



Two Years Already!! Reverend Yuki Sugahara

This marks exactly two years since the beginning of the pandemic and the canceling of temple services. One of my friends who used to work for a medical company said that it is natural for viruses to be contagious and mutating. But I see the numbers of COVID cases decreasing and this gives me a hope that we are able to meet regularly at the temple again soon!

I started daily services on YouTube on March 31, 2020 and I have posted every single day since then. I thought I could apply for the Guinness Record for consecutive days of posting the video so I actually looked up the record and guess what I found. The world record is 3,653 days or 10 years.

What is interesting about the daily service is that I can focus on the text and explain the text. This is difficult to do for a usual Sunday service. By this, I mean some of the material is difficult to understand and due to my ability of speaking English, people sometimes need to watch the video more than once to understand what I've said. But that is also the good thing about the videos.

Below is a list of the texts that I've explained in the past:

1. Letters of Rennyo Shonin (34 videos)

Actually, there are over 250 letters of Rennyo Shonin. I've selected 34 letters which are read at Nishi Hongwanji's morning service, special services and memorial services.

2. Reading Jodo Wasan (122 videos)

Shinran Shonin wrote over 500 Wasans (hymns, religious poem [san] written in Japanese [wa]). Jodo Wasan is based on the various sutras and Master Tan-luan's Gatha in Praise of Amida Buddha.

3. Reading Koso Wasan (120 videos)

In Koso wasan, Shinran Shonin praises the achievements and the teachings of the Seven Pure Land Masters, Nagarjuna, Vasubandhu, Tan-luan, Tao-cho, Shan-tao, Genshin and Genku.

4. Reading Shozomatsu Wasan (122 videos)

Shozomatsu means Right, Semblance, and Last. This refers to the idea of the Dharma Ages. Shinran Shonin emphasizes that this is the last Dharma Age and we should rely on the working of Amida Buddha.

5. Reading Kotaishi Shotoku Hosan Wasan (76 videos)

Kotaishi means Prince. This is the wasan in praise of Prince Shotoku who Shinran Shonin respected and admired. Some Wasans are about historical events that might be interesting to those who are want to learn more about Japanese ancient history.

6. Reading Shoshin Nembutsuge (88 videos)

Shoshin Nembutsuge is a gatha written by Shinran Shonin and excerpt from Chapter on Teaching of KyoGyoShinSho. Shinran Shonin explains the essence of Jodo Shinshu teachings within 120 verses.

7. Reading Tannisho (63 videos)

Tannisho is the collection of the words of Shinran Shonin and discussion on the teachings compiled by Yuien, one of the disciples of Shinran Shonin. Tannisho has been read by people of many countries and the words resonate many of the Jodo Shinshu followers. Tannisho in original Japanese is considered not only a religious but a literary classic.

8. BDK Daily Word Calendar (31 videos)

Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai kindly distributes a Daily Word Calendar to the temple. The calendar contains 31 words from the sutras, commentaries and proverbs. The calendar shows where the word originated in Japanese, but it in English so I explain each word. Most of the time, I try to add a Shinshu interpretation to the words.

9. Reading Notes on Once-Calling and Many-Calling (on going)

Notes on Once-Calling and Many-Calling is a commentary on the Clarification of Once-Calling and Many-Calling written by Ryukan. Ryukan is a disciple of Honen Shonin. Shinran Shonin was influenced by Ryukan's thoughts. This Notes not only explains the quotes in the Clarification, but also displays the essence of Jodo Shinshu teachings.

I hope I am able to continue this tradition of explanation the texts and perhaps acquire the Guinness Record one day!! (half kidding, half serious).

Gassho

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

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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.

Ohigan - also called *Sanbutsu-e* (讚仏会)

It is said that this harmonious time of year is the perfect time to contemplate the six paramitas. Paramita literally means “other shore” and the six practices are the tools that one uses to reach the other shore of enlightenment. They are: *dana*, selfless sharing; *sila*, correct behavior; *ksanti*, patience; *virya*, effort; *dhyana*, meditation; and *prajna*, wisdom.

For Jodo Shinshu Buddhists, Amida Buddha has perfected these six paramitas for us, which is why we gather to praise the Buddha.

For 2022, the Vernal equinox is about March 21, when day and night are of equal length, marking the start of Spring.



OBT President Words of Gratitude Charles Reneau

This month, I'd like to thank all of the Temple's volunteers, and to share some good news.

Mid-size North American religious organizations, like ours, are usually structured in two parts. In addition to a paid, highly-trained religious leader (such as Reverend Sugahara), there's usually a large group laypersons who attend services and events, raise money, make institutional and financial decisions, and volunteer their time to support the organization's operations.

Both the priest and the lay Sangha parts of this structure are necessary for its function.

In this way, our Temple behaves much like a person's two hands coming together in Gassho: without both hands, Gassho has a different effect. Of course, we've all seen Sensei raised a single hand in Gassho while turning the page of a book, or striking a bell, so maybe I'm pushing this metaphor a little too hard.

We come together for the purpose of hearing the Dharma, but a lot of hard work and careful decision making goes into the act of *coming together*. Imagine, for a second, trying to have a Temple that thrives without its volunteers, and without the gifts of Dana that we are entrusted with raising and investing. That would probably look a lot like Sensei going door to door and asking isolated individuals for money in exchange for Dharma Talks. I don't know about Sensei, but I'm guessing most of us wouldn't prefer that!

At this year's Annual Meeting, I was struck by the sheer number of helping hands that contribute to the success of our Temple. I know Editor Shinya doesn't want me to go over 500 words, so I won't try to list all the people reporting at the Meeting, but, for anyone who wasn't able to attend, I can tell you: it was an impressive display, representing a variety of skill sets and a wealth of institutional knowledge.

So, to all of our volunteers I'd like to shout out a hearty “Thank You!”

And for some more good news: we are reopening our Temple! We won't be doing it immediately, and we won't be doing it all at once, but we are moving forward with plans unanimously approved by the Board at our February Meeting

(see below *Re-Opening Plan*). Many thanks to the members of the Re-Opening Committee (Cathy Yarne, Ken Garner, Reverend Sugahara and myself) for working on the plan.

These plans represent carefully thought out discussions involving a variety of perspectives, and provide a judicious path forward that protects the health and safety of our community, while beginning to return to offering the in-person services that we traditionally enjoy. One component of this plan is that, as I mentioned in last month's message, we will continue to offer the Dharma online, as determined by the Buddhist Education Committee. It's important that we maintain this avenue for hearing the Dharma, both for people who holding off on attending in-person services, and for people who prefer the online formats.

Re-opening Plan

To return to in-person service in the Hondo, we are watching the course of several public health statistics, as reported by the Oregon Health Authority. Specifically, we'd like to see Multnomah County Covid case counts and regional hospitalizations decline for four weeks, and reach certain levels (100 per day and 150 per day, respectively). Our current best guess is that we will reach these conditions sometime in late March.

What will it look like when we begin?

- We will hold two Sunday services, to space attendees better:

9am Service: we suggest that we reserve this service for seniors and immunocompromised Sangha members

11am Service for anyone (including seniors, if they prefer)

- We will phase into Dharma Exchange, refreshments, etc., as conditions allow
- Attendees will wear face masks
- We will add chairs around the perimeter of the Hondo, to allow physical space for everyone
- We will open windows and doors, for increased ventilation
- We will see the HVAC for increased ventilation
- We will use portable HEPA filter units for increased ventilation
- Vaccination for Covid-19 will be required to attend services in-person:

The teaching doesn't choose any people, but we care about the wellness and safety of people attending our services. In consideration of everyone's health and wellness, if you are unvaccinated, please participate in the service from home, via Zoom/YouTube.

- Reverend Sugahara

Online Services

Reverend Yuki conducts daily on-line services including Sundays at 8 am. On Sundays he also conducts a service at 10 am. Go to the Oregon Buddhist Temple website and “check out the

YouTube Channel of Oregon Buddhist Temple

Or click on

[Oregon Buddhist Temple - YouTube](#)

March Shotsuki Hoyo

This is a monthly memorial service to honor and remember those loved ones who passed away during the month of March. The Shotsuki-Hoyo service will be held March 13th at the 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.

Abe, Chozo 3/26/1962	Kuranishi, Torakazu 3/12/1956	Saito, Hisako 3/25/2002 *
Ando, Michael Allyn Noboru 3/8/2018	Kurata, Toraiichi 3/12/1956	Sakurai, Chiyoko 3/11/1986 *
Aoki, George Shigeru 3/8/1986	Kuribayashi, Tatsuko 3/8/2011	Sanjo, Iki 3/26/1970
Choi, Wonchoon 3/6/1966	Kurihara, Wallace 3/19/2020	Sasaki, Ojiro Art 3/27/2004
Dilley, Masako 3/23/1991	Maeda, Yaeko 3/23/1986 *	Sato, Sueno 3/12/1980
Feingold, Ben 3/22/1982	Masuoka, Mathew M 3/20/1998	Serikaku, Beatrice 3/31/1999
Fujita, Haru 3/7/1999 *	Matsunaga, Henry 3/10/1985	Shiogi, Sadaji 3/14/1975
Hamada, Hana 3/9/1993 *	Mishihiro, Iki 3/1970 *	Shiraishi, Joe 3/6/2005
Hara, Eijiro 3/16/1959	Miura, Hitoshi 3/18/1975	Shiraishi, Yutaka 3/19/1996
Hariya, Shinichi 3/9/1955	Mizote, Wataru 3/4/1962	Takabayashi, Yukino 3/9/1976 *
Haruki, Koji 3/23/1959	Muraki, Makie 3/24/2017	Takano, Yoshigo 3/7/1963
Hataseki, Taro 3/7/1953	Muramatsu, Kyu 3/31/1966 *	Takeuchi, Dori Junko 3/22/1976
Higashi, Roy 3/19/1998	Naganuma, Sumi 3/1981 *	Takeuchi, Janet Setsuko 3/22/1976
Ikata, Sumiko 3/30/2016 *	Nakashimada, Leke 3/30/2012	Tamura, Kuniji 3/17/2001
Itoyama, Shohachi 3/11/1956	Nakashimada, Mary 3/15/2009 *	Tanada, Howard Toshikatsu 3/29/1994
Kakishita, Shigeichi 3/1/1993	Nakashimada, Tatsuzo 3/5/1952	Tanaka, Toshiko 3/23/2013 *
Kanai, Nancy Hisako 3/12/1987	Naruki, Koji 3/23/1959	Tanaka, Yutaka 3/10/1962
Kato, Hanjiro 3/27/1955	Nishida, Gunichi 3/25/1997	Tsujimura, Tokichi Tom 3/8/1971
Kida, James Keijiro 3/31/1988	Nishimura, Kijyu 3/31/1982 *	Uyesugi, Kazue 3/1974 *
Kitagawa, Sada 3/20/1993	Nunotani, Shinichi 3/9/1955	Uyetake, Shio 3/16/2009
Koike, Chikara 3/10/1986	Ochiai, Zenzaburo 3/4/1982	Watari, Jack Shizuma 3/19/1999
Koike, Toshiko 3/31/2006 *	Okabayashi, Hatsu 3/19/1968	Yamada, Frances Yurie 3/26/2015
Kono, Jean Owashi 3/3/2015	Onishi, Fred 3/1/1982	Yamada, Senichiro 3/1/1958
Kuranishi, Isao 3/26/1995 *	Rikiishi, Tameichi 3/30/1964	Yamano, Shigetaro 3/6/1978
	Sadamoto, Yoshito G 3/30/2006	
	Saheki, Akira Cap 3/31/2014	

* OBWA MEMBER

2022 Memorial Services

Year Of Passing	Memorial	Year Of Passing	Memorial
2021	1 Year	2006	17 Year
2020	3 Year	1998	25 Year
2015	7 year	1990	33 Year
2010	13 Year	1973	50 Year

If you would like to schedule a memorial service for Loved ones or ancestors, please make arrangements

With Reverend Sugahara at 916-834-7350 or

ysobtoportland0612017@oregonbuddhisttemple.com

Condolences



To the family of Herb Osaki who passed away February 10, 2022. He served as OBT President 1973, 1981, 1990-1991 and as the National Headquarters Buddhist Churches of America President 1982.

A family memorial service was held at the Temple on February 12.

**Oregon Buddhist Temple
Board of Directors
2022 to 2024**

Term Ending 2022



Eric Ackerson



Jayne Ichikawa



Katie Tamiyasu



Christine White

Term Ending 2023



Angie Hughes



Jeanette Hager



Judy Hittle
(Vice President)



Cathy Yarne

Term Ending 2024



Marilyn Huh



Sunitar Kumar



Amanda Stein
(Secretary)



Charles Reneau
(President)

are having the World Buddhist Women’s Convention in Kyoto about the same time.

Since we do not have many occasions to travel together, I would like to travel the southern part of Japan including Okinawa after the events with you. Dates are subject to change, but planning to leave Portland on May 7 and come back to Portland on May 24, 2023.

If you are interested in going on the tour, please register from the registration form. Since I want to keep it to one bus to travel, I would like to keep the maximum number to 40 people and already close to 20 people have shown interest in joining.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeb6Ih2FaiPbM5P8a2MTdr0hGgXYof7d1RozZv-ukUpTmlgdw/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>

Approximate cost is \$7500-8500/per person including airfare, surcharge and insurance. I thought this is expensive, but another temple’s tour costs about the same.

Currently we have about 17 people signed up, and I will invite another temple to join if we don’t get 30 people from our temple by April.

Thank you!
Gassho, Yuki

**Oregon Buddhist Women’s Association
Jeanette Hager, Co-President**



OBWA members met on Saturday, February 19th via Zoom. Sensei led us in opening Gassho and we had a moment of silence for those who have passed, Herb Osaki and others. Too many these past couple of years.

In the meeting, we approved the minutes, the Treasurer’s report and discussed this year’s events that we hope will happen although in a changed format from what we have experienced in the past. I’ve been thinking that, perhaps, this year’s focus should be on healing. I would like to bring that up as a topic for an upcoming meeting. Sometimes, we cannot know what needs healing in others or ourselves, our mind, our body, or our spiritual self. The realization may come from an unexpected thought, listening to a melody or a poem that captures us in its beauty.

I have a book, with writings by Buddhist monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, who has written many inspirational books and has led an inspirational life. I had hoped one day to visit Plum Village and listen to one of his teachings. In his book, “Peace Is Every Step”, he included a poem that was written by his friend

I would like to share a poem with you, written by a friend of mine who died at the age of 28 in Saigon, about 30 years ago. After he died, people found many beautiful poems he had written, and I was startled when I read this poem. It has just a few short lines, but it is very beautiful:

**2023 Japan Trip
Reverend Yuki Sugahara**

We are celebrating the 800th Anniversary of Jodo Shinshu’s establishment and the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin’s birth at Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto. May 10 is the designated day for the Oversea District to attend the service at Nishi Hongwanji. This is a once in 50 years occasion that I strongly recommend you to think about attending. Also, we



*Standing quietly by the fence,
you smile your wondrous smile.
I am speechless, and my senses are filled
by the sounds of your beautiful song,
beginningless and endless,
I bow deeply to you.*

“You” refers to a dahlia. That morning as he passed by a fence, he saw that little flower very deeply and, he stopped and wrote that poem.”

These past couple of years has given us the chance to learn how precious and fleeting is the blooming flower and how fleeting and precious is this human life that we are currently living. By sharing these difficult times together, interacting with compassionate and kind words and deeds, each day will be a little easier. By sharing the joys together, our happiness can be increased a hundredfold. Even if the happiness is fleeting, we will still have precious memories to treasure within our hearts and minds.

May we create beautiful memories together in 2022!

Gassho,

Jeanette

Our next meeting is Saturday, March 19, 2022 via Zoom.



Dharma School Ann Shintani

In February, I was invited to go see the show, “Harry Potter and the Cursed Child”, in San Francisco. Needless to say, I went, and it was amazing. Harry Potter’s son, Albus, laments that he has been a

disappointment to his father, because they are so different. His father tells Albus that he should be himself, as Harry could not be who he is without his friendships and support from others.

For this trip, I felt accomplished that I had so much fun while going by myself, the first time via air since COVID. However, going solo is an illusion, as I was rarely alone: my coworkers swapped days with me so I may take time off at the last minute; my family supported me (including financially) to go on this trip; I went with my friend to the show and dinner; many people gave me helpful advice for things that I would not have thought to do; and I was the recipient of kindnesses of the locals, including Rev. Kobata’s friend, who helped me to buy iconic and yummy San Francisco Japan Town sweets (it was complicated) to bring home, and generously gave me a ride to the airport.

Hanamatsuri, April 3 will be our next in-person Dharma School event at the temple. We plan to have a special performance at that time. If Covid statistics improve, and the temple approves the return of in-person Sunday Service by then, our April 3rd event may have a different start time to work with the temple’s in-person service schedule. Then, Dharma School is expected to return to in-person classes for every Sunday. We are eagerly looking forward to safely getting together. More to come!

Recycling/Sustainability with Kristin Wong. About a month ago, Kristin Wong led a virtual Dharma Exchange discussion about recycling and sustainability practices. She says that there are many ways that we can reduce waste and promote sustainability, through buying less, making different food and purchase choices, and diverting how much we put into garbage to either recycling or composting. Here was some advice that we heard from others:

- M/M Jae Yong Huh: Buying less in the first place.
- Ann Shintani, she/her: I started knitting sweaters.
- Suniti Kumar: I post most stuff for free on nextdoor and people come by to pick it up. Through nextdoor, work, neighbors, we have a chain of six girls who share the same clothes. <https://nextdoor.com/>
- Angelo: Check your tea bags: One cup from a single tea bag could contain 11.6 billion microplastic and 3.1 billion Nano plastic particles.
- Cathy Yarne: Once we get back to actually gathering at the temple, a monthly or bi-monthly collection day for things like Styrofoam, that one person can take to a center.
- Ronald Kobata: What about carrying reusable hashi (chopsticks)? This may be digressing from the main point of today’s discussion, but has anyone heard of the dietary and environmental advantages of eating certain types of insects.
- Marilyn Achterman: My daughter rents clothing. Jayne started a Styrofoam collection point at the temple.
- Carolyn Saiget: Just took a cooking class, the chef suggested putting all kinds of scraps into a collection bag (for stock) in the freezer. She even included garlic peels, ends of onions, and food leftovers. Some of my favorite face masks were made from my husband’s old dress shirts (a great source of quality fabric). Have businesses like Amazon been pressured to use more eco-friendly packaging?
- Kristen Wong: <https://buynothingproject.org/>
- Yuki: This might be only for string musicians, but D’Addario has a string recycling program (any strings from string instruments) Collect 2lb of strings, send them and they send a reward which can be used for new strings.

2022 Virtual FDSL Conference
hosted by the
Northern California Dharma School Teachers' League

**Cheers
to
Finding a New Norm**

Saturday, April 23, 2022
12pm – 5pm (PDT)

Workshop Presenter:
Rev. Dr. Carmela Javellana Hirano
Minister's Assistant,
Salt Lake Buddhist Temple
& Integrative Psychiatrist

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji
Southern Alameda County
Buddhist Church

WELCOME
BACK,
Dharma School
Students!

Norm!

Questions? Email:
fdstconference@gmail.com



Girl Scouts Amy Petersen

First we want to apologize for those that ordered the new Adventureful cookies. They have been a huge hit and we are waiting to hear how that will affect our cookie sales. We have also been shorted Trefoils (shortbread), Tagalons (peanut butter chocolate), and Samoas (coconut caramel). The GOOD NEWS is that the cookie sale has been extended to March 20th. Please email us with your request at gstroop43720OBT@gmail.com and we will hope to get you your cookies! Thanks for your support.

The girls will be selling cookies at the temple annex on Sun Mar. 6th from 12:30 to 2:30 PM. You can come by and see what we have left or let us know what you want and we'll hold it for you. You can also visit one of the girl's sites.

Contact us at GSTROOP43720OBT@gmail.com



Ctl+Click below

[I Know We Can Be on Vimeo](#)

The below article by OBT board member Jeanette Hager is intended to help make the board more accessible to temple members.

Buddhist Church of Oakland Reverend Harry Bridge



[February Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service - February 13, 2022 - YouTube](#)



Pure Excitement

[Granada \(Play with Me n.17\) - Andrea Giuffredi - YouTube](#)

From the Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta

You always want to be ...

Contemplations Jeanette Hager

There are many distractions in life. In the current time, these distractions appear to be greater than ever, however, these have always existed. One of these distractions is the stressors that arise in everyday life. It is through the teachings of many sages from the past that one can learn to lessen the stress (aka "suffering"). With less stress, one can focus on what is most important in life, the Dharma.

To this point in my life, based upon my experiences through life and as a student, here are my basic realizations:

- My ignorance is vast.
- Through teachings and contemplation of those teachings, one comes to realizations, whether or not these are true or false, the self cannot truly know. These realizations are as changing as life itself. One can acquire a new teaching and that will change one's perceptions.
- Translations are difficult. A word over time is translated in a certain way and may no longer have the meaning that was originally intended. In the West, "yoga" is generally seen as a practice of asanas (in Sanskrit "seat"), a physical form of "exercise." From my understanding, "yoga" is those practices that can enable one to quiet the body, mind and spirit, to allow for focus on the Dharma teachings. Through elimination of distractions, one can start to perceive more accurately, not through the veil of one's self-imposed perceptions or more accurately, misperceptions.
- Everyone has unique experiences and thus unique perceptions. What is "right" for one is "wrong" in another's view. However, "truth" is constant. As humans, we feel that we know "truth", but only a Buddha, one who has realized "truth" (has become "enlightened") through elimination of all distractions from perception can realize "true reality" ("ultimate realty").
- I have encountered those who work to lessen the suffering of others. I admire their selflessness. In a small way, I strive to help others, but am always struggling with my thoughts, such as "am I helping out of right intention" and "is this truly being

helpful for them.” This struggle is because I have let my mind control my actions. If I can learn to allow “Other Power” to guide my actions, then my internal struggle would no longer exist.

- Most importantly, it is only because of the Buddhas, sages and teachers of the past who have kept the Dharma teachings alive to our time that we have these precious jewels of wisdom (“prajna”), these teachings on how to perceive the truth and the interconnection of all living beings.
- I am who I am now as a result of all the causes and conditions that made me into who I am today. Tomorrow, I will be changed by the causes and conditions, and the decisions that I make today. The journey continues...

In deepest gratitude to the Teachers. Best wishes to all on your journeys. May we encounter each other and learn together on the way. (Just like in the “Grasshopper on the Road.”)

Al Abe Moves to Tacoma

Al Abe was OBT President 1982-1983. He had been living at Terwilliger Plaza retirement community in southwest Portland for many years. His daughter Debby Abe and her husband Dan Meatte came down from Tacoma, WA to move Al closer to them in Tacoma. Jayne and Shinya Ichikawa visited them to say goodbye to Al.



Zoom Yoga One Year Old Susan Lilly



It has been a full year since Amy Peterson and I launched our Zoom Yoga Class. We meet you in your homes twice a week, Mondays and Wednesdays at 11:00 AM. Class runs about thirty-five minutes long, with a half hour of yoga, breathing, and acupressure, ending with five minutes of guided relaxation. There is also discussion time for personalized direction or suggestions for focus areas. We have a number of regulars who have been with us since the beginning, and others who drop in for a while. It is a condensed set of “do what you are able” exercises, designed for our new world of virtual reality.

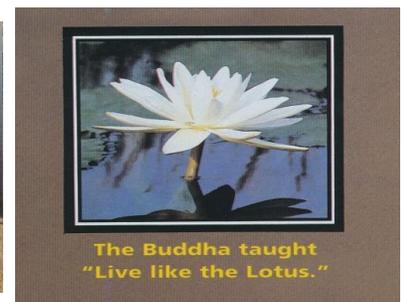
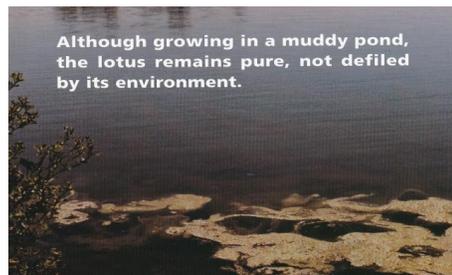
Please join us by contacting Susan Lilly at lillysusan930@gmail.com. Participants may also receive access to our recorded sessions.

Donations are appreciated.
Gassho,
Susan Lilly

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 |

OBT Services, Events, and Meetings by Date

Links to Recurring Events – special links in table following For questions: bec@oregonbuddhisttemple.com

OBT Regular Service Every week – Sun 10 AM https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/
Dharma Exchange Every 2 weeks – Sun 11 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 991 9789 7816 Passcode: 103319 https://zoom.us/j/99197897816?pwd=amRuZ1Y1bEM3Mk5kU0lHeXNleVM4dz09
Intermediate Study Class Every 2 weeks – Wed 7 PM Zoom Meeting ID: 815 9359 3428 Passcode: 704135 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81593593428?pwd=WEhYSEZTV0RlcEN4MjhpNnNvOUxBZz09
OBWA Sat, mid-month, each month – 10 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 962 3703 0266 Passcode: 574232 https://zoom.us/j/96237030266?pwd=QjYxMjl5dDM3cnFVLzR5YmEvUU94UT09
Dharma School Every 2 weeks – On non-Dharma Exchange Sundays Zoom Meeting ID: 972 9043 7213 https://us06web.zoom.us/j/97290437213
OBT Girl Scout Troop Every other week on Sunday (dates below in table) Zoom Meeting ID: 934 4857 6281 Passcode: 43720 https://zoom.us/j/93448576281 Calendar: https://zoom.us/meeting/tJcpc-GtqT0oEtVJpNmFUrmDsDwMTIJqlwF4/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCrqj8iH9OTshGGRowqBo-gWe_wtiFBj7drtg_LDqZmcA7SJcZVH4ZW0snc

DATE	DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	WHERE/NOTES
February				
2/27	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	
2/27	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Al Ono Leader: What Makes Happiness?
March				
3/2	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
3/5	Sat	10:30AM	Dana Class	
3/6	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	
3/6	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	
3/6	Sun	Noon	Girl Scout Meeting	Amy Leader
3/13	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service
3/13	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Rev. Sugahara Leader: Spring Ohigan
3/16	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
3/19	Sat	10 AM	OBWA	Watch email for information
3/19	Sat	10:30AM	Dana Class	
3/20	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Spring Ohigan Service
3/20	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	
3/20	Sun	Noon	Girl Scout Meeting	Amy Leader
3/27	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	
3/27	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Ken Garner Leader: Does Buddhism Have a Liberal Bias?
3/30	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
April				

4/2	Sat	10:30AM	Dana Class	
4/3	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	Hanamatsuri Service
4/3	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	In person for Hanamatsuri
4/3	Sun	Noon	Girl Scout Meeting	Amy Leader
4/10	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Al Ono Leader: Are You Listening??
4/13	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
4/16	Sat	10 AM	OBWA	Watch email for information
4/16	Sat	10:30AM	Dana Class	
4/17	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	
4/17	Sun	11 AM	Dharma School	
4/17	Sun	Noon	Girl Scout Meeting	Amy Leader
4/24	Sun	10 AM	Service – Rev. Sugahara	
4/24	Sun	11 AM	Dharma Exchange	Jeanette Hager Leader: a Chapter from Heart of the Shin Buddhist Path
4/27	Wed	7 PM	Intermediate Study Class	Rev. Sugahara
4/30	Sat	10:30AM	Dana Class	
May				



Turn your vehicle into cash for OBT!
Traci Kiyama

Have an old clunker at home? Donate it to OBT! Your old car, truck, motorcycle, RV, or boat can be turned into donation dollars for our temple. OBT is partnering with CARS to collect your used vehicle and turn it into cash. When you are ready to get rid of your vehicle, simply fill out the form at <https://careasy.org/nonprofit/oregon-buddhist-temple>. You can also find the link on our website or call 855-500-RIDE.



CARS will pick up your vehicle for free, usually within 24-72 hours of your request. They will provide you with a receipt for your donation, and OBT receives cash!



Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet
Elaine Yuzuriha

The Japanese American Graduation Banquet committee met in February and decided to plan an in person luncheon banquet on Sunday, May 1st at 1 pm, located at the Monarch Hotel and Convention Center. Please keep a look out for more information and support this annual event which honors high school graduates from the Portland Metro area and awards the community scholarships.

The Japanese American Community Scholarships and JACL scholarship applications are due on March 5th. The application for the scholarships can be found on the Portland JACL website: www.pdxjacl.org/scholarships/

Please send the names of any Japanese American High School Graduate from the Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas counties in Oregon, and Clark County, WA to the graduation committee for an invitation to the banquet in honor of them. You can contact Elaine Yuzuriha at e.yuzuriha@gmail.com. Thank you to the community for your continued support of this unique and traditional annual event.



Portland Taiko ...

...is hosting two different Taiko workshops for people in the Asian American community. Details can be found below or on the Portland Taiko website.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/online-taiko-101-workshop-for-the-asian-american-community-march-30-registration-273943220547>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/in-person-taiko-101-workshop-for-the-asian-american-community-april-6-registration-273880843977>

**Oregon Buddhist Temple
January Donations**

Tom Hokama 2nd year memorial

Pat Hokama

In memory of Phyllis Adduci Ikeda

Scott & Lynn Grannan

SHOTSUKI HOYO**In memory of Nami Sasaki**

Joyce F. Olsen

In memory of Sakae Ando

Diane Ando Harder

Roberta Ando

In memory of Benny Tano

Alice Tano

In memory of Hisashi Okamoto

Janice Okamoto

In memory of Pat Lindemaier

Pat Hokama

In memory of Haruno & May Saito

Carolyn J. Saiget

In memory of Jim Nist

Anonymous

Special donationsThomas & Katie Saiget (*Fidelity
Charitable donor-advised grant*)May Watari, Duane Watari & family
(*end of year donation*)Roberta Ando (*BCA Dana Program*)

Kent M. Matsuda

Gayle Tokumoto (*osechi*)Craig & Lisa Yanase (*osechi*)Patricia Quan (*osechi*)

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Pat. Hokama

Dana Kakishita

Carolyn J. Saiget

Katie Tamiyasu

2022 Annual Pledge

Charles Reneau

Herb & Etsu Osaki

Christine White

2022 Annual Pledge (continued)

Roberta Ando

Amanda Stein

Thomas C. McCormack

Ken Garner

Judy & Paul Hittle

Gerald & JoAnn Sumoge

Robert & Gail Tsutsumi

Yoshie Kagawa

Joseph & Lora Wahl

Janice Ishii

Katsuya Amasuga

Monthly/Quarterly Pledges

Susan Lilly & Erik Ackerson

Jean Matsumoto

Pat Hokama

Alice Tano

Diane Ando Harder

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. Please inform us of any significant errors or omissions.
sjendecott@gmail.com

Thank you for your continued support

Amida Buddha of compassion is a great torch in the long night of ignorance; / Do not sorrow that your eyes of wisdom are dark. — Shinran Shonin (1173-1263)



**Reverend
Yasuo Izumi**

During the new year, I am sure you have received some or many new year's cards from your friends and acquaintances. One of the new year's cards I received this year was a bit unique and surprising. It was from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. In the card, three names were written. I have some friends in that religious organization, but I did not know any of the three names in the new year's card at all.

In the front of the card, there is a beautiful colorful picture of Mary holding an infant baby Jesus. On the other side it says "Dear Rev. Izumi" which is me. The sentence which is printed under my name drew my attention. It was a quotation from the Book of John in the New Testament: "I am the light of the world: He that follows me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Here "I", of course, means God who is light. The idea is that one who follows God shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life. Because God is almighty, It is simple and clear.

I remember my teacher once told us: "Christianity is the religion of submission to God and Buddhism is the teaching of awakening, to awaken who we are." There is no concept of God almighty capable of performing miracles in Jodo Shinshu.

In Jodo Shinshu, as in the opening quote by Shinran, Amida is the light of compassion. Those who are awakened to the compassion of Amida are able to see clearly that they are always, from the beginning to the end of their life, walking in the darkness of blind passions or bonno. We walk with blind passions (darkness) whether we like it or not, whether we are sad or not. Truth is that countless blind passions are attached with us. And because of our blind passions by which we suffer, Amida's great compassion is always and constantly working for us, embracing us and never abandoning us.

You all know about Helen Keller (June 27, 1880-June 1, 1968) who suffered with a triple handicap in her life. She once said: Rather than walking in the light by myself, I like to walk in the darkness with my good friend who knows me well. Of course, we do not have a triple handicap, but we have all kinds of blind passions in and with our life.

With blind passions we are not able to attain Buddha's world filled with light of wisdom. For those of us who have no wisdom to see life clearly, Buddha's wisdom manifests itself in compassion for our blind passions and accepts us as we are.

Rather than walking in the light by myself, I walk in the darkness which I feel sad, with Amida Buddha who truly knows who I am.

In Gassho,
Yasuo Izumi,
Minister Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta

二月になりました。「ひかり」の読者の皆様、お元気でしょうか。コロナ感染症が今でも各地で発生しています。日本でも5万人の方々が、そのために苦しんでいるそうです。お互い注意しましょう。さて、新年のお参り（修正会）で、「一休さんと門松」のお話をしたところ、「門松の絵」を描いて下さい、と頼まりました。そう言えば、カナダで門松を見ることはないでしょう。一休さんの話とは、お正月の門松を見て「めでたくもあり、めでたくもなし」と言ったという話です。というのも、お正月になると皆等しく、一つ歳を取るからです。つまり、お互い「死」にまた一歩近づいた、ということなのです。八代目の蓮如上人は、「若い時、み教えを聞け」と言っておられます。歳を取れば、足は不自由にもなり、耳も聞こえなくなる、というわけです。折角、人間に生まれたのですから、儲かった、損した、泣いた、笑



Pledges for the Oregon Buddhist Temple The Membership/Committee

It is because of each and every one who has ever been a part of the OBT Sangha since its inception, through caring for each other and our home Temple, that OBT has continued for so many, many years. It is up to us to nurture the Dharma teachings in our hearts and through our actions, keeping it alive for our children and for the generations to come

Your pledge is important in supporting all that we do at OBT. Pledges of \$300 per individual also include your membership dues with the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA). Any amount shows your support of OBT's Dharma services, classes and programs and our other Sangha community activities. If you can, pledges beyond \$300 are greatly appreciated. (Pledge form on following page).



OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

PLEDGE FOR 2022

Please provide the information below to ensure that our records are accurate and up-to-date.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I / we will pledge for 2022, 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

Those who pledge any amount will be listed as supporters of the Oregon Buddhist Temple.

Pledges of \$300 or more per individual will be listed with the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) as members of Oregon Buddhist Temple. The \$300 includes the BCA membership dues which will be forwarded to BCA.

Please send this completed Pledge for 2022 to:

Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th St.
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.