



OBT established 1903

# PureLand Path



## The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

January 2026



### Happy New Year! It's 2026!

Rev. Tadao Koyama

Happy New Year to the wonderful members of Oregon Buddhist Temple! We made it to 2026! I am ready to begin this year with a new sense of energy! As many of you know,

Rev. Cyndi and I have a baby boy on the way! This will be our first child and we will become parents as well! To say that I am excited and nervous would be an understatement!

While our baby is still a couple of months away from being born, I am beginning to stress about fatherhood and wondering what kind of father I will be. Will I be a good dad?? Many of my close friends know me as kind of a loud, exuberant, loquacious, slightly conceited, person. While I am sure that they love me as I am (hopefully), I need to begin thinking about how I act around my son when he starts getting older.

It is interesting, when I was a child, I almost thought that my parents were basically born, or materialized in this world as fully grown-up, mature adults. It never occurred to me that my parents were once children themselves, and had their own growing up to do. Now I am sure that I will appreciate the ways that they had to be parents and had to act like adults so that my brother and I could act like kids.

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*When we receive things and status  
in life, we should do so with a deep  
sense of humility.*

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The Buddha-Dharma teaches us that all things change. This has to do with our relationships too. We go through so many changes in our relationships to our family and friends. I remember being frustrated as a teenager because I did not have the freedom to do what I want when I want like it seemed my parents were able to do. I remember being in my early 20s and feeling frustrated that I did not have the same amount of money that my parents had or that I had to build my career from the bottom up. It always seemed like my parents had it together.

Since I am about to be a parent now, I can only look back on my past self and realize how foolish my monku (Japanese word for complaining) attitude was. My parents never were truly free to do what they wanted when they wanted because they had to help take care of my brother and me. In fact, they often had to sacrifice much of their free time for the sake of us! Instead of leisurely golfing on weekends, going to the casino, etc., my parents spent many weekends driving my

brother and I to our various extra-curricular activities like acting classes, dance classes, martial arts tournaments, and more! Yes, my parents had more money than me growing up, but so much of that money was spent on me and my brother! Not just essentials like food and clothes, but presents that I am not sure we deserved, and our college education! So much sacrifice so much for us. I am spoiled!

We grew up upper-middle class, so we didn't have the money like Steve Jobs or Bill Gates, but we never went hungry, we never had to worry about losing our house, undergraduate college education was a guarantee for us because my parents sacrificed so much of their personal enjoyments! I am sure that they don't regret this (I hope!), but it is still important for me and my brother to repay this kindness and care. Not only with money, but with genuine gratitude and appreciation.

I write this article because January is also the month of Hōon-Kō, the commemorative service of Shinran Shōnin's (our founder's) passing. The term, Hōon (sounds like Hoh - Own), means "To repay the benevolence". This is the time that Jodo Shinshu members from across Japan and even the world gather at the head temple Nishi Hongwanji to pay their respects to the memory of our founder. We do this because we value our temple and our teachings so much. This community of Oregon Buddhist Temple is here today because of the efforts of Shinran Shōnin.

This time also should remind us to approach our lives by repaying the ones who helped raise us, who nurtured our growth, and enriched our lives with love, presents, and care. We should not go through life thinking that we are owed gifts, money, and power. In truth we should try to think of our lives in a humble way in that we don't "deserve" the advancements that are gifted to us. Don't misunderstand me, I am not saying that we should allow ourselves to be taken advantage of, and that we should let people walk all over us. I am saying that when we receive things, and status in life, we should do so with a deep sense of humility.

With this in mind, I definitely question whether I deserve the privilege of being a father, but I will do my utmost to do the best job I can for my son. This is because my parents did such a wonderful job for me.

Namo Amida Butsu.

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or news about OBT events in your email?

