



The Padma



March 2022

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.



SATURDAY, MARCH 12 • 11AM – 4PM
 DOWNTOWN BERKELEY - HAROLD WAY & KITTRIDGE

ASIAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL

A CELEBRATION OF ASIAN DIVERSITY & CULTURE

FOOD • DANCE • MUSIC • CRAFTS • ART • ACTIVITIES • FILM



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

March 2022

the Padma



BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

2121 CHANNING WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Berkeley Buddhist Temple (510) 841-1356 berkeleybuddhisttemple.org info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org facebook.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple youtube.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple		1	2 7:00p Virtual Meditation	3	4	5
6 9:30a Virtual Dharma Family & Shotsuki Service 10:15a Virtual Yoga	7	8 7:00p Board of Director's Meeting	9	10	11	12 <i>Padma Articles Due</i>
13 9:30a Virtual BCA Eitaikyo Service (No BBT Service)	14	15 Padma Newsletter Production	16 7:00p Virtual Meditation	17	18	19
20 9:30a Virtual Dharma Family Service 10:15a Virtual Yoga	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 9:30a Virtual Dharma Family & Spring Ohigan Service	28	29	30	31 6:30p Dharmanar		



Dates to Remember

F E B R U A R Y	Thu 24 Feb	Virtual BBT Dharmanar (Online Study Session; Topic Amida Buddha)
	Sun 27 Feb	Livestream Dana Day Service <i>(Conducted by High School Students)</i>
M A R C H	Wed 2 Mar	Virtual Evening Meditation & Discussion
	Sun 6 Mar	Livestream Shotsuki Memorial Service Virtual Yoga
	Sun 13 Mar	Virtual BCA Eitaikyo Service <i>(No BBT Service)</i>
	Wed 16 Mar	Virtual Evening Meditation & Discussion
	Sun 20 Mar	Livestream Dharma Family Service Virtual Yoga
	Sun 27 Mar	Livestream Spring Ohigan Service
	Thu 31 Mar	Virtual BBT Dharmanar (Online Study Session; Topic TBD)



Temple Announcements

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Evening Meditation & Discussion



Wednesdays:

1/ 5 , 1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/2,
and 3/16, 2022

7 - 8PM

Zoom

RSVP:

<https://sanghaevents.info/meditation>

Questions:

info@berkeleybuddhisttemp
le.org
(510)841-1356

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

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Virtual Tera Yoga



Instructor:
Hitomi Kuwahara



Sunday:
1/16, 2/6, 2/20, 3/6, and
3/20, 2022

Immediately after the
service

Zoom

No sign up required

Join on zoom:
<https://sanghaevents.info/yoga>

Questions:
info@berkeleybuddhisttemp
le.org
(510)841-1356

*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!*

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

BBT Dharmanar

Monthly Online Study Session



**February
2022
TOPIC**

AMIDA BUDDHA

Join us for BBT's monthly study session. February's topic is "Amida Buddha". Rev. Kuwahara and Rev. CJ will give their presentations from their own perspective. Then we will discuss it after.

Thu. Feb 24, 6:30 - 8PM

RSVP here:

<https://sanghaevents.info/dharmanar>



www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org



BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Satsuki Bazaar

Sunday, May 22, 2022!

3 Ways to Participate!

- 1. Bento Dinner for Purchase:** A tasty bento and drive through pick up! Stay tuned for menu, pricing and pick up options in early May.
- 2. Keiro Bento Delivery:** We will be reaching out to BBT keiro in early May for orders to be delivered. Please email: bbs.bazaar.rmccguire@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer as a driver!
- 3. Online Fundraiser:** We are seeking to raise an additional **\$40,000** for BBT operational expenses in 2022. The campaign will run from March 1, 2022 - May 21, 2022. The link to donate to the fundraiser will be available by March 1, 2022!

Online Fundraiser - Suggested Giving Levels

Gratitude Level: \$50 and under

Metta Level: \$51-\$125 (average Bazaar expenditures)

Dana Level: \$126-\$350

Three Treasures Level: \$351-\$500

Golden Chain Level: \$501-\$1,000+

THANK YOU!



BCA JR YBA SUMMIT EVENT

EXCHANGING AND CREATING IDEAS FOR
YOUR JR YBA ORGANIZATION

04.16
2022
2pm (PT)

ABOUT THIS EVENT

Jr YBA leaders will discuss the challenges they have had to overcome over the past 2 years. And together will develop new ways to engage and grow our organizations.

