

Nirvana Day (Nehan-E) on the Oregon



OBT established 1903

PureLand Path



The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

February 2026



The Buddha's Final Message to Us Rev. Tadao Koyama

Happy February everyone! I hope you all enjoyed your New Year's parties, and recoveries from those parties before having to go back to work and school. I always feel like I hit the new year running! So much to do, and January is already done!

February is the month that we as Jōdo Shinshū Buddhists observe the Buddha's passing into Parinirvana. We call this Nirvana day on February 15th. This is the day that Buddha taught his final lesson to his disciples. He told them that while his body will no longer exist in this world, his teachings will still be here and it was up to the disciples to continue sharing those teachings and living by them. He said, "If you only see my physical body, you do not see the true Dharma." The Buddha was telling us that even though we may lose a person who we deeply care about, their influence and teachings continue to stay.

I think all of us have an inherent responsibility to continue holding the teachings of the Buddha-Dharma close to us and to share them with those who are interested in learning. More importantly, as followers of the Nembutsu, we are given the most important teaching of the Buddha. The Nembutsu path teaches us that while we are not perfect human beings, we are continuously given wisdom and compassion freely from Amida Buddha's Pure Land here and now. In order to value this teaching, there is a part of us that does need to acknowledge our humanness and shortcomings. If we can't be honest with ourselves, we cannot live life authentically.

When I think about the genius of the Buddha, I am reminded that he gave us a teaching that would be incredibly easy to follow. The practice of monks is tough even to this day! Thai monks are not allowed to eat after noon! They need to walk into villages, cities, and towns to beg for food, and rely solely on the charity of others. Technically speaking, Theravada monks are not allowed to handle money, and are supposed to abstain from romantic relationships. Chinese and Taiwanese monks are supposed to be vegetarian, and not just that, they are not allowed to eat the five pungent roots either (all kinds of onions and garlic)! On top of which, their lifestyle is incredibly regimented in terms of when they are able to go out of the monastery, when they eat, what their

daily rituals encompass. For the average person (and I am not saying this in a pejorative sense), this is not an ideal life to live.

For the average person (and I am including myself in this category), we have to worry about bills, worry about maintaining work schedules, worry about our children's health, have romantic relationship drama, worry about homework assignments, pay taxes, navigate the divisive political sphere, and much more. What hope is there for us? This is why the Buddha imparted the Nembutsu teaching for us, the average person. All we need to do is say, or think on, "Namo Amida Butsu" and we are engaging with enlightened wisdom and compassion from Amida Buddha. The vast majority of us cannot live the regimented life of a monk or nun, but it's specifically for that reason that the Buddha shared the Nembutsu with us.

The Buddha's teachings are still with us. This was part of the final message the Buddha left with us. Just because he is no longer physically in this world, his teachings remain with us and thankfully many people who still share those teachings remain with us. As long as there are those who wish to learn and share the teachings of the Dharma, the Buddha will continue to live on through the ages and will be around if humanity needs him.

Namo Amida Butsu



Feb. 2026 President's Message Charles Reneau, OBT President

At our Dharma Exchange Book Club this morning (January 11), we had a lively discussion about Bishop Marvin Harada's article, "A Reflection on 'Engaged Buddhism.'"

You can read it here:
<https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/post/a-reflection-on-engaged-buddhism>).

The term Engaged Buddhism was coined by Vietnamese Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh to describe Buddhist activities that reach beyond the monastery walls and seek to address social issues and human suffering.

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

Oregon Buddhist Temple 3720 SE 34th Avenue Portland, OR 97202-3037 503-234-9456

E-mail: obtwebmaster@gmail.com website: oregonbuddhisttemple.com

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

Bishop Harada's article proposed two extremes of Buddhist approaches to this kind of social engagement: on one hand, the Vietnamese monks who self-immolated in order to protest discrimination during the Vietnam War, and on the other, the Zen Master Dogen, who intentionally built his monastery far up in the mountains, to separate himself from society at large.

