

#### **April 2023 Berkeley Buddhist Temple Newsletter**

**Web-Edition** 

#### In This Issue:

April Calendar2
Future Dates to Remember3
BBT Upcoming Events4
Minister's Message6
Diane Ames8
Temple News9
Dharma School Newsletter14
BCA Announcements16
Community Announcements 17
Shotsuki Memorial Service19
Membership & Toban20
Condolences 21

#### **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

#### It's Baaack....



For more details, see page 9.

#### 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

# **April 2023**

# the Padma



BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPI	LE	21	21 CHANNING WAY,	BERKELEY, CA 947	04	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family & Shotsuki Memorial Service 11:30a Buddhist Education Class	3	4	7:00p Meditation & Discussion	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family & Hanamatsuri Hatsumairi Service 1:30p Taiko Class		<b>7:00p</b> Board of Director's Meeting				Padma Articles Due
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family & Pet Memorial 11:30a Buddhist Education Class 1:30p Taiko Class	,	Padma Newsletter Production `				
23	24	25	26	27	28	2
9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family Service 1:30p Taiko Class				6:30p Dharmanar		
9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family Service 1:30p Taiko Class					Berkeley Buddhist Temple (510) 841-1356 berkeleybuddhisttemple.org info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org facebook.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple youtube.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple	



# **Future Dates to Remember**

	Thu	Virtual
M	<b>30</b> Mar	BBT Dharmanar (Topic: Larger Sutra 1)
A	Sun	Livestream & In-person
R	2	Shotsuki Memorial Service
$\mathbf{C}$	Apr	Buddhist Education Class
$\mathbf{H}$	Wed	Virtual
11	5	Meditation & Discussion
/	Aprr	Weditation & Discussion
A	Sun	Livestream & In-person
P	9	Hanamatsuri & Hatsumairi Service
	Apr	
R	Sun	Livestream & In-person
I	<b>16</b>	Pet Memorial Service
L	Apr	Buddhist Education Class
	Thu	Virtual
	<b>27</b>	BBT Dharmanar (Topic: Larger Sutra 2)
	Mar	



#### Berkeley Buddhist Temple

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### APRIL 5

WED. 7:00 - 8:00 PM

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

MAR. 30

THU. 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Join on zoom: sanghaevents.info/dharmanar

#### **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!

#### **DHARMANAR**

Join us for BBT's monthly online study session. We will focus on Buddhist sutras this year. In the March session, we will learn the Larger Sutra (part 1). Rev. Kuwahara, Rev. CJ, and 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/

**Links**: Readers may have noticed, the graphics in this newsletter are all image files. Embedded links in flyers are not active and this can be frustrating. To mitigate this issue, we are listing the referenced links below.

- BBT Website
- BBT Meditation Registration
- BBT Dharmanar Registration
- SACBC SakuraJams Tickets
- BYR & Bay District Leaders Workshop Registration
- CBE YouTube Channel
- BYR 6 Summer Retreat Registration

#### HATSUMAIRI 2023

#### Sunday, April 9 at 9:30a.m.

HATSUMAIRI (Infant Presentation Ceremony) is a ceremony in which your child or grandchild is presented to Amida Buddha for the first time. The ceremony also introduces your child or grandchild to the Sangha and welcomes him/her to the Dharma. The ceremony will be in person as well as livestreamed on Sunday, April 9 at 9:30a.m. during the Hanamatsuri Service. If you would like your child and/or grandchild to be in this ceremony, please complete the form below and return it by Friday, March 31, 2023 to the temple office.

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## HATSUMAIRI CEREMOMY APPLICATION FORM

**APRIL 9,2023** 

Child's Full Name:	
Child's Date of Birth	
Parent's Name(s):	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Phone Number:	
E-mail Address:	

Application Due: Friday, March 31, 2023

Questions? info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org

Berkeley Buddhist Temple 2121 Channing Way, Berkeley CA 94704 1(510)841-1356



# Minister's Message by Rev. Kuwahara



# "The River and Its Banks / Our Lives and Amida Buddha's Vow"

The weekend of March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> was a big one for the Berkeley Buddhist Temple. Inviting Rev. Marvin Harada, Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America, we held the Spring *Ohigan* Seminar on Saturday and the Spring *Ohigan* Service on Sunday. In conjunction with the *Ohigan* Service, Bishop Harada officiated the *Kieshiki* Affirmation Ceremony. I would like to express my deep gratitude to those who attended the seminar and service. I also offer my sincere congratulations to the *Kieshiki* Ceremony participants who affirmed their life as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists and received their Buddhist names.

Ohigan is a special service conducted twice a year in observance of the equinox days in March and September. This Japanese Buddhist tradition started in the 10<sup>th</sup> century. People noticed that on the equinox days, the sun sets due west. In Buddhism, it is taught that Amida Buddha's Pure Land or the realm of Nirvana is located in the west. Because of this connection, the equinox days are good occasions to reflect on our way of life as Buddhists and reaffirm our commitment to the teaching.

Ohigan literally means "other shore." According to a Buddhist thought, we live on the shore of suffering, which is called *samsara* in Buddhism. The goal of Buddhism is to be liberated from this shore of suffering and to reach the other shore, which is called nirvana.

This geographical image of crossing a river to reach the other shore always reminds me of this poem.



Banks always accompany the river

Amida Buddha's Primal Vow always accompanies us

Banks are for the river

Amida Buddha's Primal Vow is for us

川にそって岸がある 私にそって本願がある 川のための岸 私のための本願

This poem was composed by Rev. Yoshio Toi (1912-1991), a Japanese Jodo Shinshu priest and one of my favorite teachers. I had never thought of the inseparableness between river and its banks until I encountered this poem. There is no river that does not have banks on both sides. In the same way, no bank can exist without a river. They exist inseparably and interdependently. All rivers, big or small, rivers with clean water or dirty water, are always accompanied by their banks. It could be said that banks accompany and guide the river on its journey to the ocean.

In the relationship between the river and its banks, Rev. Toi also saw the inseparableness between Amida Buddha's Primal Vow and our existence. We are always accompanied and embraced by Amida Buddha's compassion regardless of wherever, whenever or whoever we are. Furthermore, Amida Buddha's compassion stays with and guides us toward the great ocean of nirvana, just as banks accompany the river until it runs into the ocean.

As we deeply listen to the teaching of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, we will come to realize the compassionate works of Amida Buddha and appreciatively live with them.

In gassho (palms together),

Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara



# One Day at the Allergist's by Diane Ames

"We may have found the cause of your husband's long, miserable bout with eczema," said the allergist as she whipped out her guitar and sang:

Oh, he has allergies by the number,
Sensitivities by the score.

Everything that touches him
Just makes him break out more.



"Why did he have to get eczema?" I sniffed. "Why?"

"Everybody eventually falls ill, if only with their last, fatal illness," said the allergist, "The Buddha pointed out that disease is an inevitable part of human life. He himself died of food poisoning. A particular illness occurs because of myriad causes and conditions, such as, in the case of Bill's eczema, heredity, multiple allergies, and pandemic stress."

"The Buddha also told us to take care of the sick," said the nurse. "He said, 'He who serves the sick serves me.' The new eczema drug and using this hypoallergenic gunk as soap, shampoo, and laundry detergent will probably cause very gradual improvement in Bill's eczema over the next few months. We know it can be hard to wait for uncertain recovery; but even if the sick and their families can do nothing else, they should try to develop the paramita of patience. While Bill waits, there are soothing lotions and the solace of the nembutsu."



# **Temple News**

## The Satsuki Bazaar Is Back and In-Person!



In 2018, internationally acclaimed taiko master Kenny Endo and his Ensemble performed at the BBT's Satsuki Bazaar and Arts Festival. (Archival Photo Courtesy of Jon Kawamoto)

#### It's back!

The BBT's 73rd annual Satsuki Bazaar returns as an in-person event for the first time since 2019 from 12 noon to 7 p.m. on May 21.

Entertainment will be held from 12 noon to 3 p.m. The BBT Taiko group will be among the performers.

The Satsuki will feature some of the great food choices like before — the BBT's signature BBQ steak dinner, kalua pork plate, vegetarian curry, udon, manju, sushi, and baked goods.

You are encouraged to preorder the BBQ steaks at: <a href="https://sanghaevents.info/satsukisteak">https://sanghaevents.info/satsukisteak</a>



The Satsuki is the BBT's major fundraiser of the year. Donations may be made at: <a href="https://sanghaevents.info/satsukifundraiser">https://sanghaevents.info/satsukifundraiser</a>

The silent auction will be online. The auction link will be available in early May.

# BBT Sangha Members Attend Bay District's 850/800<sup>th</sup> Special Service

Article and photos courtest of Jon Kawamoto.

More than 25 BBT Sangha members attended the Bay District's joint service of the 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shinran Shonin's birth and the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Jodo Shinshu teachings on March 12 at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple (PABT).

Despite the morning's heavy rains, a capacity crowd estimated at 300 people attended the special service.

Bishop Rev. Marvin Harada was the officiant. All of the Bay District ministers from the nine Bay District temples, including BBT Supervising Minister Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara, were in attendance.

The BBT Gagaku group performed during the ministers' procession into the Hondo and the officiant descension ("Ko-raiban").

And Bay District President Bradley Menda — who is also BBT President — gave the words of appreciation.



Mr. Wooden and our luxury bus.



BBT Sangha members gathered together in the bus for a group photo.

Most of the Sangha members came to the PABT by way of a chartered bus. The BBT wants to thank bus driver, Mr. Wooden, for quickly, courteously, and safely driving our Sangha members to Palo Alto and back to Berkeley.

To view the Bay District's joint celebration service and the subsequent English language panel discussion on March 12, go to the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple website at: https://www.pabt.org/videos-1

# Thank you - Arigato Gozaimasu!

Gratias tibi ago (Latin), Danke sehr (German), Grazie (Italian), Gracias (Spanish), Merci (French), !Gamsahamnida (Korean), Khopkuntkhrup (Thai), Obrigado (Portuguese), Asante (Swahili)

No matter how you say it, the message we wish to convey is the same – "thank you very much" and "many thanks!" - to all the volunteers who so generously gave of their time and effort for the recent sushi fundraiser. Your enthusiastic spirit and the sense of community that you created that day made the work move smoothly, seem less burdensome and made for a fun day for all! For all of that we once again thank you.

In addition, a loud "thank you" to the Berkeley Buddhist Temple Sangha who once again came through for us with their 110 sushi combo and 100 spam musubi orders. Because of the combined efforts of the volunteers and the Sangha, the fundraiser was a resounding success (\$1,600+). This allowed us to pay for the bus to the 850<sup>th</sup>/800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Joint Service at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple on March 12<sup>th</sup> and a good time was had by all who attended.

In Gratitude and Gassho,
Chairpersons:
Susan Gabriel
Yuki Otake
Caroline Fernandez







# BBT Kieshiki Sarana Affirmation Ceremony & Spring Ohigan Service



The <u>Kieshiki Sarana Affirmation</u> is an important ceremony in which the participants (or their guardians) affirm their commitment to live as Buddhists. Along with the commitment to the Three Treasures, participants receive a Buddhist name, *Homyo* in Japanese. The ceremony was held on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> and officiated by Rev. Marvin Harada, Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America.



Bishop Harada was also our guest speaker for the Spring Ohigan service.

Following the service, temple members enjoyed the first potluck lunch in 3 years!

# **Berkeley Buddhist Temple Graduate Studies Scholarship**

The Berkeley Buddhist Temple created a scholarship program in 2018 to assist those attending graduate studies with the goal of achieving kyoshi status as a Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) minister. This year we received a request from Reverend CJ Sokugan Dunford that, although not related specifically to becoming a minister, would assist in furthering the progression of a BCA Minister. Reverend CJ Sokugan Dunford's study is exploring the voices of queer and trans\* people in how they navigate their spiritual selves and how they navigate and fit in the communities in which they live.

We are happy to announce our decision to award the scholarship to Reverend CJ. We hope that our contribution will help further Reverend CJ's study and have an impact helping our greater Sangha.

## Save the Date!

## Mike's Annual BBT Camping Trip

July 27th – July 30th at the Manchester Beach KOA



Contact Tina lwasaki, ckiwasaki@comcast.net for more details..

# **BBT Taiko welcomes beginners!**

# TRY YOUR HAND AT TAIKO!!

The Berkeley Buddhist Temple is now offering beginner taiko classes for those who have always wanted to experience the art of Japanese drumming. Beginner classes are held on Fridays in the afternoon from 3:00-5:00 PM in the temple social hall.

Watch your email for information about the next session.

General inquiries can be addressed to taiko@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org.





## **BBT Dharma School Newsletter**

# **April 2023**

### **Keha Petal Project**

To help in the 800th/850th Anniversary celebration, the Dharma School students made beautiful and unique *keha* lotus flower petals. The petals were scattered during the special March 12th service, hosted at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple. Happy 850th Birthday, Shinran Shonin!











# **April Schedule**

All of Berkeley Buddhist Temple Dharma School classes currently are in-person. If you have any questions, please contact the Stacy Uyeda, the Dharma School Superintendent, at: bbtdharmaschool@gmail.com.

4/2/2023	DFS/April Shotsuki - Regular Dharma School classes (all combined)
4/9/2023	DF Service / Hanamatsuri / Hatsumairi - Regular Dharma School classes (all combined)
4/16/2023	DF Service - Regular Dharma School classes
4/23/2023	DF Service / Pet Memorial - Regular Dharma School classes (all combined)
4/30/2023	DF Service - Regular Dharma School classes



## **BCA & CBE Announcements**



CBE & BAY DISTRICT JR YBA PRESENTS:

# JR YBA LEADERS WORKSHOP

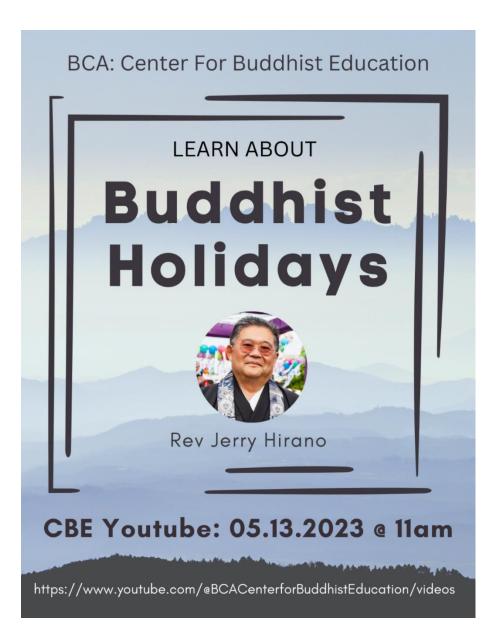


JODO SHINSHU CENTER

4.29.23

**INFO & REG:** 

https://forms.gle/boMxNCjKJhbbTthN6



# BYR6

BCA Summer Youth Retreat



High School Age Youth





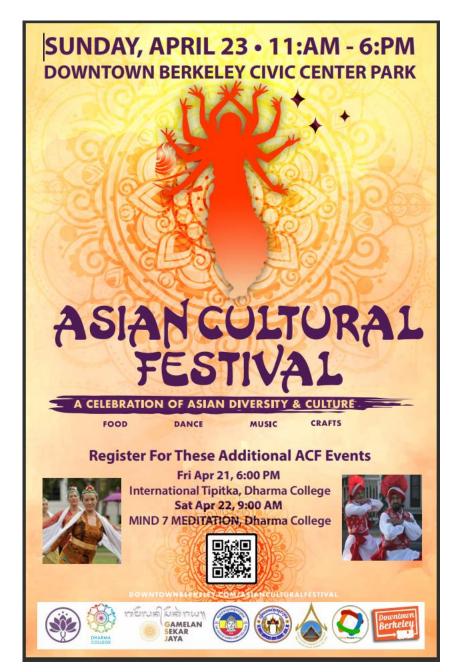


JUN 25 - JUL 1, 2023

REG & MORE INFO HERE: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/BYR2023">https://tinyurl.com/BYR2023</a>



# **Community Announcements**





# COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, April 2, 2023, 9:30 AM

**Live Stream:** <a href="https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharma-live">https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharma-live</a>

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

Shigetaro Adachi	Chiyo Ishikawa	Joe Oishi
Kinoe Adachi	Kanzo Iyama	Makitaro Sakaki
Flora Tatsuye Adachi	Lily Kagawa	Shoichi Sawada
Yoshino Ariyoshi	Michael Masayuki Kakesako	Matsutaro Takemori
Douglas Itsuki Ariyoshi	George Kako	Masae Takeshita
Nobuko Mae Asami	Takeo Katayama	Hideo Taketa
June Michiko Chikasuye	Kikutaro Kimura	Kenichi Tokuyoshi
Sadako Delcollo	Shunta Marubayashi	Yoshimi Toyota
Jack Shigetaro Ehara	Chiyomi Masuda	Alice Toshiko Tsukimura
David Flores	Yemiko Masunaga	Baby Boy Umawatari
Dirk Sei Fujii	Kimiyo Matsui	Izumi Uyeda
Hiroshi Fujikawa	Tsutomu Matsumoto	James Wakida
Juzaburo Furuzawa	Hideaki Matsunaga	David Susumu Watanabe
Rose-Annette Gervais	Victoria Mizuhara	Takeo Yamada
Toshiko Tomaru Goodman	Torao Tony Mizusaki	Emiko Yamaguchi
Takekuni Hino	Toshio Morishita	Kisao Yamaguchi
Yoshio Hiramoto	Arthur Hajime Nakamura	Yonosuke Yokoyama
Hisako Hazama Hirose	Virginia Tomie Nakaso	Katsuji Yokoyama
Hiroichi Hishida	James K. Nishimoto	Hideichi John Yoshida
Toyoye Ichiyasu	Riu Oishi	Hisayo Yoshimura
Soka Ikemoto		

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: 2/10/2023 – 3/9/2023)

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

Andy & Lisa Mayeda
Leroy Morishita & Barbara Hedani-Morishita
Catherine Nagareda
Gary Oda
Joyce Okimoto
Yuki & Eugene Otake
Scott Takeda
Ron & Carol Tanaka

If you have any questions, please contact Mimi Kagehiro at <a href="mailto:membership@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org">membership@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org</a> or 510-841-1356.

### **TOBAN**

Coordinators - Lena Yin & Pat Takeda

March 2023	April 2023
Chair - Akemi Hamai	Chair - Don Hamasaki
Cochair - Bob Matsueda	Cochair - Judy Fujimoto
	Cochair - Barbara Hedani-Morishita
Ames, Diane	
Fukumori, Naomi	Flamenco, Jenna
Gwaltney, Jon	Fujimoto, Bill & Judy
Hamai, Akemi & Amy Haruyama	Hamasaki, Don & Joanie
*Hamai, Lucy	*Hiraoka, Yo
Horstein, Scott & Antonia Glenn	Ito-Taylor, Dean & Lori Suzuki
*Kami, Frank	Kato, Vernon & Karen
*Kawakami, Keiko	Kuwahara, Rev Kiyo & Hitomi
Matsueda, Bob & Ranko Yamada	Miyake, Ron & Janet Cordova
Nolan, Paul & Sara Jotoku	Morishita, Leroy & Barbara Hedani
Omori, Laurie	*Oki, Sadao
Roueche, Akira	Okimoto, Joyce
Sakurai, Dennis	Palacios, Stephen & Sabouri, Nina
*Shinsako, Glenn & Amy	(TX)
*Wakida, Alice	Taylor, Rumi
*Yedlosky, Yae	

<sup>\*</sup> Denotes disabled and/or elderly. Toban optional.



# **Condolences**



Berkeley Buddhist Temple expresses condolences and deep sympathy

To the Family of Mrs. Mae Takeda May 1,1938 – February 20, 2023 To the Family of Mr. Dennis Yee Passed on February 25, 2023

Namo Amida Butsu Namo Amida Butsu Namo Amida Butsu

Mr. James Nakabayashi's Funeral Service: Sun. April 2 from 4pm Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Mrs. Mae Takeda's Funeral Service: Sat. April 15 from 2pm Berkeley Buddhist Temple

	2023 MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE		
	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	
The same	2022	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	
	2021	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	
The following is a list of special service years.	2017	7 <sup>th</sup> Year	
If you have a departed relative who has passed away	2011	13 <sup>th</sup> Year	
in any of the listed years,	2007	17 <sup>th</sup> Year	
and would like to make arrangements	1999	25 <sup>th</sup> Year	
for a memorial service,	1991	33 <sup>rd</sup> Year	
please contact Rev. Kuwahara at (510) 841-1356.	1974	50 <sup>th</sup> Year	
•	1924	100 <sup>th</sup> Year	

#### **Services and Information**

#### **Berkeley Buddhist Temple**

#### **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	Gantan-e	New Year's Day
Service		-
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	Hoonko	Shinran Shonin
Memorial		
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 <u>Membership Form</u>, 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

info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org berkeleybuddhisttemple.org facebook.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple youtube.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple