



# U P A Y A

Newsletter of the Buddhist Temple of Alameda

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

Volume XXXVI, No. 3

March 2023

## Message from Rev. D.

### Spring Ohigan

Each March, we look forward to the Spring season and our Spring Ohigan (Shunki Higan E) Service. We can anticipate the milder weather and the balance and harmony of the spring equinox. It is usually a great time of year, as we move past the winter months. The darker and shorter days lighten up and stretch themselves. Our bodies and minds respond in similar manner. Our Ohigan Service is one of our major services on the Shin Buddhist calendar.

Hopefully, we are not only able to recognize the harmony of nature surrounding us, but we can also come to sense this harmony within our own lives. We are each the blooming flowers springing up here and there. Like the flowers, we reach out and stretch ourselves to touch the infinite that we call Amida.

Everyday we wake up to a list of things we need to do. Part of my morning ritual is to sit down with a cup of coffee and write down all the things I need or want to get done this day. There may be 10 or even 20 things that need time and attention. One after another, we face our personal concerns and goals for the day and check them off as we get them done. With each checkmark, we breathe with a sigh of relief for being one step closer to being done for the day until finally we can rest and relax. But the next morning brings a new day with a brand new list of more burdens and hurdles and chores to take care of.

The daily list is an extension of our ego self and all our ties to family, work and life responsibilities. It is not the list of accomplishments that satisfies, but the sense of wholeness and completion that each pause provides. There is a moment when we might feel not just good, but whole when one item on the list is done or when everything is checked off at the end of the day. It might be similar to when we recite the Nembutsu or get to the Ekoku at the end of the chant.

Gradually we open to a world, beyond relative and arbitrary goals and accomplishments. We open to a world that is whole and complete. The "list of things" reflect our personal world of self concern. The goals and chores hold our



Cont. Message from Rev. D.

focus like clouds floating over the horizon, but gradually we come to see the sky behind the clouds. We can see more than our goals and needs and wants. We come to a different way of seeing. Perhaps this can be the direction of our Ohigan meditation and our appreciative call of Namō Amida Butsu.

The Spring Ohigan Service is March 19 in person at the Alameda temple or virtual on YouTube Live at 10:00. Please join us at 10:00 or later at your convenience.

Gassho,  
Rev. Joshin Dennis Fujimoto  
[revdjoshin@gmail.com](mailto:revdjoshin@gmail.com) \* 916-416-0919

**Everyone is Welcome to  
Attend Services “In Person”**

*We will continue to live stream on our YouTube Channel.*

**March**

**5** 10:00 Shotsuki Service

**12** NO TEMPLE SERVICE

*All encouraged to attend the 10:00  
Special Bay District 800/850 Family  
Service @ Palo Alto or via Zoom*

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6508560123  
?pwd=NkF3enZiY1J2dDNpWWR1dEdsc  
ENCZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6508560123?pwd=NkF3enZiY1J2dDNpWWR1dEdscENCZz09)**

**19** 10:00 **Spring 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**

**Guest Speaker: Rev. K Yamada**

**23** 10:00 Family Service

**30** 9:30 Dharma School

10:00 Family Service w/Ask Rev. D

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

**Masks and social  
distancing is required.  
Temperatures  
will be checked upon  
entering our hondo.**

**Thank you  
for your understanding.**

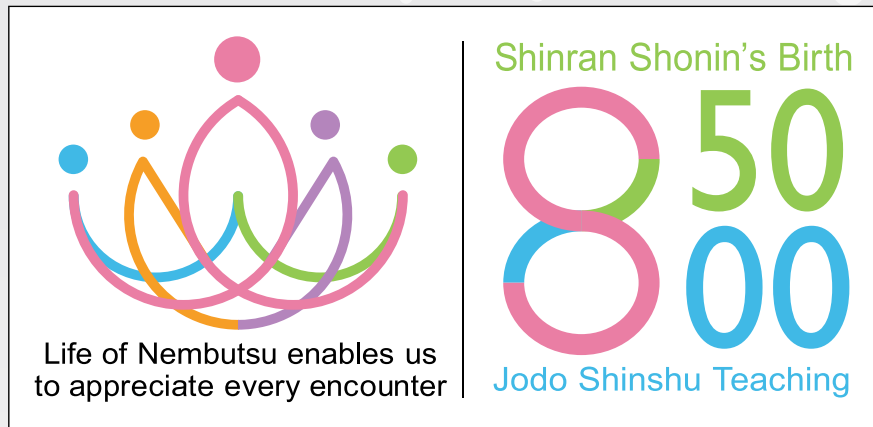
**COFFEE HOUR**

**March 12 & April 30<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 AM**

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

*Note: Coffee drinking is not required. :-)*

*Wayne Nakano, [wnakano@ix.netcom.com](mailto:wnakano@ix.netcom.com)*



**BUDDHIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA**  
**850|800 SERVICE**  
**A BAY DISTRICT SERVICE RECOGNISING THE**  
**850<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SHINRAN SHONIN'S BIRTH** & **800<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JODO SHINSHU TEACHINGS**

**Please join us on**  
**March 12, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple or On-Line**

We will have English and Japanese speaking sermons  
and Dharma School groups.

**Zoom Link for Service: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6508560123?pwd=NkF3enZiY1J2dDNpWWR1dEdscENCZz09>**

**Participating BCA Bay District Temples:**

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

Donations are gratefully accepted online at [bca.kindful.com](http://bca.kindful.com) or by check payable to  
BCAEF (with BD 850/800 in the memo) † Palo Alto Buddhist Temple • 2751 Louis Road • Palo Alto, CA 94303  
Proceeds will go to the BCA Dharma Forward campaign.

**HANAMATSURI**  
April 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM Service

**Guest Speaker**  
**Rev. Ken Yamada**



Rev. Ken Yamada was born in Oakland and attended Berkeley Higashi Honganji temple, participated in Jr. YBA activities and played basketball. After graduating from U.C. Berkeley, majoring in sociology with a Buddhism focus, he studied Jodo Shinshu at the Institute of Buddhist Studies in Berkeley, and Chuo Bukkyo Gakuin in Kyoto, but couldn't understand Buddhism and dropped out. He worked as a newspaper reporter and later became a magazine editor. He rediscovered Buddhism, re-entered the ministry and served 13 years at the Berkeley Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple

Five years ago, he became editor of Higashi's Shinshu Center of America, overseeing English publications.

**EVERYONE IS  
WELCOME**

**Hanamatsuri Otoki**  
**Being Served Immediately**  
**Following Service**

**Wayne Nakano** has volunteered to be our chef for our special Hanamatsuri Otoki (lunch).

This will be our first otoki since the pandemic. We are asking everyone to please contact **Gayle Okada to RSVP** for us to have a proper head count for the otoki lunch.

If you would like to volunteer to help in the kitchen and/or set up the tables for Hanamatsuri Otoki. Please let Gayle know.

**RSVP: Gayle Okada**  
[gayle.okada@gmail.com](mailto:gayle.okada@gmail.com)  
cell: (510) 276-3483

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**OBENTO SALE**  
**VOLUNTEERS**  
**NEEDED FOR**  
**March 11<sup>th</sup>**

Email [janenaito@me.com](mailto:janenaito@me.com)  
to volunteer.

## **ABWA NEWS**

We welcome March, and the arrival of spring and warmer weather!

### **Clothing Drive**

Here's a reminder to get your clothing, bedding and shoes ready for our annual clothing drive. We will be collecting the clothing donations as listed below. Please note the update below:

- **Sat. March 25, 11AM-4PM**
- **Sun. March 26, 11AM-1PM\***
  - **Time changed**
- **Fri. March 31, 11AM-4PM**

Please drop off ONLY on these dates and times. We will be delivering to the Dublin Savers on April 1. This year, we will again be donating a portion of the proceeds to the Alameda Point Collaborative, a local non-profit that provides services to the homeless. For more details, please see the flyer in this Upaya.

### **Next meeting**

Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 7PM. The Zoom link with the agenda and reports will be emailed closer to the meeting date.

Gassho,  
Lenni Terao-Doerr, ABWA  
President

## **J-SEI LUNCHESES**

J-Sei is a community care and cultural organization that brings families and generations together to nurture and pass on Nikkei values and traditions that remain at the core of their services.

For almost a year now, volunteers from the Buddhist Temple of Alameda have been working with J-Sei to deliver hot nutritious Japanese meals (and some frozen meals too) to residents of Alameda once a week.

**A huge thank you goes out to our main drivers: Dorothy Okamoto, Gary Takeda, Barney Lew and Karen Fong with a new addition Tracy Nishmura and our back up drivers are Jane Naito and Kathy Fong.**

The J-Sei meal program receives funding support from Alameda County & Contra Costa County Area Agencies on Aging.

**If you or another East Bay resident can use a hot meal once a week delivered to your doorstep OR if you'd like to join the nutrition team of volunteers, please contact Kathleen Wong at J-Sei, (510) 654-4000 x105 or [kathleen@j-sei.org](mailto:kathleen@j-sei.org).**

# SHOTSUKI HOYO MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE

**Sunday, April 2, 2023**

In Person & Living Streaming on our YouTube Channel

Family members and friends are invited to the April 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.

<b>Special Service Year of Death</b>	<b>Special Service Year of Death</b>	<b>Special Service Year of Death</b>	<b>Special Service Year of Death</b>
1 year	2022	17 year	2007
3 year	2021	25 year	1999
7 year	2017	33 year	1991
13 year	2011	50 year	1974

Doi, Mr. Raiji 1928  
 Fukuoka, Mrs. Nobuko 1992  
 Futagaki, Mr. Shigeo 1998  
 Hasegawa, Mrs. Toshiye 2020  
 Ikeda, Mrs. Kikuno 1927  
 Imura, Miss Sadae 1927  
 Ishii, Infant Kiyoshi 1916  
 Iwahashi, Mrs. Yukino 1963  
 Kaida, Mrs. Alice N. 2013  
 Kanzaki, Mrs. Sada 1933  
 Kataoka, Mrs. Yumi 1968  
 Kawano, Mr. Katsufusa 1957  
 Kihara, Mrs. Tsuru 1933  
 Kimura, Mrs. Ryoko 2010  
 Kinoshita, Mrs. Fukuno 1925  
 Kitajima, Mr. Tamotsu 1975  
 Komatsu, Miss Louise 1993  
 Kuge, Mr. Don 1997  
 Kuge, Mr. Hatsuzo 1940  
 Kusada, Mr. Yaozo 1926  
 Machida, Mr. Jurouyemon 1939  
 Maniwa, Infant Kevin 1984  
 Matsuzaki, Mr. Yokichi 1932  
 Mayegoto, Mr. Gohei 1929  
 Mitoma, Infant 1919  
 Morotomi, Infant Kachiyo 1920

Nagai, Mr. Tagoro 1931  
 Nakamura, Mr. Kohei 1940  
 Nakano, Mr. Jumi 1948  
 Nakata, Infant 1920  
 Nakashima, Miss Kimi 1919  
 Nakayama, Mrs. Akiko 1928  
 Nakayama, Mr. Minoru 1945  
 Nakaso, Ms. Virginia Tomie 2002  
 Narahara, Mrs. Tokie 1952  
 Nishino, Infant Takashi 1931  
 Obata, Mr. Tomejiro 1970  
 Okabe, Mrs. Mieko 1979  
**Okada, Mr. Gary 2007**  
 Okamoto, Nobuko 2018  
 Rice, Mr. Wilbur 1988  
 Sakai, Mr. Makitaro 1957  
 Sekigahama, Mr. Hiroshi 1953  
 Setogawa, Mr. Tsurutaro 1919  
 Shigematsu, Mr. Tosaka 1928  
 Shimada, Mr. Kumataro 1954  
 Shimada, Mr. Taichi 1984  
 Soma, Mr. Gendayu 1919  
 Sugiyama, Mrs. Shizue 1993  
 Suyeyasu, Mr. Susumu 1998  
 Taguchi, Miss Hisako 1932  
**Takayama, Mrs. Marue 2007**

## Continuation of April Shotsuki Hoyo Listing

Takayanagi, Mrs. Shigeko 1997  
Takayanagi, Mr. Tadao 2012  
Takizawa, Mr. Thomas 1950  
Tanaka, Mr. Kumao 1986  
**Terao, Mrs. Joyce Mitsuko 2022**  
Tsuchiya, Infant Hisashi 1923  
Tsuchiya, Infant Tsukie 1922  
Umene, Yoshiko 2018  
Ushijima, Mrs. Lillie Y 2013  
Wada, Mrs. Komino 1985  
Yamamoto, Mr. Totaro 1971  
Yamamoto, Mr. Yoshisuke 1925  
Yamaoka, Mr. Fumio 1990  
Yamaoka, Ms. Hideko 1992  
Yamaoka, Mr. Jim K. 2002  
Yamaoka, Mrs. Kayo 1971  
Yamashita, Mr. Hideo 1971  
Yamasaki, Mr. Satoru 1992  
Yanari, Mrs. Betty 2010  
Yonekura, Mr. Rinzo 1965  
Yoshida, Mrs. Toki 2013

### ***Food Offerings at Shotsuki Hoyo Services***

***You are once again (like  
prepandemic)  
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***

## Condolences

We regret to inform you of the passing of two of our members:

**Mrs. Faith Yamato** on February 5, 2023. She was 99 years of age. The funeral/memorial service will be held at the Buddhist Temple of Alameda on **Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 2:00 PM.**

Condolence notes may be sent to:  
**The Faith Yamato Family  
2939 Gibbons Drive  
Alameda. CA 94501**

**Mr. Masaki Takano** on February 12, 2023. He was 90 years of age. The funeral/memorial service will be held at the Buddhist Temple of Alameda on **Friday, April 21, 2023 at 3:00 PM.**

Condolence notes may be sent to:  
**The Mas Takano Family  
571 Sullivan Drive  
Mountain View. CA 94041**

Visitations to the homes have been declined due to pandemic and safety considerations.

**For service attendees, masks will be required. If you would like to assist the family with contributions to the Otoki meal please drop off your item before the service day of Mrs. Yamato and/or Mr. Takano's service(s).**

Please address further questions or concerns to Rev. Dennis Fujimoto, (916) 416-0919,

# Buddhist Temple of Alameda Alameda Women's Association (ABWA) Fundraiser

## Clothing and Soft Goods Drive

Yes, it's that time again!

As a fundraiser, the Alameda Buddhist Woman's Association is collecting your gently used men, women and children's clothing, shoes, handbags, backpacks, duffel bags, suitcases and linens: sheets, blankets, comforters, towels, tablecloths.



Your unwanted, clean soft goods should be in usable condition and placed in boxes or plastic trash bags weighing no more than 20 pounds. You may fill your donated duffel bags, backpacks and suitcases instead of boxes or bags.

## Drive through drop off location:

The Buddhist Temple of Alameda, 2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501

## **NEW** Drop off dates and times:

Saturday, March 25 - 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (note end time is now 1 PM)

Sunday, March 26 - 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday, March 31 - 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**\*\*\* Please tell your friends, family and neighbors. They will probably thank you.**

All donations will be delivered to Savers Thrift Store in exchange for cash. A portion of our proceeds will go to the Alameda Point Collaborative, a local nonprofit that provides services to the unsheltered and people in need.

Tax deductible receipts will be available at drop-off.

For more information contact Karen Fong (510) 821-1617 or karenhfong@gmail.com

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## JAPANESE GOODS & HIDDEN TREASURES SALE June 3, 2023

Donation items for our sale can be dropped off at the same time  
you are dropping off items for the ABWA Saver donations.

We are looking for Japanese items including, but not limited to: tansu, antiques,  
dinnerware, kimono, obi, and artwork.

For more info: Yumi, yumibell@gmail.com

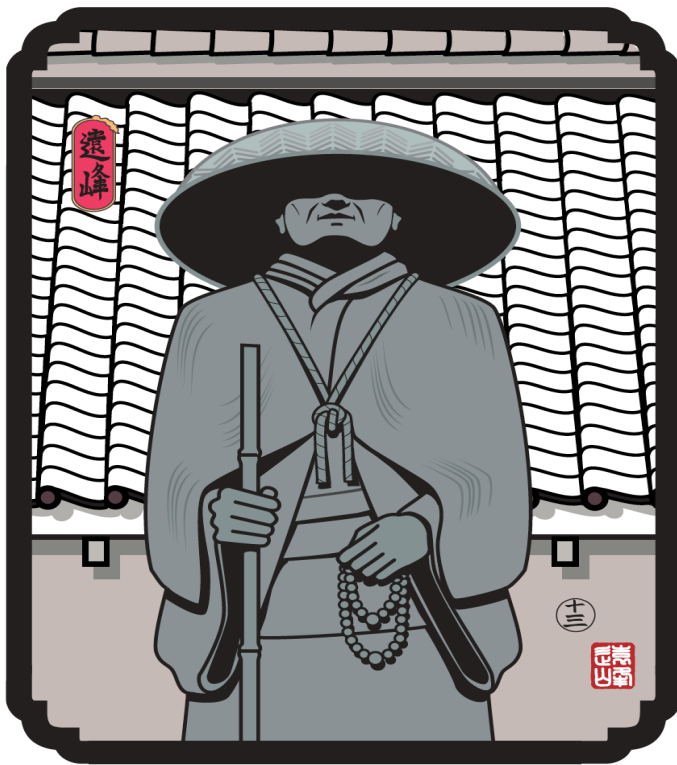


# SHIN BUDDHISM

## For Everyday Life

The Buddhist Temple of Alameda will offer spring classes on Buddhism in April on ZOOM. We will explore aspects of Buddhist practice fitting our daily lives.

Class will be held from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM on April 6 and 13, 2023



Life responsibilities of work, home, and family increase the demands upon each of us. Declining health of those we care for as well as ourselves is an ongoing process. Age and illness confront us all. Despite such difficulties, stability and grounding allows us to proceed with strength and joy. Shin Buddhism provides such a path.

Three letters from Master Rennyō Shōnin will be provided. His words to the simple peasants, farmers, fishermen, and merchants of 15th century Japan still hold value and perspective for those of us today. We welcome participant dialogue to consider our own life needs in light of the words of guidance offered by Master Rennyō during his time.

These classes are free of charge and open to the public. For those interested, please email [alamedabec@gmail.com](mailto:alamedabec@gmail.com). **Registration is required. Deadline to register is April 3, 2023.**

Hosted by the Alameda Buddhist Education Committee, Buddhist Temple of Alameda, 2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda CA 94501. For further information and updates, please view our website [btoa.org](http://btoa.org) or contact Rev. Dennis Fujimoto at 916-416-0919 or text, or email at [revdjoshin@gmail.com](mailto:revdjoshin@gmail.com).



Buddhist Temple of Alameda  
2325 Pacific Avenue  
Alameda, CA 94501

*Time Sensitive Materials*

**NON-PROFIT ORG**  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 7069  
OAKLAND, CA

*Return Service Requested*

**SAVE the DATE**

**Wednesday Evening, May 17th @ 4:00 PM**  
Alameda Japanese American History Project

Opening Reception @ Alameda Free Library  
Speakers and Photo Exhibit  
All Temple Members Welcome

Kiyo Masuda and Kenny Narahara  
interviews are now on-line on the Densho  
website. <https://ddr.densho.org>