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, who became enlightened as Sakyamuni Buddha. According to our tradition, the historical Buddha was born in Nepal on April 8, 566 B.C. He was born the son of King Suddodhana and Queen Maya. There are many flowery descriptions of the scene at his birth, including celestial birds singing beautiful songs, beautiful flowers, and a sweet gentle rain bathing the baby Buddha. It is not necessarily the beauty of the flowers, the sounds of the celestial birds, nor the sweet gentle rain that fell, but the vibrant fact that on this day was born the greatest of sentient beings who became the Enlightened One, the Buddha.

Understanding the Buddha's teaching of interdependency of all things will make it clear that our birth is the result of many causes and conditions. Realizing this we can see that our birth is truly a rare and wonderful gift, and we have an obligation to live out this life in accordance with the teachings of the Buddha.

This obligation to live our lives out to the fullest becomes even more striking when we look at the symbolism and the significance of the flower. The flower, as with all human beings, has its moment of youth and beauty, but its beauty soon begins to fade and eventually it dies. Our birth is like the blossoming of a beautiful flower, but it is the seed of our own demise. When we can understand our own impermanent nature, then it becomes very clear how we should live our lives.



Fri, Apr 12 @ 7pm

Public Lecture

“Enjoying the Nembutsu Teaching Through Everyday Experiences”



Sun, Apr 14 @ 10:30am

Hanamatsuri / Hatsumairi / Kei-rokai

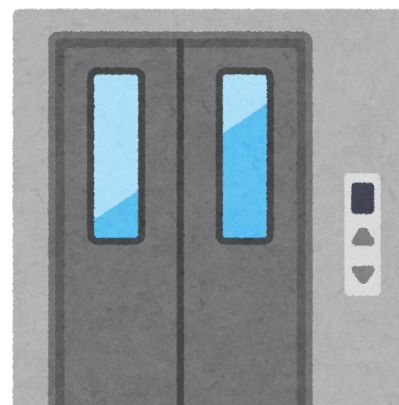
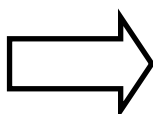
Guest Speaker

Rev. Micahel Endo

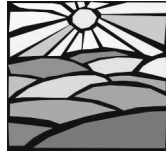
(Executive Secretary to the office of the Bishop,
Buddhist Churches of Canada)

115th/40th Anniversary Fundraising Project

This year marks the 115th Anniversary for the Vancouver Buddhist Temple, as well as the 40th Anniversary of the Temple building. To mark this special year, we're starting a \$100,000 fundraising campaign; all money raised will go towards repairing our elevator. This is an important project since it will allow those with ability issues to access all of the programs and services we offer at the Temple. If you would like to make a donation towards this project, please contact the Temple.



Greetings from the Valley



Our temple yard was covered in snow for our March monthly service on Saturday, March 9 and in Bishop Aoki's Dharma talk he mentioned that although we are also recognizing Ohigan (spring equinox) it certainly still feels like cold, winter days. But we do have spring to look forward to soon! Following our service and potluck we had our Annual General Meeting with Lucy Yoshioka (Pres.) presiding. Our new Board of Directors for this year is: Lucy Yoshioka, Lori North, Jenny Fujita, Marion Fujita, Denise Cork, Amy Nagamatsu and Naomi Shikaze. The Executive is to be determined at our next Board meeting. Our next service will be for Hanamatsuri on Sat. April 13 at 2 pm with guest minister Rev. Michael Endo, Executive Secretary to the Bishop with the Buddhist Churches of America. By then, daffodils will be in full bloom in the Valley and truly a wonderful way to celebrate Buddha's birthday!

Also, mark your calendar for our fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction on Sat. May 25 at Bradner Hall at 5 pm. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$15 for youth 5 - 10 yrs. and children under 5 are free. To purchase tickets, contact Paige at 604-603-8872, Amy at 604-455-0077 or Naomi at 604-636-1095. Please join us for a fun evening with our Sangha and to help in our fundraising efforts.

In gassho,
Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Donations Received in Gratitude

Feb. 9, 2019 Nirvana Day & Monthly Service

Ryoko Tateyama, Teruko Ikuta, Mitsuo Saito, Tony Tateyama,
Ron Nishimura, Denise Cork, Lori North, Stan & Lucy Yoshioka,
Jenny Fujita & Mike McSkimming, Sam & Pat Yoshioka
In Memory of husband Roy: Amy Nagamatsu
In Memory of Roland Akio Kamimura: John & Masuko Kamimura,
Phyllis Kamimura, Maciek Kon & Marina Kamimura
In Memory of Ken & Fumi Honkawa: Roberta Nasu
In Memory of Henry Tateyama: Byron Kagawa
In Memory of Masao Kawamoto: May Nakano
Memberships: Chieko Takasaki, Mitsuo Saito, May Mukaida,
John & Masuko Kamimura, Marion Fujita

