



MEGUMI

慈恩

GARDENA BUDDHIST CHURCH
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Rev. John Iwohara



Gardena Buddhist Church

November 2022

Volume LV No. 11



Rev. John Iwohara

“Learning Something New”

Trying to learn something new is sometimes scary. We often create this ambiguous bubble we call a “comfort zone,” and despite all the benefits that can come from learning something new, part of what makes

learning scary is the fact that we open ourselves up to the potential of failure. We ask ourselves, “What if I don’t get it?” Doubt may grow in our hearts and we ask ourselves, “What if I can’t get it?” This potential for failure becomes so real in our hearts that we find ourselves asking, “What if I fail?” sometimes even before we try. We do teach ourselves words of encouragement like, “If at first you don’t succeed try, (and) try again.” Unfortunately, if we think that we have made too many attempts, these questions of doubt often expand and also become questions of self worth. We begin to ask questions like, “What if I’m not smart enough?” or “What if I’m not good enough,” and if we hold on to the doubt long enough, we might even begin to ask the question, “What if I do not matter?” Because these questions of doubt or of self worth are so burdensome and painful, it is no wonder why we sometimes try to avoid the potential for pain

altogether and shy away from trying to learn something new.

We have all experienced the fear of something new. Perhaps one of the more traumatic of these experiences is the first day of school. When we first go to a new school we might ask ourselves questions like, “What if I don’t know anybody (and end up all alone)?” “What if the kids I meet are all mean (and I end up all alone)?” “What if I have mean teachers (and get picked on and then teased by all the other students and end up all alone)?” These questions often become mixed together with the association school has with learning and achieving and are added to the questions we already had regarding what it means to learn something new. Unfortunately, this only adds to our fear of learning.

Fortunately, however, most of us have experienced a modicum of success at school. I say “most” because success is often very subjective and some of us may feel that we should have done “better” even with very positive marks. This, however, points to the fact that learning is what you gain; it is not a report card. A report card can be a very useful tool. It helps us to know how well we did in a class, based on the assessment made by the teacher

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or person who assigned the grade. On the other hand, a report card does not necessarily measure what we actually learned. Sometimes, we aren't even aware of what it was that we did learn.

For example, we had to learn that learning can be scary. As a more positive example, the other day I was taught a new expression. The expression was, "friendship team." The conversation that I had when I was introduced to the expression went something like the following.

"You played basketball as a youth too?"

"Yeah, but our team wasn't very good. But, we had a lot of fun."

"Our team was competitive, but we were a small team so by the fourth quarter we didn't have any juice left. We lost most of our games."

"We never even came close. But, I made a lot of close friends. We were a friendship team."

"Friendship team. I've never heard that term before. That's kinda cool."

As time passes, the accolades and trophies earned are still yours to keep. On the other hand, especially based on the conversation I shared, isn't the real prize all the connections and friendships you were able to make? For example, there will come a time when we are no longer physically able to even dribble a basketball, but even then we will still be able to talk to our friends. If you were on a friendship team, then even without the accolades or trophies our friends always help us to understand that our lives do matter. More than trophies, our friends are treasures.

Unfortunately, Buddhism also makes it clear

that we cannot always expect to have the physical presence of our friends. This is another reason why Amida Buddha established and fulfilled the Fundamental Vow, the Hongan. How does the Vow help us? Through the Vow we are helped to discover that we are not just smart enough, we are given the wisdom of faith. We discover that our lives are never lacking: our lives are not just good enough, they are the reason why Amida Buddha became a Buddha. Finally, the Vow of the Buddha reveals to us how these lives of ours will always matter. Again, our lives are the reason why Amida Buddha established and fulfilled the Fundamental Vow.

Through the Vow, we are assured that we will never be alone. Just as Sakyamuni Buddha is no longer physically with us, but we are still able to appreciate being a disciple of the Buddha, our friendships—even with those who have gone to the Pure Land before us—will always continue to decorate our lives. The Vow of the Buddha helps us to not only appreciate our friends, but also helps us to receive the three treasures of Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. We learn that our lives are part of the Immeasurable Life that is Namo Amida Butsu, and that this is something we can and do share with our friends, both those in our world and those in the Buddha's. Learning something new, especially about ourselves, is sometimes scary. But, as the Vow of the Buddha helps us to understand, it doesn't always have to be.



NOTE! PHONE NUMBER CHANGE



Because of difficulties experienced in the past with contacting Rev. Iwohara, the temple has decided to create a dedicated cellular phone line for Rev. Iwohara. Although you may still contact the office during regular business hours (please leave messages in the main voice mail box if you choose to leave a message), please update your records and use the following number to contact Rev. Iwohara directly.

