



OBT established 1903

# PureLand Path

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The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

July 2020

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## The Principle of Action of Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Reverend Yuki Sugahara

*My heart and mind being rooted in the Buddha-ground of the universal Vow, and my thoughts and feelings flowing within the dharma-ocean, which is beyond comprehension! (The Collected Works of Shinran - CWS, p.291)*

There are so many issues happening in this country. Many people say things from their own perspective of what is right and wrong. Regarding social issues, I am really thinking a lot about what the Buddhist attitude towards these issues are.

I have shared this before, but the word ending with “-ist” means “A follower of a distinctive practice, system, or philosophy, typically a political ideology or an artistic movement.” So “Buddhist” is the follower of Buddha’s philosophy, way of thinking or teachings; followers of the practice taught by the Buddha.

The Japanese word for Buddhist is Bukkyo-to. “Bukkyo” could mean Buddha’s teaching or teaching to become Buddha and “to” means followers or fellow travelers. So “Bukkyo-to” is fellow travelers of Buddha’s teaching or teaching to become Buddha.

Then what is the driving force or the principle of action of Buddhist? That has to be the teaching of Buddha. In the case of our tradition, Jodo Shinshu, it is the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha that makes us realize our foolish nature of relying on self-centered ideas. The Primal Vow of Amida nurtures us to become a person of self-reflection. Every time we become self-centered with the three poisons of greed, anger and ignorance, Amida Buddha calls on us in Namo Amida Butsu to rethink our self-centered thoughts and actions.

As Shinran Shonin said in the words I shared at the beginning, our lives are rooted in the Universal Primal Vow that is the guiding light of our lives, the principle of our daily action.

Becoming Buddhist or Jodo Shinshu Buddhist does not mean that we become a good person. It does not mean we become a person who always says right things. Instead, we become more aware of our foolish nature of attaching to what is good or bad, or what is right or wrong. We are nurtured by the light of wisdom of Amida Buddha to be the person of self-introspection. Without this aspect, what we say or do is false and empty. As Shinran Shonin said in Tannisho, the only thing that is true and real is Nembutsu. The Buddha is calling us to

awaken from our delusion of what is right or wrong and the error of criticizing those who have different opinions.

Then does Jodo Shinshu Buddhism advocate saying or doing nothing on social issues, especially regarding discrimination and racism, and simply hope for equality? Not so. Of course, it is important to say something on these issues, but whatever is said or done should be grounded on the teaching of the Primal Vow. From a Buddhist perspective, because our wisdom is discriminative wisdom, wisdom of dividing you and me, good and wrong, we should rely on the non-discriminative wisdom of Buddha to see what the truth of our lives are.

In the Amida Sutra, it states:

There are lotus flowers as large as chariot wheels, growing in the pools.

Those of blue color emit blue radiance;

those of yellow color emit yellow radiance;

those of red color emit red radiance;

and those of white color emit white radiance.

They are exquisite, wonderful, fragrant and pure.

There are various lotus flowers in Sukhavati, the Pure Land, the Buddha-field of Amida. That is the world which is true and real. All various colors of lotus emit various colors and they are in harmony. This is expressing that there are many differences among each other in the Pure Land, but all lives are respecting the differences and that is why all lives are in harmony.

On the other hand, in this world we have differences and we are not respecting the differences, and this causes issues of discrimination and racism.

Jodo Shinshu Buddhists can say that discrimination and racism is wrong based on the teachings and hope for equality and not afflictions or greed that is a natural response to discrimination and racism.

On the other hand, I hear among Buddhist communities words such, “as Buddhist you should do this!” “Why are you Buddhist and not doing this?”, judging others based on their own understanding of what Buddhist should be or do.

By relying on the Primal Vow of Amida, by relying on non-discriminative wisdom of Amida Buddha, we realize that discrimination and racism is wrong, but, it does not mean that we can judge other Buddhist and point the finger at them saying “they are good Buddhists” or “they are bad Buddhists.” That is not the action based on the Primal Vow of Amida.

