



UPAYA

Newsletter of the Buddhist Temple of Alameda

2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda CA 94501 (510) 522-5243 btoa.org

Volume XXXV, No. 1

January 2022

Message from Rev. D.

A NEW YEAR!!

Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu!! We look forward to another new year together. It is kind of a "Refresh Button" for our lives. The busy-ness stops for a day or two, and we can take a deep breath before running out the door for all that is in store for us next. Good or bad, here we go! It will be the Year of the Tiger, another most auspicious sign for us all. Perhaps the fierce determination of the Tiger and its clarity of purpose can be an inspiration to guide our own efforts.

The temple cycle begins with **Shusho-e, the New Year Day Service** on the 1st of January. In Japan, this observance started in the Nara Period and was to have lasted for 7 days. Homes were cleaned and debts were paid in preparation for the new cycle to begin.

Perhaps it is very similar in the farm communities everywhere. It is the natural break in the growing seasons as the crops are in, the fields are quiet, equipment is stored or repaired, and the body is rested. I guess in our modern times, we dust the computer screen and polish our shoes.

Many of our families still enjoy the traditions of getting the family together for special foods, treats, and Osechi selections. Mochi is served in a variety of ways. Kaki persimmon and mikan tangerine appear on the kitchen counter and the family Obustudan to announce this special time of year. I love it!

The 2022 Temple Calendar will bring us some changes. We have tried to merge the service schedules for both the Alameda and the Enmanji Temples. This will be very helpful as we look to fill the needs of both temples while streamlining the preparation and travel concerns. Some of these changes may be difficult, but hopefully not much so. I apologize in advance as the main instigator of these changes is me. The end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022 will come with 3 temple services in a row.

The Joya E (End of Year) Service is on December 31 at 3:00 PM.

This service will be available on the Buddhist Temple of Alameda YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/BuddhistTempleofAlameda>

The new video should be the first one listed on both the Home and Video pages.



The Shusho E (New Year Day) Service on January 1 at 10:00 AM will be a pre-recorded video service. You can access this service as we have done all of last year. **The January Shotsuki (Monthly Memorial) Service** on January 2 at 10:00 AM will also be a pre-recorded service and access is also as we have done all of last year. Hopefully these instructions are clear. Only the Joya E Service is in a different format. This service will serve as a test for how future services will be provided beginning February 2022. Find the site early!

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the temple. We appreciate all the energy and effort you provide that comes in so many different ways. Let's work together towards this next cycle of temple services and events.

Rev. Dennis
revdjoshin@gmail.com
cell (916) 416-0919

January - You Tube Pre-Recorded Videos

- 1** 10:00 New Year Day Service
- 2** 10:00 Shotsuki Service & 11:00 Coffee Hour (ZOOM)
- 9** 10:00 **All Beings Memorial Service**, 10:00 Alameda Dharma School
- 16** 10:00 Family Service & 11:00 Alameda Coffee Hour ZOOM
- 23** 10:00 Family Service
10:00 Alameda Dharma School & 11:00 Alameda Ask Rev. Dennis
- 30** No Service on the 5th Sunday

February*- NEW YouTube Live

- 6** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
- 13** 9:30 Alameda Dharma School
10:00 **Eitaikyo/Nirvana Day Service**
- 20** 10:00 Family Service
- 27** 9:30 Alameda Dharma School & 10:00 Family Service

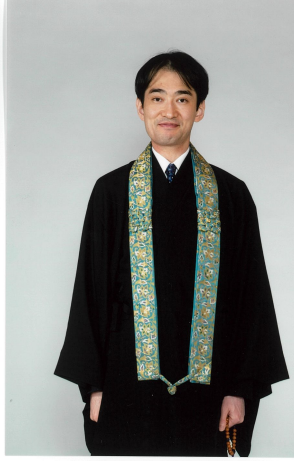
March* – NEW YouTube Live

- 6** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
- 13** NO TEMPLE SERVICE – Everyone is encouraged to view the
10:00 BCA National Council Eitaikyo Service
- 20** 10:00 **Ohigan Service**
- 27** 9:30 Alameda Dharma School & 10:00 Family Service

NEW YouTube Live Services starting in February will be available for you to view the “live service” on our YouTube Channel at 10:00 AM on the Sundays indicated above. The recording of the live service will also be available for you to view later that same day.

