

## Dharma Service with Rev. Aoki on Zoom

Please contact Rev. Aoki at:  
[rev.aoki@gmail.com](mailto: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, June 29<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>

**Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**@ 2:00 p.m.**

**Obon/Hatsubon  
and Shotsuki/  
Memorial Service  
with Guest speaker:  
Rev. Orai Fujikawa**

**Followed by Bon Odori**  
**@ 4:00 p.m.**

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](mailto:temple.vbt@gmail.com)

Website:  
[vancouverbuddhisttemple.com](http://vancouverbuddhisttemple.com)



# Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

July 2024, Issue #483

## Obon



It was good to see many people at our Anniversary luncheon at Nikkei Centre on June 8<sup>th</sup>! How time flies... and soon it will be our annual Obon service in July.

The origin of Obon can be traced to the Ulambana Sutra which relates the story of Mogallana, the most gifted of Shakyamuni Buddha's disciples in the area of extraordinary sensory perception. A very filial son, Mogallana, one day, used his extraordinary powers to visualize the whereabouts of his mother who had died. Searching all the realms, from the highest of the heavens to the lowest of the hells, he was surprised and horrified to find his mother suffering the torments of the realm of Hungry Ghosts. With his powers again, he filled a bowl with food and sent it to his mother. The food burst into flames each time she put it to her mouth. Finding himself helpless in aiding his mother, he ran to the Buddha seeking help.

The Buddha told Mogallana that he needs the combined help of all the monks to help his mother. He was told to bring offerings of food from land and sea, and sweets piled on a platter to the Sangha at the end of the Pravaraana. The Pravaraana was a period of retreat for the Buddha and his disciples during the rainy season in India. This was from the 15<sup>th</sup> of April to the 15<sup>th</sup> of July based on the western calendar. Monks were forbidden to travel in order to avoid the killing of insects which multiplied greatly during the rainy season. They were to stay in one place to listen to the Buddha's talks, study, and meditate. Mogallana made the prescribed offerings and his mother and seven generations of his ancestors were relieved of their sufferings. Mogallana was so overjoyed that he clapped his hands and danced for joy. This is said to have been the beginning of the Bon Odori.

Jodo Shinshu (True Pure Land School) does not look upon Obon as the time when the "souls" of one's ancestors return, and that the services, offerings, dancing, lights, and etc. are for the benefit of one's dead relatives. It is rather a time to remember and honor all those who have passed on before us. It is to appreciate all that they have done for us and to recognize the continuation of the influence of their deeds upon our lives. Obon is a time for self-reflection (an important Buddhist practice) for it is only when man becomes aware of his imperfections and insufficiencies that, in contrast to his ideals, religion becomes a matter of personal concern.

Obon is also called the Gathering of Joy by Jodo Shin Buddhists. It is not the happiness of getting what you desire, but the joy of being shown the Truth of what one is, no matter how damning that truth is to the image of our 'ego-self'. It is the joy of the awareness of being embraced in the Truth, in Amida Buddha. Furthermore, Bon Odori is not a dance of happiness but rather a dance of Joy.

Namo Amida Butsu

Tatsuya Aoki



**Message from the VBT Board**

It has been an eventful past few weeks. Many thanks to all who came out to our Spring Bazaar on May 26<sup>th</sup>. It was the first bazaar we have had in four years. There were a few glitches, and our sincere apologies for any order errors. These miscues will be ironed out before we hold our next event - hopefully next year. We are very grateful to all the volunteers who came out to help with this big endeavour. Feedback on how to improve would be greatly appreciated.

On Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, we held our 120<sup>th</sup>/45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon at Nikkei Place. There were just over 100 guests and temple members in attendance. It was wonderful to see people eating, laughing, reconnecting and enjoying the company of one another. Looking at the photo albums brought back many fond memories. We look forward to creating many more memories at future events.

The June lecture series was well attended and another lecture series will be held in the fall. Dates will announced.

Next up, we have Obon/Bon odori (Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>) and the Powell Street Festival (August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>). These events take several days of preparation. Many hands are needed, not only in the kitchen, but with set-up and take-down. If you are available to help, even for a couple hours, please let us know.

In gassho,  
the Board

**RSVP - 2024 Obon Service at the Vancouver Buddhist Temple**

**SERVICE:** Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 p.m. & 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 9<sup>th</sup>

**CONTACT:** 604 253-7033 or [temple.vbt@gmail.com](mailto: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 \_\_\_\_\_



**VBT Summer Barbeque and Picnic - Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**

With our return to 'normal', we would like to invite our members to join us at Burnaby's Central Park (Picnic Site #1) on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Obon Memorial Lanterns**

The 2024 Obon memorial lanterns are now for sale at the temple for \$10.00 per lantern. Please contact the office if you are interested.



## Greetings from the Valley...



Happy Obon time...It is almost July and obon odori practice has begun in many temples.

First, congratulations to Vancouver Buddhist Temple on a very enjoyable and delicious lunch event held at the Nikkei Place on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

We have been holding board meetings to plan our Obon Service on July 13<sup>th</sup> and hope to have our outside stairs refinished by then. Our new neighbours beside the temple have made an arrangement to cut our grass at the temple in exchange for using the parking lot for their events. This is a perfect example of good neighbours helping each other.

Obon Service at the Vancouver Temple will be on July 14<sup>th</sup> and Obon Service at the Steveston Temple will be on July 21<sup>st</sup>. So many times to remember with gratitude our families who have passed away. Obon is meant to be a good remembrance time, it is “Kangi-e, Gathering of Joy”.

Our own 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Rebuilding of our temple in 2004 after the fire will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Please watch for more news about our celebration.

Offered in gassho,

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

## Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Donations Received in Gratitude

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations and apologize for any mistakes or omissions.

**May Service** - R Nishimura

**June Service** - N Shikaze, J Nakatsui, A Nagamatsu, S/L Yoshioka, L North, R Nishimura, T Tateyama, C Hamanishi, R Honkawa, D Cork, E Okawa

**In memory of May Mukaida** – A Nagamatsu, R Honkawa

**In memory of Mom** – M Fujita, J Fujita/M McSkimming

**In memory of Baachan** – J Fujita/M McSkimming

**In memory of Joe Tateyama** – R Tateyama

## 2024 VBT Bon Odori (Dance) Practice

We welcome everyone back and extend an invitation to new dancers joining the dances to remember our ancestors. In preparation for Obon, the odori (dance) practices, led by Sensei Akemi Komori, will be held at the Vancouver Buddhist Temple on the following dates @ 7:00 p.m.

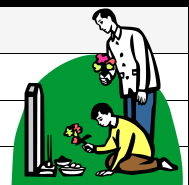
Tuesday, July 2<sup>th</sup>                      Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>                      Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup>



## 2024 OBON Cemetery & Temple Services

### Friday, June 28

9:40 AM Maple Ridge  
 10:10 AM Whonnock  
 10:30 AM Hatzic (Mission)



### Sunday, June 30

9:30 AM Valley View (Surrey)  
 10:20 AM New Westminster  
 10:50 AM Coquitlam

### Sunday, JULY 7

9:30 AM Forest Lawn (Burnaby)  
 10:10 AM Ocean View (Burnaby)  
 11:00 AM Mountain View South Side (Vancouver)  
 11:20 AM Mountain View North Side (by the crematorium)

**Upcoming Services**

Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> -  
Cemetery Service  
@ 9:30 am (Forest Lawn)  
@ 10:10 am (Ocean View)  
@ 11:00 am (Mountain View - North)  
@ 11:30 am (Mountain View - South)

Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> -  
Aldergrove Cemetery @ 1:00 p.m.  
Fraser Valley Temple Obon / Hatsubon/July & August Shotsuki & Bon Odori @ 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> -  
VBT Obon/Hatsubon/ Shotsuki/Memorial Service @ 2:00 p.m.  
Bon Odori @ 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> -  
Zoom Service @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup> -  
Steveston Buddhist Temple Obon Service @ 10:00 a.m. with guest speaker Rev. Joanne Yuasa

Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup> -  
Seniors' Luncheon @ 11:00

Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> -  
Summer Dharma Retreat @ 10:00 a.m.  
Sarana Affirmation @ 2:30  
Registration required for both (see QR code below)

August 3<sup>rd</sup> & August 4<sup>th</sup> -  
Powell Street Festival from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

\*\*\* All services will be in person, except where indicated.



**Dates to Mark on Your Calendar...**

- ◇ Obon Service - July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 p.m.  
Bon Odori - July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 p.m.
- ◇ Powell Street Festival - August 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>
- ◇ VBT Barbecue/Picnic - Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 a.m.
- ◇ BCJSBTF Retreat and AGM at Harrison Hot Springs - September 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>
- ◇ Mochitsuki - Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> @ 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 100<sup>th</sup> 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 **July** are the responsibility of **Toban #5**

- Obon Prep - Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 a.m. and Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 a.m.
- Manju making (mushi) - Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 a.m.
- Seniors' Luncheon Prep - Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup> @ 9:00 a.m.



Please contact Toban 5's captains, Izumi Low and/or Mayumi Dar 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:

- ◆ Many thanks to everyone who came out to help at the May 26<sup>th</sup> Spring Bazaar. It has been four years since we last had a bazaar, and we couldn't have pulled it off without you.
- ◆ June 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon - Eddie Au, Preston & Joyce Chan, Kazuyo Hirai, Masae Ishii, Sam Kobayashi, Kevin Kroeker, Cathy Nishikawa, Marie Oyama, and Sandy Tanaka
- ◆ Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> Manju making - JoAnna Bazeley, Joyce Chan, Mayumi Dar, Frank & Pat Hamanishi, Satsu Kanegae, Takiko Kawasaki, Paul & Eileen Kitamura, Alamy Liu, Izumi Low, Karen Mizushima, Akemi Mizuta, Cathy Nishikawa, Keiko Oyama, Kazue Tsurusaki, Nancy Yamazaki, Christine, Kaz, and Margaret Yoshida

**Memorial Years of 2024**

1<sup>st</sup> Year - 2023  
3<sup>rd</sup> Year - 2022

7<sup>th</sup> Year - 2018  
13<sup>th</sup> Year - 2012

17<sup>th</sup> Year - 2008  
25<sup>th</sup> Year - 2000

33<sup>rd</sup> Year - 1992  
50<sup>th</sup> Year - 1975

# VBT 120<sup>th</sup>/45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon



The VBT celebrated its 120<sup>th</sup>/45<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a luncheon on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at Nikkei Place. There were just over 100 attendees. The event was emceed by Derek Iwanaka. Entertainment was provided by Music Variations and Nori Nori and Komori. Flowers arranged and provided by Marie Oyama and Uptown Florists. We gratefully acknowledge support from the Community Fund of the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society. Many thanks to Yamato Trading for supplying door prizes. Photos courtesy of Preston Chan, Frank Hamanishi, and Masae Ishii. Photo booth provided by Universe Décor.



# VBT 120<sup>th</sup>/45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon - Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> @ Nikkei Centre



## July Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The July Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held in-person and virtually (via Zoom) on Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

**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**  
\*YOSHIDA, Takeshi

**1975 - 50<sup>th</sup> year**  
MIYASAKI, Saijiro  
\*YOSHIDA, Kinu

**1976**  
RYUJIN, Takeji

**1977**  
HAMATAKE, Yasu

**1978**  
HORII, Kiyooki  
\*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**  
\*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**  
HIKIDA, Masaharu  
MARUNO, Satoshi

**2000 - 25<sup>th</sup> year**  
NAKATANI, Takao

**2001**  
YAMAUCHI, Takashi

**2002**  
\*TAKAMA, Akira

**2005**  
TANAKA, Douglas Takeo

**2006**  
HATTORI, Motoharu  
KOJIMA, Joe Ju  
KARIYA, Fumiko

**2007**  
KIMOTO, Haruye  
KIKUCHI, Tomi  
KITANO, Yoko

**2008 - 17<sup>th</sup> year**  
NAKAGAWA, Toshio

**2009**  
TAKENO, Masuko  
KAWAMOTO, Makoto,  
ISHIKAWA, Sadako

**2011**  
TANAKA, Kaoru

**2012 - 13<sup>th</sup> year**  
TAMAKI, Shigeharu  
SUZUKI, Tamako

**2013**  
OKADA, Kazuko  
TANIZAWA, Fusako

**2014**  
SATO, Kimihiko  
TAJIRI, Helen  
TAMAI, Miyoko  
SAKATA, Mieko

**2017**  
UYEYAMA, Yoshiko

**2018 - 7<sup>th</sup> year**  
KOJIMA, Raymond  
KOMATSU, Kazuko  
ANDO, Mark

**2019**  
TANAKA, Alice  
HATTORI, Sayo  
IMAIZUMI, Seiichi  
YOSHIKAWA, Hikaru

**2020**  
TAKATA, Yukiko

**2021**  
SHOJI, Yoshiro

**2022 - 3<sup>rd</sup> year**  
OKANO, Shiro  
FUJITA, Crystal Lee Yuki

**2023**  
KAMIMURA, Shoichiro  
John  
TOMPKINS, Lorraine Kaoru  
HONKAWA, Hiroshi

### 2023-2024 Hatsubon 初盆 (First Obon Service)

#### 2023

##### July:

- John Kamimura
- Lorraine Tompkins
- Hiroshi Honkawa

##### August:

- Shigeikiyo Mizuyabu

##### September:

- Eiji Tsuji

##### October:

- Minoru Asaoka

##### November:

- Miyoko Matsumoto
- Roy Tatsumi

#### 2024

##### January:

- Yoshiko Shiwa

##### February:

- George Yoshihara
- Yoshiko Suzuki

##### March:

- Ritsu Saimoto

##### April:

- Yoshiye Nakata
- Robert Ohori

##### May:

- Shigeo Urata
- Yukie Morishita
- Toshiko Tsukishima

\*\*The Obon / Hatsubon / Shotsuki Service will be held on Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at the temple & via Zoom @ 2:00 p.m.

The Zoom link is:  
Meeting ID: 692 059 0986

Passcode: shinran

Also, you can dial-in to the service.

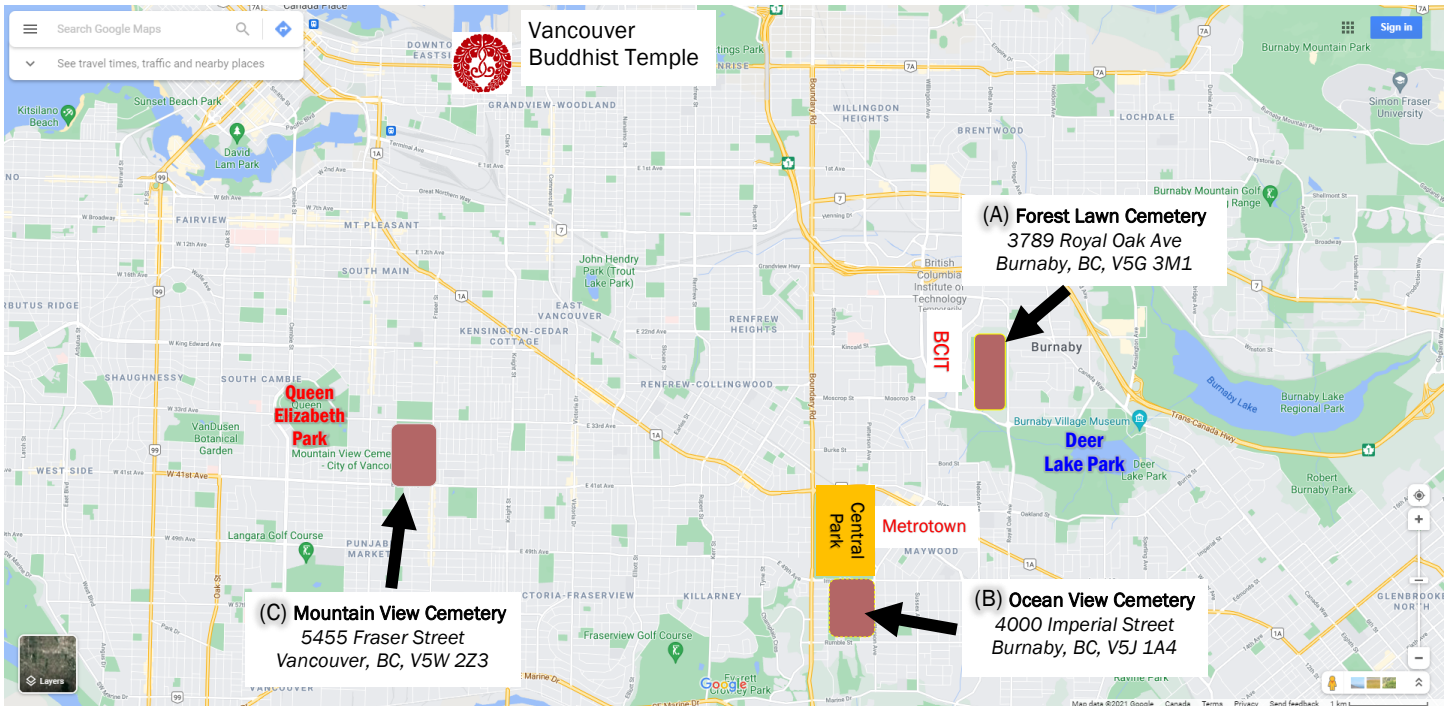
Dial: 778-907-2071

Press Meeting ID#:

692 059 0986 & #

# Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 OBON

## Cemetery Sites' Services by Rev. Aoki



**(A) Forest Lawn**  
Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 am

**(B) Ocean View**  
Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>  
10:10 am

**(C) Mountain View**  
Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>  
[North] 11:00 am  
[South] 11:30 am

