

Welcoming our New Resident Minister, Reverend Vonn Magnin



OBT established 1903

PureLand Path



The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

June 2026



Thank You to a Wonderful Temple Rev. Tadao Koyama

Dear Oregon Buddhist Temple. This June's newsletter article will be my final message to you as your supervising minister. It has been a delight to serve this temple and to get to know all the sangha members. Every month I make the 2 hour drive down to Portland and it gives me plenty of time to contemplate about my life and all of the encounters of the Dharma I have experienced. This is definitely a bittersweet moment for me as I am sad that I won't be able to come down as frequently as I have in the past, but also that I will be able to spend more time with my family.

I never thought that I would be assigned as your supervising minister when I first arrived at the Tacoma Buddhist Temple. I soon came to realize that even temples within the same district can be very different in culture, and in their needs. When I was assigned, I still considered myself somewhat of a young minister (even though I wasn't) and thought I could tackle everything by myself. How wrong I was. While I definitely acted as your supervising minister, I heavily relied on wonderful people like Brenda Fugate and Ken Garner to assist me with getting things ready for service. Without them, there is no way I would have been able to function.

I have also enjoyed getting to know so many members of this temple and interacting with you at social events and seminars. For sure, this is not goodbye, but see you soon! I look forward to continuing to see you at Northwest convention, and please visit me in Tacoma if you are on vacation in Washington. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your kindness, generosity, and for all of your hard work to help me and Rev. Cyndi feel so welcome.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate and welcome Rev. Vonn Magnin from Arizona. He and I actually go way back because we were both ordained (received Tokudo) together in Kyoto Japan. He has diligently served the Arizona Buddhist Temple as a Kyoshi minister's assistant and I have no doubt in my mind that he will be a wonderful minister to you all. Please support Rev. Magnin and his wife Karen as they begin their new journey in Oregon.

For all of the wonderful sangha members it has been a privilege to serve you for the little time that I did, and I certainly look forward to seeing you all again soon. Domo Arigatou Gozaimashita. Namu Amida Butsu



On Precious Treasures Charles Reneau, OBT President

There was a funny, memorable moment at this February's BCA National Council Meeting. This annual meeting of Temple Presidents and BCA Ministers is mostly dry: a litany of reports from various arms of the institution and the discussion of various resolutions and budgets. A more contentious discussion involved voting on the BCA Ministerial Affairs Committee's salary and benefits guidelines, which recommended increasing the salary rate for full-time ministers. The president of one smaller Temple spoke about the difficulty of raising money to cover this expense. In response, one minister suggested that some such Temples are so remote that they should offer increased pay as an inducement. Finally, several of us lay leaders from slightly larger Temples spoke about viewing their minister as "assets," or "investments."

At this point, Rev. Henry Adams, Rinban of the San Jose Betsuin and Chair of the Minister's Association, gently pointed out that he could sense the ministers in the room becoming uncomfortable being described as "assets or investments" and suggested an alternative from Buddhist literature: "precious treasures." This comment caused a lot of chuckles and broke some of the tension in the room, and I think most of us thought it was pretty funny- over the rest of the weekend, I heard numerous attendees approvingly joke about our precious treasures.

The comment was also serious. In a religious tradition that prizes both human connection and "listening to the Dharma," precious treasure is the perfect way to describe our ministers: people who choose listening to and teaching about the Dharma as their life's work.

On this note of precious treasures, I have wonderful news to share: **next month we will welcome our new Resident Minister, Reverend Vonn Magnin.** The official handoff will occur at our Sunday Service on July 12th, at which Rev. Koyama and Rev. Magnin will both officiate.



I'd like to introduce Rev. Vonn Magnin. He was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona, and has been married to his wife Karen, an educator, for 29 years. They have two adult sons, one of whom lives in the Portland area, as well as two very cute dogs (I've seen pictures). *(continued)*

"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](https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com) 503-234-9456
E-mail: obtwebmaster@gmail.com website: [oregonbuddhisttemple.com](https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com) - [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) - [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/oregonbuddhisttemple) - [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/oregonbuddhisttemple)
Please contact the temple with any comments, questions or concerns, or if you wish to report a change of address.

(continued. from p.1) A long-time attendee of the Arizona Buddhist Temple, he received Tokudo ordination in 2014 and his Kyoshi certificate in 2022. He has several degrees: a Bachelors of Social Work and a Masters in Public Administration from Arizona State University, as well a Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies from the BCA's sister Institute of Buddhist Studies in May 2026. Rev. Magnin is a US Marine veteran, and enjoys science fiction.

As we look forward to welcoming a new Resident Minister, I would be remiss to forget the small team of precious treasures who have helped provide religious leadership for the last three years. So I'd like to express the Sangha's deepest gratitude to our Supervising Minister Rev. Koyama, Rev. Emeritus Kobata, Rev. Emeritus Nishiyama and Minister's Assistants Brenda Fugate and Ken Garner. We are so very grateful for helping us to listen to the Dharma together!

	OBT Upcoming Services	Officiant	Dharma Talk
June 7	Regular Service - 10am	Brenda Fugate	Dr. Al Ono
June 14	Regular Service - 10am	Ken Garner	Jack Kostylo
June 21	Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service - 10am	Brenda Fugate	Dr. Al Ono
June 28	Regular Service - 10am	Rev. Koyama	Rev. Koyama
July 5	Regular Service - 10am	Ken Garner	TBD
July 12	Regular Service - 10am followed by Rev. Koyama Farewell / Rev. Magnin Welcome Gathering	Rev. Koyama Rev. Magnin	Rev. Koyama
July 19	Hatsubon and Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service - 10am	Rev. Magnin	Rev. Magnin

Thank you, Supervising Minister Rev. Koyama - for your support of OBT

photos by OBT sangha



June Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of June. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held at the June 21 Sunday service at 10 am. Please join us and offer incense in memory of your relative(s) or friends.

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

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

Ushichi Akiyama, 6/12/1967	Makoto Kanno, 6/07/1993	Misuyo Okamoto, 6/4/1997*
Matsu Asai, 6/12/1967	Corky Tokuyoshi Kawasaki, 6/07/2001	Misu Okawa, 6/18/1978*
Benzo Aso, 6/25/1963	Hugh Ryunyo Gerald King, 6/28/2014	Shiz Onishi, 6/2/2006*
Mary Nakata Fujii, 6/30/2017	Kise Kinoshita, 6/7/1989*	Richard Akira Onishi, 6/8/2024
Seiichi Fujii, 6/25/1963	Teddy Kinoshita, 6/6/1956	Hajime Ota, 6/24/1987
Shigeo Fujikawa, 6/1/2021	Yone Matsubu, 6/5/1964*	Yoshio Joe Sato, 6/12/1975
Harry Hare Gekko, 6/12/2004	Denishiro Matsuda, 6/05/1956	Mary Miyeko Shido, 6/15/2000
Tokuichi Hamada, 6/01/1972	Soichi Mayeda, 6/26/1973	Asa Shiiki, 6/04/1991
Adolph Hanning, 6/01/1953	Aster Mishima, 6/7/1983*	Kiyokichi Shinoka, 6/03/1959
Kimie Harada, 6/16/2005*	Charlotte Ann Mishima, 6/17/1961	Chiyo Shiogi, 6/9/1999*
Tsune Hasegawa, 6/13/1953*	John Mishima, 6/23/2010	Kimiko Steel, 6/5/2021
Daniel Tamio Hasuike, 6/29/2024	Kumiko Shirozu Ike Mishima, 6/9/2024*	George Yoshio Sumino, 6/27/1996
Grace Hasuike, 6/11/2020	Toku Miyoshi, 6/9/1987*	Kagi Suzuki, 6/08/1984
Torazo Hasuike, 6/30/1967	Henry Muramatsu, 6/15/2016	Hachiro Takao, 6/26/1962
Jimmy Tatsuo Hondo, 6/17/2024	Frank Y Naganuma, 6/17/1997	"Tad" Tadashi Takeuchi, 6/25/1997
Mas Hondo, 6/26/2004	Kiyokichi Niioka, 6/3/1959	Eric M. Tamiyasu, 6/30/2001
Ed Honma, 6/6/1996	Tanezo Niiyama, 6/07/1984	Mariko Uyeda, 6/28/1955
Yone Ikata, 6/5/1964*	Yukiyo Ninomura, 6/16/1972*	Yoneko Yada, 6/10/2006
Yoshiko Ito, 6/21/2020	Kiyoshi Nishikawa, 6/10/1979	Mary Yamaguchi, 6/20/2017
Mura Kaga, 6/24/1955*	Kiyokichi Nitta, 6/03/1959	Judith Michie Yamauchi, 6/12/2022
John Masaaki Kagawa, 6/13/2001	Kuni Oguri, 6/29/1959*	Shizue Yasui, 6/29/2013*

* 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 4-17-2026 to 5-17-2026

In memory of Russell Kaneshiro

Susan & Clyde Kaneshiro
Michael & Kimberly Hanabusa

In memory of Sharon Saito Gattis

Diane Ando Harder
Merianne & Jimmy Nagae

In memory of Hiroshi Ogawa

Lynn & Scott Grannan

In memory of Robert Murase

Lynn & Scott Grannan

In memory of father, Isamu Iwamoto

Hideto Iwamoto

SHOTSUKI HOYO

In memory of Yoshio Urushitani

Connie Masuoka

In memory of Susanne Sasaki Myers

Joyce F. Olsen

In memory of Mitsuko Hasuike

Henry & Betty Young

In memory of Grace Hasuike

Henry & Betty Young

SHOTSUKI HOYO (continued)