Bishop Harada then points out that there are reasonable justifications for both viewpoints, and that our Temples need to embrace all people, no matter which viewpoint they believe; furthermore, the lesson of the Middle Path would suggest that we avoid the extremes.

This is wisdom I personally take to heart, even if staying on that Middle Path is a challenge!

This morning at Book Club we discussed where the Oregon Buddhist Temple fits in this spectrum of engagement. I think there's some consensus that we've long been engaged in the world, with activities like participating in Pride parades, conscientious recycling, canned food drive, etc. So we have clearly not constructed a monastery hidden in the mountains. And I think it's equally clear that we've never advocated for the kind of dramatic protest as performed by the Vietnamese monks.

We discussed the difference between actions that are perceived as "being political" and actions that may have great

impact, but are not considered as "noisy." For example, quietly helping take care of a family who has lost a breadwinner to deportation may not make the national news, but addresses very real people with dignity and decency.

One extension of Bishop Harada's essay is that, while the Temple may very well have some engagement outside of our Sangha, it's important that we continue to create a warm, welcoming refuge from the stresses of the world at large. In other words, while we may offer volunteer activities or events that directly address emotionally fraught contemporary subjects (such as with last Saturday's Know Your Rights training about immigrant rights), our mission is still to offer services and events that focus on the timeless wisdom of the Dharma, as well as the joy and renewal of Sangha fellowship.

In this way, not only does the Temple travel the Middle Path, but its activities also reflect the great diversity and variety of its members.

As I mentioned in last month's article, I believe we can increase the support we offer to the local immigrant community; our Temple's history as a refuge for Japanese immigrants in the 20th century provides a timely model for this kind of engagement. One member suggested this morning that we create an Ad Hoc committee for this purpose. Many attendees enthusiastically agreed, and I will accordingly propose that idea to the Board.

OBT Upcoming Services		Officiant	Dharma Talk
Feb. 1	Lady Kujo / Lady Ohtani Memorial Service - 10am	Ken Garner	Brenda Fugate
Feb. 8	Nirvana Day Service - 10am	Rev. Ron Kobata	
Feb. 15	Regular Service - 10am	Brenda Fugate	TBD
Feb. 22	Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service - 10am	Rev. Tadao Koyama	
Mar. 1	Regular Service - 10am	Brenda Fugate	Ken Garner
Mar. 8	Regular Service - 10am	Ken Garner	Guest Speaker: Dr. Duncan Williams
Mar. 15	Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service - 10am	Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jeff Wilson	

Jodo Shinshu 101: Rev. Koyama's Monthly Study Classes



These are informal Zoom classes offered on the second Wednesday of each month. Everyone is welcome. Registration is needed just for your first class.

[Click here to register](#)

February Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of February. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held at the February 22 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.

