

# Light of Dharma

仏法の光

Published by the Buddhist Church of San Francisco

1881 Pine St. San Francisco, CA 94109

(415) 776-3158

buddhistchurchofsanfrancisco.org

## Newsletter for July and August 2023

See inside for 2023 OBON FESTIVAL events in July.

### Obon & Hatsubon Service

Sunday July 16 at 10 am



In our life of Nembutsu, we affirm in the Obon tradition of acknowledging the causes and conditions that make our life of Awakening possible. We view this as the compassion and wisdom our loved ones teach us through their own life that we carry with us even after they are no longer here in physical form. The family and friends of those for whom this is the first Obon service (Hatsubon) since entering the Pure Land are invited to attend the in-person service on Sunday, July 16, 2023, at 10 am. If you would like the Zoom link to the service, please contact the BCSF office at: [BCSFoffice@gmail.com](mailto:BCSFoffice@gmail.com) or leave a message at (415) 776-3158.

### Sympathy

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

James Akio Kachiu, June 12, 2023

*Namo Amida Butsu Namu Amida Butsu Namu Amida Butsu*

## Message from Rev. Melissa Jo Shin Opel

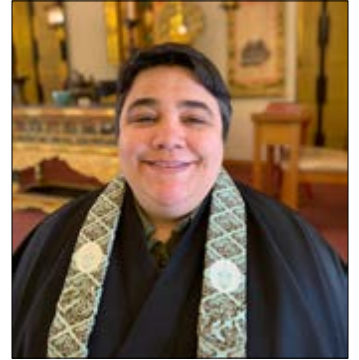
BCSF Resident Minister

This week Becca and I were driving and this giant sticker caught my attention. It said, "We are hope despite the times." Something about it was familiar so I snapped a picture and later looked it up. The line is a lyric from an R.E.M. song called "These Days." The chorus goes like this,

"All the people gather  
Fly to carry each his burden, we are young despite the years  
We are concerned, we are hope despite the times  
All of a sudden, these days, happy throngs,  
take this joy  
Wherever, wherever you go"

As Jodo Shinshu Buddhists, we focus much of our practice on gratitude for all the ways we are supported, loved and cared for and more importantly the embrace we are held in from the call of Amida Buddha.

Because of this, like Shinran Shonin, we can say, "how joyous I am!" I have been given enough and who I am is enough. We encounter the suffering of others each day and even though we have enough and are enough, we are aware of our human limitations. But we can practically understand that this is part of the life we live. When we have this deep awareness, not only can we feel hope, we can give hope to others—hope that suffering is not the only way to experience life. I think these lyrics can be sung by every generation before us and every generation after because suffering is part of the human condition. It is important we share our lives with others so that they too may come to know the joy in our hearts and the hope despite the times.



## Translation by Rev. Keisuke Lee-Miyake

BCSF Minister's Assistant

今週、私とベッカがドライブしていた時、この巨大なステッカーが目にとまりました。"We are hope despite the times."というステッカー。何か見覚えがあったので、写真を撮り、後で調べてみると、R.E.M.の "These Days" という曲の歌詞でした。サビはこんな感じです。

「集まった人がみんな  
支え合おうぜ、年季が入ってもまだまだ未熟さ  
不安でもいいぜ、こんな時代でも希望の星さ  
ぶったまげるぜ、ここんこ、ハッピーな奴らども  
このうれしさと一緒に  
どこまでも、どこまでも」

私たちは浄土真宗の門徒として、常に支えられ、慈しまれ、大切にされていることへのありがたさを味わい、そして何より阿弥陀如来の呼び声に抱かれていることへのかたじけなさに専念しています。そのため、親鸞聖人のように「なんと慶ばしいことでしょう\*」と言うことができます。私たちは十分に

恵まれており、あるがままで満ち足りているのです。日々、人の悩みや苦しみを目の当たりにすると、私たちは程よく満たされている存在にもかかわらず、人間としての有限性を思い知ることでしょう。しかし、経験上、限りがあるということが人生の一部であるというのは理解できるかと思いません。このような深い気づきに出会ったとき、私たちは希望を抱くことができるだけでなく、他の人たちにも希望を与えることができるでしょう。苦しい思いをすることだけが人生ではない、と。悩みや苦しみは人間の業であるからこそ、この歌詞は世代を超えてともに歌い続けることができます。自分の人生を他の人々と分かち合うことが大切です。そうすれば、心の中に湧き上がる喜びや、どんな時でも芽生える希望を、人々にも知ってもらえるでしょう。  
\* 『顕浄土真実教行証文類』総序より。原文：慶哉（慶ばしいかな）



**The next BCSF Japanese  
language services  
will be on  
Sunday July 9 and  
August 27 at 1 pm  
led by  
Rev. Keisuke Lee-Miyaki**



Welcome to BCSF New Members

Amanda Hing-Hernandez  
Kenneth Kitahata  
Michael Maruyama



## Acknowledgments for donations processed between April 15 and May 15, 2023.

Thank you for your generous support of the BCSF.

### DONATIONS

Anonymous  
 Julie K. Hatta & Family IHO: YAO Scholarships  
 Jiten Daiko "Taiklet" Workshop  
 Sadako Kashiwagi IHO Mrs. Kashiwagi's birthday  
 Rev Eijun & Toshiko Kujo IHO: Max Land -Sangha Award  
 Y. Mary Nakayama  
 Noriko Takikawa IHO: Mother's Day Donation

### MEMORIALS

Eiko Aoki IMO: Michi Aoki Nakai  
 Akiko Kagami IMO: Hisashi Kagami (7th Year)  
 Brian & Lorin Sasaki Family  
 IMO: Rev. LaVerne Senyo Sasaki  
 Edward & Ayako Nishimoto IMO: Rev. LaVerne Sasaki  
 Jerry & Eleanor Osumi IMO: Rev. LaVerne Sasaki  
 Ellen Shigemura Leach IMO: Ayako Shigemura,  
 Richard Shigemura, Charles Arthur Leach  
 Minoru & Suzanne Yamada IMO: Kiyoshi Naito

### BCSF MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

Michael Maruyama  
 Mark Okashima  
 Gary Pike & Jamie Ennis  
 Nanayo & Robert Silver

### LIGHT OF DHARMA NEWSLETTER DONATION

Janet Low  
 Joanne Kiyoko Tohei

### JANUARY SHOTSUKI HOYO

Kuniko Naito IMO: Helen Hatsuko Naito  
 Kuniko Naito IMO: Paul Shizuya Naito

### APRIL SHOTSUKI HOYO

Kuniko Naito IMO: Chiyoko Nakai  
 Katsuto & Yoshimi Oune IMO: Chiyoko Matsuno  
 Katsuto & Yoshimi Oune IMO: Yaroku Matsuno

### MAY SHOTSUKI HOYO

Dorlie Fong & Kiyu Takahashi IMO: Mitsujiro Takahashi  
 Julie Nakatani IMO: Susumu Saiki  
 Edward & Ayako Nishimoto IMO: Sen Yao  
 Ellen M Sawamura, PHD IMO: Katherine Kikuye Miho  
 Hiroshi Takahashi IMO: Masu Takahashi  
 Emi R Uyehara IMO: Chisako Uyehara  
 Yumi A Yasuda IMO: Jane Yasuda  
 Shinji & Yoshi Yao IMO: Sen Yao  
 Akemi Yoshimoto IMO: Motoye Koyama



### JUNE SHOTSUKI HOYO

Emi Gusukuma IMO: Yuki Gusukuma  
 Miles Hamada IMO: Suehachi Ohmura  
 Richard Hashimoto IMO: Taiko Hashimoto  
 Joanne T Hayashi IMO: Richard Masato Imai  
 Mitsuko Hirota IMO: Mutsumi Hirota  
 Mitsuko Hirota IMO: Sameno Hirota  
 Steve Inouye IMO: Ruth Midori Inouye  
 Karen Kagehiro IMO: Satoru Kagehiro  
 Ronald Kagehiro IMO: Satoru Kagehiro  
 Russell & Harumi Kishida IMO: Masaru Nakao  
 Ibuki Lee IMO: Matsusaburo Hibi  
 Shirley M Masada IMO: Tammy K. Lam  
 Eiko Masai IMO: Gihei Komiyama  
 Eiko Masai IMO: Kiyu Komiyama  
 Daphne Matsumoto IMO: Yoshizo Matsumoto  
 Nancy Shimosaka McBride IMO: Tora Oura  
 Nancy Shimosaka McBride IMO: Sue Shimosaka  
 Satomi Muramatsu IMO: Ned Nishimoto  
 Nobuko Naganuma IMO: Sumika Naganuma  
 Chizuko Nakamura IMO: Masato Nakamura  
 Linda Nakamura IMO: Hanako Nakamura  
 Mickie Ochi IMO: Tasseki Ochi  
 Yukiko Oka IMO: James H. Oka  
 Randy & Bonz Otsuki IMO: Satoru Kagehiro  
 Ellen M Sawamura, PHD IMO: Howard Kline  
 Ellen M Sawamura, PHD IMO: Kazuyo Sawamura  
 Hiko & Susan Shimamoto IMO: Gennosuke Shimamoto  
 Hiko & Susan Shimamoto IMO: Iwa Shimamoto  
 Stacey L Shimamoto IMO: Masa Hosoda  
 Stacey L Shimamoto IMO: Tokuichi Hosoda  
 Margie & Eddie Shiozaki IMO: Seikichi Shiozaki  
 Margie & Eddie Shiozaki IMO: Toshiko Shiozaki  
 Yukiko Suzuki IMO: Florence Y. Suzuki  
 Marilyn Noda Swartz IMO: Takara Noda  
 Gary Terada IMO: Sonoe Terada  
 Joanne Kiyoko Tohei IMO: Gennosuke Shimamoto  
 Joanne Kiyoko Tohei IMO: Iwa Shimamoto  
 Joanne Kiyoko Tohei IMO: Masayo Shimamoto  
 Toshiko Uyehara IMO: Masaru Nakao  
 Akiko Yamagishi & Jean A. Hiura IMO: Edward Yamagishi

### JULY SHOTSUKI HOYO

Hiroshi V Sakamoto IMO: Noboru Sakamoto  
 Hiroshi V Sakamoto IMO: Yoko Sakamoto  
 Toshiko Uyehara IMO: Yuku Ouye

### NOVEMBER SHOTSUKI HOYO

Ellen Shigemura Leach IMO: Tsutomu Shigemura

**Intro to Buddhism!**  
 With Rev. Melissa Opel

**Part 1: 7/30 at 11:30 a.m.**  
**Part 2: 8/6 at 11:30 a.m.**

**All are welcome!**

***New to Buddhism or wanting to learn a little more? Please join us for a 2-week introduction.***

***Part one will focus on how Buddhism got its start and key concepts shared by all Buddhists.***

***Part two will focus on the spread of Buddhism into Japan and look more deeply at Jodo Shinshu.***

***Both parts will be taught by Rev. Melissa Opel, BCSF's new Head Minister. Each class will be about an hour long with time for questions at the end.***

***Location: BCSF, 1881 Pine St., Education Bldg., Rm. 2***

***Need more info? 1-415-776-3158***

# BCSF OBON FESTIVAL NEWS

**BUDDHIST CHURCH OF SAN FRANCISCO**

# OBON FESTIVAL

**JULY 15**  
ALOHA BBQ CHICKEN BENTO

**JULY 16**  
OBON & HATSUBON SERVICE

**JULY 23**  
DANCING FOR JOY!  
BON ODORI ON OCTAVIA STREET!  
ODORI PRACTICES BEGIN  
JUNE 26, 2023  
MON/WED/FRI  
7:30 - 9:00 PM

**JULY 29 & AUGUST 6**  
INTRO TO BUDDHISM CLASS

**JULY 29 & 30**  
FAMILY TREASURES  
MARKETPLACE  
KIMONO SALE  
BWA BOUTIQUE

1881 Pine Street, San Francisco, CA 94109  
415.776.3158, e-mail: [bcsfoffice@gmail.com](mailto:bcsfoffice@gmail.com)

Learn to play 'ukulele or guitar in 3 hours

Sat., July 8  
1-4 PM  
San Francisco  
\$50

VISITING WORKSHOP INSTRUCTOR  
BJ SORIANO  
OF HILO, HAWAII

Pre-Registration: [bj@bjsoriano.com](mailto:bj@bjsoriano.com)  
Class details & instructions available with confirmed registration.

## LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP

BCSF Members receive a 15% discount off of the workshop price  
A chance to learn a new skill.  
Workshop will be held at BCSF.  
Just bring yourself and an 'ukulele or guitar.  
It'll be lots of fun!

## BCSF OBON FESTIVAL NEWS

Fujinkai (Women's Association) & BWA  
(Buddhist Women's Association) members:

### Dancing for Joy! Sunday, July 23 Bon Odori on Octavia Street

**Honoring Mrs. Tamiko Yasuhara** who represents the ladies of the BCSF Fujinkai and BWA who created & continue to perpetuate best-selling BCSF Bazaar recipes.



Mrs. Tamiko Yasuhara joined BCSF as a young bride after the war. She brought her three children -- Stanley, Susan and Kenneth, along with Doug Dorn -- to church. Mrs. Yasuhara was a member of the Jr. Fujinkai and also a Cub Scout Den Mother. If

there had been a choir at that time, she would have been there singing with them.

Mrs. Yasuhara is most famous for her role with the late Emiko Kuruma in perfecting the BCSF tare sauce. She was head chef for various Bazaar dishes such as hand-made pork gyoza and tsukemono.

With gratitude to:

- \* The late Mrs. Estuko Kai who originated BCSF's famous fried chicken;
- \* The late Emiko Kuruma and Mrs. Tami Yasuhara who together perfected the BCSF tare (teriyaki sauce) sauce that makes the BCSF fried chicken so unique and delicious; and
- \* Past and present members of the Senior and Junior Fujinkai and BWA for their kitchen skills, dedication and hard work they do on behalf of the BCSF.

The late Mrs. Etsuko Kai created the BCSF teriyaki fried chicken. Our chicken is unique: it is fried then coated with the tare sauce and baked. It is a labor-intensive process that results in mighty tasty chicken!

BCSF's 80th-anniversary (1898-1978) book states: "The Junior Fujinkai uses the lower kitchen to prepare their famous 'Fujinkai chicken.' This delicious chicken cooked to perfection following a secret, time- and palate-tested recipe, has been a best-seller at the Food Bazaar since it was first introduced a number of years ago. Numerous cooking processes convert the lowly chicken in a gastronomic delight revered by all who have ever tasted it."

BCSF has not made the famous fried chicken since 2020, but with enough helpers, we can hope to bring it back in the future.

*Here is a partial list of the people who have supported Fujinkai & BWA since its founding in 1900\*:*

Misaye Abiko  
Mary Amino  
Elsie Chung  
Elaine Donlin  
Marjorie Fletcher  
Yasuko Fukuda  
Jean Fukunaga  
Betty Fujimoto  
Chiyeko Harada  
Amy Hanamoto  
Yae Hanyu  
Yumi Hatta  
Jeanette Hayakawa  
Haru Hedani  
Kiyo Hedani  
Mitsuko Hirota  
Michiko Hom  
Shizuko Ichiyasu  
Hatsumi Ishii  
Shizue Ikeda  
Yuri Ito  
Masako Iwase  
Setsuko Kagehiro

Etsuko Kai  
Fusako Kamita  
Kazue Kanegawa  
Eunice Kaneko  
Sadako Kashiwagi  
Miyako Kazama  
Harumi Kishida  
Betty Kitazumi  
Sumiye Kito  
Rosalyn Kiwata  
Kazuko Kobara  
Etsuko Kohagura  
Louise Koike  
Priscilla Kojimoto  
Emi Kuruma  
Sakiye Kusama  
Ibuki Lee  
Junko Low  
Klara Ma  
Kay Maeyama  
Thelma Mamura  
Miyuki Masada  
Joan Matsukuma  
Sandi Matoba  
Shizue Miyazaki  
Aya Mizono  
Asaye Mizota  
Tara Mochizuki  
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Eiko Ono  
Linda Ono  
Mitsue Ono  
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Setsuko Oshita  
Midori Otsuki  
Camille Pating  
Kinko Saiki

Takaye Sako  
Susan Sakuma  
Midori Satow  
Tsuruko Sekino  
Shizuko Shida  
June Shimamura  
Yuri Shiono  
Sumi Suda  
Yoko Sumida  
Lorraine Suzuki  
Michiko Taguchi  
Hanako Tajiri  
Nora Takeoka  
Noriko Takikawa  
Betty Tanaka  
Setsuko Tanaka  
Yoshiye Tanaka  
Kiyo Tani  
Michiko Tashiro  
Mary Toki  
Tomie Tomita  
Betty Tsugawa  
Sumie Tsujimoto  
Helen Utsumi  
Shizue Uyemoto  
Shinako Wada  
Estella Weiss  
Elaine Weston  
Kiyoko Yamada

Suzanne Yamada  
Aiko Yamagishi  
Akiko Yamagishi  
Sandy Yamagishi  
Sumiye Yamagishi  
Grace Yamamoto  
Mary Yamamoto  
Mory Yamamoto  
Nancy Yamamoto  
Yasuko Yamamoto  
Joyce Yamasaki  
Kiyoko Yamasaki  
Yoshi Yao  
Yutaka Yao  
Tamiko Yasuhara  
Chibi Yasumoto  
Shizue Yokoro  
Akemi Yoshimoto  
Yukiko Yoshimoto  
Kazuko Yoshioka  
Natsuko Yoshioka

\* ... We thank all of the many Fujinkai & BWA members who've supported the BCSF but aren't listed.

# BCSF OBON FESTIVAL NEWS



*Bon Dance Practice*

Mon - Wed - Fri  
beginning June 26  
through July 14  
(no practice July 3)  
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Practices  
are held  
in the  
BCSF  
Gymnasium  
1881 Pine St  
San Francisco  
CA 94109

Contact [bcsfoffice@gmail.com](mailto:bcsfoffice@gmail.com) or (415)776-3158  
for more information

**BUDDHIST CHURCH OF SAN FRANCISCO  
OBON FESTIVAL**

**ALOHA BBQ CHICKEN**

**BENTO - \$17**

**JULY 15, 2023**

**ORDER DEADLINE: JULY 9**  
Order by Email  
[BCSFBento@gmail.com](mailto:BCSFBento@gmail.com)  
or call (415)776-3158

**MENU**  
**GRILLED BBQ CHICKEN**  
**BCSF HOMEMADE TAKUAN,**  
**DESSERT, PANIOL BEANS**  
**AND RICE**

PICK UP AT 440 AUSTIN ST. GARAGES  
BETWEEN NOON AND 2:00 PM ON JULY 15  
EXACT CHANGE OR CHECK TO BCSF,  
DELIVERY AVAILABLE

**LET'S GO!**

**BUS TRIP TO  
PLACER BUDDHIST CHURCH**

**OBON**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 5  
PENRYN, CA**

**\$25 SUGGESTED FARE DONATION**  
**BUS RIDE APPROX. 90 MINUTES**  
**LEAVE BCSF 5 PM**  
**RETURN 11 PM**

PLACER BC SANGHA VISITS  
BCSF OBON EVERY YEAR.  
LET'S DO A RETURN VISIT!  
INTERESTED?  
CALL THE BCSF OFFICE AT  
(415)776-3158

**Got BCSF Happi Coats?**

If you are not using vintage BCSF Happi Coats and can pass them to a new home, we would be grateful for their return!



**Yes!** Here is my tax- deductible donation to the Buddhist Church of San Francisco.

\$50      \$100      \$250      \$500      Other amount \$

Make checks payable to "BCSF" with "Obon donation" on the memo line.  
Mail to: BCSF 1881 Pine St. SF, CA 94109

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your donation!

# BCSF News

On May 20, Sangha members earned their CPR/ Red Cross certification



Thank you to AED Committee members Harumi Kishida & Keith Kojimoto for organizing a CPR-AED training with the American Red Cross for BCSF volunteers on May 20.

AED is the Automated External Defibrillator used in cardiac arrest emergencies. BCSF has two AEDs, one in the lobby and one in the gym.

CPR is Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, a lifesaving technique to use when someone's breathing or heartbeat has stopped.

## BCSF and Kokoro Assisted Living Facility



Each month, the Japanese American Religious Federation (JARF) provides a religious service for the residents at Kokoro Assisted Living facility on Bush Street. In June, Sumi Suda and Yasuko Fukuda attended the

service officiated by BCSF's Rev. Elaine Donlin which included sutra chanting, singing of Ondukusan and a Dharma message.

Photo by Ms. Yayoi Baker, Kokoro Activity Director



## Learn Japanese this Fall!

Soko Gakuen is offering Japanese language lessons for children (September 2023 through June 2024), between the ages of 5 and 14 (kindergarten through advanced classes). There are now openings for all levels. Classes meet every Saturday morning between 9:00 and 12:00. Tuition is \$450 per semester (including material & utilities fees: \$50 per semester).

Soko Gakuen is devoted to the preservation of Japanese language, traditions, and Buddhist teachings. We insist on a high standard of conduct by our children and teachers.

To register for the children's class, come to the educational bldg (440 Austin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109) of the Buddhist Church of San Francisco on Saturday, 8/19/23, 9:00-12:00 noon. For more information, please visit <https://sokogakuen.org> or call us at 415-928-9608.

New WiFi for "Guest Use" in the Social Hall & Classrooms

**BCSF\_Extended**

Password is posted in Social Hall & Classrooms



## Donate Your Unused Pocket Radios

From Rev. Keisuke, BCSF Associate Minister & Chaplain at Zuckerberg SF General Hospital

SFGH patients, some of whom are homeless, enjoy listening to their favorite music while recuperating in isolation rooms.

We are collecting 10-20 pocket-size radios that use AA batteries (not AAA or A batteries; no plug-ins to electric outlets). Please do not purchase new radios or donate i-pads because they are likely to be stolen.

If you have unused old-fashioned small radios, please bring them to BCSF or call the office to schedule a pickup.

With appreciation,  
Keisuke Lee-Miyaki (宮木 リー 啓輔)

# BCSF News

A very busy Sunday June 4th... Rev. Opel's first service as the BCSFs Resident Minister, followed by.....



Raising the Pride Flag celebration in Japantown.





## BCSF Youth Rising- YAO Graduation Service June 9th



### *Speech by Kelli Lam, Ardenettes*

When I was five, my mom took me to an E practice. At first, I didn't like it because I couldn't reach the basket, but I changed my mind when I found out you get snacks after practice (lol). Luckily, I started to love (basketball) before the snacks after practice stopped.

The past 12 years, I've played for amazing coaches (shout out to my mom) and incredible players that bring so much fun and joy to every practice and game. The best part of YAO is the atmosphere and community that brings us all together. And I think before COVID, we really took that for granted. But I can proudly say that it's still here, just seeing all of you here today.

YAO has given me the opportunity to create friendships with people who live in San Francisco and outside of our city. These friendships have become so strong that even though I don't go to school with more than one of my teammates, I'm still able to have a close bond with them, and when we all come together for practice and tournaments, nothing ever feels out of place. The YAO really emphasizes caring for others and it shows. This organization has given all of us amazing life-long

### *Speech by Noah Louie, Taisho*

When I first joined BCSFYAO in 1st grade, we were just a group of kids looking to play basketball, but as I finish my 12th-grade season in the YAO community, basketball has become the afterthought. I've given the last 12 years of my life to this organization, and it's more about the friends you make and the lessons you take away.

On my Taisho 12 team, we just enjoy being with each other and hanging out, but it didn't start that way. Some of us knew each other from school or other basketball teams, but when we first came together it wasn't just natural. Only through years of playing basketball together have we grown close to the point where they're some of my best friends. Moreover, being a member of Taisho has provided me with a sense of belonging and fostered lifelong friendships. The shared experiences, victories, and setbacks have created a deep bond among my teammates. This camaraderie has taught me the importance of collaboration, teamwork, and supporting others in their endeavors. These qualities have extended beyond the basketball court and have positively impacted my relationships with peers, classmates, and family members. As I enter

friendships that we will all treasure no matter how far we might go as we head into college.

The BCSFYAO is a community that touches on the idea that basketball isn't the only important value, it teaches a culture of helping one another out. Parents are always doing stuff behind the scenes. They organize food, create banners for every team attending, and they do so much that goes unappreciated and unnoticed. When sign ups become available, we all know we must do our part and sign up right away. And as part of YAO, we know that it's important to be selfless and not make anyone do everything on their own.

We're happy that the YAO is still going strong after so many years. We want to thank the church for allowing us to use the gym. Finally, we'd like to thank our president Erika Tamura for bringing us all together today! We hope that young players and families learn to love the game, make fun memories, and learn to love this community like we did. It's sad that this is our last year but all the memories we made will stick with us forever. Thank you!

my next steps into college, I'm not intimidated to meet new people because BCSFYAO taught me how to build new friendships.

Unfortunately, my time at YAO has come to an end as I've graduated and will be moving away to college next year. I'm going to miss being on the court with my boys as I've had some of my happiest times playing ball with them. Looking back, I don't really care about all the heartbreaking losses we had, especially to the Barons this season. Okay, maybe it would've been nice to beat that team once. Anyways, I'm going to remember all the times at practice we were messing around together or the times we spent at Alex's house playing slap pong.

To me YAO is a community. I built so many connections not just with people in our organization, but also with the teams we play against. I've realized YAO is an experience unlike any other. Here we connect through not only basketball, but our culture as well. As we go our separate ways and go off to accomplish our future goals, we'll always share what YAO has taught us and the experiences YAO has brought us. So lastly, congratulations to all graduating seniors and good luck with whatever you choose to do.

# BCSF News

Dear Sangha,

BCSF members Donna Kotake and Joyce Nakamura wish to invite you to the 50th Anniversary of CANE (Committee Against Nihonmachi Eviction), an event "Celebrating Activism & Community," on August 19, 2023, 2:00-5:00 pm, JCCNC, 1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco.

CANE was a multi-generational, multi-racial grassroots organization that fought for the rights of the residents and small businesses threatened by eviction at the hands of the Redevelopment Agency. It worked to preserve San Francisco Japantown as a residential and small business community, and to remain a center for the Japanese American community. BCSF hosted many CANE programs in the 1970s. The late BCSF member Guy Ono was the first President of CANE.

Highlights of the event: Jiten Daiko! Trailer for the new CANE documentary! Spoken word artist, AK Black with Francis Wong! Group singing by Bill Tamayo! Exhibits, Games, Refreshments!

So please RSVP for the event at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cane-50th-anniversary-celebration-tickets-579717730337> or call Joyce Nakamura at 415-948-0131. Check out our website at: <https://cane50.org/> or email CANE50@gmail.com for more information.

In Gassho,  
Donna Kotake and Joyce Nakamura



April 12, 1975 - CANE 2nd Anniversary Dinner, Buddhist Church of SF  
photo credit: Jim Dong

## Meeting Highlights

### Bay District Council Meeting Highlights

May 25, 2023 at San Mateo BT  
Kevin Yoza represented BCSF

Everyday Buddhist offers Jodo Shinshu Buddhism instruction, \$10/month or \$95/year  
<http://www.everydaybuddhist.org>

BCSF's annual dues is \$200. Assessment for the 2025 Bay District Conference expenses is \$868.62; funds are set aside to cover upfront expenses incurred in planning the meeting before district temples pay their share.

Sign up for 2025 National Council Meeting planning committee.

Sign up for Bay District celebration of BCA 125th anniversary planning committee. BCSF will likely host the service on Sept. 11, 2024.

BCSF is next in line to be an officer on the Bay District Council: 2nd VP in 2024; 1st VP in 2025; President in 2026.

Obon Dates for Bay District temples:

- July 15 - Alameda, Enmanji
- July 23 - BCSF
- Aug. 5 - Oakland
- Aug. 6 - Palo Alto
- Aug. 12 - San Mateo, SACBC

## BCSF Board Meeting Highlights

May 21, 2023

Appreciation to Kyle Matsumoto Burch for serving on the Board since January 2023 and especially for his capable handling of onboarding of Rev. Opel. Kyle resigned from the Board effective May 17.

Financial report: green light for revenue and expenses

Met in closed session for legal and personnel discussion.

## Program Board Meeting Highlights

May 22, 2023 - first meeting of youth and adult affiliates and temple groups.

Agreement is to meet monthly on the second Tuesday. Next meetings are June 13 and July 11.

Purpose of the Program Board is to increase communication between temple groups, affiliates, ministry and Board of Directors. July Obon Festival is the main topic for the next meeting.

June 13, 2023 - reviewed food concession plans for Dharma School (Amanda Hing-Hernandez), Choir (Misaye Abiko), BWA (Elaine Donlin), Jr. Y (Stephanie Ichinose), Girl Scouts (Janet Low), Jiten Daiko (Taiyo Scanlon-Kimura). No reports from Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Soko Gakuen, YAO.

### 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.



### 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.

### Photos and Credits:

page 1: Hatsubon candles by Kevin Yoza  
page 5: Mrs. Yasuhara by Sheryl Serafino  
page 7: CPR Training by Kevin Yoza  
page 8: June 4th service and raising the flag by Kevin Yoza  
page 9: YAO grads by Kevin Yoza  
page 12: Obon views by Mark Shigenaga

### Corrections:

page 5: George Gentoku Shimamoto's correct month of remembrance is November

### Resident Minister

Rev. Melissa Opel

### Minister's Assistants

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

### BCSF Office Manager

Sheryl Serafino  
bcsfoffice@gmail.com  
415-776-3158  
In Office on T, W, F;  
Remote on M, Th

### Light of Dharma committee:

Rev. Elaine Donlin, Arlene Kimata,  
Rev. Keisuke Lee-Miyaki,  
Susan Sakuma, BJ Soriano

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

Visit us at:

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## 2023 Bon Odori Day ~ July 23 Dancing for Joy on Octavia Street!

10-1 pm Small Bites food concession  
1-3:30 pm BON ODORI on Octavia Street  
3:45 Open House with Rev. Opel, BCSF Naijin (altar)



### July & August Dates

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

- July 2** -10 a.m. Sangha Service
- Sat. July 8**- 1- 4 p.m. Ukulele/ guitar workshop
- July 9** - 10 a.m. Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
- July 9**- 1 p.m. Japanese Service
- Sat. July 15** Aloha Bento
- July 16** - 10 a.m. Hatsubon/ Obon Service
- July 23** - **Bon Odori Day!**  
10-1 p.m. Food Concession in the Gym  
1-3:30 p.m. Bon Odori on Octavia Street
- July 29-30** 11-4 p.m. Marketplace of Family Treasures, Kimono, BWA Boutique

- August 6** -10 a.m. Sangha Service
- August 13** - 10 a.m. Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
- August 20**- 10 a.m. Sangha Service
- August 20**- 11:30 a.m. Appreciation lunch for Obon Volunteers
- August 27**- 10 a.m. Sangha Service
- August 27**- 1 p.m. Japanese Service
- August 27**- 1 p.m. BACK TO SCHOOL meeting for youth groups and families

BCSF Board of Directors  
July 16- 1 p.m. regular board meeting

**Monthly Program Group meeting July 11, 7 p.m. for youth and adult affiliates and temple groups**

#### TEMPORARY CHANGE :

Mindful Meditation will meet on Thurs., 6:30 p.m. (Zoom) June 29th to July 19th

