

**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)

Zoom Service @ 10:00 am:

Saturday, May 3rd
Saturday, May 17th
Saturday, May 24th
Saturday, May 31st

Zoom Service @ 10:00 am:

June 1st

Sunday, May 4th

@ 11:00 a.m.

**Gotan-e &
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 2025, Issue #492

83 Problems



I have been conducting online Zoom session on Saturday morning and in-person temple service on Sunday. Many of the attendees are fairly new to Buddhism, so I am using parables to teach Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu. I would like to share a parable of the 84th problem - a dialogue between a man and the Buddha that speaks to the very core of our human suffering and the path toward liberation.

Once a man sought the Buddha for help with his life's problems. When the man found the Buddha, he presented one of his problems and waited for the Buddha's solution. Much to his surprise, the Buddha simply replied that he cannot help the man with that problem. The man tried a second problem and was given the same reply by the Buddha. And again to his third problem. Growing impatient the man spoke, "How can you be the Buddha, the perfectly Enlightened One, and not be able to help me with my problems?" The Buddha replied, "You will always have 83 problems in your life. Some will go, others will come to replace them. I cannot help you with those." The man was even more frustrated and confused, he asked the Buddha, "Then what can you help me with?"

The Buddha replied, "I can help you with your 84th problem." The man, who was growing weary, asked, "What is my 84th problem?" With great wisdom the Buddha said, "That you want to get rid of your 83 problems."

In Jodo Shinshu, we understand that suffering (dukkha) is an inevitable part of life. It arises from the way we perceive the world, from our attachments, and from our desires. The Buddha does not promise that all our external problems will disappear. In fact, life in this world is full of challenges—some large, some small—but there is no escaping them. As the Buddha explains, we will always have problems.

The real issue, however, is not that we have problems; the true problem is the way we relate to them. We are constantly trying to escape from these problems, running away from discomfort, attempting to fix everything in our lives, believing that if only we could solve this or that issue, we would be free. The more we try to rid ourselves of our problems, the more tightly we cling to the idea of "getting rid of them." This, the Buddha calls our 84th problem. When we let go of this attachment, we open ourselves to a deeper understanding of our life as it is. So, the next time we face a challenge, we are invited to ask ourselves, "Am I trying to solve this problem from a place of attachment, or am I willing to accept it as it is, trusting in Amida's compassion?" When we practice nembutsu, we acknowledge that we cannot solve all of our problems, but we entrust ourselves to the wisdom and compassion of the Buddha. In doing so, we find peace not in the absence of problems, but in the grace of accepting life with all its imperfections. May we all be able to let go of our 84th problem and find peace in the embrace of Amida's vow.

In gassho,

Tatsuya Aoki

仏教説話

土曜日の午前中はZoomでオンラインセッション、日曜日は対面でのお参りを続けています。参加者の多くは仏教に馴染みが薄いため、仏教説話を通して仏教と浄土真宗について学んでいます。色々と紹介する中で、人間とお釈迦さまの対話を通して人間の苦しみの根源と解放への道を語る説話が意味深かったので紹介します。

ある男が悩みを解決を求め、お釈迦さまに助けを求めました。男はお釈迦さまに、抱えている問題の一つを述べ、お釈迦さまの返答を待ちました。すると、お釈迦さまはただ「その問題は解決できない」とだけ答えました。男は二つ目の問題も試してみましたが、お釈迦さまは同じ答えでした。三つ目の問題も同じでした。男は我慢できなくなり、「あなたは悟りにいたった仏様でありながら、どうして私の問題を解決することができないのですか？」と尋ねました。すると、お釈迦さまはこう答えました。「あなたの人生には、常に83の悩みがつきものです。そのうちのいくつかは消え去っても、また別の問題が次々と生まれます。私はそのような終わりのない、すべての悩みを解決することができません。」すると男はさらに苛立ち、お釈迦さまに尋ねました。「では、あなたは何を解決してくれるのですか？」

お釈迦さまはこう答えました。「あなたの84番目の悩みを解決するお手伝いをいたします。」疲れてきた男は尋ねました。「私の84番目の悩みとは何ですか？」。すると、お釈迦さまはこう答えました。「あなたの83の悩みから解放されたいと思っていることです。」

私はこの説話を一度では理解できずに、何度も読み直しました。仏教では、苦しみは人生において避けることができない、人生の一部であると説きます。それは、私たちの世界観、執着、そして欲望から生じます。お釈迦さまは、私たちの外的な問題がすべて消え去るとは約束していません。実際、この世の人生は、大小さまざまな問題に満ちており、そこから逃れることはできません。お釈迦さまが説くように、私たちは常に問題を抱えるのです。

しかし、真の問題は、私たちが問題を抱えていることではなく、問題との関わり方にあります。私たちは常に問題から逃れようとし、不快と感じることを避け、人生のあらゆる問題を解決しようと試み、「あれやこれやの問題を解決できれば自由に、幸せになれる」と信じています。問題から逃れようとすればするほど、「問題を取り除く」という考えに固執するようになります。お釈迦さまはこれを八十四番目の問題と呼んでいます。この執着を手放すとき、私たちは人生のありのままをより深く理解できるようになります。ですから、次に困難に直面したときは、こう自問自答してみましょう。「私は執着からこの問題を解決しようとしているのだろうか、それとも阿弥陀仏の智慧と慈悲を信じ、あるがままに受け入れようとしているのだろうか？」念仏を実践するとき、私たちはすべての問題を解決することはできないことを認め、お釈迦さまの叡智と慈悲に身を委ねます。そうすることで、問題がないことではなく、人生のあらゆる不完全さを受け入れる恩寵の中に、安らぎを見出すことができるのです。私たち皆が、84番目の問題を手放し、阿弥陀仏の誓願とともに安らぎを感じ感謝に変わることを。それが声となるのが「南無阿弥陀仏」ですね。 合掌 青木 龍也

5月4日(日) 11:00AM 降誕会・5月祥月法要

5月10日(土) 9:00AM 饅頭づくり(蒸し・みかさ)

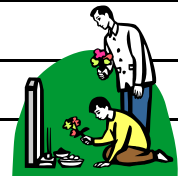
2025 OBON Cemetery & Temple Services

Wednesday, June 25th

9:30 AM	Surrey Valley View サレー
10:20 AM	New Westminster ニューウェストミンスター
10:50 AM	Coquitlam コキットラム

Thursday, June 26th

9:00 AM	Maple Ridge メープルリッジ
9:30 AM	Whonnock ウォーノク
10:00 AM	Hatzic (Mission) ミッション



Sunday, June 29th

9:30 AM	Forest Lawn (Burnaby) フォレストローン
10:00 AM	Ocean View (Burnaby) オーシャンビュー
10:30 AM	Mt. View - North (Vancouver) マウンテンビュー
10:40 AM	Mt. View - South (Vancouver) マウンテンビュー

Saturday, July 12th

1:00 PM	Aldergrove Cemetery アルダーグローブ
2:00 PM	FVBT Obon Service & Bon Dance フレイザーバレー仏教会 お盆

Sunday, July 13th

2:00 PM	VBT Hatsubon, Obon & Shotsuki Service バンクーバー仏教会 お盆
3:30 PM	Vancouver Bon Dance

Message from the VBT Board

May is a beautiful time of year to come together with family and friends to celebrate and share meaningful moments. This month at the temple, we invite you to join us on May 4th at 11:00 am for Gotan-e, the celebration of the birth of our founder Shinran Shonin, as well as our May Shotsuki/Memorial Service.

Our Spring Bazaar, on May 25th will begin from 12:00 pm. We look forward to seeing all temple members, along with family and friends enjoy the delicious food that is prepared by our dedicated members. Pre-order forms are available, please submit forms no later than May 13th to our office. Many thanks to those who organize this event and the volunteers that come out over a number of days to prepare the food and work hard to set up in order to welcome everyone to our temple.

May is also a time to celebrate and honour Mothers. Mother's Day offers a special opportunity to express our appreciation for the love, care, and sacrifices our mothers have given so generously. We send our deepest gratitude and compassion to our mothers that are with us today. And for our mothers who have passed from this life, we remember them with love and honour, knowing that their love, kindness, and guidance continues to live in our hearts. May all mothers be surrounded by happiness, peace, and warmth of love from those around them. Happy Mother's Day!

In gassho,

Megumi McGrath

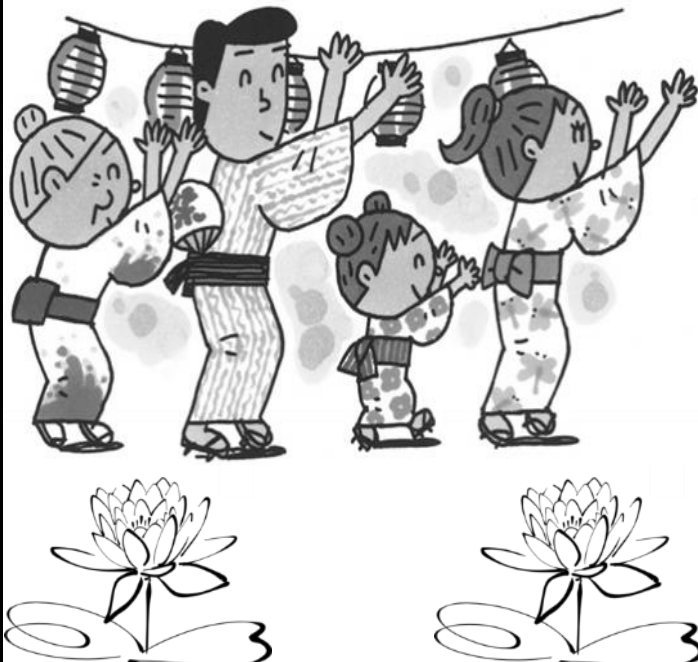
2025 VBT Bon Odori (Dance) Practice

盆踊り練習日

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.

Monday, June 23rd
Wednesday, June 25th
(no practice on Jun 30)

Wednesday, July 2nd
Monday, July 7th
Wednesday July 9th



Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 3rd -
Zoom Service @ 10 a.m.

Sunday, May 4th -
Gotan-e & May Shotsuki
Service & Lunch @ 11:00 am

Saturday, May 17th -
Zoom Service @ 10 a.m.

Sunday, May 18th -
Seniors' Luncheon @ 11:00

Saturday, May 24th -
Zoom Service @ 10 a.m.

Saturday, May 31st -
Zoom Service @ 10 a.m.

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

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 May are the responsibility of **Toban #5**

- **Manju making** (mushi & mikasa) - Saturday, May 10th @ 9:00 a.m.
- **Gotan-e & Shotsuki/Memorial Service** - Sunday, May 4th @ 9:00 a.m.
- **Seniors' Luncheon** - Sunday, May 18th @ 9:00 a.m.
- **Spring Bazaar** - Saturday, May 24th @ 9:00 am and Sunday, May 25th @ 7:00 a.m.
- **Movie and Lunch** - Saturday, May 31st @ 9:00 a.m.



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

- ♦ **March 22nd Manju Making** - Molly Akune, JoAnna Bazeley, Frank & Pat Hamanishi, Kazuyo Hirai, Masae Ishii, Satsu Kanegae, Takiko Kawasaki, Paul & Eileen Kitamura, Sam Kobayashi, Karen & Tatsu Mizushima, Akemi Mizuta, Cathy Nishikawa, Jean Okamura, Keiko Oyama, Bob Soga, Kazue Tsurusaki, Nancy Yamazaki, Sadayo Yamazaki, Christine, Kaz, & Margaret Yoshida
- ♦ **April 6th Manju Making** - Molly Akune, JoAnna Bazeley, Joyce Chan, Haruyo Chiba, Mikiko Furukawa, Kazuyo Hirai, Masae Ishii, Satsu Kanegae, Masayo Kikuchi, Paul & Eileen Kitamura, Izumi Low, Akemi Mizuta, Cathy Nishikawa, Keiko Oyama, Yuki Tanaka, Nancy Yamazaki, and Sadayo Yamazaki
- ♦ Dave Ohori and Greg Chor for repairing the plumbing and heating issues in the kitchen and Social Hall.