[Click here to join the OBT mailing list](#)



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*"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](mailto:obtwebmaster@gmail.com) website: [oregonbuddhisttemple.com](http://oregonbuddhisttemple.com)

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



**January 2026 President's  
Newsletter**  
**Charles Reneau, OBT President**

At our monthly Shotsuki-Hoyo Services, the officiant reads Renny Shonin's letter *On the White Ashes*, as a reminder of life's

impermanence:

"In silently contemplating the fleeting nature of existence, nothing is more fleeting than our journey through this world. It is as an all too short dream." (From a translation by Rev. Taitetsu Unno.)

Since we Temple goers are so often reminded of the impermanence of life, it should not be a surprise to us to see the world changing around us, right? Of course not!

The world is a roiling chaos, buffeted by gusts from every direction, and as individuals we struggle to keep up. Luckily for us, we have a Temple family to help steady us against the unpredictable flow of current events.

I first served as Temple President in 2022 and 2023. When elected, we were only holding Sunday services remotely, due to Covid. Cathy Yarne was still overseeing the refinishing of our basement (after a city water leak), and we were also struggling with increased trespassing, vandalism, and fires at the Temple property.

In the summer of 2022, Resident Minister Rev. Sugahara began working half time at the Sacramento Betsuin, and he had to leave us the next summer. (We have of course enjoyed Supervising Minister Rev. Koyama immensely since July of

2023, but would like to have a full-time minister!) We learned that we'd need to replace the Temple's roof, and of course I'll never forget the multiple times clogged drain pipes led to overflows of wastewater in our basement.

These were stormy times!

Over the course of my two terms, we began having services again, and held our first Obon Festival since 2019. We installed a new roof, and took the difficult step of fencing in the property; more recently, a neighborhood effort to install and maintain planter barrels has prevented uncontrolled RV camping and dumping along our sidewalk. This year's Obon Festival was a record financial success for us, and of course a lot of fun. The drain pipes haven't even clogged in about a year! (Knock on wood.)

During my first terms I felt like we were working hard to rebuild an in-person sangha at our Temple home, just as the Temple property was itself under constant risk of damage and misfortune. Nowadays, I can feel a change for the positive. It looks like more people are coming to Service, and I hope I can focus on helping us increase our Temple's activities and membership. So I feel very lucky to begin a new term as President during a time of relative peace and stability- at least locally.

Outside our neighborhood, events storm on. Another focus I hope to have this year is on supporting our local community of immigrants. I believe this is consistent with the Dharma and with the immigrant history of our sangha. Exactly how we do this is a conversation that will unfold over time. If you have any proposals or ideas, I'm all ears.

OBT Upcoming Events		Officiant	Dharma Talk
Dec. 31	Year End (Joya-e) Service - 6pm	Ken Garner	Ken Garner
Jan. 1	New Year's Day Service - 10am	Brenda Fugate	Brenda Fugate
Jan. 4	Regular Service - 10am	Ken Garner	Ann Shintani, Kristen Wong
	Regular Service - 10am		
Jan. 11	New Year's Party - 11:30am	Brenda Fugate	Dr. Al Ono
Jan. 18	Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial - 10am	Rev. Ron Kobata	
Jan. 25	Hoonko Special Service - 10am	Rev. Tadao Koyama	

## January Shotsuki Hoyo

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

Listed below are the names of those who passed away starting from 1950. Oregon Buddhist Temple has records from 1904. Names of deceased prior to 1950 are added if requested. If a name is missing or incorrect, please notify the temple at 503 481-0699 or at [obtlanterns@gmail.com](mailto:obtlanterns@gmail.com).

