



Walking Along the White Path

Rev. Vonn Magnin

Greetings, Dharma Friends!

October is finally here! It's a special month for me and my family. You could even say it's spooktacular! This is because we absolutely love all things Halloween: jack-o-lanterns, haunted houses, trick-or-treating, and of course, scary stories 🎃👻!

Since it's that time of year, I wish to share one of my favorite somewhat spooky stories with you. It might be best to read this in a darkened room using a flashlight, or better yet, by candlelight. I suggest gathering with family and/or friends as you read this as you might find it too scary to read alone. But, feel free to read it alone – if you dare!

Imagine, if you will, that you are walking westwards alone in a forest just as dusk is settling in. As you make your way along an unfamiliar path that is becoming harder and harder to see because of the fading twilight, you can feel the cold air starting to creep along your exposed skin. Although your breath is visible due to the dropping temperatures, you nonetheless are starting to feel warm because your heart is thumping faster and faster in your chest. As you're walking in the ever-darkening forest, you have to encourage yourself not to break out in a dead run because you may very well trip on the many rotting tree roots and rocks along your path. Nevertheless, you walk as briskly as you can so you can safely make it out of the forest even though you no longer remember why you were there in the first place or where you're going. Perhaps, you think, I suffered some kind of amnesia? This thought only serves to scare you all the more as you're not even sure which way to go. As the final light disappears, you do your best to comfort yourself and your ever-increasing heartbeat by thinking At least, I'm all alone. There doesn't seem to be anyone else in this forest therefore, nothing to fear. But then...

... You realize that the sounds of chirping crickets and croaking frogs that had been serving as a soundtrack of your confusing midnight walk through the unfamiliar forest have suddenly gone quiet. You stop walking and attempt to still your shivering body and chattering teeth by wrapping your arms around yourself so you can carefully listen to your surroundings. You discover that the now dark forest is completely quiet and still.

SUDDENLY you hear the unmistakable howl of a predatory animal close by. Soon its voice is joined by a cacophony of snarls, growls, and screams from other beasts that are obviously hunting you and getting closer and closer. You begin to RUN! As your legs pump with all their might, you can tell that the beasts are hot on your heels. And as you run, you begin to notice that there are human-like voices that have joined those of the beasts. These new voices are taunting you and exclaiming, “You’ll never be able to escape!” After only a few minutes, but which felt like hours, their sounds are drowned out by a deafening roar, while at the same time you can see a bright and flickering orange-red light just ahead of you. As you suddenly stumble upon the sources of the roar and light, you nearly lose your balance and have to rapidly twirl your arms to counteract your momentum and keep your body from falling forward to the horror that is directly in front of you.

What lies before you is the horrendous maelstrom of a great river the likes of which you could never imagine – even in your worst nightmares! Somehow... somehow... Right where you stand upon the eastern shore of this horrific and unnatural sight, you discover that to the left of you, the river is made of roiling and thrashing waves of violent water while to your right it's made of exploding volcanic fire. You begin to frantically calculate how to escape this seemingly insurmountable obstacle that's before you only to quickly remember that **YOU ARE STILL BEING PURSUED!** And with this realization, and as if on cue, your ears pick up the unmistakable sneering and gleeful sounds of your pursuers who know their prey is trapped. You fall to your knees, trembling and sobbing, knowing your end is near. All you have to do is wait a few more terrifying seconds for the inevitable. Your last thought is, *there is nothing more I can do to save myself.*

And, just as you have given up all hope, a commanding and yet compassionate voice fills the air. It seems to come from across the opposite shore of the tumultuous river of fire and water. The voice is saying to quickly cross the river. Before you can fully process this seemingly impossible task the voice is instructing you to do, another voice joins it. This new voice is exhorting you to listen to the first one and is encouraging you to immediately begin crossing the river.

You slowly come to your feet as you listen to the two voices that are both earnestly assuring you that it's possible to cross. *But how is this possible, you think. I'll surely perish in this*

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“OBT welcomes all people regardless of ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identification, and political or religious affiliation.”

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hellscape of fire and water. However, you begin to hope, there must be a way. Why else would these voices be telling me I can safely cross and make it to the other shore? As you allow your breathing to settle to a less feverish rate and you run your eyes over the frightening sight before you, you see something that, at first, you refuse to believe. But after you notice that the two caring voices are still encouraging you, you discover that what you see before your eyes is true and real.

Separating the water on the left and the fire on the right, is a very small section of the river that is completely calm. This tiny section, only a few inches wide, is pure white, and it leads from your side of the river all the way to the other shore. You realize that you have no other choice but to trust the two voices. If you don't step onto it, you'll surely be consumed by those who are hunting you. If you try to cross the river elsewhere, you'll perish either by drowning or being burned alive.

You take a deep breath and entrust yourself to the path across the river as you take your first step. Immediately, you feel a sense of calm returning to you and a feeling of being warmly embraced. Looking to your left and right, you discern that neither the fire nor the water can hinder this path. With confidence and joy, you walk along the white path and safely make it to the opposite shore where you rest in a state of ultimate peace and bliss. But before doing that, you take the time to express your deepest gratitude to the two voices who ensured you arrived safely. THE END.

