

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, May 7th at 10AM
Saturday, May 21st at 10AM
Saturday, May 28th at 10AM
Saturday, June 4th @ 10AM

Sunday, May 8th
@ 10:00 a.m.

**Gotan-e/Hatsumairi
and Shotsuki/Memorial**

Reservations are no longer needed.
Masks are still required.

The Zoom link is:
Meeting ID: 692 059 0986
Passcode: shinran

Vancouver Buddhist Temple



220 Jackson Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3

Phone:
604-253-7033

Email:
temple.vbt@gmail.com

Website:
vancouverbuddhisttemple.com



Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

May 2022, Issue #460

Message From the Bishop of Nishi Hongwanji

On the occasion of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada National Annual General Meeting, I humbly extend my appreciation to you, the ministers and sangha representatives who have gathered online from throughout Canada. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to you all for your continuing efforts in propagating Jodo Shinshu and maintaining the temples within your respective districts.

Over two and a half years into the pandemic, I would first like to extend my condolences to those who lost their lives to COVID-19 and offer my sympathy to the people who are currently undergoing treatment for the disease.

In terms of the coronavirus, some countries have begun lifting or easing restrictions with the decision to live with the virus. However, regardless of policy responses, infections remain high in many nations. The influence of this disease goes far beyond the individual and health risks, and is leading to great social division as a result from the anxiety of being infected as well as the groundless rumors and disagreements on preventive measures. Being aware that these issues are caused by our own self-oriented mindset that every one of us possesses as a human being, I cannot help but renew my appreciation for the value of Buddhist life relying on the Dharma as the foundation.

Another global issue we are now experiencing is the Russian military invasion into Ukraine. Deploying its armed forces to make their counterparts succumb to such unilateral aggression should never be forgiven. In the frontline cities of Ukraine, many civilians including children have been victimized. This outrage has not only caused tremendous hardship to the directly involved nation but has also brought about a myriad of global problems.

In his Message on 'Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching,' Monshu Ohtani Kojun provides us with the following words, "When we are touched by this warm compassion and learn of Amida Tathagata's wish for our life, we are empowered to live at ease, share joy and sadness with people, and a world of mutual respect and support opens up." Receiving and deeply reflecting on this message, let us recite in unison the 'Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching' while endeavoring to share the teaching in effective ways that is in accord with the time and age.

As announced, the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching will be observed at Hongwanji in 2023, and we are preparing for the occasion. It would be wonderful if we are able to celebrate this special event together with all of you in Kyoto.

In closing, it is my hope that the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada will continue to prosper and that many fruitful results will arise from this annual meeting.

April 23, 2022

Governor General Iwagami Chiko
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

As it is...



This year's spring is a little cooler than in previous years, yet it is nice to see the days getting longer. We are constantly experiencing challenges and changes. Many of the COVID restrictions have been lifted, and we have been trying to getting back to pre-pandemic 'normal'. Then the war invoked between Russia and Ukraine affected the whole world. As much as I wish for a peaceful world, sometimes, I feel that I just need to accept the realities just as they are.

Then, I was reminded of the story which took place between Ikkyu and Rennyo. Ikkyu was a famous eccentric Japanese Zen monk-poet (1394-1481). Rennyo, is often considered the second greatest Shin teacher after Shinran. Ikkyu and Rennyo were very close friends.

In Kyoto, there was a very famous pine tree called 'Very Tortuous (or spiral) Pine'. Ikkyu put up a sign in front of the pine tree which read, "I am going to give a great sum of gold to the person who can see this pine tree standing straight". Everybody tried to see how such a twisted tree could be seen standing straight. Some people thought that from some angle the tree could be seen straight. After some time, someone told Rennyo about the sign. Rennyo, without seeing the tree, said that he knew the answer and asked for the gold. Ikkyu said that on the reverse side of the board there was a statement: "This offer is not valid for Rennyo". However, when they asked Rennyo for the answer, he replied: "The answer is very simple. The way to see this tree straight is to recognize that it is twisted."

Namo Amida Butsu

Tatsuya Aoki



Message from the VBT Board

How quickly the month of April flew by. It is nice to see the flowers and trees blossoming. With that, the days are getting longer and warmer - all signs that spring is finally here.

Spring is a time of renewal. At the temple, there is a sense of renewal. Some of our social groups, who have not met in over two years, will be starting up again. Our Seniors' group has already met once, and hope to on a monthly basis. Weekly groups, like Shigin started mid-April, and Karaoke will be starting very shortly. Please contact the organizer of each activity for further information. Just a reminder that we still encourage the wearing of masks, while in the temple, since COVID is still everywhere around us.

We are planning to have an in-person Obon service on Sunday, July 10th at 2 pm. We will also have Bon dancing. Dance practices and cemetery site services schedules will be published in the June Bodhi Mind.

Last fall, the VBT applied to the Japanese Canadian Survivors Health and Wellness fund. We were granted funds to host a Japanese Canadian Memorial service on Sunday, August 7th at 10am. After the service, we are planning a memorial lunch, with entertainment. We hope to see many of you there.

The BC Jodo Shinshu Federation's directors' meeting was held via Zoom on Sunday, April 3rd. Steveston will be hosting the annual federation convention at the Steveston Temple on Friday, September 16th to Sunday, September 18th. The Vancouver Island Obon cemetery tour is organized by Rev. Grant IKuta. The tour will take place from August 12th to 14th.

At the end of each month, we have organized our bento fund-raiser. We will donate all profits from our April bento to the Canadian Red Cross - Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal. Thank you to all who purchased bentos, and to all the volunteers who helped make the bento program possible.

In gassho



Greetings from the Valley...



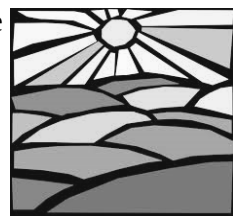
Greetings from the daffodil filled valley,

We are so lucky out here in the west. Hearing that Manitoba was facing up to 40 cm. of snow, and even Calgary having winter stretches again, gratitude abounds as we celebrated Hanamatsuri in sun and in person at the temple. This was the first in three years that we have been able to decorate the Hanamido and have Keirokai activities including bento lunches and lots of in person company. We still used our masks and were careful about hygiene, but it was wonderful to see and converse with sangha we have been missing for so long.

Each month will be like opening a gift as we hope to continue to have in person services, but will be prepared to hold Zoom services if necessary. Our next service will be on May 14th with Reverend Grant Ikuta for Gotan-e (Shinran's birthday). We plan to have an in person service so please join us at 2:00 at the temple.

in gassho

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple



Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Donations Received in Gratitude

Chieko Takasaki, Jenny Fujita & Mike McSkimming, Masami Miyagi, Stanley & Tsuneko Takaki, Ron & Marilyn Fujita, Amy Nagamatsu, Crystal & Kwyntin Fujita, Yoshimi & Gail Kariatsumari, Ryoko Tateyama, Carole Hamanishi.

Naomi Shikaze - in memory of father, Gilbert & grandfather, Kayemon

Lori North - in memory of Yoshinobu Inouye & Hanamatsuri

Misaye Hamaura - in memory of Masato (Merv) Araki

Dr. & Mrs. R.S. Akune - in memory of Merv M. Araki

Ted & Rose Akune - in memory of Merv Araki

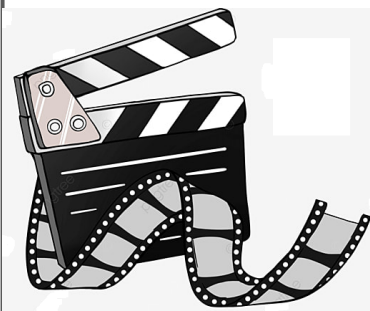
Byron Kagawa - in memory of Merv Araki & Hanamatsuri

Stan & Lucy Yoshioka - Kenny & dad, Jack Yoshioka memorial

Japanese Movie Afternoons

On Sunday, May 1st at 1:00 pm, come join us to watch Japanese movies (with English subtitles) at the Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple. Those attending the session will be able to choose from *Hula Girls* or *Every Day a Good Day*.

Our **Movie Afternoon** is a project funded by the JC Health & Wellness Fund as a social activity to bring our seniors, their families and friends together, and it is **open to everyone**.



The next **Movie Afternoon** will be held on Saturday, May 28th at 1:00 pm. The movie choices will be announced at the May 1st event.

For more information on our **Movie Afternoons** you may email Lori at lori.north@gmail.com (English) or call Lucy Yoshioka at (604) 856-6492 (Japanese).

Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 7th -
Dharma Service @ 10:00

Sunday, May 8th -
Gotan-e/Hatsumairi/
& Shotsuki Memorial
Service @ 10:00 VBT
(masks required) &
on-line

Saturday, May 14th @
Fraser Valley Buddhist
Temple 2pm (Rev. Grant
Ikuta)

Saturday, May 21st -
Dharma Service @ 10:00

Saturday, May 28th -
Dharma Service @ 10:00

*** All services start @ 10:00 am
and will be via Zoom, except
where indicated.

The Zoom link is:

Meeting ID: 692 059 0986

Passcode: shinran

Return to the Toban System

Ever so gradually, the temple is opening up, and with that, more needs to be done to help with the upkeep. As a result, the board has decided to return to the Toban system.

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 is 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.

To start off, Tobans will look after Memorial/Shotsuki services. Some of the duties include: cleaning the Hondo, inside and outside the temple; a parking attendant will be needed; as well as a couple people to act as service receptionist and usher.

Please contact Toban 2's captains, Bob and Molly Akune if you are available to help.



Toban 2 will be responsible for...



- Saturday, May 7th - Mushi manju making @ 9:00 am
- Sunday, May 8th - Gotan-e/Hatsumairi/Shotsuki/Memorial Service @ 10:00 am
- Sunday, May 15th - Seniors' Luncheon @ 11:30 am
- Sunday, May 22nd - Yaki manju making @ 9:00 am
- Saturday, May 28th - Bento prep @ 9:00 am
- Sunday, May 29th - Bento making @ 8:00 am



Thank You to...

A lot of work is required to keep the temple in working order. From time to time things break-down or we need assistance in the kitchen. As well as the board of directors, we are very fortunate to have volunteers answer the call for help.

A huge shout-out and thanks to:

♦ March Bento: Molly Akune, Joyce Chan, Masae Ishii, Kaoru Kikuchi, Akemi Mizuta, Keiko Oyama, Sumie Takahashi, Michiyo Teranishi, Christine, Kaz, & Margaret Yoshida.

Volunteers Needed

If you are available, the temple will need help for the following events. Please call or email the temple if you can help out.

- Saturday, May 7th - Mushi manju making @ 9:00 am
- Sunday, May 22nd - Yaki manju making @ 9:00 am
- Saturday, May 28th - Bento prep @ 9:00 am

Memorial Years of 2022

1st Year - 2021
3rd Year - 2020

7th Year - 2016
13th Year - 2010

17th Year - 2006
25th Year - 1998

33rd Year - 1990
50th Year - 1973

May Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The May Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held in-person and virtually (via Zoom) on Sunday, May 8th at 10:00 am.

1957
*NAKAMURA, Miss
*SUGIHARA, Shichisaburo
1958
*NAKASHIMA, Eikichi
*OHASHI, Yuno
*OHTA, Masu
SAIMOTO, Kunimatsu
1960
*HAMADE, Yoshigoro
*NAKANISHI, Mitsugu
1961
*SHIRAKAWA, Hidehiko
1962
*NISHIKAWA, Usaburo
1964
*MARUMOTO, Kamen
*YABUNO, Sutekichi
*YURUGI, Choichiro
1965
*INOUE, Kandayu
NAKATA, Norman
1966
*MATSUSHITA, Nagashige
1967
MADOKORO, Hiroye
*YOSHIDA, Isamu
1969
*OGINO, Chozo
*ONO, Matsu
1970
*SUZUKI, Isono
*TANAKA, Hisa
1972
*MISHIMA, Tsurukichi
YADA, Kiyoshi
1973—50th Year
*TANAKA, Haru
1974
HORII, Sumiye
*INAMASU, Suye
1975
*KITANO, Jyutaro
*KOYANAGI, Toyohisa
*MAYEDA, Kiyokazu
*UYENO, Ei
1976
HAMAGUCHI, Fumio
*TAKEDA, Iwao
1977
KONDO, Yoshio
1979
NAKAMURA, Genzaburo
*NISHIMURA, Aiko
1980
*WAKITA, Hajime
*YOSHIDA, Yoshi
1981
*AYUKAWA, Kaoru
*TAKAHASHI, Kazuo
TANAKA, Miki
*YABE, (baby)
YAMAKAMI, Shotaro
1982
*KAWAGUCHI, Yoshio
*OHTA, Takezo
TANAKA, Ichijiro
1983
*KITADE, Yaeko
*NAGAMATSU, Denshin
1984
*HANADA, Yoshio
*OKEGAMI, Hidehiro
*SAKIYAMA, Hiroshi
*TAKEMOTO, Matsuyo
*TERANISHI, Fuji
1985
*KAWAHIRA, Imiko
YAMADA, Yukio
1986
*EGAMI, Hikotaro
*HAMADE, Toyo
*MORI, Nobuo
*NISHIMURA, Hiroshi
*NOSE, Tazo
1987
*HORI, Mika
*KITAGAWA, Naka
*YURUGI, Moto
1988
*TSUJI, Gen
1989
*KUROMI, Suino
*MIURA, Kaoru
1990—33rd Year
*GREEN, Jordan
HIRAI, Ken
*NISHIKAWA, Mitsuye
1991
HAYA, Haruko
*MIYAGAWA, Ito
OKADA, Kazuko
1992
*NODA, Misaho
*ONO, Yoichi
*SOGA, Zenya

UYESUGI, Fumio
1994
*MATSUBA, Shige
1995
SHIMABUKURO, Nabe
*UYENO, Shigeo
YAMADA, Takaichi
1996
*ITAYA, Masaye
1997
SHOJI, Tadashi
TAKEMORI, Akiko
TANAKA, Masao
1998—25th Year
*MARUYAMA, Bill
YAMADA, Kazuye
1999
HAMAGUCHI, Hiroshi
*KUNIMOTO, Akiko
YAMADA, Hiroshi
2000
IMAI, Eichi
KAKUTANI, Kiyoshi
NISHI, Yukio
YAMASHITA, Toshio
2001
WAKAHARA, Tomohiko
2002
FUKUI, Hisako
NAKAMURA, Miki
SAMESHIMA, Tadayuki
WATANABE, Hiromi
2003
*NAKATSUI, Toyoko
2004
KITAMURA, Shizuko
OMOTO, Noboru
OYA, Chie
2005
GRIMSHAW, Rebecca
2006—17th Year
*SATO, Yoshiaki
2007
HAMAGAMI, George
KITAGAWA, Kotoma
MORISHITA, Hatsumi
NAKAMURA, Amy
NAKATSU, Toshiye
WADA, Seiji
2008
KAWASAKI, Ryota
KOYANAGI, Hiroyuki
TANAKA, Keiichi

TANAHARA, Yoshihide
2011
FUJIYAMA, Kie
YAMADA, Miyoko
2012
OKADA, Katsuko
TSUJI, Yoshiaki
WATANABE, Isao
2014
YAMASHITA, Tsunaye
2016—7th Year
KAWAMOTO, Hisako
SUGA, Yuriko
2017
NATSUHARA, Lucy
NISHI, Chiyeko
2018
MINATO, Kaoru
2019
OKANO, Edward Isao
2021—1st Year
HONDA, Chieko



Passings

Our deepest
condolences go to the
families and friends of

Mr. Shiro Nishimura
(94 yrs)
April 13, 2022

**The Shotsuki Service will
be held on Sunday, May 8th at
the temple & via Zoom @ 10
am.

The Zoom link is:

Meeting ID: 692 059 0986
Passcode: shinran

Also, you can dial-in to the
service.

Dial: 778-907-2071

Press Meeting ID#:
692 059 0986 & #

Bento Box

On the last Sunday of each month, we will be selling bento. A delicious way to support the temple. 🍱

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

For May 29th, the bento will include:

- Oyakodon
- Gyoza (2)
- Chow mein
- Rice
- Green salad
- Tsukemono



Cost: \$15.00

We will also be offering manju (2 kinds)

Cost: \$8.00 for 6

Combo (bento and 6 manju)

Cost: \$20.00

Orders must be prepaid (cash, cheque, or e-transfer). **Last day to order is Tuesday, May 24th**

Pick-up: Between 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on May 29th at the Social Hall entrance.

May 29th Bento Order Form

Number of: Bento ____ x \$15.00

Manju ____ x \$8.00

Combo ____ x \$20.00

Total cost: ____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____