



The Padma



January 2023

Berkeley Buddhist Temple Newsletter

Web-Edition

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Guidelines:

The Padma welcomes articles from sangha members.

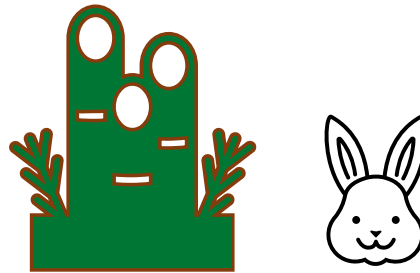
Articles should be around 500-600 words typed. Word documents are best; PDF documents are discouraged.

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 2023 *The Year of the Rabbit !!*



Padma - Notice of Change

The Padma is published monthly in three formats: a print edition which is mailed to recipients, a member-only online "e-Edition", and a "Web-Edition" for public distribution.

The list of donations received for special services and events is currently only published in the print edition of the Padma. However, with fewer people receiving the print edition, donation opportunities have become less visible. We are adjusting our policy to include the donation list in the "e-Edition" beginning with the March 2023 issue.

The donation page lists the event or occasion, donor name(s), and any special message submitted with the gift. Amounts are not included.

If you prefer **NOT** to have your name published in the member-only print and e-Editions of the Padma, please submit your "opt-out" preference to: padma@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org. We will list your donation as "Anonymous".

Note: Donation lists are not published in the Web-Edition.

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 2023

the Padma



BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

2121 CHANNING WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704

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



Future Dates to Remember

2022	Thu 29 Dec	Online Study Session BBT Dharmanar (Topic: Interdependence and Interpersonal Relationships)
	Sat 31 Dec	In-person Joya-E New Year's Eve Service
JANUARY	Sun 1 Jan	In-person Gantan-e New Year's Day Service
	Wed 4 Jan	Virtual Meditation & Discussion
	Sun 8 Jan	Livestream & In-person Shotsuki Memorial Service New Year Party
	Sun 15 Jan	Virtual Yoga after the service
	Wed 18 Jan	Virtual Meditation & Discussion

2023



Berkeley Buddhist
Temple

新年会



NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

Sun. January 8th, 2023

after the service

Join us in celebrating the New Year
with Mochitsuki, Taiko Performance,
and coffee social with
New Year bites!



www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org



Berkeley Buddhist Temple

UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC 29

THU. 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Sign up at:

<https://sanghaevents.info/dharmanar>

DHARMANAR

Join us for BBT's monthly online study session. December's topic is "Interdependence and Interpersonal Relationship". Rev. Kuwahara, Rev. CJ Dunford will give their presentations from their own perspective. Then we will discuss it after. All are welcome!

JAN 4, 18

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!

JAN 15

SUN. AFTER THE SERVICE

Join on zoom:

<https://sanghaevents.info/yoga>

VIRTUAL YOGA

Join us for a gentle yoga session by Hitomi Kuwahara that you can do while sitting on a chair or couch without a yoga mat. No experience or registration needed. Everyone is welcome!

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



Minister's Message by Rev. Kuwahara



“The Chinese Character for the Year 2022”

Around the middle of December, an annual calligraphy demonstration is held at the Kiyomizu Temple in Kyoto. The head monk of the temple writes one big Chinese character, which characterizes the year.

This calligraphy event is coordinated by the Japan Kanji Aptitude Testing Foundation. They gather ideas from all over Japan for the Chinese character that best represents the past year. From among this year's suggestions, the character that won the most votes and was chosen for the year 2022 is ^{ikusa} 戰, which carries the meanings “war”, “battle”, “fight”, and “conflict”. There is even a world conquest board game with this name.

This means Russia's invasion of Ukraine has captured people's attention throughout the year. Some people also connected this Chinese character with the “fights” on the football pitch at the World Cup in Qatar. Others mentioned the current fight against inflation.

In an interesting contrast, the Chinese character chosen last year was ^{kin} 金 (gold), because many Japanese athletes won gold medals in the Tokyo Olympics.

I personally enjoy this annual calligraphy demonstration. When I see it on the news, it signals the approach of the year-end and makes me curious about which character was chosen to represent it. Of course, I also enjoy monk's demonstration of the art of calligraphy.

How would you characterize the year 2022 with a single word? I agree with the choice of ^{ikusa} 戰. I've watched the news of Russian and Ukrainian warfare every day since February. It is tragic that so many people have been killed or injured, and the so many Ukrainians were forced to leave their homes and even their country. Infrastructure has been bombed and destroyed, so many people must survive the cold winter without heat, electricity, or water. So much money and resources have been spent for killing and destruction. This war has brought hardship and grief to thousands, even millions of people around the world, and will continue to do so for many years to come. It is my sincere hope that the leaders who are involved in this warfare become aware of how their decisions affect people's lives around the world and take immediate action to end the suffering.

When thinking about ^{ikusa} 戰, a phrase in the *Larger Sutra* came to my mind. (The *Larger Sutra* is one of the most important scriptures for the Pure Land Buddhist tradition and expounds the story of Amida Buddha and the Pure Land). This phrase describes the Pure Land: “...the people live in peace, so there is no need to use soldiers and weapons.” According to the basic tenet of Pure Land Buddhist tradition, we will be born there and attain Buddhahood after completing life in this samsara. It is true that Pure Land Buddhist tradition teaches the liberation from the life of

suffering in samsara and becoming a Buddha in the future. However, it is not only talking about the afterlife, but provides us with guidance in our present life as well.

For me, one way to describe Pure Land Buddhism is that it is the teaching of contrast. Amida Buddha is an enlightened being with boundless wisdom and compassion, while we are unenlightened beings (Jpn. *bonbu*) who lack wisdom and have difficulty practicing compassion. Amida Buddha's Pure Land is free from impurity while our world is filled with impurity, that is, greed, anger, and stupidity.

How deeply do we appreciate these contrasts? Consider the phrase from the *Larger Sutra*, "The people live in peace"; then ask yourself, "Do all of us live in peace?" Then consider the second half of the quote and ask, "Are we living in the world where there is no need to use soldiers and weapon?" The answers are definitely "No." Then ask, why? This is how we can start to honestly reflect on ourselves and the world around us. I believe recognizing the gap between the ideal and reality will guide us towards the awareness of who we really are or what this world actually is. Such an awareness would naturally cause us to change our actions.

When we listen, superficially, to the narratives in the Pure Land Buddhist scriptures, they sound like imaginary stories. It's difficult for many of us to find their connections to our everyday lives. However, when we listen to the scriptures more carefully, we become aware that something important is missing in our everyday lives. When we ask why, we can find the connections and the guidance to bring about change and improvement.

The Pure Land teaching is not only for our afterlife but for here and now as well. I would say it's not what to listen to but how to listen that matters. When more people in the world listen deeply and receive the awareness brought by the Dharma, we can build a world where people will suffer less from war, fight, and conflict.

In gassho (palms together),
Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara





“Right Speech and Christmas” by Diane Ames

Right speech should not generate pointless negativity or be ill-timed. For example, when your extended family is sitting around the table preparing to eat Christmas dinner, some things may be best left unsaid for the time being, like:

Parent to adult child: When are you going to get a better job than the one you have? Get married? Have children? Become more religious? Move back to the area? Get more exercise? Lose weight? Eat this turnip casserole that was Grandma’s recipe? How does this person you’re dating expect to make a living if (s)he’s majoring in English? What do you think of (a divisive political issue)?

Adult child to parent (as the turkey is brought out): Let me lecture you on why you should all go vegan. I have (he announces with no prior warning to the cook); but don’t worry, I’ll just eat salad and crackers. Dad, you shouldn’t eat soy sauce; you’re risking a stroke. Let me describe in graphic detail the awful consequences of strokes. In my concern for your health, I’ve given you a treadmill for Christmas; I just installed it in your home office. You can easily move it if you rent a forklift. And I think it’s time we had a serious discussion of (a divisive political issue).

One sister-in-law to another (whispers, but is easily overheard): Every year she pushes that turnip casserole that I can’t get down! And this turkey dressing is mushy. And she hasn’t properly cleaned the bathroom.

Another in-law: Did I tell you that I’m campaigning for Jim Controversial? I know that you all hate him, so I’m passing out lots of his campaign materials in the hopes of changing your minds. When I’m done, I’ll read Jim’s stump speech aloud. (He goes on until someone pushes him out the door.)

A third in-law: Can I have another martini? I know I’ve already drunk up the whole pitcher, but I’ll mix more while I tell you what I think of (a divisive political issue). (His wife shouts, “You’re drunk!”, they quarrel, the family has to pull them apart, and everyone gets drunk to try to forget another disastrous Christmas.)

Buddhist moral: Before you say something that you know the listener will not like, consider whether it’s really necessary to say it. If you decide that it is, consider whether it’s the time and place for it. Especially at Christmas.





A Book Review by Edythe Vassall

Friday Night Talks with D. T. Suzuki: On Shin Buddhism, Shinran, and Saichi

Translations by W. S. Yokoyama, Edited by Edythe Vassall, Published by the American Buddhist Study Center (ABSC)

D. T. Suzuki is best known for his writings on Zen Buddhism. However, in 1952, D. T. Suzuki gave a series of six talks at the American Buddhist Academy in New York. Five of them became the basis of the book *Shin Buddhism*, published in 1970. *Shin Buddhism* has been re-edited in English at least three times and translated into Italian, German, Spanish, Dutch, and Chinese.



Friday Night Talks with D. T. Suzuki presents an updated transcription of *Shin Buddhism*, plus several more of his writings on the topic. His speech “The Spirit of Shinran Shonin” is presented exactly as given in 1955 at the unveiling of the Shinran Shonin statue outside the New York Buddhist Church, and two essays: “What is Shin Buddhism?” (1956), and “My Perspective on Shin” (1962) are also included. There are new translations of several poems by the famous *myōkōnin* Saichi that Dr. Suzuki cites in his writings. Also included is “A Rambling Review of *Shin Buddhism*” by Ryūkyō Fujimoto, professor emeritus at Ryūkoku University.

Dr. Kenneth Tanaka writes, “...You are invited to savor the spiritual and intellectual world of the largest Buddhist tradition in Japan as Dr. Suzuki spins his magic with his provocative explanation of such key topics as Pure Land, Buddha’s Name, and Other-Power.”

This book was originally scheduled to come out in 2020 to celebrate Suzuki’s 150th birthday but, due to inconceivable causes and conditions, the world got put on hold for a while. *Friday Night Talks with D. T. Suzuki* is available on the ABSC website (ambuddhist.org) under ABSC New Publications and soon to be available on Amazon.



BBT Refreshed and Ready for the New Year !



Thank you very much for participating in the temple's annual cleaning on 12/11!

Over 50 members and friends came to help. The temple looks better than ever! Special thanks for the December toban for preparing breakfast and lunch for the helpers.

The temple is ready for the New Year!

(All photos courtesy of Jon Kawamoto)



Tidying



Polishing



Trimming



and even Washing Windows

November 20, 2022: Transgender Day of Remembrance Memorial Service

The Berkeley Buddhist Temple hosted the fifth annual Transgender Day of Remembrance Memorial Service on Nov. 20th. The hybrid (in-person and live-streamed) service was led by Rev. CJ Dunford (they/them/theirs), Midwest Buddhist Temple Minister's Assistant Shakutake Eli Ryn Brown (they/she/he), San Mateo Buddhist Temple Minister's Assistant Juliet Bost (they/them/theirs), and BBT Minister's Assistant Tara U. (she/her). To view the special service, go to the BBT YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ra2-2CMWRGM>



Shown, from left, are Rev. Dunford, Brown, Bost, and Tara U. (Courtesy of Jon Kawamoto)

November 27, 2022: BYR Guests

The BBT had many young Buddhist visitors at the Nov. 27th Dharma Family Service. The group of high school and college students were part of the BCA Youth Retreat (BYR) fall event at the Jodo Shinshu Center.

In all, 23 students from throughout the West Coast and Hawaii participated in the retreat. The daylong retreat was filled with fun, learning, ice breakers and workshops.



In the front row, from left, are: Tomoya Ryan (Fresno), Preston Sasaki (Orange County), Tesshin Aoyama (Orange County), Grace Matayoshi (Sacramento), Ellie Mizushima (Sacramento), Kianna Nakaoka (Florin), Molly Maseba (Sacramento), Izumi Ryan (Fresno), Mika Winner (Oregon), and Kathryn Nakahira (Orange County).

In the back row, from left, are: Josie Matsubayashi (Southern Alameda County), Kyle Sasaki (Orange County), Mitchell Maseba (Sacramento), Hyla Borrell (Oxnard), Zen Borrell (Oxnard), Andrew Matayoshi (Sacramento), Devon Akiyama (Florin/Berkeley), and Mayu Garner (Oregon).

Missing are: Naho Umitani (Moiliili Hongwanji in Hawaii), Zach Mauldin (Orange County), Ashley Mauldin (Orange County), Ava Yamamoto (San Diego), and Zora Uyeda-Hale (Berkeley). (Courtesy of Jon Kawamoto)

December 4, 2022: Bodhi Day

Bodhi Day commemorates Shakyamuni Buddha's attainment of enlightenment.



Lorin, Tony, and dii treated us to stirring renditions of dii's songs, "I Know We Can Be" and "We Are One".

Go to minute 34.00 of this YouTube video to enjoy their performance again:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kujnXesCz8w>

(All photos courtesy of Emiko Katsumoto)

The BBT Dharma School helped us observe this special day with a presentation of a Dharma Countdown. Counting down from 8 to 0, the students gave us a bite-sized summary of the Buddha Dharma with eloquence and lots of charm.



BBT Taiko: Watch for more classes in 2023

Berkeley Buddhist Temple Taiko is a weekly class based at the Berkeley Buddhist Temple teaching students the Japanese performance art of drumming called Taiko. We focus on moving our bodies for health, expression, and music.

Classes are taught by Kohtaro (Koh) Yamakawa and are held on Sundays at 1:30. The last session of the year was held on November 27th.

For information about the next session, email info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org. General inquiries can also be addressed to taiko@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org.



The November 2022 class gathered around Koh. (Photo courtesy of Kohtaro Yamakawa)



BBT Dharma School Newsletter



January 2023

January Schedule

1/1/2023	Gantan-E Service; no Dharma School classes
1/8/2023	Regular Dharma School classes
1/15/2023	Regular Dharma School classes
1/22/2023	Regular Dharma School classes
1/29/2023	Regular Dharma School classes

Share the Spirit Gratitude

The high school class would like to express their deep appreciation for all the gift cards and online donations to [Building Futures](#), the non-profit organization in San Leandro that supports women and families in crisis. The high school class raised over their goal of \$3,000, thanks to the generosity of BBT sangha families and individuals.

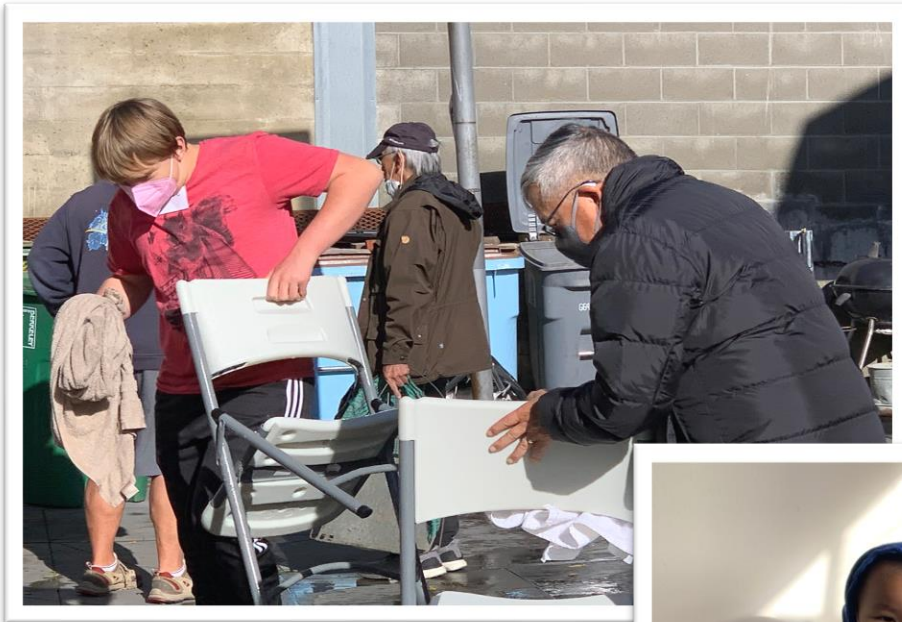
Happy Holidays!

Dharma School Students in Action

The Dharma School students had a busy month in December. They wrote winter greeting cards to many of the Keiro elders of the temple.

The students also rehearsed and presented a Dharma offering for Bodhi Day, written by our own Irene Sensei. From the youngest students holding the signs for our Dharma Countdown to the oldest students explaining difficult Buddhist concepts like emptiness, the Dharma School endeavored to involve everyone.

On Temple Clean-Up Day, many students helped to make the Dharma School classrooms clean and sparkly! **Thank you to Takato, Madi, Romare, Ajax, Sean, Ty, Parker, Eight, Hiroto, Rhys, Nathan, and Kori.** Special thanks to seventh grader Parker for demonstrating exceptional window-cleaning skills! ;-)





Community Outreach & BLEND

Every Friday from 10:00 am - 11:30 am, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Berkeley is open to provide canned goods, produce, bread, and a hot sandwich to anyone who needs it, missing only one Friday since they opened! Every Monday, volunteers come out to make bagged sandwich lunches to hand out to the Berkeley community. In collaboration with the Berkeley Food Network, Safeway, Acme Bread, and other food organizations, Good Shepherd is able to help make sure many families in the Berkeley, East Bay community have food to eat for the week.



Tara and Rev. CJ alongside the hard-working, dedicated volunteer community at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church's weekly Friday food distribution.

Reflections on volunteering at Good Shepherd Episcopal: Rev. CJ, Tara Umemoto, and Karen Sugiyama have been regular volunteers. Here's what the experience has meant to them.

Rev. CJ: I started volunteering with Tara at Good Shepherd early on in the pandemic, in the fall of 2020, I believe. It was a bit of a scary time because there weren't any vaccines yet, and we didn't know as much about COVID-19. For myself, I was sometimes worried about volunteering and possible exposure, especially because I live in a community setting at the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS) dorms. However, helping out at the church showed me that there are a lot of people who just didn't have the resources to take care of some of their basic needs, let alone isolate at home the way many of us have been able to. I've enjoyed the camaraderie with the Good Shepherd congregation and other volunteers, and I've gotten to know more about our broader Berkeley and East Bay community through simple conversations as I've helped them select their groceries. I've also learned a lot about myself, especially my own predispositions toward misunderstanding so many others in our community. Helping out at Good Shepherd has allowed me to cultivate new friendships, to learn about and experience the wonderful humanity that we all share across so many differences, and about the Buddhist values of dana and sangha. It's really been a wonderful experience in experiencing community by both giving and receiving love with people from many walks of life.

Karen Sugiyama: Tara and Rev. CJ invited me to help out one Friday, and it was at that event that I was asked if I was available to help with making sandwiches the following Monday. (One of the regulars was going to be out of town.) With some trepidation, I said, "yes", and I have been there almost every Monday morning since then. What was initially a stretch out of my comfort zone has become a special time in my weekly schedule. Meeting new people, experiencing their camaraderie, and sharing the tasks involved with making one simple meal have been eye-opening and invigorating.



Community Announcements

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BUDDHIST CHURCH PRESENTS:

FOREVER YOUNG REUNION DANCE PARTY

SATURDAY,
JAN 14, 2023



START FROM
7 PM TO 10 PM

MUSIC FROM THE 70S - 2000

PERFORMANCES BY

DJ TAKA (REV. TAKASHI MIYAJI & REV BRIDGE . DJ
YAMIX . SPECIAL GUEST DJS!

LIGHT APPETIZERS . BEVERAGES . DANCING

\$25 EVENTBRITE TICKET FOR 18+

\$10 EVENTBRITE FOR 13-17

FREE FOR CHILDREN 12 & UNDER

MORE INFO AT SACBCEVENTS@GMAIL.COM

32975 ALVARADO-NILES RD. UNION CITY, CA 94587 |
[TINYURL.COM/SACBCFOREVERYOUNGDANCE](https://tinyurl.com/sacbcforeveryoungdance)

Grateful Crane Ensemble PRESENTS

SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY: A NISEI LIFE IN SONG



Join us for this special show in tribute to our Nisei generation as the Grateful Crane Ensemble from Los Angeles takes you on a sentimental journey through the Nisei's life in America before, during and after WWII. Featuring over 20 of the Nisei's favorite Japanese and American songs, the show promises to bring back fond memories of their lives well-lived as we say "Thank you" to them for paving the way for the younger generations to follow.

Written by Soji Kashiwagi

Featuring Jason Fong | Haruye Ioka | Keiko Kawashima | Merv Maruyama

Musicians Lisa Joe, Musical Director/Piano | Danny Yamamoto, Drums

Saturday, March 18, 2023 | 12:30 p.m.

Freight & Salvage

2020 Addison Street | Downtown Berkeley

TICKETS

General Admission: \$35.00 (plus fees) | Seniors (65+): \$30.00 (plus fees)

Groups (10 or more): \$25.00 (plus fees)

To reserve tickets online, go to this link:

<https://secure.thefreight.org/12064/grateful-crane-ensemble-performance>



COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, January 8, 2023, 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 Jitsutarō 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

2022 Membership Pledges (Receiving Period: 11/4/2022 – 12/8/2022)

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

Masako Hane

Beryl Potter

Have you taken care of your 2022 dues yet?

Complete a membership form and pay with a credit card online

OR

Download a membership form and mail it with your check
to the Berkeley Buddhist Temple



<https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/become-a-member>

New Member Spotlight



Photo courtesy of Jon Kawamoto

BBT welcomes Hamed Kooshesh!

Hamed works as a technician for an IT solutions company. He's also an MBA student in information systems at Lincoln University in Oakland.

He found out about the Berkeley Buddhist Temple online and said: "As soon as I checked out the website, I told myself to give it a try!"

"I had such a nice experience on the first day attending a Sunday service — I was welcomed more than I had expected," he said.

"I chose Berkeley Buddhist Temple because, first, I like the lectures. They are meaningful and presented in a friendly way. Second, I think the community is amazing and has a good vibe, and last but not least, the volunteers are so friendly, helpful, and supportive."

Again, welcome Hamed — we're happy to have you as a Sangha member!

If you have any questions, please contact Mimi Kagehiro at membership@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org or 510-841-1356.

TOBAN

Coordinators - Lena Yin & Pat Takeda

December 2022	January 2023
<p>Cochair - Lena Yin Cochair - Miri Nikaidoh Cochair - Yuki Otake</p> <p>Fujikawa, Darren & Courtney *Hane, Masako Leo, Kim & Vera Lindquist, Eric & Mary McGuire, Jeff & Robin Nikaidoh, Mia Nikaidoh, Skye Nikaidoh, Takashi & Miri *Nishikado, Nobuko *Otake, Gene & Yuki Steimetz, Satoshi & Elaine *Tsuda, Toshio & Elaine Yokoyama Vargas Castaneda, Marcela Wollbrinck, Billy Yin, George & Lena</p>	<p>Chair - Caroline Fernandez Cochair - Miki Adachi Cochair - Evelyn Nakano Glenn</p> <p>Adachi, Miki Dunford, CJ *Fernandez, Willie & Caroline *Glenn, Evelyn Nakano Hirahara, Alan *Kashiwagi, Sadako Lewis, Dii & Joyce Oishi *Matsubara, Fumi Matsumoto, Rev David & Diane Matsuoka, Pam Menda, Bradley & Myron Jung *Nakashita, Chizuko *Nehira, Jimmy & Janie *Okamura, Dennis & Mary *Siebold, Bill *Yamauchi, Norma</p>

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



Memorial Schedule

Berkeley Buddhist Temple holds memorial services (Shotsuki Hoyo) on the first Sunday of every month in memory of those whose date of death falls in that month. To add the name of a family member or friend to our Shotsuki list, please contact the temple office.



Special memorial services may also be held on the anniversary years listed in the schedule below.

Memorial services are a way to keep the memory of our loved ones alive, and to express our gratitude for all that they have done to make our lives possible.



2023 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).

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
2022	1 st Year
2021	3 rd Year
2017	7 th Year
2011	13 th Year
2007	17 th Year
1999	25 th Year
1991	33 rd Year
1974	50 th Year
1924	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.

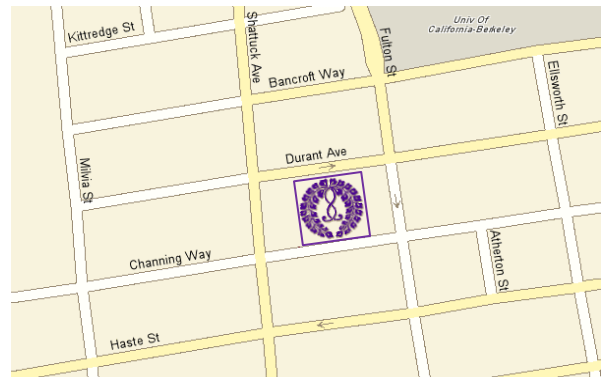
Whether you are here to satisfy a slight interest or to make a more personal connection, we wish you well and hope that you will be visiting us again soon.

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

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