



UPAYA

Newsletter of the Buddhist Temple of Alameda

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

Volume XXXVI, No. 9

September 2023

Message from Rev. D.

September Article 2023

We look forward to moving on from the summer heat. Signals are calling out the seasonal change that is just around the corner. Soon the **Fall Equinox** will be here with the balance of day and night. The Equinox happens twice each year during the Fall and Spring seasons. The usually mild and pleasant weather has long been recognized as an ideal time for study, meditation, and reflection. At our Shin Buddhist Temples, the time of the Equinox is recognized as **Ohigan**, observed twice each year.



Personally, I look forward to the Fall Ohigan because Sharmon and I were married on Ohigan Sunday 14 years ago. 09 20 2009. It was the busiest day ever! Bishop Ogui was our temple guest for the weekend. He spoke at the local college on Saturday and then met with our Sangha group (Howakai) in Boise, then back to the temple for a welcome dinner. Then early Sunday, we held a special Kieshiki Ceremony with a group of about 20 members who received their Homyo (Buddhist Name) from the Bishop. Then we had our Ohigan Service with many in attendance. They had come because each Fall Ohigan we held our temple scholarship luncheon with lasagna, salad, French bread, and dessert cooked and served by the Dharma School students, parents, Sharmon and myself. THEN, after all that, we had our wedding with Bishop Ogui officiating. Family and friends mixed with the Sangha. Members didn't know whether they were coming or going ... table clothes were put up, then taken down, then put up again in a different color! Sharmon was stressed and ended up with shingles that have not gone away to this day, and I'm the reason why!!! We don't want to re-create the weekend, but it is a nice memory in retrospect.

When we do come to the time of Ohigan, I do look forward to it not only for personal memories, but the time for settled reflection and introspection can unfold into a state of awareness. Beyond thinking about what it means and what we do and where it came from, the actuality of balance and harmony in nature permeates each of us. It is probably healthy and beneficial to have at least this degree of awareness of self in relation and connection to all that surrounds us.

CONT. REV. D's MESSAGE

The time of the equinox is not a weeklong period, but actually a specific point in time when the sun crosses the equator. It is at that point when both the Northern and Southern hemispheres get the same amount of sun, and the length of day and night are equal. Light and dark are balanced. During Ohigan, we are encouraged to enjoy and appreciate this balance a few days before and a few days after the moment of the equinox. Many cultures and religions celebrate this time of year all over the world. Festivals and food mark the change in seasons with hopes and promise of what is to come.

Ohigan is always a refreshing time to renew our efforts and to re-evaluate our priorities. **Those new to the ways of the temple** can come to appreciate even more that the Shin Buddhist path is a common sense approach to spirituality. Compassion is balanced with Wisdom, and gratitude for life emerges out of truths recognizable by all. **Those long connected to the temple** can recognize once again that the Dharma and the Nembutsu path enrich our lives as individuals, family, and community. Continued support in various ways becomes our heartfelt manner to thank those before us and to share this path with the next to arrive.

This year the **Ohigan Service** will take place September 17 in Alameda at 10:00 AM. We'll see you at the temple.

Gassho,

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

Everyone is Welcome to Attend Services "In Person"

We will continue to live stream on our YouTube Channel.

September

3		No Service – Labor Day
10		Shotsuki Hoyo/Memorial Service Guest Speaker, Rev Sasaki, IMOP
17	10:00	Fall Ohigan Service/Keiro Kai
24	10:00	Family Service & Ask Rev. D

October

1	10:00	Shotsuki Hoyo (Montly Memorial)
8	9:30	Dharma School
	10:00	Family Service
15	10:00	BWA, Eshinni, Kakushinni, Lady Kujo, Lady Ohtani Memorial Service
22	10:00	Family Service & Ask Rev. D
29		5 th Sunday – No Service

September 10th Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service Guest Speaker, Rev. Giei Sasaki

Potluck Luncheon Following Service



Rev. Giei Sasaki, a leading thinker and scholar of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition will be our guest speaker as part of IMOP, a program that brings Japanese ministers to BCA temples.

ABWA NEWS

I hope you all have had a good summer and are staying healthy and safe!

Candy-making Workshop

Reminder: The workshop presented by Irene Preston will be on **Saturday, September 16** from 10 AM - 12 noon at our Temple kitchen.

Please register by Sunday, September 10 at <https://rebrand.ly/chocolate-class>.

The class is **limited to 15 students** as it is a hands-on workshop.

Please email maria.b.piper@gmail.com with any questions.

If you need to register by phone, please call or text Lenni at 510-710-6216.

Next meeting

Our next meeting will be on Monday, **September 11** at 7PM. Please note the date change due to Labor Day on Sept. 4 which is the first Monday of the month.

The Zoom link with the agenda and reports will be emailed closer to the meeting date.

Gassho,

Lenni Terao-Doerr, ABWA
President

Coffee Hour

If you would like to receive notifications for our Coffee Hours, please email Wayne at wnakano@ix.netcom.com.

The Alameda Japanese American History Project is now live on the Densho website.

The collection includes oral history interviews with: Mas Takano, Kiyo (Sato) Masuda and Ken Narahara. The Buddhist Temple of Alameda submitted over 100 photos and documents for the collection. Please click on the link below to view the collection.

<https://ddr.densho.org/ddr-ajah-7/>

This collection was made possible from a grant we received from the National Park Service and was in collaboration with the Buena Vista United Methodist Church, Rhythmix Cultural Works, Alameda Free Library, Densho, Internet Archive. It focuses on the temple's history pre to post WWII. If you would like to join the BTOA Archive Committee, please contact Jane Naito at janenaito@me.com.

September 17, 2023

Buddhistchurchesofamerica.org





Keirokai Luncheon: September 17th - RSVP required.

Keirokai is a Japanese term that we use for the event where we celebrate, honor and show our gratitude to our temple elders. Members who will reach 88 years (BEIJU) during this calendar year and older, will be honored during the Joint **Ohigan Service at 10:00am on September 17, 2023.**

Each honoree will be recognized and presented with a gift from the temple.

After the service a **special luncheon** will be held for our honorees. **Everyone is welcome to attend the luncheon, but we ask that you please RSVP to Gayle Okada at gayle.okada@gmail.com or at 510-276-3483.**

Following the luncheon, we will play BINGO!

We look forward to seeing you there! Don't forget to RSVP with Gayle.

Thank you, Keiro Kai Committee

Dharma School News

September marks the return of Dharma School! Our first session will be on **September 10th, at 9:30** a.m. Our next class in will be on the 24th. Please join us to start the new year!

if you know of any families that would like to join and for additional calendar information, please contact me:
yumiyasuda50@gmail.com.

Thank you!

Yumi and the
Dharma School team



Looking for Dharma School Speakers/Teachers

Our Dharma School is growing, and we'll be adding another Dharma School class starting in September. We'd like to mix it up and have various guest speakers/teachers for the older kids.

It's just 20 minutes or so of chatting. The topic can be on a Buddhist principle, on current events or about your career(s) and how it began/navigated challenges.

If you're interested in teaching, please contact Yumi @ yumiyasuda50@gmail.com.

SHOTSUKI HOYO
MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE
Sunday, October 1, 2023

In Person & Living Streaming on our YouTube Channel

Family members and friends are invited to the October 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	
<i>1 year</i>	2022	<i>17 year</i>	2007
<i>3 year</i>	2021	<i>25 year</i>	1999
<i>7 year</i>	2017	<i>33 year</i>	1991
<i>13 year</i>	2011	<i>50 year</i>	1974

Abe, Mrs. Mutsu 1975
Akinaga, Mr. Yun 2014
Baba, Mrs. Fujiko 1932
Hamasaki, Mr. Seiji 1997
Haramaki, Mr. Shozo 1994
Hasegawa, Mr. Katsumi 1980
Hashimoto, Mr. Hiroshi 1997
Hashimoto, Mr. Robert 2012
Hayashida, Mrs. Fujie 2002
Hirai, Mrs. Misuye Mary 2000
Heinz, Mr. Charles Jr. 2015
Ideoka, Mr. Takeshi 1993
Inouye, Mrs. Miyoko 2008
Inouye, Mrs. Natsuno 1982
Ishida, Infant 1933
Ishida, Mr. Masamitsu 1984
Ishida, Mr. Shunichi 2000
Ito, Wakako 2018
Iwahashi, Mr. Minoru 1994
Kakimoto, Mr. Heijiro 1950
Kakimoto, Mr. Shigeo 1932
Kakufuri, Infant Amato 1926
Kamada, Mrs. Asa 1957
Kamiji, Infant Sumiko 1926
Kato, Mr. Hisato 1948
Kato, Infant Hitoshi 1934
Kawabuchi, Mr. Hiroshi 2012
Kitani, Mrs. Tayeko 1975
Koga, Mr. Matao 1970
Kono, Carol 2020
Kuge, Mrs. Isono 1992
Kuji, Mr. Kanmi 1955

Kuramoto, Mr. Kanji 2004
Kuroki, Mrs. Suyeko 1923
Kuwano, Mr. Iwao 2007
Matsuura, Mr. Kumazo 1963
Mikami, Mrs. Koshiye 1970
Mitsukawa, Infant Tadashi 1919
Mune, Ms. Kazuye 1933
Nakamura, Mr. James 2014
Nakamura, Mr. Jinichi 1958
Nakano, Mr. Kazuo 1991
Nakano, Mr. Masao Fred 2007
Nakaso, Mr. Reiji 1936
Narahara, Mr. Isamu 1994
Natsuhara, Mrs. Ritsuko 2007
Nitahara, Infant Shinobu 1918
Nogita, Mr. Toshio 1921
Obana, Mrs. Setsuko 1974
Ogawa, Mr. Shozo 1986
Ohye, Kimi Higashi 2018
Okabe, Mr. Henry 1977
Okada, Mrs. Tsuya 1990
Oki, Infant Hideji 1927
Okumura, Mrs. Yaye 1962
Omi, Mr. Henry 1996
Ozeki, Mrs. Akino 1978
Pang, Mrs. Yon Chan 2004
Sakamoto, Mr. Shigeto 1959
Sekigahama, Mr. Magoichi 1963
Shibata, Mr. Yoshimi 2015
Shiira, Infant Megan 1996
Shimono, Mr. Makoto 1991
Sugino, Ms. Hideko 1942
Suico Mr. John 1980

Suzawa, Ms. Kazuye 1929
Suzawa, Ms. Kazuye 1929
Takagi, Ms. Yumi 1918
Takara, Mrs. Nui 1923
Takayama, Mrs. Yukiye 1933
Takemoto, Infant Sonae 1923
Takeshita, Mr. Shiro 2001
Takishita, Infant Henry 1917
Taniguchi, Mr. George 2022
Tomine, Mr. Susumu 2002
Tomine, Mrs. Tomoe 1997
Tsuchiya, Paula Bisson 2020
Wada, Mr. Kazuo 2003
Yamagishi, Mrs. Kikuko 1937
Yamakami, Ms. Masaye 1924
Yamaguchi, Mrs. Sono 1918
Yamashita, Mrs. Haruko 1990
Yasuda Ota, Mrs. Louise 2022
Yasuhiro, Mr. Naka 1964
Yasutake, Mr. Tosaku 1938
Yonekura, Mr. Satoshi 1945

Potluck Luncheon After
SEPTEMBER
Shotsuki Hoyo/Monthly
Memorial Service

Sept. 10th

KEYS TO SHIN BUDDHISM

Thursday Evenings, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM, October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023

We will offer fall classes on Buddhism in October on ZOOM. We will explore Temple activities and events as aspects of Buddhist practice to bring calm, clarity, and perspective to our daily lives. Articles and materials will be provided prior to the classes.

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. As followers of the Dharma, our practice is to live our lives guided by the principals of Wisdom and Compassion. What is the wisdom that determines our efforts of compassion? How do we select and express our acts of compassion? As we live our everyday lives, we continuously encounter such choices. The Temple provides such a place of practice.

These classes are free of charge and open to the public. For those interested, please email **alamedabec@gmail.com**. **Registration is required**. Deadline to register is October 2, 2023. **Please invite your friends and family who might be interested in joining us for this set of classes.**

Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund

Lahaina Hongwanji and its Sangha were directly affected by the fires. The temple, columbarium, classroom building, and minister's residence were destroyed in the horrific fires that devastated historic Lahaina town. Many temple members were forced to evacuate, and some of their homes were burnt to the ground. Our hearts go out to all who have been impacted by this disaster.

In the spirit of compassionate action, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii has established the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund. All donations to this fund will go to support Lahaina Hongwanji and relief efforts on Maui, including addressing the immediate and short-term needs of temple families displaced by the fires and supporting the greater community as it rebuilds. Here are ways to give:

- Paypal Link to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii - Maui Wildfire Relief
https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=FZBWPWSUDDR8
- Check can be sent directly to Hawaii Kyodan Headquarters. **Please make check payable to HHMH and in the memo line designate "Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief" to ensure proper credit.**

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, HI 96813

By Popular Demand CHICKEN TERIYAKI IS BACK!



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Saturday, October 21, 2023
 Buddhist Temple of Alameda
 2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda
 12 noon – 3:00 pm

Order Your Obento Box Today!
 (1/2 Teriyaki Chicken, Edamame, Takuan, Rice, and Dessert)
 Pre-Order Sales Only – Take Out Only
 You must pre-order your obento box;
postmarked by 9/29.

Checks payable to:
 Buddhist Temple of Alameda
 Mail to:
 Buddhist Temple of Alameda
 2325 Pacific Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501



Or Pay Online via PayPal: [@btoa1916](#)
 or Venmo: [@btoalameda](#)

venmo
[@btoalameda](#)



Help the Lahaina Honwanji Sangha
 This year a portion of the proceeds will be sent to help the sangha of the Lahaina Hongwanji, Maui, which lost its place of worship from the Maui fires this year.

Name: _____ Phone/Cell: (_____) _____

Email: _____

_____ x \$20 per Obento = _____

Donation (optional) _____

TOTAL _____

12noon – 1:00pm

1:00pm – 2:00pm

2:00pm – 3:00pm

THANK YOU – ARIGATO



Buddhist Temple of Alameda
2325 Pacific Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

Time Sensitive Materials

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 7069
OAKLAND, CA

Return Service Requested

**BTOA's
Drive Thru
Chicken Teriyaki
Obento Sale
IS BACK!!!!**

**Save The Date: Saturday,
October 21st**

**Order Form Included
in this edition of the Upaya.**



Photo by: Brad Shirakawa