



The Padma



January 2024

Berkeley Buddhist Temple Newsletter

Web Edition

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Guidelines

The Padma welcomes articles from sangha members.

Articles should be around 500-600 words typed. Word documents are best; PDF documents are discouraged.

Please include your name, a title for the article, and include any photos. Cite references if quotes are used.

Articles will be reviewed for content and length, and should contain information relevant to Buddhist teachings, the Berkeley Buddhist Temple, and/or the Buddhist Churches of America. Publication will be at the discretion of the editorial board.

Email submissions to padma@BerkeleyBuddhistTemple.org



Welcome the new year!

Sunday, 12/31/2023, 7:00 PM – Joya-e Service
Monday, 1/1/2023, 10:00 AM – Gantan-e Service



The Year of the “Dragon of the Sea”, perhaps?

January Dharma Message Theme

Shinran Shonin's Life and Teaching

The theme for this month's Dharma messages aligns with the special Hoonko service on Sunday, January 14th, commemorating of the death of the founder of our Jodo Shinshu tradition.

Our Vision
A Community Where Our Spiritual Life and True Self Can Be Realized

Our Mission
To Live A Life Of Joy In The Nembutsu And Share The Dharma With Others

January 2024

the Padma



BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

2121 CHANNING WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 10:00a Virtual & In-person Gantan-E Service	2	3 7:00p Virtual Meditation	4	5	6
7 9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family & Shotsuki Memorial Service	8	9 7:00p Board of Directors Mtg	10	11	12	13 <i>Padma Articles Due</i>
14 9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family & Ho-on-ko Service	15	16 Padma Newsletter Production	17 7:00p Virtual Meditation	18	19	20
21 9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family Service	22	23	24	25 6:30p Virtual Dharmanar	26	27
28 9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family Service New Year Celebration	29	30	31	Berkeley Buddhist Temple (510) 841-1356 berkeleybuddhisttemple.org info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org facebook.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple youtube.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple		



Future Dates to Remember

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Sun
31
Dec
Livestream & In-person
Joya-E New Year's Eve Service

Mon
1
Jan
Livestream & In-person
Gantan-E New Year's Day Service

Wed
3
Jan
Virtual
Meditation & Discussion

Sun
7
Jan
Livestream & In-person
Shotsuki Memorial Service
BBT Officers Installation

Sun
14
Jan
Livestream & In-person
Ho-on-ko Service

Wed
17
Jan
Virtual
Meditation & Discussion

Thu
25
Jan
Online Study Session
BBT Dharmanar (Topic: TBA)

Sun
28
Jan
Temple New Year's Celebration
(After service)

Sat
15
Jun
2024: Save-the-Date
Rev. Dr. David Ryoe Matsumoto
Tribute & Retirement Celebration
Mountain View Buddhist Temple



Berkeley Buddhist Temple

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 3, 17
WED. 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Sign up at:
<https://sanghaevents.info/meditation>

MEDITATION & DISCUSSION

Join us for an evening of online silent meditation led by our minister, Rev. Kuwahara. Everyone is welcome and no prior experience needed. We will have a short discussion after. All are welcome!

JANUARY 25
THU 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Sign up at:
sanghaevents.info/dharmanar

DHARMANAR

Join us for BBT's monthly online study session. Rev. Kuwahara, Rev. CJ, and Rev. Tanis Moore will be presenting. Then we will discuss it after. Everyone is welcome!

2121 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704
info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org
www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/



**Berkeley Buddhist
Temple**

新年会

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

**Sun. January 28th, 2024
after the service**

Join us in celebrating the New Year
with Mochitsuki, Taiko Performance,
Bounce House for children and
New Year bites!



www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org



Minister's Message from Rev. CJ Dunford

This newsletter is enriched by monthly contributions from our temple ministers and long-time member, Diane Ames. This month Rev. Dunford and Diane are going through difficult times. Please take a moment to offer compassionate support to both.

Rev. Dunford asks for a pause to absorb the blow of the loss of loved ones.

"I have experienced a number of personal losses, including the death of my beloved grandmother, "Nannie" Leda Jo, and my dear mentor and friend Rev. Dr. Seigen Yamaoka. I will resume sharing dharma reflections in March 2024. I hope we can all take time to reflect in gratitude for the many causes and conditions that led us the Buddhadharmma.

*In gratitude 🙏
Rev. CJ"*



“In the Emergency Room”

by Diane Ames

“Well, Doctor, Bill Ames, age 81, has a fever, nausea, cough, shortness of breath, severe weakness, and pain in his right lung,” said the nurse. “He keeps asking if he’s dead yet. Here’s the x-ray of his lungs.”

“EEK! Go get at least a dozen broad spectrum antibiotics!”

“Doctor!” said a radiologist, “the CT scan showed an empyema on the right lung!”

“Go get more broad spectrum antibiotics, if there are any more!” And the doctor clicked castanets and sang:

To his digestion they may bring great grief and sorrow!

Antibiotics! Antibiotics!

But without them he'll be dead sometime tomorrow!

Antibiotics may yet save the day!

“Have the nurses check his vitals every four hours through the night, schedule a lung draw at dawn, and tell him to get plenty of rest,” she continued.

“Doctor,” I whimpered, “I’m Bill’s wife. What’s an empyema?”

“Take this tranquilizer before we tell you. Now, Bill, how are you feeling?”

“At ... death’s ... door,” Bill gasped.

“That’s right!” said Death, who appeared in the doorway in his stereotypic black hood, but with no scythe; he had not been allowed him to bring it in because of hospital rules. “He’s at my door and knocking on it, but these interfering doctors may snatch him from me again! What for? He’s 81 years old; his body is gradually falling apart. What does he want a few more years for?”

“To follow the Dharma and prepare to meet you,” I said. Bill nodded feebly.





Temple News & Announcements



THE ANNUAL TEMPLE CLEANING

A Fresh Start to the New Year

Thank you very much for participating in the temple's annual cleaning on 12/10!

About 50 members and friends came to help. The temple looks better than ever! Special thank you to the December *Toban* for preparing breakfast and lunch for the helpers. The temple is ready for the New Year!

2024 Social Events Survey

Greetings, Sangha members! We'd like to survey you about 2024 BBT social events -- including another A's tailgate (against the new Dodger, Shohei Ohtani) -- and other ideas we're considering. The survey should take about 1 minute to complete.

Here's the link:

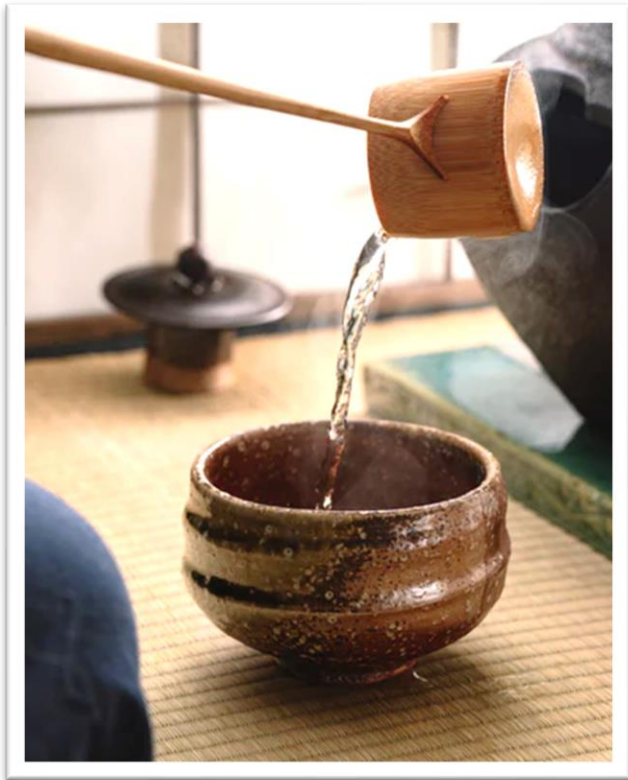
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NZH9XYF>

Survey for BBT social events for 2024

Web survey powered by SurveyMonkey.com. Create your own online survey now with SurveyMonkey's expert certified FREE templates.

www.surveymonkey.com

A BOWL OF TEA



Have you ever been curious about the 'Japanese tea ceremony'? Joyce Oishi, a BBT temple member, would like to invite you to share a bowl of matcha tea and sweets over a conversation about *chado* - the way of tea.

Joyce is a student in the *Urasenke* tradition of *chado* and enjoys introducing others to a world in which savoring matcha tea and sweets creates opportunities to enjoy the moment and to appreciate undertones of centuries of Japanese art.

If you are interested in joining, please email Joyce at snowytropics@yahoo.com and she'll start planning the gathering for January and/or February.

SAVE THE DATE !

The 2024 Annual Camping Trip is scheduled for July 25th – 28th. Mark your calendars!



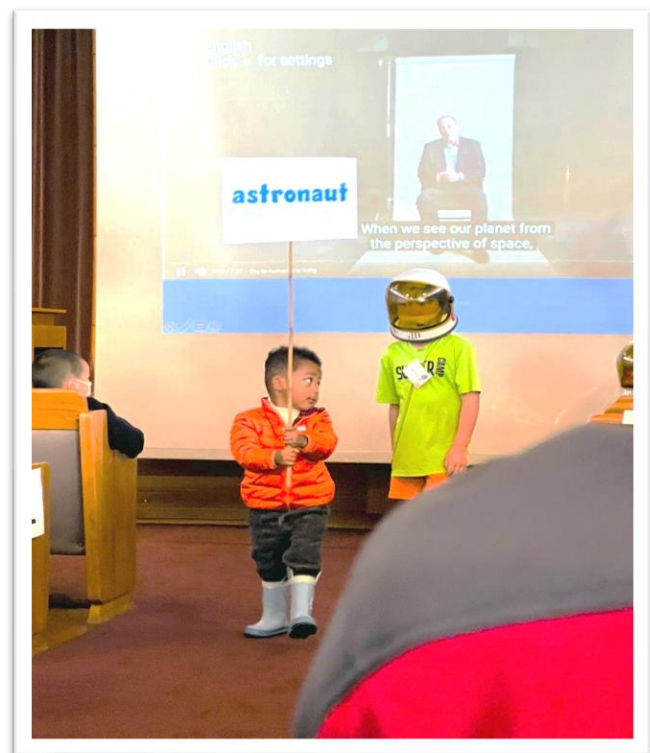
Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Dharma School Newsletter

January 2024

Bodhi Day: The Orbital Perspective

The Dharma School enjoyed presenting the sangha with this year's Bodhi Day Dharma message. Inspired by astronaut Ron Garan's meditation on the Overview Effect – realizing the interconnectedness of all life – and his call to action, the Orbital Perspective, the Dharma School integrated spoken words, video, signs, and astronauts! Thank you to Irene Sensei for bringing this wonderful concept to our attention, and thank you to all the Dharma School students and teachers for bringing the Dharma message to life in the BBT Hondo.



January Schedule

1/7/2024	Regular DS classes
1/14/2024	Regular DS classes
1/21/2024	Regular DS classes
1/28/2024	New Year's Party: No Dharma School classes

Thank you for supporting Share the Spirit: Building Futures this year!

The high school students are so very grateful to all the donors who gave generously to Building Futures, the San Leandro organization that helps families experiencing domestic violence and/or housing insecurity. The students are happy to report that we surpassed our giving goal. Thank you for your dana during this Season of Sharing!

Online donations can be made through 12/31/2023 here:



The BBT High School Class Thanks You for Your Generosity:

**The Share the Spirit 2023
Donations Raised \$3,600+
for Building Futures!**

Online donations can be made through 12/31/2023 [here](#).

Your Family Is Always Welcome to BBT

Remember: ALL ARE WELCOME to the BBT Dharma School! Please refer to this quick [FAQs sheet](#) with general information about the Berkeley Buddhist Temple Dharma School. Parents, guardians, and grandparents are welcome to observe and/or accompany their children to class. Just ask to speak to Stacy, Karen, Irene, or Joyce before the Dharma Family Service.

Namo Amida Butsu



Community Announcements

Everyone is Welcome! Online Buddhist Education Series
Part of the Triple Celebration of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
Starts January 13, 2024

In September 2024, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii (HHMH) will hold a Triple Celebration to commemorate the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth, the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching, and the 135th Anniversary of the HHMH. As part of the Triple Celebration, a Buddhist Education Series will be presented on Zoom on Saturdays from January through August. The distinguished lecturers include Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto, Prof. Mitsuya Dake, Prof. Eisho Nasu, and several others. Registration is free. For further information about the series, visit the HHMH website at <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/> and type "Triple Celebration" in the search box.

To register, please use this link: <https://forms.gle/yrJngUNBFRqARfWN6>
Feel free to share this registration link with your friends and those who may be interested.

HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII
TRIPLE CELEBRATION 2024

850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth
800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching
135th Anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

ONLINE BUDDHIST EDUCATION SERIES
JANUARY-MARCH
SPEAKERS

Speaker	Institution	Dates	Time	Topic
Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto	INSITUTE OF BUDDHIST STUDIES	January 13 & 20	10 am	WHAT IS MAHAYANA BUDDHISM AND PURE LAND BUDDHISM?
Prof. Mitsuya Dake	RYUKOKU UNIVERSITY	February 3 & 17	2 pm	DEVELOPEMENT OF JODO SHINSHU IN JAPAN AND HAWAII
Prof. Eisho Nasu	RYUKOKU UNIVERSITY	March 16	2 pm	SIGNIFICANCE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF JODO SHINSHU TRADITION

Scan to register

COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, January 7, 2024
9:30 AM

Live Stream: <https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharma-live>

The following persons will be remembered during the Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly memorial service) for
January.

Patricia Kaoru Abe-Calef	Tad Kawamura	Emiko Shimada
Charles Tokiuchi Aoki	Toku Kimura	Calvin Carl Steimetz
Masako Doi	Toshio Kenneth Kono	George Jiro Sugihara
Masako Egawa	Mitsuko Kono	Iwao Lewis Suzuki
Chika Takasaki Fujikawa	Uhachi Kubo	Sada Takahashi
Shima Fujioka	Shizuo Ken Kurakazu	Sachio Takeda
Lily Yuriko Fujioka	Grace Marie Lindquist	Sally Tamie Takeda
Isamu Fujita	Mary Misako Maekawa	Chotaro Taketa
Goroku Furukawa	Menichiro Marubayashi	Bumtaro Takita
Hidemi Furuzawa	Kikuyo Marubayashi	Takuma Tanada
Yoneo Tom Futatsuki	Roy Maru Marubayashi	Kunika Tom
Leonce Gervais	Chitoye Louise Matoba	Mitsue Toriumi
Therese Guilbert	Tsuyo Matsui	Ronald Uchiumi
Rev. Gyodo Haguri	Shigeji Matsumoto	Sam Takenoshi Uchiumi
Tamekichi Haraguchi	Akie Mayeda	Rose Chiyo Uda
Fusa Haraguchi	Yoshiko Muranishi	Shikano Umawatari
Seitaro Hataye	Katsumi Nakagaki	Shawn C. Utsumi
Masami Sam Hataye	George Y. Nakahara	Iyono Wakaye
Catherine Yoshiye Hiraga	Shirley Isao Nakahara	Mamoru Wakida
Takeo Hirahara	Lawrence S. Nakano	Mary Wakida Budhiman
John Jitsutaro Hiramoto	Jiro Nakaso	Rev. Ryujo Yamada
Ann Yoshiko Imada	Kimiko Nishimoto	Mike Minoru Yamamura
Tomomi Ito	Masayo Nitta	Ichitaro Yamasaki
Rev. Kakusho Izumi	Nancie Haruko Oda	Matsue Yamasaki
Tokuo Izumi	Chiyono Okimoto	William Mamoru Yamasaki
Kimi Kami	Fumiyo Okita	Kimi Yamashita
Hisashi Kaneko	Sangoro Ouye	Rev. Seishin Yamashita
Kojiro Kaneshita	David Hiroshi Sano	Sam Masaji Yamoto
Masakazu Kawaguchi	Kimiko Sasaki	Frank Yokoi
Masa Kawai	Kimiko Sato	Minoru Yonemura
		Yuhei Yoshiura

Note: If there are any additions, corrections, or deletions to the above list, please notify the Berkeley Buddhist Temple at 510-841-1356.



Membership & Toban

Membership Pledges (Receiving Period: 11/11/2023 – 12/7/2023)

The temple would like to gratefully acknowledge the following members for their generous contributions:

For 2023

Akemi Hamai & Amy Haruyama
Judy Kono
Bradley Menda & Myron Jung
Mieko Taketa

Masako Hane
Ryan Matsuda
Emi & Aki Nakao
Rumi Taylor

Cathleen Kaneko-Jones
Emiko & George Matsunaga
Makiko Shinoda
Kathleen Yee

For 2024

Ron & Mimi Kagehiro

If you have any questions, please contact the Membership Team at membership@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org or 510-841-1356.

TOBAN

Coordinators - Lena Yin & Pat Takeda

December 2023	January 2024
Chair - Judy Kono Cochair - Emily Ushijima Cochair - Patty Fujiwara Cochair - Wes Fukumori Anzai, Michiko Fukumori, Wes *Harada, Gail Hamamoto, Lesli Hirose, Paul Honda, Dina *Kono, Judy Manning, Ron & Julie Kono-Manning *Okino, Shizu *Oto, Makoto Potter, Beryl See, Ava Ushijima, David & Emily Wilmsen, Carl & Patty Fujiwara	Chair - Tony Hale Cochair - Scott Wakida *Adachi, Dick Akiyama, Devon Cox, Tory Fukumori, Noreen Gabriel, Susan Hale, Tony & Stacy Uyeda Ide, Ritsuko *Kamimura, Yoshio & Junko Lin, Sherry Masuda, Rev Will & Kiyō (SoCal) Nishihara, Alan Sugihara, Wayne *Taketa, Mieko Umemoto, Tara Uyeda-Hale, Zora Wakida, Scott & Sheila

** Denotes disabled and/or elderly. Toban optional.*



Memorial Service Schedule



The following is a list of special service years.
 If you have a departed relative who has passed away
 in any of the listed years,
 and would like to make arrangements
 for a memorial service,
 please contact Rev. Kuwahara at [\(510\) 841-1356](tel:5108411356).

2024 MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
2023	1 st Year
2022	3 rd Year
2018	7 th Year
2012	13 th Year
2008	17 th Year
2000	25 th Year
1992	33 rd Year
1975	50 th Year
1925	100 th Year

Services

Our regular Sunday program begins with a Chanting Service at 8:30am followed by a Family Service at 9:30am. A Dharma talk is available after the Family Service while Dharma School classes are convened for students.

Special Services

January 1 Service	Gantan-e	New Year's Day
February	Nehan-e	Nirvana Day
March	Ohigan	Spring Equinox
April	Hanamatsuri	Flower Festival
May	Gotan-e	Birthday of Shinran
July	Kangi-e	Obon
September	Ohigan	Autumn Equinox
November Memorial	Hoonko	Shinran Shonin
December	Jodo-e	Bodhi Day
December 31	Joya-e	Year End Service

A Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial) Service is held the first Sunday of each month.

Dharma School

Our Dharma School (Sunday School) has classes from preschool through high school. Our teachers are happy to discuss the appropriate level of spiritual enrichment for your student.

Monthly Discussions

In our discussions, we strive to experience the Buddha-Dharma with our entire selves – with our bodies (quiet sitting and other forms of meditation), voices (chanting and other liturgy) and minds (study and discussion).

Our sessions focus on ways in which Buddhist teaching and practice can impact our everyday lives. Each session will take up a different topic and you are welcome to attend any or all sessions.

All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Visitor Information

Please feel free to ask any of our greeters for information. We are here to assist you with whatever level of participation you may be seeking.

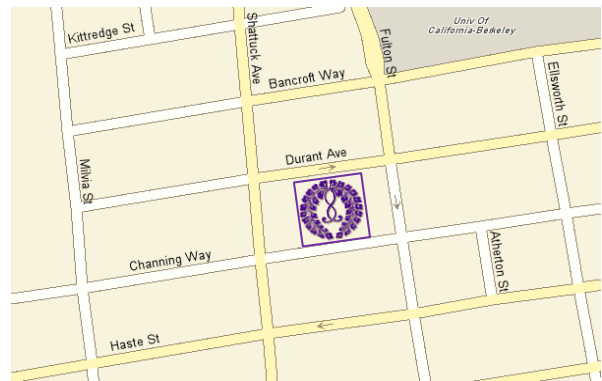
Whether you are here to satisfy a slight interest or to make a more personal connection, we wish you well and hope that you will be visiting us again soon.

Membership Information

Membership is open to all who view the Temple as their spiritual home and seek the Buddha-Dharma.

Kindly complete a [Membership Form](#), have your name entered in the membership roll and support the Temple through a pledge and participation.

For more information about becoming a member, visit our



[Registration](#) page, or contact our [Membership Chair](#).

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

2121 Channing Way
Berkeley, CA 94704

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
10:00am – 1:00pm

[510-841-1356](tel:510-841-1356)

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