The new phone number is: (310) 991-3791.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Fujinkai / BWA Buddhist Women's Association

Happenings:

- ◇ October 9th, Sunday – Lady Esshinni & Kakushinni Memorial Service was held during family service and BWA Memorial Service started at 11:15am. During our Memorial Service this year, we remembered the hundreds of prior members, but we expressed special appreciation to JoAnn Kamikawa, Akiko Maeda and Yukiye Terada who we lost this year. Thank you to their families for attending this service. Thank you to everyone for their hard work in preparing Osonae and the wonderful service to remember our past members. For those who were able to attend in person, we enjoyed a luncheon together in the Meeting Room for the first time in over two years!
- ◇ BWA Federation Meeting: October 14th-16th Our registrants who attended: Rev. John Iwohara, Kathy Hori, Imogene Imada, Julie Miyata, Phyllis Maruyama, Chizuko Morimoto. We are looking forward to hearing the FBWA news at our next meeting please report next month.
- ◇ October 22nd, Saturday - Pass it Forward Bingo/Bento/Bakesale – Another wonderful sign that things are getting back to normal. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard on this event. A special thanks to the ABA group for leading us this year.
- ◇ October 30th, Sunday - Special Southern District service for Shinran's Birth and 800th anniversary of Jodo Shinshu. Thank you to our members who provided Osonae.
- ◇ November 4th & 5th , Sushi Class – The class will be from 1pm to 4 pm We have 30 adults, 5 youths and 1 child signed up so far. Adults will make Makizushi, Youths will make Inari sushi and Onigiri
 - ▶ Please come to help at 9am on Friday, November 4 to prepare ingredients. Kathy will do the shopping.
 - ▶ Please come at noon on Saturday, November 5 to set up the classrooms.
- ◇ November 13th, Sunday –NEW DAY!! BWA Members' 80th & 88th Birthday Party – Service and Luncheon at a restaurant. Location will be decided at our November meeting
 - ▶ 88 years old (born in 1933 & 1934): Kazue Maesaki, Yuko Wakimoto, Nariko Kikuno, Natsuye Shimono
 - ▶ 80 years old (born in 1941 & 1942): Mitzi Shimizu, Toyoko Yuki, Fumie Fujimoto, Hiromi Matsuda, Sumiko Uyehara
- ◇ November 20th, Sunday – Eitaikyo Service – Eitaikyo Service and if it's Eitaikyo, it's time for Takikomi Gohan Otoki! We welcome members and non-members to help us at the following times:
 - ▶ Saturday (11/19), 1:00pm – prepare ingredients
 - ▶ Sunday (11/20), 5:30am – Gohan Taki
 - ▶ Sunday, (11/20), 6:30am – General Assembly
- ◇ November 26th, Saturday – Homebound Member Visits – more details to be discussed at our November Meeting.
- ◇ 2023 Japan Trip – Update from Kintentsu coming soon



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Announcements:

- ◇ November 6th – Monthly BWA hybrid meeting at 11:15am
- ◇ November 13th, Sunday – 80 & 88 Birthday Party for our Members at 11:30am – 2pm
- ◇ November 16th, Wednesday – Meinichiko Service at 7am
- ◇ November 20th, Sunday – Eitaikyo Service – Takikomi Gohan Otoki
- ◇ November 26th, Saturday – Homebound Member Visits
- ◇ December 4th, Sunday – December Regular Meeting will be held at 11:15am, followed by the Annual General Meeting. Toban for December will be E&A Gumi.

BWA Appreciation:

- * Special Donation Helen Tenpo
- * BWA Memorial Service Donation

Jeffrey & Maria Kawamoto - for late Jo Ann Kamikawa
 Tom Maeda - for late Akiko Maeda
 Ayako Motoyasu - for late Akiko Maeda
 Noriko Sasaki - for late Yukiye Terada

Charlene Sakatani
 Chizuko Morimoto
 Emiko Sasaki
 Fumie Fujimoto
 Hayami Fukino
 Helen Tenpo
 Hiromi Matsuda
 Imogene Imada

Julie Miyata
 Kathy Hori
 Kazuko Maruyama
 Laurie Sugita
 Mitsuko Miyamoto
 Mitzi Shimizu
 Nancy Yoshiyama
 Natsuye Shimono

Phyllis Maruyama
 Reiko Ishii
 Shizuko Sakuda
 Susan Suya
 Toyoko Yuki
 Yoko Okumoto
 Yuko Wakimoto

**Dharma School News**

On October 23rd, the Dharma School students dressed in their Halloween costumes and trick or treated from room to room followed by a lunch and fun activities hosted by the Jr. YBA. The students had a great time celebrating in person after a couple years of virtual celebrations.

