



MEGUMI

慈恩

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Gardena Buddhist Church



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Rev. John Iwohara

「神通妙法」 “The Transcendent Wondrous Dharma”

The characters 「神通妙法」 “jin zuu myou hou” were written for me by my teacher and thesis advisor Professor Kyoshin Asano. These characters were given to me as a gift upon the completion of my studies

of Jodo Shinshu in Japan. Although I translated the expression as “The Transcendent Wondrous Dharma,” the term “transcendent” or 神通 “jin zuu” is used in the sense that the Wondrous Dharma or 妙法 “myou hou” is able to reach us in a manner that is beyond our conceptual understanding. The Wondrous Dharma in this expression is pointing specifically to the Nenbutsu. In other words, the expression is meant to convey the thought that the Nenbutsu is able to reach us in a way that “far surpasses normal abilities to the extent that we could attribute it to the ability of a god.”

The characters 「神通妙法」 that were written for me are framed and hung on the wall. I have placed these framed words in such a way that whenever I return home I will always see “The Transcendent Wondrous Dharma” welcoming me home. Depending on the state of mind I have when returning home there are days when

I see these words and the first thing I think is, “Thank you Sensei (teacher).” Other days I just glance at the words, without a passing thought, and walk right by. Unfortunately, this happens more times than I care to mention. Recently, however, I have frequently been coming home with a much more reflective attitude and thinking, “What are these words trying to tell me? Why did Sensei share these words with me? What does it mean?”

Asano Sensei was a huge advocate for overseas propagation. As an example of how supportive Asano Sensei was, Sensei handled most if not all of the overseas ministerial training classes at Ryukoku University, as well as heading that department while I was studying in Japan. This was true before I went to Japan, and I studied in Japan for seven years. Sensei continued in this capacity until their retirement. Because of this, as well as having lived in the United States for an extended period of time as a visiting scholar, Asano Sensei was quite aware of many of the challenges that needed to be met in order to successfully accomplish overseas mission work. I’m sure that this is part of the reason why Asano Sensei gifted me with the words, “The Transcendent Wondrous Dharma.” Sensei

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probably understood and knew that there would be many days that I would feel “isolated” and that there would be fewer opportunities for me to consult with others with the questions that I would have. Sensei probably heard this from several of their students that returned home to Japan from overseas missionary work. In my case, however, I was returning home from Japan. Because Sensei was especially kind and generous with all of their students, I’m sure that they were worried about me. Or, that is what I think now in looking at the words, “The Transcendent Wondrous Dharma.”

Asano Sensei returned to the Pure Land not too long ago. I remember a Dharma message that they gave some time ago. They were talking about the “turning and directing of merit in the form of returning,” or gensou ekou (還相回向), and how Sensei would be returning from the Pure Land. Sensei stated that if you ever see someone that is really enjoying the Nenbutsu and that person reminds you of them, then it might very well be Sensei having returned from the Pure Land in order to check up on us. At the

time, I can recall everyone either laughing or smiling at the comment. Although I have yet to see someone who reminds me of Sensei, looking at the words they left for me reminds me that I am still being looked after. The Nenbutsu is transcendent. It is the wondrous Dharma. Because Sensei wanted to make sure that I could appreciate these facts is probably why I was gifted these words. Thank you Sensei. Thank you for making sure that I always know that I will never be left alone and that I never have to worry about being isolated because Namo Amida Butsu will always be reaching me.



ABA News (Adult Buddhist Association)

The calendar says “September”. We’ll go through some warm days before the leaves begin to change color.

September also means ABA Bingo! This year, the Bingo will be on Saturday, September 30. Dinner is at 5:30pm and bingo begins at 7pm. This year will be a little different. We will be offering protein such as chashu and chicken katsu. We will have a variety of onigiri. If you have a sweet tooth, there will also be a bake sale!

A silent auction is another activity that will happen that night. We are preparing 30 items. Upon purchasing raffle tickets, you will have the opportunity to drop your tickets into the container in front of the item that you want. At the end of the night, we will draw the names of the lucky winners!

We humbly ask for everyone’s support and donations. All proceeds from the Bingo will be going to the Lahaina Hongwanji Relief Fund.