Ukichi Abe, 1/13/1959	Kuni Kitayama, 1/24/1997*	Sachi Onchi, 1/27/2013*
Tora Akiyama, 1/10/1989	Riichi Kiyokawa, 1/19/1989	Tomikichi Osaki, 1/03/1971
Sakae Ando, 1/13/2009*	Yayo Kohara, 1/1/1972	Shizuko Ouchida, 1/25/2012*
Tsuruyo Aoki, 1/23/1992	Jean Kan Lee, 1/23/1989	Ryozo Owada, 1/13/1957
Iuemon Asakawa, 1/06/1960	Patricia Lindemaier, 1/16/2021	John Eldon Peterson, 1/06/2014
Keiko Tomitaka Byrnes, 1/28/2021	Giichi Maehara, 1/30/1950	Yoshiko Kobodo Ponton, 1/27/2023
Jack Kiyoshi Fujii, 1/01/1993	Kanshiro Makita, 1/14/1952	Haruno Saito, 1/06/1963
Matsu Fujinaka, 1/01/1978	Mikiye Matsumoto, 1/04/1999*	May Nobuko Saito, 1/31/2017*
Umeno Fukumoto, 1/25/1989*	Sakaye Mishima, 1/16/1987*	Betty Kasumi Sakurai, 1/05/2003
Shigeichi R Hasegawa, 1/29/1979	Setsuji Miyoshi, 1/05/1974	Saburo Sasaki, 1/08/1959
Kemy Hashimoto, 1/06/2007*	Shizuyo Morikawa, 1/26/1955	Nami Sasaki, 1/12/2015
Mas Hayashi, 1/22/1997	Keiko Morimoto, 1/17/1990	Nobuo "Nobi" Sato, 1/28/1996
Richard Dale Hoverson, 1/22/2005	Yoshio Muraki, 1/17/2004	Sidney Sato, 1/23/1987
Yone Ikata, 1/05/1964*	Hatsue Muramatsu, 1/01/1975*	Reggie Scott, 1/31/2024
Clarence Hisao Ikeda, 1/12/2017	Shoji Muramatsu, 1/04/1975	San Shirahama, 1/07/1951
Kimie Ikeda, 01/04/2007	Sonoe Muraoka, 1/18/2008*	Umeno Shiraishi, 1/02/1974*
Martha Masako Ikeda, 1/06/1978*	Anjiro Murayoshi, 1/21/1955	Eiji Suzuki, 1/07/1963
George Ishida, 1/10/1999	Takejiro Nagahama, 1/29/1982	James Takashima, 1/06/2012
Nobu Ishida, 1/15/1973	Joe Nagaki, 1/10/2006	Ben V Tano, 1/17/2016
Tomeka Ishida, 1/19/1985*	Asajiro Naganuma, 1/11/1964	Ruth Kumiko Tateishi, 1/03/2008
Masako Iwai, 1/23/2008*	Greg Kenji Naganuma, 1/30/2024	Fumie Toyooka, 1/26/2005
Francis Iwamoto, 1/17/2008	Kisano Nakashimada, 1/05/1969*	Fukunosuke Toyota, 1/11/1957
Ito Iwasaki, 1/11/1981*	Masao, Niemi, 1/05/1956	Takashi Uyeda, 1/16/1978
Bobara Jones, 1/20/2012	Rui, Niiyama, 1/28/1954*	Eitaro Wakamatsu, 1/08/1966
Toshimi Kagawa, 1/07/1969*	Robert M Nishimura, 1/12/1996	Wayne Leroy Winner, 1/22/2015
Isa Kimura, 1/10/1983*	Kaz Ochiai, 1/11/2007	Takeichi Yamada, 1/09/1951
Ami Kinoshita, 1/06/2017*	Arie Ohishi, 1/03/1964*	Dale Yamamoto, 1/22/1999
April Kinoshita, 1/29/2009*	Hisashi Okamoto, 1/22/1988	Aiko Yamanaka, 1/19/2001*
Tokuji Kinoshita, 1/18/1953	Harry Okita, 1/24/2007	Utarō Eki Yumibe, 1/22/1952*
	Fumiko Okubo, 1/26/2014*	

\* OBWA member

### Todd James Lewis December 30, 1968 – December 2, 2025



A memorial service for Todd Lewis will take place at the Oregon Buddhist Temple on January 3, 2026 at 2 pm. Todd was born in Ogden, Utah on December 30, 1968 to Byron and Judy Lewis. As a young man he attended and took part in the activities of the Ogden Buddhist Church. He left Ogden for Las Vegas, Nevada and then on to Oregon working in various capacities in the retail and supply sector. He reconnected with Jodo Shinshu at the Oregon Buddhist Temple in 2024, volunteered and participated in many temple events and was married at the temple in March of 2025.