REGISTER

<https://tinyurl.com/2vx57pm5>

✉ bkmizushima@bcahq.org

REMINDER: Submit applications for the 2022 Nitta Scholarship by April 30, 2022 !

See the following email from the FDSTL Nitta Scholarship Committee:

Hello everyone,

Hoping everyone is healthy and well!

Greetings on behalf of the FDSTL Nitta Scholarship Committee. Attached please find a hardcopy of the 2022 Nitta Scholarship application. We are requesting all submission of materials online. Here is the link to the website:

<https://sites.google.com/view/nitta-scholarship>

Please have your applicants follow the instructions within to create their own folder for submissions.

For letters of recommendation, the writer may add to the student's folder or submit directly to:

nittascholarship@gmail.com

We hope to see many applications from your eligible youth!

Remember, the deadline for submission is April 30, 2022.

Thank you for supporting our youth and the long reaching wishes of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Nitta!

In Gassho,
Darlene Bagshaw
FDSTL Nitta Scholarship Chair



Community Announcements

BERKELEY NIKKEI STUDENT UNION PRESENTS

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Honoring 80 years after EO 9066

CO-SPONSORED BY JAWAUCB

TILDEN ROOM (MLK STUDENT UNION)
FEBRUARY 18, 2022 AT 6:20 PM
DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM

FEATURING SPEAKERS FROM:
- MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION
- CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE: REDRESS NOW
FOR JAPANESE LATIN AMERICANS

Bay Area Day Of Remembrance 2022

**NO ONE IS FREE
UNTIL WE ARE ALL FREE**

80 Years after E.O. 9066

Saturday, February 19, 2022

5:00-6:30 PM PST

Virtual Zoom Event

To register: <https://bit.ly/3nQ4wD7>

PROGRAM

*Keynote Speaker: **Jon Osaki***

Filmmaker & Executive Director, JCYC

*Emcee: **Dr. Emily Murase***

Executive Director, Japantown Task Force

Clifford I. Uyeda Peace & Humanitarian Award:

Karen Kai & Robert Rusky (posthumous)

*Performances by: **Jerry Waki & Anthony Brown***

Virtual Candlelighting Ceremony

*Interfaith Benediction: **Japanese American
Religious Federation (JARF)***

*Call to Action: **Black & Japanese Latin American
Reparations Now!***

For more info: www.njahs.org (415) 921-5007 njahs@njahs.org



**Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and
800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching**

In conjunction with the

17th World Buddhist Women's Convention

scheduled for May 10-12, 2023 in

Kyoto, Japan!

Hello All! A reminder that Nishi Hongwanji, our mother temple in Kyoto, Japan, will be holding an observance for the birth of our founder and the beginning of this religious school. In conjunction with this, the World Buddhist Women's Association will hold an international conference. This will all take place during the week of **May 10-12, 2023**.

If you are interested in going to Japan with the Bay District Tour Group, please let me know by:

FEBRUARY 20TH

This is not a commitment, but I need to get a rough count for planning purposes such as flights, hotel rooms, reservations, etc. If you are coming to this trip, please plan on going to the World Buddhist Women's Convention, as this is the intended purpose of the trip and capacity is limited. Thank you very much and I hope to hear from you soon! Gassho.

Gishin.tmiyaji@gmail.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 12 • 11AM – 4PM
DOWNTOWN BERKELEY - HAROLD WAY & KITTREDGE



ASIAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL

A CELEBRATION OF ASIAN DIVERSITY & CULTURE



FOOD

THAI, NEPALESE,
SRI LANKAN, INDIAN,
BURMESE AND MORE!



DANCE

NEPALESE TRADITIONAL DANCE
THAI CULTURAL DANCE



MUSIC

JAPANESE TAIKO DRUMS



**CRAFTS, ART
& ACTIVITIES**



FILM

PREMIERE:
THE MOUNTAIN PATH

SCAN QR CODE OR GO TO WEBSITE FOR TIMES & DETAILS



SCAN ME



**BERKELEY
BUDDHIST TEMPLE**



**DHARMA
COLLEGE**



DOWNTOWNBERKELEY.COM/ASIANCULTURALFESTIVAL

COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 9:30am

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

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

Ryoichi Roy Anzai	Yutaka Matoba	Marie Shiromoto
Thomas Arima	Naoya Matoba	Fusao Tagumi
Kimiyo Sakurai Bloom	Frank T. Matsui	Fujiye Takaha
Toshiko Ehara	Glenn Matsunaga	Tametaro Takahashi
Satoru T. Fujikawa	Yoichiro Matsunaga	Wataru Takahashi
Keiko Imagawa Fukui	Seizo Mayeda	Haruko Takemori
Masao Handa	Aiko Miike	Akira Takemori
James E. Hansen	Ben Morita	Tsuneyo Tanaka
Mary Fumiko Haraguchi	Dean M. Muranishi	Hisayo Tasaki
Jinichi Hashizu	Yukito R. Nagahisa, Sr	Masako Terazawa
Toki Hataye	Denji Nakabayashi	Yukino Terazawa
Kiyoshi Hayate	William Nakatani	Tomeko Tsuchihashi
Tom Tamotsu Hataye	Frank Takazo Nishikai	Gregory Jun Unno
Shizuo Hiramoto	Tamako Yamagishi Nishikai	Katsumi Unoki
Junian Hirooka	Tokuo Nitta	Naoki Wakaye
Willy Osamu Ide	Hayaji Oda	Waki Wakaye
Kusuo Jimmy Inadomi	Kazuko Oda	Kyujiro Waki
Sumi Irikin	Masami Oda	Kyo Waki
Mitsue Ishizue	Misao Hiramoto Okano	Mary Chiseko Wakida
Thomas T. Kimura	Minoru Oki	Tomo Watamura
Richard Shinto Kurakazu	Akira Okita	Osamu Sam Yamauchi
James Kurata	Masae Onizuka	Ann Toyomi Yamoto
Rev. Haruyoshi Kusada	Chiyome Sakamoto	Michizo Yokota
Henry Hiroo Kuwada	Tokutarō Sato	Hatsuyo Yokoyama
Amy Kuwada	Etsu Sato	Kiyoji Bill Yokoyama
Chiyo Kuwai	Judd Masami Sato	Takashi Yoshimura
Shizuo Matoba		

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



“Amida Buddha’s Aspirations”

by Rev. Kuwahara



Even I, who have no aspirations, have aspirations bestowed on me.

onore nega nega mi
己に願いはなくとも願いをかけられた身だ

Rev. Shoju Fujimoto

While I serve the Berkeley Buddhist Temple, I also work for the Jodo Shinshu International Office (JSIO). JSIO develops programs to share Amida Buddha’s wisdom and compassion with people around the world. One of the programs is publication. We are currently working on a booklet titled *Gleanings on the Pure Land*.

In Japan, there is a Jodo Shinshu calendar with a monthly quote from Buddhist scriptures and a poem composed by a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist. Jodo Shinshu ministers and members wrote short articles on those quotes and poems, and there are 96 articles in all. *Gleanings on the*

Pure Land is the collection of these articles. They were translated into English by Rev. Gene Sekiya of the Hongwanji International Center in Kyoto.

In the course of my editorial work, I had the opportunity to read all of articles. The poem by Rev. Fujimoto is one of “gleanings”. Rev. Fujimoto speaks of “aspirations”. The original Japanese word is *negai* 願い, which could be also translated as “wish”. What kind of *negai* he is talking about? We all have many wishes and aspirations, so why does he talk about having “no aspirations”? The aspirations here are not secular ones, but the aspiration to attain Buddhahood and be liberated from the life of suffering.

As stated in the Three Treasures, we are so fortunate to have encountered the Buddha Dharma. But how many of us can maintain our focus on the primary goal of Buddhism, to attain Buddhahood and be liberated from the life of suffering? Instead, our minds are filled with secular aspirations which arise from our self-centeredness and blind passions. When our wishes don’t come true, we complain and may even blame others.

There is a Buddha who sincerely and tirelessly aspires for the attainment of Buddhahood and liberation from the life of suffering for all beings. This is Amida Buddha. All beings are universally and equally embraced within this Buddha’s compassionate aspiration.

The heart of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism is that Amida Buddha’s aspiration matters, not the aspirations of the practitioner. Unlike some religious traditions, practitioners are not required to make disciplined efforts to actualize their wishes or aspirations. Because of Amida Buddha’s compassionate aspiration and rigorous efforts, our attainment of Buddhahood is assured. This unique path is called Amida Buddha’s “Primal Vow” (Jpn. *Hongwan*) and is ascribed to the expression of “Other Power”. Our wonder, appreciation, and entrustment of this work of Amida Buddha is called *shinjin*. The Nembutsu recitation of *Namo Amidabutsu* is a verbal expression of our grateful response to Amida Buddha.

Nothing begins without our realizing that these aspirations are bestowed on us. Deeply listen to the teaching of Amida Buddha and consider why Buddha’s aspirations matter, not our own. The more deeply we know of this Buddha’s aspirations, the more deeply we realize who we really are and how we live our everyday lives. Such realization will also bring changes and improvements to the way we live our everyday lives.

In gassho (palms together),
Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara



“A Peculiarly Buddhist Emergency”

by Diane Ames

“I know it’s midnight, Mr. Ames,” said the manager of the House of Methuselah Assisted Living Facility. “But it’s an emergency, and you’re our only expert on Buddhist philosophy. Maggie Ratlos, who is 87 years old and in a wheelchair, is moving from Stockton into the House of Methuselah. But her furniture is late because the driver of the moving truck has suddenly fallen into a wrong view, namely the nihilist position that the Buddhist doctrine of emptiness or *sunyata* means that nothing is real. He’s sitting somewhere beside the highway, babbling that if his truck is not real, how can he drive it?”



I hurried to comfort Maggie Ratlos, while Bill, my husband, telephoned the truck driver. “Look,” he said. “The great sage Nagarjuna never meant that emptiness meant nonexistence. He would say that your truck (and everything else) is empty because it meets four criteria: First, it is empty because it exists only in dependence on myriad causes and conditions. It is only here because there were iron mines, steel mills, a truck factory, and so on and on. Second, it is made up of parts. The tires are not the truck, the engine is not the truck, the battery is not the truck, and so on; only when these and numerous other parts are put together in a certain order do you have the truck. Third, it is constantly seen to change. Like all truck drivers, you can testify that there is something different wrong with that truck every day. And fourth, it is impermanent. All trucks must eventually break down and be scrapped. So your truck is what we term empty, but just as Nagarjuna wrote that an empty cart can still carry hay, your empty truck can be driven to San Rafael to deliver the empty furniture to Ms. Ratlos’s empty apartment.”

“Yes, it’s empty!” sobbed Maggie Ratlos. “No furniture, no bed, nothing!”

After hearing this, the truck driver delivered the furniture and then drove to Sravasti Abbey in Washington to become a Buddhist monk.



Dharma School

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Dharma School Newsletter

March 2022

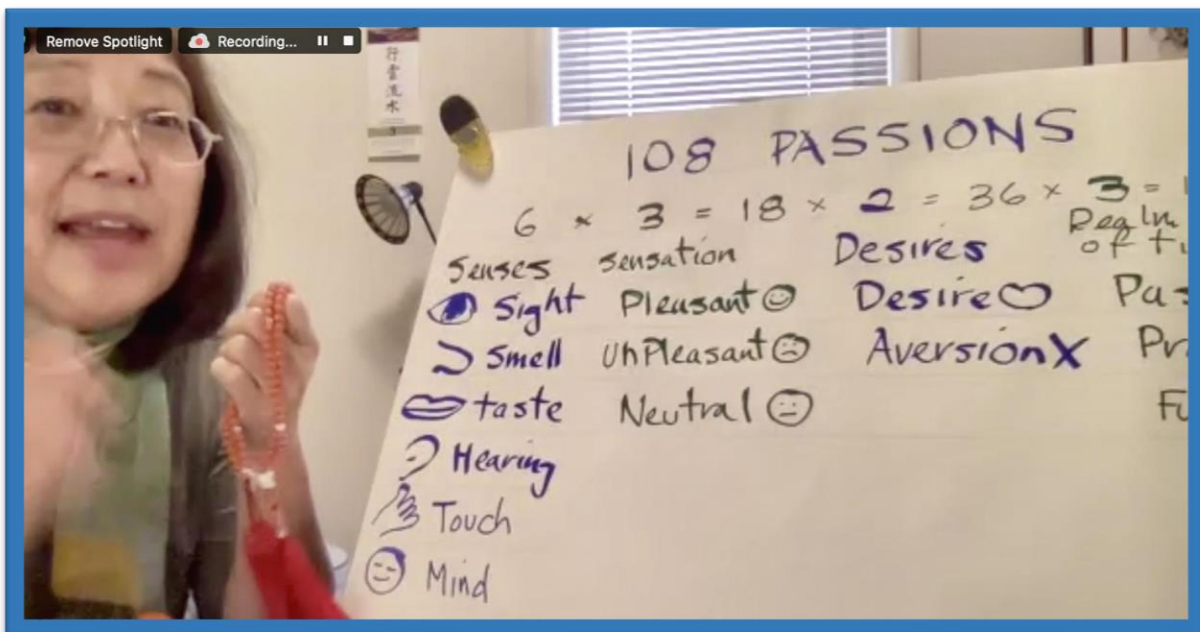
Dharma School Responding to COVID

Out of an abundance of caution, the Dharma School will return to Zoom classes for the entire month of February. We will continue to confer with the Temple COVID Committee on a month-to-month basis as the pandemic situation develops.

March Calendar

Note: Please refer to this monthly calendar. Use this email if you need the Zoom link: bbtdharmaschool@gmail.com.

3/6/2022	Zoom	DFS/March Shotsuki	Regular Dharma School Classes
3/13/2022	Zoom	BCA Eitaikyo Service	Regular Dharma School Classes
3/20/2022	Zoom	DF Service	Regular Dharma School Classes
3/27/2022	Zoom	DFS/Spring Ohigan	Regular Dharma School Classes



Irene Sensei teaches the Dharma School students on Zoom about the 108 passions.

Dharma School Alumni Sighting

We hope to feature former BBT Dharma School students in the Padma as much as possible. Here's our first one:



Andy Yamashita, who grew up in Kensington and graduated from Berkeley High School, attended college at University of Washington at Seattle. He recently accepted a full-time position with the *Las Vegas Review Journal* as a sports journalist!

Andy's father, George Yamashita, called it a "dream job" for Andy and said, "He's excited to work there, as there are writers on staff that he is eager to learn from, and be mentored by."

Congratulations, Andy!
We're so proud of you!!

We would love to know how your children or grandchildren are doing after Dharma School. If you can share a story and a photo, please contact Stacy Uyeda at: btdharmaschool@gmail.com.



Membership & Toban

Membership Pledges (Receiving Period: 1/15/2022 – 2/7/2022)

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

- Alyce Furuya,
- Jon Gwaltney,
- Harold & June Sano,
- Mae Takeda

Welcome to our Sangha !

The temple would also like to welcome:

- new member, Jon Gwaltney
- new college member, LauraLee Sweeney.

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

TOBAN

Coordinators - Lena Yin & Pat Takeda

March	April
<p>Cochair - Tony Hale Cochair - Scott Wakida</p> <p>*Adachi, Dick Akiyama, Devon Fisher, Rebekka (MN) Fukumori, Noreen Gabriel, Susan Hale, Tony & Stacy Uyeda Ide, Ritsuko Kamimura, Yoshio & Junko Kaneko-Jones, Cathy Masuda, Rev Will & Kiyo Nishihara, Alan Sugihara, Mark Sugihara, Wayne *Taketa, Mieko Umemoto, Tara Wakida, Scott & Sheila</p>	<p>Chair – Akemi Hamai Cochair – Bob Matsueda</p> <p>Aldrich, Collette Ames, Diane Fukumori, Naomi Hamai, Akemi & Amy Haruyama *Hamai, Lucy Horstein, Scott & Antonia Glenn *Kami, Frank Kawakami, Keiko Matsueda, Bob & Ranko Yamada Nolan, Paul & Sara Jotoku Omori, Laurie Roueche, Akira Sakurai, Dennis Shinsako, Glenn & Amy *Wakida, Alice Yamashita, Andy</p>

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



Condolences

Berkeley Buddhist Temple expresses condolences and deep sympathy

To the Family of

Mr. Roy Wakida

January 22, 1931 – February 8, 2022

Namo Amida Butsu

Namo Amida Butsu

Namo Amida Butsu



2022 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>
2021	1 st Year
2020	3 rd Year
2016	7 th Year
2010	13 th Year
2006	17 th Year
1998	25 th Year
1990	33 rd Year
1973	50 th Year
1923	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.

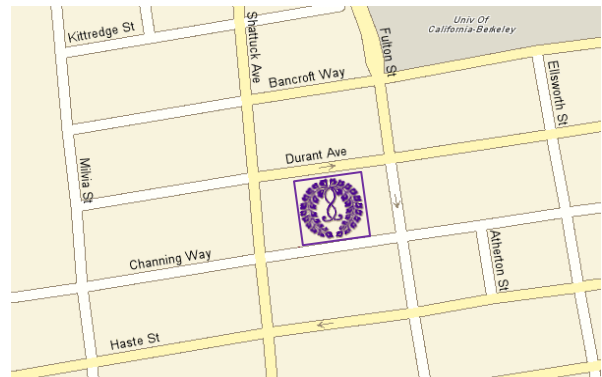
Whether you are here to satisfy a slight interest or to make a more personal connection, we wish you well and hope that you will be visiting us again soon.

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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