March 9, 2019 AGM & Monthly Service

Ron & Marilyn Fujita, James Fujita, Jenny Fujita,
Stan & Lucy Yoshioka, May Mukaida, Jean Nakatsui,
Reiko Honkawa, Ryoko Tateyama, Lori North
Memberships: Amy Nagamatsu, Irene Rohrer, Denise Cork,
Stan & Lucy Yoshioka, Ryoko Tateyama, Lori North,
Jenny Fujita & Mike McSkimming

In gassho,
FVBT

Tōban Groups

From lunches at our monthly Shōtsuki services, to wiping down tables and cleaning the washrooms, the temple would not be the warm and welcoming place for gathering if it were not for the dedicated hard work of our members. When people come to the temple—whether it's for the first time or the 100th time—the care we put in our temple expresses how precious we hold the Teachings of the Buddha.

The following activities are the responsibility of **Tōban #3**

April

14 Sun. 9:00 am—Hanamatsuri service
28 Sun. 9:00 am—Shotsuki

May

11 Sat. 10:00 am—Toban + Board Mtg
12 Sun. 9:00 am—Shotsuki

Mrs. Tei Domitsu
Mrs. Kazue Egami
Ms. Patricia Keizer
Ms. Lorene MacDonald
Mrs. Yasuko Masuhara
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Matsuda
Mr. & Mrs. Otokazu Matsui
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Matsumoto
Mr. & Mrs. Ray McDonald
Ms. Frances Minato
Mr. Harry Minato
Mrs. Akiko Minato
Mrs. & Mr. Karen Mizushima
Mr. & Mrs. Hiroyuki Morimoto
Ms. Orrin Morishita
Mrs. Yukie Morishita
Mrs. Kazumi Nakano
Mrs. Yachiyo Nishi
Mrs. Tomi Niwatsukino



Mr. & Mrs. David Ohori
Mrs. Junko Ohori
Mr. & Mrs. Norio Renovich
Mrs. Kazuko Takahara
Mr. & Mrs. Mikio Takeda
Mr. & Mrs. Shizuo Tanaka
Mrs. Michiko Tanizawa
Mr. Kaoru Tatara
Mrs. Tomiko Uyeyama
Mr. & Mrs. Tatsuya Yamazaki
Ms. Joanne Yuasa



April Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The April Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held on **Sunday, April 28 at 10:30 am**

1958

*HIRAYAMA, Michiyo

1959

NAMBA,

1960

NOMURA, Yaozo

1961

*HARA, Tadashi

1963

*MATSUNO, Riu

*TABUCHI, Kizo

1964

*YONEMURA, Senzo

1967

*KANEKO, Seki

*SHIMIZU, Zenzo

1969

*SUGIMOTO, Tome

1972

*NAKASHIMA,
Yasumatsu

*SAKATA, Ryoza

*YAMAMOTO, Isamu

*YOSHIDA,

*YOSHIOKA, Teruo

1973

*KOBAYASHI, Isuke

*YAMAGUCHI, Kiyoko

1974

*SHIRAHAMA, Tomomi

1975

*HASEBE, Yukio

*TERADA, Kentaro

1976

*EDAMURA, Jujiro

1977

*KOYANAGI, Toru

1978

*KAMATA, Genzaburo

1980

*IKEDA, Toyoharu

INOUE, Yoshinobu

KOMORI, Fujihiro

MARUNO, Michiko

1981

*TATEYAMA, Shigeyoshi

*WAKABAYASHI, Masa

*TANAKA, Kiyoko

1982

*HASEBE, Noburo

*IWABUCHI, Shimpei

MATSUI, Sadao

1983

NUKINA, Yoshiko

1984

*HAMANISHI, Fusaye

*HAYAM Yoshimatsu

*KADA, Fude

*MIDORIKAWA, Kono

NAKANO, Reizo

1985

*HIROKADA, Shigeo

NASU, Chiyo

1986

KOMORI, Haru

*NISHIKAWA, Hine

*SOKUGAWA, Toshiro

1987—33rd Year

*LEE, Kinju

*OHIRA, Yu

*TATEBE, Yonehiro

1988

*MORIYAMA, Kenichi

*WADA, Masaye

1990

*ASANO, Matsue

*MURATA, Miyano

TERAKITA, Hideo

1991

BANNO, Magohachi

*DOI, Sumiko

*GODO, Moichi

*UTSUNOMIYA, Kinuye

1992

*OSATO, Hiroko

TSUJI, Sumi

YADA, Katsutoshi

1993

*CHIAI, Asae

KOYANAGI, Mitsuru

*TANIYAMA, Shigeru

1994

*FUKUHARA, Asano

*SHISHIDO, Kiyoko

TANIZAWA, Mitsuyoshi

1995—25th Year

MATSUNAGA, Shigekazu

1996

KONDO, Masaru

1997

KITANO, Yaeno

TSUJI, Tadao

1998

NISHI, Kenichi

FUJIWARA, Akira

1999

MATSUSHITA, Naka

2000

EGAMI, Yukio

FORSYTH, Aiko Mary

KAWABATA, Eijiro

YOSHIOKA,

Matanojo George

MORIUCHI, Chie

2001

NISHI, Diane

TAKAI, Sumiko

TSUJI, Soto

2003

FUJII, Kiyosada

SHIMABUKURO, Toshio

2004

BABA, Kohei

HAMAZAKI, Kazue

NAKASHIMA,

Yasuharu

2005

MORISHITA, Sawa

2006

IKEGAMI, Sachiko

KIKUCHI, Toru

KOMORI, Tadahiro

2007-13th year

FUCHIHARA, Mike

KAZUTA, Matsuko

2008

NISHI, Masaru

TAKAKI, Yukio Frank

YAMASHITA, Shunichi

2009

FUNATSU-MEYER,

Shohei

TAKAHARA, Kiyokazu

2010

NOMURA, Emily

2012

SATO, Sumiko

TAMAKI, Michiko

ABURAMOTO, Reiko

2013

YUZA, Jihei

NISHIZAWA, Chieko

TAKEUCHI, Akio

2014

KURAHASHI, Akio

MORI, Akira

2015

NISHIMURA, Ayako

2017—3rd Year

NAKAGAWA, Shoko

NAKAGAWA, Fumie

2018—1st Year

TERANISHI, Tamotsu

HIDEMI IMAI, Jacqueline

KOYANAGI, Terry

Passings





Our deepest
condolences go to the
families and friends of

Mr. Shigeru Araki
February 10
(95 years)

Mr. Roy Tanaka
February 18
(85 years)



APRIL 2019

Sun.	Mon.	Tues	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3 7-8:30pm Meditation	4 12 Noon Japanese Service and Seniors' gathering	5	6 10:00 AM VBT Board Meeting
7 10:30 AM English Dharma Service	8	9	10 7-9pm Intro. Buddhism	11 12 Noon Japanese Service and Seniors' gathering	12 7:00 PM <i>Public Lecture</i> "Enjoying the Nembutsu Teaching Through Everyday Experiences" [Rev. Michael Endo]	13 2pm Fraser Valley Temple Hanamatsuri / April Shotsuki (Guest: Rev. M. Endo) 
14 10:30 AM VBT Hanamatsuri & Hatsumairi (Infant Presentation), Kei- roukai Luncheon (Guest: Rev. M. Endo) 	15	16	17 11:00 AM Service at Nikkei Home (Rev. Aoki) 7-9pm Intro. Buddhism	18 12 Noon Japanese Service and Seniors' gathering	19 Good Friday Office Closed	20
21 10:30 AM Steveston Hanamatsuri <i>Guest: Rev. Kiyo Kuwahara</i> (NO SERVICE VBT)	22 Easter Monday	23	24 7-9pm Intro. Buddhism	25 12 Noon Japanese Service and Seniors' gathering	26 @ VBT 9am-4pm JSBTC / LDC Mtg 7-9pm JSBTC/ WF AGM	27 @ VBT 9am-Noon JSBTC / WF AGM 1-5pm Lecture Workshop
28 10:30 AM Guest Speaker Rev. Yasuo Izumi  April Shotsuki 115th / 40th Anniversary National Memorial Service Special Anniversary LUNCH!	29	30	<div> <p><u>Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temple's of Canada Annual General Meeting at VBT</u> Please join the AGM on Friday (7-9 pm) and Saturday (9am-noon)</p> <p><u>Saturday Afternoon Program (Free & Open to Everyone!)</u> 1-2pm Sharing Temple Successes 2:30-3pm Buddhism and Social Issues (Dr. Jessica Main—UBC Professor) 3-3:30pm Panel Discussion (Rev. Izumi, Rev. Miyakawa, Rev. Gubenco, Rev. Ikuta) 3:40-5pm Group Discussion and Wrap-up Session 5:30pm Dinner at a Chinese restaurant (\$50/person & register at the VBT by Apr10)</p>  </div>			

MAY 2019

Sun.	Mon.	Tues	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 7-9pm Intro. Buddhism	2 12 Noon Japanese Service and Seniors' gathering	3	4
5 10:30 AM English Dharma Service	6	7	8 7-9pm Intro. Buddhism	9 12 Noon Japanese Service and Seniors' gathering	10	11 10:00 AM Toban and Board Meeting 2pm Fraser Valley (Rev. Ikuta)
12 10:30 AM Gotan-e & Monthly Shotsuki Memorial Service	13	14	15 11:00 AM Service at Nikkei Home (Rev. Ikuta) 7-8:30pm Meditation	16 12 Noon Seniors' gathering	17	18 Manning Park Family Retreat May 18-20
19 Manning Park Retreat Weekend (NO SERVICE VBT)	20 Victo- ria Day <i>Office Closed</i>	21	22 7-8:30pm Meditation	23 12 Noon Seniors' gathering	24	25