



OBT established 1903

PureLand Path

The Oregon Buddhist Temple Monthly Newsletter

October 2020

Wonder of Life Reverend Yuki Sugahara

“Although scarcely unexpected, Myōhō-bō’s attainment of birth still makes me deeply happy.” (CWS, p.552)

The above words are from Shinran Shonin’s letter to members in the Kanto region. I am sure I have shared these words of Shinran Shonin many times, but let me explain further.

Myōhō-bō is one of the disciples of Shinran Shonin. He used to be called Ben-nen and was a Yamabushi. Yamabushi is Mountain Monk. It is said that after Shinran Shonin’s coming to the Kanto region, Myōhō-bō lost many of his followers. Out of envy and rage, Myōhō-bō decided to kill Shinran Shonin.

One day, he visited Shinran Shonin’s place to kill him. Instead of hiding or running away, Shinran Shonin welcomed Myōhō-bō into his place and talked. Myōhō-bō was so impressed by Shinran Shonin that he decided to become Shinran Shonin’s disciple.

When we are able to go back to OBT, please check the north side wall in Hondo. I believe there is a picture of Myōhō-bō and Shinran Shonin.

By the way, I have never said this officially so please read this as possible fantasy, but Shinran Shonin might have learned some kind of martial arts while he was in Mt. Hiei. There were groups of monks called *So-hei* (warrior monks) at Mt. Hiei. Shinran Shonin was a *Do-so* (scholarly monk) so he probably never had to deal with *So-hei*, but who knows? Maybe Shinran Shonin was really good at martial arts and overmatched Myōhō-bō. Again, this might just be fantasy, but as a practitioner of Kung Fu I thought it interesting that Shinran Shonin might have known some form of martial arts.

Shinran Shonin returned to Kyoto after spending decades in the Kanto region and he eventually heard of Myōhō-bō passing. Interestingly, Shinran Shonin didn’t say “I am sad to hear...”, or “I am surprised to hear the passing of Myōhō-bō.” Instead, he said “although scarcely unexpected...”, and because Myōhō-bō attained the birth into the Pure Land for sure, Shinran Shonin said “I am deeply happy.”

In one of the missionary schools in Japan, GyōShinKyōKō, there is a minister named Rev. Jōen Amagishi. He once explained the above words of Shinran Shonin and said something like: “Shinran Shonin was never surprised by the passing of the person, but he was surprised by the fact that beings who have no guarantee of the next moment of this life are living this moment.”

I think this three-fourth of the year 2020 forced us to think about the wonder of life. Many people, including myself, realized that what we had as “normal” life is something that could not have been taken for granted.

Thinking about my life this year, my son, Hikaru, experienced pneumonia in January and I realized how happy it is to have a “normal” life with my family. (Also the importance of health insurance!). After quarantine, I realized how “normal” life, such as going out freely without any worries of getting COVID-19, is an amazing thing to have. After the wildfire and smoke, I realized how blue skies and the sun cannot be taken for granted even in summer time.

There are so many things we are taking for granted without realizing it. As Shinran Shonin said, one’s passing is not unexpected. We are going to die someday. Although, we want to look away from this truth, we cannot escape from this truth. Then, how we should live this life? This is the question.

When we realize that there is nothing we can take for granted, we realize how surprising it is to live this moment of life. When we realize this truth, we begin to feel appreciation for having this life. Just as now we appreciate regular air quality and the blue sky, every encounter in this life becomes a precious thing. We are able to think in this way, not because we are good people, but because we receive the Buddha’s wisdom in Nembutsu. The Buddha’s wisdom teaches us how our way of understanding often becomes upside down, inside out, and the Buddha’s wisdom adjusts our way of thinking.

The remainder of the 2020 is short, but I hope we always go to the guidance for the Buddha when we experience something “unexpected.”

Gassho

“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.

October Shotsuki Hoyo

Listed below are the names of those who passed away starting from 1950. Oregon Buddhist Temple has records from 1904. Names of deceased prior to 1950 are added if requested. If a name is missing or incorrect, please notify Jean Matsumoto, Etsu Osaki, or the temple.

Ando, Alfred 10/19/1989	Kiso, Joichi 10/11/1958	Ono, Masaye 10/15/2000
Ando, Masaki 10/6/1950 *	Kiso, Komojo 10/30/1956	Ozaki, Torao 10/23/1970
Aoki, Kanekichi 10/18/1959	Kitagawa, Hatsujiro 10/2/1962	Sadamoto, Helen H 10/20/1994*
Asakawa, Mary Hisako 10/23/2009*	Kodama, Satoru 10/19/2009	Saito, Tamon 10/6/2001
Cheng, William T 10/31/1978	Koji, Mitsuru 10/22/1963	Saito, Tomoko 10/11/1950
Doochin, Saroku 10/23/1950	Kono,Hitoshi 10/22/2016	Shindo, Katsutarō 10/29/1955
Fujita, Seijiro 10/19/1982	Lawrence, Keiki 10/6/1963	Shiraishi, Kazue 10/9/1995 *
Furukawa, Haru 10/12/2015 *	Maeda, Makoto 10/18/2009	Shiraishi, Yoshihei 10/8/1976
Furukawa, Ryokichi 10/3/1950	Mar, Alfred 10/17/1992	Shoji, Mitsuru 10/21/1963 *
Hashiguchi, Yoshiomi 10/11/1958	Masuda, Masajiro 10/24/1965	Sotomura, Suetaro 10/17/1958
Hasuike, Misao 10/22/1977 *	Masuhara, Kanechi 10/16/1950	Sugihara, Shizue 10/26/2012 *
Heath, Betty 10/8/1963	Matsuda, Masajiro 10/24/1965	Sugimura, Yoneko 10/6/1992 *
Hrubant, Frank 10/1/2019	Matsuoka, Gary 10/31/2009	Sunamoto, Yozo 10/3/1975
Iguchi, Natsuko 10/2/2007	Matsuoka, Yoshiyo 10/2001	Takabatake, Gohei 10/25/1969
Ikata, Katsuzo 10/21/1963	Miura, Ryonosuke 10/29/1962	Takasugi, Shiro 10/22/1982
Inuzuka, Tomi 10/6/1960	Nakano, Mae 10/9/2013	Takayama, Kiichiro 10/25/1952
Ishida, Sam 10/23/1992	Nakano, NobuoTom 10/25/1993	Takeuchi, Masumi 10/3/1999 *
Iwasaki, Tomiko 10/16/2010 *	Neishi, Miyuki 10/1/1987 *	Tamiyasu, Masao 10/19/1998
Iwasaki, Yasukichi 10/26/1968	Nishino, Mitsunari 10/6/1969	Tanaka, Lenora 10/21/2013 *
Kagawa, Kinu 10/31/1999 *	Noji, Asayo, 10/20/1994	Urushitani, Masako 10/15/1983
Kajiwara, Lily R 10/13/2015	Noji, Kichizo 10/2/1968	Wakita, Tsuta 10/21/1963 *
Kida, Fumiko 10/22/2006 *	Oda, Reiko 10/11/1990	Yamaguchi, Tokuji 10/1/2009
Kido, Joichi 10/30/1956	Okita, Mary 10/22/2013 *	Yoshida, Daigoro 10/27/1971
Kinoshita, Yashiyō 10/19/1979 *	Omura, Jujiro 10/31/1961	Yuzuriha, Fumiye 10/1/1978 *
Kinoshita, Yoshio 10/18/2005	Onchi, Patricia Becky 10/30/1953	

* OBWA member

2020 Memorial Services			
Year Of Passing	Memorial	Year Of Passing	Memorial
2019	1 Year	2004	17 Year
2018	3 Year	1996	25 Year
2013	7 Year	1988	33 Year
2008	13 Year	1971	50 Year

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

Condolences



To the family of Shig Yuzuriha who passed away September 15, 2020. He had recently become a new great grandfather of Daisy Farjado.

President's Column**Cathy Yarne, OBT President**

Dear Sangha,

Back in March, it was unthinkable to imagine we'd still need to physically distance ourselves from others and diligently wear face masks in September. Yet here we are. Now to make matters worse, Oregon, Washington and California are experiencing devastating forest fires. Although I think the majority of our Sangha live far enough away from the actual fires, the impact has affected us all. Whether it's coping with the unhealthy air quality, concern for family, friends and community, political tension, racial inequity, change in employment or persevering through the seventh month of Covid - everyone is experiencing some level of unprecedented change, inconvenience and stress.

Every week during my weekly check-ins at the temple I'm reminded of our Sangha. Having not seen or communicated with most of you for several months makes me wonder how you are all coping. I do hope you are doing "okay." However, if you need any type of support please let us know. Whether it's emotional support, groceries, activities to do at home, financial issues, etc. we will do our best to help you. To reach out to OBT for assistance contact me directly or leave a message at OBT.

At this time, there is no set date to "re-open" the temple for in-person, weekly services and other temple activities. Reverend Sugahara will continue to offer services on-line. The newsletter will be sent to you via email and is also available on the OBT website. Please take care and stay safe.

Gassho,

Cathy Yarne

Call or text: 503 319-7071

Email yarnefamily@gmail.com

Pledges for OBT**Alfred Ono**

Boy, has this been a crazy Summer? With sheltering in place, I have somewhat caught up on things that I have procrastinating about. My garden has done great with my time for TLC for the plants. Now, with September upon us, the days are getting shorter, back to school is a variable statement, and recently the smoke and fires have been another concern. I hope you all have been healthy.

Oregon Buddhist Temple has been generally healthy with virtual services and fun events like the virtual Obon events. However, our income for this year has been really low with major fund raisers being cancelled because of the health issues.

From the Board report, OBT has received some unsolicited donations which is great. Thank you.

However, OBT can still use pledges to help our ongoing budget and expenses. Many of you have pledged in the early part of the year before the Corona virus caused us to change

our lives. Consequently, for those of you who can, I would request a consideration of a larger pledge or adding to your pledge if you gave earlier in the year. I realize for some of you, a pledge is even more difficult than in years past, but any amount is greatly appreciated to show support of Oregon Buddhist Temple.

A consideration for those of you 72 years old or older, you can make a tax-free donation from your IRA. This year the required minimal distribution has been waived, but a donation from your IRA can still greatly help OBT and you get the withdrawal tax free.

In another vein, we are updating our membership list with Buddhist Churches of America (BCA). We are adding 28 new names. However, if you have had an address change in the last several years, please let me or Susan Endecott know so we can update ours and BCA's roster and you can get your "Wheel of Dharma"

Remember, a pledge of \$300.00 or more puts you on the BCA list as a member of Oregon Buddhist Temple.

Take care, stay healthy, wear a mask and vote.

The following article/ photo appeared in the JACL Newsletter



Akane Grace Shiota
Portland Shokookai Scholarship
Winner
Liberty High School

Even though I've always thought of myself as an introverted person, I've learned that I still enjoy being an active part of my community. Ever since I was little, I've been attending service at my Buddhist Temple which got me in contact with people from an early age. I was able to see a wider community than just myself and my immediate family and build relations with others.

Despite the roots of this realization existing for many years, it was only when I entered high school, joined my robotics team, and began working in community outreach that I was finally able to understand that my choices were based on my upbringing. On another level, being a part of the Oregon Buddhist Temple has allowed me to connect to my past, to ground myself with what I know to be my history and past, before pushing myself onward to accomplish my goals and support future generations.

When I first volunteered at my temple's festivals, I was able to immediately connect my actions to a positive effect on others. I found that I enjoy helping others and it has led me to volunteer even more and connect to a wider community.

On my robotics team I volunteer to teach others about STEM and specifically our team. I have gone to Maker Fairs in Portland and Hillsboro, and presented our robot to community members. Outside of the robotic team I have tutored other students both unofficially and with the National Honor Society chapter at my school. By volunteering during Obon at my temple I gained experience in interacting with

younger children that showed me how much I enjoy teaching others.

I worked as a summer camp counselor and taught young students STEM lessons and skills, like soldering and computer-aided drafting. I have also mentored elementary schoolers on their own LEGO robotics team.

Knowing my culture and my heritage has allowed me to know myself better. Understanding the dedication of my predecessors, not just in my own family, to work in the country for a better future for the next generation pushes me to do my best. Knowing that my father, my grandparents, my great grandparents, strove to build something intergenerational gives me the responsibility and goal to make them proud while also doing the same for the next generation and to help others. I am also comforted by the feeling of commonality with others and my family, which allows me to relax and gather myself before moving on to achieve my highest goals.

My family and my faith group have supported me and helped me to grow into the person I am today, a person I can be proud of. Even though I still am reserved, I love to help others, and volunteering and taking part in activities at my temple let me learn that about myself.

I've gone on to help others at my school, my city, and my state. I want to keep going, expanding the positive impact I can make. The Oregon Buddhist Temple and my family has also kept me grounded in who I am, making me want to try to do my best for myself, for them, and for the generations to come.

2020 OBT Board of Directors

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

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

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

OBWA News Etsu Osaki

What with the pandemic we can't meet at temple and have our meetings so there's really not much to write about concerning OBWA. So, I'll just write about a few things that I'm going through. Perhaps many of you also have time to do things around the house.

For one, I have gone through all my old photos and got them into an album. I also am catching up on my reading. I picked up a book at a Goodwill Store called Sayings of the Buddha. I will share some of the quotes from that book.

"May all beings be happy and at their ease! "

"Just as a lotus, blue, red or white, though born in the water, grown up in the water, when it reaches the surface

stands there unsoiled by the water—just so, though born in the world, grown up in the world, having overcome the world, I abide unsoiled by the world. Take it that I am awake."

"So, I went forth from home in the houseless state, a quester of what is good, seeking the Incomparable path to peace."

"A man is not a great man because he is a warrior and kills other men; but because he hurts not any living being, he in truth is called great man."

"And what is right speech? Abstaining from lying, from divisive speech, from abusive speech, and from idle chatter: this is called right speech."

Please take care and hope to be able to get together before too long.

Next month's writer is Marilyn Achterman. Gassho, Etsu

See pages 9 and 10 for *A Brief History of the Oregon Buddhist Church Fujinkai*, written by the late Mrs. Nami Sasaki in 1981. Mrs. Sasaki died January 15, 2015. The paper she wrote was provided by her daughter Joyce Olsen.

Dharma School Ann Shintani

Dharma School is back in session in September! We will hold virtual class on alternating Sundays after service. We had one joint Dharma School in the Summer, and students who joined seemed tech-savvy. Sensei is a life-saver for being our Zoom video host. Our teachers, Beth, Elaine, Mai Thi, and Marilyn are dedicated teachers, and Maho is our thoughtful Dharma School website creator. The six paramitas provide useful characteristics as we dive into remote classes. We can practice wisdom, discipline, patience, effort, concentration, and generosity. I know we look forward to learning together and seeing your students on-line.

The following article by OBT board member Ann Shintani is written to help make board members more accessible to temple members/

My name is Ann. I am an OBT board member, and spend most of my time volunteering for our Dharma School. I have been at OBT since I was 5-years old (!), and spent my childhood at the temple. My parents and grandparents, having been Japanese immigrants, found much needed acceptance and support at the temple.

This is what I remember of amateur talent shows that were held in a packed, temple basement in the late 1970s. These shows were completely in Japanese -- kyogen comedy, karaoke, and traditional dance. Even the program was written in Japanese, posted by the elevated stage.

My grandmother often performed *shigin*, a type of poem delivered in a beautiful, soulful song. Back then, even to ten-year-old me, I saw that these social events created a place for people to share their best selves,; from sharing laughter at irreverent jokes, audience participation to encourage nervous or impressive performers, to shared silence during a sentimental song. These small spectacles ceased to exist as Japanese-language videos became more accessible, and as those Japanese-speakers passed away.

I will never forget how the temple had been a place of acceptance and dignity to the Japanese community, and for that I am truly grateful. With recent heartbreaks related to COVID, extended quarantine, racial injustice, and now wildfires, we are hearing the call for empathy and to reach out. We have cancelled our usual activities, but I am sure that we will find a way to restore personal connections, and make positive memories for people in need.

In Gassho, Ann.

Buddhist Study Class via Zoom



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

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

Where: Participants are at their respective homes on their computers, communicating via Zoom.

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

Currently we are reading Tannisho.

The next class will be September 23 on Chapter 12 following class October 7 on Chapter 13.

Excerpts from Chapters 12 and 13:

XII – Some people say that those who do not read and study the sutras and commentaries cannot be ascertained of birth in the Pure Land. This view is hardly worthy of serious consideration

XIII – Some people say that those who do not fear committing evil because of the inconceivable power of Amida’s Vow are guilty of taking pride in the Primal Vow, and, therefore, will not attain birth. This betrays doubt in the Primal Vow and shows a lack of understanding of good and evil as the product of past karma

NWD Joint Fall Ohigan Service September 20, 2020

Northwest District ministers met virtually for the service. Reverend Sugahara gives the Japanese talk at the 28 minute 25 second mark.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yx_C0NM-PC0

Reverend Harry Bridge Oakland Buddhist Temple

The Middle Way, August 30, 2020



https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=123&v=TTPjyNzGvLU&feature=emb_logo

In this talk, Reverend Bridge mentions the Japanese words “gaman” and “shikataga nai”, citing them as examples of two extremes. Gaman means “accept things as they are but persevere, don’t give up on your goals” He further states that gaman is a Buddhist term meaning pride in oneself but if you give up too much it can become an extreme, for example if you give up too much of what you desire, your health, happiness. On the other hand, shikataganai means it can’t be helped, woe is me, I give up. Gaman and shikataganai are two extremes. What is the solution? The solution is to find the Middle Way.



6 Paramitas

According to Rev. Bridge, this photo represents the 6 Paramitas. The reason why is explained on page 7.

Buddha Dharma – Universal Teaching



**Reverend Yasuo Izumi
Buddhist Temple of Southern
Alberta**

When I was in Richmond, B.C., a new Sunday School (R. A. McMath Secondary) was opened across Steveston Buddhist Temple and I was asked to deliver the dedication for the school. I accepted the invitation because I thought it was a great honour as a Buddhist minister to be asked on such an occasion.

A few days later a copy of an approved format to be used at the official school opening was sent to me. When I read the format I was surprised, for it started with the word “Dear God, you who are the beginning and end of all ...” Furthermore, I

saw the word “we pray...” here and there. I phoned the School Board and asked if I could change some wordings in the format. The chairperson of the Board asked me to send a format with the change.

I changed the words “Dear God...” to “In the Name of all that is sacred ...” Buddhist do not have a concept of God as a creator nor as a judge of human life. A Buddhist Creed says, “We think that the universe originate, develop, change and perish through the operation of natural and inherent causes, and that this series of the cycle has neither a beginning nor an end”.

Then I changed the word “pray” to “we aspire” because the purpose of “prayer” has many meanings including “to appease God”. A Buddhist Creed says “We think that evil deeds are to be avoided and good deeds are to be done, not through fear of punishment or through desire for reward, but rather through understanding and compassion, and through unselfish devotion to virtue.”

I tried to make the format more universal and more acceptable for all walks of life. The chairperson of the Board read the changed format and it was accepted.

On the evening of the official opening, I saw well over three hundred people including many Orientals. Later, I learned that the founder of the school, who died two years ago, was a constant supporter of multiculturalism and showed a particular sensitivity to minority groups and their unique needs – culture, religious and social.

Reverend Sugahara Conducts Outdoor Wedding Rite



Under smoggy skies at The Aerie at Eagle Landing in Happy Valley, Reverend Sugahara married Kim Kinoshita and Erik Albrecht on September 13. Parents are Ken and Betty Kinoshita and Steve and Nancy Albrecht.

Jean’s Bedspread



Why Jean Matsumoto is a happy kid again, sleeping in a bed of contentment covered by Wheel of Dharma turtles, and grateful to all her OBT friends who check in on her during covid-19.

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

Donate through PayPal

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

Thank you for your consideration!

Gassho,
Yuki Sugahara
Resident Minister
Oregon Buddhist Temple



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

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

Oregon Buddhist Temple is closed until further notice

**Oregon Buddhist Temple
August Donations**

**In memory of Dick Hoverson,
Phyllis Muramatsu & Patsy Abe**
Chris Dart

SHOTSUKI HOYO
Janie Okawa

**In memory of Suematsu Ando,
Sumiko Ando & Yoshimi Fujii**
Diane Ando Harder
Roberta Ando

In memory of Yoshihei Shiraishi family
S. & H. Uyeoka

In memory of Sanami Nakano
Alice Tano

In memory of Hisako Kakishita
Chieko Kakishita
Minnie Young
Dana Kakishita

In memory of Fumi Saito
Carolyn J. Saiget

Special donations
Benevity Community Impact Fund
(Apple Inc. employees)
June & Stan Shiigi *(Fund Drive)*
Judy & Paul Hittle *(with gratitude)*
James & Judith Nakashima
Network for Good *(grant)*
Derrick & Alison Yoshinaga
Herb & Etsu Osaki *(Hishinuma fund)*
Michael & Janice Ishii
Diane Ando Harder
(Rev. Tanaka Zoom lecture)

Sumie Ishida *(thank you Rev. Sugahara)*
Jason Danner
StellaElf
Carolyn J. Saiget *(thank you to NW
ministers for joint services)*

Obon / Kangi-e
Chris Dart
Connie Masuoka
Roberta Ando
Alice Tano
Jean Matsumoto
Lew & Jean Tomita

Obonfest 2020
Herb & Etsu Osaki
Kiyomi Dickinson
Jean Matsumoto
Diane Ando Harder
Carolyn J. Saiget
Robert Kagawa *(lantern)*

2020 Annual pledge
Junko Iwao Toll

**Monthly/quarterly/semi-
annual pledge donations**
Susan Lilly & Erik Ackerson
Diane Ando Harder
Nancy Walseth
Jean Matsumoto
Susan Endecott

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

Thank you for your continued support

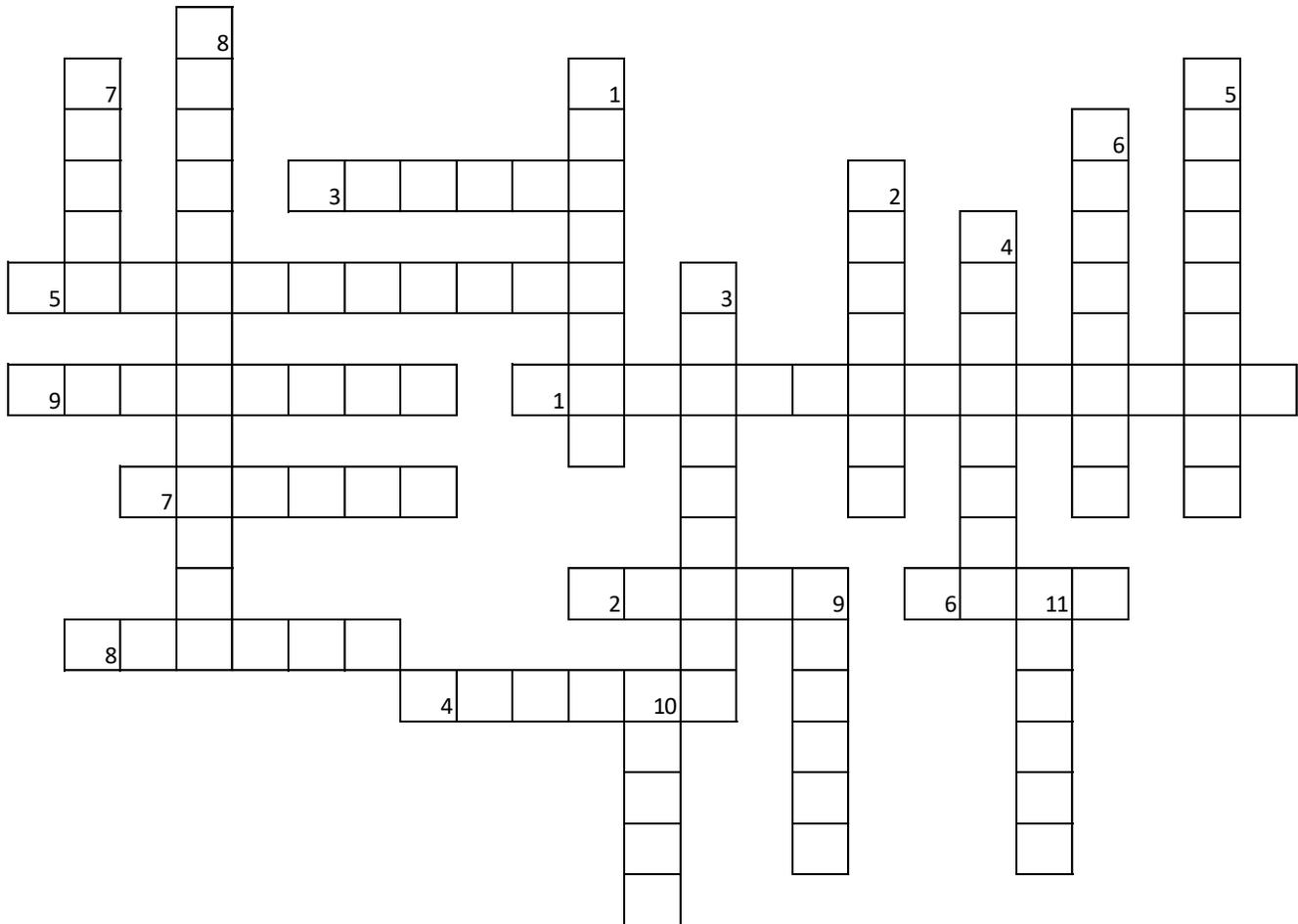
Answers to the crossword puzzle below

DOWN	ACROSS
1. junrai	1. namoamidabutsu
2. juseige	2. hondo
3. shoshinge	3. onenju
4. sugahara	4. gotane
5. francisco	5. hanamatsuri
6. shotsuki	6. dana
7. sutra	7. powell
8. shintarashonin	8. sangha
9. oshoko	9. butsudana
10. nepal	
11. namiko	

6 Paramitas

The photo is of a Grandpa Delivering Pizza
Every Monday and Wednesday.
G for Generosity
D for Discipline
P for Patience
E for Effort
M for Meditation
W for Wisdom

Jodo Shinshu



Crossword puzzle by Cathy Yarme

Across

- 1. nembutsu
- 2. Name of a hall includes a shrine and sitting area
- 3. Buddhist beads
- 4. day to honor the birth of Shinran Shonin
- 5. festival of flowers
- 6. practice of pure and unconditional giving
- 7. major street near temple
- 8. referring to a group or all Buddhists
- 9. Family Alter

Down

- 1. the Twelve Adorations
- 2. Three Sacred Vows
- 3. Hymn of True Shinjin and the Nembutsu
- 4. Yuki's last name
- 5. The Buddhist Churches of America is located in San _____
- 6. monthly memorial
- 7. the scriptures which convey Buddhist teachings
- 8. founder of Jodo Shinshu (2 words)
- 9. honorific incense burning
- 10. The country where Lumbini garden is located
- 11. She is married to Rev. Yuki

This is the one Iurate for the program book

Nami Sasaki

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE OREGON BUDDHIST CHURCH FUJINKAI

In the fall of 1903, the Reverend Gendo Nakai came to Portland from the Seattle Buddhist Church and delivered the first sermon to a group of interested Japanese immigrants. As a result of the newly generated enthusiasm, Portland's first Buddhist minister, the Reverend Shozui Wakabayashi, 24 years old, arrived from Japan in November, 1903.

Two years later, in 1905, the Sangha had grown to over 300 members. This necessitated a move to larger rented quarters at 18 First Avenue. This house was the birthplace of the Oregon Buddhist Church Fujinkai.

The Rokujisongo, a scroll inscribed "Namu Amida Butsu" and symbolizing the Buddha in the altar, was received from the Kyoto Hongwanji Temple as a gift. It was personally delivered by Reverend Koyu Uchida, who later became Bishop. In February 1906, an enshrinement service for the Rokujisongo was held, and to commemorate this occasion, the Reverend Wakabayashi organized the Fujinkai.

Women of that era were not concerned with pollution, urban cowboys or political matters. Theirs was a culture that emphasized obedience, politeness, and non-assertive behavior. Most moved passively through the hardships of a new life, uninvolved in any major issue other than instilling within themselves and their offsprings the spirit of the Nembutsu in their adopted homeland.

Rented rooms and houses gave way in 1910 to the Buddhist's own temple at NW 10th Avenue. Five years later, the Reverend Wakabayashi, who was still the resident minister, passed away at age 36. The Fujinkai reverently cherishes his memory with flowers at his gravesite several times a year.

It was in this new three storied brick building that the Fujinkai spent the next 56 years, predominately in the frill-less basement kitchen. The work of the Fujinkai was purposeful and the atmosphere of camaraderie warmed the austere setting. As the years passed by, the children of the members, in the 1930's, became YBA's and YABA's. The future Fujinkai members were now in the making.

During this half a century plus, many changes took place. There was World War II, when the temple was closed for ^{over} three years during the tumultuous mass evacuation. Faith in the compassion of Amida Buddha did not falter. Upon returning, the members reorganized and saved the Fujinkai from extinction. Aesthetic values gradually infiltrated into the utilitarian lives of the Issei women as their Nisei daughters became of age, married, raised families, and one by one, began to join the Fujinkai.

The Sangha, displaying the undiminished vitality of an established organization, and imbued with the desire to reaffirm the spiritual Buddhist quality of life, erected a new temple ^{BT} on SE 34th Avenue in 1966. The Fujinkai's contribution to this effort was unlimited as they confronted the new dimensions of change.

Once settled in the new temple, the transition slowly but surely began to take place as the Issei succumbed to the passage of time. The heritage of fortitude and forbearance of the past had established the firm foundation for the gradual changes as new, efficient ideas were introduced. The wife of the resident minister was no longer automatically the president of the Fujinkai. Her capacity became that of an advisor. In the late 60's and early 70's, English speaking vice-presidents and English writing secretaries began to appear with the Japanese speaking cabinet officers. In 1979, the Fujinkai acquired its first Nisei president.

It is now 1980 Today, the number of Japanese speaking members and English speaking members is quite evenly balanced. Just as the pioneer Fujinkai women hoped for the continuity of their visions, so do the Nisei members realize that Sansei are symbolic of the future. Encouragingly, third generation members are appearing on the roster. Likewise, Sansei ministers are joining the ministerial staff. The Fujinkai hopes to maintain the same spirit of commitment to the dedication and determination established by its past members.

This is truly a critical period of transition. As the Fujinkai moves forward with confidence, it strives to uphold the flexibility necessary to cover the concept of three generations. Realizing that this unique bi-lingual era will soon be ending, the teachings of Shinran Shonin are practiced diligently for the harmonious melding of these generations. Patience, tolerance, and compassion assures us that this brief part of history may be remembered in our own old age with satisfaction and shameless pride. A new constitution was ratified in 1980. However, for the present, the Fujinkai's efforts shall continue to be humanitarian rather than parliamentary.

In the 75 years of existence, the Fujinkai has been hostess to the following distinguished visitors:

- The Daika Komyo Ohtani in September 1909
- The Daika Sonyu Ohtani in October 1925
- The Renshi Shojo Ohtani in December 1934
- The Lord Abbot Kosho Ohtani and Lady Ohtani in January 1952
- The Lord Abbot Kosho Ohtani and Lady Ohtani in February 1959

The Oregon Buddhist Church has been served by 23 ministers. Their period of service ranges from four months to ^{the} twelve years served by Reverend Wakabayashi. Reverend and Mrs. Zenkai Okayama and Reverend and Mrs. Kazuo Nakagami each have served the Oregon Buddhist Church for ten years. The Fujinkai is greatly indebted to all of the ministers and their wives.

This is more than a 75 year history of the Fujinkai's existence. It is a human story of women's determination to survive and progress through trial, test, and experience. It is a story of women with a fixity of purpose--to perpetuate the Nembutsu and pass it on.

This day is dedicated to all Fujinkai women of the past and others kindred to their spirit, who pioneered the Buddhist way of life in our land. It is our legacy to behold, practice, and preserve.

From: Brian Koichi Mizushima <bkmizushima@bcahq.org>
日付: 2020年9月21日(月)午後8:45
件名: BCA Youth Showcase Event

Hello Ministers, Advisors & Temple Leaders,

The BCA is hosting its first Virtual Youth Performance Event called BCA JAMS (JodoShinshu Artists & Musicians Showcase).

I would really appreciate your help in spreading the word to find Youth Performers willing to be a part of this great event! This is a great way for BCA Youth to share their talents and perform in a fun show for the whole family. It would be wonderful if we could have representatives from all of the different temples and districts in the BCA.

Please share this email with your dharma school teachers, YBA Advisors, board members and parents. We are looking for singers, musicians, dancers, jugglers, magicians... and any other performers willing to share their talent!

Space is limited so please be sure to submit your audition video by Nov 1st. All of the details are in the attached flyer.

It will be a fun & free event for everyone to watch via zoom. Any donations received during the event will go towards a scholarship fund to help subsidize travel expenses for BCA Youth Participants attending future CBE Youth Events.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at bkmizushima@bcahq.org.

Thank you for helping me share this event, and to encourage performers to register for this event. I really think it will be a lot of fun! I can't wait to see all of the great talent.

Thank you very much,
Koichi Mizushima



BCA J.A.M.S.
Jodo Shinshu Artists & Musicians Showcase

-Calling All Musicians, Singers,
Magicians, Dancers, Poets...

-Perform in the 1st annual BCA Youth
Concert.
A fun and exciting virtual event for
everyone to enjoy!!!

-Submit your 3-5 min. audition video at
the link below (due Nov 1st)

-Questions: email "Koichi"
bkmizushima@bcahq.org

EVENT DATE: **JAN10**
1:00PM PST **2021**
DONATIONS APPRECIATED

Audition: <https://forms.gle/UjsjBkAZChbXrKYT8>