



OBT established 1903

PureLand Path



The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

September 2025



The Wheel Continues to Turn Rev. Tadao Koyama

September is here everyone! School is back in session, including our temple's Dharma School! It is a wonderful time to be back at the temple. It seems that everyone kept really busy during the Summer with trips, work, and Obon! I love the fall season, especially in Japan! The red leaves are always beautiful. These red leaves are a sign of our changing weather and season.

When we think about the seasons, we think of a wheel that continues to turn. It is a wheel that does not stop for anyone or anything. While this might sound harsh, the Buddhist teachings have been reminding us about impermanence since their conception. One of the main reasons why we as humans suffer is because we are unable to accept these changes. I am included amongst those who cannot accept change too.

One of the biggest delusions we as humans have is thinking that we have the ability to control the wheel of life or the wheel of the dharma. We think that if we fight against things with a whole lot of ferocity that we can bring about real change or that we can prevent the inevitable from occurring. I personally do not like the summer weather. I much prefer the cold, but the world continues to turn regardless of my preferences and desires.

Now that I am 36, I wish I had the metabolism and the physical endurance of my 18-year-old self. I was much thinner, better looking, had way more energy, could eat what I wanted without much consequence. One of the cuisines I miss eating the most is spicy Thai food! While my mouth can handle the taste of spice, my stomach can no longer tolerate it. How frustrating it is to get older!

Then some of the members more senior to me laugh, and say, "Sensei, just wait till you get to my age!" And you know what? They are right. I am not their age yet. While I sure don't have the stamina and metabolism of my 18-year-old self, I am still 36 and I shouldn't complain so much about the physical limitations that I think I have. I should be grateful for the age I am now at this very moment and the fact that I am still alive, employed, and have a wonderful wife, Rev. Cyndi. How lucky I am!

This kind of dialogue is something I go through all the time. I am thankful that I have the Buddhist teachers to lean on while I find myself floundering.

Happy September everyone! I look forward to seeing you all at temple!



Okagesama De Judy Hittle, OBT President

Recently I went "home" to Maui for the Rinzaï Zen Obon. It's a special Obon that does only Okinawan-styled obon dances. Something about Okinawan music gives me a "natural high".

One of the first things my brothers and I do when we go to Maui, is haka mairi, visiting the cemeteries where our relatives, especially our parents, are. We usually take flowers and reminisce for a few moments, as we go from one plot to another. I feel as if I'm visiting them at their various "abodes" as I did many years ago. Of course, there are a few relatives I've never had the opportunity to meet since they were gone long before I was born. But whether I've met them or not, they are family and I thank them for having been there for us.

I have many relatives at three different cemeteries and I insist on visiting all of my relatives, so I frequently find myself at Costco to purchase the flowers needed for my visits. Sometimes, due to miscalculations, I make more than one visit to Costco in a day's time. Luckily, I have a very patient husband who accompanies me as I go through these repeated steps.

At some point in my visits to Costco and the cemeteries, my credit card goes AWOL. I'm usually a very methodical person and even have my credit card and debit card in a little plastic pouch which I try to keep in the same spot in my purse so I can easily access them. I know, now I cringe at the thought that I would have both cards in the same pouch so if one goes missing, so does the other. Well, one doesn't always think that clearly, even the very "methodical person". With my husband's help, I try to recall the last time I used either card. We pinpointed it to Costco, where I bought the last few bouquets.

The next day, we spoke with the manager in the hopes of someone would have turned it in, but to no avail. I checked the ground to and from the area where we recalled parking the car on that last trip. But, you know, those efforts only increased my depression. Reluctantly, I call and cancel the credit card. I hold onto some last bit of hope with the debit card, thinking one can only use it with the pin number. I know now, that isn't so. But when holding on to that last bit of hope, one's mind plays according to one's own misconceptions.

Driving back to our room, I mention the possibility of maybe going to the last couple of plots we visited, since it was on the way to our room. We go there with the idea that we would retrace our steps of the previous day. I parked my car, got out and happened to look on the ground and thought I was hallucinating - it was my very own plastic pouch with both

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

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Please contact the temple with any comments, questions or concerns, or if you wish to report a change of address.

cards still sitting in it, right there on the ground. Believable? Talk of being overjoyed. It happened that my parents' plots were in the very area; I had to rush up and say, "thank you". Even if they had nothing to do with my being so fortunate, I was filled with gratitude.

Of course, I had a Kaeru (those origami-folded frog dollar bill) with my cards too, which means "to return/frog". So, maybe. . .

I don't believe in miracles, but I do believe I am very fortunate. Perhaps my parents wanted to see me one more time before we left? That is what I choose to believe. But to feel that kind of gratitude all the time, may be what I should be working towards.

And so, Otoosan, Okaasan, okagesama de, doomo arigatoo gozaimasu. (Dad and Mom, with gratitude, thank you very much.) Namu Amida Butsu.

September Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of September. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held at the September 21 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 a name is missing or incorrect, please notify the temple at 503 481-0699 or at obtlanterns@gmail.com.

Kay Akiyama, 9/5/1997
Yosaku Aono, 9/20/1970
Pauline Bretsch, 9/27/2006
Tsutomu Egashira, 9/4/1988
Gennoro Ralph Falconeri, 9/20/2012
Ray Fields, 9/11/2018
Kaoru Funatake, 9/27/1980*
Mae Furukawa, 9/27/1998*
Shimi Furukawa, 9/27/2000*
Yasu Furukawa, 9/1/1966
Hamano Hara, 9/3/1970*
Midori Hasegawa, 9/19/1994*
Charles Hashimoto, 9/18/1981
Yoshio Hasuiki, 9/25/2011
June Fusae Hirai, 9/9/2013
Tamezo Honda, 9/12/1978
Haruko Margaret Hongo, 9/5/1977
Dixie Yoshiko Iseri, 9/8/2010
George Iseri, 9/7/2010
Sumi Ishida, 9/19/2021
Hisako Kakishita, 9/4/2011*
Ben Shohachi Kasubuchi, 9/11/1984
Mary Mitsue Kato, 9/30/1979

Yuriko Kawasaki, 9/21/1992
Martha Kenmotsu, 9/1/2013
Baby Kibe, 9/12/1952
Yosakichi Kitayama, 9/20/1959
Nobuo Kitogaki, 9/22/1984
Sanshichi Kunishige, 9/28/1955
Lulu Chieko Toyooka Lee, 9/26/2002
Masayo Maehara, 9/18/1969
Noriyasu Maruyama, 9/30/1977
Fukiyo Masuda, 9/16/1990*
Bessie Misao Matsuda, 9/3/2007
Toki Matsuda, 9/8/1987*
Taichiro Matsumoto, 9/22/1952
Omoto Minami, 9/1/1979*
Hisa Mishima, 9/24/1965*
Yosh Mishima, 9/25/1994
Junzo Mishiro, 9/11/1987
Eikichi Muraki, 9/10/1961
Henry H Nakamura, 9/13/1975
Kumashiro Nakamura, 9/2/1968
Fusae Nishikawa, 9/28/1963*
Matsutaro Nishimura, 9/16/1974
Shigeji Noyori, 9/13/1975
Tamiyo Ochiai, 9/6/1989*

Jocelyn Oguri, 9/3/1951
George Okamoto, 9/1/2008
Frank Morio Okita, 9/17/1985
Minami Omoto, 9/1/1979
Eiichi Saito, 9/2/1957
Mary Fumiko Saito, 9/24/2018*
Penny Seibel, 9/29/2019
Tatsu Shido, 9/23/1971*
Shingoro Shiozaki, 9/18/1969
Masatoshi Suzuki, 9/16/2010
Minoru Takemoto, 9/10/2010
Tetsuo Ted Tamaki, 9/10/2024
Hanako Terakawa Tamura, 9/7/1986*
Chiyoko Helen Tateichi, 9/25/1985*
Asao Toyota, 9/2/1990*
Setsuko Ruby Ueno, 9/4/2012*
Hashisuke Uesugi, 9/18/1967
Nobuko Uyetake, 9/5/2016*
Toshikazu Wakabayashi, 9/3/1950
Joe Sunao Watari, 9/29/2004
Jack Yasutome, 9/12/1998
Carl K Yoshida, 9/1/2014
Hideichi Yoshihara, 9/17/1962
Shig Yuzuriha, 9/15/2020

* OBWA member



Martha Kimie Tamaki
February 11, 1929 - July 8, 2025

Condolences to the family of Mrs. Martha Tamaki who passed away July 8, 2025.

Martha, husband Ted and their family were active at OBT before relocating to Sunnyvale, CA and Tacoma, WA. Martha served as a part-time organist and supported many OBT and Dharma School events.

Martha was preceded in death by her husband, Ted, and survived by her sons Steve (Michelle) and Craig (Traci) and grandchildren Tyler (Megan), Tana, Alayna, and Tali.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to the Tacoma Buddhist Temple (tacomabt.org) in Martha's memory.

Please see the full obituary at this link: <https://www.gaffneyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/martha-tamaki>

Oregon Buddhist Temple July 2025 Donations

In memory of Russell Kaneshiro (Hatsubon)

Susan & Clyde Kaneshiro

SHOTSUKI HOYO

In memory of Shoji & Judy Shimamoto

Debra Shimamoto

In memory of Kazuo Kinoshita

Jayne & Shinya Ichikawa

In memory of Mine Sasaki

Joyce F. Olsen

In memory of Pou Bachan

Anonymous

Special donations

Alice E. Sumida Living Trust (*bequest*)

James & Judith Nakashima

(*via Fidelity Donor Advised Fund*)

Jeff & Junko Ichikawa

Paul Nist (*Buddhist Youth Retreat*)

Judy Hittle (*vehicle donation*)

Etsuko Osaki

Jonathan Greenwood

Kyoko Endo-Zuch

Obon / Hatsubon service

Angela & Glenn Nakashima

Dana Kakishita

Jacki G. Wolf

Anonymous

Obonfest Donor Circle

Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha

Mark & Marilyn Achterman

Gerald & JoAnn Sumoge

Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa

Roberta Ando

Diane Ando Harder

Katie Tamiyasu

Ken & Maho Garner

Yasuko Maekawa Fields

Obonfest Shopping List

Suniti Kumar

Sandra Christenson & Beth Minato

Jonathan Greenwood

Barbara K. Shiota

Janice Okamoto

Tamaribuchi / Saunders

Scott & Lynn Grannan

Cheri Yoshida

Glenn & Kathleen Andreas Okawa

Shawn Wall

Obonfest Shopping List (cont.)

Arlene Kimura

Cecilia Eng

Thongphanh Phanthavady

Kayoko Kaye

Maya Blackmun

Dana Kakishita

Anonymous

2025 Annual pledge

Katsuya Amasuga

Monthly/bi-monthly pledge

Susan Lilly & Erik Ackerson

Glenda Watson-Coly

Diane Ando Harder

Tom Howard

Susan Endecott

**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

2025 Memorial Services

Year of Passing	Memorial	Year of Passing	Memorial
2024	1 Year	2009	17 Year
2023	3 Year	2001	25 Year
2019	7 Year	1993	33 Year
2013	13 Year	1976	50 Year

If you would like to schedule a memorial service for loved ones or ancestors, please make arrangements with Reverend Tadao Koyama at 253 627-1417 or info@tacomabt.org



Please Join Us with Rev. Koyama :

Sunday, August 31 10am

Sunday, September 28 10am

Fall Ohigan Special Service





Obon Fest 2025 -- Thank You! Kim Kono and Charlie Reneau, Obon Co-chairs

On behalf of Oregon Buddhist Temple, we wish to extend our deep gratitude to the many volunteers and temple members who helped to make the 2025 Obon Festival a success. Our Sangha and many in the broader community look forward to Obon each year. This gathering of remembrance and joy would not be possible without all of you sharing your time and talents. We are also grateful to the individual donors and vendors for their support. We thank everyone involved with Obon Fest –arigato gozaimashita.

Thank you Obon photographers! Addison, Maho, Maya, Stan, Todd L and Todd Y

More photos at <https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/obon-festival>



Obon Fest 2025

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A Big Bon Odori Thank You! Chris Dart

This was another growth year for the bon odori at Obon. I usually make an estimate after watching the videos and looking at how many lines of dancers we have, but this year, I am taking an educated guess. We had more dancers than last year which was over 500 so I think we had about 550 or 550+ this year. Everyone was having a great time, even in the heat and I was delighted.

But, all of this was not due to me --- I just played one role

in getting bon odori for OBT. Following is a long list of people and the tasks that they did. The Obon Bon Odori is not possible without all the help from all the people listed. You will notice please that several of them are doing multiple jobs. I hope I did not forget anyone and if I did, please let me know. Will not do a list like this every year, but wanted at least one opportunity to give them recognition.

I am so grateful to be your sensei, and even more grateful for all the help in making this happen.

Doomo Arigato Gozaimashita!

Chris

2025 Bon Odori Dance Practice and Festival Helpers	# People
Bon Odori Sensei: Chris Dart - Dance selections, order/program, provide music to Bob, teaching, plan - schedule practices and Sunday Bon Odori, documenting - pdf and videos (filmed by Kaylee, edited and uploaded to channel by Chris), website content, (OBT and Japanese Garden), communications, lists -- lots of lists, announcer script for Joe, and overall general organization.	1
Chief Organizer: Dan Snyder - works with Chris and is involved in all aspects of the dancing program. Tracks, and double checks all the details for OBT and the Japanese Garden, finds help, and keeps everything organized and documented	1
Assistant Organizer: Ann Shintani has been a great help in helping to get multiple things organized like the music and musicians that played during obon. Also assisted with announcements, snacks, and taiko. I (Chris) can remember all of them, but it seems everytime I turned around, Ann was helping with something.	1
Props Organizing and Prep for Obon: Counting tenugui, uchiwa, and kachi kachi and get into storage bins in equal number so that we are prepared to pass out and also keep track of our props. Maria Vecchio, Roxie Dadfarma, Stacy Dadfarma, Miye Fonseca, Kenzo Fonseca	5
Pass out and pick up props during practices and at Obon: Jana Nytko, Steve Baer, Kelly Ann Chee, Kendall Shelffo, Katrina Shoda-Iwasaki, Alex Mayall, Ty Fredette, Joshua Nytko, Sharon Carsten	9
Making Tenugui: Mottainai Craft Group - Because of the growth of the bon odori dancing at Obon, we were short about 200 tenugui. We asked Yasuko about two weeks before Obon if Mottainai could make some. In two weeks, they made 250, all ironed and ready to go, AND donated them to OBT. We are so grateful. Arigatou. Yasuko Fields, Jean Lew, Mutsumi Darmohray, Debi Shimamoto, Mona Ozaki, Toyoko Preston	6
Washing - Ironing Tenugui: For years, Susan Endecott has done this all by herself (for which we are grateful), but with the large number of dancers and tenugui, we need to find help for her. Will need volunteers for 2026 - please :-)	1

Refreshments for dancers during practice: Dan Snyder, Ann Shintani, Elaine Werner, Lisa Pasquantonio, Amy Peterson, Jeanette Otsuji Hager, Karen Aizawa, Mikiko Flynn, Shannon Harder	9
Music (recorded), Sound Equipment, and Setup: All of the sound equipment, mics, and music are done by Bob Kagawa.	1
Procession Leads: The procession leads get the dancers into line, and out to the dance floor (parking lot) to formally begin the bon odori program. Cecilia Eng, Shawn Wall	2
Music (Live): This year we were very lucky to have four live performances plus taiko dance accompaniment. Cecilia Eng - solo, Bon Odori Song Hirugohan Group - Sonoko Kakizaki singer, Mary Crull - baritone ukulele, John Crull - guitar, Rick Marsh - shamisen, Hiroshi Iwaya - bamboo flute Portland Taiko - Fukushima - Tiffany Tamaribuchi, Lisa Tamura, Donovan Carrillo, Min Furman, Rebecca Lee Taiko dancing accompaniment - Tiffany Tamaribuchi (PT), Lisa Tamura (PT), Donovan Carrillo (PT), Tiff TJ Purvis (OBT dancer), Chris Fajardo	16
Chairs - Basement Setup: Kendall Shelffo, Maria Vecchio, Miye Fonseca, Kenzo Fonseca	4
Announcements during dance practice: Dan Snyder, Ann Shintani, Chris Dart, Obon Chair - Kim Kono	4
Announcers at Obon: They keep everyone informed about what is going on including the dancers. Randy Choy - Pre-Dancing shift, and Joe Wahl - Bon Odori Announcer	2
Dressing Rooms for Dancers at Obon: Ann Shintani - lead, Linda Nishi-Strattner, Naomi Masuoka, Jana Nytko, Connie Masuoka	5
Lyft Leads (expected): These folks help our dancers get to the Portland Japanese Garden. Judy Furukawa, Maya Blackmum, Brenda Fugate, Lisa Pasquantonio, Dan Snyder	5
Video Recording: This is how we get the videos for the web page. Kaylee Faulkner	1
Communications & Website: These are the folks that get info to the dancers and up onto the website. Elaine Werner - Japanese Stuff email list, and Maho Gardner - webmaster - website	2
Total of 18 task groups, and 75 people involved	75

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



Living the Dharma in the Mediterranean

Jayne Ichikawa

Hello Everyone.

My article will be about our incredible Mediterranean Odyssey on the Viking Star which included visiting 6 countries and 10 excursions for 13 days. But before you decide not to read my article, I will try to make it very interesting and include moments of wonder and appreciation. Shinya and I had previously visited Japan three times and took an Alaskan cruise in 2019 but never had taken a big trip to Europe. After being encouraged by our financial advisor to spend some of our savings, I booked this Mediterranean Cruise with the help of Jennifer at AAA in 2024. It seemed far away since we were scheduled to leave on August 6, 2025. Unfortunately, Shinya was not excited or positive about this cruise but I was hoping to change his attitude during the year with the support of my family and friends.

Finally, August 6 arrived and we were making this a reality but we were not very confident and prepared to face the long flight, make our connections, and endure the hassles at the airport. Those of you who travel regularly are probably laughing at our nervousness! All the stress and nervousness were not necessary since we made it to Barcelona, Spain with the Viking helpers meeting us at the airport and taking us to the ship. It was very comfortable right from the start. If you decide on a cruise made for older people, I would highly recommend Viking. Here's why: No children under the age of 18, no casinos, fabulous, delicious food (Shinya had fresh sushi regularly with his favorite desserts), musical performances that were perfect for us (we even danced and danced), informative lectures, and a staff always available to help and serve whenever needed. We learned so much during our excursions from our knowledgeable guides who were passionate about relating the ancient history, the battles, struggles, hardships, endurance, and accomplishments.

All of this information made me realize that human beings always experienced life of impermanence, change, struggles, joy, and interdependence. However, this



Shop Entrance in Marseille, France

understanding became more evident because the same conflicts of GREED, ANGER, and IGNORANCE still were present eons ago just like our daily lives today. The Dharma is true and real. In closing I recall the words of Rev. Vonn Magnin who said, "This day is not repeatable so live each with each day with appreciation and gratitude. Live each day to the fullest." This is the primary reason we chose to participate in this journey to accomplish this opportunity for ourselves and now to we can say "WE DID IT!" (Thanks to Shinya who became very positive and enjoyed our cruise and to my family for their support and encouragement.)



OBT/OBWA Visitation and Lunch

Jayne Ichikawa

Jayne Ichikawa is trying to organize a group visit to the Oregon Historical Society which has a very informative exhibit, "[The Yasui Family: An American Story](#)". I am hoping there will be enough interested people to attend in September or October. We can arrange lunch at a nearby restaurant and carpool if wanted. Please contact Jayne at Jayneichi@gmail.com if interested and also mention your preferred dates. Thank you.



Obon Lanterns

Amy Peterson

First thank you to all who rehung their lanterns. Our sympathies to those who recently lost a loved one and additional thanks to those who ordered new lanterns.

We know there was some confusion with the lantern hanging and some were unable to be hung where we scheduled them. We have several photos of the lanterns. If you were unable to locate your lantern, we may have a photo of it.

Please email obtlanterns@gmail.com and we'll see if we can send you a photo of your lantern.

Also please email if you would like to schedule a time to pick up your lantern(s).



Dharma School Ann Shintani

On August 24th, a small group of families visited the JAMO exhibit, "[Sadako & Paper Cranes: Through Our Eyes](#)" (April 28-Sep 7, 2025). We had a meaningful service that day for field trip: Pamella Guzman shared a children's talk about compassion, which is about helping others, even though they should know better. We also watched a video of Rev. Todd Tsuchiya (Midwest Buddhist Temple) – he spoke about how burning incense symbolizes simultaneously living and dying, which is seen as an analogy of our life. We visited the Japanese American Museum of Oregon (JAMO) in downtown. The Sadako exhibit is on loan from the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum in Japan. Sadako Sasaki was a young girl who lived in Hiroshima when the bomb was dropped and passed away ten years later at the age of 12 years old. She made over one thousand paper cranes using scrap and medical paper while hospitalized, for good luck. The Children's Peace Monument at Hiroshima Peace Park was made in her memory in 1958, led by Sadako's classmates.

In addition to this exhibit, we viewed thoughtful, beautiful and haunting works proposing peace and healing by local artists, including Lynn Yarne, local art teacher, and students.

We also used JAMO's registry to locate where a few of our ancestors were interned at Minidoka War Relocation Center.

Thank you to the Dadfarma, Kumar, Nist, and Winner families for joining on our short outing.

Welcome Back to Dharma School

We will be kicking off returning to meeting with friends after Sunday Services. Classes are not possible without volunteers! We are always looking for people to sharing their interesting selves and perspectives with our eager and highly intelligent students. Whether it is coordinating an outing, sharing a hobby, donating snacks or a leading a cooking or craft project, please reach out to me of your interest and suggestions.



Girl Scouts Amy Peterson

The scouts have been busy personally and as a group.

We had 5 girls complete the activities for their Obon Patch! They had a blast and did more than their minimum dances. They know the articles used for dancing and some of the history. Thanks to Chris Dart who puts much of this information with her Obon dances and a couple attended service to hear the story of Moggallana and Dance with Joy. This made my job more of quizzing their knowledge rather than droning on. Kenzie helped at the Children's booth and had a great time with Jack giving her more confidence.

Kenzie went to a day camp where she was a Program aid in training, Iris and Mina went to a local day camp and Eloise went to resident camp and ended up with my other scouts in the same cabin. All leaned and had fun at the same time, did some camp cooking so they're excited to do more camping in October.

Daisy Fajardo (Jill Yuzuriha Fajardo) joined the troop and you may see more Kindergarten scouts around.

We're now working on Uniquely US and it was fun learning how each of the girls got their name. Ask Daisy. She was not named after Juliette Low but this was an anagram out of the first letters of several honored family members.



OBWA News Jeanette Hager

Greetings, OBWA and Sangha Members!

Thank you so very much for all that you have done for the 2025 Obon Festival! It is always amazing how talented, dedicated and totally awe-inspiring everyone is in creating such a wonderful community event. In gratitude to everyone for volunteering and for your generous contributions. Gassho!

OBWA had no August meeting to take some time to rest before the next OBT event, the Sukiyaki Fall Bazaar. (Let Amy or me know if you would be interested in making Dorayaki.)

Our next OBWA meeting will be Saturday, September 20, 2025 via Zoom and, if you happen to be at the Temple, join me as I'll be there on the laptop connecting with our members.

We wish everyone a beautiful autumn season!

Until next month!

Gassho,
Jeanette

Our next OBWA newsletter reporter for October 2025 will be Amy Peterson.



Mottainai Craft Group Debi Shimamoto

Mottainai Craft Group extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the Obon Kimono Sales. We especially appreciate those who helped each day during the six days of pre-sale on Bon Odori practice nights.

This event was a success because of our dedicated team of volunteers. For many Obon visitors, buying and wearing a kimono is a meaningful and enjoyable experience. We are always happy to guide them through the proper fitting, dressing, and wearing of this traditional attire—sharing not only practical skills but also an important part of Japanese culture. It was a wonderful opportunity for connection, and we hope everyone who participated enjoyed the experience.

In the days leading up to Obon Fest, we received many donations of Japanese clothing, which were featured in the sale. We thank all donors who think of us when it's time to pass on kimono, yukata, obi, and other items. These donations are often refurbished or remade for resale, supporting both OBT and OBWA. Japanese-themed fabric is also welcome, as it helps us make happi jackets and other crafts.

If you'd like to donate, please consider doing so early to allow time for preparation and any necessary work.

We look forward to seeing you at next year's Obon—or sooner! The Mottainai Craft Group meets regularly throughout the year, and we welcome new participants.

Upcoming Meeting:
September 24 (Wednesday), 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Future Meeting Dates:

- October 18 (Saturday)
- November 19 (Wednesday)

Questions?

Email us at: mottainaicraftgroup@gmail.com



Portland Taiko This Fall Angela Hughes

It's that time of the year again! We wanted to share the discount code with you for our concert in October. See below for more info:

Portland Taiko's fall concert returns to PSU's Lincoln Hall this year on **October 11 and 12. Gaman: Past & Present** will feature special guests, **Minidoka Swing Band**.

Tickets are now on sale and we would like to share a special offer with OBT. When checking out on Eventbrite, please use the code "**Gaman15**" for 15% off all tickets. This code will expire at 11:59pm on September 14.

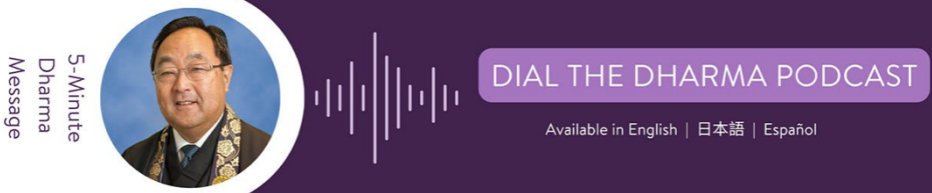
Gaman is a Japanese word often translated as "inner strength." Our forebears endured famine, the Great Depression, back-breaking labor, discrimination, and unjust incarceration in internment camps. They embraced the spirit of gaman—persevering with dignity and patience. With steadfast determination, they worked to build a better future. We honor their legacy and aspire to carry that spirit forward. Join us for our fall concert, Gaman: Past and Present, at PSU's Lincoln Performance Hall, featuring The Minidoka Swing Band.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gaman-past-present-tickets-1574467938989?aff=oddtcreator>

Let me know if you have any questions and hope to see you there!

Best,
Kelsey Furuta
Executive Director, Portland Taiko
Email: portlandtaiko.EA@gmail.com

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BUDDHIST VALUES and THE PROBLEM OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Saturday, October 11th, 2 PM at the OBT

Guest Speaker: Dr. Bidisha Mallik

“The question is a challenging one: what positive role can religion play in a world that values corporate profit and power over ecological health and harmony between people and nations, forgoes truth creating unfettered disbelief about the reality of climate, and numbs our ability to pay attention to issues that matter most through the tyranny of cell phones and the internet?”

Our focus today concerns Buddhism and could Buddhist values be a part of our solution to the environmental question? If so, how transformative are these values in initiating, realizing, and expressing human behavioral change from those of an isolated, alienated, and egoistic self to a relational one that acts out of compassion for all life and existence? In this seminar, we will consider the basic ethical values that Buddhist thinking and practices bring to the world in transforming our current deluded environmental practice by transforming ourselves to benefit all life that is around us.”



Once described as a “progressive environmental thinker,” Dr. Mallik is an Associate Teaching Professor at the U of W, Tacoma where she teaches philosophy and ethics classes. She was recommended by Rev. Koyama, who crossed paths with her while attending classes at IBS.

Many thanks to the KeyBank, George and Kathleen Anderson Charitable Trust, for sponsoring this learning opportunity. No registration is required. It is free and open to the public.



*It takes many “hands” to support
the Oregon Buddhist Temple*

Make your 2025 Pledge today!

Thank you to everyone for your support

Pledge form is included in this newsletter and at
www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/

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. We are always busy especially since we are currently without a resident minister. 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.

Zoom link:

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

Meeting ID: 978 0730 3590

Passcode: 790943

Rev. Koyama has invited us to participate in his Buddhist Education Class.

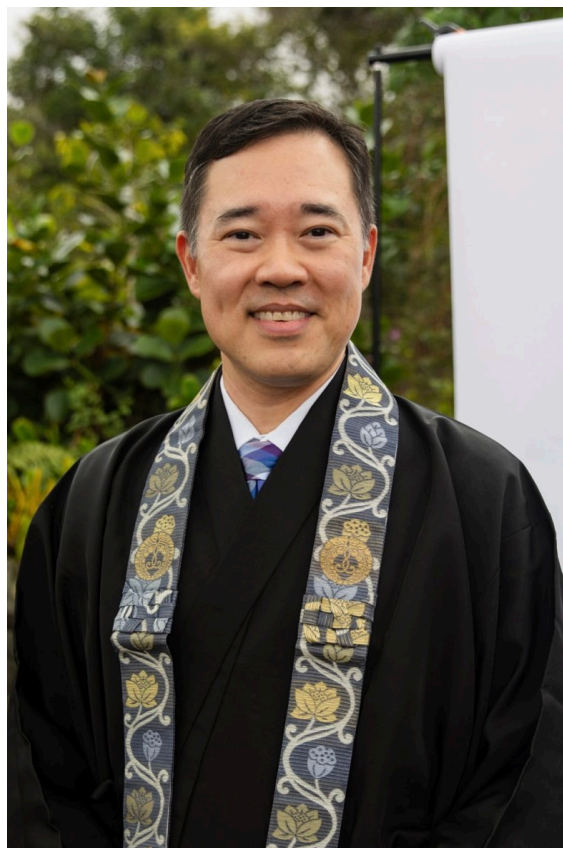
Jodo Shinshu 101 Class

Rev. Koyama leads this class the 2nd Wednesday every month, 6pm-7pm. Signup link is [here](https://www.tacomabt.org/) and also on the Tacoma Buddhist Temple website, <https://www.tacomabt.org/>

Once you are signed up, you will receive an email each month with the class info and zoom link.

OCT
4

Time: 2pm-4pm Seminar
Social Hour: 4pm-5pm
Optional Curry Dinner: 5pm-7pm
Cost: Seminar-Free
Dinner-\$15 suggested Donation
Register by QR Code:



TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE 2025 FALL SEMINAR REV. BLAYNE HIGA

Shin Buddhist Wisdom For Living In a Broken World

The Buddha taught that the fires of greed, anger, and ignorance are the cause of human suffering. Doesn't it feel like we are dealing with hotter fires and deeper darkness in our world today? From our politically polarized society to the destructive forces of hate and discrimination that threaten to consume us, we are struggling to find hope and light. In this time of crisis, we should reflect deeply on and strive to embody our Buddhist values to help alleviate the suffering we encounter. Let's explore how Shin Buddhism offers wise hope for living in our broken world.

Oregon Buddhist Temple presents
Bidisha Mallik, Ph.D

***Saturday,
October 11th
2025
from 2pm***



BUDDHIST VALUES and THE PROBLEMS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

“...could **Buddhist values** be a part of our solution to the environmental question?
If so, how transformative are these values
in **initiating, realizing, and expressing** human behavioral **change**
from those of an isolated, **alienated**, and **egoistic** self
to a **relational one** that acts out of **compassion for all life and existence?**”

Dr. Bidisha Mallik is Associate Teaching Professor,
Global Ethics Social Sciences,
at University of Washington, Tacoma

Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Ave, Portland, OR97202

**FREE
Open to Public**

Sponsored by George and Kathleen Anderson Charitable Trust

OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

SUKIYAKI

(and more!) **FALL BAZAAR**



PRE-ORDER
ONLINE



oregonbuddhisttemple.com/fallbazaar

Sunday, Oct. 26, 12-3 pm



Early bird pricing through **August 31**



Questions? Email OBTwebmaster@gmail.com



Oregon Buddhist Temple - Sukiyaki Fall Bazaar 2025

Dine-in & Pick-up on Sunday, Oct 26, 12pm-3pm

Form Deadline: Sunday, Oct 19 | ***Other food items will be sold on the day of the Fall Bazaar



Item	Includes	Early Bird Price (form received/postmarked by Sunday, Aug 31)	Price	Quantity: Dine-in	Quantity: Pick-up
Beef Sukiyaki	Beef, tofu, veggies, mushrooms, konjac, dashi	\$22	\$25		
Vegetarian Sukiyaki	Tofu, veggies, mushrooms, konjac, dashi	\$22	\$25		
Tsukemono	Pickled cabbages	\$3	\$5		
Total \$ for food:				\$	
Additional donation: Oregon Buddhist Temple				\$	

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Optional: Select type of notification to receive:

☐ Form has been received by OBT. Phone number/email: _____

☐ Pick up reminders. Phone number/email: _____



**SUPPORTER OF THE OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
PLEDGE FOR 2025**

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 2025, 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

Please send this completed Pledge for 2025 and payments to:

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

Donate at the OBT website

[Oregon Buddhist Temple PayPal](#)

Donate with OBT Square



In gratitude for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple



An Intermediate-level Introductory Course on
Shin Buddhism in the West and Beyond

Fireside Chat Sessions with 20 Guest Laypersons and Teachers

Starts October 4, 2025

Description: An intermediate-level introduction for those seeking a religious/spiritual understanding of Shin (or Jodo Shinshu) Buddhism, the largest Buddhist school in Japan today, with a history of 136 years in North America.

Dates: 10 classes on the *first* Saturday of the month (except in July)

For Details: Please click [here](#)

Topics:

1 October 4: Chapter One: *Boarding the Ship — Starting Our Human Journey*

Lay speaker:	Ryk Tompkins	Central Point, Oregon
Professional speaker:	Rev. Dr. Mark Unno	Eugene, Oregon

2 November 1: Chapter Two: *Falling off the Ship — Encountering Suffering*

Lay speaker:	Cythia Mee	Chicago, Illinois
Ordained speaker:	Rev. John Paraskevopoulos	Canberra, Australia

3 December 6: Chapter Three: *Swimming by Striving — Practice*

Lay speaker:	Margret “Peggy” Myer	Winchester, Virginia
Professional speaker:	Rev. Jon Turner	Anaheim, California

4 January 3: Chapter Four: *Gasping for Air — Spiritual Impasse*

Lay guest speaker:	Sharon Sasaki	San Diego, California
Professional speaker:	James Pollard	Anaheim, California

5 February 7: Chapter Five: *Letting go — Shinjin Realization and Entrusting*

Lay speaker:	Michael Elliott	Vancouver, Canada
Professional speaker:	Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi	San Jose, California

6 March 7: Chapter Six: *Floating — Ocean that is Amida’s Primal Vow*

Lay speaker:	Myrna Morrell	Kelowna, Canada
Professional speaker:	Rev. Jerry Hirano	Salt Lake City, Utah

7 April 4: Chapter Seven: *Swimming with Ease — Assurance, Joy, and Clarity*

Lay speaker:	Eriko Yamaguchi & Daniel Jung	Auburn, Washington
Professional speaker:	Rev. Diana Thompson	Denver, Colorado

continues on next page

8 May 2:	Chapter Eight: <i>Thinking of Others — Engagement with Others</i>	
Lay speaker:	Merry Hiroshima	Orange County, California
Professional speaker:	Rev. Ken Yamada	Berkeley, California
9 June 6:	Chapter Nine: <i>Reaching the Island — Birth in the Pure Land</i>	
Lay speaker:	Eiko Ōkusa	Chiba, Japan
Professional speaker:	Rev. Todd Tsuchiya	Minneapolis, Minnesota
10 July 11:	Chapter Ten: <i>Going out back into the Ocean — Returning to this Sahā Realm</i>	
Lay speaker:	Denise Cork	British Columbia, Canada
Professional speaker:	Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto	Berkeley, California
Instructor and Moderator:	Kenneth K. Tanaka , Professor Emeritus, Musashino University, Tokyo. Former Assoc. Prof. and Assist. Dean, the Institute of Buddhist Studies, Berkeley. Former Minister of Buddhist Churches of America.	
Register for the Course:	Please apply here	
Donation:	Suggested amount \$50–\$100 (In Japan, ¥6,000) (Less is accepted for students and anyone on fixed or low income.)	
Textbook:	<i>Ocean Two: The Ten Phases of Shin Buddhism for the West and Beyond</i> (Draft of this book will be provided free of charge to all registrants.)	
Video Recordings:	Available to registrants when they miss the class.	
Contact email:	shinbuddhismcourse@gmail.com	

Endorsements from Bishops:

“Rev. Dr. Kenneth Tanaka has created a wonderful online course that incorporates a variety of speakers and perspectives, from ordained ministers to lay people who have applied the teachings to their everyday life. This format is the first that I have seen and should prove to be a valuable way to come to understand and appreciate the basics of Buddhism.”

Bishop Marvin Harada
Buddhist Churches of America

“As a fellow follower of the Dharma (Buddhist teachings), I highly recommend Dr. Kenneth Tanaka’s online course. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn about Buddhism and the self.”

Bishop Tatsuya Aoki
Jodo-Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada

“Buddhism offers a broader perspective on how to deal with the conflicts and divisions in many aspects of our lives and, more importantly, how we see our true selves. Professor Kenneth Tanaka has been instrumental in presenting the teachings of Buddhism in an accessible and sometimes humorous manner, making it relevant to the present-day.

Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

Academic Advisers for the Course:

- Prof. Taishin Kawasoe, Professor Emeritus, Ryukoku University
- Prof. Nobuhiro Fukagawa, Member of Kangaku (Highest Academic Group at Hongwanji) Hongwanji & Professor Emeritus, Ryukoku University