



U P A Y A

Newsletter of the Buddhist Temple of Alameda

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

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January 2023

Message from Rev. D.

The Rabbit in the Moon and New Year Greetings

AKEMASHITE OMEDETOU GOZAIMASU!! Welcome to another year in the light of the Nembutsu Teachings! Together we look to the New Year with positive thoughts and a spirit of renewal. We enter the Year of the Rabbit. Some look to the Rabbit as a symbol of longevity, peace, and prosperity. It sounds like a promising projection of what we can look forward to this coming year. Some may know of this rabbit story from Japanese folklore. I believe it was originally one of the Jataka Tales, depicting past lives of the Buddha.



One night, the Spirit of the Moon took on the form of a man and came down to earth disguised as a beggar. He came upon three animal friends playing together; a Fox, a Monkey, and a Rabbit. He begged for some food to test their sense of Dana and compassion. The Fox went down to the stream, caught a fish and brought it to the beggar. The Monkey went to his favorite fruit tree, climbed it and picked a few of the ripe fruit for the beggar. The Rabbit also brought his favorite food, but it was only grass which the beggar could not eat. So he told the beggar to build a fire. When the fire grew hot, the Rabbit hopped into the flames with the thought of offering himself as a meal for the beggar.

Amazed by the selfless generosity of the Rabbit, the beggar transformed back into the Spirit of the Moon and pulled the Rabbit from the fire. To honor the Rabbit's gesture of selfless Dana, the Spirit of the Moon carried the Rabbit back to the moon to live with him and for all to see. Now, when we look at the full moon, we can see the outline of the Rabbit pounding mochi on the moon and enjoying his life in the starry skies. When we see the Rabbit in the Moon, we are reminded to act with compassion in our own lives, to be kind in thoughts and generous in deeds.

There are different versions of this story. Each of the Jataka Tales provides examples of the manner in which the Buddha lived. Stories of the practice of the 6 Paramitas serve as examples and reminders for our own lives. The temple setting gives us a place to learn for ourselves. Coming to the temple services, listening to the Dharma, helping at fundraisers, and serving at meetings are all opportunities to "jump into the fire" and give of ourselves. As we look at our Sangha members, we see it all around, and we make it the norm rather than the exception. When I look at the full moon, my version of the story is that it is you that I see.

Cont. Message from Rev. D.

We begin a whole new round of temple services and events with the start of the New Year. The temple offers an array of activities to pique a spectrum of interests. We hope to provide something for everyone that is meaningful and beneficial. The core value in all of our activities is held in the teachings of the Dharma and the life of Nembutsu. Although some might think to contribute to the temple without coming to service, we cannot help but miss the essence of the life of Nembutsu. That essence is Deep Hearing.

We want to put ourselves in position to be able to hear the Dharma and to listen deeply. As this becomes habit and an acquired taste, we become closer to the Dharma and closer to the temple. It is this experience shared and the support we offer each other that makes the life of Nembutsu rich and meaningful. We open the doors to those who make themselves scarce, those who may feel they are on the fringe, and those who are completely new to the Buddhist path. We welcome everyone. We'll see you at the temple.

Gassho,
Rev. Joshin Dennis Fujimoto
revdjoshin@gmail.com
(916) 416-0919

Everyone is Welcome to Attend Services “In Person”

We will continue to live stream on our YouTube Channel.

**While we are not asking for proof of vaccination,
we kindly request that visitors to the service be vaccinated.**

**Masks and social distancing are required and temperatures
will be checked upon entering our hondo.**

**Thank you
for your understanding.**

BTOA 2023 Calendar

January

- 1** 10:00 Shusho E New Year Day Service
8 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 *Shotsuki Service*
15 10:00 All Beings Memorial Service
(with Amy Tomine)
22 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Family Service w/Ask Rev. D
29 NO SERVICE 5th Sunday

February

- 5** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
12 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Eitai-kyo/Nirvana Day Service
19 10:00 Family Service
26 NO TEMPLE SERVICE
All encouraged to join the
10:00 BCA National Council Eitai-kyo
Virtual Service

March

- 5** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
12 NO TEMPLE SERVICE
All encouraged to attend live or
virtual 10:00 Special Bay District
800/850 Family Service (@ Palo Alto)
19 10:00 Ohigan Service
26 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Family Service w/Ask Rev. D

April

- 2** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
9 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Hanamatsuri Service
(w/Rev. Ken Yamada)
16 10:00 Family Service
23 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Family Service w/Ask Rev. D
30 NO SERVICE 5th Sunday

May

- 7** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
14 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Parent's Day Family Service
21 10:00 Gotan E Service
27 (Saturday) Memorial Day
Cemetery Visitations
28 NO ALAMEDA SERVICE
BTOA having Saturday Visitations
Enmanji having Sunday Visitations

June

- 4** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
11 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Graduation Family Service
17,18 NO SERVICE (Bazaar Prep)
24,25 NO SERVICE (Bazaar)

July

- 2** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
9 NO SERVICE (Enmanji Bazaar)
15 Bon Odori
16 10:00 Hatsubon/Obon Service
23 10:00 Family Service
31 NO SERVICE 5th Sunday

August

- 6** 10:00 A-Bomb Memorial
And Shotsuki Service
13 10:00 Socho Ki
(Bishops Memorial) Service
20 NO SERVICE (Sensei on Vacation)
27 NO SERVICE (Sensei on Vacation)

September

- 3** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
10 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Family Service
17 10:00 Fall Ohigan Service
And Keirokai
24 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Family Service w/Ask Rev. D

October

- 1** 10:00 Shotsuki Service
8 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Family Service
15 10:00 BWA, Eshinni, Kakushinni,
Lady Kujo, Lady Ohtani
Memorial Service
22 9:30 Dharma School
10:00 Family Service w/Ask Rev. D
29 NO SERVICE 5th Sunday

BTOA 2023 Calendar

November

5	10:00	Shotsuki Service
12	9:30	Dharma School
	10:00	Family Service
19	10:00	HOONKO Service
26	9:30	Dharma School
	10:00	Family Service w/Ask Rev. D

December

3	10:00	Shotsuki Service
10	9:30	Dharma School
	10:00	Bodhi Day Service
	11:00	General Meeting
17	10:00	Family Service
24	<i>NO SERVICE (Holiday)</i>	
31	3:00	End of Year Service

COFFEE HOUR

January 29th @ 11:00 AM

If you are interested in joining some of our sangha members, please email Wayne Nakano for the Zoom Link.

Note: Coffee drinking is not required. :-)

Wayne Nakano
wnakano@ix.netcom.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It's that time again.

We'll be having our New Year's party on **January 22nd, 2023!**

The bad news is that it won't be prime rib, BUT we'll be doing bentos. This means we'll need you to RSVP if you plan to attend that day.

Depending on the number of attendees and your comfort zone, we'll allow some to eat in the social hall. If the weather is nice, we'll also set up tables outside.

DEADLINE:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023

RSVP to Joyce Maniwa
jmaniwa@sbcglobal.net

Be sure to include:

1. Number of bentos
2. Vegetarian or Regular
Child bento will be available

Looking forward to seeing you there!

BTOA Board of Directors

Winter Pacific Seminar

January 28, 2023 – Zoom Option Available

HOPE: from Shinran's Perspective

Speakers: Professor Jessica Main (English) & Rev. Yasushi Kigoshi (Japanese)

Registration \$30.00

<https://tinyurl.com/WINTERPACSEM>

ABWA NEWS

Happy New Year! I look forward to seeing more of everyone in person in 2023! Thank you so much for all your support during the past year!

Dana Food Drive

Thank you to everyone for donating so generously to our annual food drive! At the next meeting, we will decide on how much to donate from ABWA to each food bank, and I will report on everything at that time.

Next Meeting:

Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 2, 2023 at 7PM. The Zoom link with the agenda and reports will be emailed closer to the meeting date.

I hope to have more to report next time regarding upcoming events and activities.

In the meantime, please stay safe and warm, and be well for a wonderful 2023!

Gassho,
Lenni Terao-Doerr, ABWA President

The Upaya Newsletter Crew

For those who may not know, the following people are responsible for various aspects of the monthly production of the Upaya newsletter:

Editor:	Jane Naito
Photocopier and Newsletter Assembler:	Ron Nakano
Mailing Crew:	Jackie Ito-Woo, Dianne Matsuoka, Dorothy Okamoto, Gary Takeda, Lenni Terao-Doerr, and Jacqui Yamaoka.

We sadly lost a key member of the mailing crew in 2022, Eddie Matsuoka, who was mentored by the late George Fukayama.

The crew also lost two beloved members of the pre-pandemic mailing crew, Joyce Terao and Louise Yasuda-Ota.

We would like to acknowledge and express our appreciation for the many years of service of the pre-pandemic mailing crew, which also included Yoko Hashimoto, Kazue Iwahashi, and Nan Kataoka.

The Upaya Newsletter Crew wishes everyone a happy and healthy new year!

SHOTSUKI – HOYO /MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE
Sunday, February 5, 2023
In Person & Living Streaming on YouTube Channel

Family members and friends are invited to the February Memorial Service for those listed below. If 2023 is a special service year as indicated below, 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	2022	17 year	2007
3 year	2021	25 year	1999
7 year	2017	33 year	1991
13 year	2011	50 year	1974

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 – 1024

Iwataki, Mrs. Koyuki – 1920

Iwataki, Mrs. Nami - 2010

Kano, Mrs. Ichi – 1052

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

Food Offering at Shotsuki Hoyo Services

You are once again (like pre-pandemic) welcome to bring food offering for the buddha at our Shotsuki Hoyo Service. Since it will be enjoyed by the sangha immediately after the service, please package the items into individual servings.

Thank you.

JAPANESE GOODS & HIDDEN TREASURES SALE!!



Large selection of Japanese goods including tansu, screens, wood boxes, dinnerware, kimono, obi, baskets and a host of other decorative objects.

Location: Buddhist Temple of Alameda
2325 Pacific Ave. Alameda

When: Saturday, March 11, 11:00-4:00 p.m.

For more info: Yumi, yumibell@gmail.com



Buddhist Temple of Alameda
2325 Pacific Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

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