For those of you who know, this was my attempt at retelling the famous *Parable of the Two Rivers and the White Path* as originally told by Shan-tao, the great 7th Century Chinese Pure Land Master who inspired our founder, Shinran Shonin. For those of you who may be unfamiliar with the parable, the forest, beasts and other pursuers serve as a metaphor for our own lives. We are always trying to blindly escape the never-ending suffering that plagues our ignorant lives. The fire and water represent our own inescapable anger and greed. The voice on the western/opposite shore, is Amida who is calling to each of us, while the voice on the eastern shore is Sakyamuni who encourages us to listen to the Dharma that teaches us how to escape our samsara existence and become Buddhas when this life is completed. And, the White Path is none other than the nembutsu, *Namo Amida Butsu*, the true cause of our future birth in Amida's Pure Land – the land of peace and bliss.

So, during this month of October, I am reminded of just how truly grateful I am to be walking along the White Path with you as my fellow nembutsu travelers and Dharma friends.

Namo Amida Butsu and Happy Halloween!

Rev. Magnin's Regular Office Hours:

Thursdays and Fridays	12:30pm – 2:30pm
Saturdays	8:30am – 9:30am 12:30pm – 2:30pm

*** Or by appointment (or when you can catch me ☺)

Ongoing activities (please check calendar for exceptions)

Event	Place	Time
Jodo Shinshu 101	OBT	1 st Sunday of the month 11:30am – 12 noon
Meditation session, followed by Shoshinge Service	OBT	Thursdays and Saturdays 10 – 11 am
Jodo Shinshu Study Class	Zoom	Thursdays 7 – 8 pm
Coffee & Conversation	OBT	Fridays 10 – 11 am
Nokotsudo Services	OBT	Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Sundays (usually 3 rd of the month). 9:15 – 9:30am
Offsite Social Gatherings	Varies	Once per month (Next one: Oct. 18 after OBT activities. "Buddhism, Buddies & Boba")



Why Belong to a Temple? Charles Reneau, OBT President

We've had several deaths in our Temple community recently; last month a member's father, and more recently the incomparable Etsu Osaki. It's been a sad time for these families, and on behalf of the Oregon Buddhist Temple, I'd like to express our heartfelt condolences, as well as our deep wish to be of assistance.

Autumn reminds me of these losses: trees are beginning to turn brilliant colors and lose their leaves, and the mornings are cool and crisp. Long summer days are over, and winter is coming. It seems like nothing lasts forever. What to do about this loss?

I have lots of friends and colleagues in Portland, and very few of them attend any church or temple. I bet a lot of them would say "I'm spiritual, but not religious." I'm not judging! I know a lot of them were raised in churches, and decided to stop going at some point, so it's not like they have no idea about religion. Besides, freedom to choose one's religion, or no religion, is one of the best things the US ever came up with.

So why should anyone bother with belonging to a religious community? I mean, there are plenty of books one could read—there are probably many hundreds of books about Jodo Shinshu alone. Enough reading for a lifetime! If you prefer podcasts, youtube, or social media, I'm sure you could find enough religious "content" to keep yourself quite busy.

In fact, you would probably have more time for spiritual work if you skipped the committee meetings, garden cleanups, emails about fundraisers, and commuting time. If you saved up the money you normally give to the Temple, you could even go on a sweet vacation!

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(continued from p.2) I'm sure that's fine for some people; maybe I just have a religion-shaped hole in my heart.

I don't think I'm defective, though. I think our Temple can offer a concrete answer to loss. When the winds of impermanence blow, I do not want to face those winds alone.

I was able to attend one brief Makura-gyo Service last month, and I found the experience deeply moving (as I always find our funeral and memorial services). A few Temple members and I sat behind the bereaved family, all together sharing in sadness and tears. I was so grateful that the family allowed me into their suffering, allowed me to help share their burden as a

witness. The opportunity to walk through the joys and miseries of life with dharma friends is a gift.

I think this might be the best reason to belong to a Temple. Grief will at some point weigh heavily on our thoughts and feelings, but surely it must be easier if our friends help carry the load. Comforted by our community's web of personal relationships, the pastoral support of a trained and caring minister, and the ancient, beautiful traditions of Jodo Shinshu, we can face loss, together.

In gassho,
Charley

October Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of October. The Shotsuki Hoyo memorial service will be held at the October 18 Sunday service at 10 am. Please join us and offer incense in memory of your relative(s) or friends.

Listed below are the names of those who passed away starting from 1950. Oregon Buddhist Temple has records from 1904. Names of deceased prior to 1950 are added if requested.

If you would like to add the name of a loved one to this list, or if a name is missing or incorrect, please notify the temple at 503 481-0699 or at obtlanterns@gmail.com.

Albert Abe, 10/5/2022	Yoshio Kinoshita, 10/18/2005	Patricia Becky Onchi, 10/30/1953
Alfred Ando, 10/19/1989	Joichi Kiso, 10/11/1958	Masaye Ono, 10/15/2000
Masaki Ando, 10/6/1950*	Komojo Kiso, 10/30/1956	Torao Ozaki, 10/23/1970
Kanekichi Aoki, 10/18/1959	Hatsujiro Kitagawa, 10/02/1962	Helen H Sadamoto, 10/20/1994*
Mary Hisako Asakawa, 10/23/2009*	Satoru Kodama, 10/19/2009	Tamon Saito, 10/06/2001
William T Cheng, 10/31/1978	Mitsuru Koji, 10/22/1963	Tomoko Saito, 10/11/1950
Saroku Doochin, 10/23/1950	Hitoshi Kono, 10/22/2016	Kazue Shiraishi, 10/9/1995*
Seijiro Fujita, 10/19/1982	Keiki Lawrence, 10/6/1963	Yoshihei Shiraishi, 10/8/1976
Haru Furukawa, 10/12/2015*	Jim W Lew, 10/25/1969	Mitsuru Shoji, 10/21/1963*
Ryokichi Furukawa, 10/3/1950	Makoto Maeda, 10/18/2009	Suetaro Sotomura, 10/17/1958
Yoshiomi Hashiguchi, 10/11/1958	Alfred Mar, 10/17/1992	Shizue Sugihara, 10/26/2012*
Misao Hasuike, 10/22/1977	Masajiro Masuda, 10/24/1965	Yoneko Sugimura, 10/6/1992*
Betty Heath, 10/8/1963	Kanechi Masuhara, 10/16/1950	Yozo Sunamoto, 10/3/1975
Frank Hrubant, 10/1/2019	Gary Matsuoka, 10/31/2009	Gohei Takabatake, 10/25/1969
Sahomi Tachibana (Doris Hrubant), 10/10/2024*	Yashiyo Matsuoka, 10/1/2001	Shiro Takasugi, 10/22/1982
Natsuko Iguchi, 10/2/2007	Richard Mishima, 10/17/2021	Kiichiro Takayama, 10/25/1952
Katsuzo Ikata, 10/21/1963	Ryonosuke Miura, 10/29/1962	Masumi Takeuchi, 10/3/1999*
Tomi Inuzuka, 10/6/1960	Nobuo Tom Nakano, 10/25/1993	Masao Tamiyasu, 10/19/1998
Sam Ishida, 10/23/1992	Mae Nakano, 10/9/2013	Lenora Tanaka, 10/21/2013*
Tomiko Iwasaki, 10/16/2010*	Miyuki Neishi, 10/1/1987*	Masako Urushitani, 10/15/1983
Yasukichi Iwasaki, 10/26/1968	Mitsunari Nishino, 10/6/1969	Hiro Wakabayashi, 10/30/2017
Kinu Kagawa, 10/31/1999*	Asayo, Noji, 10/21/1994	Tsuta Wakita, 10/21/1963*
Lily R Kajiwarra, 10/13/2015	Kichizo Noji, 10/2/1968	George Watanabe, 10/17/2017
Fumiko Kida, 10/22/2006*	Reiko Oda, 10/11/1990	Tokuji Yamaguchi, 10/01/2009
Joichi Kido, 10/30/1956	Mary Okita, 10/22/2013*	Daigoro Yoshida, 10/27/1971
Yashiyo Kinoshita, 10/19/1979*	Jujiro Omura, 10/31/1961	Fumiye Yuzuriha, 10/1/1978*

* OBWA member

Oregon Buddhist Temple
Donations received 8/17/2026 to 9/17/2026

SHOTSUKI HOYO

In memory of Hisako Kakishita

Dana Kakishita

In memory of Jean Matsumoto

Alfred Ono

In memory of Reiko & Toichi Okawa

Janie Okawa

In memory of Bachan

Sayuri & Mika

Lotus Circle

Dana Kakishita

Susan Endecott

Special donations

George & Kathleen Anderson
Charitable Trust (2026 Grant)

Etsuko Osaki

Allen Ando

Obonfest shopping list

Marilyn Achterman

Kelly Ann Chee

2026 monthly/quarterly pledge

Tom Howard

Glenda Watson-Coly

Diane Ando Harder

Jonathan Greenwood

Donation acknowledgements are mailed for donations of \$250 or more, and to any donor upon request.

Please inform us of any significant error or omission.

Thank you!

sjendecott@gmail.com

Editor's Note: The article below by OBT board member Thomas Howard is intended to help make the board more accessible to temple members.



Membership Committee Report
Tom Howard

Fall is in the air: the leaves are turning with a mellow rustle and O-Higan is near. Now is a good time for reflection. Holidays are around the corner and New Years not far behind. When you look back over the past year think about all the many ways OBT has enriched your life. My mind swirls like dancing leaves in the autumn breeze. A dharma talk that I will not forget, the concern a friend showed for my well-being, and don't forget the sukiyaki, mochitsuki, bingo, and O-Bon. Whether you are an old timer or new there are so many ways you can express your gratitude for Amida's gift: volunteering your time and energy, giving financially what you can, or making a yearly pledge. How ever you choose will be gratefully appreciated and we will all continue to dance for joy at the Buddha's teaching.

In Gassho
Tom Howard
Membership Committee

A reminder to encourage readers to continue donations for these events and at any other time.

January	Hoonko
February	Nirvana Day
March	Spring Ohigan
April	Hanamatsuri
May	Gotan-E - Shinran Shonin Birthday Celebration
July	Kangi-E - "A Celebration of Joy" Obon Service
August	Obonfest
September	Fall Ohigan
November	Eitaikyo - Perpetual Memorial Service
December	Bodhi Day
	Year End Gift for the Temple



The Oregon Buddhist Temple relies on the generosity of the Sangha and other supporters interested in our teachings and activities. Any donation is greatly appreciated.

[**Donate**](#)

[**Learn More**](#)



Condolences to the Osaki Family

Long-time OBT member Etsuko Osaki passed away peacefully while surrounded by family members on September 14, 2026. She was 95 years old.

She married Herbert Susumu Osaki in 1952, and they shared 70 years together until his passing in 2022. They raised five children—Alan, Lora, Lynn, Jill, and Dean—in Portland, Oregon. Their family later grew to include thirteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. A graduate of the University of Washington in Seattle, Etsuko taught in the David Douglas School District until her retirement.

Etsuko lived with quiet strength, generosity, and deep devotion to family and friends. She will be remembered for her kindness and calming presence. She is survived by four siblings, five children, twelve grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. A private family memorial service will be held December 5, 2026, at the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

Read the full obituary at : <https://www.rosecityfuneralhome.com/obituaries/etsuko-osaki>



From the memories of the OBT archives.

