

1881 Pine St. San Francisco, CA 94109

(415) 776-3158

buddhistchurchofsanfrancisco.org

### BCSF is OPEN and BUSY with ACTIVITY!

Join us in March to hear the Dharma, see old friends, make new friends, and reconnect with BCSF in person or via Zoom. See the Girls' Day display and share delicious snacks during the after-service social hour. We miss seeing you. Plan to join us very soon.

The Austin St. garage doors open 30 minutes before Sunday service. The white zone on Pine Street is reserved for temple use on Sundays. The chairlift at

the Pine Street entrance works. We eagerly await the completion of the elevator modernization that will take people from Austin St. directly to the Hondo level.

Temple groups and affiliates are in full swing with their programs. The BWA, Choir, Dharma School, Jr. YBA, Troop and Pack 29, Girl Scouts, Jiten Daiko, Soko Gakuen, and YAO basketball welcomes your participation.

### BCSF General Membership Meeting Sunday, February 12 in the BCSF Social Hall and on Zoom



### Happy Girls' Day ~ March 3

Enjoy the traditional Hinamatsuri/Girls' Day display in the BCSF lobby. Thank you BCSF Girl Scouts Troop 62198 Senior 11 members Kylie, Talia & Kalisa for setting up the dolls.



# Message from Rev. Henry Toryo Adams

Supervising Minister for BCSF



## Heading Westward

The Buddhist Ohigan Service is observed twice a year in during the spring equinox in March and the autumn equinox in September, when days and nights are of equal length and the sun sets directly in the West. The Pure Land Sutras describe the Pure Land of Amida Buddha as a realm of enlightenment located in the west, so Ohigan is an ideal time to reflect on the direction of our lives and reorient ourselves on the path to liberation from suffering.

The following passage from the Amida Sutra describes how the Pure Land of Amida Buddha is located in the western quarter: “Beyond a hundred thousand kotis\* of Buddha-lands westwards from here, there is a land called ‘Perfect Bliss.’ In that land there is a Buddha called Amida who is expounding the Dharma at this moment.” (Section 2) Once, after I gave an Ohigan Dharma talk on the subject of Amida Buddha’s Pure Land in the western quarter, one of the Sangha members approached me and asked, “If the Pure Land of Amida Buddha is located in the Western Direction, can I travel there on spaceship?” At the time, I was so caught off guard by the question that I had no idea how to respond. While I am certain of the existence of Amida Buddha’s Pure Land, I do not believe it is the kind of physical place that one could fly to on a spaceship.

Some time later, I had the opportunity to meet with Rev. Sasaki Giei, one of my teachers from the Chuo Bukkyo Gakuin Buddhist Seminary where I studied for the ministry. In our classes, Sasaki Sensei always provided clear and understandable explanations of the essential aspects of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist teachings, so I asked him how he might respond to that question about the spaceship. In reply, he shared with me the following explanation, which is found in his book *Naruhodo Jodo Shinshu (Now I get it! Jodo Shinshu)*:

The light of the beautiful stars that we see shining in the night sky must travel hundreds of millions of light-years to reach us, such that by the time we see those stars here on earth some of them have already ceased to exist. Therefore, not all

the stars we see in night sky are in existence.

All things that come into being eventually pass out of existence. This is true of the stars in the night sky and it is true of our lives on this planet. If the Pure Land were a world that could be seen with a telescope, then just like the stars in the night sky, it would eventually cease to exist.

Among all things of this world, there is nothing that continues forever. That is why the *sutras* tell us that the Pure Land is a “realm of enlightenment” that differs from this world of ours in that it cannot be apprehended in our limited way of seeing and thinking. Thus, the Pure Land is a realm that exists in order to liberate us who dwell in this world of impermanence and bring us to the realization of enlightenment.

*(Naruhodo Jōdoshinshū, p. 13*

*H. Adams translation)*

Just as the sun that rises in the east will eventually set the west, all of us who are born into this world will one day die. The Dharma taught by the Buddha teaches us that those who realize awakening are liberated from the continual cycle of suffering in the realm of birth and death. The realization of awakening and liberation from suffering is the goal of Buddhism. The Buddha assures us that those who entrust in Amida’s compassionate vow to liberate all beings from suffering will surely enter into the realm of enlightenment in the western quarter at the end of this very lifetime. Ohigan is our precious opportunity to reflect on the direction of our lives as we journey westward toward the realm of enlightenment.

Namo Amida Butsu

\*koti: A term used in ancient India to express a high numerical value equivalent to one hundred thousand, ten million, or one hundred million.

## Sympathy

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

**Betty Tsugawa, January 30, 2023**

Mrs. Tsugawa’s funeral is scheduled for Saturday, April 22 at Noon at BCSF

*Namo Amida Butsu Namō Amida Butsu Namō Amida Butsu*



## Message from Rev. Henry Toryo Adams

Supervising Minister for BCSF

### 西方に向かって

春と秋のお彼岸の日は、昼と夜の長さがちょうど同じとなり、太陽が真っ直ぐ西の方に沈みます。浄土三部経には、阿弥陀如来のお浄土は西方にあるさとりの世界であると述べてありますので、お彼岸は自分の人生の歩んでいる方向を確認するのに良い機会といえるでしょう。

『仏説阿弥陀経』に阿弥陀如来の極楽浄土が西方にあることについて次の言葉があります「ここから西の方へ十万億もの仏がたの国々を過ぎたところに、極楽と名づけられる世界がある。そこには阿弥陀仏と申しあげる仏がおられて、今現に教えを説いておいでになる。」私が以前、お彼岸の法話にその西方浄土の話をした後に次のような質問を受けたことがあります。「阿弥陀如来のお浄土は西方にあるといえば、宇宙船に乗って行けるようなところにありますでしょうか？」私はその時どう答えればいいのか分からず困ってしまいました。確かに浄土が存在している世界であるのは間違いありませんが、おそらくそのような物理的な場所ではないでしょう。

その後、私は京都の中央仏教学院で勉強していた時の恩師佐々木義英先生にお会いした時に、もし先生がその質問をされたらどう答えますかと尋ねると、佐々木先生はご自身が書かれた『なるほど浄土真宗』という本にある次の分かりやすい説明を紹介して下さいました。

夜空に浮かぶ美しい星々の輝きは、何億光年という気の遠くなるような時間をかけて、地球にたどり着いています。ところが、その光が地上にとどく頃には、すでに消滅

している星もあります。私たちが見ている星々のすべてが実在しているわけではないのです。

夜空の星々も、それを地上で見ている私たちも、すべてのものは生まれてはやがて消えていきます。「浄土」が望遠鏡で取られるような世界であるのなら、夜空の星と同じように、やがて消滅してしまうことでしょう。

このように、私たちの世界のなかでは、どのようなものであっても、永遠にあり続けることはできません。ですから、お経には、「浄土」は、私たちの世界とは異なっていて、私たちのものの見方や考え方ではとらえることのできない「さとりの世界である」と説かれているのです。そして、それは「生まれてはやがて消えていくという世界のなかにいる私たちを救い取ってさとりを開かせる」ために「ある」世界ということなのです。（『なるほど浄土真宗』 13頁）

朝、東の空に登っていく太陽が必ず夕方になると西の方に沈んでいくのと同じように、この世に生まれてきた私たちも必ずいつか死に至ります。悟りを開く人は人生が終わった時に生死の迷いの世界から開放されます。悟りを開いて生死から解放されることは仏教の目指すところですが、私たちが阿弥陀如来がすべての人々を救う本願を信じて浄土に往生することは、私たちを必ず悟りへと導いてくださるお念仏の道です。お彼岸は私たちが歩んで行くその悟りへの道確かめる尊いご縁なのです。

南無阿弥陀仏



Welcome to BCSF New Members  
Stephen McCallion (on L) & Christopher Diani





## Mindful Reflections

by Leo Joslin, BCSF Minister's Assistant & Facilitator of Mindful Meditation, held via Zoom every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.



The first few weeks of the New Year brought an onslaught of disturbing news. We heard about the mass shootings that took place in Monterey Park and Half Moon Bay. Shortly thereafter, we heard about a hate attack wherein a brick, along with a metal gate, were thrown at three Asian Americans in Dolores Park, simply because of who they were. According to psychologist Nira Singh, simply hearing about such events can take a toll on the mental health of the Asian American community. In a recent SF Chronicle article, she states “what people are feeling – the fear, the anxiety, the triggering from the trauma – is all very real” .<sup>1</sup>

When combined with news on the War in Ukraine, violence in the Middle East, devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, and so on, no wonder many of us feel vicariously traumatized by the daily news.

I ask myself, how am I to deal with this as a Buddhist? For me, the answer is to look for the Dharma. In the *KyoGyoShinSho*, Shinran quotes from an ancient Sutra: “Even when the world is filled with a great fire, pass through it and seek to hear the Dharma.” (CWS p.17) I appreciate this passage because nowadays it feels as if there are fires taking place throughout the world. The sutra encourages us to pass through them, seeking the Dharma. But where do we find it? Where is the Dharma in the midst of all of this suffering? I believe that it can be found everywhere, and that this is what Shinran was saying when he wrote “This Tathagata pervades the countless worlds; it fills the hearts and minds of the ocean of all beings.” (CWS p.461) Based on this, the Buddha Dharma permeates the entire universe. Most importantly, it is present in our hearts.

We therefore encounter the Dharma in many ways, especially in the midst of suffering. It’s in the realization that we are interrelated to everyone involved in whatever tragedy is unfolding. It’s in the pain we feel in our hearts when we hear such

tragic news. It’s in the empathy made possible by our recognition that each and every one of us is interconnected and embedded in the fabric of reality that extends throughout time and space. It’s in our actions when we seek to relieve the suffering of those around us, and when we strive to prevent further suffering from arising. Amida moves toward us and through us, ultimately manifesting Great Love and Compassion in this world.

This manifestation can take many forms, but it surely includes our actions as we engage with the world. Maybe we make specific moves toward relieving suffering, such as becoming active in the anti-violence movement, or involved with groups challenging hatred. Maybe we simply spread kindness in our own immediate circles. It most definitely manifests when we gather together as Sangha. We take great comfort in each other’s presence and again we encounter the Dharma. We can take this comfort out into the world. As written by our former Monshu, Koshin Ohtani: “if people are being crushed by sadness and suffering, I will take my place alongside them and live with them, our hearts beating as one – this is the Buddha’s wish.”<sup>2</sup>

Given the realities of our Samsaric existence, bad news will likely continue to come our way. While recognizing that suffering is unavoidable in this realm, we can nevertheless remember the Buddha, directing our attention toward Amida by simply saying and living the Nembutsu. And we can certainly come together as Sangha. I’m grateful for the teachings of Shinran because they’ve been very helpful to me as I contemplate the ongoing onslaught of bad news. And I’m grateful for the Light of Amida Buddha that shines on all, regardless of what is going on in this world. Such is the Dharma that we seek as we pass through the fire. Remembering this enables us to become energized, rather than traumatized. Namo Amida Butsu!

<sup>1</sup> Vainshtein, Annie. “Town Hall Looks at Attacks’ Effect on Mental Health”. San Francisco Chronicle, Feb. 6, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Monshu Kensin Ohtani. *The Buddha’s Wish for the World*. New York: America Buddhist Study Center, p. 114.

### Happy Birthday Mrs. Okiuye!

BCSF member Richard Okiuye and his very genki (healthy) 95-years-young mom, at Honpa Hongwanji Hilo (Hawaii) Betsuin in January. Temple members who are 95 to 96 years old are honored at this annual gathering. This year was a joint Shinnen Enkai New Year Celebration / 115th BWA Anniversary / Hilo Hongwanji Membership event.



**March Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service**

The memorial service for your loved ones who passed away in March is

**Sunday, March 5 at 10 a.m.**

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

**Acknowledgments** for donations processed between January 15 and February 15, 2023.  
Thank you for your generous support of the BCSF.

**MEMBERSHIPS**

Thomas & Akiko Arikawa  
Chelsea Arita  
Christopher Diani & Stephen McCallion  
Dr. Michael & Vickie Ina  
Setsuko Katsuyama  
Janet & Daniel Kuniwara  
Jeffery Matsuoka & Akemi Takagi  
Kiyoshi & Tazuko Naito  
Robin Nakao  
Joyce Nakamura  
Mickie Ochi  
Richard J Okiuye  
David & Camille Pating  
Gary Pike & Jamie Ennis  
Sathya Seigel & James Basore  
Dr. Y.M. Shimazu  
Pat Shiono & Matthew Kamiya  
Lori & Ed Wakil  
Takiko Yamamoto  
Kevin S Yoza

**DONATIONS**

Anonymous  
Chelsea Arita  
Jiten Daiko Taiko Group  
Amy Hanamoto  
Christina Magee  
Donald Michida  
Shirley Murakami  
George Nguyen  
Sally Oshita  
Minoru & Suzanne Yamada

**MEMORIALS**

Randall K Arimoto IMO: Randall Arimoto  
Elaine Donlin  
Joshua Gang IMO: Robert & Kathy Landau  
Sumie Hayashi IMO: mother  
Harumi & Russell Kishida IMO: Betty Tsugawa  
Lynn & Mark Maeyama IMO: Kaoru Kay Maeyama (7th Year)

**DANA PROGRAM**

Rev Eijun & Toshiko Kujo  
Julie Yumi Hatta

**JANUARY SHOTSUKI HOYO**

Junko Ono IMO: Kimie Ono

**FEBRUARY SHOTSUKI HOYO**

Anonymous  
Atlas H & Janet E Arakawa IMO: Robin Akemi Arakawa  
Benkyodo Company  
Jean Y Fukunaga IMO: Kazuye Fukunaga  
Hideo & Michiko Hashimoto IMO: Walter Wataru Hashimoto  
Gail Hines IMO: Alice Ochi  
Dr. Michael & Vickie Ina IMO: Aya Mizono  
Mary F Ishisaki IMO: Kimie Ishisaki  
Janet J Kashiwada IMO: George Nakano  
Setsuko Katsuyama IMO: Minoru Katsuyama  
Harumi & Russell Kishida IMO: Kazuma Nakao  
Harumi & Russell Kishida IMO: May Nakao  
Harumi & Russell Kishida IMO: Satoyo Nakao  
Yukiko Kuno IMO: Takeo Kuno  
Grace T Masuda  
Takumi Matsuba IMO: Jiyo Matsuba  
Hiroko Mizutani IMO: Yoshio Mizutani  
Edward & Ayako Nishimoto IMO: Yoshio Yao  
Gene & Karen Sadural IMO: Jack Nosaka  
Gene & Karen Sadural IMO: Marilyn Nosaka  
Kayoko Sakaguchi IMO: Yoji Sakaguchi  
Takaye N Sako IMO: Joe Sako  
Helen & Ken Sato IMO: Dora Sato  
Susie Sato IMO: Dora Sato  
Stephanie Sato IMO: Samantha Satoda  
Stephanie Sato IMO: Dora Sato  
Hiko & Susan Shimamoto IMO: Hikoharu Shimamoto  
Yone Shintaku IMO: Frank Shintaku  
Yoshinori & Kyoko Takenaka IMO: Natsuko Takenaka  
Jack & Sumiko Tanabe IMO: Miyeko Tanabe  
Joanne Kiyoko Tohei IMO: Hikoharu Shimamoto  
Paula Tokugawa-Dunckel IMO: Mabel Takeko Tokugawa  
Mary M Tono IMO: Shiteyo Tono  
Toshiko Uyehara IMO: Kazuma Nakao  
Toshiko Uyehara IMO: May Nakao  
Toshiko Uyehara IMO: Satoyo Nakao  
Raymond R Yamagishi IMO: Masako Yamagishi  
Kiyoko Yamasaki IMO: Tsui Yamasaki  
Fusae Yoshioka IMO: Teruko Yoshioka

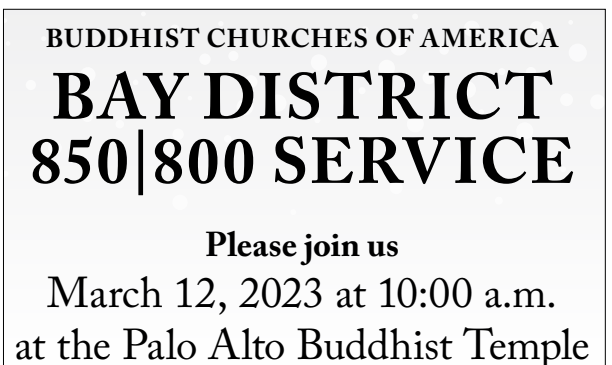
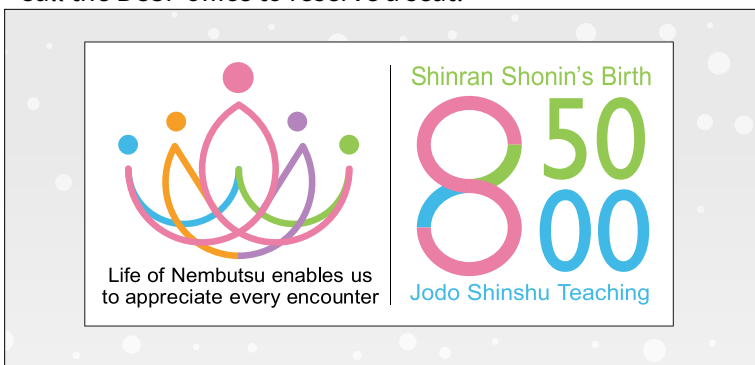
**MARCH SHOTSUKI HOYO**

Toshiko Fukami IMO: Tei Aoki  
Paul & Tram Koike IMO: Louise Koike  
Hiroshi & Eiko Masai IMO: Yuriko Oshita  
Diane & Robert Matsumura IMO: Elsie Tayeko Matsumura  
Gary Sada IMO: Margaret Masako Sada  
Toshiko Uyehara IMO: Henry S. Nakao



Commemorating 850 years since the birth of Shinran Shonin & 800 years of Jodo Shinshu teaching. This very special Bay District event includes English, Japanese and Dharma School sessions ~ something for everyone!

Ride the chartered bus to Palo Alto Buddhist Temple! Leave BCSF at 8:30 a.m.; return by 2:30 p.m.  
Call the BCSF office to reserve a seat.



# VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED

## BCSF Committees & Work Groups

### Can you help?

Does your group have a job to add to this list?

Contact the BCSF office or person listed for more info.

### URGENT NEED

#### Sunday Refreshments Hosts

Each Affiliate, Temple Group, or Two-Person family or friend group can choose **ONE** Sunday to host refreshments after the service.

Contact Jean Fukunaga <jean\_fukunaga@yahoo.com> or Junko Low <junenlow@yahoo.com> to sign up.

### Sunday Service & Altar Preparation

Contact: Rev. Adams



### Flower Arrangements for Altar

Join Nae Hayakawa on alternate Fridays.

### Run the Zoom camera at Sunday service

Contact Kevin Yoza Will train!

### COVID Safety Committee

Meetings are on Sunday as needed  
Committee: Rev. Adams, Kevin Yoza  
Pras Jagannathan, Nanayo Silver

### Social Media

Chair: BJ Soriano <bj@bjsoriano.com>  
Editors: Kevin Yoza (Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter),  
Chelsea Arita (Twitter)  
Administrators who monitor content:  
BJ Soriano, Stephanie Hagio Chin, Richard Okiuye  
**Website needs an Editor.**

### Obon Festival Food Committee – planning for 2023 will start soon!

Chair: Nanayo Silver

**BCSF Events:** Obon Festival, Cherry Blossom Festival, BCSF Bento, New Year’s Party, etc.

Your choice of tasks: cook, set up, take a booth shift, deliver to homebound members, and many more.

### Eco-Sangha to keep BCSF eco-friendly, “mottainai”

Contact: Doug Dorn

### Social Issues Discussion Group

Contact: Joyce Nakamura

**Office Helpers:** assist with mailings, photocopying, errands, phones

### Building & Facilities Management

Chair: Susan Sakuma

**Newsletter** (once a month): collate, label

Committee: Keith Kojimoto, Priscilla Kojimoto, Akiko Arikawa

**Book Club** Contact: Keith Kojimoto

**Technology Advisors** for wifi, audio, computer

**Board of Directors:** 2 yr. elected term or 1 yr. Appointed term.



At left and above, Rev. Henry teaches volunteers how to prepare for a service

# BCSF News



At left, Kyle Matsumoto Burch showing visitor Trang Le around BCSF after the January 29, 2023 service Welcome!

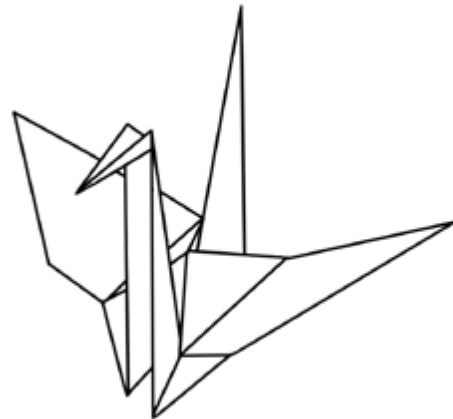
At right, Atsumi, Daisuke and Sara Matsuda during social hour after service. Seeing Sara each week is such a joy!



Above, Onaijin set for the annual Dharma School teacher's and Pet memorial service held on February 5, 2023



Above, Chelsea, Jack & Mika Nakamura after Sunday service. Welcome!



Rev. Elaine Donlin, Jeff Matsuoka and Kevin Yoza attended the vigil held on January 31 for Gavin Boston, the security guard who was killed on duty in Japantown on January 4. BCSF participated as a member of the Japanese American Religious Federation (JARF).



## BCSF News

BCSF General Membership Meeting from February 12, 2023

Nearly 50 people attended in person and via Zoom at the BCSF Social Hall. The main purpose of this annual meeting is to review the prior year's activities of the Minister, Board and finances, Temple Groups and Affiliates.

The membership approved Minutes from membership meetings on April 10, 2022 and October 23, 2022.

Assistant Treasurer Jeff Matsuoka reported that BCSF is in a strong financial position. Members voted to accept the 2022 financial report and the 2023 budget.

Members passed a motion from the floor to allow the BCSF Board of Directors to approve the appointment of a Resident Minister and related salary expenditure without bringing the matter to the general membership for a vote. The approved motion waives the BCSF Bylaws requirement for eight board members to approve a minister appointment and to enter into a contract of over \$5,000. The board expects a Resident Minister to be assigned to the temple sometime in 2023. Board members Susan Sakuma and Kyle Matsumoto Burch are chairing the minister appointment committee.

The meeting was preceded by a hot dog and pizza lunch provided by the board. It was good to see so many people in the social hall once again!



## Successful Winter Shelter Preparation & Serving

*"If you knew what I know about the power of giving, you would not let a single meal pass without sharing it in some way."*

(The Buddha, Itivuttaka Sutra)

It was such a gift to come together with open-hearted intention to provide two delicious home-cooked meals for our most vulnerable neighbors without homes during these especially cold weeks.

I offer my deepest gratitude to the Sunday Meal Preparers: Harumi, Junko, Jack, Grace, Steven, Chris, Lin, Misaye, Betty, Nina, Peggy, Lori, Diane, Stephanie & our enthusiastic BCSF Jr. YBA (Yume, Elle, Mika, Dagan, Kelli, Miles, and Kian).

On Monday eve, I offer my deep gratitude to our excellent BCSF Servers: Jack, Richard, Sathya and James.

On Tuesday eve, deep gratitude to our equally excellent BCSF Servers: Leo, Karen, Tara and Jeff.

And a special thanks to Leo Balambao, for the menu planning and grocery shopping! It was definitely a collective effort rooted in much loving-kindness! Deep thanks also to the BCSF Sangha for funding this most compassionate endeavor.

with Gratitude and Gassho,  
~ elaine



above and at right:  
Jr. YBA prepares the Sunday meal for BCSF's annual participation in the Winter Shelter program.



BCSF's Tuesday serving crew. SF Interfaith Council's Winter Shelter program is now in its 34th year.

# BCSF News



**NEW BENEFIT** to save money on the things you buy for your family or BCSF affiliate group. PurchasingPoint® is an exclusive discount program for nonprofits that leverages group buying power to get access to significant savings from your everyday vendors.

See [purchasingpoint.org](http://purchasingpoint.org) for Staples, FedEx, Enterprise Rental Car, United Van Lines, Goldner branded apparel and promotional products, and many more vendors in this program.

Sign up for a new account or Convert your current account to obtain PurchasingPoint prices. Sign in with the BCSF group purchasing ID, then order and pay for your purchases with the discounted prices. No cost to enroll.

BCSF just enrolled and will receive the ID soon. Contact the BCSF office to start saving money!

## BCSF Obon Odori questions that need answers

*Wynn Kiyama is working on an Obon Odori research project and has the following facts:*

- Rev. Iwanaga taught Japanese dance at BCSF in 1930.
- The BCSF Fujinkai hosted the first Obon with bon odori in the continental U.S. in 1931.
- Rev. Washioka taught Japanese dance at BCSF in 1933.
- In 1936, bon odori was led by Kenji Hinoki.
- In 1939, bon odori was led by George Hirano.
- In 1940, bon odori was presented on Treasure Island for the Buddhist Day Parade as part of the International Exposition. He organized another gathering of bon odori dancers outside the San Francisco Civic Center in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary ("Golden Jubilee") of the Buddhist Churches of America in 1948.

*Do you know the answers to these questions? If so, please send your responses to:*

***[bcsfoffice@gmail.com](mailto:bcsfoffice@gmail.com) or by leaving a message at 415 776-3158***

- Who taught bon odori in the 1950s?
- When did Michiya Hanayagi teach bon odori at BCSF and for how long?
- Did Yoshiko Fujimoto start teaching bon odori in the 1990s?

### 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.



**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: BCSF General Membership meeting photo by Doug Dorn; Hinamatsuri by Kevin Yoza
- page 4: Okiuyes provided by Richard Okiuye
- page 7: Nae Hayakawa by Arlene Kimata; Volunteers' Training by Doug Dorn
- page 8: Visitors, altar, and vigil photos by Kevin Yoza
- page 9: Winter shelter provided by Elaine Donlin
- page 12: Baby Buddha by Hitomi Silver

**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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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](mailto:bcsfoffice@gmail.com)  
Phone: (415) 776-3158  
Mail: Light of Dharma,  
Buddhist Church of San Francisco,  
1881 Pine St. San Francisco CA 94109

## March & April Dates

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

**March 5 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- Bay District 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth & the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching

**March 19 - 10 a.m. Spring Ohigan Service & lunch**  
Guest speaker: Rev. Melissa Opel

**Saturday March 25- 5 p.m. Metta Service**  
Dharma talk by Rev. Elaine Donlin

**March 26- 10 a.m. BWA Lady Kujo Memorial Service**

**Saturday April 1 9 a.m.** Many hands are needed to decorate the Hanamido, a floral altar with a baby Buddha figure, for Hanamatsuri.

**April 2 10 a.m. Hanamatsuri/Buddha's Birthday.** Pour sweet tea over the baby Buddha figure to represent the sweet rain that fell when Siddhartha was born.

**April 9- 10 a.m. Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial**

**April 16 - 10 a.m. Sangha Service**

**April 23- 10 a.m. Sangha Service**

**Saturday April 29- 5 p.m. Metta Service**  
Dharma talk by Rev. Elaine Donlin

**April 30- 10 a.m. Sangha Service**  
Guest Speaker: Trinidad Hunt

BCSF Board of Directors

March 19- 2 p.m. regular board meeting

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



### Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival

April 8, 9, 15, 16

Hooray for the return of the Festival!

\* PARADE is April 16: Walk with BCSF!  
Contact Richard Okiuye at 415-637-2276 or richard@leftwicheckevents.com

\* Bay District Temples Information Booth:  
Contact the BCSF office to take a shift and meet friendly festival-goers!

\* Children's Area: Jr. YBA is planning a game booth. More groups are needed to host an activity table and fund-raise too. Contact Kiyomi at the Festival office, 650-687-7658 or nccbf.org



Sunday, July 16 - Annual Bon & Hatsubon Service

Sunday, July 23 - Bon Odori on Octavia Street

Call the office to volunteer for July's Bon Festival activities.



Buddhist Church of San Francisco

**OUR POLICY:**

**Masks REQUIRED  
inside the Hondo**



**Masks  
STRONGLY RECOMMENDED  
everywhere else at BCSF**

**Please do not enter  
if you are sick.**

*thank you*

January 2023