Next month, on December 11th we'll be celebrating Oseibo Taikai. If you have not registered your student for the 2022-2023 Dharma School year, please reach out to arleenmiya@gmail.com or nadine.kakimoto@gardenabuddhistchurch.org for more information.





TUESDAY SOCIAL

On October 25, we celebrated Happy Halloween Hat Day by wearing many different types of hats ... some fancy hats, some silly hats, baseball caps, and some paper hats. We made holiday witch brooms filled with treats. It was a very fun day for all.

Please come on Tuesdays between 9:30 – 11:30am, come and go as you please. To be safe, we still recommend wearing a mask indoors when not eating.

We will not meet on the following dates due to everyone's busy holiday schedule:

NO TUESDAY SOCIAL:

11/22 (Tuesday before Thanksgiving)

12/20 & 12/27 (Tuesday before & after Christmas)

We will start again on January 3, 2023



Hui Aikanes

It will great to see you at our first meeting where we will share the election results and our first obento lunch in a long while on November 6 at noon in the social hall.

Hope you all are enjoying the Pass It Forward activities. There are a couple of more dates in November.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday.

We will schedule our December meeting on November 6.



**Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 16 at 7PM
Via Zoom**

JR. YBA

We recently installed a new cabinet for the new school year. Sierra Kushi will be President this year, Allison Sasaki will be Vice President, Tyler Tanaka will be Treasurer, Brenden Kato will be Religious Chair, Jake Mato as Secretary, and Mia Yamada as Historian. On October 15th, we had a opening year social where all the new members were introduced to everyone. We played board games and had dinner. Then on October 23rd, along with the Nishi Jr. YBA, we hosted the Halloween luncheon. The Jr. YBA would like to thank the Gardena Buddhist Church for their support throughout the year!



The Community Projects Group

A big "thank you" again from our Group for everyone's support at our sale in September. For those who may have missed it, and for those who are planning their holiday gifts for family and friends, we are planning a sale in November. It will be on Sunday, November 20, after the Eitaikyo Service at Church in the patio area. We hope to see many of you at the service as well as at our sale!

For the rest of the year, our Group's gatherings are scheduled for Mondays - November 14 and 28, and December 12. We meet in the Church Meeting Room at 10 am, and anyone interested in creating items is welcome to join us.

**Gardena Buddhist Church
having a yard sale coming up on
Saturday December 10, 2022
Time- 8am to 12pm
Place – church parking lot**

**if interested in helping,
contact Louise Mayemura at
l.mayemura@yahoo.com**



ICHI-MI CLUB

Ichi-Mi Seeks Donations for LGBTQ+ Video Project

Ichi-Mi is seeking donations to create a video highlighting LGBTQ+ people and supporters from a variety of Shin Buddhist communities. Donations will go towards covering production costs for the video project.

Currently, there are not a lot of resources in our Buddhist communities in support of or discussing the issue of LGBTQ+ inclusion and safety. "One of the goals of Ichi-Mi is to help educate temple Sanghas and affiliated organizations on improving LGBTQ+ inclusivity, Ichi-Mi has decided to create a video project to further that outreach.



This video project is a multiphase project. The first phase of the project is to create a short video which aims to spotlight the voices of LGBTQ+ ministers, Sangha members, parents of LGBTQ+ children and supporters. It will cover their experiences within Buddhist communities, the need for more inclusive spaces to share in the Dharma, and offer suggestions on how Buddhist communities can improve toward establishing safe spaces for all to share in the Dharma.

The goal is for the video to be shown at educational workshops at individual temples and Sangha groups, for affiliated groups such as BWA, Jr. YBA, and Dharma School teachers, and for workshop sessions at regional and national seminars. In addition, Ichi-Mi hopes to make it available online on YouTube and other social media outlets.

To make a donation, send a check payable to: Gardena Buddhist Church. Memo line should read: Ichi-Mi Video Project.

Send donations to: Gardena Buddhist Church Ichi-Mi, 1517 W. 166th St., Gardena, CA 90247.

We thank you in advance for your support!



PACK 1230 NEWS

Cub Scout Pack 1230 is collecting canned goods as part of their Scouting for Food drive. A collection box will be placed in the Hondo lobby until November 20th, 2022. The canned goods will be taken to the Gardena Food Pantry, which extends a helping hand to individuals and families living in Gardena. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR DONATION INCLUDE:

NON-PERISHABLE PANTRY FOOD

- Soups
- Fruit & Vegetables
- Tomato Sauce
- Chili & Beans
- Tuna, Chicken, Spam, & etc. Pasta & Macaroni & Cheese Rice & Beans
- Cereals & Oatmeal
- Peanut Butter, Jelly, Jams Condiments





Wisteria Chugakko

Reverend John Iwohara, Headmaster
Charlene Hirotsu, Principal

Wisteria Chugakko Summer (Middle) School

Mission Statement

The Wisteria Chugakko (Middle School) is established to enrich the academic experience, and the religious and cultural understanding of its students in order to develop academics and a greater appreciation for the potential and dignity of human and all life.