Denny Masaru Ando, 2/2/2004	Yoshizo Ito, 2/1/1995	Fusako Ouchida, 2/12/2023*
Sagoro Asai, 2/18/1969	George Kajiwaru, 2/8/2016	Kayoko Parks, 2/23/1992
Masako Blackmun, 2/21/2018	Mary W Kasubuchi, 2/24/2010*	Sakiyo Sakurai, 2/17/1958
Bob Dorman, 2/1/2009	Mine Katsuro, 2/23/1955	Sayo Shiraishi, 2/23/1952
Sumie Ebihara, 2/1/1957*	Sakae Kobayashi, 2/7/1966	Seigo Sugihara, 2/24/2003
Kikuno Egashira, 2/7/1997	Shozo Maekawa, 2/17/1990	Sen Sunamoto, 2/4/1967*
Reisaku Egashira, 2/16/1978*	Ryoo Maekawa, 2/26/2005	Kazuko Sunamoto, 2/26/2017*
Hiroshi Hyde Fujii, 2/26/2005	Tamuro Miura, 2/13/1966	Mary Tadasumi, 2/23/1954
Yonezo Fred Fujii, 2/21/1973	Jimmy Miyoshi, 2/2/1984	May Takemoto, 2/28/2023*
Yoshino Fujii, 2/16/1963*	Orga Fusae Junie Morishita, 2/27/1997	George Takeo Takeda, 2/27/1992
George S Fujiwara, 2/6/2016	Bessie Shinobu Morita, 2/4/2012	Ishi Takeda, 2/6/1951*
Sachiko Hasuie, 2/14/2019	Dorothy Fujiko Nakagawa, 2/25/2016	Takichi Takemoto, 2/19/1954
Masako Hayashida, 2/3/2004	Kanesuki Nakamura, 2/22/1956	Alice Katsuko Tano, 2/6/2025*
Sachie Yuki Hearing, 2/2/1989	Saya Nakamura, 2/21/1987*	Thomas Takeuchi, 2/20/1990
Shigeru Hironaka, 2/15/2005	Isao Niemi, 2/26/1962	Tomi Tsujimura, 2/25/1983*
Tom Hokama, 2/25/2020	Yasutaro Oguri, 2/1/1961	Chise Uyetake, 2/7/1956*
Ira Honma, 2/27/1988	George Okamoto, 2/1/2008	Sachiko Wakamatsu, 2/13/2024
Sueo Buddy Ikata, 2/27/1992	Tatsu Okita, 2/23/1967*	May Watari, 2/10/2023*
Masaharu Ikeda, 2/21/1975	Haru Okubo, 2/7/2006	Kaye Yamaguchi, 2/13/2021
Nobuko Ishida, 2/11/1973*	Herbert Susumu Osaki, 2/10/2022	Shizuo Yamaguchi, 2/21/1988*
James Kentaro Ishii, 2/27/2010	Marlene (Mo) Osaki, 2/4/2025	Nobuko Yoshida, 2/1973*
	Tome Osaki, 2/1974*	Shuichi Yoshihara, 2/7/1962

* OBWA member

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



Here's some ways you can stay connected to the dharma and to your community:

- Visit the [BCA Connect blog](#) to read and share BCA news, announcements, and articles from *Wheel of Dharma*.
- [Watch videos and live-streams of dharma talks and services throughout the United States.](#)
- Go to the [BCA YouTube channel](#) to view dharma content from throughout BCA.

To join the BCA mailing list:

buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/bca-connect.

Oregon Buddhist Temple

Donations received 12/19/2025 to 1/16/2026

In memory of Todd Lewis

Judy M. Lewis
June & Stan Shiigi
Roberta Ando
Amy Peterson
Elaine Werner
Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa
Diane Ando Harder
Debra Thornton
Susan Endecott
Anonymous
Anonymous

In memory of Jean Matsumoto

Joyce F. Olsen

In memory of Dorothy Fujiko Nakagawa

Nadine Nakagawa

In memory of My Parents

Takako Yamaguchi

SHOTSUKI HOYO

***In memory of Bob Ando, Frank Ando,
Sekitaro Fujii***

Diane Ando Harder

In memory of Alice Tano

Colleen M. Grant

In memory of Yasashi Ichikawa

Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa
Joseph & Lora Wahl

In memory of Takeko Wahl

Joseph & Lora Wahl

In memory of Sakae Ando

Diane Ando Harder

In memory of Tsunetaro Sasaki

Joyce F. Olsen

In memory of Bachan & Pou

Mika & Sayuri

In Honor of Etsu Osaki

OBWA (*Hishinuma Fund*)
Susan Endecott

Special donations

Geo. & Kathleen Anderson Charitable
Trust (*grant*)
Frieda H. Fujikawa Family Trust
James & Judith Nakashima
(*Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Fund*)
Patricia & Jack Semura
John Fial
Etsuko Osaki
Max Parmer
Susan & Clyde Kaneshiro
Lonny Doi
Kiku Hondo
Jae Yong & Marilyn Huh