Did you realize that Etsu Osaki started our Picnic in the park many decades ago around 1988? It may have been earlier. My girls, and many, many DS (Dharma School) students enjoyed this event scheduled at Laurelhurst Park until logistics became a challenge.

Etsu was instrumental in setting up Toban groups for Obuppan (shrine offerings,) cupcakes for Special Service offering, Ikebana/ flower offerings, Library selections and purchases for DS and the library, Gifts for DS year end gifts, Books for DS Graduates and more. She was not only a DS Teacher, but tenured as DS Coordinator, writing funeral folders for many, many temple members. Amongst those I found were alphabet folders where each month she highlighted an alphabet letter with a Buddhist word, students with birthdays that month, and more.

Etsu led us with a small but mighty choir that was recognized across the district.

Etsu led the OBWA on top of all of this. What Etsu did for all us over the years to teach us by example, how she showed us an example and hardly ever a word was spoken.

Gassho
Amy P

Photos: Maho Garner and OBT archives

Thank You Auntie

Auntie Ets was the OBC (Oregon Buddhist Church in those days), Dharma School Superintendent for many of the years I was in Dharma School. As a non-observant high-schooler I have to admit I didn't notice all of the efforts she did behind the scenes, but I am sure many of the good memories I had with YBA friends at Dharma School, NW District Conventions, Sports Tournaments, and retreats were in part due to her efforts.

Outside of temple, our family was lucky to live just across town from the Osaki house, which hosted gatherings not just with her family, but many memorable family gatherings for uncles, aunts, and many cousins who would visit from Washington, California, or Canada - no doubt this helped create lasting closeness among our cousins even though we saw each other infrequently.

Beyond these examples, I have a few fundamental reasons to be thankful to Auntie. As you may have heard already, in the mid-1960s she brought her younger brother Shinya who was visiting from Seattle to the Kinoshita family house to meet their daughter Jayne. Had she not taken the initiative to make this introduction, who knows if I would have been born?

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Even earlier, her actions transformed our family's future when after World War II her parents had made the choice to return to Japan - until 14-year-old Etsuko [put her foot down and refused to go.](#) So the entire Ichikawa family ended up returning to Seattle, instead of Japan. Who knows what would have happened if she had just obeyed her parents? Maybe none of us Ichikawa cousins would have been born.

Thank you Auntie Ets for many years of caring for all of us with your lifelong dedication, meticulous planning and quiet leadership.

Jeff Ichikawa



Remembrances of Etsu

Etsu was a role model to me in so many ways—from her spiritual practice to her dedication as a Sangha member who led by example, not just by words. She warmly welcomed new members and encouraged everyone to volunteer and become actively involved.

One of my fondest memories is of Etsu recruiting me to run the Obon yakisoba booth she had been coordinating. She handed me a folder and said, “It’s really simple—the recipe is set, there are cooks, and it will run itself!” As it turned out, it was a little more work than that—especially since I had no idea what I was doing—but Etsu believed I could do it. She was so deeply respected that I couldn’t say no.

Thank you, Etsu, for everything you did for OBT and for all of us in the Sangha. You will always be remembered with great warmth, and we will do our best to follow in your footsteps.

Kim Kono





Dharma School Report

Ann Shintani

Welcome Back! On Sep. 20th, Vonn Sensei welcomed our Dharma School volunteers... he talked about how they (we) are role models, and to think about who we looked up to. Etsu Osaki, who passed away in September at the age of 95, recruited many a reluctant people to volunteer as teachers at the temple, including myself. She saw the value of having us, in each other's company, learn about the teachings.



Rev. Vonn Magnin conducts the Dharma School Teachers' Installation ceremony after service on September 20

Our teachers for this year are young and old, returning and new: Jill Fajardo, Tina Phanthavady, and Joy Yuzuriha (for Lumbini class, younger elementary); Ann Shintani and Karen Magnin (Bodhi class, older elementary; and Jack Kostylo, Zylina Racette, and Everett Rudolph (Dana class, middle- and high-school). We also have Jeanette Hager, Stacy Dadfarma, Elaine Yuzuriha, and Marilyn Achterman as back-up and administrative volunteers. Thank you to Karen Magnin for jumping in as Dharma School Co-Coordinator. She is a great resource, an educator, and brings ideas from Arizona and Southern District Dharma School Teachers League!



Dharma School Volunteers Joy Yuzuriha, Jeanette Hager, Karen Magnin, Jack Kostylo, Marilyn Achterman, Ann Shintani, Stacy Dadfarma

For our school year, we are embracing the Northwest District Buddhist Convention theme of "BRIDGES"... a bridge is something that helps overcome a challenge or an obstacle, and once it is in place it can bring people to together and do positive things. What are some challenges or obstacles, and can we do something about them? To think about this, we plan to have short field trips around Portland... the Waterfront, memorial parks, other spiritual groups... places I'd like to share with our Dharma friends.

On Saturday, Oct. 24th, we invite Dharma School students to join us as we watch the new Laika animated movie, "**Wildwood**", at an actual theater (the Hollywood Theater at 4122 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland, OR) at **4:00pm**. Karen reserved a block of tickets so we are offering the "DS rate" of \$5 for DS students, free for DS teachers, and others are \$9 (General Admission is \$9). Please RSVP to Ann to reserve your spot, seats are limited.





