

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 40
minutes - Meditation, Sutra
Chanting, and Dharma Talk)



Rev. Aoki will be on holidays in
November.

Online and In-person services
will resume in December.

Sunday, November 5th
@ 11:00 a.m.

**Eitaikyo & Shotsuki /
Eshin-ni Memorial
Service (& lunch)**
Masks are now optional

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

November 2023, Issue #475

Winter is Coming



We now have two months left in the year 2023. There is no doubt that the weather is cooling as the days grow shorter. When the fall season turns to winter the leaves begin to change color and fall. I cannot help but remember one of my favorite haiku poems.

It may very well be one of the most famous of all. This poem was written by the Soto Zen priest and poet, Ryokan, who lived about 200 years ago in the Niigata area of Japan.

It reads:

<i>"Ura o Misete</i>	(Showing Front)
<i>Omote o Misete</i>	(Showing Back)
<i>Chiru Momiji"</i>	(Maple Leaves Fall)

In this simple 17-syllable haiku poem, it can be said that the very heart and essence of Buddhism is revealed. In our mind's eye we can visualize the beautiful fall-coloured leaves fluttering down from the trees. We can sense the cooler weather and feel the autumn breeze. We unconsciously experience the Buddhist truth of impermanence in the changing seasons. There is a sense of naturalness of things being just as they should be. The trees and the leaves do not cling to each other; when autumn comes, when the karmic circumstances change, they part. For such is life. And as the leaves fall gently to the ground, they twirl and float, showing front and showing back.

Too often, we human beings float through life only wanting to show our "front," our "good" side. The leaves fall without pretense and without concern for what is "good" and what is "not good." More than this, they have no concept of front or back, good or bad. We human beings, with judgmental minds, are the ones who create and assign such values.

As we are taught in Buddhism, if we open our eyes, the whole world is teaching us the Dharma. Throughout this autumn season, let us appreciate the wonderful Dharma message of the falling leaves.

In gassho,

Tatsuya Aoki





Message from the VBT Board

In the early years of our temple, membership grew in leaps and bounds, because the temple provided activities such as a Japanese language school, arts and crafts of Japan, ikebana, bonsai, tea ceremony, as well as social and sports activities. This was available over and above regular adult and Dharma School services held every Sunday. Today, 100 years later, while we have a clean and modern building with a large hondo and one of the most beautiful naijin in North America, our membership continues to decline slowly. Membership that was once in the 500 to 600's, today is hovering around the 200's.

Jodo Shinshu is not an ethnic teaching. We must find ways to introduce the universality of Jodo Shinshu teachings in a way that will resonate with all North Americans. The message of Shinshu Buddhism is one of love and compassion. There are no rigid rules of conduct or dogmas one needs to accept. It is a teaching that focuses on truth and reality, not on petitionary acts and difficult personal practice. In our history of over 100 years, the temple organization has experienced depression, war and discrimination. Yet it has continued to sustain itself on our Canadian soil, as well as globally. Our biggest challenge for survival is ahead of us. Let us work as hard as we possibly can to preserve this wonderful teaching and share it with others for another century.

In the spirit of dana, we hope members and non-members will support our Lahaina Hongwanji Mission fund-raising efforts, by purchasing our October bento.

Namu Amida Butsu

2023 BCJSBTC Convention

The BCJSBTC's annual convention and AGM was held September 23rd and 24th in Vernon. Several VBT members were able to attend. The guest speaker was James Martin Sensei, who is a retired minister from the Calgary Buddhist Temple. Besides the thought-provoking talks (Inclusion and Acceptance in Buddhism, Judgement and Buddhism, Come Just As You Are), there were other activities for delegates to participate in (visiting Planet Bee and Meadery, walk on the Okanagan Rail Trail along Kalamalka Lake, and shopping at Davidson's Orchards for apples and fall vegetables).

Many thanks to Hu and Mari Cameron, the organizing committee in Vernon and their many volunteers for putting on a great event.

The Vancouver Buddhist Temple looks forward to hosting the next convention in 2025.



Greetings from the Valley...



As I sit here listening to the rain outside the window I acknowledge that summer is over and we are now moving into the Fall season. A few of our regular members were not seen at our service this afternoon as they were all suffering from cold/flu/ Covid symptoms and were wisely staying home. We appreciate that they were thinking of the health and safety of others in our Sangha.

We announced that we would be sharing light refreshments after our service instead of having our usual pot-luck meal. This move was to try and make it a bit easier on some of our members who spend time in their kitchens to make wonderful main and side dishes each month. Well, this decision may have backfired on us as the table held more food than usual but this time it was covered with cookies, donuts, bars, breads, pizza, hard boiled eggs, manju, mochi, and fresh fruit. Even the food that we took home at the end of the cleanup seemed to consist of bigger than usual packages.

Thank you to the many people in our sangha who have helped our temple in its various activities. A special thanks to Mrs. Miyagi who brought in a carload of daikon, tomatoes, garlic, and kabocha to our service for people to take home and enjoy.

We look forward to seeing many of you on Saturday, November 4th at 2 pm for our November Shotsuki and Eitaikyo service.

In Gassho

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Donations Received in Gratitude

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations received in September:

Yvonne Nakano, Lori North, Dana Dardis, J. Fujita, M. McSkimming, R. Tateyama, Reiko Honkawa

In Memory of John Kamimura – Ben Shikaze

In Memory of mom, Hisako – Naomi Shikaze

In memory of mother – Byron Kagawa

In memory of mother and father – J McAllister

In memory of Miki Muraki – Stan & Lucy Yoshioka

In Memory of Mom & Henri – Denise Cork

In Memory of Hiroshi Honkawa – J Fujita

In Memory of Ross Honkawa – Irene Rohrer

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations received in October:

Lori North, Amy Nagamatsu, Jenny Fujita, Mike McSkimming, Kimino Nishi, Vivian Nishi, Stan & Lucy Yoshioka

In Memory of John Kamimura – Gail & Yosh Karatsumari

In Memory of father – Byron Kagawa

In Memory of Fumi Honkawa – Reiko Honkawa

In Memory of Hiroshi Honkawa – G. Honkawa, May Mukaida

H.U.G.S. - Health Urgent Guide Services - for Japanese Canadian Survivors living in B.C.'s Lower Mainland

H.U.G.S. is a short term service that can help Japanese Canadian Internment Survivors navigate their health and wellness needs through government and community programs and services.

H.U.G.S. can assist the Survivor, family or caregiver with immediate needs including:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ✓ Healthcare access and planning | ✓ Referral to social and cultural groups and programs |
| ✓ Resources for primary caregiver support | ✓ Dental and denturist care |
| ✓ Transportation services | ✓ Vision and eye glass repairs |
| ✓ Housekeeping and food services | ✓ Hearing and hearing aid repairs |
| ✓ Assistive devices for home safety and independence | ✓ Minor home repairs |
| ✓ Medication and medication management | ✓ Estate planning |
| ✓ Housing information | ✓ Other short-term urgent needs |

Contact H.U.G.S. at: 604-777-5000 Ext. 2109 Or email: hugsassistant@nikkeishc.com

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 5th -
Eitaikyo/Eshin-ni &
Shotsuki/Memorial Service
& lunch @ 11:00 a.m. at
VBT and on-line

Sunday, November 19th -
Seniors' Luncheon @ 11:00

Saturday, December 2nd -
Fraser Valley Temple
Service with Rev. Aoki @
11:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 3rd -
Bodhi Day & Shotsuki/
Memorial Service & lunch
@ 11:00 a.m. at VBT and
on-line

Sunday, December 17th -
@ 9:00 a.m. Mochi Tsuki

Sunday, December 31st -
Bell Ringing @ 11:30 p.m.
at UBC Asian Centre (not
at VBT)

Monday, January 1st - New
Year's Service @ 10:00 a.m.
at VBT

Sunday, January 14th -
Hoonko/January Shotsuki
& 120th Anniversary Service
& Lunch @ 11:00 a.m.

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, the Social Hall, inside and outside the temple; a parking attendant is needed; as well as a couple people may be needed to act as service receptionist and usher. Help will also be needed for lunch prep for various monthly activities.



The following activities in October and November are the responsibility of **Toban #1**

- **Bento** - Prep: Saturday, October 28th @ 9:00 am. Packing: Sunday, October 29th @ 8:00 am
- **Eitaikyo/Eshin-ni & November Shotsuki/Memorial Service**—Sunday, November 5th @ 9:00 am
- **Manju making (Yaki)** - Sunday, November 12th @ 9:00 am
- **Bento** - Prep: Saturday, November 25th @ 9:00 am. Packing: Sunday, November 26th @ 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:

- ♦ Mr. Frank Hamanishi and Mr. Robert Nomura for installing the railing behind the naijin
- ♦ **October 1st Manju-making** - JoAnna Bazeley, Joyce Chan, Satsu Kanegae, Takiko Kawasaki, Paul & Eileen Kitamura, Alamy Liu, Akemi Mizuta, Keiko Oyama, Kanta Sekimoto, Yohei Tarutani, Michiyo Teranishi, Kazue Tsurusaki, Christine, Kaz, and Margaret Yoshida
- ♦ **October 17th Manju-making** - JoAnna Bazeley, Joyce Chan, Satsu Kanegae, Takiko Kawasaki, Paul & Eileen Kitamura, Alamy Liu, Akemi Mizuta, Keiko Oyama, Kanta Sekimoto, Yohei Tarutani, Michiyo Teranishi, Kazue Tsurusaki, Christine, Kaz, and Margaret Yoshida
- ♦ **October 21st Manju-making** - JoAnna Bazeley, Joyce Chan, Frank & Pat Hamanishi, Masae Ishii, Satsu Kanegae, Takiko Kawasaki, Paul & Eileen Kitamura, Sam Kobayashi, Alamy Liu, Karen & Tatsu Mizushima, Akemi Mizuta, Cathy Nishikawa, Keiko Oyama, Michiyo Teranishi, Kazue Tsurusaki, Christine, Kaz, and Margaret Yoshida

Volunteers Needed

If you are available, please come and help at any of the following events:

- ♦ **Eitaikyo/Eshin-ni & November Shotsuki/Memorial Service** - Sunday, November 5th @ 9:00 am
- ♦ **November manju making (yaki)** - Sunday, November 12th @ 9:00 a.m.
- ♦ **Senior's Luncheon** - Sunday, November 19th @ 9:00 a.m.
- ♦ **November Bento prep** - Saturday, November 26th @ 9:00 a.m. & Sunday, November 27th @ 8:00 a.m.
- ♦ **Mochi tsuki** - December 17th @ 9:00 a.m.

2024 Membership Fee Increase

Due to the increase in assessment fees to the JSBTC (our national board), the Vancouver Buddhist Temple will have to increase the membership fees for 2024 to \$125.00/adult member and \$35/student member. Membership fees are from January 1st to December 31st.

With the cost of inflation and living in an expensive province, such as BC, we are hoping to ease the financial burden to members who are 85 and over (born in 1939 or earlier). These members will no longer have to pay the \$125.00 annual membership fees, but must complete the membership renewal form to keep their membership active. The VBT would gratefully accept any donations in lieu of membership from these 'honourary' members, if they so choose.

November Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The November Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held in-person and virtually (via Zoom) on Sunday, November 5th at 11:00 a.m.

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
 YAMAMOTO, Fujino
1972
 ISHIGURO, Shigesaburo
 IWATA, Kinichi
 UCHIYAMA, Kenroku
1973
 FUKAWA, Toki
 KAJIRO, Fumio
 NAKAGAWA, Shio
1974 - 50th year
 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
 YAMANOUCI, Sada
1984
 MITSUI, Masao
 SHIKAZE, Noriko
1985
 SHINTANI, Kohatsu
1986
 DEGUCHI, Haruye
1988
 NAKATA, Chiyo
 HAMAKAWA, Yosaburo
 OIKAWA, Kengo
 HIGUCHI, Kiyokazu
 KIMURA, Mitsuo
 MAEDA, Genzo
1989
 OHARA, Tsuru
 TANAKA, Zenno
1990
 FURUKAWA, Matsu
 WAKABAYASHI, Gentaro
1991 - 33rd year
 KURAMOTO, Masaaki
1992
 IKEDA, Teruhiko
 MIZUYABU, Tokuichi
1993
 HAMAKAWA, Yoshio
 KOYANAGI, Tad
 MURAMOTO, Emiko
 BANNO, Masakazu
1994
 KUMAMOTO, Toshiko
 TANOUYE, Kokichi K.
1995
 SAKATA, Ayame

MIYASHITA, Ichiji
 MURAO, Jean Nobuko
 FUJINO, Yoshio
1996
 NITSUI, Yoshio Roy
 HAMAZAKI, Hiroshi
 KAZUTA, Kathy Noriko
1997
 SHOJI, Inosuke
 SAKAI, Yaeko
 LEE, Shirley Michiko
 SAWADA, Katsuko
1999 - 25th year
 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
 YOSHIDA, Yoshiye
 SHIBATA, Takeo
2005
 ARITA, Hajime
 KUROYAMA, Tsutomu
2006
 OKAMURA, Yukio
 SAITO, Fuyuko
2007 - 17th year
 MORI, Fumi
2008
 TAMURA, Naoharu
 NAKATSU Kimiyo
2009
 HIRATA, Emmie
2010
 KAWAHIRA, Masanobu
 YOSHIDA, Sue
 ATAGI, Suetsugu
2011 - 13th year
 SUGIYAMA, Yukiko

TERASHITA, Keiko
 FUCHIHARA, Tsumae
2012
 NISHIMURA, Fusae
2014
 DAR, Emi Isla
2015
 FUJII, Chiyoko
 SAKAI, Naomi
2016
 MOCHIZUKI, Ichiya
 KAWASHIMA, Kazuo
 MANIWA, Reiko
2017 - 7th year
 MASUHARA, Takayasu F.
2018
 JANG, Lawrence
 TAMOTO, Miyoko
2019
 TSURU, Shibata
2020
 OTAKI, Akemi
2021 - 3rd year
 KISHIDA, Yoshie
2022 - 1st year
 MATSUDA, Chusei
 TAKAKI, Stanley

Passings

Our deepest
 condolences go to the
 families and friends of:

Mr. Eiji Tsuji
 September 19, 2023
 (92)

Mr. Mikio Takeda
 (95)

**The Shotsuki Service will be
 held on Sunday, November 5th
 at the temple & via Zoom @
 11:00 a.m.

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 Order Form

They're back! 😊

The Vancouver Buddhist Temple will once again offer bento lunches, and we will also continue our fund-raiser for the Lahaina Mission.

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 **November 26th**, the bento will include:

- ◆ Salted salmon (shiozake)
- ◆ Gyoza
- ◆ Shira-ae
- ◆ Rice
- ◆ Tsukemono

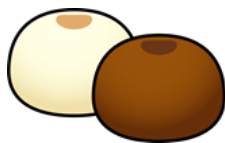


Cost: \$15.00

Also available:

*** Manju packs

Cost: \$8.00



*** Fukujinzuke (made at the temple)

Cost: \$10.00

Special: \$20.00 Bento and manju combo

Orders must be prepaid (cash, cheque, or e-transfer). Last day to order the November Bento is Tuesday, November 21st.

Pick-up: Between 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on November 26th at the Social Hall entrance.

*** All proceeds from the November bento sale will continue to go towards the Lahaina Hongwanji Mission's relief efforts ***

November Bento Order Form

Bento: ___ x \$15.00 **Manju** ___ x \$8.00 **Combo** ___ x \$20.00 **Fukujinzuke** ___ x \$10.00

Total cost: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____