Year End / New Year

Steve & Clara Pawlowski
Robert & Susan (Ishida) Yoneda
Judy & Paul Hittle
June & Stan Shiigi
Linda & William Tanaka
Diane Ando Harder
OBWA
Julia Yoshimoto & Surinder Singh
Robert Kagawa
Chris Dart
Pat Hokama
Duane Watari
BeeBee Tan-Beck
Hiroko Frederick
Anonymous
Anonymous

New Year party

Roberta Ando
Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa
Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha
Yoshie Kagawa
Kiyomi Dickinson
Katie Tamiyasu
Amy Peterson

Hoonko

Gerald & JoAnn Sumoge
Ronald Kobata
Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha

2025 Annual Pledge

Jack Kostylo
Cheri Yoshida

2026 Annual Pledge

Frieda Fujikawa
Clara & Steve Pawlowski
Susan Leedham
Cheri Yoshida
Mary Ann Yoshida
Stacy Dadfarma
Katie Tamiyasu
S. Bobbin Singh
Gerald & JoAnn Sumoge
Elaine Yuzuriha
Charles Reneau
Kiyomi Dickinson
Nadine Nakagawa
Debra Shimamoto
Yoshie Kagawa
Joseph & Lora Wahl
Judy & Paul Hittle

2025-2026 Monthly Pledge

Diane Ando Harder
Susan Lilly & Erik Ackerson
Glenda Watson-Coly
Jonathan Greenwood
Tom Howard

***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.
sjendecott@gmail.com***

Save the Dates: March 14-15 JEFF WILSON Comes to the OBT



The OBT is privileged to host Jeff Wilson, Jodo Shinshu minister (2012), author, and professor, for a seminar on Saturday, March 14th. Rev Dr. Willson is a popular speaker on N.American culture and Buddhism. Wilson is a professor at the University of Waterloo where he teaches courses on Buddhism, religion in North America, East Asian religion, and theory and method in religious studies. "His research focuses on Buddhism in North American and Hawaii, Japanese Buddhism, and Buddhist engagement with social, political, and environmental issues."* He is noted for his "pioneering work on the history of same-sex marriage in Buddhism, Jodo Shinshu environmentalism, and Buddhist temple economics.**

Wilson has written several books and articles about North American culture. His books include: *Dixie Dharma*, *Mindful America*, *Selected Writings of D.T. Suzuki, Volume III: Comparative Religion*, *Buddhism of the Heart*, *Living Nembutsu*.

"*Living Nembutsu*" is a sourcebook for Jodo Shinshu Buddhists" "looking to apply purblind perspectives to the problems of contemporary society. It lays out concepts and ideas that are central to Pure Land Buddhism but missing from the dominant North American Buddhist conversation (especially in engaged Buddhist circles), ones which offer new ways of thinking and organizing around shared problems." ... *Living Nembutsu* also provides examples of Jodo Shinshu Buddhists in action, working to combat climate change, religious intolerance in prisons, racism, and other challenges.***

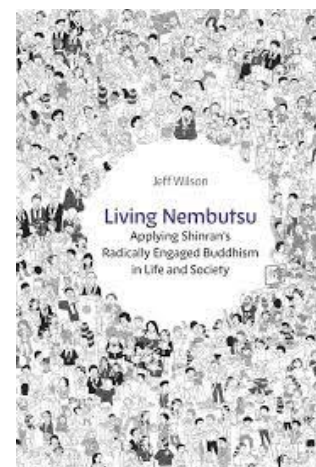
Jeff Wilson will also be our guest speaker at our Sunday service and Dharma Exchange on March 15.

This seminar is fully fund by the George and Kathleen Anderson Charitable Trust, a grant administered KeyBank. The seminar is free and open to the public.

* <https://uwaterloo.ca/religious-studies/news/new-book-our-own-dr-jeff-wilson>

** <https://www.everydaybuddhist.org/blog/engaged-shin-buddhism>

*** excerpt from BCA Connect, Jan. 7, 2026



Living Nembutsu, was reviewed/discussed (several weeks) in Dharma Exchange this past fall.



Kojo no Tsuki (Moon Over Castle Ruins) performers with AI generated background / photo by Todd Yuzuriha
(see original photo on the next page)



OBT New Year's Bento Luncheon Jayne Ichikawa

What is the OBT's annual gathering for greeting the New Year? Yes, the annual New Year's Bento, prepared by Chef Yoshio Matsuzaki, Luncheon for the Sangha which this year was held on January 11, 2026. According to Katie Tamiyasu, who efficiently headed this event, there were 67 delicious bentos sold. Attendees sat at tables that were decorated with beautiful centerpieces with gracefully hand-painted birds delicately wired to create the effect of flying. (The birds represent the six sacred birds of the Amida Kyo – and can be seen on the altar furnishings in the hondo.) Thank you, Maho G. for creating this beautiful work of art.



While everyone was enjoying the lunch, the musical entertainment began led by Todd Yuzuriha., the emcee. Elaine Yuzuriha sang four verses of Kojo No Tsuki accompanied by Ms. Yasuko Fields and Ms. Miyoko Maeda on koto, Ms. Hinaki Takata on violin. Nihon Buyo was

performed by dancers Ann Shintani and Ms. Joy Stafford. A surprise performance was given by Sayoko Kobata who danced the hula. (Please ask Reverend Ron for the name of this musical hula.) The joyful luncheon ended with a sweet sheet cake dessert. It was a wonderful way to begin the 2026 with good friends, delicious food, and special entertainment.

Please look at the many photos of this luncheon on the following page, and videos below taken by Todd Yuzuriha:

2026 OBT New Year's Luncheon selfie video

<https://youtu.be/yLfqzLiFcWm>

Kojo No Tsuki video

<https://youtu.be/nmOgHIC79Jg>



Kojo No Tsuki (Moon Over Castle Ruins)

2026 OBT New Year's Luncheon January 11, 2026

photos by Maho Garner, Shinya Ichikawa, Todd Yuzuriha



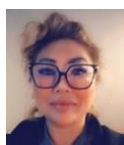
2026 OBT Hoonko (Shinran Shonin Memorial) Service - January 25, 2026

photos by Maho Garner

Hoonko service was chaired by Charles Reneau and organist was Elaine Yuzuriha. Following service, Rev. Koyama conducted the installation of OBT Dharma School teachers, OBWA officers, and OBT board members. Thanks to these volunteers for their support of OBT and everyone's contributions to the Hoonko service.



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



February Reflections

Cheri Yoshida / OBT Board Member

February is often associated with love, and as winter continues, it offers a meaningful opportunity to pause and reflect on the compassion and care we show one another. This month invites us to slow down and focus on understanding—for ourselves and for others. Being a part of the Board has shown me just how much care and dedication exists within our community. Thank you for continuing to lead with empathy and support one another in meaningful ways.

As we move through the month ahead, I wish you moments of warmth, well-being, and continued kindness within our community.



OBWA Report

Amy Peterson

January started off with the **OBWA preparing ozoni** for 50 and serving 35. Thanks to Yasuko for making the chicken dashi for ozoni, even though she couldn't attend. Thanks to all OBWA and January toban for assisting with this. To use the extra mochi we served some suu shoyu along with the left over kamaboko. As we weren't rushed, we were able to be creative with the left overs.

Our former OBWA co-president Katie Tamiyasu once again headed up the **Temple New Year meal**. She is looking for a replacement so if you're interested, please talk to Katie on what is involved. She'll teach you what you will need to do and she'll probably help.