The 2023 Wisteria Chugakko Summer Session will run from Monday, June 19, through Wednesday, July 12, 2023.

Who: Wisteria Chugakko is a middle school summer school for students going into the 7th, 8th and 9th grade in the fall semester.

What: Wisteria Chugakko is a summer school program providing academic, religious and cultural education for its students.

Where: With the support of the Gardena Buddhist Church Board, Wisteria Chugakko holds its summer school program at the Gardena Buddhist Church.

When: Every summer since our Inaugural year 2018, Wisteria Chugakko has provided a middle school summer school program for 3 1/2 weeks from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. After school supervision is also provided.

Why: The Vision and Mission of Wisteria Chugakko is to help in the development of our young adult students to become productive members of our society, community and families.

History:

In 2016 Reverend John Iwohara met with me, Charlene Hirotsu, to share his vision of a middle school during the summer which would provide a religious, cultural and hands-on curriculum. The purpose was to be able to pass on to our future generations our knowledge, experiences and abilities in small class size settings.

In 2017, we began with a general meeting of individuals from Gardena Buddhist Church sharing this vision. The two of us were prepared to teach classes to all of the students with our shared knowledge and passion. Soon three Gardena Buddhist Church Sangha members stepped forward and we officially began the planning and preparation for the Inaugural Year 2018 of Wisteria Chugakko. Our journey began.

To this day, we have served:

- 19 7th and 8th grade students in **2018**
- 27 7th, 8th and Wisteria Leadership Program (WLP) students in **2019**
- We were dark in 2020 due to COVID
- 33 7th, 8th and 9th grade students in **2021** with our virtual Wisteria Buds
- 23 7th, 8th and Wisteria Leadership program (WLP) students in **2022**
- **This is a total of 102 students.**

We will have our 5 year Anniversary and Reunion in March of 2023.

We hold monthly teacher workshops from January through June to plan and prepare our teaching techniques, lesson plans and to ultimately share the culture of Wisteria Chugakko, which is one of compassion and giving. This year we had 49 teachers to participate in the various aspects of our school of 23 students. 2022 Wisteria Chugakko was truly a successful program.

Please join us for the 2023 Wisteria Chugakko Summer Program. The program is for students going into the 7th, 8th or 9th grade in the Fall of 2023. Please speak to your children, grandchildren and friends to join us at Gardena Buddhist Church next summer. We are now accepting 2023 Student Interest Forms.



2022 Wisteria Chugakko Students & Staff



Gardena Buddhist Church
Wisteria Chugakko
 1517 W. 166th St.
 Gardena, CA. 90247
 (310) 327-9400

wisteria.chugakko@gardenabuddhistchurch.org



Gardena Buddhist Church Wisteria Chugakko Summer Program

Reverend John Iwohara, Gardena Buddhist Church Resident Minister, Headmaster

Charlene Hirotsu, Wisteria Chugakko Principal

Student Interest Form

June 19 – July 12, 2023

I am interested in registering for Wisteria Chugakko for the Summer of 2023.

I will be in the 7th, 8th or 9th grade in the Fall of 2023.

Student's Last Name	Student's First Name	Student's Gender Pronoun Preference
Student's Date of Birth	Student's Grade in Fall 2023	Student's School District
Father's Last Name	Father's First Name	Father's Cell Number
Mother's Last Name	Mother's First Name	Mother's Cell Number
Father's Email Address	Mother's Email Address	Buddhist Church Affiliation (Gardena, Senshin etc.)

ABA News

As the kaki ripen on the tree at Church, it is a reminder that the year is soon coming to an end.

ABA would like to thank everyone who came out to play PIF Bingo on Saturday, October 22. It was so nice to see everyone gathered together once again, enjoying their taco lunch. Congratulations to all of the game winners – both regular bingo and special bingo. We hope everyone is enjoying their raffle prizes while eating something delicious from the bake sale.

There are two more Pass It Forward events coming up – Sushi Making and Shibori. Thank you to all who have signed up to participate.

The November ABA meeting is scheduled to take place on Sunday, November 20 at 11:30am. Please plan to attend this meeting, as elections will be taking place for the 2023 Cabinet.

Stay safe and stay warm.