There are various opinions and various people. As we should respect diversity of people, we should respect other opinions. From the perspective as Buddhists, only thing I can

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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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e-mail: [info@oregonbuddhisttemple.com](mailto:info@oregonbuddhisttemple.com) website: <http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com>

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

say is that “discrimination and racism is wrong.” But, how we act depends on each individual.

Some people may think that a Buddhist minister is the leader of the Sangha to lead the Sangha in a certain direction,

but I am not the leader to lead you to one direction of what I think as right. I am just trying to help share the teaching of Amida Buddha that nurtures us to be the person of self-introspection. and realize the importance of respecting others so the society becomes more peaceful as the Jodo Shinshu Creed indicates.

Gassho

## July Shotsuki Hoyo

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 Jean Matsumoto, Etsu Osaki, or the temple.

Akiyama, Ritsuji 7/20/1955	Iwashita, Hajime 7/10/1963	Ouchida, Rose 7/5/2011
Allen, Akiko 7/17/1988	Kaneyama, Kikue 7/25/1999	Ouchida, Shizuka 7/23/1968*
Aoki, Masao 7/7/1999	Kato, Josephine 7/23/1986	Sasaki, Masajiro 7/11/1991
Azuma, U 7/25/1967	Kawachi, Masaru 7/4/1969	Sasaki, Mine 7/1/1964 *
Boggs, Mabel Kiku 7/10/2011	Kinoshita, Kazuo 7/31/2004	Sasaki, Sam Osamu 7/6/1997
Brandon, Sada 7/16/2016	Kinoshita, Kyuzo 7/30/1950	Sasaki, Yayeno 7/7/1978 *
Franklin, Diane 7/6/2013	Kobayashi, Toruichi 7/8/1970	Sato, Lury 7/7/2019
Fujimoto, Motozo 7/2/1961	Kunishige, Sanshichi 7/4/1955	Scapple, Karen R 7/25/2011
Fukumoto, Tokuichi 7/4/1955	Kurihara, Frank 7/27/1976	Shimooka, Sajiro 7/1/1951
Furukawa, George 7/29/1991	Kurihara, Irene 7/14/2016	Shiraishi, Fred S 7/15/1986
Gekko, Elaine 7/31/2004	Kurihara, Mary 7/22/1983 *	Shiraishi, Yasokichi 7/17/1976
Hamada, George S 7/14/2014	Matsumiya, Isaburo 7/1/1951	Sumino, Ruby Y 7/21/2009
Hasuie, James 7/7/1995	McNicholas, Carmen 7/1/2017	Sunamoto, Tomo 7/23/2013*
Hatago, Ken (Kenny) 7/6/2003	Mori, Kinoye 7/29/1994	Tachibana, Joe S 7/10/1966
Hatori, Toki 7/7/1983	Mukaida, Tomeji 7/19/1976	Takeuchi, Hiroshi 7/10/2013
Hikida, Tokujio 7/6/1952	Muramatsu, Tatsutaro 7/18/1962	Takeuchi, Masao 7/13/1967
Hirata, Frank M 7/27/1975	Murase, Robert 7/18/2005	Takeuchi, Yae 7/6/1971 *
Hokari, Torizo 7/22/1951	Murazen, Yone 7/3/1998 *	Toya, Kaguma 7/27/1968
Honda, Misao 7/16/1992 *	Naemura, Seki 7/19/1987*	Toya, Yone 7/20/1968 *
Ichiba, Uye 7/17/1988	Nakazawa, Tsugio 7/29/1999	Yasui, Hokari, S 7/21/1955
Ikata, Hitoshi Joe 7/11/1997	Niimi, Shigeru 7/17/1960	Yonemura, Sumi 7/12/2002
Iwasaki, George 7/10/2009	Okubo, Shigenobu 7/25/1987	Yoshida, Bud M 7/18/1992
Iwasaki, Enzo 7/14/1963	Onchi, Miyu 7/11/1974 *	

\*OBWA member

### 2020 Memorial Services

Year Of Passing	Memorial	Year Of Passing	Memorial
2019	1 Year	2004	17 Year
2018	3 Year	1996	25 Year
2013	7 Year	1988	33 Year
2008	13 Year	1971	50 Year

If you would like to schedule a memorial service for loved ones or ancestors, please make arrangements with Rev. Sugahara at 916-834-7350 or [ysobtporland06012017@oregonbuddhisttempl.com](mailto:ysobtporland06012017@oregonbuddhisttempl.com)

### President's Column

Cathy Yarne, OBT President

Greetings,

It's been 3 months since the corona virus has changed how we are living and we ceased all activities at the temple. Although I've seen a few of you via Zoom meetings and exchanged emails with a few others, I still want and have to ask, "how are you doing?" I hope you are staying mentally and

emotionally healthy and managing well at home. All of the Board members expressed their concerns for our members. They are still willing to provide assistance of any kind. Please don't hesitate to contact Rev. Yuki or myself if we can be of assistance or comfort to you.

Once a week, I physically walk around the temple. As I walk around, my imagination fills with images of our members. Images like a crew of apron clad men barbecuing under a canopy, someone pulling on the walk-in door seeking a crate of vegetables, people gathered around the tables intently participating in the dharma exchange discussion, the kitchen is a buzz of activity as joyful cooks prepare a meal, greeters sit at the foyer table eager to greet you and Sensei stands at the door, with a warm welcoming smile. The Hondo is the one area where my imagination doesn't spontaneously trigger visions. Imagining the sangha in the Hondo doesn't come as easy as other places in and around the temple. I think the emptiness and your absence really hits me when I'm in the Hondo. Fortunately participating in virtual service is a good alternative however there's still a sense of isolation. I try not to be discouraged and remain positive that we'll eventually be able to return to the temple. As an organization, I feel strongly that we have a responsibility to our members to follow Governor Brown's mandates and follow the recommended CDC safe practices. Meanwhile I encourage everyone to take responsibility for what you can do to prevent the spread of the virus.

A team of OBT members has been making plans for when we do return to attending services at the temple. Although we're unable to provide a specific date, we want to be prepared when that day comes. It will be necessary for everyone to abide by the health and safety guidelines set by the temple. Adjustments and specific procedures are necessary for everyone's safety. Once we are able to set a date, you'll be provided specific information via email. Until then, I do hope you are staying safe and are doing well. Miss you all!

Gassho,  
Cathy Yarne

## 2020 OBT Board of Directors

**Term Ending 2020:** Angie Davis (Vice President), Traci Kiyama (Secretary), Cathy Yarne (President), Jenna Yokoyama

**Term Ending 2021:** Marilyn Achterman, Ken Garner, Mai Thi La, Ann Shintani

**Term Ending 2022:** Erik Ackerson, Jayne Ichikawa, Katie Tamiyasu, Christine White

## OBWA News

Diane Harder and Roberta Ando

Hello Everyone; It is truly extraordinary times we are moving through. Two viruses have been painfully exposed: Covid 19 and systemic racism. One requires us to remain separate from each other, the other demands that we draw close to all. We hope that you and your family have been able to balance the two needs and will be able to continue to move through the coming summer with good health, grace, wisdom, and at least a bit of fun.

As the OBWA has been observing the closure of the temple there is no OBWA activity to report, nor any requests for help in the kitchen for some future event. Someone suggested we offer a recipe used at the temple.

With summer coming, all of us would normally be thinking about Obon. This summer maybe you can prepare a hit from last year's Obon: Cucumber on a Stick. It is a nice nibble during any warm summer day. The following recipe was developed by Diane Harder after being inspired, during Sensei's 2018 Japan tour, by the pickle vendors in the local food markets.

### CUCUMBER ON A STICK Kyuri Asazuke きゅうり浅漬け

5-6 Persian cucumbers, wash and trim each end about ¼

to ½ inch (may substitute 2-3 Japanese cucumbers)

½ medium orange, wash and slice into 4 or 5 rounds

½ large lemon, wash and slice into 4 or 5 rounds

1' x 3' konbu (dried seaweed) piece, broken into 4 or 5 pieces

¼ cup (35 grams) kosher salt

1 teaspoon red pepper flakes

1 teaspoon dry mustard

1 cup water.

5-6 corn dog wooden sticks or other skewers

1 gallon-size recloseable plastic bag or equivalent

1. Place the orange, lemon, konbu, salt, red pepper, mustard, and water into the plastic bag. Mix until salt and mustard are dissolved.
2. Add cucumbers to the wet mix. Refrigerate for 4 to 6 hours. (After 6 or 7 hours the cucumbers will begin to gradually lose crispness and eventually will become too salty.)
3. Skewer the cucumbers and keep ice cold.
4. Crunch away!

Next month's OBWA reporter is Katie Tamiyasu

## Buddhist Study Class



Intermediate Class:  
Reading The Three Pure Land Sutras – encountering the teaching which the Buddhas enjoyed

When: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesdays of the month,  
7pm to 8:30 pm

Where: Oregon Buddhist Temple

This is twice a month intermediate level Buddhist study class. Please contact Reverend Sugahara for more information.

The class is conducted on-line with Zoom. Currently we are reading Tannisho. Rev. Sugihara gives the historical background of its writing and interpretations of confusing statements. Discussion and questions are welcome and encouraged.

The next class will be July 6 and will cover Chapter 5 of Tannisho.

## Garden Crew Meets on a Rainy Sunday Morning

Marilyn Achterman



Left to Right: Erik Ackerson Jeanette Hager Jayne Ichikawa Christine White Marilyn Achterman Nancy Walseth

Hello, between 9:00am and noon on Saturday June 20, oblivious to the pouring rain, eight dharma friends chopped, trimmed, pulled, tossed and enjoyed each other's company at our landscape party. The front garden now showcases the heart of the temple. Thank you for caring for the temple in yet another way.

Just like preschool and Sunday social hour, snacks are the highlight of any gathering. In addition, chef Judy Yamauchi prepared and delivered the most subtle, delectable bento lunch for us. We sat around in our 'new' annex (socially aware) and ate to our heart's content.

Due to a fever, our landscaper was not able to come today. However, dependent on his health, he may be able to help us next Sunday. We will keep in touch. Thank you, everyone for your guidance and friendship.

In Gassho, Christine and Marilyn

Jerry Sumoge came early and left before the photo taking. with the crew. Craig Yanase had mowed the grass several days earlier. Mike Ishii had also worked on the landscaping, encountering a nest of small ground-dwelling wasps which was eliminated.

## Sky Over Temple Roof Erik Ackerson, Photographer



These beautiful photos by Erik Ackerson, taken from his back yard, remind us how fortunate we are to have our temple to live in the Three Treasures – Buddha, Dharma, Sangha.

It is also reminiscent of the song, Moon over Castle Ruins. Composed by Rentaro Taki of Japan in 1901, the song has been played by many notable musicians, such as Yo Ma, Thelonius Monk, and Wynton Marsalis. It was also included in an Akira Kurosawa film, Throne Of Blood.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lt2Im7z77TA>

## OHSU (Oregon Health & Science University) testing asymptomatic patients in populations disproportionately impacted, including people of color

The OHSU does not recommend routine screening of asymptomatic people for COVID-19, including health care and other essential workers. However, COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted minority communities across the country. With this in mind, OHA has recommended the testing of people without symptoms for these groups. In accordance with the OHA's guidance, OHSU is offering testing for all asymptomatic patients who identify as any of the following:

- Migrant/seasonal agricultural worker
- Black, African American, Latino, Latina, Latinx, American/Indian, Alaska Native, Asian, Asian-American or Pacific Islander
- Having a disability

- First language is not English

Of note is that OHSU has two drive-thru testing sites (Hillsboro and Portland). Location and hours information is below, or you can read it at: <https://news.ohsu.edu/2020/05/27/preparing-for-the-novel-coronavirus-at-ohsu>

### Mobile, drive-through testing sites

OHSU is offering drive-through testing at the Gordon Faber Recreation Center in Hillsboro and at the Expo Center in Portland for people...

OHSU mobile testing locations are:

- Hillsboro Stadium – 4450 NE Century Blvd, Hillsboro, OR 97124  
Hours: Monday - Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.
- Portland Expo Center – 2060 N Marine Drive, Portland, OR 97217  
Hours: Monday - Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.

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### Impermanence/Gratitude Etsu Osaki

Coronavirus, it will pass  
Everything is impermanent  
As we are told in Buddhism

We are grateful for the workers  
Who jeopardize their lives to help others  
We are grateful for the Dharma  
We are grateful for each day.

Namo Amida Butsu



Sponsored by the JACL Northern California Western Nevada Pacific District, the service was held as an online webinar on Memorial Day, May 25, 2020.

Todd Yuzuriha played the National Anthem to begin the service and Taps to close the service.

Reverend Henry Adams of San Mateo Buddhist Temple gave the Dedication and Invocation.

Todd Yuzuriha - National Anthem  
<https://youtu.be/PDHYT1CvOCg>

Reverend Henry Adams – Dedication  
<https://youtu.be/HxuVNYekHL0>

Reverend Adams – Invocation, Merit Virtue to All  
<https://youtu.be/mezG3YtzEFw>

Todd Yuzuriha – Taps  
<https://youtu.be/pqsn5SwekT4>

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### Zoom Lecture by Prof. Ken Tanaka

We have an amazing opportunity to sit in on a Zoom lecture by Prof. Ken Tanaka on Wednesday, July 22nd. The NW District Ministers Association is hosting this lecture. If you are interested, please send an email to Reverend Sugahara ([ysobtportland060117@gmail.com](mailto:ysobtportland060117@gmail.com)) for details. The lecture is free, but donations are very appreciated!!

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Donations to Oregon Buddhist Temple can be made through PayPal on the Temple website. Click the "support" heading or see below. For those familiar with PayPal, see below. Donations can also be mailed to the Temple.

### Donate through PayPal

Did you know that OBT has a PayPal Account? We gratefully accept the donations through PayPal. This is the perfect way to donate during this difficult time of social distancing.

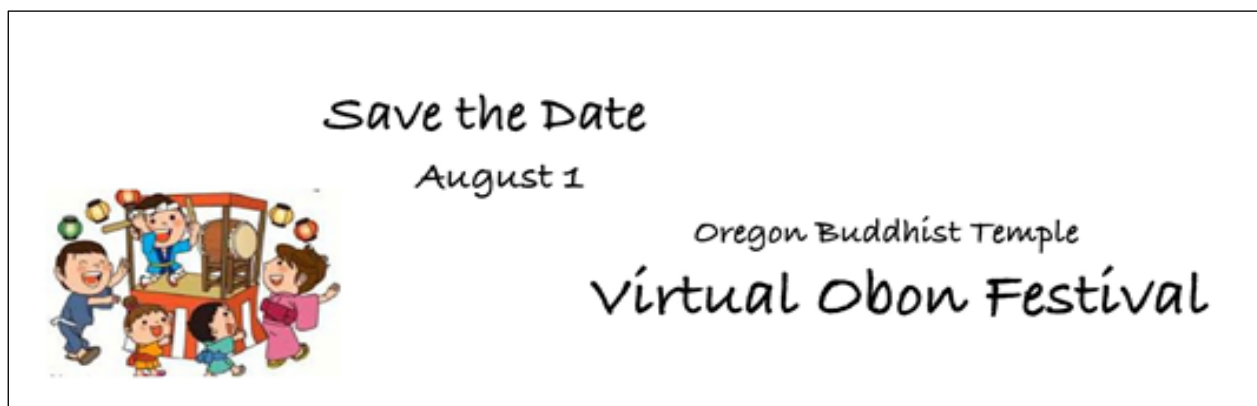
Thank you for your consideration!

Gassho,  
Yuki Sugahara  
Resident Minister  
Oregon Buddhist Temple



When paper newsletters were mailed, donation envelopes were enclosed for those months that had special services and events. Now that the newsletter is available only electronically this is not possible. This is a reminder to encourage readers to continue the donations, not only for these events but anytime. Thank you.

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



Watch for new dances and dance lessons on our expanded website. Goal is to start posting lessons and the list in early July. Bon odori practice will be virtual this year like Obon.

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

No Sunday Bon Odori practice in the months of July or August

**Oregon Buddhist Temple is closed until further notice**



**VOLUNTEERS are NEEDED NOW**  
to plan a virtual fundraiser.  
Contact Rev. Sugahara or Cathy Yarne



### ***Oregon Buddhist Temple May 2020 Donations***

#### ***In memory of Kathie Sato***

Shoun & Grace Ishikawa  
Kevin & Tammy Ando  
Ben & Darlene Demise  
Ted & Martha Tamaki  
Herb & Etsu Osaki

#### ***In memory of Tom Hokama***

Katie Tamiyasu  
Amy Peterson  
Lynn & Scott Grannan  
June & Stan Shiigi

#### ***In memory of Dale Meiners***

Lily Meiners  
Amy Peterson  
June & Stan Shiigi  
Jean Takashima  
Elaine & Todd Yuzuriha  
Cathy Yarne  
Carol Saiget  
S. Uyeoka  
Janet T. Thibault  
Frances Toyooka

#### ***In memory of Carol Asakawa***

Amy Peterson

#### ***In memory of Rose Ikata***

Amy Peterson

#### ***In memory of Doug Anderson***

Lynn & Scott Grannan

#### ***Shotsuki hoyo***

Thomas T. Fujii

#### ***Lotus Circle***

May Watari

#### ***Special donations***

Anonymous  
(toward security services)  
June & Stan Shiigi  
Ann Shintani & Scott Winner  
James & Judith Nakashima  
Brenda & Jerry Fugate  
Anonymous (Spring Bazaar)  
Amy Peterson (United Way)  
Lily Meiners  
Kyle Burch  
Kimber A. Nelson  
Marlo McClure-Porter  
Melinda Yamada Stave  
Steven Terusaki  
Shannon Smith  
Gary Higashi  
Amanda Stein  
Jeff & Junko Ichikawa  
Ray & Lori Fukunaga  
Craig Hondo (vehicle donation)  
Kent Matsuda  
(Rev. Sugahara's videos)  
Dana Kakishita  
(virtual services)  
Toshiki Sugahara  
Hiroko Kikuchi  
Anonymous

#### ***Spring Ohigan / Hanamatsuri***

Herb & Etsu Osaki  
Pat Hokama

#### ***Gotan-e***

Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha  
Shoun & Grace Ishikawa  
Katie Tamiyasu  
Roberta Ando  
Diane Ando Harder  
Dana Kakishita  
Kiyomi Dickinson  
Pat Hokama

#### ***Monthly/Quarterly/Semi-annual Pledge donations***

Jean Matsumoto  
Alice Tano  
Pat Hokama  
Diane Ando Harder  
Susan Lilly & Erik Ackerson  
Nancy Walseth  
Susan Endecott

***Thank you for your  
continued support!***

***Donation acknowledgements  
are mailed for donations of  
\$250 or more, to donors not  
on the OBT mailing list, and  
to any donor upon request.***

***Please inform us of any  
significant errors or  
omissions.***

***sjendecott@gmail.com***

## Memories of the Not-So-Distant Past



Installation of Officers – Year 2000



Gathering at Shiigi's – year uncertain



Obonfest 2003 - The sextet combo



Having snacks – year uncertain

**Ann Shintani**

**Virtual Obonfest** for Oregon Buddhist Temple is planned for August 1<sup>st</sup>! What does this mean? Basically, this means to keep an open mind as we venture into new ways to create our own socially distant, together-in-spirit, Obon festival. \ Will you join us? You can start by marking your calendar that August 1<sup>st</sup> is “ObonFest”, dust off your Obonfest gear out (t-shirt, yukata, happi coat, whatever), prepare your favorite Summer food/snacks/beverages, and find a location with room to move around. If you have already done a Zoom meeting, or watched Sensei’s YouTube services, then you are good to go! You may even want to help your less tech-savvy family members participate. Go to OBT’s Obonfest page for updates.

**Congratulations, Akane Grace!** I have seen Grace grow (her middle name, I just found out) over the years at temple with mother, Lisa Anderson, and brother, Thomas. Recently, I saw Grace at the Portland Mini Maker Fair at OMSI, a place for makers to share what they have made, often involving technology and art. There, Grace engaged us about her role in her school’s Robotics team, their robot, and that was really impressive. I still remember Grace as a toddler, which seems not too long ago! She graduated from Liberty HS (Hillsboro), was awarded a Japanese American community scholarship from Portland Shokookai, and she plans to attend Oregon State University. Best wishes to Grace and her family!

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*Below is information presented by Duncan Williams on Monday, June 22, 2020 as part of an on-line session sponsored by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii at the Buddhist Study Center*

“Interlinked: Understanding the Origins and Evolution of American Buddhism”  
with Dr. Duncan Ryukun Williams

**21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN BUDDHISM**

Data from the Pew Research Center ( 2012 Report on “Asian Americans: A Mosaic of Faith)

About One-in-seven Asian Americans (14%) are Buddhist.

Buddhism is more common among some U.S. Asian groups. Roughly four-in-ten Vietnamese Americans (43%) are Buddhist and one-in-four Japanese Americans (25%) are Buddhist. Among Chinese Americans, 15% are Buddhist. Buddhists comprise no more than 6% of the other major U.S. Asian groups.

While Asian Americans make up a majority of U.S. Buddhists, roughly a third of American Buddhist are non-Asian. The Pew Forum estimates that 67%-69% of Buddhists in the U.S. are Asian.

**PEW FORUM DATA (2007 AND 2012)**

The Pew Forum’s 2007 “U.S. Religious Landscape Survey” found that 28% of all U.S. adults belong to a religion that is different from their childhood faith. The 2012 study on Asian Americans shows that roughly a third of Asian Americans (32%) now belong to a religious tradition different from the one in which they were raised.

Among Asian Americans, Hindus have the highest retention rate. Eight-in-ten Asian Americans who were raised Hindu still describe themselves as Hindu today (81%); about one-in-eight of those who were raised Hindu now describe themselves as religiously unaffiliated (12%), while the remainder belong to other religious groups or did not give a current religion.

Buddhists and the religiously unaffiliated have the lowest retention rates among Asian Americans. Among those who were raised Buddhists, 54% currently describe their religion as Buddhism. Roughly a quarter of those who were raised Buddhist (27%) now say they are religiously unaffiliated while 11% are protestant.

Three-quarters of married Asian Americans (76%) have a spouse of the same religion, while 23% have a spouse of a different faith. By comparison, the Pew Forum’s 2007 “U.S. Religious Landscape Study” found that roughly one-quarter of married people in the general public have a spouse with a different faith.

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