Details on how to sign up to attend a live service at the Temple
will be forthcoming during the month of January.

*Ask Rev. Dennis and Coffee Hour will be scheduled
at a later as our calendar evolves.



New Year's Greeting

Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Over these past couple of years, we have had to adjust our lives in accordance with the scale of the spread of COVID-19. I would like to offer my deepest condolences to those who fell victim to the disease and express my sympathies to those who are undergoing treatment. I would also like to express my respect and sincere gratitude to the doctors, nurses, and frontline

medical professionals who have been engaging in the treatment of infected people, as well as all essential workers who have made it possible for us to continue with our lives.

This infectious disease has not only greatly affected the life of each one of us, but also revealed many issues that many issues that had been contained in our society. Sakyamuni Buddha, who passed on the Dharma to us, made clear of the fact that we cannot see the truth because we are too attached to our own thought. Therefore, it is only natural that conflicts and divisions come about in a society in which those who, like us, fundamentally self-centered beings, act in accordance based on one's own thought.

In the following wasan poem, Shinran Shonin deeply reflected on himself and described what we humans are like,

Although I take refuge in the true Pure Land way,
It is hard to have a true and sincere mind.
This self is false and insincere;
I completely lack a pure mind. (Hymns of the Dharma-ages)

As the wasan shows, we are basically incapable of accepting the reality of this world, such as, dependent origination, impermanence, and no-self. And because of this we constantly suffer. Only through being aware of and appreciating Amida Buddha's compassionate and salvific working, are we enabled to accept our true self. Shinran Shonin clarified that such ignorance is the very reason why Amida Buddha's salvific working has reached every one of us. Keeping in mind that we are always embraced in Amida's compassionate Light, let us live each day to the fullest, even though we have yet to see the end of the tunnel.

I feel truly assured hearing that many of you have been making efforts to share the Jodo Shinshu teaching within the greater society through various and innovative ways despite the current situation. It is my hope that your temples will continue serving as your spiritual home, and therefore, I humbly ask for your understanding and cooperation in support of your temples. I would like to conclude my new year's greeting with my heartfelt appreciation to you all.

January 1, 2022

OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

Buddhist Temple of Alameda Eitaikyo Perpetual Memorial Fund

In these modern times, who knows where we will be 10, 20, 30 years from now? You and your children may leave the area and be unable to attend memorial services for your loved ones. This fund is established so that your loved ones will not be forgotten even if your family no longer lives here.

Background

The word Eitaikyo is a contraction of the more formal term, Ei-tai dok(u)-kyo (永代読経). Ei means eternal. It is composed of the Chinese characters for a river with many tributaries that flows on and on. Tai means generations. Kyo means sutras or the words of the Buddha. Doku means to read or chant. Thus, the meaning of Eitaikyo is to eternally chant the sutras on behalf of our loved ones for generations and generations to come.

The Eitaikyo Perpetual Memorial Fund

A special Eitaikyo Perpetual Memorial Fund was established to ensure the continuation of the teachings of the Buddha and Nembutsu. It is to be used specifically to purchase items for the altar or for altar replacement and repairs in case of loss, damage or wear and tear.

This Fund is established through the donations made in memory of deceased members of the family, relatives, and friends. This ensures a perpetual service for the deceased even when there is no one left in the family to observe a Buddhist service.

The Eitaikyo Registry

The purpose of the Eitaikyo Registry is to ensure that a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist service be conducted eternally in memory of a loved one. An initial substantial donation is requested to place a loved one's name in the Eitaikyo Registry.

An amount of \$1,000 or more is suggested. However, due to circumstances any amount will be considered. Please consult with the Rev. Dennis.

After completing the Eitaikyo form and donating to the Eitaikyo Fund, the name of your deceased loved one will be entered into the Eitaikyo Registry. This is a calendar type book listing the names of the deceased on their respective day of death. This book is kept in the Temple's altar. Each day, the morning service is dedicated to the names that appear on the page for that particular day. Thus, by donating to the Eitaikyo Fund, a sutra will be chanted in memory of your loved one in perpetuity.

The Annual Eitaikyo Service

Every February an Annual Eitaikyo Service will be conducted at the Buddhist Temple of Alameda. This service will be dedicated in special memory to those loved ones newly recorded into the Eitaikyo Registry within the past year. Those families will be sent an invitation to this service so that they can oshoko in memory of their loved one during the service.

This year's Eitaikyo Service will be on February 13, 2022. For more information and the form, please contact Rev. Dennis at revdjoshin@gmail.com or at cell: 916-416-0919.

ABWA NEWS

Happy New Year! I look forward to meeting everyone again in person, hopefully sometime in 2022! Thank you so much for your support during the past year!

Dana Food Drive

Thank you to everyone for donating so generously to our annual food drive! The total credit card donations sent directly to the Alameda County Community Food Bank (ACCFB) was \$680.60. The total from checks received by ABWA was \$2,465. Therefore, we will be donating \$1,232.50 each to the ACCFB and Alameda Food Bank. In addition to that, the ABWA members voted to donate an additional \$1,050 to each food bank.

World Buddhist Women's Convention – Kyoto, Japan - May 11-12, 2023

We are surveying our ABWA and Temple members to see who would be interested in attending the Convention. At the time of the Convention, there will also be a celebration of Shinran Shonin's 850th birthday, and the 800th anniversary of Jodo Shinshu.

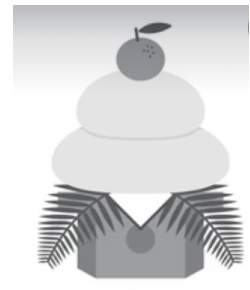
By the end of this month, we need to let the FBWA know how many from our Temple are interested in attending. Please let me know by **January 20, 2022**. If we do not have enough people to form our own tour group, we will need to join other groups. Or perhaps we can get together with other Bay District temples to form a group. For now, we just need to know who might be interested in going.

Next Meeting:

Until we can meet again for services in person, we will continue to have our ABWA meetings via Zoom. Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 3, 2022 at 7PM. The Zoom link with the agenda and reports will be emailed closer to the meeting date.

Please stay safe and be well for a wonderful 2022!

Gassho,
Lenni Terao-Doerr, ABWA President



HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE DHARMA SCHOOL!



Happy New Year all!

We were re-energized by a field trip to the Asian Art Museum to see the TeamLab exhibit. What's that you ask? It was a very inspiring interactive digital art experience... the kids started by coloring in fish pics that were scanned and appeared on the walls of the exhibit. Check it out! Afterwards, our group headed to Nihonmachi to hang out and eat lunch.

We had a great day....

Moving forward into 2022, we plan to continue classes twice a month in person. January classes will be the 9th & the 23rd. We will be having a New Year's party on the 9th featuring soba!

As of February, 2022, our schedule will be transitioning to match the new temple schedule. We will still be meeting twice a month, the 2nd and 4th Sundays, but will meet at 9:30 a.m. If all goes as planned, we'll join the adult service at 10:00 a.m. and then continue class upstairs.

Please let us know if you have any students that may wish to join our friendly group!

In Gassho, Yumi and the DS team



LEFT: Drawing
by Rev. Dennis

RIGHT: Our boys
being silly!



SHOTSUKI – HOYO /MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, February 6, 2022 – YouTube Channel

Family members and friends are invited to the February Memorial Service for those listed below. If 2022 is a special service year as indicated, please contact Rev. Joshin Dennis Fujimoto to arrange a special memorial service for your family.

Special Service	Year of Death	Special Service	Year of Death
1 year	2021	17 year	2006
3 year	2020	25 year	1998
7 year	2016	33 year	1990
13 year	2010	50 year	1973

Abe, Mr. Hikaru – 1976

Abe, Mr. Honji – 1961

Bailey, Jody - 2021

Hayame, Mr. Shigeru – 2002

Hayashi, Mrs. Hanaye – 1940

Hirai, Mr. Nobukichi – 1917

Hisoka, Mr. Toranosuke – 1955

Honda, Mrs. Akiko 1986

Ito, Infant Asako – 1924

Iwataki, Mrs. Koyuki – 1920

Iwataki, Mrs. Nami - 2010

Kano, Mrs. Ichi – 1952

Kawabata, Mrs. Rieko – 2017

Kawahara, Mr. Hideo - 2014

Kawakami, Mr. Yoshimatsu – 1965

Kawamura, Mr. Masumi - 1939

Kobashi, Mr. Shigeichi – 1990

Kono, Mrs. Eiko – 1929

Kozen, Infant Kenjiro – 1916

Matsumoto, Infant Masaru – 1920

Matsuo, Infant Shin – 1921

Matsuzaka, Mrs. So – 1930

Mifune, Mrs. Mitsuye – 1920

Momii, Mr. Yutaka – 1960

Nakamura, Mrs. Emi – 2000

Nakamura, Mr. Shinsuke – 1949

Nakayama, Mr. Yutaka – 1988

Niita, Infant Kazumi – 1936

Nishida, Mrs. Hamako - 1994

Noda, Infant Hisashi – 1925

Noriye, Infant Mutsuo - 1934

Ogi, Mr. Hitoshi – 1991

Okino, Mr. Wataru – 2006

Otsu, Mr. Kanzo – 1924

Shibata, Grace - 2020

Shimada, Mrs. Kiwa – 1995

Shiraishi, Mrs. Misao - 1999

Sugiyama, Mr. Keiichiro – 1967

Sunakawa, Infant Tsunetada – 1928

Suyeyasu, Mr. Sakae – 2001

Suzawa, Infant Yoshimi – 1928

Tajima, Mrs. Misa – 1977

Takagi, Mr. Shinichi – 1931

Takara, Mr. Shohei - 1926

Tashiro, Mrs. Toshiko – 2011

Tawara, Infant Kaeo - 1922

Togiwata, Mr. Keichi – 1931

Togiwata, Infant Mitsuo – 1918

Tomotoshi, Infant Fumiko – 1921

Tsuchiya, Mr. George – 2010

Ushijima, Infant Kenjiro – 1916

Wada, Mrs. Hana – 1949

Yamagata, Mr. Katsuichi – 1979

Yamanaka, Ben - 2020

Yamaoka, Mr. Noboru Oscar – 2000

Yoshida, Mr. Iwazo - 1920

Yoshimura, Infant Kuniko – 1939

Yoshiwara, Tomiyo "Tee" - 2018

Upcoming Shotsuki Hoyo Dates

March 6 and April 3



Buddhist Temple of Alameda
 2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda
 Saturday, February 5, 2022*
 1:00 - 4:00 pm

By Popular Demand
STEAK TERIYAKI is BACK
 Order Your Obento Box Today!

(Rib Eye Teriyaki Steak, Goma-Ae String Beans,
 Takuan, Rice, Clementines and Dessert)

Pre-Order Sales and Take Out Only
 (Limited Amounts, Order Today)

You must pre-order your obento box; postmarked by Jan 21.

Checks payable to:
 Buddhist Temple of Alameda
 Mail to: Buddhist Temple of Alameda
 2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501
 Or Pay Online via PayPal: pay@btoa.org
 or Venmo: @btoalameda

Name: _____ Phone/Cell: (_____) _____

Email: _____

_____ x \$25 per Obento = _____

Donation (optional) _____

TOTAL _____

Desired Pick Up Time
 (Please indicate preference order.)

___ 1 PM - 2 PM

___ 2 PM - 3 PM

___ 3 PM - 4 PM

THANK YOU - ARIGATO

* If we are required to cancel this event due to new Covid19 SIP ordinances,
 we will contact you via email and/or telephone to advise as to a new date or status of the event.

2022 Buddhist Temple of Alameda Membership Form

Main Contact Information				
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Home Telephone	Cellular
Address (Street, City, Zip code)			Email Address	
Spouse/ Partner Information (ONLY IF MEMBER)				
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Cellular	
			Email Address	
Children - Under Age 31 Living at Home (ONLY IF MEMBER)				
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Cellular	Email Address
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Cellular	Email Address
Last Name	First Name	Birth Year (YYYY)	Cellular	Email Address
Emergency Contact – Will Remain Confidential				
Name		Phone Number		

Membership Directory	
A membership directory will be created and distributed to all members. If you wish to NOT be included, please check a box below.	
	Check box
Do not list in the membership directory.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ok to list in membership directory, but do not list our cellular numbers.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ok to list in membership directory, but do not list our email addresses.	<input type="checkbox"/>
You may list me (and my spouse/partner), but do not list our children's contact information	<input type="checkbox"/>

Membership Dues	QTY	Fee	TOTAL
Individual Membership		\$175	
New Member 1 st Year		\$100	
Young Adult (18-30 years old)		\$50	
Child (under 18 & parent is member)		FREE	
Child (under 18 & parent not member)		\$25	
Additional Donation			
Note: The majority of the membership dues supports the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA). The Buddhist Temple of Alameda relies on your generous donations to support the resident minister's salary, educational programs, and maintaining facilities.			

Signature	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age information will be used to determine membership categories and keiro status only. Ages, Emergency Contact Information and Contact Information for children under 18 will NOT be published. 	

**Please enclose form and check payable to:
Buddhist Temple of Alameda
2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501**

This class is now full. If you are interested, you are encouraged to register since Rev. Tanaka is considering enlarging the class for those who put themselves on the waiting list.

Ocean 2
Further Introduction to Shin Buddhism in the West and Beyond
(The Seven Phases of the Pure Land Way)
With Dr. Kenneth Tanaka
Online Course on Shin Buddhism
Starts February 2022 on the 2nd Sunday of the Month, 5 pm – 6:30 (PST)

In this once a month ten-part course, I hope to build on the original *Ocean* book to present a deeper and fuller dimension of this tradition. This course offers a “birds eye view” through the lens of the story of the “Sailor and the Ocean.” This approach makes it easier to understand the uniqueness of Shin Buddhism, which many find difficult to grasp when it is described as “a form of Buddhism in which a person is saved *merely* by reciting the Name.”

This course is for those who want to learn more about (1) Shinran (the founder of Shin Buddhism), (2) the deeper meaning of Amida, Pure Land, Shinjin, Nembutsu, practice, social engagement, and other main teachings, and (3) tips to deal more effectively with the ups and downs of ordinary lives: family, work, school, and human relations. It is also meant for those who (1) experience the challenges and difficulties of living, (2) have become more aware of their personal imperfections, and (3) are in a sincere search for greater meaning and fulfillment in their lives.

If you are interested, please join others with similar aspirations as we share our stories and support each other in our struggles and hopes in order that “we may all attain perfect peace”!

Tuition: \$50 - \$100 for the entire course (to be donated to your favorite organization

(The *range* in the tuition is meant to accommodate your ability or willingness to pay. You are asked to donate the tuition amount to your favorite Buddhist organization or to a charity or organization not necessarily affiliated with Buddhism. You are encouraged to mention to the recipient that the donation is made in lieu of the tuition payment for this course. The lecturer does not accept any payment.)

Lecturer: Kenneth Kenshin Tanaka, Professor Emeritus, Musashino University, Tokyo. Former Assoc. Prof. and Assist. Dean, the Institute of Buddhist Studies. Former Resident Minister, Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church. Author of numerous books, including *Ocean: An Introduction to Jodo-Shinshu Buddhism in America*. The 2017 recipient of the 27th Nakamura Hajime Eastern Academic Prize awarded by the Eastern Institute and the Indian Embassy in Tokyo.

Registration: Please register after you have read and agreed to the “Conditions for the Participants” stipulated above. Space is limited and is on a first-come first-served basis; you are encouraged to sign up early. If the class fills up, you will automatically be included in the “over-flow” class.

Please register here: <https://forms.gle/viWyn4fPAFrWBUA27>

AN INVITATION!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2022

HISTORY DAY

11:30AM TO 2:30PM AT BTOA

The Alameda Japanese American History Project needs your help as we commemorate the month Alameda families were forced to leave their homes during WWII, 80 years ago.

After Sunday service in the social hall there will be old photos and documents to look at from 1898 to the late 1950s era **BTOA and Buena Vista, family photos, Nihonmachi Alameda, sports and WWII items.**

You can help us identify who is those photos and



learn about the history of the Japanese who lived in your community. **It will be fun, informative, and both churches are invited. Bring your family albums and WWII items if you wish to share them with our project! WWII artwork & woodwork wanted!**

At left: Masaru "Munch" Mizokuchi carried the football for the Alameda Mudhens., circa 1930s.

Right: In 1911, the Japanese Methodists received a grant to build this new classroom and sanctuary.

PROJECT PARTNERS: Alameda Free Library • Buddhist Temple of Alameda • Buena Vista United Methodist Church • Densho.org • Internet Archive

TOPAZ
SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT SCHOOL
SUMMER SESSION
1944

No. 4

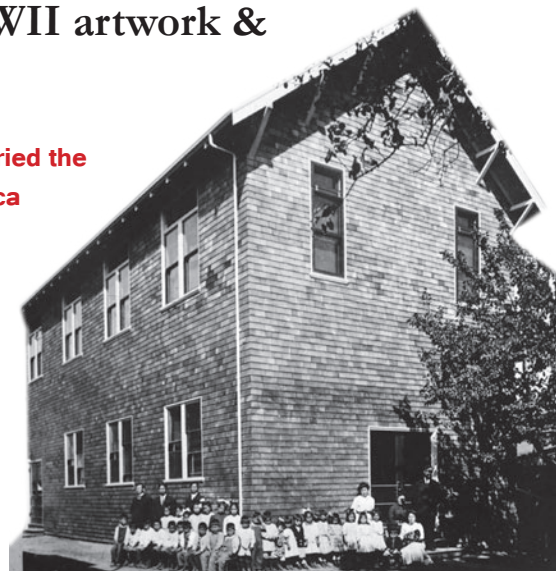
Name Mrs. H. Ozeki

Address 4-12-D.

Instructor Suzuki

1.	10/9	12.		23.	
2.	10/12	13.		24.	
3.	10/16	14.		25.	
4.		15.		26.	

Hatsue Ozeki's Topaz sewing school attendance card • WWII





Buddhist Temple of Alameda
2325 Pacific Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

Time Sensitive Materials

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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OAKLAND, CA

Return Service Requested

Tech and/or Design Savvy Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help with:

- **Graphic Design Talents to help with the Upaya Layout & Event Posters**
- **Social Media Experience to help with our YouTube Live Services, Website & Facebook Updates**

If you're interested or know of the perfect person who can help, please contact Jane Naito at janenaito@me.com or 415.378-1100.