November 2022

2	DS Teacher's mtg via Zoom	7:30pm
5	Shotsuki Hoyo Service via Zoom	10:00am
	PIF Makizushi Making Class	1:00pm
	SD Jr. YBL Leadership Conference	2:30pm
6	Daylight Saving Time ends	
	Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
	BWA mtg (In-Person & Zoom)	11:30am
	Hui Aikane Bento Lunch and Nominations	12:00pm
	PIF Meeting via Zoom	7:00pm
10	General Membership mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
11	Veteran's Day Holiday—Temple Closed	
	GS Troop 4345 mtg	7:00pm
12	PIF: Shibori Apron Workshop	1:00pm
13	Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
	BWA 80/88 Birthday Service & Luncheon	11:30am
14	Cub Pack 1230 mtg	6:00pm
16	Meinichiko Service via Zoom	7:00am
17	Boy Scout Troop 242 Leadership mtg	6:30pm
19	GBC Board mtg via Zoom	2:00pm
20	Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
	Eitaikyo Service	
	CPG Sale	11:00am
	ABA mtg (In-Person & Zoom)	11:30am
21	Megumi Deadline for December	
24	Thanksgiving Day—Temple Closed	
25	Thanksgiving Holiday—Temple Closed	

December 2022

1	Boy Scout Troop 242 Leadership mtg	7:00pm
2	GS Troop 4345 mtg	7:00pm
3	Shotsuki Hoyo Service via Zoom	10:00am
4	Sunday Bodhi Day Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
	BWA mtg (In-Person & Zoom)	11:30am
7	DS Teacher's mtg via Zoom	7:30pm
10	Country Store Rummage Sale	8:00am
11	Sunday Svc-Oseibo Taikai (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
	Girl Scouts Warm Coat Drive	12:00pm
12	Cub Pack 1230 mtg	6:00pm
14	GBC Board mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
15	Boy Scout Troop 242 Leadership mtg	6:30pm
16	Meinichiko Service via Zoom	7:00am
	GS Troop 4345 mtg	7:00pm
18	Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
	Annual Hondo Clean-up	11:00am
	ABA mtg (In-Person/Zoom)	11:30am
19	Megumi Deadline for January 2023	
25	Christmas Holiday—Temple Closed	
26	Temple and Office closed	
31	Year End service and Soba	7:00pm



<Regular Activities>

2nd & 4th Mondays, Community Project Group	10:00am
Tuesdays, Tuesday Social	9:30am

Tuesdays, Boy Scout Troop 242 regular mtg	7:00pm
Wednesdays, Ikenobo Ikebana	2:00pm
Sundays, Isami Taiko Practice	11:30am

Megumi Deadline is Monday, November 21, 2022

**Alan Miwa**

From GBC Board Chairperson

"A Time for Action – Part 2"

As I mentioned in my April Megumi article, all of the BCA churches are addressing declining membership. We are starting on our own journey to do this at the Gardena Buddhist Church. The board established a Long Range Planning Committee which will collaborate with the existing Membership Committee on how we address membership. A lot of research and hard work lies in the future.

In parallel with this planning activity, we need to address how we can all participate. The pandemic has been a big disabler. The church reopened on September 11. The Sangha and Dharma school children have starting returning...but as of October, many who used to come prior to Covid are still missing. This article is not about just membership, but about getting our Sangha to return to hear the Dharma.

We are acting on ideas on how to welcome new visitors, potential new Sangha, retain current Sangha, and encourage those who have left to come back.

Curiosity or interest may bring visitors here. To keep them coming back requires building relationships. It means taking risks. It means approaching people we don't know and seeking out what they are looking for. Sometimes we will find out that our church doesn't provide the answers and sometimes it may. About former Sangha, why have they stopped coming? Is there something that was missing or is there something we can offer but haven't yet? How would we know if we don't engage in conversation.

I know that we have a comfort zone with our family and friends. As we move forward, I'm hoping that we will move beyond that security and take some personal risk at welcoming our visitors, getting to know them, letting them know that they are welcome, and reaching out to those who have left.



Eitaikyo Hoyo

Guest Speaker: Rev. Gregory Gibbs
(Pasadena Buddhist Church)

Date: Sunday, November 20

Time: 9:30am

Place: Hondo & Zoom

Dharma School: "We're All Different, We're All the Same"

Japanese: "他の人の優しさ、自分のお母さんと同じです"

Adult English: "Remembering Family and Friends, Honoring Tradition."

JOIN

Cub Scouts

**PACK
1230**

FROM CAMPING AND
SURVIVAL SKILLS TO
SAFETY, ADVENTURE AND
GOODWILL, CUB SCOUTS
PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES
FOR KIDS TO HAVE FUN AND TO
“ DO THEIR BEST ! ”

MEETINGS: EVERY OTHER MONDAY
@ 6:30PM

LOCATION: GARDENA BUDDHIST CHURCH
1517 W. 166TH ST., GARDENA

AGES: K – 4TH GRADE



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:
CUBPACK1230@GMAIL.COM**

In this time of hardship, we truly appreciate your continued support!

The church acknowledges the following donations received from 09/20/22 - 10/21/2022 with gratitude and appreciation.

Funeral/Makurakyo/Burial/Memorials

Eguchi, Harry
Okura, Darlene

Omori Family
Sueyoshi, Linda

Tamada, Aiko
Taniguchi, Satsuko

Shotsuki Hoyo Donations

DeMore, Sachi
Ego, Kimiko
Ego/Tanaka Family
Endo, Carole
Fujioki, Ruby
Fujita, Teruko
Hanamura, Alan
Hedani, Bruce
Hedani, Daniel
Inose, Kay
Ito, Violet
Iwamasa, Susumu

Jackson, Donna
Kaneshiro, Ronald
Kawamoto, M/M Derrick
Keherly, Michael
Komaie, Kumiko
Kunibe, Mary
Kuraoka, S.
Maeda, Stacy & Cindy
Matsuda, Noreen
Matsumoto, Sally
Matsushita, M/M James
Mori, Eiko

Nakakura, M/M Ken
Nakata, Bob
Nakatani, Dennis
Nakatani, M/M David
Nakawatase, Haruye
Okihara, Craig
Okumoto, Aki (2)
Osa, Susan
Ouchi, Joyce
Ozawa, Michael
Sera, Jean
Shimizu, Mitzi

Shibata, Reiko
Suminaga, Roy
Takemoto, D/M Ronald
Tanaka, Nancy
Tenpo, Helen
Uwahori, Sadae
Wada, Aiko
Yamashita, Toru
Yokota, Dale
Yuki, Toyoko

40th Anniversary of Hondo

Anonymous
Maeda, Tom

Miyaji, R/M Nobuo
Sasaki, Emiko

Shimono, Natsuye
Wakimoto, Yuku

Fall Ohigan Service

Akahoshi, Masato
Hirotsu, M/M Stan
Imada, Imogene
Imamoto, Eiko
Ishii, Reiko
Kakimoto, Nadine
Maeda, Tom
Matsuda, Hiromi

Miyamoto, Mitsuko
Morimoto, Chizuko
Morimoto, Nobuharu
Nakakura, M/M Ken
Nakawatase, Haruye
Ohara, E.
Okada, Nobuko
Okamoto, Rod

Okamura, Rodney
Okumoto, Yoko
Ouchi, Joyce
Sakatani, Charlene
Sakuda, Shizuko
Shigemitsu, M/M Tom
Shimono, Natsuye
Takano, Ryoko

Tomiyoshi, Ruby
Tsuge, M/M Mike
Uyehara, Eleanor
Wakimoto, Yuku
Yuki, Toyoko

Special Donations

Akiko Maeda Charitable Account
Brian Mitsunaga Trust (2)
Hanamura, Alan
Hashimoto, Keiko
Ikuhara, Kimiko

Miyata, Julie (2)
Sakatani, Charlene
Sakuda, Shizuko

Tenpo, Helen
Uyehara, Michael
Yanai, Gail

General Donation/ Miscellaneous

Ikenobo Ikebana Class (2) Marukai Corporation (2) So. Bay Lions Club Sugino, Karen

Eitaikyo Fund

Sasaki, M/M Brent
Terada Family

Murata, Jan & Dennis (2)
Watanabe, Donald

Sakuda, Shizuko
Iwamoto, Diane

Obon Service

Sueyoshi, Florence

Zaw, Noriko

GBC Membership Dues for 2022 (received from 9/23 - 10/21)

Ikeda, Winston

Kobashi, Jane

Omoto, Gwen

Omoto, Tom

Osaisen

Iwanaga, Michael

Nakakura, M/M Ken (2)

Sakatani, Charlene (3)

In Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathies to the families of the following who have left our world to be One with Amida Buddha. Namo Amida Butsu.

Odaka, Hiroshi	(103)
Sugino, Satoshi	(87)
Wada, Aiko	(94)
Uyehara, Eleanor Sumiko	(80)

September 24, 2020
September 18, 2022
October 21, 2022
October 23, 2022



2022 General Meeting Notice for Paid Members

Date: Thursday, November 10th

Time: 7:00 PM (Short Service followed by the meeting at 7:15pm)

Place: Virtual via Zoom

IMPORTANT MESSAGE



Our annual General Meeting for paid temple members will be held on Thursday, November 10, 2022. We encourage all who can attend this important annual meeting to attend. It is your opportunity to participate in decisions regarding the leadership and operations of our church. The meeting will be preceded by a short service beginning at 7:00 pm, followed by the meeting. At this time the meeting will be virtual via Zoom. If you haven't received the zoom link, please contact the church office at 310-327-9400.

We would like to invite anyone who will be 19-24 years old in Spring 2023 to participate in this very meaningful ceremony and with a renewed spirit to continue to walk along life's path.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, spaces are limited to the first 10 registered participants.

Included w/Registration:

A commemorative certificate, commemorative group photo, and gift. Also, participants will have a chance to experience traditional Japanese tea ceremony afterwards.



*Gardena Buddhist Church
presents*

Coming of Age Ceremony *成人式*

*Sunday, January 15, 2023
9:30am - 12:00pm*

For more information, contact Zia Allen at z.suzuki02@gmail.com, C: (310) 748-2309

Please mail completed registration form and payment to Gardena Buddhist Church



2023 GBC COMING OF AGE CEREMONY (SEIJINSHIKI) REGISTRATION

Registration is \$65 until 12/3/22, Late Registration is \$80 between 12/4/22-12/17/22
FINAL DEADLINE for registration is Saturday, December 17, 2022

Total Amount Enclosed : _____ Check payable to: Gardena Buddhist Church

Participant's name: _____ Phone number: _____

Address : _____

E-mail : _____

Participant's Birthdate: _____

- ☐ I will be renting from Maruhachi
- ☐ Maruhachi to help with "dressing"
- ☐ I will use my own kimono
- ☐ I will arrange my own "dressing"



*Gardenia Buddhist Church
presents*

Coming of Age Ceremony *成人式*

*Maruhachi can
assist with
rentals and/or
dressing
assistance.*

*Maruhachi
Rental fee:
\$180*

*Maruhachi
Dressing fee:
\$80*

Rental Contact:

*Mr. Hiroshi Tanaka
Maruhachi USA*

website: maruhachi-usa.com

*email: maru8usa@me.com
(562) 493-6112*

**Please leave a message/email
if interested**

*Maruhachi USA will be available
from mid-November*

*If not using
Maruhachi,
participant is
responsible for
own rental/
dressing.*

*Deadline to
request
Maruhachi
Rental/
Dressing
Assistance:
Dec. 17th*

Important Information about kimono/hakama selections...

To ensure the health and safety of participants and to limit exposure to Mr. and Mrs. Tanaka of Maruhachi USA, participants are highly recommended to instead view available kimono selections online at the Maruhachi USA website under their "Kimonos -> Chu-Furisode" tab. All kimonos are first-come, first-served basis.

For men's hakama rentals, Maruhachi will require the inseam measurement, arm length measurement from the middle of the neck, and total height of the participant.

For more information, contact Zia Allen at (310) 748-2309, z.suzuki02@gmail.com

『心に響く言葉』

宮地美子師

私たちは言葉を通して様々な人たちとコミュニケーションをはかります。それは日本語であったりつたない英語であったりしますが、なんとか自分の思いを相手に伝えようとしています。

日本では、お寺の前には掲示板があります。道ゆく人が足を止めて読んだり、赤信号で止まった車が読める様な所に設置されているものもあります。そこに掲げてある言葉は、行き交う人々に短い言葉で仏様のお慈悲をなんとか伝えたいという思いが込められています。例えば

“やられてもやり返さないのが仏教だ” 築地本願寺
“君は君 私は私 でも同行” 妙光寺

“私がさびしい時に よその人は知らないの
私がさびしい時に お友達は笑うの
私がさびしい時に お母さんは優しいの
私がさびしい時に 仏さまは寂しいの” 金子みすず
“豊かだから 施すのではない

施すから 豊かになるのだ” 超覚寺

“幸せだから 感謝するのではない
感謝できることが 幸せなのだ” 詠人知らず

“老いるとは 増える薬と 減る記憶 されど
老いるとは 増える涙と増える念仏” 詠人知らず

この様に、短い言葉でもそうだなと感銘する言葉があります。先日お寺の掲示板というコーナーを見ていて、私自身が共鳴した言葉がありました。それは

“のぞみはありませんが、ひかりはあります”
新幹線駅員

という言葉でした。

心理学者の河合隼雄さんという方が、急いで行か

ねばならない所があり、新幹線の窓口で切符を買おうとした時に駅員さんが『一番早いのでみ(希望)は売り切れてないですが、光ならあります。』と言われた言葉に面白さを感じ投稿したものを、それに感銘したご住職さんが自坊の掲示板に載せたものです。



私たちは色々な事に絶望してもうダメだ!と思うと夢も希望もなくなってしまいます。しかしながら南無阿弥陀仏の教えを聞いているとそういう絶望的な時でも光に気づくのです。夢や希望がなくなって暗闇になった時こそ阿弥陀様が常に光とともに守っていてくださっていた事に気づくのです。日頃仏様のお話を聞かせていただいている者には、なるほどと思われる温かいお言葉です。





婦人会便り



婦人会の通常の活動

- ▽ 10/9 (日) 恵信尼公、覚信尼公追悼法要に続いて、午前11時15分より婦人会先亡者追悼法要が執り行われました。今年の追悼法要では、何百人もの先亡者を偲びましたが、今年亡くなった上川ジョアン、前田晶子、寺田幸恵（敬称略）に特別な感謝を捧げました。このサービスに参加して下さったご家族に感謝致します。お供えをご準備いただき、過去のメンバーを偲ぶこの素晴らしいサービスに参加して下さった皆様に感謝致します。直接参加できた方々は、2年以上ぶりに会議室で一緒にランチを楽しみました！
- ▽ 全米仏婦連盟会議ー10/14-16 出席者：庵原先生、Kathy Hori, Imogene Imada, Julie Miyata, Phyllis Maruyama, Chizuko Morimoto. Julieが 来月の例会で報告してくださいます。
- ▽ 10/30 (日) 南部教区 親鸞生誕850年・浄土真宗800年を記念した特別法要 - ズームとGBCで開催されます。おそなえを提供して下さった会員の皆様、ありがとうございます。
- ▽ 10/22 (土) Pass it Forward Bingo / Bento / Bakesale - このイベントは、生活が正常に戻っていることを示す一つの素晴らしい兆候ではないでしょうか。本当に楽しいイベントでした。このイベントのために一生懸命働いてくれたすべての人や、とりわけ今年私たちを導いてくれたABAグループに感謝します。
- ▽ 11/4 & 5 (金 & 土) BWA 寿司クラス- クラスは午後1時から午後4時までです。大人30名、若者5名、子供1名が登録しています。大人は巻き寿司、若者はいなり寿司とおにぎりを作ります。
 - ▶ 11月4日 (金) 午前9時に材料の準備を手伝ってください。Kathyが買い物をお願いします。
 - ▶ 11月5日 (土) 正午に来て、教室の準備と指導を手伝ってください。
- ▽ 11/13 (日) 日付が変更されました！婦人会お誕生日会（傘寿・米寿）お参りは本堂で行われ、昼食会はレストランで開催され

ます。場所は11月のミーティングで決定します。

- ▶ 米寿の方(88歳) 前崎和枝、脇元優子、菊野ナリ子、下野夏江夫人方
- ▶ 傘寿の方(80歳) 清水ミツィ、湯木都世子、藤本文恵 松田紘美、上原スミ子 夫人方

- ▽ 11/20 (日) 永代経法要と御斎作り- 永代経といえば炊き込みごはん！会員・非会員を問わず、以下の時間にご協力をお願い致します。
 - ▶ 11/19 (土) 午後 1:00 - 材料の準備
 - ▶ 11/20 (日) 午前 5:30 - 炊飯
 - ▶ 11/20 (日) 午前 6:30 - 仕上げ
- ▽ 11/26 (土) 恒例の年末慰問 詳細については、11月の会議で話し合う予定です。
- ▽ 2023年日本旅行ー 近鉄からのアップデートがまもなく届きます。

アナウンスメント:

- ▽ 11/6 (日) 婦人会例会 午前11時15分 ハイブリッド (小チャペル対面およびズーム)
- ▽ 11/13 (日) 午前11時30分 - 午後2時 婦人会誕生日会 (80歳・88歳)
- ▽ 11/16 (水) - 親鸞聖人御命日講 午前7時 ズーム
- ▽ 11/20 (日) 永代経法要 お斎には“炊き込みごはん”用意
- ▽ 11/26 (土) 恒例の年末慰問 午後1時
- ▽ 12/4 (日) 婦人会例会と 2022年度総会 午前11時15分 ハイブリッド 当番は E/A組

感謝録:

特別寄付 天保君子
BWA先亡者追悼寄付
故上川ジョアン追悼 川本ジェフリー&マリア
故前田晶子 追悼 前田トム
故前田晶子 追悼 本安綾子
故寺田幸枝 追悼 佐々木法子
藤本文恵、落野早美、堀キャシー、今田イモジン、石井令子、丸山和子、丸山フィリス、松田紘美、宮本みつ子、宮田ジュリー、森本千鶴子、奥本洋子、坂谷シャーリン、咲田静子、佐々木恵美子、清水ミッチー、下野夏枝、杉田ローリー、スヤスーザン、天保君子、脇元優子、吉山ナンシー、湯木都世子