

BOMBU BOMBU

Monthly Bulletin of Berkeley Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple



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April 2023

WHY LEARN ABOUT BUDDHISM AND JODO SHINSHU?

Experiencing the Dharma Seeds Program

By Elsie Lum,
3rd generation Dharma Seed

Back in February 2020, I was encouraged to join the Dharma Seeds Program. What prompted this? I have become more interested in Buddhism since going to India with Reverend Ken Yamada and his wife Naomi (our organizer) in January 2017. Our visits to many sites related to our Jodo Shinshu faith was highlighted with our visit to the site where Buddhism was born, where Siddhartha became enlightened, at the Mahabodhi Temple in Bodh Gaya, Bihar, India. I wish I had more background and knowledge about the history of Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu.

This stimulated my interest in Buddhism. I became more involved as a temple Board member and WBA member, and more active in temple activities. I became acquainted with all the wonderful people in our temple family. The temple meets my social and spiritual needs, especially after retirement and helping to now raise grandchildren in this challenging world.

“Namu Amida Butsu - To Discover the Meaning of Being Born as Human Beings”

What does this phrase mean to you? For me, “Namu Amida Butsu”, to take refuge in Amida Buddha, is to take time for self-reflection and trust in the “Other Power” beyond our own egos and selfish needs. Then we become more engaged in life, based

on Buddhist values of compassion, loving kindness and giving, in practice for the benefit of everyone and humanity, with less anger and discrimination (hopefully).

So what is the Dharma Seeds Program? What is its purpose? Why join?

So as you can guess now, I did join the program. We have just “graduated” from the North America district’s 3rd generation of Dharma Seeds program. Three of us came from Berkeley Higashi Honganji: Arthur Yamashita, Christopher Pong, and myself, Elsie Lum. We were joined by Dharma Seeds from other Higashi temples: the LA Betsuin, West Covina and Newport Beach. Over the past 3 years, we have heard lectures from many of our Jodo Shinshu ministers and shared stories and thoughts with each other.

What is the objective of our program? To create effective Dōbō groups (learning Buddhism) at our temples and nurture “lay” coordinators who can support the educational work of the ministers. We had two other generations of Dharma seeds who could join us in sharing our knowledge of the Dharma. There is so much to learn.

Our themes for learning Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu covered a wide array of topics, from the roots of history in India, China, Japan and to the US, and from

various perspectives through many ministers as our lecturers.

- Dharmākara Boddhisattava and Shakyamuni Buddha - Rev. Peter Hata
- The Seven Patriarchs, Prince Shōtoku and the Path of the Dōbō Follower - Dr. Michael Conway
- The life of our spiritual forebear Shinran Shōnin - Rev. Tomoyuki Hasegawa
- Shōshinge - Rev. Yasushi Kigoshi
- The History of our Denomination - Rev. Hasegawa
- What is the Dobo Movement - Rev. Hasegawa
- Life of Takagi Kenmyo - Rev. Frederick Brenion

Learning in a group, with conversation and discussion, has been very helpful in developing a deeper understanding of our spirituality, and the philosophy of Jodo Shinshu. We continue our learning in the Monday afternoon discussion study group on the Shoshinge with Reverend Ryoko Osa, building a foundation for our faith.

I encourage everyone to join in some educational activities to deepen your faith. Creating self awareness can lead us to a more peaceful way to be in this crazy world of ours. Look forward to more educational opportunities about Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2023



Date	Day	Time	Event
2	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Family Service/Dharma School
9	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Hanamatsuri Service /Shotsuki/Dharma School Service
16	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Family Service/Dharma School
18	Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
23	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	No Service Due to Higashi Honganji Japan Tour
30	Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Family Service/Dharma School

Please check out more detail the calendar on our website. <https://www.bombu.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL TOBAN

(Toban #3) Naomi Yamada, Kim Chew, Mashi Eshima Johnson, Julie Kihara, Connie Morita, Kellie Ouye, Nina Rizzo, Lesli Jo Sawada, Carrie Yoshida, Katy Yamada, Lorraine Yoshikawa.

Kinue Otani, George Nakamura, Hatsue Ouye, Seigo Ouye, Hideko Nagatoshi, Hiro Fujii, Maruo Fujii, Sam Toshiaki Yokota, Hisako Yokota, Yoshio Nakai, Yoshikazu Hirota, Reiji Yanagishita. We hope you'll attend this month's Shotsuki service.

MORITA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The temple has a scholarship available for eligible temple members. The scholarship fund was established by Shigeru Morita in memory of his father, Mr. Sajiro Morita. Sajiro never had a chance to complete his education in Japan, and he came to the US to work and secure a better life. He always wanted his own and other children to do their best to complete their education and, if possible, to go on to higher education.

It has been funded by the Morita family to help qualified young people pursue their educational and career goals. Anyone can make contributions to the scholarship fund so that we can continue to support members who wish to pursue their educational goals. Applicants must be individuals who are in the immediate family of a Berkeley Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple member. Individuals can apply

HANAMATSURI SERVICE

On Sunday April 9, a Hanamatsuri Buddha's Birthday service will be held at our temple.

PLEDGE DONATION

Many of you received a request for our annual pledge donation. The upkeep, repair and maintenance of our temple, as well as various programs and activities depend on the support and generosity of our members and friends. Unlike other organizations, we don't require a membership fee, however we do rely on voluntary pledge donations from our members and friends. If you'd like to make a pledge, simply send a check for any amount, marked "2023 pledge" to the temple, payable to Berkeley Higashi Honganji. To everyone who has pledged already for this year, we thank you very much.

SUNDAY SERVICE

We will continue Hybrid services, but encourage you to come to your temple. No RSVPs are needed. Masks are required. We recommend you come to the temple, but if you cannot attend in person for health reason or you live far away, you can join via Zoom. (Meeting ID: 854 0846 8091 Passcode: 539501)

SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

The following families will observe memorials for family members who passed away this month: *Chiyoko Araki, Dorothy*

(Continued from page 2)

while a high school senior or after they have left high school. The funds can be used for any formal educational or training program after high school. At the committee's discretion,

scholarships can be awarded to more than one applicant in a year. Only one scholarship per person. Applications are due by September 30th and will be awarded at the following Hoonko service in

November. Recipients are selected by the Scholarship Committee of the Temple. If interested, please contact Rev. Osa by email: osa@higashihonganji.org or call 510-843-6933.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BIG THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

The WBA sends a HUGE THANK YOU to all of you that were "everything everywhere all at once" at our Spring Bazaar 2023! We couldn't help but feel our interconnectedness when we worked together like that. You worked tirelessly behind the scenes, at the scenes and after the scenes to put on a very successful bazaar. This was an especially amazing feat considering that our last Spring Bazaar was in 2020. We send some special shout outs to our Dharma friends and partners in the ABA and Jr. YBA, who made the tasty chicken, udon and baked goods. We also appreciate everyone that supported us by purchasing our food and crafts. Again, MANY MANY THANKS from your WBA to all of you for making lots of people happy as a result of your hard work making and distributing (and eating) our delicious specialties!

DONATIONS

2023 Pledges

Wayne Kurahara	50
Lynn Wade	100
Steven & Kim Chew	50

Eitaikyo Perpetual Memorial

Wendy Adachi	50
Stephen & Janice Adachi	50
Toyoko & David Araki	30
Clayton Au & Jason, Lee (In memory of Arthur & Mildred Au)	200
Nina Costales & Robert Garvey	25
Jane Fujii	100
Nancy & Allan Hikoyeda (In memory of Hikoyeda Family)	50
Dennis Hirota (In memory of Kanoie Ota)	204.47
Jim Hiwano	50
Dick & Alice Horio	100
Doreen Imada	20
Lily & Gaylan Ishizu (In memory of Yokota Family)	100
Eiko Iwata	50
Tazuko Jitoshō	50
Ichiko Jitoshō	100
Emie & Bryan Kaida (In memory of Itsuno Kaida & Kaz Kikutaro)	50
Ann Kanazawa (In memory of Stanley Nakazawa, Teruo Hatsuko)	150
Robert & Julie Kihara	50
Robert & Julie Kihara	50
Elsie Lum	306.46
Constance Morita	50
Ray & Junko Morodomi	30
Gwyn Morodomi (In memory of Morodomi Family)	200

Glenn Nagata	60
Steven & Denice Nakano	100
Mieko & Ken Nakano	200
Janice, Arthur Otani, Ramirez (In memory of Jack & Dorothy Otani /Clarence Lee and Ellen Monroe)	500
Nina Rizzo	25.99
Kevin & Christine Sullivan	52.48
Gregory Takahashi	50
Tomiko, Yumi Tanigawa, Pearson	200
Gary & Anne Tominaga	100
Sachiye Toyofuku	50
Ricky & Yoko Tsuno (In memory of Yoshinori Tsuno)	30
Jacki & Steve Wolf	153.48
Ken & Naomi Yamada	100
William & Enid Yamamoto (In memory of Kanichi, Tame, Wataru, Yoshio Yamamoto)	200
Michael & Pamela Yanaba (In memory of Bob & Arlene Sasaki)	50
Michael & Pamela Yanaba (In memory of Yanaba Family)	100
Alan Yanaba (In memory of Ichiji, Fumiko, Noriko, Kazuo & Moto Yanaba)	100
Michael Yatabe (In memory of Ayako, Ito, Joseph, Kuranoshin Yatabe)	200

Donation

Tsuno Family (In memory of David Sakurai)	300
Larry Toji (In memory of Alice Mitani)	500
Dr. Stephen & Caron Moy (In memory of Alice Mitani)	200
Yoav Tzur & Marilyne Mitani (In memory of Alice Mitani)	100

Ricky & Yoko Tsuno (In memory of David Sakurai)	300
Nina Rizzo (In memory of Leslie Madden-Rizzo)	51.49
May Makiye Kaneko (In memory of Shigeo Kaneko)	204.47
Steve Iwamoto (In memory of Alice Mitani)	100
Ann Baugh (In memory of Haruo Aoki)	100
Kimberlie Moriwaki & Bruce Louie (In memory of Alice Mitani)	50
Ron & Karen Yoshioka (In memory of Alice Mitani)	76.98

Shotsuki

Suzuo & Joanne Gondo (In memory of Alice Mitani)	100
Linda Taku (In memory of Fukuji Tanji)	30
Doreen Imada (In memory of Fukuji Tanji)	30
Shizuko & Gary Asazawa (In memory of Teruo Asazawa)	70
Doreen Imada (In memory of Riichi Imada)	50
Frank Tanji (In memory of Fukuji Tanji)	150
Jane Fujii (In memory of Shige Fujii)	50
Dick & Alice Horio (In memory of Riichi Imada)	50
George & Anna Hightower (In memory of Maia Keyanna Hightower Johnson)	50
Jeffrey & Satoko Davidson (Temple Fund Drive)	100

* Other donations will be continued to be shown in next issues.



Berkeley Higashi Honganji
Annual Dick Fujii Memorial Tournament
Chardonnay Golf Club. Saturday, May 13, 2023
9:00 am Shotgun Start

Format: 4 person scramble
Registration starts at 7:30 am

Cost: \$150 ea. [adult] \$110 ea. [18 & under]
Includes green fees, cart, range balls, lunch,
and post-round appetizers

Entry Deadline: Friday, April 28, 2022

Send or Email Entry to: Patti Yamashita,
1861 Drake Drive, Oakland, Ca. 94611
Make checks payable to "Berkeley Higashi Honganji"

Prizes: Longest Drive, Closest to Pin, and other prizes

Questions: Patti Yamashita - 510-339-9867 or email - pbaba@berkeley.edu

Please Print Clearly

Golfer # 1 _____ NCGA Index _____

Phone # _____ Email _____ GHIN # _____

Golfer # 2 _____ NCGA Index _____

Phone # _____ Email _____ GHIN # _____

Golfer # 3 _____ NCGA Index _____

Phone # _____ Email _____ GHIN # _____

Golfer # 4 _____ NCGA Index _____

Phone # _____ Email _____ GHIN # _____





Berkeley Higashi Honganji
**Annual Dick Fujii
Memorial Tournament**
Saturday, May 13, 2023

4 Person Scramble Tournament

Chardonnay Golf Club - Shotgun Start at 9 am

Cost: \$150 ea. [adult] \$110 ea. [18 & under]

Cost includes: green fees, cart, range balls, lunch,
and post-round appetizers

Prizes: Long Drive, Closest to Pin,
and other prizes

Questions: Patti Yamashita 510-339-9867
or email pbaba@berkeley.edu

If you would like to sponsor a hole or donate
prizes it would be welcomed and appreciated,
please contact Patti.



バークレー東本願寺会報

2023年4月号

4月お寺の行事予定

ライブ配信

2日(日)午前10時	家族礼拝、ダルマスクール
9日(日)午前10時	花まつり法要、祥月法要、
16日(日)午前10時	家族礼拝、ダルマスクール
18日(火)午後7時	仏教会定例理事会
23日(日)	本山団体参拝のため寺院での日曜礼拝はお休みします
30日(日)午前10時	家族礼拝、ダルマスクール

お寺の日曜礼拝にはマスクをご着用の上、ご参詣ください。

お寺でのお参りがご心配な方はzoomにて午前10時のお参りいただけます。

Meeting ID: 854 0846 8091 Passcode: 539501

4月当番(当番3): 山田直美、ケーティ山田、チュウ キム、えしま Johnston マシ、木原 ジュリー、森田カーニー、大上ケリー、さわだレスリージョー、吉田カリー、芳川ロレイン、ニナリッツォ(敬称略)

日本語法話会(ズーム): 毎週木曜日午後4時からオンライン日本語法話会を開催しています。ご興味のある方は長開教使までご連絡ください。

祥月法要: 今月の施主は荒木、大谷、中村、大上、永利、藤井、横田、中井、広田、柳下の諸家です。



人と生まれたことの意味

長 良子

今年2023年は、宗祖親鸞聖人が誕生して850年、そして浄土真宗が開かれてから800年となります。京都のご本山では「宗祖親鸞聖人御誕生八百五十年・立教開宗八百年慶讃法要」が勤まります。4月21日この慶讃法要に、北米開教区から団体参拝ツアーを組み参詣致します。

このような大きな記念法要には毎回本山からテーマが発信されます。今回の慶讃テーマは「南無阿弥陀仏 人と生まれたことの意味をたずねていこう」です。

「人と生まれた」とは、私たちにとって当然過ぎて普段あまり考えない事でしょう。皆さんはどうお考えになりますか？

私たちは他の生物、例えば、植物や昆虫、動物、魚でもありません。さらに「人と生まれたことの意味」について、どうお考えになりますか？単に「生きている意味」ではなく「人と生まれたことの意味」です。

ここでテーマに関する本山の文章を紹介します。

生きる意味をたずねていだけでは、自分が納得できる「意味」探しになります。

私たちの方から意味をつかもうとすると、そこには優劣に基づいた価値の有無が生まれてきます。一方で、「人と生まれた」という言葉が表すのは、老病死するいのちであり、誰とも代わってもらうことのできないいのちです。そして他との関係性の中にあるいのちです。そのことをいのちの事実から教えられます。

親鸞聖人は「人間」という言葉に「ひととうまるるをいふ」と左訓されています。親鸞聖人も、聖人の教えにふれた人びとも、人として生まれたのは、関係性を生きる者として生まれたということであると教えてくださっています。その教えをいただくならば、生まれた意義と生きる喜びは、他者(ひと)との関係性において見いだされます。自分ひとりの救いではなく、他者とともなる救いの発見があるのです。

人と生まれた意味をたずねるといことは、南無阿弥陀仏によって呼び覚まされる関係を生きるということです。両手を合わせ南無阿弥陀仏と申すその中に、どれほど多くの縁があることか、どれほどの罪業があることか。そのことをたずねていくことです。



Words of the Month | 今月の言葉

The 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shōnin's Birth and
the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of Jōdo Shinshu

Theme:

南無阿弥陀仏 人と生まれたことの意味をたずねていこう

Namu Amida Butsu—To Discover the Meaning of Being Born as Human Beings



If you have an email address, please consider switching to a paperless subscription. Please contact the temple if you are interested. Thank you.



Berkeley Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple
1524 Oregon Street
Berkeley, CA 94703
U.S.A.

Address Correction Requested