OBWA Report

Amy Peterson

As October approaches we are mindful of Matsutake and how it affects our heritage and life at OBT.

October brings us the Fall Fundraiser Sukiyaki Dinner chaired by Jack Kostylo and Cheri Yoshida who were involved last year. I hope you get your order in so you can have some either Vegan or beef. Such a treat. In addition to that, Robbi Ando headed a crew on Sept 23rd and Sept 28th to chop and can all the vegetables for fukujinzuke.

On the day of the dinner/pick up the OBWA will be selling Zenzai for a dessert. Zenzai is a dessert made of Red Azuki beans boiled in a soup with sugar and mochi pieces. This recipe goes back decades before many Sangha members were here, but was a common winter dessert. I hope you'll try it.

A small group of OBWA members are assembling to make some Ohagi for our homebound members Sunday Sept 27th. Ohagi is a rice and red bean sweet prepared at the equinox in the fall and spring to represent the equinoxes. Usually we made ohagi in the fall and botamochi in the spring. We make it to honor our loved ones who have passed. We hope to have family members pick up the ohagi or have it delivered by our care team. If you have an OBWA member that should be added to our list please contact Jayne Ichikawa. Also if you have some time you might be able to visit one of our homebound members. you can leave a message at obtlanterns@gmail.com. We try to honor this tradition if we can.

Then on the 2nd of October, Jeanette O. Hager and Amy Peterson will be flying off to San Diego for the Federation of Buddhist Women's Association (FBWA) 48th National Conference, where we'll be meeting with chapters from all over the US representing local chapters and Districts. We'll be representing both. We hope to meet up with Okusan Karen who will be representing Arizona. The conference theme is "To Remember As We Build For Tomorrow" and the theme's Japanese translation is "Kako wo Omoi, Asu wo Hiraku."

We'll continue to prepare for the sukiyaki dinner and hope to have Matsutake donations to fill the pans. We will be preparing hot fresh ZENZAI available to purchase. Zenzai was prepared at the temple many, many years ago, but we don't have the dates.

The OBWA unfortunately will not be able to supply the dinner, but hope to find some for themselves when they embark in the woods of Mt. Hood to see what they can find some on their own. This had to be postponed until Wed. Oct 28th. OBWA Members only (you can join for \$20 per year, see Diane Harder.)

We've had to postpone our volunteering at the Oregon Food Bank to accommodate all of our volunteers. We'll post the

info when we get it, but probably January 2027. We'll continue our Shotsuki Hoyo Sunday donation collections.

We are looking forward to the OBT Craft Fair. Watch for our table in November.

See you next month!

(Next OBWA reporter: Nancy K.)



OBWA Food Drive Event Cancelled

Robbi Ando

Because of a technical glitch, the volunteer event at the Oregon Food Bank scheduled for October 10th has been cancelled. It will be rescheduled after the year-end holidays.



Attention 2027 Japanese American High School Graduates

Elaine Yuzuriha

The Japanese American Community Scholarship applications will be due on March 1, 2027. Now is the time start thinking about applying for the Japanese American Community Scholarships with the following criteria:

- Eligible applicants and one of their parents must be of Japanese Ancestry (except for Portland JACL scholarships).
- The parents or the student must have been a member of one of the seven community organizations by December 17, 2026 or earlier to apply for the 2027 scholarships. Oregon Buddhist Temple is one of the sponsoring organizations.
- The applicant must reside within Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington (OR), or Clark (WA) counties (does not apply to Portland JACL scholarships).
- The student must have attended high school in the United States. International students are not eligible.

Please let us know about high school seniors affiliated with Oregon Buddhist Temple or the Japanese American community. Next May is the 2027 Japanese American Graduation Banquet, and the committee would like to issue invitations to all seniors affiliated with OBT and the Japanese American Community. Please contact Elaine Yuzuriha (e.yuzuriha@gmail.com). Thank you!

Volunteers Needed for Sukiyaki Fall Bazaar

The Sukiyaki Fall Bazaar is finally here! Doors will be opened for dining and pickup on Sunday, Oct. 25, 12pm-3pm! Make sure to send in your pre-orders for sukiyaki and tsukemono by Sunday, Oct. 11. The bazaar will also include inari, fukujinzuke, sweet treats, and other food items for purchase the day of.

We will need lots of help to prepare for the event! If you are available, we would appreciate help the following days:

Saturday, Oct. 24, start 10am: food prep (cutting, chopping, packing food)

Sunday, Oct. 25: many roles to fill, including cooking, assembly, cashier, etc.

You can find all the Sunday shifts at our sign up link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FA5AD2CA2F4C07-65995893-2026/95035521#/>

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Golden Chain Diner soon!

Warm regards,
Fall Bazaar Committee



Listening to the Dharma Judy Hittle

There's a familiar reading, The Three Treasures, some of which reads:

"Difficult is it to be born into human life. Now we are living it. Difficult is it to hear the Teachings of the Buddha. Now we hear it. If we do not realize the Truth in this life, when will it be realized? . . ."

There is also the thought that the Teachings of the Buddha are all around us; we just need to listen. If we do not seek to hear the Teachings, then what are we seeking?

The BCA (Buddhist Churches of America) is a vital part of our Oregon Buddhist Temple (OBT). Yes, we like to believe that our Temple exists through our own efforts, which is partially true. We have a wonderful Sangha, who are hardworking and very generous, as well as a community which supports us on a regular basis. As with our own bodies, we are responsible to see that we do all it takes to keep ourselves healthy and strong. Of course, there are times when unavoidable circumstances create challenges for ourselves as well as our Temple.