Dates to Mark on Your Calendar...

- ◇ **Spring Bazaar** - Sunday, May 25th @ 12:00 p.m. バザー
- ◇ **Obon Service** - Sunday, July 13th @ 2:00 p.m. お盆法要
Bon Odori - @ 4:00 p.m. 盆踊り
- ◇ **Powell Street Festival** - Saturday, August 2nd & Sunday, August 3rd パウエル祭
- ◇ **VBT Barbecue/Picnic** - Sunday, August 31st @ 11:00 a.m. ピクニック



Memorial Years of 2025

1st Year - 2024

3rd Year - 2023

7th Year - 2019

13th Year - 2013

17th Year - 2009

25th Year - 2001

33rd Year - 1993

50th Year - 1976

May Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The May Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held in-person and virtually (via Zoom) on Sunday, May 4th 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, Kamen
*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
— 50th year
*KITANO, Jyutaro
*KOYANAGI, Toyohisa
*MAYEDA, Kiyokazu
*UYENO, Ei
1976 — 50th year
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
*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
IMAI, Eichi
KAKUTANI, Kiyoshi
NISHI, Yukio
YAMASHITA, Toshio
2001 — 25th year
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
HAMAGAMI, George
KITAGAWA, Kotoma
MORISHITA, Hatsumi
NAKAMURA, Amy
NAKATSU, Toshiye
WADA, Seiji
2008 — 17th year
KAWASAKI, Ryota
KOYANAGI, Hiroyuki
TANAKA, Keiichi
TANAHARA, Yoshihide
2011
FUJIYAMA, Kie
YAMADA, Miyoko

2012
OKADA, Katsuko
TSUJI, Yoshiaki
WATANABE, Isao
2014
YAMASHITA, Tsunaye
2016
KAWAMOTO, Hisako
SUGA, Yuriko
2017
NATSUHARA, Lucy
NISHI, Chiyeko
2018
MINATO, Kaoru
2019 — 7th year
OKANO, Edward Isao
2021
HONDA, Chieko
2023 - 3rd year
UYESUGI, Dan
YOSHIDA, Tsugio
HAMAKAWA, Misao Mary
2024 - 1st year
TSUKISHIMA, Toshiko
MORISHITA, Yukie

Passings

Our deepest
condolences go to the
families and friends of:

Mr. Takehisa Kawasaki (93)
April 9th

お悔み



**The Shotsuki Service will be held on Sunday, May 4th 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 25th @ 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

We are bringing back our popular Spring Bazaar. We will have a slightly 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!

2025 Spring Bazaar Order Form バザー事前注文 (開催日5月25日日曜日)

<u>Items</u>	<u>Price</u>	# Requested	<u>Total \$</u>
Eat-in udon	\$7.00		
Take-home udon	\$9.00		
Futomaki (8 pieces)	\$10.00		
Hosomaki combo (4 pcs. Kappa maki, 4 pcs. Oshinko maki, & 4 pcs. California roll)	\$7.00		
Inari (6 pieces)	\$6.00		
Chicken karaage	\$6.00		
Shio saba (per piece)	\$5.00		
Korokke (check which one(s)) - corn ____ curry ____ kabocha ____	\$2.00		
Chow mein	\$6.00		
Manju (6 pieces - mix of mushi, yaki, mikasa, & mochi)	\$10.00		
Manju (10 pieces - mix of mushi, yaki, mikasa, & mochi)	\$15.00		
Ohagi (6 pieces)	\$6.00		
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, Chicken teriyaki, Beef and Veggie curry will be available on the day of the Bazaar – order and pay on day of pick-up.			
Total:			\$

To order, please return the order form, with payment {cheque (made payable to 'Vancouver Buddhist Temple'), e-transfer (temple.vbt@gmail.com), or cash} to the Vancouver Buddhist Temple via mail (220 Jackson Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3), email (temple.vbt@gmail.com) or call (604 253-7033). Deadline to order is Tuesday, May 13th. 事前注文締め切りは5月20日

Please bring your own bags

2025 Spring Bazaar (May 25th) Order Form

Total cost: \$ _____

Name: _____

Email: _____