Todd was preceded in death by his father, Byron Milton Lewis and his former partner of 16 years, Albert Hawkins. He is survived by his husband Christopher Schindler, his mother Judy Lewis, brother Jon Lewis, sister Kay Cower and several nieces and nephews. According to Todd's wishes donations may be made to the Oregon Buddhist Temple in lieu of flowers.



**Oregon Buddhist Temple**  
**Donations received 11/15/2025 to 12/18/2025**

***In memory of Jean Matsumoto***

Marlene Moro, Tasha Moro

***In memory of Nobuichi & Harumi Nunotani***

Ken &amp; Bea Saito

***In memory of Eiichi & Haruno Saito***

Ken &amp; Bea Saito

***In memory of Tomo & Fumi Saito***

Ken &amp; Bea Saito

***In memory of Susie Toyoji***

Ken &amp; Bea Saito

***In memory of Irene Junko Stumpf***

Richard D. Stumpf

**SHOTSUKI HOYO*****In memory of Ramon S. Moro***

Marlene Moro, Tasha Moro

***In memory of Kikue Ando***

Roberta Ando

***In memory of Richard Harder***

Roberta Ando

***In memory of Sekitaro Fujii***

Roberta Ando

Diane Ando Harder

***In memory of Frank Ando***

Roberta Ando

Diane Ando Harder

**SHOTSUKI HOYO (continued)*****In memory of Bob Ando***

Roberta Ando

Diane Ando Harder

***In memory of Poh Chye Tan***

BeeBee Tan-Beck

***November Shotsuki Hoyo***

Kiyomi Dickinson

Anonymous

***Bequest from George & Toshie Kawahara***

Estate of Toshie (Sato) Kawahara

***Special donations***

Ronald Iwasaki

Frieda H. Fujikawa Family Trust

Patricia &amp; Jack Semura

Robert &amp; Susan (Ishida) Yoneda (Year end)

Leslie Uyeji (Year end)

Katie Tamiyasu

Julia Yoshimoto &amp; Surinder Singh

Robert &amp; Shannon Harder (Obonfest)

Karen Fullerton

Irish Kuntz (Craft Fair)

Mai Thi La (Craft Fair)

Ikuyo Abe (Craft Fair)

Karol Kennedy

***Eitaikyo***

Ronald Kobata

Alfred Ono

Amy Peterson

Katie Tamiyasu

***Bodhi Day***

Pat Hokama

Dana Kakishita

Diane Ando Harder

Ronald Kobata

Anonymous

***2025 Annual pledge***

Ken &amp; Maho Garner

Mark &amp; Marilyn Achterman

Yasuko Maekawa Fields

Ronald Kobata

Chris &amp; Trina Wong

***2026 Annual pledge***

Setsy &amp; Chip Larouche

Carolyn Saiget

Christine White

Frieda Fujikawa

Stacy Dadfarma

***Monthly/quarterly pledges***

Diane Harder

Paul Nist

***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***

***Thank you for your continued support.***

## Oregon Buddhist Temple Board of Directors / Officers 2026 to 2028

### Term Ending 2026



**Ken Garner**



**Judy Hittle**



**Cathy Yarne**

### Term Ending 2027



**Jack Kostylo**



**Carol Saiget**



**Cheri Yoshida**



**Elaine Yuzuriha**  
(Chief Financial Officer)  
\*non-board member

### Term Ending 2028



**Tom Howard**



**Suniti Kumar**  
(Vice President)



**Paul Nist**  
(Secretary)



**Charley Reneau**  
(President)



### **OBT Board Meeting Summary** **Jack Kostylo, OBT Secretary**

The OBT Board met on December 3rd at 6:30pm. New officers were elected for 2026. The scrip program was voted to be discontinued, several donations were voted on, and a financial self-assessment will occur later this year. Please join us on January 25th for the swearing in of our new Board members!



### **OBT Board and Officers 2026-2028** **Jeff Ichikawa**

Thank you to 2025 officers Judy Hittle (President), Ken Garner (Vice President), Jack Kostylo (Secretary) and Elaine Yuzuriha (Chief Financial Officer) and to the rest of the 2025 OBT Board.

For 2026, thank you to returning board members Charley Reneau (President) and Suniti Kumar (Vice President) as well as new board members Tom Howard and Paul Nist (Secretary.)

The OBT Sangha appreciates all of the Board members' / officers' efforts.



## Mochitsuki 2025: A Celebration of Community and Tradition

Co-Chairs Toyoko Oguri and Debi Shimamoto

Mirror  
Of  
Conscience  
Helping  
Introspection

- MOCHI acronym by Rev. Kobata, Dec. 2025

Thank you to the many volunteers—along with their family members and friends—who helped make Mochitsuki 2025 such a wonderful success. On Sunday the 14th, nearly 100 volunteers came and went throughout the day, working side by side to produce 766 pounds of cooked mochi.

This annual event continues to be a special and meaningful day for our community, bringing people together to reconnect, make new friends, and share in the joy of this cherished Japanese New Year's tradition.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributed their time, energy, and spirit to keep this tradition alive.







## BCA Buddhist Youth Retreat and Reunion

Ann Shintani

Over Thanksgiving weekend, several of OBT's teens participated in the Buddhist Youth Retreat reunion. The Buddhist Youth Retreat is a week-long activity, hosted by the Buddhist Churches of America, and held in the Jodo Shinshu Center, in Berkeley, California. There, they receive instruction and meet Jodo Shinshu ministers, volunteers and staff, including having conversations over delicious meals, singing karaoke, and doing other youth-centered activities with Buddhist youth from across the US. Here are thoughts from our youth participants:

"It's a good place to see old friends and make new friends." – **Hajime**

"Being a Buddhist teenager in Oregon it always felt like there was only a handful of people like me, going to BYR gave me the opportunity of meeting people like me. It not only gave me good friends that I will cherish for life, but also gave me pride in my own religion. BYR is an experience that truly changed my life, and I know it did for many others too." – **Davis**

"The BYR reunion retreat is probably my most favorite event that I look forward to. We do activities that have a Buddhist undertone or just a straight-up Buddhist activity. We chant and hear service. We learn how the service works and how to run service as well. I have met a bunch of life-long friends through BYR. Recommend going if you are of high school age. 10/10." – **Haruki**



## Dharma School and Girl Scouts Intergenerational Event

Story and photos by Marilyn Achterman

A new realm was awakened with the introduction of our treasured member, Mr. Kats and he shared his knowledge, skills and humor with the Dharma School and Girl Scouts.

We learned the difference between a Japanese handsaw and an American hand saw; one you push and the other you pull. Did you know there are many different types of nails? Every student had hands on experience operating a power drill.

It opened up a new world for us. We learned about safety and the purposes of different hand tools and power tools.

It was a gathering of all generations of the temple.





## OBT Bodhi Day Evening Service

Jeff Ichikawa / Photos by Maho Garner

OBT held its annual Bodhi Day evening service on Saturday evening, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Ann Shintani and the Dharma School created a peaceful ambiance in the darkened Hondo by lining the walkways with votives, and along with the rest of the Sangha participated in walking meditation.

Jack Kostylo (first as “Thomas” the time traveler and later as himself) gave Dharma talks to both the Dharma School

students and the adults. Jack pointed out that according to the Buddha, people in different times in the past encountered many of the similar problems that we face. One of the things we can do is “[Get The Message](#)” (as communicated by the Sagitarrius song during service) by listening to the Buddha’s message of love.

As in past years, the Sangha then enjoyed a potluck dinner together in the social hall to finish up the Bodhi Day evening.



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*“It was a different service.  
Together at an odd time,  
choosing each other, walking  
around in the dark wishing the  
best for everyone. It was just  
plain special.” -- Jack Kostylo*

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### Girl Scouts Troop 43720 Amy Peterson

This month the girls voted to make cinnamon ornaments and also Rice Krispie treats for themselves and well as Rice Krispie treats to donate.



Knowing about food preferences and allergies the Rice Krispie treats were made Vegan and gluten free which made them open to more people. As our sister troop 30003 had voted to do the same thing using regular Rice Krispie treats, we were able to share and deliver 3 batches of treats to the Raphael house of Portland for women and families of domestic violence and also 3 batches to New Avenues for Youth in SE Portland for homeless and at-risk teens. Both organizations were very happy to receive the fresh treats they could serve to their residents.

They'll soon be gearing up to sell Girl Scout Cookies next year. Pre-orders will be available from Jan 6 to Jan 20th for delivery after Feb .15. Orders not received by then will have to wait for delivery until after June 20th when cookies go on open sales.

Girl Scout Cookies are \$6 per box.



### Mottainai Craft Group 2025 Highlights Debi Shimamoto

The Mottainai Craft Group had a busy and rewarding year in 2025, filled with workshops, creative exploration, and successful sales events focused on repurposing donated materials.

#### 2025 Activities

- **February:** Sashiko Workshop
- **March:** Mini-Temari Workshop
- **June:** Fabric Marbling Workshop (off-site)
- **July:** Kimono Pre-Sales during Obon practice days
- **August:** Big Kimono Sale during Obon
- **November:** Participation in the Holiday Craft Fair

#### Creative Projects & Experimentation

We continue to explore new ways to repurpose donated clothing and fabric. This year, we were especially pleased with the results of marbling tabi, obi fabric, and cloth remnants.

Members created new obi styles by arranging and sewing together remnant fabrics, and silk kimono remnants were combined to make scarves. Experimentation with materials and techniques remains an important and ongoing part of our work.

#### Working Together

While sewing is often a solitary activity, working as a group provides companionship, idea-sharing, and creative challenges. Our projects require ample space to spread out tables and equipment, and we are very grateful for the use of the **temple basement**, which offers a large, safe, and comfortable environment for our activities.

#### With Gratitude

We sincerely thank everyone who donates **kimono, yukata, obi, and accessories**, which help make our Obon sales possible. **Fabric donations** are also greatly appreciated and are used to create items such as **happi jackets, yukata, head coverings, onenju cases**, and more. All proceeds benefit the temple and the women's group (OBWA). Your continued support makes our work possible.

#### What's planned for 2026:

- **January 21, Wednesday**, we will have a special guest who will give a talk on **kintsugi**, the art of visible mending of pottery using urushi lacquer. For those who are interested in learning about this craft, save the date!
- **February 14, Saturday**, open regular meeting will be held in the temple basement from 10:30 to 3 pm.
- Workshops to make yukata and happi. We would like to make this available in 2026. This will be offered as separate workshops and require a series of sessions to complete. If you are interested let us know. Planning this will be based on the number of requests.
- Another marbling session at an off-site location.

Contact the group for any questions at [mottainaicraftgroup24@gmail.com](mailto:mottainaicraftgroup24@gmail.com).

**Don't miss the chance to order your**

**OBT New Year's Party Bento!**

**prepared by Chef Yoshio Matsuzaki**

**See order form on [page 15](#)**



## Happy New Year from OBWA

Jeanette Hager

First, we wish to thank our members for their dedication and all that they do for OBWA and OBT. Every one of OBT's Sangha members create the energy of compassion that surrounds us, our communities and world-wide.

2025 was such a momentous and busy year! Just a few of our activities...

- Celebration of our Temple holidays (New Year's, Lady Kujo/Lady Ohtani and Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorials, Hoonko, Obon)
- Supporting our favorite activities including cooking and eating (Mochitsuki, Obon, contributing to the replacement of the OBT kitchen oven, making 151 jars of fukujinzuke in September, etc.)
- Giving in gratitude to others who are most in need in our communities including donations to the Path of Plenty and the Oregon Food Bank, Raphael House and more.
- Being most grateful to Sensei Koyama, Sensei Kobata, Minister's Assistants and all those who teach us in our encounters.

Upcoming in 2026 and beyond:

- **Northwest District Convention, February 13-15, 2026 in Renton, WA:** The Northwest District Convention will be held at the Hyatt Regency Lake Washington in Renton, WA. OBWA will be subsidizing \$140 of the registration of current 2025 OBWA members to encourage participation. The early bird pricing of **\$275 ends January 12, 2025**. After January 12th, adult registration is \$325 after January 12th). Please register for and pay for the registration online and submit a copy of your registration to Diane Harder for reimbursement. For the register link/QR code, go to: <https://seattlebetsuin.org/2026-convention/>
- **OBWA 2026 New Year's Celebration, Saturday, February 21, 2026 at Super King Buffet:** For 2026 Year of the Horse, OBWA will be celebrating New Year's at Super King Buffet, 5015 SE 82nd Avenue from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The cost is \$26 per person. Please see the OBWA New Year's flyer created by our talented Kiyomi.
- **18th World Buddhist Women's Convention, September 11-12, 2027 in Honolulu, HI:** The WBW's Convention will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Waikiki Beach Resort, Hilton Hawaiian Village, 2005 Kalia Road, Honolulu, HI 96815. Registration is now open. For more information please visit [www.hawaiibwa.org](http://www.hawaiibwa.org)

On behalf of OBWA, we look forward to being together in 2026 and wish all of you the very best!

Namo Amida Butsu

Gassho,

Jeanette & Amy & The 2026-2027 Slate of OBWA Officers

**Know Your Rights Event Jan. 10****Marleen Wallingford**

Immigration enforcement has dramatically changed in the past year. Learn about what powers the federal government has and what your rights are. Learn how to protect yourself. Learn how to support our immigrant neighbors.

## Know Your Rights

1-5 pm, Saturday, January 10, 2026  
Oregon Buddhist Temple  
3720 SE 34th Ave, Portland

Every person who lives in the United States has constitutional rights regardless of immigration status. You need to understand your rights. Know Your Rights and Legal Observation training followed by a discussion about ways to educate and support our communities. Registration required by Jan 5th

Register online: [Registration](#), [marleenwong@gmail.com](mailto:marleenwong@gmail.com) or 503-927-2766





## ***History of the Buddhist Churches of America – Celebrating 125 Years***

This video was created by Rev. Kodo Umezu for BCA's 125<sup>th</sup> year anniversary and is on BCA's YouTube channel. Thanks to the [Seattle Betsuin](#) for sharing.

**[Watch BCA: Celebrating 125 Years on YouTube](#)**







Dear Oregon Buddhist Womens Assn,

On behalf of all of us at Buddhist Global Relief, I sincerely thank you for your generous donation of \$1,335.00 dated 11/15/2025.

Your donation testifies to your solidarity with the mission of Buddhist Global Relief, which is dedicated to uplifting and transforming the lives of people around the world. Our work reaches people living under the most desperate conditions, people struggling to overcome the adversity of chronic hunger, malnutrition, and debilitating poverty. Your donation will help to give them a new lease on life, pulling them up from the pits of desperation and affirming their inherent dignity.