Without the BCA, we would not have a Resident Minister, for which we are truly grateful. We also would not have our Minister Assistants. At OBT, we found that our Minister Assistants were an invaluable part of our Temple when we

were without a resident minister. Now we have a resident minister, our minister assistants continue to be of importance as strong support for our Resident Minister.

The BCA reaches out to all of the temples to share the Teachings of the Buddha. At one time, the Wheel of Dharma, a monthly BCA newsletter, was sent to only those who were official members of their temples. Now, thanks to technology, it is available to all, at their website. Go to www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org. The Wheel of Dharma gives the readers an opportunity to hear the Teachings of the Buddha from various ministers and sangha members. The readers get to hear different perspectives on the Teachings which may make them more relatable. There are many programs that are available online, where one can further hear the Teachings and which may open the door to a variety of opportunities. As an example, this past month featured a Health and Wellness Program with Yoga. There is also a Weekly Guided Meditation hosted on Zoom by Bishop Harada. Another feature, not necessarily in the Wheel of Dharma, but by using your phone, "Dial the Dharma" at 800-817-7918. It's a very brief message from our Bishop Harada in English or Japanese.

The BCA is reaching out; we need to take advantage of these offerings. ". . . Difficult is it to hear the Teachings of the Buddha. Now we hear it. If we do not realize the Truth in this life when will it be realized? . . ."

Here are just a few examples of the stories you can read about on the BCA website:

See **Rev. Vonn Magnin's** [photo with the rest of the IBS \(Institute of Buddhist Studies\) graduating class of 2026](#). His thesis title: "Sacred Moments, Everyday Lives: Discovering the Meaning within Jodo Shinshu Rituals in Contemporary America."

Miyako Belizzi, a former Jr. YBA member from the Buddhist Temple of Alameda, [was a first-time nominee for an Academy Award](#) in the Best Costume Design category for the critically acclaimed film "**Marty Supreme**," starring Timothee Chalamet and Gwyneth Paltrow.

The [Las Vegas Buddhist Temple](#) will become the newest of the 59 BCA member temples and churches early next year.

Rev. Ellen Hamada Crane shared her experience attending the "[Yoga and Buddhism for Healthy Living](#)" retreat at the Jodo Shinshu Center (JSC) in Berkeley. The program was led by **Bob Matsueda** from JSC, who will be sharing his seminar Yoga and Buddhism at OBT on **January 23rd** (contact Carol Saiget for more information.)

These and other stories are at the [BCA Connect Blog](#).



Mottainai Craft Group Toyoko Oguri

Whether it was due to the success or publicity of the Kimono Sale at the Obon Fest, we have been getting more donations of kimono, yukata and Japanese fabric. The donations motivate us to think ahead for next year's kimono sale. While sorting through the donated kimono, we discover interesting designs, fabulous weaves of fabric or speculate on the history of the past owners of the garment.

The pause from regular craft meeting in August gave our members a chance to reflect on their projects for personal use or making for the Holiday Craft Fair in November. September's arrival brought members back and ready to begin anew. Even though this month's meeting was on a Wednesday, it was well attended. Some members worked on their projects and others shared their ideas for future projects and all of us inspired each other with ideas.

We continue to gratefully accept donations of yukata and kimono-related accessories, and print and solid color cotton fabric. These materials are repurposed by our group and sold at temple events, with all proceeds benefiting the temple and women's group (OBWA). If you plan to donate, please let us know who you are so we can thank you properly.

WHAT'S AHEAD

- October 10 (Saturday) | 10:30 am–3:00 pm regular meeting.
- November 14 (Saturday) | OBT Holiday Craft Fair.
- November 18 (Wednesday) | 10:30 am–3:00 pm regular meeting
- November 21 (Saturday) Kimono Ornament Workshop for Mottainai Group only. This workshop may be considered for wider group in the future.

Contact the group for any questions at mottainaicraftgroup24@gmail.com.





Bon Odori at Dance Art Event Chris Dart

Hi all

Thought you might enjoy this and if you would like, participate in the dancing.

From the beginning, people have expressed themselves in music and dancing. This art presentation highlights two dance forms and communities of dancers -- Obon and bon odori (us, led by me), and SISTAHS 4 LIFE who express life experiences via dance.

Lynn Yarne is an artist and art teacher (Cathy and Jeff Yarne's daughter). She created this program to explore the presence

and use of dance art in our communities. More information from about the event below. The building at is a little hard to find so Lynn will have a sandwich board outside that says "Converge45" and a volunteer at the door. Address is **431 NW Flanders** which is in the middle of Flanders St on the North side and the program is in the basement (like our old temple on 10th). The program starts at 2:00 but I will be there a little after 1:00.

We will be doing 5 dances -- that we have done -- Soran Bushi, Ei Ja Nai Ka, AIUEO, Bambutsu No Tsunagari (no uchiwa), and Tanko Bushi. It should be fun.

Would love to see you there if you are able.

Thanks

Chris

PHOTOS OF YOUR AUNTIES SMILING AS A MONUMENT TO RESISTANCE

dance + found photos of two local communities in former PDX Japantown/once second largest Chinatown

Sat 10/3
my grandma's birthday
431 NW Flanders, PDX

Come Dance:
2:00pm> About Obon with Chris Dart
2:30pm> Obon dance practice
4:00pm> Line Dancing with Sistahs4Life

with your's truly, Lynn Yarne

WHAT IS LOST IN COMMUNITY SEPARATION? WHAT STRUCTURES? STORIES? FEELINGS? LONGING? EXPERIENCED IN PROXIMITY TO JEATH? CONDITIONS ENCOURAGE SHARED EXPERIENCE? TRAUMA? INSTRUCTION? CONFORMITY? CREATIVITY? HOW MIGHT RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PROXIMITY + SHARED EXPERIENCE CULTIVATE MAGIC? SOMETHING BIGGER THAN.

JAPANESE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF OREGON
CONVERGE45

For more information: click on this link: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DdMYErOiOyy/>



MEDITATION & SHOSHINGE SERVICE

Thursdays & Saturdays
10 am - 11 am



COFFEE & CONVERSATION

FRIDAYS 10 AM - 11 AM

STARTING SEPTEMBER 11

OBT Events and Meetings

Links to and list of recurring events and meetings. Because most events are now live at OBT, this table will contain only those events/meetings with zoom links. Check the newsletter calendar for the dates of everything that is occurring at the temple. For questions: obon.oregonbuddhisttemple@gmail.com (goes to Chris).

Please check our website for any last minute updates (like weather, funerals, or cancellations).

OBT Regular Service

Every week – Sun 10 AM

Dharma Exchange (following the Regular Service) at 11 AM

Link below to website for the filmed services:

<https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/>

This link is to zoom for the live Sunday Services and Dharma Exchange:

Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88441525686?pwd=EeovjfEdmbgAgQUoFXpEC1RAQrzPP1.1>

Meeting ID: 884 4152 5686

Passcode: 804117



OBWA

3rd Sat, mid-month, each month – 10 AM (specific date on calendar)

Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/96237030266?pwd=QjYxMjl5dDM3cnFVLzR5YmEvUU94UT09>

Meeting ID: 962 3703 0266

Passcode: 574232

Sunday Bon Odori

last Sunday of the month (see below – specific date on calendar)

Bon odori is generally the last Sunday of the month at 1 PM in the basement. July/August are exceptions because of Obon and dancing at the Japanese Garden. And, on occasion there are OBT events on the last Sunday so see the newsletter or calendar for specific dates. This is for fun, exercise, learning new dances, re-learning old dances, and seeing your dance buddies.

See Chris for details or to be added to our Japanese Stuff list that we use to notify dancers ---

obon.oregonbuddhisttemple@gmail.com (email comes to Chris and I can answer questions or add you to the list)

Zoom link if you can't make it in person.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81054749182?pwd=aHBjNXhERzNyT3hUU0E5Wmw2cUliZz09>

Meeting ID: 810 5474 9182

Passcode: 113529

BEC (Buddhist Education Committee)

3rd Wednesday evening of month (see calendar)

This is the group who figures out the educational activities for the temple like the Sunday Services, Dharma Exchange, the Library, the videos and Sunday slide show presentations, and other tasks. Our new resident minister, Rev. Magnin, will lead on many of the tasks (for which we are so grateful) but there is still plenty to do. You are welcome to visit and listen in on the decisions or volunteer 😊

Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM with a couple exceptions which will be on the calendar.

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/97807303590?pwd=MU90SkZHUnpJUXVxd0EvVGZDYUo4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 978 0730 3590

Passcode: 790943



OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

SUKIYAKI FALL BAZAAR

ORDER ONLINE BY OCTOBER 11

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER!

Dine-In or Pick-Up

Other food for sale, with vegan + vegetarian options!

oregonbuddhisttemple.com/fallbazaar

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25

12-3 PM

All proceeds support OBT

For more information: click on this link: oregonbuddhisttemple.com/fallbazaar

Volunteers Needed! Please see [Signup Genius](#) or [contact Cheri](#) for details



Oregon Buddhist Temple - Sukiyaki Fall Bazaar 2026

Dine-in & Pick-up on Sunday, Oct 25, 12pm-3pm

Form Deadline: Sunday, Oct 11 | ***Other food items will be sold on the day of the Fall Bazaar



Item	Includes	Price	Quantity: Dine-in	Quantity: Pick-up
Beef Sukiyaki + Rice	Beef, tofu, veggies, mushrooms, konnyaku, dashi, rice	\$22		
Vegan Sukiyaki + Rice	Tofu, veggies, mushrooms, konnyaku, dashi, rice	\$22		
Tsukemono	Pickled cabbages	\$3		
Total \$ for food:			\$	
Additional donation: Oregon Buddhist Temple			\$	

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Optional: Pick-up reminder. Phone number/email: _____

2026 Bon Odori Practice Schedule

2026 Event:	Month	Date	Day	Time
No Dancing	January			
Sunday Bon Odori	February	1	Sunday	1:00 PM
Sunday Bon Odori	February	22	Sunday	1:00 PM
Sunday Bon Odori	March	29	Sunday	1:00 PM
No Dancing	April			
Sunday Bon Odori	May	3	Sunday	1:00 PM
Sunday Bon Odori	May	31	Sunday	1:00 PM
Sunday Bon Odori	June	28	Sunday	1:00 PM
Obon Leader Practice	July	5	Sunday	7:00 PM
Obon Dance Practice	July	13	Monday	7:00 PM
Obon Dance Practice	July	15	Wednesday	7:00 PM
Obon Dance Practice	July	20	Monday	7:00 PM
Obon Dance Practice	July	22	Wednesday	7:00 PM
Obon Dance Practice	July	27	Monday	7:00 PM
Obon Dance Practice	July	29	Wednesday	7:00 PM
Obon Bon Odori	August	1	Saturday	7 - 9 PM
NOTE: Japanese Garden practice and dancing is for those who sign up as space is limited. Japanese Garden members can come to the practice and dance event without signing up but need to provide their own transportation to the garden.				
J Garden Practice	August	14	Friday	7:00 PM
J Garden Practice	August	21	Friday	7:00 PM
J Garden Bon Odori	August	22	Saturday	10:30 AM
Sunday Bon Odori	September	27	Sunday	1:00 PM
No Dancing	October			
Sunday Bon Odori	November	1	Sunday	1:00 PM
Sunday Bon Odori	November	29	Sunday	1:00 PM
Sunday Bon Odori (Xmas)	December	27	Sunday	1:00 PM

NOTE: All Sunday Bon Odori is at 1 to 3 PM in the OBT basement. All practices for Obon and the Japanese Garden are from 7 to 9 PM in the OBT basement.

BCArt Exhibit 2026

Sharing artwork from our Sangha community and friends



Portrait of Queen Maya (Mayu Garner)



Please Visit our Virtual Art Show
on BCA website!

For more information: click on this link:

<https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/copy-of-bcart-exhibit-2026>



11TH ANNUAL OBT HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

A FESTIVE GATHERING OF ARTISTS
SHARING THEIR HANDMADE GOODS

OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Saturday, November 14, 2026

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Free Admission!

Tasty Concessions!

30+ Incredible Artisans!



3720 SE 34th Ave.
Portland, OR 97202

503-367-2650
For more Information

PORTLAND
TAIKO
PRESENTS

KAERU

帰る

Saturday evening, Nov 14th
Sunday matinee, Nov 15th
PSU Lincoln Performance Hall
1620 SW Park Ave
Tickets on sale now at
portlandtaiko.org



An OBT and OBWA group viewing of the Portland Taiko performance titled “**Kaeru**” is planned for **November 15** at 2pm.

Please see portlandtaiko.org or call Portland Taiko at 503 288-2456 for questions about the performance, or **Jayne Ichikawa** (jayneichi@gmail.com) about plans for the group viewing.

OBT FOOD DRIVE FOR OREGON FOOD BANK



We will be collecting non-perishable food items for donation to the Oregon Food Bank every Shotsuki Hoyo Sunday through the end of 2026.

Henjyoji Shingon Buddhist Temple's 75th Anniversary Celebration, October 10 & 11

The temple's 75th anniversary milestone commemorates the Portland Japanese American Shingon Buddhist community's faith and resilience, which endured through unjust incarceration during WWII, and carries into the 21st century.

Schedule of Events

Saturday, Oct. 10

Henjyoji Shingon Buddhist Temple at 2634 SE 12th Ave., Portland 97202

- **10 a.m.:** Opening ceremony and meditation.
- **Noon to 2 p.m.:** Light snacks, social time. Browse auction and sale items to support the temple.

Sho Restaurant at 10100 SW Barbur Blvd., Portland 97219

- **3 p.m. to 5 p.m.:** Dinner. Expect to pay at least \$50 per person. View menu at: shorestaurant.com/menu.

Reedwood Friends Hall at 2901 SE Steele St., Portland 97202

- **6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.:** Buddhist dharma talk and Taiko/Shamisen performance.

Sunday, Oct. 11

Henjyoji Shingon Buddhist Temple at 2634 SE 12th Ave., Portland 97202

- **Noon:** Clark Zenkyu Watanabe Sensei (head minister at the Honomu Henjoji Mission) and Kosho Finch Sensei (head minister at the Henjyoji Shingon Buddhist Temple) will lead a commemoration service.
- **1:30 p.m.:** Temple open house. Light food and drink; auction continuation.
- Closing Prayer.

For additional details: <https://sites.google.com/view/shingon-pdx/home>

Weekly Guided Meditation

Wednesdays at 9:00 AM Pacific Time

Hosted online via Zoom

**Join the Buddhist Churches of
America each Wednesday
for a free online guided meditation
led by Rev. Marvin Harada.**



These weekly sessions offer a welcoming space to pause, breathe, and reconnect with the present moment through Buddhist mindfulness and meditation practice.

Whether you are completely new to meditation or have an established practice, all are welcome. Each session will include gentle guidance, silent meditation, and reflections rooted in Shin Buddhist teachings that encourage compassion, gratitude, and inner awareness.

Meditation can help cultivate calm, clarity, resilience, and a deeper connection with ourselves and others. Through regular practice, we learn to meet life with greater openness, balance, and appreciation for each moment.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81859478933?pwd=vy0OX4Jai1LDIPmGbxqAJtVAnDuNbc.1>

Meeting chat link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/jc/81859478933>

Meeting ID: 818 5947 8933

Passcode: 898828

To join the Weekly Guided Meditation meeting: [Click HERE](#)



**SUPPORTER OF THE OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
PLEDGE FOR 2026**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

All individuals who make a pledge will be listed as a Supporter of the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

For individuals who pledge \$300 or more:

- A portion of your pledge will be forwarded to the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) for BCA membership
- Eligible to be nominated to be on the Oregon Buddhist Temple Board of Directors
- Eligible to vote for the Board of Directors of Oregon Buddhist Temple and other issues that are presented at the General Meeting.

I will pledge for 2026, the amount of \$ _____

_____ The above amount is to be given as a one- time amount of \$ _____ or

_____ The above amount is to be given in payments of \$ _____

_____ Monthly _____ Quarterly

_____ I would like a pledge reminder before the end of 2026 at (email or phone) _____

Please send this completed Pledge for 2026 and payments to:

Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Avenue
Portland, OR 97202-3037

[Make an online donation](#)



In gratitude for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple