Light of Dharma

仏法の光

Published by the Buddhist Church of San Francisco

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(415) 776-3158

buddhistchurchofsanfrancisco.org

BCSF General Membership Meeting

Sunday, February 12, 11-1 p.m.
Via Zoom video or phone link. In-person option if conditions allow.
Meeting is open to all BCSF members.



Affiliate and Temple Group reports were due Jan. 25. Contact the BCSF office immediately if your report is not in.

HoOnko service and New Year's party on January 15, 2023



More than 75 people attended the January 15th Goshoki-HoOnko service in memory of Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

Rev. David Pating led the chanting & Rev. C.J. Dunford was guest speaker.

Representatives of affiliate and temple group offered incense and 2023 officers of BCSF board, temple groups and affiliates were installed.

At the end of the service, each family attending received a gift of manju made in-house by volunteers.



Following the HoOnko service, the sangha gathered in the gym "like in the old days" to celebrate the new year with a delicious lunch and home-grown entertainment. The program ended with a traditional round of Tanko Bushi. See page 8 for more photos of the party.

Message from Rev. Henry Toryo Adams Supervising Minister for BCSF

Do you want to go to the Pure Land?

February is the month in which we observe our Nirvana Day Service at the Buddhist Church of San Francisco in commemoration of Sakyamuni Buddha's realization of the great tranquility of parinirvana. Having attained the wisdom of enlightenment, when his time in this world drew to a close Sakyamuni Buddha met the end of his human life with a peaceful mind as he passed into the state of final Nirvana. When those who live in the nembutsu with deep entrusting in Amida Buddha reach the end of life in this world, they are immediately born in the Pure Land where they realize the same enlightenment that brought Sakyamuni Buddha enduring peace of mind. That said, we would expect there to be many people eagerly looking forward to birth in the Pure Land. Are you one of them?

In a recent conversation, a Sangha member raised an interesting question, "I understand that in the Jodo Shinshu teaching the goal is to be born in the Pure Land of Amida Buddha, but honestly speaking, I don't have a feeling of wanting to be born in the Pure Land. Should I be concerned about that?" Shinran Shonin himself was asked a similar question, and offered the following reply:

... having no thought of wanting to go to the Pure Land quickly, we think forlornly that we may die even when we become slightly ill; this is the action of blind passions. It is hard for us to abandon this old home of pain, where we have been transmigrating for innumerable kalpas down to the present, and we feel no longing for the Pure Land of peace, where we have yet to be born. Truly, how powerful our blind passions are! . . . Amida pities especially the person who has no thought of wanting to go to the Pure Land quickly. Reflecting on this, we feel the great Vow

of great compassion to be all the more trustworthy and realize that our birth is settled.



(A Record in Lament of Divergences (Tannisho), Chapter 9)

Reflecting upon my own life, I find that I too have many blind passions and have never danced with joy at the prospect of being born in the Pure Land. Not only do I have beloved family and friends who I do not wish to part from, I do not wish to abandon the life I worked so hard to establish for myself. I love to visit beautiful places with my family and eat delicious meals with friends at my favorite restaurants. I don't feel like giving up all those pleasures to quickly be born in the Pure Land.

Clinging to the pleasures of this world is called attachment or greed. When I lose something that is important to me, the unpleasant feelings of disappointment and anger arise in my mind. I try to avoid all unpleasant feelings and shy away from the things that frighten me. Sakyamuni Buddha clearly taught the truth that all who are born into this human life will one day pass away in death. While I try to avoid the unpleasant and frightening truth that my life in this world will come to an end, the reality of death cannot be avoided forever. Simply ignoring unpleasant truths is to live in delusion. Greed, anger, and delusion are the blind passions that cloud our minds and impede our joy.

Amida Buddha made his compassionate vow in order to liberate people like me who are mired in blind passions, and unable to face the reality of death with a peaceful mind in the manner of Sakyamuni Buddha reclining in the sala grove of Kushinagar. When I realize how difficult it is for me to abandon this world of delusion, I feel all the more assured that entrusting Amida Buddha's compassionate vow is my true path to liberation from suffering.

}

Namo Amida Butsu

Message from Leo Joslin Sensei will return next issue.

Sympathy

The Buddhist Church of San Francisco offers condolences to the family and friends of the late

Elsie Kiyoko Sano, October 30, 2022

Kris Hideki Oka, December 13, 2022

Namo Amida Butsu Namo Amida Butsu Namo Amida Butsu



Message from Rev. Henry Toryo Adams Supervising Minister for BCSF

お浄土に往生したい?

今月は、2,500年前釈迦牟尼仏が北インドのクシナガラに入滅したことを記念する「涅槃会」をお勤めします。悟りを開かれていた釈迦さまはこの世の命を終えた時、穏やかな心をもって死へ向かう涅槃寂静を得られました。阿弥陀如来の救いをいただく念仏者は、この命を終えた時、お浄土に往生し釈迦さまと同じ悟りを得ることが出来ますので、浄土の往生することを楽しみする人は多いはずですが、いかがでしょうか?

先日、一人のご門徒さんと話していたときに、「最近仏教を学び始めて、浄土真宗の教えにおいて、お浄土に往生することがポイントだと言うことは分かってきましたが、どうしてもお浄土に往生したいという気持ちは出てきません。このようにあまりお浄土に行こうと思わないことは反省すべきでしょうか?」と聞かれました。

実は、親鸞聖人も同じような質問をされたことがあり、次のように答えらています。

浄土にはやく往生したいという心がおこらず、 少しでも病気にかかると、死ぬのではないだろ うかと心細く思われるのも、煩悩のしわざです。 果てしなく遠い昔からこれまで生れ変り死に変り し続けてきた、苦悩に満ちたこの迷いの世界は 捨てがたく、まだ生れたことのない安らかなさと りの世界に心ひかれないのは、まことに煩悩が 盛んだからなのです ... はやく往生したいとい う心のないわたしどものようなものを、阿弥陀 仏はことのほかあわれに思ってくださるのです。 このようなわけであるからこそ、大いなる慈悲の 心でおこされた本願はますますたのもしく、往生 は間違いないと思います。 (『歎異抄』第九章 現代語訳)

私にもやはり煩悩のしわ ざが多々あり、お浄土に往生す

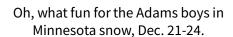
ることをおどりあがるように喜んだことは未だありません。私が愛している家族や友人とお別れしたくないし、今までに頑張って築いてきた生活も捨てたくない。この世には、家族と綺麗なところに旅行すること、友達と美味しいレストランで食事を食べることなどの楽しみがたくさんあるので、それを捨てて、少しでもはやくお浄土に往生したいとはなかなか思えないのです。

この世の楽しみに執着することを「むさぼり」と言います。大切に思っているものを失くすと嫌な気持ちになり「いかり」が出ます。そして、嫌なものや怖いものは全て避けようとします。釈迦さまは生まれるものは必ず死に至るという現実を詳しく教えて下さいました。私もいつか死ぬという現実は避けたいことですが、永遠に死を避けることは出来ません。このように避けられない現実をとりあえず無視することを「おろかさ」と言います。むさぼり・いかり・おろかさとは喜びをさえぎる煩悩のしわざなのです。

このように煩悩が多く、釈迦さまのように穏やかな心で死に向き合うことができない私を救うために、阿弥陀仏は本願をもって私の救いを誓って下さいました。この迷いの世界も私にとって捨てがたいものだと気づいた時、正に阿弥陀仏の本願に救いをまかせるしかないのです。

南無阿弥陀仏









February Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service

The memorial service for your loved ones who passed away in February is Sunday, February 12 at 10 a.m.

Join us In Person or call the office for the Zoom link

New Date for March Shotsuki Hoyo service: Sunday, March 5 at 10 a.m.

Acknowledgments for donations processed between December 15 and January 15, 2022. Thank you for your generous support of the BCSF. continued on page 6

DONATIONS

Anonymous (2) Arlene Kimata Penny N Nakatsu Ronald K. Omori Dr. Y.M. Shimazu Kusala-Mula Upasaka for stupa visit

MEMORIALS

Misaye Abiko IMO: Elsie Sano Eiko Aoki IMO: Mom, Dad, & Michi Aoki Sakaye Higashi IMO: Rev. Hiroshi Abiko The Murata Family IMO: Yukio Murata Takumi Matsuba IMO: Keiko Matsuba

Takumi Matsuba IMO: Keiko Matsuba 49th day Grace Nishikawa & Riley Kubota

IMO: James Noboru Nishikawa Grace Nishikawa & Riley Kubota

IMO: Calvin Yee

Marvin Shintani IMO: Harumi Shintani Craig Takeuchi IMO: Elsie Sano

BODHI DAY SERVICE

Lorin (Kagehiro) Bond

HOONKO SERVICE

Sumie Hayashi Sakaye Higashi Yoko Maeda Kiyoshi & Tazuko Naito Penny N Nakatsu Kumi Okamoto Dennis & Susie Sato Sumi Suda Yoko Sumida Setsuko J Tanaka Minoru & Suzanne Yamada Akemi Yoshimoto



FEBRUARY SHOTSUKI HOYO

Sadako Kashiwagi IMO: Shizuko Nimura Florence Murata IMO:Shigeichi Nishimoto Victor M. Nonaka IMO: Masano Nonaka

MARCH SHOTSUKI HOYO

Victor M. Nonaka IMO: Hideo Sato

APRIL SHOTSUKI HOYO

Victor M. Nonaka IMO: John Nonaka Victor M. Nonaka IMO: Masayoshi Nonaka

JUNE SHOTSUKI HOYO

Victor M. Nonaka IMO: Sumako Nonaka

JULY SHOTSUKI HOYO

Victor M. Nonaka IMO: Kayoko Sato

AUGUST SHOTSUKI HOYO

Paul Fujii IMO: Natsuye Fujii Jeff & Sandy Mori IMO: Arrice Mori

SEPTEMBER SHOTSUKI HOYO

Paul Fujii IMO: Charles Fujii

OCTOBER SHOTSUKI HOYO

Randall K Arimoto IMO: Ann Arimoto

NOVEMBER SHOTSUKI HOYO

Mona Banks IMO: Sumiko Maemoto Jenkins Mary Ishisaki IMO: Kimiye Ishisaki Ron & Jeannie Oshima IMO: George Oshima

DECEMBER SHOTSUKI HOYO

Ron & Margaret Kagehiro IMO: Chibi Yasumoto Chiyeko Kimura IMO: Yoshinobu Ikeda Jeffrey & Sandra Mori IMO: Chibi Yasumoto Kaz Nakamoto & Cindy Morino IMO: Katsumi Nakamoto Susumu & Tsuyako Seiki IMO: Chibi Yasumoto Tad & Christie Sekino IMO: Kikuyo Sekino Margie & Eddie Shiozaki IMO: Frank Nishimura Caroline Satoda IMO: Yonekazu Satoda Margie & Eddie Shiozaki IMO: Seisuke Shiozaki Tamiko Yasuhara June Yoshida IMO: Shizuyo Yoshida

JANUARY SHOTSUKI HOYO Judy Akiyama IMO: Sandi Matoba Judy Akiyama IMO: Kimiye Ono Anonymous IMO: Kimiye Ono Jean Fukunaga IMO: Bob Fukunaga Dean Hedani & Family IMO: Koyuki Hedani Sakaye Higashi IMO: Mrs. Ayano Higashi Mary Ishisaki IMO: Kumezo Ishisaki Richard K. Ishisaki IMO: Kumezo Ishisaki Keiko Kakiuchi IMO: Akira Kakiuchi Keiko Kakiuchi IMO: Kiyo Kakiuchi Sadako Kashiwagi IMO: Junichi Nimura Kaye Kawamoto IMO: Yoshitomi Fukushima Franklin & Yoko Lum IMO: Seiichi Nakai Stanley Marubayashi IMO: Fred Marubayashi Shirley Masada IMO: Masuichi Masada Tokue Masuoka IMO: Noboru Masuoka Greg Matoba & May Tsang IMO: Sandi Matoba Lori Matoba-Wun IMO: Kimiye Ono Lori Matoba-Wun IMO: Sandi Matoba Jeff & Sandy Mori IMO: Kazumi Mori Satomi Muramatsu IMO: Clara M. Nishimoto Jimmy Naganuma IMO: Iwaichi Naganuma Kiyoshi & Tazuko Naito Bobby Nakata IMO: Seiji Nakata Ben Nanjo IMO: Motoko Nanjo Victor M. Nonaka IMO: Shokichiro Nonaka Kumi Okamoto IMO: Minoru Okamoto Ellen Sawamura IMO: George Sawamura Steven Shigeo Omori IMO: Toki Omori Teresa Ono IMO: Kimiye Ono Teresa Ono IMO: Sandi Matoba Hisao Osaki IMO: Marjorie Osaki Kayoko Sakaguchi IMO: Yasuye Sakaguchi Gerald Hitoshi Sakuyama IMO: Hiroshi Kohagura George & Doris Sasaki IMO: Chizuko Arikawa George & Doris Sasaki IMO: Minoru Arikawa Susie Sato IMO: David Shida Marumi Suyeyasu IMO: Makoto Suyeyasu Setsuko J. Tanaka IMO: Satsumi Tanaka Violet M Tanaka IMO: Steven Tanaka Dean Toki IMO: Mary Toki Paula Tokugawa-Dunckel IMO: Noboru Taoka Paula Tokugawa-Dunckel IMO: George Tokugawa

Masayoshi Urayama IMO: Roy Shigeo Kunitake

Jo Ann Ono Wong IMO: Sandi Matoba

Jo Ann Ono Wong IMO: Kimiye Ono Jay & Linda Yamamura IMO: Mary Satomi

Acknowledgments for donations processed between December 15 and January 15, 2022.

Thank you for your generous support of the BCSF. continued from page 5

MEMBERSHIPS

Misaye Abiko Eiko Aoki

Janet E & Atlas Arakawa

Rich Cacciotti Norma N Esherick Betty K Fujimoto Allan Fukumoto

Stephanie Hagio Chin & Calvin Chin

Glen & Reiko Hatakeyama Yumi Hatta & Francis Wong

Sumie Hayashi

Dean Hedani & Family

Kaye Higashi

Masahiko & Kazuye Ikuma

Mary F Ishisaki

Leo Joslin & Gary Tom

Arlene Kimata & Gary Kitahata

Lindsi & Adialuz Kimizuka Leon Harumi & Russell Kishida

Kazuko Kobara

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Tad & Christie Sekino

Randall Shigio & Linda Tatehara

Marvin Shintani Lorraine M. Suzuki Noriko Takikawa

Violet M Tanaka

Michael S Tong Yone Shintaku **B.J. Soriano**

Sumi I Suda Yoko Sumida Setsuko J Tanaka

Dean Toki

Minoru & Suzanne Yamada

Shinya Yamaguchi

Joyce Yamasaki & Greg Overton

Akemi Yoshimoto

OSEIBO

Misaye Abiko Eiko Aoki

Janet E Arakawa

Thomas & Akiko Arikawa

Richard Cacciotti

Jack Dairiki

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Jean Y Fukunaga

Sumie Hayashi

Stephanie Hagio Chin

Yumi Hatta & Francis Wong

Dean Hedani & Family

Kaye Higashi

Mary F lshisaki Janet Kashiwada Harumi Kishida

Keith & Priscilla Kojimoto

Sharonlee E Kotabe

Donna L Kotake

Junko & Arnold Low

Shirley M Masada

Kyle Matsumoto Burch

Tara Mochizuki & Jeffrey Chu

Jeffrey & Sandra Mori

Barbara Mow

Shirley S Murakami Kiyoshi & Tazuko Naito

Edward & Ayako Nishimoto

Mickie Ochi

Yukiko Oka

Kumi Okamoto

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Tad & Christie Sekino

Adele S Shimoda

Yoko Sumida

Lorraine M. Suzuki

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Setsuko J Tanaka

Ina Kikugawa Tao

Betty Tsugawa Lori & Ed Wakil

Minoru & Suzanne Yamada

Joyce Yamasaki



OUR POLICY:

Masks REQUIRED inside the Hondo



Masks STRONGLY RECOMMENDED everywhere else at BCSF

Please do not enter if you are sick.



A new poster reminding everyone to wear masks in the Hondo was approved at the January joint meeting of the COVID Safety Committee and Board. Misaye Abiko, Chelsea Arita, Yukiko Oka, Noriko Takikawa and Yoshi Yao also sat in on a portion of the meeting after choir practice.

10 Minute Rule to keep BCSF secure

If your group unlocks the Austin St. or Kitchen Doors to let your group enter the building, RE-LOCK THE DOOR 10 MIN. after your start time. Please do not leave the doors unlocked and unmonitored for your entire meeting.

Please consider: "Would I leave this door unlocked if it was the front door at my house?"

Please report incidents to the BCSF office so we can know whether to increase security procedures.

BCSF News-Save the Dates

On March 12, Palo Alto Buddhist Temple will host a special service in observance of Shinran Shonin's 850 birthday as well as 800 years of the Jodo Shinshu teaching. Attending the service in person or via Zoom is wholeheartedly suggested.

Winter Shelter Meal Preparation

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WINTER SHELTER MEAL PREP.

Help prepare a hearty, hot meal for our unhoused neighbors during BCSF's annual participation in the SF Interfaith Council's Winter Shelter program.

Now in its 34th year, the program brings together diverse communities of faith to prepare meals and give hope to San Franciscans who would otherwise suffer on our streets during winter months.

3 Shifts Available for **BCSF** volunteers:

- 1. Sun, Feb. 5, noon
- 3pm, meal prep at **BCSF**

Serving meals 2. Monday, Feb. 6, 5:30 - 7:30pm 3. Tuesday, Feb. 7,

5:30 - 7:30pm To volunteer, call BCSF at 415-776-3158 or

email Rev. Elaine Donlin

edonlin1@yahoo.com Strict safety protocols will be followed for all shifts.



BUDDHIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA

BAY DISTRICT 850 800 SERVICE

Please join us March 12, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple

Participating BCA Bay District Temples:

Buddhist Temple of Alameda Berkeley Buddhist Temple Enmanji Buddhist Temple Buddhist Temple of Marin Buddhist Church of Oakland Palo Alto Buddhist Temple Buddhist Church of San Francisco San Mateo Buddhist Temple Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church

BCSF News



BCSF Board Highlights from January 8, 2023

Thank you to Junko Low for serving as Treasurer Liaison for the past three years. Junko will continue to volunteer.

Welcome to Kyle Matsumoto Burch for being elected to the 2023-2024 hoard

Susan Sakuma was appointed for a one-year term.

Election of officers for 2023: President, Arlene Kimata; Vice President - Programs, Nanayo Silver; Secretary - Susan Sakuma; Treasurer - Kevin Yoza.

Feb. 24-25 National Council virtual meeting hosted by Monterey temple. Arlene and Susan are voting delegates; Kevin and Kyle will attend as observers.

Chief Manju Baker Yoshi Yao (center) successfully directed Yoko Maeda (L), Nanayo Silver and other volunteers to make homemade manju for the traditional HoOnko gift to service attendees. We miss Benkyodo's manju but think this in-house project may be the start of a new tradition.

HoOnko service and New Year's party on January 15, 2023 continued from page 1

Jiten Daiko opened the New Year program with a bang!

The Jr. YBA skit got many laughs.

YAO Ardenettes and Taisho showed their ball-handling talent.

Dharma School students said the best things about Dharma School are snacks and art projects. Bring your children to join the fun!

SF Kendo Dojo demonstrated their craft.

Welcome!

The Buddhist Church of San Francisco welcomes all those who wish to learn about the boundless wisdom and compassion that is Amida Buddha without regard to race, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or gender identity/expression.



Photos and Credits:

page 1: BCSF & HoOnko photos by Kevin Yoza page 3: Minnesota Snow by Rev. Henry Adams

page 5: Gassho by Mark Shigenaga

page 8: Manju & HoOnko photos by Kevin Yoza page 10: Ginko leaves & raindrops by Hitomi Silver

Corrections:

January 2023 page 4: Michiko Hom's and Sandi Yoko (Ono) Matoba's names were missing from the January Shotsuki Hoyo list. Our apologies for the error.

Buddhist Church of San Francisco Mission Statement

The purpose of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco (BCSF) is to maintain a temple and to establish a Buddhist community of the Jodo Shinshu faith in San Francisco, CA. Building on our profound legacy as a Jodo Shinshu spiritual center, we strive to awaken within us the compassion and wisdom of the Buddha Dharma. BCSF endeavors to share the teaching of the Buddha with all those who seek the knowledge and the truth of the Buddha Dharma, to promote our Sangha (community); and to provide for the general welfare and services to guide the activities which strengthen our faith in the Buddha and advance our learning in the Dharma.

Supervising Minister

Rev. Henry Adams

Minister's Assistants

Rev. Keisuke Lee-Miyaki (Kyoshi) Rev. Dr. David Pating (Kyoshi) Rev. Elaine Donlin (Tokudo) Leo Balambao Jack Dairiki (Honorary) Leo Joslin Camille Pating

2023 BCSF Board of Directors

President

Arlene Kimata Vice President of Programs Nanayo Silver

Treasurer

Kevin Yoza

Secretary

Susan Sakuma

Melissa Angel

Doug Dorn

Kyle Matsumoto Burch

BCSF Office Manager

Sheryl Serafino BCSFoffice@gmail.com (415) 776-3158

Light of Dharma committee: Rev. Elaine Donlin, Arlene Kimata, Rev. Keisuke Lee-Miyaki,

Susan Sakuma, BJ Soriano



Light of Dharma

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- · Twitter: twitter.com/bcsfsangha

The views expressed in this newsletter reflect the opinions of contributors and not necessarily of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco.

We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please notify us of corrections and send your comments to:

Email: bcsfoffice@gmail.com Phone: (415) 776-3158 Mail: Light of Dharma,

Buddhist Church of San Francisco, 1881 Pine St. San Francisco CA 94109

February & March Dates

All Sunday services are in person and Livestream/Zoom.
Check BCSF's YouTube channel for Sunday service postings.

February 5, 2023- 10 a.m. Sangha Service
February 12- 10 a.m. Shotsuki Hoyo/ Monthly
Memorial Service
11:30- 1 pm General Membership meeting
February 19 - 10 a.m. Sangha Service
February 25- 5 p.m. Metta Service
Dharma talk by Rev. Elaine Donlin
February 26- NO SERVICE AT BCSF
10 a.m. ZOOM BCA Eitaikyo Service

BCSF Board of Directors February 19 - 2 p.m. regular board meeting March 19-2 p.m. regular board meeting

March 5, 2023, 10 a.m. NEW DATE for Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service March 12- NO SERVICE AT BCSF

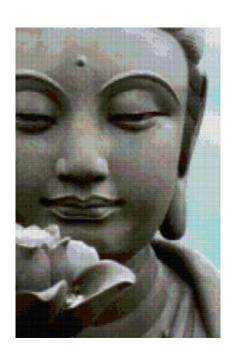
10 a.m. at Palo Alto Buddhist Temple- 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth & the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching

March 19 - 10 a.m. Sangha Service
March 25 - 5 p.m. Metta Service
Dharma talk by Rev. Elaine Donlin
March 26 - 10 a.m. BWA Lady Kujo
Memorial Service

Mindful Meditation meets every Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom) February 1, 8, 15, 22 March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Book Club (Zoom) February 9 and 23 at 1:30 p.m.

Meditations from the slow lane by jerrybolick.blogspot.com



rain-soaked Buddha doesn't smile, doesn't frown—drip-listening

night's restless rain drops, waiting for the storm

after the storm, through bamboo curtain, moon