Stay safe and see you at Bingo!



**Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 20 at 7PM
Via Zoom**



TUESDAY SOCIAL

I hope everyone is doing well. We resumed our Tuesday Social gathering on Aug 15 after a one month summer break. It was nice to see everyone happy & healthy. We will not meet on Sept 5 but will resume our regular weekly gatherings beginning Sept 12. Please join us on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30 for coffee, donuts, and socializing with our amazing senior friends.

JR. YBA (Jr. Young Buddhist Association)

We started out this month with a Disneyland trip on August 2 as an end of year activity. Then on August 5 and 6, Jr. YBA worked the jumper ticket booth and one of the game booths. Finally, we continue to work on our Southern District Conference “Clue: Dharma Edition” which will be held on September 2-3 hosted along with Nishi’s Jr. YBA. We have 97 Jr. YBA attendees coming from 13 different temples spanning as far as AZ, SD, and Oxnard.

We would like to thank GBC for their continued support, for their contributions to our conference, and all the help and guidance provided throughout this whole process.



The Community Projects Group (CPG)

A big “thank you” to everyone after a most successful Obon – to our CPG members who worked to create our many items to sell at our craft boutique booth, to our members and friends who spent long hours selling during the two-day sale, and to all of you who came by to visit and made purchases! You are all so special!



The CPG is a group of volunteers who meet on the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 10 am in the Church Meeting Room. Our September gatherings will be on Mondays, September 11th and 25th. Please stop by if you are interested!

RUMMAGE SALE

NEW DATE!

Saturday September 9 , 2023

Time- 8am to 1pm

Place – church parking lot

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




Fujinkai / BWA Buddhist Women's Association

Happenings:

- ◇ Report from coordinating council meeting: Please submit group history from 2001 to the present to prepare for our 100th anniversary yearbook.
- ◇ Obon 2023- August 5th and 6th – Thank you to everyone who came out to help. It's good to have obon back once again, and we couldn't have done it without all our BWA and church members and all the wonderful volunteers who came to assist us.
- ◇ Thank you especially to the Rice Crew and the YABA Group for helping us with the dishwashing and thank you to C&D gumi for the delicious breakfast and for being in charge of the lunch for all the workers on Saturday.
- ◇ Sushi-making class. Recommending that we have 1-2 sushi-making classes for the newer BWA members in order to gain the skills and confidence to roll maki-zushi for our Obon and Fujimatsuri events. Idea of pairing up a new member with a veteran BWA member to learn the techniques and nuances from them.
- ◇ Second stage could possibly be to invite YABA members to roll sushi together with us, as a way of undertaking an activity together with the YABA group.
- ◇ GBC BWA 100th anniversary (2026) suggestions: Special service, luncheon, gift to the members. In addition to the idea of having a scarf as our new uniform, there was a suggestion of having a haori-type of jacket made (new ensemble!).
- ◇ Additionally, we're thinking of having an off-site luncheon and inviting all Southern District BWA members. Looking for a location now. Miyako Hybrid Hotel? Capacity 250 people.
- ◇ September 2nd – SD Jr. YBA Conference – BWA has offered to prepare curry lunch. Prep will begin on Friday, 9/1, at 9am; then on Saturday, 9/2, prep will begin at 10:00am.
- ◇ September 9th, Saturday – Tea Lunch for our members. We have a good number of people signed up and hope everyone will have a memorable time.
- ◇ September 24th, Sunday – BWA Birthday Party. This year we'll be celebrating the birthdays of: Tamie Kikuno, Kazuko Maruyama, Yoko Okumoto, Saeko Oyama and Sae Takahashi. We'll have a service first, then go out to lunch.
- ◇ September 16th, Saturday – Fall Ohigan Seminar with guest speaker Bishop Ito from Higashi. D/e Gumi is asked to prepare refreshments for the Japanese morning session.
- ◇ September 17th, Sunday – Fall Ohigan Otoki. Ohagi prep: 5:00am rice start for D/e gumi, 6:00am all members please come to help.

Announcements:

- September 7th (Thursday) – PIF Meeting 7:15pm (via zoom). Imogene/Julie will attend
- September 10th (Sunday) - September Meeting 11:15am (hybrid). D/e Gumi
- September 24th (Sunday) Coordinating Council Meeting 11:30. Julie/Imogene will attend
- October 1st (Sunday) - October Meeting 11:15am (hybrid). E/a Gumi

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BWA Appreciation:

◇ Special Donation

Kazuko Maruyama
Julie Miyata
Donna Takao

Hiromi Matsuda
Patrick Naranjo



Hui Aikanes

The anticipation of planning, meeting, and disseminating shifts for working in the booths for Obon has come and gone. Thank you to Nadine, Sharyl and the Obon committee for another successful year. Thank you also to our members who helped work in the various booths during the Obon festival.

Our next meeting and potluck luncheon is scheduled for October 14th 11:30 am-1:00 pm in the Social Hall. We are planning to discuss future Hui Aikane activities and enjoy each other's company. More information regarding our potluck luncheon meeting will follow. Please join us.



New members are welcome to attend! Hawaiian ancestry is optional!

YABA (Young Adult Buddhist Association)

Kangi-e! Our Obon was certainly a joyous celebration. What a great time to remember and honor those who came before us. We enjoyed the food, taiko, games, odori and everything else in between. Thank you to everyone who contributed to make it happen!

On August 19th YABA had a Bonfire at Bolsa Chica State Park. It was a nice way to end the summer. We played in the sand, collected shells, made s'mores, and enjoyed each other's company.

It will be nice to see everyone back at the temple this month as we kick off the new Dharma School year. This month YABA plans to meet up for lunch on the 16th at The Enclave. We are also going to help at the Bingo event on the 30th. We hope to learn as much as we can from ABA.

Upcoming Events

- September 16: Lunch at The Enclave
- September 30: Bingo
- October 21: LA Galaxy Game



Megumi Deadline is Monday, September 11, 2023



From GBC Board Chairperson

“Obon 2023”

Alan Miwa This year’s Obon was the return of the two day Obon celebration. Not only was this the first Obon after four years, Saturday August 5th was perhaps one of the busiest Obon days we’ve ever experienced (estimated 1200 dancers and a total of around 4000 – 4500 guests). I want to thank everyone involved in the planning and execution of this ‘new beginning’. There are way too many people to identify by name but I especially want to thank Nadine Kakimoto and Sharyl Yamada-Oda for co-chairing this event and Ross Nishimura and his team for his work in designing, setting up, testing, and training for the Central Ordering capability. This new ordering approach allowed us to accept credit cards for the first time.

I give a lot of credit to the Obon committee for this year’s event. The restart and redesign for executing this year’s carnival was beyond challenging. Admittedly, we had some difficulties and unexpected problems along the way but everyone involved did their best to compensate and make adjustments to make this year’s event successful.

To all of you who came out to help, I’d like to extend a BIG THANK YOU! I know that it was a really hot weekend and there were probably places you’d rather be or things that you’d rather be doing but without you, this celebration would not have been possible.



Commendation from County of Los Angeles



Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief

To our Sangha at the Gardena Buddhist Church. On August 10, 2023, a wildfire in Maui, Hawai'i destroyed the town of Lahaina, including the Lahaina Hongwanji Mission. By the time you read this, the fires on Maui will have been extinguished but the damage caused by them will remain for years to come.

People can go to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii site for ways to give.
<https://hongwanjihawaii.com/>

Also, in response to the fire that has devastated Maui, the BCA has put in place the following disaster relief effort to help support our Dharma friends in Hawaii through our BCA Social Welfare Committee:

Here is how you can help:

1. Donations can be made on-line through: <https://bca.kindful.com/>
2. Donations can also be made by check. Please make check payable to: BCA Endowment Foundation (Please note on memo line: MAUI RELIEF)
3. Mail checks to: BCA Endowment Foundation - 2140 Durant Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704

A donation link can also be found on our church website.

Finally, net proceeds from the September 30th ABA/YABA Bingo Fund Raiser will be donated to help the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

Your support of our Dharma friends in Hawaii is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

The Gardena Buddhist Church Board



OBON RAFFLES WINNERS!!!

1st	\$1000	Octavia Fukino
2nd	\$700	Tom & Kiyoko Sasaki
3rd	\$400	Toshiyuki Seino
4th	\$250	Michiko Sumi
5th	\$150	Sharyl Oda
6th	\$100	Bruce Ioki
7th	\$100	Karyl Suero
8th	\$100	Janice Sato
9th	\$100	Mr. & Mrs. Walter Takamura
10th	\$100	Sharleen Aoki



To All Raffle Participants:
 Thank you for your support to our Obon!



- **Ohigan Seminar**
 Saturday, September 16
 Japanese: 9:30am
 English: 1:30pm
 Guest Speaker: Bishop Noriaki Ito
 (LA Higashi Honganji)
- **Ohigan Hoyo**
 Sunday, September 17 at 9:30am
- **Family Bingo Night**
 Saturday, September 30 at 5:30pm



Wisteria Chugakko

Reverend John Iwohara, Headmaster
Charlene Hirotsu, Principal

Sharing some of our alumni students' responses at our 5 Year Anniversary and Reunion this past March 2023.

1. What were your fondest memories of Wisteria Chugakko?

- Loved making food
- Japanese American National Museum Field Trip
- Playing games with friends, leading the Juseige, and making new friends
- Everything after having to shave my head has been the fondest memory
- Coming back to help crochet, playing games with my friends, and eating all of the delicious food
- Cooking and if I needed help, there were many teachers willing to help me
- To meet new people and get to know all of the teachers. I also enjoyed sewing and everything about the Japanese culture.
- Filming our own project
- Going to Little Tokyo with my friends
- When I drew or tie-dyed something that expressed my creativity
- Taking many insightful classes to prepare me for the future.
- The Morning Services
- Walking in and always excited for a new adventure everyday.
- Acting in the film our group made, Ramsey Gordon
- The WLP trip to Little Tokyo and JANM
- Undokai and spending time with my friends (and the food)



2. What did you gain from your experience at Wisteria Chugakko?

- I learned how to make tie dye.
- Many enjoyable memories such as playing at Undokai, sewing, cooking, and playing taiko. I am so thankful for the friends I met and friends I already had to play together with.
- I learned how to sew and social skills.
- To be able to become more knowledgeable about the Japanese culture and to interact with others. Also having fun!!
- I was able to learn more about my culture, learn to cook, make new friends, and learn new skills.
- I gained cooking skills (sort of) and made new friends :)
- I learned how to crochet.
- A renewed optimism for the future of the temple and Jodo Shinshu.
- I was able to learn important life skills in Wisteria Chugakko! It was fun to learn how to sew, cook, manage a car, and much more!
- I learned how to sew using a machine.
- I learned new recipes in cooking class.
- The experience I gained was to have fun even though we were struggling from the pandemic...by cooking, drawing, tie dyeing and taiko.
- I gained important life skills.
- I gained the skill of mindfulness and appreciating people from my ethnic culture.
- I gained an interest in crocheting.
- What stayed with me was the ability to make friends and getting to know them long term.
- I gained responsibility and how to treat others better. I learned to appreciate others also.
- I gained more knowledge about my life and heritage, and more social skills and the ability to make more friends.



Field Trip to Japanese American National Museum



Shibori Class



Sewing Backpacks



Students Meet Teachers



JANM Scavenger Hunt Teams



Lunch Time

Wisteria Chugakko 2023



Taiko Class



With Special Guest Speaker, George Takei



Undokai



Please sign up and join us for the 2024 summer session.

2024 Wisteria Chugakko Summer Session
 Student Interest Form for Grades 7, 8 and 9
 Monday, June 17 through Wednesday, July 10, 2024
charlene.hirotsu@gbcwisteriachugakko.org



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Gardena Buddhist Church Wisteria Chugakko Summer Program

Reverend John Iwohara, Gardena Buddhist Church Resident Minister, Headmaster
 Charlene Hirotsu, Wisteria Chugakko Principal

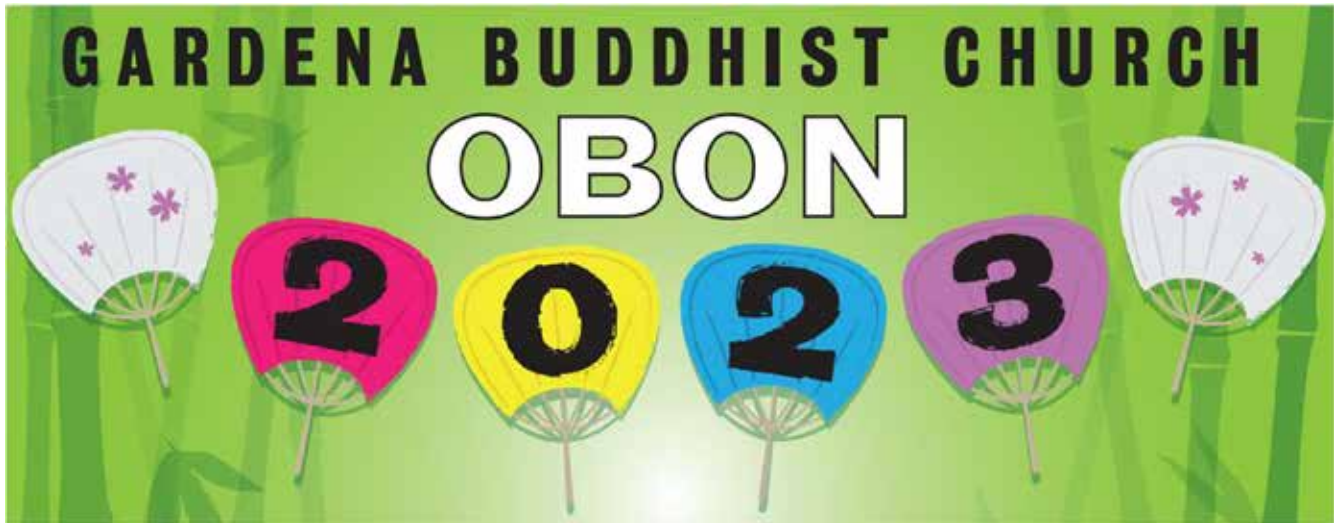
Student Interest Form

June 17 – July 10, 2024

I am interested in registering for Wisteria Chugakko for the Summer of 2024.

I will be in the 7th, 8th or 9th grade in the Fall of 2024.

Student's Last Name	Student's First Name	Student's Gender Pronoun Preference
Student's Date of Birth	Student's Grade in Fall 2024	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.)



♥ 2023 Obon Committee ♥

Our deepest gratitude to the Booth Leaders, Affiliated Organizations, Scouts, Family, Friends, Volunteers, Ministerial and Office staff for your hardwork and support during the Obon planning phase, Dance practices, Booth Set-up, Festival weekend and Monday clean up!

A Big Thank You to our Donors and Friends

Kings Hawaiian, US Bank, Kinecta, Yamada Company, Dr. Neal Natsumeda, Orange County Buddhist Church and Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Many thanks to the Southern District BCA temples and community members who were part of the thousands in attendance and who continually support our Obon and other events!

Thank you all for making 2023 Obon a success!

To help in planning future Obons, please take the time fill out the online survey on the 2023 Obon webpage.

In Gassho,

Sharyl & Nadine
2023 Obon Committee Co-Chairs

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

**The church acknowledges the following donations received from 7/18/23 - 8/16/2023
with gratitude and appreciation.**

Funeral/Makurakyo/Burial/Memorial Services

Harada Family
Murakami, Kenneth

Nakamura, Alan
Tsuruta, John

Valparaiso, Eiko
Wong, Wesley

Shotsuki Hoyo Donations

Akahoshi, Masato
Ego, Kimiko
Enomoto, Tom
Fujioki, Emma
Igawa, Wayne
Ikenaga, Chieko
Imamoto, Eiko
Inoda, Jeri
Kikuno, Nariko
Kishiyama, Susan

Kurata, Hiroko
Maeda, Tom
Maesaki, Kazue
Masukawa, Yoko
Matsuda, Mark
Matsumoto, Shunji
Mekata, Earl
Mikami, Shirley
Miyasato, Frances
Morimoto, Judy