As you may know, we pursue our mission along four tracks: providing direct food assistance to the hungry, promoting the education of poor girls, enabling disadvantaged women to receive vocational training and start right livelihood projects, and supporting environmentally sustainable methods of agriculture, so critical in countering climate change. We assure you that we will be using your donation to fulfill these four objectives in the most effective and responsible ways available to us.

In his sermons, the Buddha says that one of the marks of the truly great person is a concern for the welfare of the entire world. With your donation, you have demonstrated this concern. May you rejoice in knowing that your donation will be benefiting people around the world that you may never meet in person, but who will be grateful to you for your kindness and generosity of heart.

May you and your family experience abundant blessings and enjoy good health and the fulfillment of all your virtuous aspirations.

With loving-kindness,



Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi Chairperson

Please keep in touch with us! As a BGR subscriber, you will receive by email our quarterly bulletin "Helping Hands" updates about the projects that you are supporting, and occasional Dharma offerings in the form of links to audio and video talks by our advisers. To subscribe, please go to our website at [www.buddhistglobalrelief.org](http://www.buddhistglobalrelief.org) in the "Contact Us" section. If your donation to BGR was made online, you are automatically subscribed.

## 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](mailto: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=EeovifEdmbgAgQUoFXpEC1RAQrzPP1.1>

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](mailto: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.



**5th Annual  
BCA Virtual  
Art Exhibition**

Paula Pietranera (SF Zen Center)



Some of the past art works will be featured in BCA Calendar 2026!  
[www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/bcart-exhibit-2025](http://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/bcart-exhibit-2025)

Patricia Miyake Wakida (Oakland Temple)



# OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

## *New Year's Service & Party*

*Sunday, January 11, 2026*

*Come celebrate the New Year*

*10:00 a.m. Service & 11:30 a.m. Party*

*Bento Lunch by Chef Yoshio Matsuzaki*

*\$35.00 per person*

*Please use the form below for Ordering. Deadline: January 2, 2026*

*\*\*\* Vegetarian Bentos are available, Specify on Order Form \*\*\**

*Pizza will be provided for children not ordering bento. (Specify head count on order form below)*

## OBT New Year's Bento Order Form

Participant's name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ X \$35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (# of Bentos)

DONATIONS are Appreciated \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Cash or Check ONLY Please. Make check payable to OBT)

Pizza head count, please specify the number of children # \_\_\_\_\_  
 attending but not ordering Bento.

For questions, please contact Katie Tamiyasu, 503-781-9162 or kekik@comcast.net

Oregon Buddhist Temple

3720 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue

# Hiroya Tsukamoto

A Journey Through Strings and Stories

Friday  
January 23, 2026  
7:00PM

at Oregon Buddhist Temple  
3720 SE 34th Avenue, Portland, OR  
1/2 block south of Powell Blvd

for more information please go to  
OBT and Hiroya Tsukamoto Websites

[www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/hiroyatsukamotoconcert2026](http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/hiroyatsukamotoconcert2026)

[hiroyatsukamoto.com](http://hiroyatsukamoto.com)

\$25.00



Tickets available at OBT Square Store

[www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/hiroyatsukamotoconcert2026](http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/hiroyatsukamotoconcert2026)

[hiroyatsukamoto.com](http://hiroyatsukamoto.com)

## Registration for the NW District Convention is open!

Register at [seattlebetsuin.org/2026-convention](https://seattlebetsuin.org/2026-convention) by Jan 12 for Early bird rates



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

**February 13 - 15, 2026**  
Hyatt Regency Lake Washington  
Renton, WA



**Keynote Speaker:**  
Rev. Melissa Opel



**Early bird registration ends Jan. 12!**  
[convention@seattlebetsuin.org](mailto:convention@seattlebetsuin.org) | [convention.seattlebetsuin.org](https://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 HERE**



## 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.



**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 34<sup>th</sup> 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