

BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO
BUSSEI SCRIPT

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Love And Death

By Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi,
Resident Minister

We sometimes hear that the Dharma is difficult to understand. There are pleas to simplify the Dharma for easy consumption. I agree that an introduction to Shin could be simplified, but for adults who are seeking resolution to life's problems, there are no simple solutions to life itself. I would like to take the two themes of this month to illustrate the difficulty. Love is the primary symbol of **Valentine's Day** although it is essentially a commercial device to sell greeting cards and chocolate candy. We Buddhists recognize **Nirvana Day** as the memorial of Shakyamuni Buddha's death.

The difficulty of explaining the Dharma is similar to an attempt to explain love. Love is a word that has many meanings. Our understanding of love depends, in part, on our age and experience. A child's understanding is different from an older teenager. Love has a different meaning for a parent, a mature adult, and an elder. For each individual, the meaning depends on our age, culture, present condition, and personal experience. How might we explain love to a diverse audience of all ages? This is the challenge that we face as we explain the Dharma.

The Dharma is an explanation of the truth of life. It depends on the experience of the listener. What we learn as a child becomes much more complex as we encounter the challenges of adulthood and elderhood. The Dharma not only describes the reality of the world and universe, but also provides a guide for us to navigate within this world. By past experience, we should know that the meaning of the Dharma will be broader and deeper as we progress in life. But this is not automatic. As it is with every new encounter, our own efforts determine how deeply we comprehend a new subject.

We often don't need to know the complexity of a subject to be useful to us. Consider the use of a car or a computer. The mechanics of cars and the software of computers have become increasingly complex. However, we may only need to be aware of the basic elements to use a car or computer. This may be true of the Dharma. Of course, the more we know can help us in dealing with deeper problems with a car, computer, or life.

Some issues of love are not discussed with children until a certain maturity is reached. Similarly, the

deeper issues of life and Dharma are not seriously discussed until an age of maturity is reached. **Death** is that mark of maturity that differentiates the practical level of Dharma with the deeper spiritual/truth level. The Buddha, Shinran, and Rennyo all lost their mothers when they were children. As young adults, this loss may have initiated their search for the truth of life. This difference of levels should be noted as we listen to the Teachings. There is the level of practical benefit and a deeper level of the spiritual/sacred. Many Americans have found the practical benefits of meditation and mindfulness. But much of the writings of Shinran are in response to our deeper spiritual needs. We may be wanting a simple explanation to help us in our practical life and Shinran's words are responding to our deeper spiritual needs.

The Nembutsu, shinjin, and "birth in the Pure Realm" are intended to resolve our deeper issues of our understanding of life and death. But these can also help us in our practical life. At the practical level, we learn that T'an-Luan becomes a Taoist master to overcome illness. However, a meeting with the Buddhist monk, Bodhiruci, convinces T'an Luan that the Dharma is superior to the Tao as it addresses this deeper issue of death. T'an-Luan leaves his Taoist scriptures to become a Dharma master.

I think it is helpful to introduce Shin values at the practical level, where words and ideas can be experienced. As we begin to appreciate the value of gratitude in uplifting our lives, we experience the importance of a practice. A shift from "please" to "thank you," can shift our focus from what we don't have to appreciate what we do have. Appreciating the efforts of others for our benefit is also a message of the Nembutsu. This is another way of saying that Namo Amida Butsu is acknowledging the compassion of Amida Buddha. The voicing of the Nembutsu becomes a habit as we note the many things in life that support us. This simple, yet deep expression, is also a response as we awaken to the rare and wondrous reality that we enjoy as life itself.

The complexities of life, death and the Dharma exist. We practice the entry level of practical benefits by saying "thank you." By voicing Namo Amida Butsu, we are elevated to the realm of the spiritual/sacred.

Gassho,
Kenji Sensei

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FEBRUARY CALENDAR

BTSD continues to remain closed until further notice due to health and safety restrictions related to COVID-19.

Religious and social activities will continue to be offered virtually on the temple's YouTube (YT) video channel and Zoom (Z) live video platforms. The temple urges the Sangha to share the Dharma with family members and friends who do not have computer internet access. Here is the February schedule:

- 3 – Taiko practice, 6:30 p.m. (Z), Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 6 – Sutra Chanting Shoshinge, 1 p.m. (Z)
SD Jr. YBL Virtual Volleyball activity, 1 p.m. (Z)
- 7 – Shotsuki Hoyo monthly memorial & Dharma message (YT)
Dharma School staff meeting, 9 a.m. (Z)
Qigong workshop, 9 a.m. (Z), Dharma School, 10 a.m. (Z)
BWA meeting, 11 a.m. (Z), Taiko practice, noon (Z)
- 9 – Ways and Means meeting, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 10 – Taiko practice, 6:30 p.m. (Z), Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 11 – Board of Directors meeting, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 12 – Southern District Council meeting, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 13 – Sutra Chanting Shoshinge, 1 p.m. (Z), Book Club, 2 p.m. (Z)
- 14 – Dharma Message, YT
Dharma School, 10 a.m. (Z), Jr. YBA meeting, 11 a.m. (Z)
Sangha Teens meeting, 11 a.m. (Z), Taiko practice, noon (Z)
- 15 – March Bussei Script articles due
- 17 – Taiko practice, 6:30 p.m. (Z), Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 19 – BCA Ministers Association meeting (Z)
- 20 – Sutra chanting Shoshinge, 1 p.m. (Z)
BCA National Council meeting workshops, all day (Z)
- 21 – **NIRVANA DAY/BWA MEMORIAL**, 10 a.m. (Z). Guest speaker: Rev. Candice Shibata, Buddhist Church of Stockton (Contact office for Zoom link).
Qigong workshop, 9 a.m. (Z), Taiko practice, noon (Z)
- 24 – Taiko practice, 6:30 p.m. (Z), Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 p.m. (Z)
Bussei Script March mailing
- 25 – Activities Meeting, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 26 – BCA National Council Meeting, all day (Z)
- 27 – Sutra Chanting Shoshinge, 1 p.m. (Z)
BCA National Council Meeting (Z)
BCA Dharmathon, 3:30 p.m. (Z)
- 28 – Dharma message (YT)
Qigong workshop, 9 a.m. (Z), Dharma School, 10 a.m. (Z)
BCA Eitaikyo Service, 10 a.m. (Z), Taiko meeting, noon (Z)

The Spanish-language Dharma message presented by Arturo Rubio will be posted on the temple's YouTube channel.

Office hours: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Limited staff coverage on weekends. The temple is closed Mondays.

For more information please call the temple at (619) 239-0896. Leave a message if your call is not answered. Send an email to info@btsd.net or check the website <http://www.buddhisttemplesandiego.org> for updates.



Tentatively, Save the Date
**The Annual JFG
 Cherry Blossom Festival
 March 20-22**

ACTIVITIES

The Activities Committee has taken a bit of a break after an active 2020.

The Yasukochi Farms events were our most prevalent activity, we were able to add sales of Face Masks, Chicken Pot Pie, BWA Almond Brittle, Holiday Food Drive, Keiro Kai give away and Clothing drive. We continue to fine-tune the process of our Drive Thru/Contact-less events. These events take a tremendous amount of behind the scenes work to advertise, track orders and payments but with the help of committee and Sangha members, these have been great successes.

I don't want to forget to send a huge THANK YOU to our generous patrons and for those giving monetary donations. The total earnings from the Yasukochi events, Lantern Sale and Restaurant Partner fundraising is far from what we normally take in from our annual Bazaar, Obon and other events but it sure helps!!

Coming up in the spring is another Yasukochi Farms event that is tentatively scheduled. So get ready to fill up your pantry with a CSA box of fresh organic produce and fruits. The Golf Tournament is on June 27 at Riverwalk, keep your eyes open for more information and registration. Golf is one activity folks have been able to participate in during this time of COVID-19. This year is also our Temple's 95th Anniversary! We are looking at what type of celebration we can have in October. It is down the road a bit so time will tell! Let's not forget to continue to wear masks, wash our hands, keep at least six feet apart from folks we don't know and simply stay home when possible. Respectively Submitted by Ann Ong and Glenn Torio

DONORS BEING SOUGHT AS POSSIBLE BONE MARROW MATCHES

An urgent plea has been sent to all BCA temples and the community to help two people who need a bone marrow match in their fight with leukemia.

Paul Goodman, a 29-year-old member of the Orange County Buddhist Church, and Kazumi Schmidgall, a high school math teacher in Arizona, are seeking a match.

Individuals between the ages of 18-44 are the strongest candidates to register, as noted an ideal match for Paul who is half Japanese and half Caucasian.

BTSD sent an email to Sangha members and friends with information and details on how one can register.

To help Paul: Text Hope4Paul to 61474 to join today or register online at www.Join.BeTheMatch.org/hope4paul

To help Kazumi: Text Hope4Kazumi to 61474 to join today or register online at www.Join.BeTheMatch.org/hope4kazumi

Please get involved. Pass the word and help save lives. Your participation will be deeply appreciated.

In Gassho



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By LuAnn Lee, Board President

2021, the year of the Ox!

I read that Oxen are known for diligence, dependability, strength and determination. You can picture that an Ox would be all of those things. It is also said they can be stubborn but often enjoy great success. Although, many of us are not born in the year of the Ox, I think we have had to be diligent, dependable, have strength and determination to get through not only 2020 but continue through 2021. The temple had great success financially last year thanks to our generous and kind Sangha. Even with very little fundraising income, we were able to cover our yearly expenses and fund some much needed building improvement projects.

The next few months will look like last year with no temple activities or services in person but will continue with zoom and phone calls. As more of us get vaccinated, we will re-evaluate the situation. With our 95th Anniversary this year, we look forward to re-opening the temple to celebrate this special milestone.

One way we might be able to open sooner is for all of us to get vaccinated. We are working on a plan to help our senior members without computers to get appointments for the shot. It seems like they are opening more and more sites so if you know of someone that may need assistance, please call the temple.

On Sunday, January 31, we will be having our annual General meeting. This is a great time to find out what the temple groups are up to and get more details on the work of the Board of Directors. Meeting notices went out to members but if you didn't receive one and you are interested, please sign up on Google Docs through the link on our website.

With the positivity numbers in San Diego stabilizing and even decreasing these past couple of days, it is hopeful that the virus surge from the holidays is behind us. It is so important that we stay the course and be patient waiting for the vaccine.

I hope you were able to watch the National memorial ceremony to pay tribute to the 400,000 people that have passed from the coronavirus. It was in Washington DC at the Reflecting Pool near the Lincoln Memorial. We hear the numbers everyday on the news but to see the hundreds of luminaries was a stark reminder just how many people we have lost and something that one of the reporters pointed out was that same number is how many people are buried at Arlington Cemetery. It is so very sad. Namu Amida Butsu.

In closing, I just want to give our deepest gratitude to all that have donated to the temple. We are grateful for your generosity and thoughtfulness. Be safe and continue to keep in touch with one another.

If you know of someone in our temple that needs support, please reach out to us. Call the temple (619) 239-0896 or e-mail at info@btsd.net. Check on our website for updates at: <http://www.buddhisttemplesandiego.org/>

In Gassho

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The BTSD Board met on January 14th -

1. Condolences to the families of Arikazu Ogasawara and Karen Kawasaki.
2. The temple ended the fiscal year-end positively thanks to the generous donations of the Sangha and friends and to some lowered operating expenses - this will help with the 2021 finances.
3. The Board approved the Ways & Means Committee's Oseibo recommendations.
4. The lanterns from the Virtual Lantern Festival are displayed in the Hondo. Thank you to Carol Baker for coordinating this effort.
5. The February 2021 BCA National Council meeting information was shared. Workshops and seminars will be open to all.
6. Affiliated organizations and standing committees provided reports on their activities.

BWA NEWS

People born in the year of the Ox are thought to be industrious, cautious, faithful, and helpful to others. Let us hope that more of us will remember these good qualities as we head into a challenging new year.

Inoculation with the Covid 19 vaccine is becoming more of a reality for many of us. We hope you will be able to register and get inoculated soon. The more the better so that we can slow down the rise of infection and hospitalization and, hopefully, get back to a more normal existence. I am sure it will be different even with herd immunity. We have adjusted and learned much about our resiliency during this time and will carry on our lives with this newfound sense of inner strength and perseverance.

This month of February will be a busy one for BWA. We begin with a busy schedule for our February Zoom BWA meeting. The coordination of the Lady Takeko Kujo Memorial Service with the Nirvana Day Service will be conducted and the installation of our new officers by Reverend Akahoshi. The weekly Qigong Workshop is doing well with at least 12 regular participants. It is a wonderful way to begin each week with the flow of "life force energy" through the Qigong movements and the meditation practice following. Thank you again, Karen, for presenting this workshop for us to enjoy and from which to benefit. Also, the monthly Zoom Book Club is going full steam with a new book called The Alchemist by Brazilian author Paulo Coelho. It is a novel, originally published in Portuguese in 1988, which became a best seller and translated into many other languages. If you are interested in joining, please contact Sue Moribe, suzbandaid@yahoo.com, or (858)699-8876 for more information.

The Southern District BWA is offering grants of up to \$2500, to individuals or groups who need financial support to develop or continue new programs which spreads the Jodo Shinshu teachings. If you are interested in applying for this grant, please contact me at inam4@yahoo.com for an application form. Last year, five temple organizations each received funds to support and to continue their projects that were presented.

Continued on next page

Thank you Southern District BWA for this generous opportunity.

Just a reminder that BWA dues of \$15 are being accepted at this time. Please send your check to the temple and from there, they will be forwarded to our new treasurer, Karen Yamada Amos.

Thank you again for your continued help and support of our BWA. We hope you continue to stay healthy and safe.

In gassho, Mani

DHARMA SCHOOL

Dharma School resumed its services on January 10. The following week, we observed HoOnko with the 5th-8th grade class leading the service. Also in January, we had another parent check-in meeting to discuss wellness, and so the DS Staff and parents could connect with each other via Zoom. In addition, a few staff members attended the Temple's General Meeting on January 31.

Planning is still ongoing for the 2021 FDSTL Conference that will be hosted by the SDDSTL as it is only two months away. The theme for the conference is, "Meeting the Challenges of Today's Dharma School." Some of our teachers and staff members are helping plan this even

In February, the DS will continue its weekly services with Laverne Sensei and Smitty Sensei leading our All DS Family Service on the first Sunday of the month, and each class leading a mini-service for the rest of the month. Everyone has been enjoying the Dharma talks from students, parents, teachers and staff members. *Check them out on our BTSD YouTube page.*

Gassho, Lisa Umekubo



SCRIP NEWS

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the scrip program. We try to keep the most popular gift cards in stock so we usually have grocery stores such as Albertson's/Vons. Smart & Final. WalMart, Sprouts, and Target. We also have Starbucks for the coffee drinkers, Amazon for those who are ordering on-line and Home Depot for those who are working on home projects. Call the temple office to order your gift cards and either make arrangements to pick them up or add a little extra to the cost and have them be sent to your home.

Remember that the temple office is open Tuesday through Friday. Stay safe, healthy, and hopefully we'll be able to be together soon!

Hope for Paul Goodman: Hope4Paul

The Temple is spreading the urgent appeal for Paul Goodman. Paul is a mixed race Japanese American is still hoping to find a bone marrow match.

Temple members and friends between the ages of 18 and 44 are asked to register with the national bone marrow registry.

Learn more on our website or search Hope4Paul.

JACL Announces the 2021 Scholarship Program

The National Scholarship and Awards Program offers scholarships to students who are entering freshman, undergraduate, graduate, law, in the creative and performing arts, and those with financial need. All scholarships are one-time awards.

As of the new 2021 scholarship cycle, the National JACL Scholarship Program will now be totally online! This means all of the applications can be done on your computer/tablet through the online application form and submitted online. As such there will be some new guidelines and changes which you can find listed below in the 2021 Scholarship Guidelines document and on the applications themselves. Also note, the applications will NOT save if you close or reload your window, so please fill them out in one sitting!

Due to COVID-19, JACL staff is under "shelter-in-place" orders. Those students who join the JACL in the months prior to the scholarship deadline and are unable to access their membership I.D. number from our Membership Department must: **include a membership payment receipt with your application.** Students are automatically sent a receipt when submitting payment online.

Applications, Brochure & Guidelines

2021 Guidelines: [Here!](#)

[2021-Freshman Application](#) (Due March 1)

[2021-General Application](#) (All others are Due April 1)

[2021 Creative & Performing Arts Application](#)

Donations Cont.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Umekubo, Lisa | Tomiyama, Akie | IMO Yuri Terusaki |
| Sasaki, Sharon & Robert Yamamoto | IMO Taiji Santohigashi | Honda, Ralph & Avis |
| Ong, Mike & Ann | IMO Kiyoko | Kashima, Jeanie- 25th Yr |
| Sumida, Kathleen & Floyd | Santohigashi | IMO Tetsuyo Kashima |
| Yonekura, Susan | Himaka, Michio & Naomi | Tomiyama, Akie & Steven |
| Sugiyama, Yuriko | IMO Sakiko Kada | Umekubo, Lisa |
| Hashiguchi, John & Tsune | Matsumoto, Akiko & Ken | Hasegawa, Arlene & Eugene |
| Torio, Betty | IMO Nobue Nishii | D'Orsi, Ruby |
| Hashiguchi, John & Fam. | Voorhies, Ruth | Koga, Florence |
| Hirae-Reese, Lorna | IMO Kanejiro Kondo | Kawamoto, Mitsuko |
| Seymour, Leslie & Family | Koga, Florence | Himaka, Michio & Naomi |
| Negoro, Glenn | IMO Irene Koga | Hidinger, Holly |
| Yamamoto, June | Oto, June | Ochi-Watson, Shirley |
| Tanizaki, Gary | IMO Jeffery Oto | Muraoka, Ken & Sharyn |
| Martinez, Isaac T & Janna Domingo | Kawasaki, Trace & Mildred | Sakai, Jeffery & Kathy |
| Yanagihara, Tom Masaru & Family | IMO Yuki Kawamoto | Rubio, Arturo |
| Ochi, K Kay | IMO Sumi Nakashima | Kawasaki, Trace & Mildred |
| Yamamoto, Jane | IMO Paul Oya | |
| Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen | IMO Florence Yamashita | SCHOLARSHIPS |
| Masumoto, Chiyoko | IMO Edward Yamashita | Tsukamoto, Wayne |
| Sugiyama, Chiyeko | IMO Kiyoko Kawasaki | Muraoka, Tad & Lina |
| | IMO Sanroku Kawasaki | Nishii, Toyo |
| | IMO Lillian Kawasaki | Benson, Agnes |
| SHOTSUKI HOYO | Ohara, Fumiko | Seymour, Leslie |
| Benson, Agnes - Oct., Nov., Dec. | Takashima, Wilbur | Kawamoto, David H. |
| | IMO Hisaichi Taniguchi | Tomiyama, Sayoko |
| | IMO Tetsuyo Kashima | |
| | Terusaki, Steven | |

DONATIONS

The Buddhist Temple of San Diego is grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their donations to the Temple and its affiliated organizations. "IMO" means "In memory of." For a corrections or questions, please contact the temple at 619-239-0896 or info@btsd.net.

Please Note: Donations to Services not held last or next month will be listed in the month of that service. (A donation for Obon will be listed in July).

BTSD

Yamamoto, June - Dec
D'Orsi, Linda
Nishii, Toyo
IMO Rev. Guzei Nishii
IMO Rev. Shiro Nishii
IMO Mrs. Nobue Nishii
Morinaka, Ron -
Morinaka Family
Yamamoto, Jane
IMO Roy Yonekura
Tomiyama, Akie & Steve
IMO Roy Yonekura
Liss, Kathryn Moriyama,
Madeleine Clogston and
Michael Clogston - In Honor
of our mother/grandmother
Chieko Moriyama
Uyeji, Masako
Honda, Mikiye - 49th Day
Memorial, Chieko Moriyama
Voorhies, Ruth - In
appreciation of Senior Gift
Araki-Kawaguchi, Corinne
Kawamoto, Mitsuko
IMO Yukio Kawamoto
Kruse, Kimberly & Jeff
Teague, Bill & Joyce
Smith, Maribeth "Smitty"
Giving Tuesday
Greer, Peggy
Ryan, Mani
Sumida, Floyd & Kaytee
Noji, Norman
Hammel, Katrina
Rome, Lyford
Izumo, Judy
Ota, Laurine & Kenneth
Tomiyama, Bruce & Doreen
IMO Roy Yonekura
Yamada, Laurence
Muraoka, Ken & Sharyn
Anonymous
Negoro, Keiko
IMO Kei Okuma
Okuma, Yoshie
IMO Kei Okuma
Imori, Laverne -
Buddhist Education
Thiemann, Peter
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Cross, Joe
IMO Trace & Mildred's
Daughter
Nakagiri, Karen - Dharma
Messages & Bell Ringing
Yokotobi, Fusako
Gladso, Julie
Sato, Steve
Honda, Mikiye
IMO Ben Honda
Pop's, Inc.
Olds, Vivian - Thank You,
Enjoy the newsletters

Himaka, Norman & Kathy
IMO Osao Himaka
IMO Sakiko Kada
Morinaka Family

BODHI DAY SERVICE

Tomiyama, Steve & Aki
Aoyama, K. Alice
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Benson, Agnes
Fuchigami, Lynn S. & Steve
Himaka, Michio & Naomi
Voorhies, Ruth
Koga, Florence
Sakai, Jeffery & Kathy

COVID -19

Isakari, Henry & Marcia
Smith, Maribeth "Smitty"
Sasaki, Brian & Lorin

DHARMA SCHOOL

Tsukamoto, Wayne
Muraoka, Tad & Lina
Nishii, Toyo
Benson, Agnes
Seymour, Leslie & Family
Umekubo, Lisa
Sasaki, Sharon &
Robert Yamamoto
Ong, Mike & Ann
Sumida, Kathleen
Yonekura, Susan
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
Sugiyama, Yuriko
Torio, Betty
Negoro, Glenn
Yamamoto, June
Yanagihara, Tom Masaru
Ochi, K Kay
Yamamoto, Jane
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Sugiyama, Chiyeko
Kawamoto, David H.
Tomiyama, Sayoko

EITAIKYO FUND

Benson, Agnes

EITAIKYO SERVICE

Benson, Agnes
Voorhies, Ruth

END OF YEAR - JOYA-E

Martinez, Nancy
Hidinger, Holly
Graeber, Kiku
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
Honda, Ralph & Avis
IMO BTSD Sangha

FLORAL FUND

Tsukamoto, Wayne
Muraoka, Tad & Lina
Nishii, Toyo
Benson, Agnes
Seymour, Leslie & Family
Graeber, Kiku
Sasaki, Sharon &
Robert Yamamoto

Ong, Mike & Ann
Sumida, Kathleen & Floyd
Yonekura, Susan
Sugiyama, Yuriko
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
Torio, Betty
Negoro, Glenn
Yamamoto, June
Yanagihara, Tom Masaru
Ochi, K Kay
Yamamoto, Jane
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Muraoka, Roy
Sugiyama, Chiyeko
Tomiyama, Sayoko
Kawamoto, David H.
Yamanishi, Miyoko

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Tsukamoto, Wayne
Muraoka, Tad & Lina
Nishii, Toyo
Benson, Agnes
Seymour, Leslie & Family
Graeber, Kiku
Ong, Mike
Sumida, Kathleen
Yonekura, Susan
Sugiyama, Yuriko
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
Torio, Betty
Negoro, Glenn
Yamamoto, June
Yanagihara, Tom Masaru
& Family
Ochi, K Kay
Sasaki, Sharon
Negoro, Keiko
Yamamoto, Jane
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Honda, Mikiye
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Sugiyama, Chiyeko
Yonekura, Gregg
Hirae-Reese, Lorna
Azuma, Adam
Seymour, Leslie & Family
Kawamoto, David H.
Tanaka, Kelvin & Lara
Tomiyama, Sayoko
Yamanishi, Miyoko

HO ONKO SERVICE

Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Shigehara, Wilbur & Janice
Ohara, Fumiko
Jones, Mikako
Aoyama, K. Alice
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Monji, Yoshiko
Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
Kaneko
Kodama, Jay
Suyenaga, Irene
Sugiyama, Yuriko
Nogata, Sumihiro & Yuriko
Torio, Betty
Ogasawara, Michiko

Tsuji, Masako
Estes, Toshiye
Tsuneyoshi, Motoo &
Angie
Tomiyama, Steve & Aki
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
Spears, Margo
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Honda, Mikiye
Honda, Ralph & Avis
Moncrief, Mayko
Gladso, Julie
Nakamura, Jake K & Patty
Yamamoto, Jane
Hagio, Quimico
Tomiyama, Sayoko
Kida, Katsumi

MAP

Tsukamoto, Wayne
Muraoka, Tad & Family
Benson, Agnes
Nishii, Toyo
Benson, Agnes
Graeber, Kiku
Sasaki, Sharon &
Robert Yamamoto
Negoro, Keiko
Ong, Mike & Ann
Sumida, Kathleen & Floyd
Yonekura, Susan
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
Torio, Betty
Alroy, Evelyn
Sugiyama, Yuriko
Yanagihara, Tom Masaru
& Family
Ochi, K Kay
Yamamoto, Jane
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Sugiyama, Chiyeko
Kawamoto, David, H
Tanaka, Kelvin & Lara
Tomiyama, Sayoko
Yamanishi, Miyoko

MEMBERSHIP DUES -2020

Muraoka, Tad & Family
Nishii, Toyo
Umekubo, Lisa
Okuma, Yoshie
Kasubuchi, Naoye
Muraoka, Roy
D'Orsi, Ruby
2021

Tomiyama, Akie & Steve
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Benson, Agnes
Graeber, Kiku
Sasaki, Sharon &
Robert Yamamoto
Yamada, Laurence
Omori, Shirley
Williams, Yukari
Ong, Mike & Ann
Kasubuchi, Naoye
Sumida, Kathleen & Floyd
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
Torio, Betty
Alroy, Evelyn
Ogasawara, Michiko
Yamamoto, June
Tanizaki, Gary
Martinez, Isaac T &
Janna Domingo
Spears, Margo
Poquoc, Claudia
Yanagihara, Tom Masaru
& Family
Moribe, Susan & Lee
Maruyama, Karly
Kaneshiro, Gale
Ochi, K Kay
Yamamoto, Jane
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Honda, Mikiye

Yokotobi, Fusako
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Sugiyama, Chiyeko
Rubio-Torres, Arturo
Negoro, Glenn
Sakai, Jeffery and Kathy
Kawamoto, David H.
Tanaka, Kelvin & Lara
Tomiyama, Sayoko
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Other
Seymour, Leslie
Yonekura, Susan
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
Sugiyama, Yuriko

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Sumida, Kathleen & Floyd
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Spears, Margo
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Moncrief, Mayko

NIRVANA DAY

Ryan, Mani and
Yamaguchi, Laura

OSEIBO

Voorhies, Ruth
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Muraoka, Roy
Tsuji, Masako
Benson, Agnes
Tomiyama, Sayoko
Lee, Harold & LuAnn
Isakari, Henry & Marcia



FEBRUARY SHOTSUKI LIST

The monthly memorial service will be posted to the temple's YouTube channel on Sunday, February 7. Families and friends of anyone who passed away in February are urged to view the video, burn incense at your home O Butsudan and Gassho in memory of your deceased loved ones. Please share the video and Dharma messages with family members and friends who do not have access to the internet. If you find an error, wish to add a name to the list or have questions on accessing the YouTube video, please contact the temple at (619) 239-0896 or email info@btsd.net Gassho.

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Kisouyemon Sato (2-21-1906).....Wilbur Takashima
 Bunshiro Takashima (2-6-1927).....Wilbur Takashima
 Naminosuke Tachiki (2-13-1932).....Tachiki Family
 Rino Yanagihara (2-21-1948).....Yanagihara Family
 Same Odawara (2-27-1949).....Higuchi Family
 Michi Hanano (2-3-1956).....Gerald Hanano
 Eikichi Ishisaki (2-12-1956).....Florence Koga
 Toyo Furusho (2-24-1958).....Saito Family
 Naminosuke Date (2-8-1959).....Date Family
 Yukino Kodama (2-14-1959).....Vivianne Jones
 Ichigoro Imai (2-9-1960).....Fumiko Ohara
 Kotaro Shimizu (2-4-1960).....Dorothy Kimura
 Mine Iwataki (2-6-1961).....Iwataki Family
 Hatsue Kimura (2-16-1961).....Ochi Family
 Sada Takasugi (2-22-1966).....Wayne Takasugi
 Sada Tsuneyoshi (2-1-1967).....Motoo Tsuneyoshi
 Don Sadao Takeshita (2-6-1968).....Takeshita Family
 Yujiro Nakano (2-21-1970).....Minako Nakano
 Yaeno Amano (2-2-1971).....Amano Family
 Natsue Shinohara (2-13-1972).....Shinohara Family
 Tome Morimoto (2-14-1974).....Morimoto Family
 Tome Yamashita (2-17-1976).....Mildred Kawasaki
 Suma Shimada (2-3-1978).....Sharon Shimada
 Masanori Koba (2-21-1979).....Duane Koba
 Fred Yamaguchi (2-2-1981).....Yamaguchi Family
 Fumiko Yoshihara (2-1-1982).....Hiroko Kubota
 Megumi Torimaru (2-2-1983).....Torimaru Family
 Masano Hirata (2-8-1984).....Hirata Family
 Yuki Masumoto (2-26-1986).....Chiyoko Masumoto
 Shima Fudo (2-13-1988).....Miyoko Yamanishi
 Miki Moriyama (2-17-1988).....Madeline Clogston
 Sada Sameshima (2-1-1989).....Ricardo Y. Sameshima

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Eda Asamen (2-24-1989).....Masako Uyeji
 Misao Sugiyama (2-5-1992).....Sugiyama Family
 George Hoshizaki (2-9-1993).....Carolyn Jackson
 James Nicolas Link (2-27-1993).....Kathryn Moriyama Liss
 Mary Sugimoto (2-15-1994).....Florence Koga
 Yajuro Nemoto (2-25-1994).....Nemoto Family
 Koyoshi Nakamura (2-19-1995).....Nakamura Family
 Otomatsu Yoshihara (2-23-1995).....Hiroko Kubota
 Iwao Yagura (2-2-1998).....Yagura Family
 Fumiko Momita (2-18-2001).....Gary Asao Momita
 Mary Hoshizaki (2-27-2001).....Carolyn Jackson
 Satoshi Jack Takagi (2-2-2002).....Takagi Family
 Shie Hagio (2-13-2002).....Hagio Family
 Carol Inouye (2-3-2004).....Craig Inouye
 Masami Honda (2-8-2005).....Amy Honda
 Fred Hashiguchi (2-17-2006).....Miyoko Hashiguchi
 Shigeru Joseph Shiraishi (2-22-2006).....Shiraishi Family
 Bette Torio (2-16-2007).....Wesley Torio
 Patsy Harue Yanagihara (2-1-2008).....Yanagihara Family
 Suzy Shizuko Yamada (2-25-2008).....Bert Masumoto
 Doris Miyashiro (2-7-2009).....Amy Sato
 Tsuneo Niwa (2-9-2014).....Niwa Family
 Toshiharu Glenn Yonekura (2-21-11).....Kikuko Takashima
 Ronald Nishinaga (2-27-2012).....Mani Ryan
 Yoshinobu Wakabayashi (2-6-2013).....Yoshiko White
 Rose Watamura (2-1-2014).....Elizabeth Takasaki
 Fumie Yamashita (2-13-2014).....Friends
 Mary Matsumoto (2-24-2014).....Kay DeFord
 Mariko Tanizaki (2-25-2014).....Gary Tanizaki
 Hideko Okada Smith (2-17-2016).....James E. Smith
 George Yamamoto (2-11-2019).....Ann Yamamoto
 Michael Mitsuo Doi (2-8-2020).....Doi Family

M E M O R I A L S E R V I C E S

MEMORIAL SERVICES allow us to pay homage to loved ones who have passed away. In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, family members hold a service at certain intervals following a relative's death to express gratitude for and acknowledge their continuing influence in our lives. If you wish to schedule a memorial service for a loved one, please call during weekly office hours.

2021 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|------|--------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| 1st Year Memorial | 2020 | 13th Year Memorial | 2009 | 27th Year Memorial | 1995 |
| 3rd Year Memorial | 2019 | 17th Year Memorial | 2005 | 33rd Year Memorial | 1989 |
| 7th Year Memorial | 2015 | 25th Year Memorial | 1997 | 50th Year Memorial | 1972 |

一 頑石って何？ 一

駐在開教使 向嶋裕史

「極めて硬いものは石である。極めて柔らかいものは水である。その柔らかい水が硬い石に穴をあけるのである。心の奥底まで徹すれば、どうして仏のさとりを成就しないことがあろうか」という古い言葉がある。これほど信心を得ていない者であっても、真剣に念仏のみ教えを聴聞すれば、阿弥陀仏の慈悲によって、信心を得ることができるのである。ただ仏法は聴聞することによって尽きるのである。「蓮如上人御一代記聞書」

皆さんもご存知のように、石は硬いものであつて、水は柔らかいものです。日本の古いことわざに、「点滴石をも穿つ」というのがありますが、どんなに硬い石であつても、何年、何十年と雨だれのしずくが落ち続けることによって、いつの間にか石の表面に窪みができます。更に、川底に眠る石は、どんなにこつこつとした石であつても、柔らかい水が長い歳月をかけて石の表面を丸くし滑らかにしてくれま

す。

文頭で紹介した一節は、蓮如上人の有名なお言葉ですが、硬い石と柔らかい水を用いて人間の自我と阿弥陀仏の大悲心の関係を譬えられたものです。蓮如上人は硬い石を私達人間の自我、または煩惱として表現されていますが、七高僧の一人である曇鸞大師も「往生論註」の中で、阿弥陀仏の光明を拒絶する人間の煩惱を石に譬えて「頑石」といわれています。どんなに雨が降ろうとも、大きな岩石があると、その下の土は決して濡れることがないように、私達は既に阿弥陀仏のお慈悲に包まれながらも、自らの煩惱のために仏法のはたらきを拒んで、阿弥陀仏

の智慧のみ光を素直に受け入れようとはしないのだというのです。

蓮如上人や曇鸞大師がおっしゃるように、私達の心はこつこつとした石のように頑固で、み仏のみ光のみならず、周りの人達を受け入れる柔軟で寛容な心を持ち合わせていません。その上、荒つばい言葉や乱暴な態度で相手を傷つけかねない危うい存在です。

このように「きわめて硬いものは石である」とは、正に私達人間の自我、我執の心を表しているのです。私達はいのちの尊厳や人権の尊重などといった人として生きるうえでの根本原則を理解しているつもりですが、我執の心は、硬い石と石とがぶつかり合うように、人と人が憎しみ、争い、殺し合い、そして、人と人を引き裂く悲しい歴史を私達人間は引きずって生きています。それ故に、今なおBLMやLGBTQなどといった社会問題を抱えているのが現状です。

その我執、それが私達凡夫の心に苦しみを生み出す最大の原因であるといわれていますが、この我執を三つの心に分けると、一つ目に、自分が常に正しいという心。二つ目には、自分の思い通りにしたいという心。三つ目には、自分がかわいいという心となります。

この我執の心に振り回されて生活しているのが私達凡夫です。ですから、たとえ自分が悪くても謝る事ができない。自分の存在を肯定するために、自分と価値観や思想が違ふ相手を偏見の目で見たり、自分と違ふ人種や肌の色、宗教に対して差別的発言をする。相手から好意を受けても、当たり前のよう受け止めて感謝をしない。少しでも自分の思い通りにならなくなると、誰かのせいにして腹を立てる。そして、他人の失敗や過ちを許すことができず、いつも愚痴をこぼします。私達の悲しい性は、いつも自分の事は棚に上げて、他人の非を責め、常に正義の立場から相手を見下します。この我執の心は、まさに相手をいとも簡単に傷つけることのできる、こつこつとした

危険な石のようです。

蓮如上人は『御一代記聞書』の中で、「信心を得たなら、念仏の仲間荒々しくものを言うこともなくなり、心も穏やかになる。阿弥陀仏の誓いには、光明に触れた者の身も心も和らげるとあるからである。逆に、信心がなければ、自分中心の考え方になって、言葉も荒々しくなり、争いも必ず起ってくる」と、信心に恵まれた人の在り方について述べられておられます。信心を得ること、私達の頑なに閉ざされた心が解かれ、皆のお陰で生かされている我が身のいのちに気付かされ、深い反省の中から積もり積もった不平や愚痴が感謝の心になり、相手の痛みが分かる思いやりの心を持つことができるとおっしゃっておられます。

そして浄土真宗では、その信心を得るには聴聞が絶対不可欠だといわれています。聴聞を通して、阿弥陀仏の大悲心(法水)が、私達人間の頑なな心(頑石)を和らげ、滑らかにして下さるのです。なぜなら、たとえ私達の心がかた硬い頑石に覆われていようと、日々の聴聞が滴り落ちる雨だれのしずくのように、少しずつ窪みを作り、ついには煩惱の頑石に風穴を開けて信心への世界へと心が自ずと開かれていくからです。

このように、聴聞を通して、阿弥陀仏のご本願が起された理由と、それが私達一人ひとりに届くまでのご苦勞を何度も聞かせていただくうちに、阿弥陀仏の大悲心(法水)が私の歪な形をした心(頑石)を滑らかに仕上げて下さいます。その丸く滑らかに仕上がった心こそが信心なのです。そして、その信心をいただいたものが、同志が作る世界とは、互いを思いやる気持ちを持って、互いの存在を尊重し、そして、互いのいのちを輝かせ合うことのできる慈悲の心に満ちた極楽浄土の世界なのです。

Buddhist Education in February

Great Buddhist Education Opportunities in February

The Temple continues to use online tools including Zoom and video sessions to continue Buddhist education. In Zoom, our primary class is Buddhism 1-2-3, an open-ended discussion class led by **Kenji Sensei** on most Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. During the pandemic, attendance has broadened across the country. Visitors from California, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, and Utah now join San Diego Sangha members. To learn more contact the Temple or scroll down the website homepage and click on Buddhism 1-2-3.

On the video front, Kenji Sensei produces videos for posting on most Sundays, and in February we welcome our Guest Speaker, **Rev. Candice Shibata**, Buddhist Church of Stockton, who will provide the Dharma message for the combined Nirvana Day and BWA Memorial Services on Sunday, February 14.

Learn Buddhist Women's Association History. See the boxed link on the website homepage, "Focus on BWA in February" to link to the local and international history of our BWA. This background will make the memorial service in February more meaningful.



INTRODUCING REV. Candice Shibata from the Buddhist Church of Stockton, NIRVANA DAY AND BWA MEMORIAL SERVICE SPEAKER

Rev. Candice Shibata's previous ministerial assignments include the Berkeley Buddhist Temple and the Buddhist Church of Florin before her appointment at the Buddhist Church of Stockton last July.

This last posting is likely especially meaningful for her, as she grew up in Stockton and attended the Buddhist Church of Stockton into adulthood. A graduate in Psychology at the University of California, prior to the ministry she worked as a case manager for children with special needs, with an MA in counseling psychology (University of San Francisco) she interned as a therapist for elementary schools. She received Tokudo ordination in 2012 after a second MA from the Institute of Buddhist Studies, then received Kyoshi certification in 2015.

DATE SET FOR ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER

Following a year-long postponement, the temple is excited to announce its plan to host the 25th Annual Golf Tournament on Sunday, June 27 at Riverwalk Golf Club in Mission Valley.

All golfers, prospective sponsors and donors are urged to be a part of the temple's first major fundraising event in over a year.

Golf courses in San Diego County are open to the public and operate under special rules and regulations related to COVID-19 protocols. The committee will follow such guidelines in preparing what hopes to be a successful event.

Registration forms and more information will be available later in February. Stay tuned!

Membership News

Bill Teague, Membership Chair

Apologies!

In last month's Kaiho the 2021 membership renewal form was WRONG. Fees for individual categories were switched: Dues for the Family/Couple categories appeared as Individual and vice versa. Most of you recognized the error. I apologize for the error and any inconvenience. A corrected form is in this issue.

Great Start to 2021

In December and January many members have already renewed the dues for 2021. Thank you so much!

Members Only

We now have a members-only area of the Temple website. Current resources in this are PDF downloads of the Temple history books from the 50th and 75th Anniversaries, along with an abridged PDF of Jodo Shinshu: A Guide. Additional Resources will follow.

Password Protected. If we have your email address, we will be sending out emails to Temple members with the password.

Tax Statements

The Membership and Treasurer Committees will be mailing out tax statements by the end of January. Mail is sometimes slow during the pandemic so please be patient, but if you have not received the statement by Friday, February 5, please let us know. We can email or fax you the statement if needed.

BCA MINISTERS AND NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE ON ZOOM

This year's in-person gathering for the Buddhist Churches of America's (BCA) Ministers Association and National Council meetings have been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will be held virtually on Zoom February 19-27. The Bay District Council of the BCA will host.

The uniqueness of this year's program will allow the public the opportunity to participate in many of the activities not directly associated with the business meetings.

Two featured activities that BTSD Sangha members and friends are encouraged to participate in include the Dharma-mathon on Feb. 27 featuring retired ministers Rev. Ronald Kobata, Rev. Yukiko Motoyoshi, Rev. Fumiaki Usuki and Rev. Patricia Usuki. The session begins at 3:30 p.m. The BCA Eitaikyo Service will take place on Sunday, Feb. 28 at 10 a.m. Rev. Kodo Umezu, past Bishop of the BCA and minister emeritus, will deliver his Dharma message.

Please check the event website at <https://bcancm.org> for the complete schedule of activities and more information, including the Zoom link for the featured programs.

Delegates representing BTSD during the meetings will be Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi, LuAnn Lee, Nancy Martinez, Bill Teague and Ralph Honda.