Moving on, our Vice President who also wears many hats for OBWA delivered our donations to the Oregon Food bank with over 400 pounds of food. She also heads up our Care team where we try to keep connected with our members, especially our honored members (those over 88). She made contact with elder members that may not use or have access to computers. She got their interest level, got their addresses and is making sure we are sending out temple newsletters and OBWA meeting minutes to keep them aware and an active part of our organization. On top of that she is also our Social Committee helping us have fun as well. She organized trips to the Japanese American Museum of Oregon, the Yasui exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society, a lunch gathering after the Path to Plenty walk and so much more. Thanks Jayne.

OBWA was pleased to use our funds to help pay for the convection oven replacement and installation. Also, two stainless tables to replace a table the County inspectors suggested we replace before the next food fundraiser. More to come on kitchen improvements.

Unlike other BWA we are gaining membership instead of losing it. We love that we have younger members joining us, helping and hopefully learning what it takes to keep the temple going and not all cooking.

Just a reminder that **Membership dues** are \$20 per year and one of the rewards is a convention stipend for part of the registration. Anyone can be a member per our by-laws.

Your membership dues can be paid at the **Annual New Year party** as well as for the luncheon. See the [OBWA New Year's Party Flyer](#) in this newsletter. We are making a special outreach to our honored members if they need special assistance getting to or from the temple or restaurant. We will have carpooling available from the temple to the restaurant and back. Reservations for lunch or carpooling should be sent to obtlanterns@gmail.com.

In February there will be no regular meeting as zoom meetings have proven difficult for our recording secretaries.



Girl Scouts Troop 43720

Amy Peterson

IT'S GIRL SCOUT COOKIE TIME! It's not too late to order this year's Girl Scout Cookies. We have a new flavor, EXPLOREMORES! Rocky Road ice cream-inspired cookies filled with flavors of chocolate, marshmallow and toasted almond crème.

The Girls are getting their pre-orders in. Pre-orders can be delivered a week earlier than open sales. Cookies will be available after Feb. 15th (we hope, as I'll be at convention) for pre-order pickups.

David Wiper is helping the girls with their building badges. Finally, the Little Library that was presented to the board and approved many years ago will finally be constructed at the last meeting in January. While a location has not been determined it will be outside of the fence for access by the neighborhood. The scouts are looking for appropriate donations to keep the library full. They are working on putting up a box for a book collection.



OBT Board Meeting Summary

Jack Kostylo, OBT Secretary

The OBT Board met on Wednesday, January 7th at 6:30pm. A motion to increase our insurance coverage was passed after a thorough report. The NW District Convention attendance was discussed. Several upcoming services, newsletter articles, and fundraisers were assigned Board members.



Mottainai Craft Group Toyoko Oguri

We kicked off the first meeting of 2026 with a guest presenter, Emi Joyce who is a professional artist specializing in kintsugi, the art of visible mending of pottery emphasizing the beauty of imperfection. The development of the process coincided with tea ceremony culture related to Buddhism. She explained the process of mending broken pottery using all natural materials, which includes urushi, wheat flour, clay, saw dust, and hemp fiber. Once everything is fully cured, the broken pottery is fully waterproof. The mending is a slow process, taking weeks, if not months. There were examples of her work presented in a slide show as well as actual samples that we were able to examine. For those who are interested in learning art, she offers classes at various art workshops throughout the metropolitan area. Contact Emi Joyce at modernkintsugirepairdx@gmail.com.



Prior to Emi's talk, the group members caught up with various projects we are working on, checked the sewing machines and planned on having a future workshop on making happi and yukata.

We welcome requests for custom size happi or yukata. It's never too early to plan to wear for Obon! Donations of kimono, obi, yukata or any Japanese-themed fabric for repurposing are always welcome. If you plan to donate, please let us know who you are, so we can thank you properly. All proceeds from the sale benefit the temple and the women's group (OBWA).

WHAT'S AHEAD

- **February 14 (Saturday) 10:30 to 3** Open regular meeting will be held in the temple basement.
- Workshops to make yukata and happi. We would like to make this available this year. This will be offered as separate workshops and require a series of sessions to complete. If you are interested, email this group.
- Another marbling session at an off-site location.

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





Food Drive for Oregon Food Bank Jayne Ichikawa

Many thanks for the outstanding response by all of you who donated canned goods and non-perishable items for the OBT food drive for the Oregon Food Bank. Thanks also to Grace S. for coordinating help with the Dharma School students and making the Food Drive poster. Shinya and I delivered the items to the Beaverton location of the Oregon Food Bank in our loaded pick-up (see photo) on January 5 and were so impressed with the total weight of the donations -- 427 lbs!



The heartwarming contributions by the Oregon Buddhist Temple Sangha will be greatly remembered and appreciated by the many needy families during this difficult time.



Hiroya Tsukamoto Concert at OBT

January 23, 2026

Photos by Maho Garner

OBT Welcomed guitarist Hiroya Tsukamoto for his third live performance. It was a wonderful opportunity to hear his mastery of fingerstyle guitar. One listener mentioned enjoying the unique composition of his music because it was relaxing and pleasurable, and thought he had a “pleasant sense of empathy with the audience.”

For a sample video follow this [link](#) or hiroyatsukamoto.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=MU90SkZHUUnpJUXVxd0EvVGZDYUo4Zz09>

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.

Registration for the NW District Convention is open!

Register at seattlebetsuin.org/2026-convention



**Northwest District Buddhist Convention
& BCA National Council Meeting**

February 13 - 15, 2026

Hyatt Regency Lake Washington
Renton, WA



Keynote Speaker:
Rev. Melissa Opel



Registration deadline extended to January 19!
convention@seattlebetsuin.org | convention.seattlebetsuin.org

78TH NORTHWEST DISTRICT BUDDHIST CONVENTION & BCA NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING



**78th Northwest District Buddhist Convention &
BCA National Council Meeting**

Renewal: Jodo Shinshu for Today

February 13 – 15, 2026
Hyatt Regency Lake Washington | Renton, WA

Register at seattlebetsuin.org/2026-convention

OREGON BUDDHIST WOMENS' ASSOCIATION 2026 NEW YEAR Celebration

Please join us on February 21, 2026 (Sat) from 11am to 1pm
At Super King Buffet, 5015 SE 82nd Ave., Portland, OR 97266

Lunch: \$26/person (Cash or Check payable to OBWA)

Please RSVP by Feb. 15 (Sun) to Amy Peterson

(Email: obtlanterns@gmail.com or phone: 503-481-0699).

2026 Year of the Horse



令和八年



年男・年女 (Toshi Otoko & Toshi Onna)

If you were born in 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, or 2014, CONGRATULATIONS!

2026 is a year of the Horse, and you are a *toshi otoko* or *toshi onna* this year. It is said that *toshi otoko/toshi onna* are lucky throughout the year.

* *Toshi otoko* (年男) is "a man born in a year with the same Chinese zodiac sign as the current year".

* *Toshi onna* (年女) is "a woman born in a year with the same Chinese zodiac sign as the current year".

****People born in the year of the Horse are believed to be energetic, independent, intelligent, and social. ****

*2026 OBWA Membership Due: \$20/person

Please make your check payable to OBWA and bring it to the party or mail it to the temple address (OBWA, 3720 SE 34th Ave., Portland, OR 97202). Please include your name/address/phone/email for the membership list.

*Carpool from the temple to Super King Buffet

If you want a carpool to Super King Buffet, please RSVP to Amy Peterson (Email: obtlanterns@gmail.com or Phone: 503-481-0699).

***White Elephant gift** - Please bring a white elephant gift for gift exchange.

Currently Seeking

Website Management!

* Graphic Design

* Social Media

contact:

obtwebmaster@gmail.com





**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

Donate at the OBT website

[Oregon Buddhist Temple PayPal](#)

Donate with OBT Square



In gratitude for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple