

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

(The Services take approximately 40 minutes - Meditation, Sutra Chanting, and Dharma Talk)



Zoom Service @ 10:00 am:
 Saturday, May 4th
 Saturday, May 25th
 Saturday, June 1st

**Sunday, May 5th
 @ 11:00 a.m.**

at the Vancouver Buddhist Temple

**Gotan-e (Shinran Shonen's birth service)
 BC Buddhist Day/
 Shotsuki/Memorial Service
 (& lunch)**

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 2024, Issue #481

Two Rivers and the White Path



I hope everyone is well and healthy. We had a very nice anniversary, Hanamatsuri, Keiro-kai, Hatsumairi, and April Shotsuki service on April 14th. I was happy to see people from the very young to elderly at our temple. I felt that the Vancouver Buddhist Temple is a living Sangha (Buddhist Community) with 150 people.

I would like to share a story of 'Two Rivers and the White Path'. This is a parable which appears in "The Commentary on the Contemplation Sutra" by the Chinese Buddhist monk, and one of seven masters of the Pure Land School, namely Shan-tao (Zendo in Japanese) (613-681). It illustrates how an aspirant for the Pure Land awakens faith

in Amida and attains birth in the Pure Land.

The summary of the story goes like this "A man was traveling to the west. In the wilderness, he was pursued by bandits and fierce animals and came to a place where two rivers met. One was a river of fire which flowed to the south. The other, was a river of water which flowed to the north. These two rivers were a hundred paces wide but endlessly long. Where they met, there was a narrow white path, about 12 cm wide, leading to the west bank. As fire was raging on one side and water was violently raging, on the path, from the other. He hesitated to take the path, but since death, otherwise, appeared imminent, he decided to go forward on this narrow path. Just then, he heard a voice from the eastern bank, urging him to go forward across the path, and another voice from the western bank, calling him to come across. He was encouraged by these voices, and carefully proceeded along the path, and with determination soon reached the western bank, where he enjoyed leisure and eternal bliss."



The river of fire symbolizes anger, and that of water, symbolizes greed. The white path symbolizes the slim possibility of awakening faith in a mind full of evil passions. The voice from the eastern bank is the Teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha, and that from the western bank, the calling voice of Amida Buddha. The western bank represents the realm of the Pure Land.

This parable became very popular, and together with the painting which depicts it, has been widely used to explain the Pure Land teaching. I can see the sense of urgency that Shan Tao's imagery brings to the story. This is not about just sitting around, passively reciting the Nembutsu. This is about a path of life to which we devote our whole being. Because of this, the insights of the story can apply to all Buddhists, regardless of their school or sect, on the importance of diligently pursuing their chosen path.

Namo Amida Butsu,
 Tatsuya Aoki



Message from the VBT Board

It was wonderful to see over 140 people come to the Anniversary/Hanamatsuri/Keirokai/Hatsumairi/Shotsuki Service on April 15th. There were nine children participating in the Ochigo procession. The weather was perfect and a good time was had by young and old. We hope to see many of you at the Spring Bazaar on Sunday, May 26th @ 12:00 p.m. Also, please do not forget the Anniversary Luncheon on June 8th at Nikkei Place @ 11:30 a.m. It is very important to sign-up by May 15th in order to have a bento for you at the luncheon.

The Vancouver Buddhist Temple, will be organizing a day trip to Tashme on Saturday, August 17th for our senior members. A bus has been chartered and will take participants to Tashme to participate in the Obon celebrations. We gratefully acknowledge support from the Inter-generational Fund of the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society. As a result of this generous funding, the cost will be \$10 per member (\$40 for non-members). Spaces are very limited and priority will be given to temple members. Please contact the VBT if you are interested in participating in this event.

In gassho,
the Board



VBT 120th/45th Anniversary Luncheon

DATE - Saturday, June 8th 2024

TIME: doors open @ 11:30 a.m.

EVENT ADDRESS: Nikkei Centre - 6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby

COST: Members - \$5 Non-members - \$35

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

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: Wednesday, May 15th @ 12:00 p.m.

PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU NEED A RIDE!

Name (first name last name): _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____ or **Cell #:** _____

Number of people attending (including yourself): _____

Greetings from the Valley...



Greetings from the Valley,

Happy Hanamatsuri from the Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple... It was a beautiful day and we had a temple full of visitors for our Hanamatsuri service. Although the daffodils were early this year, we were fortunate to be able to decorate our Hanamido with gorgeous yellow, orange and white daffodils.

We were able to announce that we have received our Japanese Canadian Legacy grant for an HVAC company putting in air conditioning into our building and are planning for some repair work for our stairs.

A special thank you to Carole Hamanishi and Stu Conway who came out all weekend before Hanamatsuri to make sure we had hot water and beautiful new taps for the plumbing in our kitchen. Thank you also to the sangha who came out for the work party to prepare for the service on April 13th.

Please join us for service on May 11th, and remember to plan for our party on October 12th!

In gassho,

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

2024 Vancouver Island Obon and JC History Tour - August 10th - 14th Kokoro no Tabi “心の旅” - ‘A Journey of the Heart’

For this year's tour, we are working together with the Victoria Nikkei Community as well as the Seven Potatoes Nikkei Community in Nanaimo to organize a comprehensive tour which will be highlighted by the Obon Cemetery visitations but will also be focusing on the Nikkei community history on Vancouver Island prior to WWII as well as the re-establishment of communities post WWII.

For this year's Obon tour, the BCJSBTF has received a grant for \$40,000 from the Nikkei Intergenerational Wellness Fund. The Grant will help offset expenses for the overall trip.

Highlights from the trip include fellowship gatherings with local Nikkei communities in Victoria, Port Alberni, Nanaimo, and Cumberland. During these gatherings, we hope to get to know the local communities and learn about their history on the Island. Obon Cemetery services will be held in Victoria, Duncan, Chemainus, Nanaimo, Port Alberni, and Cumberland.

Registration Fee: \$800 per person (based on double occupancy and 48 people registration. Price may fluctuate slightly depending on final number of participants). For further information, please contact Rev. Grant Ikuta. **Deadline for receiving applications will be June 1, 2024.** Please send form to Steveston Buddhist Temple, Attn: Rev. Grant Ikuta (604) 273-0313 or email: rev.ikuta@steveston-temple.ca.

Registrants (Names): _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____ Temple: _____

Introduction To Buddhism

When: Thursday June 6th, 13th, and 20th.

Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Where: Vancouver Buddhist Temple - 220 Jackson Avenue, Vancouver, BC

Cost: The fee to attend any or all classes is \$25 and \$15 for students plus a small online booking fee. Temple members have free admission or by donation, but are requested to register

Registration: Please register online as soon as possible, by going to the temple website and follow the link or [click here](#).

This is an Introductory Buddhism course that touches on the traditions and practices of Buddhist groups based in Vancouver. It features three Senior Buddhist teachers from the Pureland Shin, Zen and Theraveda Buddhist backgrounds. Classes will be held at the Vancouver Buddhist Temple at 220 Jackson Ave in Vancouver on three Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 pm starting on June 6th, 13th, and 20th, 2024. Classes are limited, so please register online as soon as possible by going to the temple website, or use the link above.



Upcoming Services

Saturday, May 4th -
Zoom Service @ 10 a.m.

Sunday, May 5th -
Gotan-e & May Shotsuki
Service & Lunch @ 11:00 am

Sunday, May 12th -
Mothers' Day

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

Saturday, May 25th -
Zoom Service @ 10 a.m.

Sunday, June 2nd -
June Shotsuki Memorial
Service @ 11:00 am

***All services, except where
indicated, will be via Zoom.

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

**Memorial
Years of 2024**

1st Year - 2023
3rd Year - 2022

7th Year - 2018
13th Year - 2012

17th Year - 2008
25th Year - 2000

33rd Year - 1992
50th Year - 1975



Dates to Mark on Your Calendar...

- ◇ **Spring Bazaar** - Sunday, May 26th @ 12:00 p.m.
- ◇ **VBT 120th & 45th Anniversary Luncheon** - Saturday, June 8th @ 11:30 a.m. at Nikkei Place
- ◇ **Obon Service** - July 14th @ 2:00 p.m.
Bon Odori - July 14th @ 4:00 p.m.
- ◇ **Powell Street Festival** - August 3rd & 4th
- ◇ **VBT Barbecue/Picnic** - Sunday, September 8th @ 11:00 a.m.
- ◇ **Mochitsuki** - Sunday, December 8th @ 9:00 a.m.



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 **April & May** are the responsibility of **Toban #4**

- **Bento** - Saturday, April 27th @ 9:00 am and Sunday, April 28th @ 8:00 a.m.
- **Gotan-e & Shotsuki/Memorial Service** - Sunday, May 5th @ 9:00 a.m.
- **Manju making (mushi)** - Saturday, May 18th @ 9:00 a.m.
- **Seniors' Luncheon** - Sunday, May 19th @ 9:00 a.m.
- **Spring Bazaar** - Saturday, May 25th @ 9:00 am and Sunday, May 26th @ 7:00 a.m.



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:

- ◆ **Temple Clean-up** - Rev. Tatsuya, Yukari, Sakura, and Yuki Aoki, Brad & Lorna Bishop, Greg & Gina Chor, Mayumi & Tatum Dar, Tei Domitsu, Frank Hamanishi, Trish Keizer, Kevin Kroeker, Neil Marshall, Barry & Carol Matsumoto, Yvonne Nakano, Steve Nishi, Cathy Nishikawa, Robert Nomura, Dave Otori, Ed Oyama, Brad Tak, Sandy Tanaka, Ed Yamazaki, and Nancy Yamazaki
- ◆ **Sunday, April 7th Manju making** - Molly Akune, JoAnna Bazeley, Joyce Chan, Kathy Homma, Masayo Kikuchi, Paul & Eileen Kitamura, Denji & Carla Kobayashi, Alamy Liu, Akemi Mizuta, Cathy Nishikawa, Keiko Oyama, Michiyo Teranishi, Kazue Tsurusaki, Christine, Kaz and Margaret Yoshida
- ◆ **Sunday, April 21st Manju making** - Molly Akune, JoAnna Bazeley, Joyce Chan, Satsuo Kanegae, Takiko Kawasaki, Paul & Eileen Kitamura, Alamy Liu, Akemi Mizuta, Cathy Nishikawa, Keiko Oyama, Masako St. James, Yohei Tarutani, Michiyo Teranishi, Christine, Kaz and Margaret Yoshida

May Shotsuki (Memorial) List

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

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, Kamenou
*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
*TANAKA, Haru

1974
HORII, Sumiye
*INAMASU, Suye

1975 — 50th year
*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
*GREEN, Jordan
HIRAI, Ken
*NISHIKAWA, Mitsuye

1991
HAYA, Haruko
*MIYAGAWA, Ito
OKADA, Kazuko

1992 — 33rd year
*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
*MARUYAMA, Bill
YAMADA, Kazuye

1999
HAMAGUCHI, Hiroshi
*KUNIMOTO, Akiko
YAMADA, Hiroshi

2000 — 25th year
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
*SATO, Yoshiaki

2007—17th year
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 — 13th year

OKADA, Katsuko
TSUJI, Yoshiaki
WATANABE, Isao

2014

YAMASHITA, Tsunaye

2016

KAWAMOTO, Hisako
SUGA, Yuriko

2017

NATSUHARA, Lucy
NISHI, Chiyeko

2018 — 7th year

MINATO, Kaoru

2019

OKANO, Edward Isao

2021

HONDA, Chieko

2023 - 1st year

UYESUGI, Dan
YOSHIDA, Tsugio
HAMAKAWA, Misao Mary



Passings

Our deepest
condolences go to the
families and friends of:

Mrs. Ritsu Saimoto (90)
March 26th

Mrs. Yoshiye Nakata (100)
April 16th

**The Shotsuki Service will be
held on Sunday, May 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 & #



VBT Spring Bazaar - Sunday, May 26th @ 12:00 p.m.

After a long absence due to COVID, we are bringing back our popular Spring Bazaar. We will have a scaled-back version, but will still offer many favourite food items. So that we can plan and serve you better, please complete the order form below with payment. This will guarantee you receive the items you want. We will have some of these items for sale on the day of the bazaar, but they will be first come, first served. We look forward to

seeing everyone enjoying our delicious udon in the Social Hall once again!

Spring Bazaar Order Form

Item	Price	# Requested	Total \$
Eat-in udon	\$6.00		
Take-home udon	\$8.00		
Futomaki (8 pieces)	\$10.00		
California Roll (hosomaki)	\$5.00		
Hosomaki combo (4 pcs. Kappa maki, 4 pcs. Oshinko maki, & 4 pcs. California roll)	\$7.00		
Inari (6 pieces)	\$5.00		
Chicken karaage (4 pieces)	\$5.00		
Shio saba (per piece)	\$5.00		
Korokke (check which one(s)) - regular ___ yasai ___ curry ___	\$2.00		
Chow mein	\$5.00		
Ohagi (6 pieces)	\$5.00		
Manju (6 pieces - mix of mushi, yaki, mikasa, & mochi)	\$10.00		
Manju (10 pieces - mix of mushi, yaki, mikasa, & mochi)	\$15.00		
Furikake snack mix (small bag - mix of pretzels, corn chips, nuts...)	\$5.00		
Furikake snack mix (medium bag - mix of pretzels, corn chips, nuts...)	\$10.00		
Frozen tuna (\$20 and up; as marked)			
Total:			\$

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). **Deadline to order is: Tuesday, May 21st.**

Please bring your own bags

Spring Bazaar Order Form

Total cost: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____