



OBT established 1903



Bodhi Day and The End of the Year!

Rev. Tadao Koyama

During this season, I usually like to test the sangha to see if they know the holiday that comes up for us Buddhists during the month of December. I usually start with Halloween, then move onto thanksgiving, then I pause when I ask them what comes in December. Being Americans, we usually associate December with Christmas. Then when “Christmas” is usually the answer I get, I go “HA! I Got ya! It’s Bodhi Day!” Usually this is followed by laughter.

Bodhi day is the day Buddhists commemorate Prince Siddhartha sitting under the Bodhi tree and became awakened to the truth. Without this momentous occasion, we would not have the beautiful teachings of Buddhism we have today.

Lately, I have been thinking a lot about the nature of our existence, or of us being here. I have thought about how many momentous occasions that happened in order for us to be here today. If one occasion, one person, even something simple as a conversation did not happen in the past, would I be here today? I sometimes am scared to think about it!

However, instead of being scared about it, I choose to feel a deep sense of gratitude. Since the end of the year is coming up, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the members of the board of the Oregon Buddhist Temple. Thank you to Charles Reneau for welcoming both myself and Rev. Cyndi to the Sangha! Thank you to Minister’s Assistants, Brenda Fugate and Ken Garner for getting me up to speed on how things are done at OBT!

This has been a very busy year for all of us! Transitioning from one minister to another can be quite difficult and I commend the sangha for being so open and flexible to my schedule!

Thank you to all of the members of the temple! Your involvement and your support for all of our activities is why this temple is thriving! Let’s continue to work together to usher in a new year with a sense of thankfulness and joy!

Lastly, please join me in reciting the Nembutsu as we continue our expression of gratitude to Amida Buddha’s unlimited wisdom and compassion.

Namo Amida Butsu

2023 OBT Eitaikyo Service

OBT was fortunate to have Rev. Koyama conduct last month’s Eitaikyo (Perpetual Memorial Service.) In his Dharma talk he explained that as Eitaikyo is a service dedicated to past members of the temple, we should be thankful for their time and effort, as well as to the temple building itself. However, it is also important to remember that without the teachings themselves, there would be no temples nor the vibrant communities gathering there.

We look forward to having Rev. Koyama at OBT in December for services and Dharma exchange.



Rev. Koyama visits with Sangha members, Susan Lilly and Erik Ackerson on November 26.

OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

BODHI DAY SERVICE

WITH REV. TADAO KOYAMA



DATE SATURDAY, DEC. 9, 2023

TIME 6:00 PM SERVICE & 7:00 PM POTLUCK

Nourish the seeds of enlightenment with the fertile soil of our Sangha... co-practitioners to cultivate our practice for peace.



“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: info@oregonbuddhisttemple.com website: <http://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com>

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

December Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of December. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held at the December 3 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 Jean Matsumoto, Etsu Osaki, or the temple.

Douglas William Anderson, 12/04/2011	Harue Kimura, 12/08/1993*	Tsunetaro Sasaki, 12/12/1966
Bob Minoru Ando, 12/26/1998	Eugene Hiroshi Kinoshita, 12/05/1974	Shige Sarusaka, 12/19/1950
Frank Susumu Ando, 12/05/1988	Nobuo Kobayashi, 12/21/1978	Rikizo Shiiki, 12/05/1960
Kotaro Aoki, 12/31/1968	Shinayo Kono, 12/20/1991	Setsuko Shiraishi, 12/23/1973
Teikichi Azuma, 12/14/1965	Tomie Fujita Kristiansen, 12/27/2001	Fumi Shitasa, 12/04/1986
Shige Endo, 12/09/1950	Daniel Liebowitz, 12/08/2007	Junko Irene Stumpf, 12/12/2001
James Fujii, 12/03/2013	Baiichi Masuoka, 12/12/1952	Genpei Tachibana, 12/14/1962
Sekitaro Fujii, 12/05/1967	Hiroshi Matsushima, 12/18/2017	Satoko Takeda, 12/28/2000*
Hiroko Giese, 12/04/2004	Nobuichi Minami, 12/11/1982	Melvin Susumu Takeuchi, 12/03/2011
Irene Hayashi, 12/28/2004*	Rin Miura, 12/04/2005*	Robert Takeuchi, 12/25/2015
Shijiro Hirai, 12/12/1956	Mary Tokiko Miyoshi, 12/06/2005*	Ikuma Tamiyasu, 12/07/1984*
Shizuko Hirota, 12/27/1994	Judy Murase, 12/18/2021	Jean Ayako Tateishi, 12/7/2022
Kazumi Heshiki, 12/14/2020	Kimi Naito, 12/14/2004	Toshimasa Tateishi, 12/16/1960
Yasashi Ichikawa, 12/29/1999*	Hatsumi Nishimoto, 12/27/1999	Risuke Tomohiro, 12/30/1961
Rose Ikata, 12/20/2019	Aya Nishino, 12/18/1978*	Haru Tsuji, 12/13/1984*
Kaneo Ikeda, 12/31/2000	Sayo Okabe, 12/27/1976	Chiyono Uyeda, 12/02/1959*
Grace Yoshiko Inouye, 12/20/1992*	George Okita, 12/23/2011	Matsuo Uyeda, 12/10/2007
Yoshiro James Iwai, 12/03/1998	Matoichi Okita, 12/13/1956	Takeko Wahl, 12/27/2018
Kasuga Iwashita, 12/21/1973*	Chiho Okita, 12/25/2015*	Eugene Woodworth, 12/21/2013
Ko Izuzuka, 12/24/1959	Shizu Okubo, 12/28/1962*	Kameji Yabuki, 12/18/1953
May Kasahara, 12/30/2017*	George Onchi, 12/20/1990	Sadayo Yasutome, 12/24/1974*
Tony Kato, 12/16/1998	Jack Ouchida, 12/01/2000	Kumakichi Yoshida, 12/12/1958
Giichi Kayama, 12/30/1979	Kosaku Sasaki, 12/21/1983	Zoichi Yuzuriha, 12/13/1975

* OBWA member

2023-2025 OBT Board and 2022 Officers

Term Ending 2025: Shinya Ichikawa, Jayne Ichikawa, Katie Tamiyasu, Christine White

Term Ending 2024: Marilyn Huh, Suniti Kumar, Carol Saiget, Charles Reneau (President)

Term Ending 2023: Angie Hughes (Secretary), Jeanette Hager, Judy Hittle (Vice-President), Cathy Yarne

Elaine Yuzuriha (Financial Officer)

Past Months' Newsletters

Can be viewed at the below link.

[Newsletter | oregonbuddhisttemple](#)

A reminder to encourage readers to continue donations for the below events and 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

Oregon Buddhist Temple October 2023 Donations

SHOTSUKI HOYO*In memory of Tomo & Fumi Saito*

Carolyn J. Saiget

In memory of Masaki Ando

Roberta Ando

Diane Ando Harder

2023 Annual Pledge

Alfred & Eileen Ono

Nancy Walseth

Angela Hughes

Jeanette Hager

In memory of Seigo & Shizue Sugihara

Dennis & Virginia Sugihara

In memory of Masae Ono

Alfred Ono

*In memory of Leonardo & Sachiko***Montes de Oca**

Dennis & Virginia Sugihara

Fall Bazaar donations

Setsy & Chip Larouche

Joyce F. Olsen

Duane Watari

Grace & Satoru Ichikawa

Linda & Steve Okazaki

Monthly/Quarterly Pledge

Glenda Watson-Coly

Patrick Hammersmith

Susan Lilly & Erik Ackerson

Jae Yong & Marilyn Huh

Diane Ando Harder

Susan Endecott

In memory of Masao Tamiyasu

Katie & Ed Tamiyasu

Special donations

Fidelity Charitable Fund

(Thomas & Katie Saiget)

Etsuko Osaki

Chie Nakamichi & Paul Nist

Jenna Yokoyama *(vehicle donation)*

Diane Ando Harder

Roberta Ando *(BCA Dana Program)***Donation acknowledgements****are mailed for donations of****\$250 or more, and to any****donor upon request. Please****inform us of any significant****errors or omissions.****sjendecott@gmail.com***In memory of Fumiko Kida*

Lew & Jean Tomita

In memory of Tsuru Nakamura

Lew & Jean Tomita

In memory of Helen Hatsue Sadamoto

Setsy & Chip Larouche

Excerpts from the book: Jodo Shinshu a Guide

Bodhi Day (Jodo-e) – December 8

This is the day to commemorate Sakyamuni Buddha's attainment of Awakening. According to legend, the historic event took place on December 8, as the first faint light of day began to glow in the eastern sky. By his example, Sakyamuni demonstrated that it was possible for man to become a Buddha—a fully Awakened Person. All human beings, therefore, are in possession of this potentiality—Buddha-Nature—which, when awakened and cultivated, enables them to achieve supreme wisdom and compassion. This day signifies the dawn of humanity's universal emancipation from suffering and unawareness.

Year End Service (Joya-e) – December 31

This service is held at all temples on New Year's Eve to express gratitude for the past year and to reflect on the interdependency of all life, and on all things that have made it possible for one to live through the year.

Though not an activity at Honzan (*editor's note: Nishi Honganji*), temples with a large bell called *bonsho* will toll the bell 108 times on New Year's Eve. This is called *joya no kane* or "bell of the last night." It is the symbolic ringing away for the 108 passions that afflict human beings and bind them to the world of delusion. It is a reminder of the need to free oneself from the entanglements of self-centeredness as one faces the New Year. There is no way to know whether the coming year will be fortunate or unfortunate, but in the Nembutsu, whichever it is, everything will be all right.



**Dharma School
Ann Shintani**

I am grateful for the beautiful and mild weather...seemingly mundane acts of making soup and other comfort foods brings me so much joy in the present moment.

Halloween Visitation Thank You! We had two enthusiastic groups visit our elders after service on Sunday, Oct. 29. Thank you to chaperones, Glenda, Theresa, Mai Thi and Huy, and the Phanthavady and Kumar families. These trips cannot be possible without assistance from volunteers and our seniors and their families: Jean Matsumoto

and Sahomi Tachibana. If you would like to join us, we will probably plan another visit in the Spring.

White Elephant Bingo fundraiser for Dharma School helped participants find new homes for house “treasures”, receive sometimes wonderful prizes, shared a few smiles, and raised more than \$200. Thank you to our prize donors, bingo callers Avery and Olivia, and bingo monitors Mai Thi La and Huy Le.

You are invited to our annual Bodhi Day Service and Potluck. It will be on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 6:00PM, and will feature Rev. Tadao Koyama and our OBT youth, Avery Hughes-Davis and Maki Winner, as our speakers. I hope you will support them and join us afterwards for a potluck. We will also have Sunday Service the following day.



White Elephant Bingo – November 12 2023





Oregon Buddhist Women's Association Nancy Walseth

There is so much news and inspiration in each monthly Pure Land Newsletter, be sure to keep reviewing the older ones. They are all available on the Oregon Buddhist Temple website.

CRAFT GROUP WANTS YOU

The group meets and enjoys crafting together on Wednesday afternoons. Come join! Please contact Toyoko Oguri (prestonToy@yahoo.com, 973-202-9806) if you may have a sewing machine available to donate.

OBWA has been busy with mid-term nominations and elections to replace some departing officers.

Several OBWA members were seen playing White Elephant Bingo in the basement on November 12 with Dharma School running the game so efficiently. It was great fun. Word has it that Katie was an early winner!

Upwards of twenty OBWA members (and others) will attend a holiday brass concert at Oregon Symphony on December 6 at 7:00. This gives us insight to OBT President Charley Renault's "other job" and has stirred a lot of interest.

Next month's reporters will be Robbi and Diane.



Girl Scouts Update By Amy Peterson

The troop is busy with badge work and planning for future overnights.

A couple of the girls participated in an ivy pull at Leach Botanical Gardens through the

Portland Park Bureau.

They may not be visible but they are planning to babysit during the Mochitsuki on Dec. 17 from Noon to 2 pm so their parents can volunteer.

They have some fun activities planned.

(parents should pre-register through Dharma School Ann S)

Also they are looking forward to work with Chris Dart to do a Obon Odori class for the Council in January. Chris did their Obon Patch instruction.

Girl Scout cookie pre-order will start Jan. 26th for one week with cookies delivered after Feb. 17th. Inquiries can email GStroop43720obt@gmail.com.



Kitchen Reminder Carolyn Saiget

Do you use the temple kitchen?

PLEASE help us keep our kitchen a **CLEAN** and **SAFE** place for everyone.

If you use the **gas burners**, be sure to check that all burners are off and the main gas valve is returned to the off position. It is not safe to leave the valve left in the "on" position!

If you turn on the **dishwasher**, make sure you wipe it down, drain it, and properly shut it down.

If you put something in the **refrigerator** or **freezer**, keep in mind that they are not used on a regular basis. Label and date food items left behind. Take home or dispose of items that have a short shelf life or will spoil. Remove all compost and garbage to the bins outside.

Empty the **buckets of bleach solution**. Bring dirty towels to the annex for washing.

If you use either of the **walk in refrigerators**, remember to shut them off and leave them propped open.

Our temple relies on every person who uses our facility to treat it as if it was their own home. We do not have a janitor or housekeeper. Thank you for doing your share (and then some) to help keep our kitchen a **CLEAN** and **SAFE** space for everyone.



Attention Japanese American High School Seniors Class of 2024

Elaine Yuzuriha

The applications for the Japanese American Community High School Graduation Scholarships are available online at the following link:

<https://www.pdxjacl.org/scholarships>

Note that you or your parents should be a member of one of the 11 Portland area Japanese American sponsoring organizations on or before December 17, 2023 to qualify for a community scholarship. Please see the scholarship application for the complete requirements.

Scholarship applications are due (must be postmarked) by March 1, 2024!

The Class of 2024 Japanese American Graduation Banquet is on Sunday, April 21st, 2024 at 1pm. Please let the committee know if you have a Japanese American senior in the Class of 2024 so we may extend an invitation for the banquet. The Oregon Buddhist Temple's contact is Elaine at e.yuzuriha@comcast.net.

Mochitsuki Volunteers Needed! December 17

Sign up at www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/mochitsuki

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 a list 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

Dharma Exchange (following the Regular Service)

And occasional special events that are held in the Hondo right after service like the general meeting.

Every week – Sun 10 AM

Every other week – Sun 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 (see calendar for specific date)

Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82843200560?pwd=xL7ke6ww4LHe6QMLv3QicVN7y0zYT9.1>

Meeting ID: 828 4320 0560

Passcode: 195998

Sunday Bon Odori

Bon odori is back! Last Sunday of the month at 1 PM in the basement. December is an exception because of Mochitsuki (dancing on Dec 10th), July/August are exceptions because of Obon and dancing at the Japanese Garden. See calendar for specific dates. Masks optional and we try to distance. See Chris for details - obon.oregonbuddhisttemple@gmail.com

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)

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 Tuesday of each month at 7 PM with a couple exceptions (like during bon odori practice dates).

Zoom link:

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

Meeting ID: 978 0730 3590

Passcode: 790943



**SUPPORTER OF THE OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE
PLEDGE FOR 2024**

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 2024, the amount of \$ _____

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

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

_____ Monthly _____ Quarterly

Please send this completed Pledge for 2024 to:

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

Pledge payments can be mailed to the above address or made via PayPal at
OregonBuddhistTemple.com

In gratitude for your support of the Oregon Buddhist Temple

FREE Admission!

Tasty Concessions!



Oregon Buddhist Temple's

8th Annual Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday
December 2, 2023
10am-4pm

Angie @ 503.367.2650
for more information

3720 SE 34th Ave.
Portland



30+ local crafters & artisans!





OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE **MOCHITSUKI 2023**

DECEMBER 17, 2023

3PM-4:30PM

PICK-UP AT OBT BASEMENT

3720 SE 34TH AVE, PORTLAND, OR 97202

It's that time of year again! Oregon Buddhist Temple is running Mochitsuki this December. Mochi will be priced at **\$6/lb** and can be ordered with the physical order form or online. All orders must be placed by **Dec. 12, 2023**.

We are also looking for volunteers to help make this event possible! Please sign up to volunteer from the QR code below. For more information, visit oregonbuddhisttemple.com/mochitsuki



ANY QUESTIONS? CONTACT: VSURYAV@GMAIL.COM

2024 NORTHWEST DISTRICT HO'ONKO SERVICE JANUARY 13 & 14



REV. KATSUYA KUSUNOKI

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple



REV. TADAO KOYAMA

Tacoma Buddhist Temple



REV. CYNDI YASAKI

White River Buddhist Temple



REV. YOSHIMICHI OUCHI

"Toronto Buddhist Temple"

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT SEATTLEBETSUIN.ORG

SEATTLE BETSUIN BUDDHIST TEMPLE
1427 S MAIN ST
SEATTLE WA 98144

2024 Seattle/Tacoma/White River Joint Ho'onko Service

"Our Founder Shinran Shonin's Memorial Day Observance"

Saturday, January 13th

9:30 am

Workshop 1: "On Goeden Scroll 'Who is Shinran?'" - Rev. Kusunoki

10:00 am

Workshop 2: "Chanting Practice of Hymns of Birth in the Pure Land Ojoraisan)" - Rev. Ouchi

10:40 am

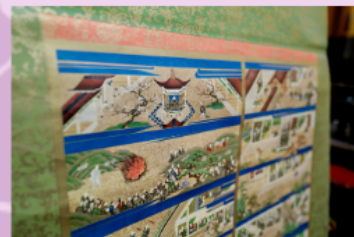
English Dharma Talk - Rev. Yasaki

11:00 am

Special Hoonko Ritual "Ojoraisan" - Chanting Leader: Rev. Kusunoki

12:00 pm

Workshop 3: "Tour of the Altar (Naijin)" - Rev. Kusunoki



Sunday, January 14th

10:00 am

Hoonko Service "Shuso Sango Saho Music service" with Gagaku, Taiko and Keyboard

Chanting Leader: Rev. Yasaki

English Dharma Talk: Rev. Ouchi

10:50 am

Japanese Dharma Talk: Rev. Ouchi

Combined English Dharma Exchange: Rev. Koyama

11:30 am

'Otoki' - Light refreshments in the Gym



Come celebrate the New Year
OBT NEW YEAR'S SERVICE & PARTY
Sunday, January 21, 2024

10:00 A.M. Service & 11:30A.M. Party

Bento Lunch prepared by Chef Yoshio Matsuzaki
\$30 per person

Everyone is encouraged to bring their grandparents, children, and friends, young and old.
An alternative lunch (pizza) will be offered for children not ordering the bento.

Please use the form below for ordering your bento.
DEADLINE: all orders must be received by January 10th.

OBT New Year's Bento Order Form

please mark { X } for vegetarian option

Participant's Name (please print)

Participant's Name (please print)

_____ { }	_____ { }
_____ { }	_____ { }
_____ { }	_____ { }
_____ { }	_____ { }

Use { X } to indicate VEGETARIAN option

_____ X \$30 = \$ _____
of BENTOS \$ enclosed

Oregon Buddhist Temple

Make checks payable to the OBT. **Order & Payment due by January 10, 2024**

3720 S.E. 34th Ave.
Portland, Or. 97202

_____ individual placing this order (please print) _____ phone number

Please specify # of children NOT ordering bento: _____ (suggested donation \$5 per child)

Adults not wishing to order a bento are welcome to bring a sack lunch.

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