

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, September 7th

Saturday, September 29th

Saturday, October 5th

Sunday, September 15th

@ 11:00 a.m.

**Fall Ohigan/
Shotsuki/Memorial
Service
(& lunch)**

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

Vancouver Buddhist Temple



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Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3

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604-253-7033

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temple.vbt@gmail.com

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vancouverbuddhisttemple.com



Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

September 2024, Issue #485

Coming to the Temple and Attending Services



I would like to share one of my favorite Japanese words - **Meikyo-shisui**. It is often used in Kendo (Japanese style of fencing) and is a very good expression to let us know how our mind should be. Let me explain what its mean once again. *Meikyo* means a clear mirror. It is a clean mirror - so there is no dust or condensation on it.

Shisui means water that is not moving - still water. If the water is still, completely still, it can reflect anything like a mirror.

So what state of mind is like the really clean mirror and the still water? When a mirror is dirty or it has something on it, it does not reflect things as it should. So it is not working as it is supposed to. When your mind is not clear, your mind does not work as it is supposed to, either. Moreover, when your mind is not clear or clean, it usually means that some 'evil' thing is going on in your mind.

When we come to the Hondo (main service room) and we are sitting quietly and listening to the Dharma, it is our **Kokoro no Sentaku**. *Sentaku* is the Japanese word that means to clean, and *Kokoro* is the expression for heart and mind. We come to the temple to wash and clean our heart and mind. **Kokoro no Sentaku** also means to try to Clean our Hearts of any anger, complaints, worry and/or regrets. It is difficult to have even the smallest and tiniest feeling of appreciation, for anything, when we are angry or complaining. While we sit in the Hondo, we try to simply remember again what is truly of value in life. With this awareness, we try to live and appreciate the moment that we are able to live right now.

Kokoro no Sentaku. This is why we come to temple.

In gassho,

Tatsuya Aoki





Message from the VBT Board

In celebrating our anniversaries this year, we must keep in perspective that which is important. Our naijin was purchased in Japan and arrived in 1957 for installation in our temple. When the new building was completed in 1979, our skilled members led by Mr. Ryota Kawasaki painstakingly re-assembled the naijin in the altar area of the new temple. A dedication service was held soon after to complete the transition process. The naijin contains the central figure of the statue of Amida Buddha, which represents the Pure Land of Amida. While we do not pray to Amida our practice is one of offering our gratitude for the Wisdom and Compassion of Amida which comes to us. While our temple has experienced the difficulties resulting from the COVID pandemic, and the inconveniences from the current construction of the high rise building next door, we are encouraged to move forward with conviction supported by our members and the strength of dedication shown by our pioneer forefathers over a hundred years ago. Much-needed funds have come from City Hall, the provincial government of BC, the Japanese Canadian Legacy Society (JCLS), and from our generous members. There is much work still to be done. The various repairs and renovations include complete kitchen renovations, roof repairs, ceiling and interior wall repairs, up-grading lighting and the security system. These up-upgrades will be ear-marked as Anniversary projects. The culmination of the celebratory year will be on October 6. Please mark the date to join us.

Thank you,

Nano Amida Butsu

1st Summer Dharma Retreat

A one day Dharma retreat was hosted by Sensei Aoki and Sensei Bob Akune on Saturday, July 27th. Eight people participated. Some of the participants live remotely and attend our Zoom service regularly. It was the first time some of them have visited the temple and joining a Buddhist service. The program started with Chanting of Shoshinge, lectures, discussion, and various style of meditations. After the retreat, three people received Sarana Affirmation and Dharma name (*Homyo*).



Day Trip to Tashme

After a couple challenges and set-backs, the VBT's trip to Tashme took place on Saturday, August 24th. More details to come next issue.



October 6th Special Anniversary Service



When: Sunday, October 6th at the JSBTC/Memorial/Shotsuki Service @ 11:00 a.m.

Where: Vancouver Buddhist Temple

Please join us and welcome our guest speaker, Reverend Kodo Umezu (Former Bishop, Buddhist Churches of America).

Lunch and bingo will follow the service.



SCAN ME

Greetings from the Valley...



We are fortunate that this summer has not been terribly hot and interspersed with cooler weather and the occasional much needed rain. We hope everyone is keeping well!

After a two month break, we will be returning to the temple for our monthly Memorial service on Saturday, September 14th at 2 p.m. with Rev. Grant Ikuta officiating. The service will be followed with a light tea. It will be nice to gather with our sangha again.

Please note that the date for our October service has been changed to Saturday, October 12th @ 3 p.m. followed by our Anniversary Dinner at Bradner Hall. We will be celebrating our 20th anniversary since the rebuilding of our temple due to fire. Details to follow.

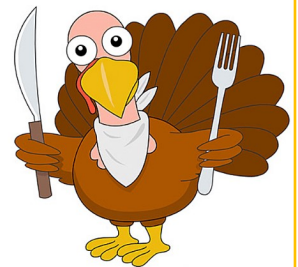
In gassho,

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple 20th Anniversary



The 20th Anniversary of the Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple - after Fire Rebuild in 2004 - will be held on Saturday October 12th after the 3:00 p.m. monthly service. Dinner will be at the Bradner Hall at 6:00 p.m. and there will be turkey!!



2024 Youth Buddhist International Cultural Study Exchange (YBICSE) Tour to Japan



From July 4th through July 9th, five Canadian students participated in the 2024 Youth Buddhist International Cultural Study Exchange (YBICSE) tour to Japan. The program was hosted by the Hongwanji in Kyoto. Representing the Vancouver Buddhist Temple was Sakura Aoki.

On Sunday, August 12th, Sakura shared her experience with those attending the Shotsuki service. Congratulations and well done Sakura on representing the VBT. We hope others will participate in this worthwhile program in future years.

VBT Summer Barbeque and Picnic - Sunday, September 8th

With our return to 'normal', we would like to invite our members to join us at Burnaby's Central Park (Picnic Site #1) (weather permitting) on Sunday, September 8th 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. There is a sign-up sheet by the Office door, or complete the form below and return it to the temple ASAP. The picnic site is by the parking lot near the Kingsway park entrance. The cost is \$5.00 per temple member and \$10.00 for non-members. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please bring your own sides and beverages. We hope to see many of you on September 8th!



RSVP - 2024 VBT Summer Picnic at Central Park - Sunday, September 8th @ 11:00 a.m.

DEADLINE: 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 3rd COST: \$5.00/member \$10.00/non-member

Name (first name last name): _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____ or Cell #: _____

Number of people attending (including yourself): _____

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 7th - Zoom Service @ 10 a.m.
 Sunday, September 8th - VBT Summer Picnic at Central Park @ 11 a.m.
 Sunday, September 15th - Fall Ohigan & Shotsuki/Memorial Service @ 11:00 a.m.
 Friday, September 22nd to Sunday, September 24th - BCJSBTF Retreat and AGM @ Harrison Hot Springs
 Saturday, September 29th - Zoom Service @ 10 a.m.
 Saturday, October 5th - Zoom Service @ 10 a.m.
 Sunday, October 6th - JSBTC Day & Shotsuki/Memorial Service with guest speaker, Rev. Kodo Umezu (Former Bishop, Buddhist Churches of America) @ 11:00 a.m.

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

The Zoom link is:

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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...

- ◇ VBT Barbecue/Picnic at Central Park - Sunday, September 8th @ 11:00 a.m.
- ◇ BCJSBTF Retreat and AGM at Harrison Hot Springs - September 20th - 22nd
- ◇ 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 and garbage removal.

The following activities in **September** are the responsibility of **Toban #1**

- **Manju Making** - Saturday, September 7th @ 9:00 a.m.
- **VBT Summer Picnic at Central Park** - Sunday, September 8th @ 9:00 a.m.
- **Fall Ohigan & Shotsuki/Memorial Service Lunch Prep** - Sunday, September 15th @ 9:00 a.m.
- **Bento** - Saturday, September 28th @ 9:00 a.m. and Sunday, September 29th @ 8:00 a.m.



Please contact Toban 1's captains, Lorna Bishop and/or Greg Chor 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:

- ◆ **Friday, August 2nd to Sunday, August 4th** - Many thanks to everyone who came out to help at the Powell Street Festival. A lot of work went into readying the temple and food preparation. It was wonderful to see so many young people helping this year. Their spirit and energy was contagious and made the event even more fun. We are very grateful for everyone's help and support.
- ◆ **Saturday, August 10th Temple Clean-up** - The Board of Directors would like to especially thank Paul & Eileen Kitamura and Edward Oyama for coming to help the directors return furniture and set-up the Social Hall after the floor waxing.
- ◆ **Saturday, August 17th Kitchen Floor Prep** - Special thanks to Dave Ohori, Brad Bishop, Brad and Jordan Tak for all their help in removing everything in the kitchen, walk-in cooler, and pantry.

September Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The September Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held in-person and virtually (via Zoom) on Sunday, September 15th at 11:00 a.m.

1958
KARIYA, Tsune
Baby Okamoto
SATO, Saburo
1960
IINUMA, Chusaburo
KOHARA, Maju
1961
KAWASHIMA, Masaki
Baby Yamamoto
1963
UCHINAMI, Kazumi
1964
KAGETSU, Tsurutaro
1965
KASUYA, Kenzo
TANAKA, Tei
IWASAKI, Kinnosuke
SHIOZAKI, Minoru
1966
ITO, Yukie
1967
OKANO, Moritaro
1968
HAYASHI, Eikichi
1969
NAKASHIMA, Asa
1970
MIYANO, Tetsuro
OMOTO, Kanshiro
1971
IKEGAMI, Matajiro
1972
KOMINAMI, Jiroichi
MIMOTO, Torasu
1973
KAWASAKI, Tokusuke
1974 - 50th Year
TAZAWA, Haru
YANO, Minoru
1976
NAKANO, Heiroku
HAYASHI, Tatsuo
TAKAHASHI, Genza
1977
RYUJIN, Shinaye
YADA, Takao
1979
TOMITA, Mariko

1980
KITAGAWA, Yosokichi
1981
IDA, Tsunejiro
FUJII, Tetsuo
YOSHIDA, Hari
1982
UYESUGI, Ryu
TANAKA, Yoshie
1984
INAMASU, Yoshio
YOSHIZAWA, Shizuyo
1985
MINESHIBA, Ichiro
1986
OYE, Yakichi
SHIMIZU, Kimiteru
UYESUGI, Naosada
1987
EBATA, Masukichi
HAYASHI, Matsujiro
HAMANISHI, Shizuka
ISHIDA, Tomiye
KITAGAWA, Shosuke
1988
MATSUTANI, Hidehiro
1989
UYESUGI, Bunshichi
HAMA, Seitaro
TAKEUCHI, Itsu
1992
HAMANISHI, Katsuji
KURAMOTO, Roy
NAGASHIMA, Ishi
1994
YAGISAWA, Yuri
KAWAGOE, Kiyoshi
TAKEUCHI, Chisato
YAMASHITA, Akira
1995
NISHIMURA, Emiko
SUGIMOTO, Kanao
1996
TAN, Misao
OKAHORI, Yoshie
KADOTA, Kunio
CHOI, Jong Hee
1997
MURATA, Miyako

1998
YAMASHITA, Iwataro
HAMADA, Hideichi
1999 - 25th Year
MASUDA, Maria Masako
YAGISAWA, Christopher
Akira
TERAI, Shige
AYUKAWA, Funi
2000
ANDO, Eiichi
AMANO, Emi
OHASHI, Hatsuko
2001
MINATO, Toshimi
YADA, Yoshiko
2002
OMOTO, Teruko
INOUE, Hisaye
KADO, Shizuo
TSURUGA, Masataro
SHINKODA, Mitsuo
2003
HAMA, Shigeo
2004
NAKATA, Toyoko
2005
NAKAMURA, Kimi
KOMORI, Haruo
2006
KOBAYASHI, Toyoko
TSURUSAKI, Nobuya
2007
TANABE, Lily Sachiko
KAGAWA, Ayaka
2008 - 17th Year
NASU, Katsumi
UYEYAMA, Toshio
2009
UYENO, Kenneth Akira
2010
MORISHITA, Kimiye
2011 - 13th Year
MURACHI, Matsuri
2012
MATSUBARA, Teruko
KOYAMA, Keiko
KOGAWA, Natsumi

2014
GOMYO, Yoshie
OBARA, George
SHIKAZE, Hisako
2015
UEDA, Sayomi
MATSUI, Kikuye
2016
YAMAMOTO, Michio Mike
OYA, Osamu
KOGAWA, Natsumi
2018 - 7th Year
ASAKURA, Mieko
UYEYAMA, Kimie
2020
HAMAGUCHI, Shizue
KOMORI, Yasuko
OKADA, Tom Shigeso
UYEDA, Eiji
2022 - 3rd Year
CHIJIWA, Midori
HIRAI, Toshio
2023 - 1st Year
TSUJI, Eiji

Passings

Our deepest
condolences go to the families
and friends of:

Mrs. Kazuko Takahara (93)
August 6th



**The Shotsuki Service will be held on Sunday, September 15th at the temple & via Zoom @ 11:00 a.m.

The Zoom link is:

Meeting ID: 692 059 0986

Passcode: shinran

Bento Box

They're back! 😊

The Vancouver Buddhist Temple will once again offer bentos on the last Sunday of each month.

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 **September 29th**, the bento will include:

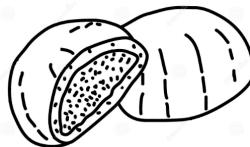
- ◆ Chicken teriyaki
- ◆ Green bean goma-ae
- ◆ Broccoli salad
- ◆ Rice
- ◆ Tsukemono



Cost: \$15.00

We will also be offering manju (2 kinds)

Cost: 6 for \$8.00



Combo (bento and 6 manju)

Cost: \$20.00

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

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

September 29th Bento Order Form

Number of: Bento ___ x \$15.00 Manju ___ x \$8.00 Combo ___ x \$20.00

Total cost: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____