In memory of Dan Hasuike

Henry & Betty Young

In memory of Jean Matsunaga

Janice Okamoto

In memory of Lay Hoon Looi

BeeBee Tan-Beck

In memory of Pou & Bachan

Mika & Sayuri

May Shotsuki hoyo

Kiyomi Dickinson

Special donations

Julia Yoshimoto & S. Bobbin Singh

Etsuko Osaki

Carolyn M. Okita (*Spring Bazaar*)

Kaoru Hori (*Thank you*)

Dana Kakishita (*Mother's Day*)

Anonymous

Hanamatsuri

Katie Tamiyasu

Pat Hokama

Shinya & Jayne Ichikawa

Diane Ando Harder

Anonymous

Gotan-e

Rev. Ronald Kobata

Elaine & Todd Yuzuriha

Dana Kakishita

Diane Ando Harder

Pat Hokama

2026 Annual pledge

Betty Hasuike Young

Lily Meiners

Monthly/quarterly/semi-annual pledge

Diane Ando Harder

Susan Lilly & Erik Ackerson

Tom Howard

Glenda Watson-Coly

Pat Hokama

Jonathan Greenwood

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

Please inform us of any significant error or omission. sjendecott@gmail.com



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

[Donate](#)

[Learn More](#)



Obon Fest 2026 - Join the Celebration

Kim Kono & Charles Reneau
Obon Co-chairs

Obon, Obon—it's festival day! Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 1, 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. as we come together for OBT's biggest fundraiser and community celebration of the year. Planning is underway, and Obon comes to life thanks to the energy of dedicated members and volunteers who cook, organize the kimono and omiyage shops, create beautiful lantern calligraphy, and coordinate temple talks and performances. We're also deeply grateful for the generosity of individual donors and vendor supporters. Their contributions help underwrite food and event expenses, allowing us to raise even more funds in support of OBT. Please keep an eye out for donor sign up sheets at the temple.

As always, the festival will be filled with delicious Japanese festival foods, vibrant performances, and meaningful temple talks. And to cap it all off, everyone is invited to join in Bon Odori dancing—a joyful tradition honoring the memory of our departed loved ones and celebrating community together.

Visit the OBT website for the latest festival updates:
<https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/obon-festival>

We'll be looking for lots of helping hands—especially in the days leading up to Obon and in the food booths on event day! Volunteer sign-ups will be posted on Signup Genius soon, but in the meantime please consider signing up on this Google Forms page to indicate your interests/preferences:
[2026 Obon Fest Volunteer Survey](#)

Please help us spread the word to friends and family, invite them to volunteer, and encourage them to join the festival fun. Thank you so much for your support—we can't wait to celebrate with you!

In Gassho,
Kim Kono & Charley Reneau, Obon Co-chairs



Omiyage Donations

Susan Leedham

It's that time of year again: Spring cleaning! We're looking for items to sell in Omiyage. Most anything Japanese sells best like dishes, serving pieces and art.

We are also interested in gently used decorative and kitchen items, toys and jewelry. Please no shoes or clothing other than T-shirts with Asian designs. And please no furniture, as we don't have room to store big items.

We are putting donations in the Mabel Boggs room. If you have any questions or need help with pickup or drop-off, my cell phone number is 503-803-1041, and my email address is leedhamreporting@comcast.net.

Thank you!



Obon Lanterns

Amy Peterson

We are starting to receive Obon Lantern orders for New and Lantern Rehangs. See the [attached flyers](#) in the back of this newsletter. Mail orders to OBT 3720 SE 34th Ave. Portland, OR 97202.

New Lanterns are \$35 per lantern and rehangs are \$20 per lantern. Lantern orders are also available online at www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/obon-lanterns. Deadline for New Lanterns is July 22nd, 2026. Deadline for rehangs is July 24th. Please share this info with friends.

Any questions about lanterns please direct questions to OBTLANTERNS@gmail.com.

Hopefully there will be a map at the information desk for lantern locations. All new lanterns will be in one row and all other family lanterns will be grouped together.



ObonFest 2026 - Join Our Donor's Circle or Make a Gift

Kim Kono

This is OBT's biggest event of the year, drawing hundreds of people to our temple's OBON celebration. Whether you're a returning guest or visiting for the first time, you'll be amazed by the delicious food, lively entertainment, joyful dancing, and vibrant community spirit.

Obon is also our largest annual fundraiser. It takes a lot of planning, hard work, and support to make it a successful event. One meaningful way you can help is by making a donation to offset some of our many expenses.

Look for one of the large yellow "OBON" folders at the temple and sign up to an item. Donation amounts range from \$25 - \$250. You won't need to shop - just identify the item(s) you'd like to cover.

Alternatively, you can join our Donor's Circle: Diamond @\$1000, Platinum @\$500, Gold @\$300, Silver @\$200 or Bronze @\$100.

You can make your donation by cash or check (mailed to the temple), or on the [OBT website](#) noting what it is for (PayPal or OBT Square Shop). All donations are gratefully appreciated and will be acknowledged in the temple newsletter.

Questions: KONO4189@comcast.net

Note: Interested in signing up as an [Obon Volunteer](#), dancing in [Bon Odori](#) practices, or purchasing an [Obon Lantern](#) for a loved one? See the [Obon Fest notices](#) in the back of the newsletter.

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



Carrying OBT's Vision Forward **Thomas Howard**

How to become involved is a frequently asked question by newcomers and others at Oregon Buddhist Temple. It wasn't long before a whole variety of ways to connect presented itself.

OBT is about building community through a life of gratitude for Amida Buddha's compassion. This year on Memorial Day I reflected on all those who have gone before us. Their sacrifice and hard work have kept this vision alive even through difficult times. It is up to us to be a part of that vision and keep it alive.

Be a part of carrying this vision forward however you are able. If you are in a position to do so you might consider a yearly pledge either one time or quarterly. No matter what you choose - thank you.

With palms together.
Namu Amida Butsu

had lots of great white elephant prizes and wonderful chicken Udon (and Vegan/Vegetarian). We make a Vegan option that can be enhanced to add some vegetarian toppings.

We heard from a Sangha member about the CREW organization that helps newly released inmates from Coffee Creek. We want to help keep them safe from Human Traffickers and help them get to a safe new site. We'll be taking donations for clothing, personal care items, new or gently used clothing of all sizes. Please watch for informational flyers in the basement.

We're looking forward to our Mottainai group's Kimono/Yukata dressing 101 but attendance will be very limited.

Many of our members are excited to attend the 18th World Buddhist Women's Convention in Hawaii, Sept 11-12th, 2027. Please check this link to register:

<https://hawaiibwa.org/world-convention-2027/>

Please let us know if you need help registering, session reservations or room sharing.

We also have the 48th Federation Buddhist convention in San Diego, CA theme of "To Remember As We Build for Tomorrow" which will be held on Oct. 2-4, 2026.

<https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/fbwa>

Remember anyone can join OBWA and join our fun like Thomas Howard who joined us for chow mein fundraiser, then made the Udon for our Fun Raiser. Welcome our newest member.

We're getting ready to plan our food and food prep for this year's OBON. Contact Robbi Ando for questions about food booths and volunteering. Mochi for Daifuku will start in July. Mochi prep will be on selected Wednesdays in July.

Our annual trip to volunteer at the Oregon Food Bank had to be rescheduled for September. This is great fun and helps families in our area fight their food insecurity.

Please join us in our fun activities as we support the temple. OBWA funds go to enhance the temple and bring fellowship to our Sangha.



OBWA Report **Amy Peterson**

April was a busy month with the Chow Mein Fundraiser. It started late, but finished with a bang. The Fancy Sushi was a big hit and we're making more chow mein and will have a more seasoned crew. Watch for it on the community calendar next spring.

The OBWA is doing a lot of out-reach and having a great time visiting our homebound friends, this time with our chow mein and Inari. They were appreciative and we were happy to see them, especially as we were able to give Birthday wishes to a few that celebrated in April and May. Let us know if someone you know needs some company from OBWA.

The following week we had an Udon Bingo FUN Raiser. We

We are looking for Obon Fest volunteers!

Let us know your preferences and receive updates:

[click here](#)





OBT Donation Drive for CREW
Julia Yoshimoto

From June 7 through June 28, we are collecting donations for CREW (Connecting Resources to Empower Women), a relatively new organization that provides critical support to women upon release from Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCF) to ensure a safe and successful return to the community. CCCF is Oregon’s only women’s prison and is located in Wilsonville.

Incarcerated women are not only set up to fail on their first day out of prison but are also highly susceptible to victimization, such as trafficking and abuse. Most women leave prison with minimal resources and support. Many are released from prison wearing a gray sweatsuit and with nothing more than a clear garbage bag with their belongings and a card loaded with the small amount of funds they were able to save while in prison. Many women, most of whom are unfamiliar with the Wilsonville- or Portland-area, are left at a bus stop outside the prison and are expected to get themselves to parole offices throughout Oregon, often many hours and multiple transfers away. Women in this situation are easily identifiable by traffickers and others looking to take advantage of them as having just released from prison and in a vulnerable state.

CREW and their volunteers “are fighting for women – and [they] won’t stop. No more bus stops. No more train stations.

No more sex trafficking brands and gang tattoos. No more abuse. No more silence.” CREW is committed to ensuring that every woman who releases from CCCF is greeted, celebrated and encouraged at the prison gate; provided a duffle bag/small suitcase of clothing, hygiene products and other basic needs; and has a safe ride to their required parole officer appointment and to their approved housing. They also offer tattoo cover-ups of trafficking brands or gang-related tattoos.

There are many ways to support CREW, but right now, they are most in need of:

- Monetary donations. Cash Accepted. Checks payable to “Transformative Justice Community” with “CREW” written on the memo line. Or, donate at [tjcoregon.org/donate](https://www.tjcoregon.org/donate) and select CREW.
- Gas cards. The cost of gas is rising and so is the need.
- Full-sized hygiene products, i.e., shampoo, soap, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.
- New bras, underwear, socks, and shoes.

We will be collecting monetary donations in the temple lobby. For donated items, look for a donation box in either the temple lobby or in the basement.

For more information about CREW, visit: <https://www.tjcoregon.org/crew>.

Thank you!



Launching Monthly Food Drives
Suniti Kumar

Starting in May 2026, Oregon Buddhist Temple will be collecting food for the Oregon Food Bank every month, timed with our Shotsuki Hoyo Services.

Food Banks have long been a vital stopgap measure in the prevention of hunger. As many families face greater financial strain than ever before, food banks have seen their shelves empty at a concerning rate. Your contributions in these times are greatly appreciated.

Donated foods should be shelf-stable and not require refrigeration. Common choices include nut butters, juice, oil, pasta, rice, cereal, shelf-stable milks, and boxed and canned soups, vegetables, fruits, meats, and beans.

Donations can be brought to the temple any Sunday, but members of the Community Engagement Subcommittee will be transporting the donations to the Oregon Food Bank on the Monday after Shotsuki Hoyo, so please try to bring your donations on the day of our Shotsuki Hoyo service.

The Oregon Buddhist Women's Association has also been active in supporting the Oregon Food Bank, so please stay tuned to their announcements for additional ways to help.

If you have questions about the monthly food drives, please speak with **Jarrett Gradone, Tom Howard, Jayne Ichikawa, or Suniti Kumar.** Cell: 503-309-5072

MOST WANTED FOODS

Consider donating healthy, whole grain, low-fat, low-sodium and low-sugar products.

 PEANUT BUTTER and other nut butters	 SOUP Soup, chili, stew...	 TUNA
 BLACK BEANS	 PASTA, RICE & CEREAL whole grains	 Mandarin Oranges
 BEANS & PEAS canned or dried	 COOKING OIL	 Fruits & Vegetables
 Soy Milk	 100% FRUIT & VEGETABLE JUICE canned, plastic or boxed	

To ensure food safety, Oregon Food Bank can't use:

- rusty or unlabeled cans
- perishable items (apples only to food drive donations)
- flammable items
- noncommercial canned or packaged items
- alcoholic beverages, mixes or soda
- open or used items

PLEASE NOTE: If you donate glass products, please box or bag them separately and label the box or bag "GLASS" on all sides.

Support our food drive:

OBWA and OBT will be conducting monthly collections, occurring on every Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial service.

THANK YOU!





Girl Scouts
Amy Peterson

The troop 43720 have been super busy as we end our normal troop activities but still will continue through the summer at a slower pace.

Ending our fiscal year we have been delivering to our non-profits and thank yous for those that helped during our cookie year or were on their giving list.

This weekend we'll be going to Kah Nee Tah in Central Oregon to sleep in Teepees. We're hoping the weather will cooperate. They had to shift after they found the one they planned attending had been canceled. As they get older they're faster at meal planning, activities, etc. and other decision making.

The scouts will be completing their Bronze Award, the highest honor for our Junior GS as two of them bridge to the next

level. In this membership year they've done a lot of work on their personal identities and these young people know who they are, what they want to do to be safe and caring and confidence to handle difficult people and situations.

The Bronze award will be ending with the installation of a Free Little Library on the SW corner of the Annex. They had to plan where they could install it where they could plant the post, how high to plant it making the height accessible for small children and wheelchairs, and collecting and sorting the books to be placed in the library. With the help of a volunteer in our sister troop 30003 helped them learn the skills to finish the library, putting the books in age categories and types, In the future they'll be collecting books for older age categories so be watching for their donation collections.

They'll end this year with the joint Bronze Award, Bridging and Awards event in June.



79th Annual Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet, May 3, 2026

photos by Todd Yuzuriha

Click here for a short video recap of the event: <https://youtu.be/wwTsDYFoQvM>



Haruki Winner



Proud parents Scott Winner and Ann Shintani



Haruki Winner receives the Henryoji Shingon Buddhist Temple Art Award presented by Dave Batchelor



Haruki Winner receives the Nikkei Fujinkai Scholarship presented by Michie Uzunoe



Class of 2026 Graduates in Attendance



Rev. Shindo Nishiyama gives the Words Before and After Meal



Photo of the OBT Table



Class of 2026 Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet Elaine Yuzuriha, Heidi Tolentino

On Sunday, May 3rd, 2026, 132 community members, graduates and their families enjoyed a luncheon at the 79th Annual Japanese American Graduation Banquet. It was attended by 29 graduates from the Portland metropolitan area and was held at the Lloyd Center DoubleTree Hotel. The ceremonies began with a welcome from the emcee **Terry Nishikawa**, president of the Gresham Troutdale JAACL. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by OBT member **Chip Larouche**, and **Rev. Shindo Nishiyama** gave insightful and entertaining words before and after the meal.

Consul General **Ken Todoriki** remarked how this was his second banquet and thanked the community for their strong support of the graduates. The graduates were encouraged to embrace their heritage and to actively participate with the Japanese American community throughout their lives.

Marleen Wallingford introduced the keynote speaker, **Ms. Tiffany Koyama Lane**, the City Councilor from District 3 in SE Portland, an award winning educator and active member of the local AAPI community. Councilor Koyama Lane described how she grew into her Japanese American identity by learning about the resilience and sacrifices of those who came before her. She shared her own journey from feeling afraid and shy to eventually becoming the first Asian American woman on the Portland City Council simply by

deciding to try. She encouraged graduates to take small risks, honor their community and heritage, and listen to the inner voice that says, "What if I try this".

OBT's Haruki Winner was awarded the Nikkei Fujinkai Scholarship. Haruki Winner is a senior at Grant High School and is the daughter of Ann Shintani and Scott Winner. Haruki is Co-President of Unite People of Portland JAACL, attends Dharma School at Oregon Buddhist Temple and is a member of the Grant Choir Program. Haruki will be attending Oregon State University next fall.

Haruki also won the Henjyoji Shingon Buddhist Temple Art Award: This award was established by the family of the late **Reverend Kazuko Wako Henjyoji** in recognition of her lifetime of service strengthening cultural ties between the United States and Japan. This award was presented by **Dave Batchelor**. Haruki was awarded for artistic expertise in Origami crane folding demonstrated in a series about Japanese Internment entitled *Anxiety*. It was created out of thousands of Origami cranes folded out of Japanese newspapers.

After awards and scholarships were presented to the 29 seniors, **Malia Stewart** of Banks High School gave the Graduate's Response representing all the students. **Dr. Connie Masuoka** and **Linda Guerber** hand wove ribbon leis, which were gifted to all students and ice breaker awards were presented by **Elaine Yuzuriha**. Photographer for the event was **Todd Yuzuriha**.

Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

Bishop Rev. Marvin Harada Hosts Guided Meditations Online

Bishop Rev. Marvin Harada was the resident teacher for online meditation sessions hosted by Lion's Roar website during the month of May.



If you were not able to join these live sessions, you can view the recorded sessions on the Lion's Roar website at the links below:

[May 6, 2026 Meditation with Rev. Marvin Harada](#)

[May 13, 2026 Meditation with Rev. Marvin Harada](#)

[May 20, 2026 Meditation with Rev. Marvin Harada](#)

[May 27, 2026 Meditation with Rev. Marvin Harada](#)

Other sessions can be seen at the website here: [Lion's Roar Weekly Meditation](#)



Mottainai Craft Group Debi Shimamoto

Whether you are new to kimono or simply curious to learn more, our craft group will offer guidance on how to wear a kimono. Sign up for:

Kimono 101 Class

Join us on **Saturday, June 20, from 1:00–4:00 pm** for a special *Kimono 101* presentation. The class will introduce the basics of kimono wear, include a live dressing demonstration, and provide an opportunity to try dressing yourself with guided assistance. **Registration is required.** Please see the attached poster and signup information for details. You can also click here to register:

<https://forms.gle/VA6bHR5FyXWZ1Mx56>

Kimono Donations Appreciated

We are grateful for the generous donations of kimono, yukata, accessories, and fabric that have already begun to arrive. With only two months remaining before the festival, volunteers will be busy washing, repairing, and sewing items in preparation for the sale. If you are planning to donate, please do so by

the **end of June** so we have time to assess items for resale or rework. Proceeds from the kimono sale benefit both the temple and the OBWA women's group.

Upcoming Work & Preparation Dates

June Meetings

- Saturday, June 13 | 10:30 am–3:00 pm
- Wednesday, June 24 | 10:30 am–3:00 pm
(Kimono sale preparation)

July Meetings

- Wednesday, July 8 | 10:30 am–3:00 pm
(Kimono Presale Pricing)
- Additional preparation days will be added later.

July Bon Odori Kimono Sales

Kimono sales will also take place during evening Bon Odori practices in July. To avoid disrupting practice sessions, sales will be held during limited break periods only.

Thank you for your continued support!

Kimono 101 Class

Oregon Buddhist Temple
Saturday, June 20, 2026
1pm-4pm

- Learn kimono basics including terminology, anatomy, dressing, & folding
- Live demonstrations
- Hands-on practice
- Registration required for attendance

For questions, please email:
mottainaicraftgroup24@gmail.com

OBT Gotan-e Service, May 24 2026

photos by Maho Garner

OBT held its annual Gotan-e Service celebrating the birth of Shinran Shonin (1173 - 1263), the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. The Sangha heard moving and insightful Dharma talks from Minister's Assistant Ken Garner and Jack Kostylo. Rev. Ron Kobata officiated the service and led chanting of Sho Shin Ge together with Rev. Shindo Nishiyama and Minister's Assistants Brenda Fugate and Ken Garner. Following service, a short memorial service was held in the Nokotsudo to remember those interred there.



Memorial Day Service at Rose City Japanese Cemetery, May 25 2026 *Article and photos by Thomas Howard*

I would like to share that it was the first time going to the cemetery and it was very moving. I was so touched by the veteran's memorial with the flag and flowers. With all the uncertainty in today's world it was a reminder of all the good and brave individuals who sacrificed for our country and a better world. Yes, there was a tear when the national anthem played. I found the grave of a lovely lady that I remembered fondly from my childhood. I stood with the Shingon priest at her headstone and shared memories of her. All the history and community. Hard working salt of the earth people. The very people that built this country and brought us the dharma.

Thanks to OBT Board Member Thomas Howard for sharing his thoughts and photos.



Memorial Day Service at Rose City Japanese Cemetery, May 25 2026
photos by Todd Yuzuriha

Todd Yuzuriha played the "Star Spangled Banner" and "Taps" on the trumpet at the Memorial Day ceremony at Rose City Cemetery.



To see a short video of Todd's Taps performance, click this link:
<https://youtube.com/shorts/ySQEK7yELFU?feature=share>

Invitation to participate in study of spiritual care in Shin Buddhism

Greetings to members of the Oregon Buddhist Temple,

We write to invite you to participate in a study of spiritual care in Shin Buddhism. The aim of this project is to ask about spiritual practices and spiritual care within communities.

We invite you to complete the anonymous online survey linked below. We expect it will take between 10 and 20 minutes to complete this survey. The initial phase of this study is now open to anyone who is 18 years of age or older and is a member or regular attendee at a BCA temple of the Northwest District (we hope to expand this study to include the entire BCA in the coming years). The survey will be open into September.

No incentive is offered for participation in this survey. This is an anonymous survey, but summative reports from this study will be shared with temple leadership and in academic venues. We are grateful to have the support of Bishop Harada and the Northwest District Council for conducting this survey.

Please be aware that one of the researchers, Erik Hammerstrom, is a Minister's Assistant at Tacoma Buddhist Temple. However, personally identifying information will not be collected in this survey.

Thank you for your participation. Thank you also for letting other members at your temple know about this survey. We look forward to sharing our findings in the near future.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Erik Hammerstrom, Ph.D.
Department of Religion
Pacific Lutheran University
<hammerej@plu.edu>

Aimee Hamilton, M.A., M.Sc.
Independent Researcher
<hamilton.aimee@gmail.com>

Survey Link: https://plu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3mT5DxTeYPFjUWi

OBT Events and Meetings

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

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

OBT Regular Service

Every week – Sun 10 AM
Dharma Exchange (following the Regular Service) at 11 AM

Link below to website for the filmed services:

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

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

Zoom:

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

Meeting ID: 884 4152 5686

Passcode: 804117



OBWA

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

Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 962 3703 0266

Passcode: 574232

Sunday Bon Odori

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

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

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

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

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

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

Meeting ID: 810 5474 9182

Passcode: 113529

BEC (Buddhist Education Committee)

3rd Wednesday evening of month (see calendar)

This is the group who figures out the educational activities for the temple like the Sunday Services, Dharma Exchange, the Library, the videos and Sunday slide show presentations, and other tasks. We are always busy especially since we are currently without a resident minister. You are welcome to visit and listen in on the decisions or volunteer 😊

Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM with a couple exceptions.

Zoom link:

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

Meeting ID: 978 0730 3590

Passcode: 790943

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

Jodo Shinshu 101 Class

Rev. Koyama leads this class the 2nd Wednesday every month, 6pm-7pm. Signup link is [here](#) 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.

Oregon Buddhist Temple

Obon Fest 2026

Saturday, August 1, 2026 2-9pm

Attendance is FREE
All are Welcome!



Obon Dance
Food and Beverages
Kids Activities
Entertainment
and so much more!

Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Ave, Portland, OR 97202
www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com



Many thanks to Maho Garner for designing this year's amazing Obon Fest poster!

**OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
OBON MEMORIAL LANTERN ORDER FORM NEW LANTERN
IN CELEBRATION OF OBONFEST 2026**



All orders due to temple by **July 22, 2026 deadline**

Please: Use one form for each NEW lantern order. One individual/name per order.

All NEW lanterns \$35 one name per lantern and one form per person

Order forms available online at oregonbuddhisttemple.com pay by cash, check or **online donation** email obtlanterns@gmail.com this form

DONOR NAME _____ **Phone** _____ **Email** _____

NOTE: These lanterns will be displayed at the OBONFEST and are the property of the purchaser. They are not to be confused with the lanterns displayed at our Hatsubon service.

WHITE LANTERN

DECEASED FIRST / LAST NAME

DATE OF PASSING

____/____/____

BUDDHIST NAME IF ONE _____

Cat / Dog / _____

Please note if pet

Red Lantern

_____ For Living, Family, Organization, Business,

_____ Japanese version if desired

Office info Cash/Check _____ **CK #** _____ **Paid Online** _____



**OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
OBON MEMORIAL LANTERN REHANG ORDER FORM
IN CELEBRATION OF OBONFEST 2026
DEADLINE FOR REHANGS July 24, 2026**

DONOR NAME _____ **Phone** _____
Email _____ **LANTERN REHANGS \$20 each**

Lantern File # _____ Lantern name _____

Lantern File # _____ Lantern name _____

Lantern File # _____ Lantern name _____

Lantern File # _____ Lantern name _____

Lantern File # _____ Lantern name _____

Lantern File # _____ Lantern name _____

Additional? use back of form

If your lantern was not hung for 3 years it will be retired unless rehung or picked up.
If you are unsure of all of your lanterns, please email obtlanterns@gmail.com to request a list of your previously purchased lanterns.

OFFICE USE Paid Online _____ **Cash** _____ **CK #** _____

Upcoming Bon Odori Practice Schedule

NOTE: This calendar "section" is ONLY 2026 - August through December

2026 Event:	Month	Date	Day	Time
Obon Bon Odori	August	1	Saturday	7 - 9 PM

NOTE: Japanese Garden practice and dancing is for those who sign up as space is limited. Japanese Garden members can come to the practice and dance event without signing up but need to provide their own transportation to the garden.

J Garden Practice	August	14	Friday	7:00 PM
J Garden Practice	August	21	Friday	7:00 PM
J Garden Bon Odori	August	22	Saturday	10:30 AM

Sunday Bon Odori	September	27	Sunday	1:00 PM
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No Dancing	October			
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Sunday Bon Odori	November	1	Sunday	1:00 PM
Sunday Bon Odori	November	29	Sunday	1:00 PM

Sunday Bon Odori (Xmas)	December	27	Sunday	1:00 PM
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NOTE: All Sunday Bon Odori is at 1 to 3 PM in the OBT basement. All practices for Obon and the Japanese Garden are from 7 to 9 PM in the OBT basement.

MACLAREN YOUTH CORRECTIONAL FACILITY BOOK DRIVE



Seeking **paperback** books about Buddhism (history, philosophy, writings, etc.)

MACLAREN YOUTH CORRECTIONAL FACILITY HOUSES MALE YOUTH OFFENDERS WHO HAVE BEEN ADJUDICATED FOR SERIOUS CRIMINAL OFFENSES. WE ARE TREATMENT FOCUSED WITH THE GOAL OF REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION INTO SOCIETY.



See Dean Lange or Marilyn Achterman for more information.

OBT FOOD DRIVE FOR OREGON FOOD BANK



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



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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

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

For individuals who pledge \$300 or more:

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

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

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

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

_____ Monthly _____ Quarterly

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

Please send this completed Pledge for 2026 and payments to:

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

[Make an online donation](#)



In gratitude for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple