

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)



Zoom: Sat, July 22nd at 10 AM

Zoom: Sat, July 29th at 10 AM

Sunday, July 9th

@ 2:00 p.m.

Obon/Hatsubon and Shotsuki/Memorial

If you would like to attend,
Please **RSVP**.
(Phone, or email the temple.)

Guest Speaker: **Rev. Grant Ikuta**

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



Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

July 2023, Issue #472

Message on the new Ryogemon, a way of appreciating the teaching: "Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching"



In March of this year, we will be observing the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching. This series of commemorative services is a great opportunity for us all to express our gratitude for the benevolence of Shinran Shonin who clarified the Jodo Shinshu teaching that we are able to appreciate today. During the occasion, we will be able to share the joy of following the same spiritual path with fellow Nembutsu followers. It would be even more wonderful if the younger generation, as well as those who have yet to become connected, will take this opportunity to become more familiar with Buddhism and the Jodo Shinshu tradition.

It goes without saying how important it is for us, a religious organization, to transmit the teaching in correct and understandable ways. To rationalize and update it for people, we must modify our ways of sharing it in accordance with the times, environment, and people's way of thinking. For this purpose, in 2021, on the occasion of the annual Commemorative Service of the Establishment of Jodo Shinshu, I proclaimed a message on "Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching." This text was written to express its essence and intended to be recited by everyone on various occasions. Thus, I aspired that we learn from Shinran Shonin's way of living and transmit the tradition to the next generation in approachable ways.

Since the time of Rennyo Shonin, we have adopted the passage of the original Ryogemon as a way to express our appreciation. The original Ryogemon outlines and describes the Jodo Shinshu teaching, such as 'the entrusting heart as the cause of our birth in the Pure Land,' as well as 'the Nembutsu as an expression of our gratitude,' in simple phrases that were easy to understand for the then common people. Therefore, the role of the original Ryogemon should be highly regarded even today.

However, we cannot deny that the connotation of the original Ryogemon has faded with the changing times. Therefore, we may need a modern version of Ryogemon, a way of appreciation for the teaching as Nembutsu followers, expressed in plain and simple words which we can recite to reassure ourselves and share it with others. In consideration of this, today, I reissue "Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching" as a modern version of Ryogemon, with the addition of a verse that expresses our gratitude to Shinran Shonin and all our predecessors.

Continued on page 2...

Vancouver Buddhist Temple



220 Jackson Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3

Phone:
604-253-7033

Email:
temple.vbt@gmail.com

Website:
vancouverbuddhisttemple.com

Continued from page 1...

Namo Amida Butsu.

*"Entrust yourself to me. I will liberate you just as you are." This is the calling voice of Amida.
My blind passions are embraced in the Buddha's awakening,
So the Buddha calls to me "I will liberate you just as you are."
Gratefully responding to the Buddha's call,
I find that I am already on the path that leads to the Pure Land.
And the Nembutsu flows freely from my thankful heart.*

*It is due to the guidance of Shinran Shonin
and successive spiritual leaders
who have transmitted the teaching to us today.*

*Living with the Dharma as my guide
Softens my rigid heart and mind.
Gratitude for the gift of life I have received
Frees me from becoming lost in greed and anger,
And allows me to share a warm smile and speak gentle words.
Sharing in the joy and sadness of others,
I shall strive to live each day to its fullest.*



It is my hope that this new version of Ryogemon, an expression of appreciation for the teaching, will be recited by everyone during various gatherings to share it with a wide range of people as well as the next generation.

January 16, 2023

SHAKU SENNYO

OHTANI Kojun

Monshu

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

"Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching"



"... In this life, even tomorrow is uncertain, and no matter what we say, nothing is to any avail when life ends. If our doubts are not clearly dispelled during this life, we will surely [be filled with] regret...."

- Renny's Letters 6 "On Drowsiness" Written on February 8, 1473

Gomonshu-sama, Kojun Ohtani, presented his message on January 16th. He is trying to share the Buddha-Dharma that can be easy to understand and to follow. I think of the technological and medical advancements in recent years. They certainly make our lives easier and more useful, but the fundamental human sufferings have not changed. Besides aging and illness, death or the separation from a loved one, is the most difficult part of human life. The Teachings are not for the person who passed away. Buddhism is for the living, and hopefully, we will reduce the number of regrets by following the Buddhist path.

I have resumed the practice of visiting people, at the request of the family, at their own homes or senior facilities where they reside. Please contact me if you would like me to visit your family members or friends. I do make one small request, however. Please have a family member present at the time of my visit.

When families consider having a Pillow-side service (*Makuragyo*), please notify me with an up-to-date report on the condition of the patient. This information will allow me to suggest the best options available to the family.

I am looking forward to seeing many people at the Obon service! Our guest speaker is Rev. Grant Ikuta.

In gassho,
Tatsuya Aoki



Message from the VBT Board

The month of July is our busy month of the year. It is the month in which we have Obon. The tradition consists of a special service based on the Ullambana Sutra and the story of Mogallana. While the service is a memorial for our ancestors who have gone before us, it is actually for the living, in order that they can listen to the Dharma. While the Obon Odori is an integral part of the memorial service; it conveys a festive mood of dancing with Joy. While the service will be indoors, the dancing will be held outdoors on the street in front of our temple. We are planning to have food and light refreshments for your enjoyment on that occasion.

The Powell Street Festival follows soon after. On the BC Day weekend, the local Nikkei community celebrates its long history in the Powell Street area with events, songs and dances including fabulous food and refreshments. It is an occasion not to be missed.

While it is not likely that we will have our much anticipated annual Fall Bazaar, the temple will resume the successful Bento fund-raiser in October. Watch for the items that will be featured for the month-end bento.

Gassho,

The Board

No Bentos for July—September

With Obon and the Powell Street Festival coming up, we will be taking a short hiatus from our Bento program. We hope to see you again in October. Thank you to all who have supported our fund-raising program.

2023 BCJSBTF Vancouver Island Obon Tour

Date: August 10 –13, 2023

Fee: \$675 per person (based on double occupancy)

Registration Deadline: June 30, 2023

Maximum Participants: 12 people



2023 BCJSBTF Convention: The Dharma of Pie: Many Ingredients make ONE

Please join us in Vernon B.C. for the B.C. Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Federation Convention on September 23rd and 24th. We are planning a week-end of Dharma, fellowship and fun! James Martin Sensei, who is retired from the Calgary Buddhist Temple, is our thought-provoking Guest Speaker. We will approach our Theme from the Buddhist perspective as well as social and community views.

Our Breakout sessions feature some other Ingredients to Flavour Life and will have you singing, dancing, exercising or learning.

We also want you to have a good time in Vernon and have optional activities to choose from such as a visits to Davidson's Orchards, Planet Bee and Meadery, Cambium Cidery, drive to the Rise Golf Course to see the views and a walk on the Okanagan Rail Trail along the beautiful Kalamalka Lake.

So plan to come to enjoy the week-end. We are looking forward to hosting you in the beautiful North Okanagan this fall.

The B.C. Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Federation is hiring a bus to bring people from the lower mainland to Vernon. Please contact tedakune@gmail.com for bus information.

Please contact the Vernon Buddhist Temple at vernonbuddhisttemple@gmail.com for more information and registration forms.

Greetings from the Valley...



Welcome to the valley...summer is here... warmth from the sun, but also from the forest fires, school is out, but some children complain there is nothing to do, it is family holiday times, but with a tightening economy, budget travel may be more sensible. With positive and negative situations affecting our lives, we can still take the middle road. We have so much to be thankful for and gratitude is a truly Buddhist comfort.

Many Obon services have now been celebrated and although many of us have found the losses these last two years overwhelming, we can experience Obon with happy memories of those who have passed on. They have become part of us and that will never

disappear.

Our FVBT will not have a monthly service in August, but we will be preparing for a busy September. Our service will be on September 9th and the BCJSBTF AGM and Convention in Vernon is scheduled for September 23rd and 24th. And we are hoping to hold our fall Bazaar again.

In gassho,

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Donations Received in Gratitude

Correction

Please accept my sincerest apologies for a typo I made in the May issue of Bodhi Mind.

April Shotsuki Memorial Service

Jeanne & Larry Ryan - In memory of Sam Yoshioka

Irene Rohrer - In memory of Sam Yoshioka

Denise Cork - In memory of Sam Yoshioka

Pat Yoshioka - In memory of Sam Yoshioka

Jean Nakatsui - In memory of Sam Yoshioka

Mr. & Mrs. Ken Yoshioka - In memory of Sam Yoshioka

K. Hamaura - In memory of Sam Yoshioka

In Gassho,

Denise Cork, treasurer

Marion Fujita - FVBT/In Memory of Mom

T. Tateyama - FVBT/In Memory of Dad

Ron & Marilyn Fujita - In Memory of Mom

Naomi Shikaze - FVBT/In Memory of Grandma Eda

Ron Nishimura - FVBT

Ben Shikaze - In Memory of Masuko Kamimura

Ben Shikaze - In Memory of Dad Yoshio Shikaze

Pat Yoshioka - FVBT/In Memory of Hideko Yoshioka

Misaye Hamamura In Memory of Sam Yoshioka

Alice Takaki - In Memory of Sam Yoshioka

Winston Lui - In Memory of Sam Yoshioka

Fudge Takeda - In Memory of Sam Yoshioka

Liz Machida - In Memory of Sam Yoshioka

Alice Takaki - In Memory of Sam Yoshioka

Abe Family - In Memory of Sam Yoshioka

Ron & Marilyn Fujita - In Memory of Sam Yoshioka

June Shotsuki - FVBT

Jenny Fujita/Mike McSkimming - FVBT/In Memory of Mother/Grandma

R. Tateyama - FVBT

Mr. John Kamimura - In Memory of Masuko Kamimura

RSVP - 2023 Obon Service at the Vancouver Buddhist Temple

SERVICE: Sunday, July 9th @ 2:00 pm & Bon Dance @ 4:00 pm (approximately)

EVENT ADDRESS: Vancouver Buddhist Temple (220 Jackson Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3)

DEADLINE: 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 4th

CONTACT: 604 253-7033 or temple.vbt@gmail.com

Name (first name last name): _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____ or Cell #: _____

Number of people attending (including yourself): _____

Purpose of visit: Hatsubon _____ Annual Obon Memorial _____ July Shotsuki Memorial _____

Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 2nd -
Cemetery Service
@ 9:30 am (Forest Lawn)
@ 10:10 am (Ocean View)
@ 11:00 am (Mountain View - North)
@ 11:30 am (Mountain View - South)

Saturday, July 8th -
Cemetery Service
@ 1:00 pm (Aldergrove)

Saturday, July 8th -
FVBT Obon Service &
Bon dance @ 2:00 pm

Sunday, July 9th -
Obon, Hatsubon &
Shotsuki/Memorial
Service @ 2:00 pm VBT
(masks are optional) &
on-line. Please pre-
register if attending in
person.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Grant Ikuta



Sunday, July 9th -
Bon Odori @ 4:00 pm
VBT (outside)

Saturday, July 22nd -
Dharma Service @ 10:00

Saturday, July 29th -
Dharma Service @ 10:00

August 5th & 6th -
Powell Street Festival

*** 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



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.



The 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. Help will also be needed for lunch prep for various monthly activities.

The following activities in June are the responsibility of **Toban #4**

Obon Prep - Saturday, July 8th @ 9:00 a.m. and Sunday, July 9th @ 9:00 a.m.

Obon, Hatsubon, & Shotsuki/Memorial Service—Sunday, July 9th

Mushi Manju Making - Sunday, July 16th @ 9:00 a.m.

Yaki Manju Making - Saturday, July 29th @ 9:00 a.m. *** tentative***

Please contact Toban 4's captains, Frank Hamanishi and/or Yvonne Nakano if you are able to help.



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:

♦ May Bento and Yaki manju making: Molly Akune, JoAnna Bazeley, Joyce Chan, Kathy Homma, Masae Ishii, Takiko Kawasaki, Alamy Liu, Tatsu & Karen Mizushima, Akemi Mizuta, Cathy Nishikawa, Keiko Oyama, Yohei Tarutani, Michiyo Teranishi, Nancy Yamazaki, Christine, Kaz, & Margaret Yoshida.

♦ June 3rd Manju making: Molly Akune, Joyce Chan, Haruyo Chiba, Kathy Homma, Masae Ishii, Mas Kitagawa, Eileen & Paul Kitamura, Sam Kobayashi, Takiko Kawasaki, Alamy Liu, Karen Mizushima, Akemi Mizuta, Kazumi Nakano, Keiko Oyama, Bob Soga, Yohei Tarutani, Michiyo Teranishi, Kazue Tsurusaki, Emi Yamazaki, Nancy Yamazaki, Christine, Kaz, & Margaret Yoshida.

♦ June 17th Manju making: Molly Akune, Carlos & Yuika Barahona-Tanaka, JoAnna Bazeley, Joyce Chan, Kathy Homma, Masae Ishii, Eileen & Paul Kitamura, Alamy Liu, Akemi Mizuta, Cathy Nishikawa, Keiko Oyama, Yohei Tarutani, Michiyo Teranishi, Kazue Tsurusaki, Christine, Kaz, & Margaret Yoshida.



VBT Summer Barbeque and Picnic - Saturday, August 12th

With our return to 'normal', we would like to invite our members to join us at Burnaby's Central Park (Picnic Site #1) on Saturday, August 12th starting @ 11:00 a.m. Please let the temple know if you and your family would like to join us for fun, food, and old-fashioned family time. Details will be forthcoming in our next month's Bodhi Mind.



Memorial Years of 2023

1st Year - 2022

3rd Year - 2021

7th Year - 2017

13th Year - 2011

17th Year - 2007

25th Year - 1999

33rd Year - 1991

50th Year - 1974

July Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The July Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held in-person and virtually (via Zoom) on Sunday, July 9th at 2:00 pm.

1959

YADA, Shige
*TAKEBAYASHI, Tei

1960

*WATANABE, Hiroshi
*NAGATA, Sano

1963

*TANAKA, Masuya
*TSUMURA, Tonoyo

1964

*YOSHIDA, Iwataro
*KOHARA, Tsuneo

1965

MIZUTA, Jisaburo
*OTANI, Shige

1966

TSUJI, Tatsuya

1967

*FUKUI, Chika
*OMORI, Takanosuke
*HINATSU, Shigeru
*SAKAI, Fujie
*TANAKA, Koharu

1969

*NAKAMURA, Yoichi

1970

*NAKAO, Hatsue

1972

*UYENO, Toyokichi
*SAKAGUCHI, Shigeo
*MUTO, Saburo
*HISANAGA, Aizo

1973

OMAYE, Kiyokazu
*KAGAWA, Kuni
*KITASAKA, Tosaburo

1974 - (50th year)

*YOSHIDA, Takeshi

1975

MIYASAKI, Saijiro
*YOSHIDA, Kinu

1976

RYUJIN, Takeji

1977

HAMATAKE, Yasu

1978

HORII, Kiyoaki
*KURASHIGE, Naoko

1979

*BANDO, Hidejiro
*MURATA, Uno

1981

*TAMAKI, Hiroko
OTSUJI, Ito
*NAKAGAWA, Hatsu

1982

*IDA, Kikui

1983

*NAKASHIMA, Yoshito
YOSHIKAWA, Susumu

1984

*NAKAMURA, Takeo
*TANAKA, Harry
*NITTA, Kitaro
*SATO, Shino
*KONDO, Hiroshi

1986

*TAKEUCHI, Masu
*NISHIMURA, Shigeyuki
TATEYAMA, Shinpachi

1988

KODA, Haru

1990

NISHIMURA, Naka
*MURAO, Tokiko

1991 - (33rd year)

*MIYUKI, Yoko
TATSUMI, Tatsu
*UYENO, Zenzo

1993

*KUMAMOTO, Takayuki
*KOYANAGI, Keiichi

1994

*SEIBOLD, Terry
*TANIGAKI, Toshiko
*MAYE, Shigeo

1995

OKAZOE, Susumu
KARIYA, Isamu
MORI, Akiyo
OYE, Yasukichi
MORI, Nobu

1996

TANAKA, Junichi
NISHIMURA, Taro
INOUE, Teiji

1997

UYEDA, Toshiko
UYEDA, Hisakichi
TANAKA, Shigeo
YASUDA, Minoru

1998

*MARUYAMA, Sharon
YAMAOKA, Nobue

1999 - (25th year)

HIKIDA, Masaharu
MARUNO, Satoshi

2000

NAKATANI, Takao

2001

YAMAUCHI, Takashi

2002

*TAKAMA, Akira

2005

TANAKA, Douglas Takeo

2006

HATTORI, Motoharu

KOJIMA, Joe Ju

KARIYA, Fumiko

2007 - (17th year)

KIMOTO, Haruye
KIKUCHI, Tomi
KITANO, Yoko

2008

NAKAGAWA, Toshio

2009

TAKENO, Masuko
KAWAMOTO, Makoto,
ISHIKAWA, Sadako

2011 - (13th year)

TANAKA, Kaoru

2012

TAMAKI, Shigeharu
SUZUKI, Tamako

2013

OKADA, Kazuko
TANIZAWA, Fusako

2014

SATO, Kimihiko
TAJIRI, Helen
TAMAI, Miyoko
SAKATA, Mieko

2017 - (7th year)

UYEYAMA, Yoshiko

2018

KOJIMA, Raymond
KOMATSU, Kazuko
ANDO, Mark

2019

TANAKA, Alice
HATTORI, Sayo
IMAIZUMI, Seiichi
YOSHIKAWA, Hikaru

2020

TAKATA, Yukiko

2021 - (3rd year)

SHOJI, Yoshiro

2022 - (1st year)

OKANO, Shiro
FUJITA, Crystal Lee Yuki

Passings

Our deepest
condolences go to the
families and friends of

Mrs. Misao Mary Hamakawa
(94)
May 26

2022-2023

Hatsubon 初盆

(First Obon Service)

2022	AUG	Toshiko Kajiwara
	SEP	Midori Chijiwa Toshio Hirai
	NOV	Chusei Matsuda Stanley Takaki
	DEC	Kiyoko Yada Gentaro Shimizu Yoshiko Koyanagi Itsuko Arita
2023	JAN	Sho Uyesugi Wendy Takemoto
	FEB	Akemi Tanaka
	MAR	Sam Yoshioka Yoshiko Tanaka
	APR	Percy Kimoto
	MAY	Tsugio Yoshida Dan Uyesugi Mary Hamakawa