Nakamura, Alan
Nakamura, Kimi
Ohara, M/M J.S.
Osa, Susan
Otani, Keiko
Sasaki, Emiko
Sasaki, Sherry
Shinmoto, Yoko
Takahashi, Lawrence
Takano, Ryoko

Tanaka, Nancy
Taniguchi, Satsuko
Uyemura, Jean
Uyeno, Christine
Watanabe, Makoto
Wong, Wesley
Yamada, Joyce
Yamane, Judy
Yokoyama, Elaine

Obon Service

Anonymous (2)
Brian Mitsunaga Trust
Ego Family
Fukai, Iris
Hoo, M/M Danny
Ikeda Cambra, May

Imamoto, Eiko
Kiyoko & Masaji
Memorial Fund
Kono, Emi
Koyanagi, Stan
Kurashima, M/M Justin

Maesaki, Kazue
Miyashiro, Marc-Mitchell
Okamura, Rodney
Shibata, Reiko
Shimohara, Evelyn
Takao, Dianne

Terao, Carolyn
Tsuge, M/M Mike
Yamada, M/M Edward
Yoshiyama, Rose

Hatsubon Service

Murakami, Kenneth

Oishi, Dr. Robert

Special Donations

Anonymous (2)
GBC Wisteria Chugakko (2)
Brian Mitsunaga Trust (2)

Kurashige, M/M Mil
Maesaki, Kazue
Masumoto, Chiyoko

Moromisato, Yasu
Muramoto, Mary
Nakasone, Carmen

Ohta, Katsuyuki
Shinmoto, Yoko
Yoshimura, Eileen

2023 GBC Membership Dues (Received: 7/18/2023 – 8/20/2023)

Hori, Kathryn
Hori, Patricia

Ito, Bennett
Ito, Lisa

Kanegawa, Eric

BCA Assessment

Kita, M/M Alan

Kuwahara, Suzuko

Eitaikyo Fund

Tsuruta, John

Osaisen

Nakakura, M/M Ken

Nokotsudo Donation

Miyamoto, T.

General Donation/Facility Use/ Miscellaneous

Kobayashi, Izumi

September 2023

2-3 SD Jr. YBL Conference hosted by Gardena & Nishi	8:00am
Virtual Shotsuki Hoyo	10:00am
3 No Sunday Service	
SD Jr. YBL Conference	
4 Temple closed: Labor Day	
6 Dharma School Teacher's mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
7 Pass It Forward mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
9 Yard Sale (Country Store)	8:00am
10 Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
First day of Dharma School	
BWA mtg (In-Person & Zoom)	11:15am
11 Megumi deadline for October	
2023 Obon mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
15 Jodo Shinshu 101 for Young Adults w/Rev. Iwohara	7:00pm
16 Meinichiko service via Zoom	7:00am
Fall Ohigan Seminar (J): Bishop Noriaki Ito	9:30am
(E): Bishop Noriaki Ito	1:30pm
17 Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
Fall Ohigan Service	
ABA mtg (In-person & Zoom)	11:30am
20 GBC Board mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
24 Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
Coordinating Council mtg (In-person & Zoom)	11:30am
BWA 80 & 88 Birthday Service	11:30am
BWA Birthday Luncheon @ Iseshima	12:30pm
28 Centennial Gen Ops mtg via Zoom	7:30am
30 YABA & ABA Bingo & 50 cent Dip Dinner	5:30pm

October 2023

1 Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
BWA mtg (In-Person & Zoom)	11:15am
4 Dharma School Teacher's mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
5 Pass It Forward mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
7 Shotsuki Hoyo via Zoom	10:00am
8 Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
Eshin-ni/Kakushin-ni Memorial Service	
BWA Members Memorial Service	11:00am
BWA Memorial Luncheon	12:00pm
9 2023 Obon mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
14 Hui Aikanes Potluck Lunch & Meeting	12:00pm
15 Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
ABA mtg (In-Person & Zoom)	11:30am
16 Meinichiko service via Zoom	7:00am
18 GBC Board Mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
20 Jodo Shinshu 101 for Young Adults w/Rev. Iwohara	7:00pm
22 Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am
Coordinating Council mtg (In-person & Zoom)	11:30am
23 Megumi Deadline for November	
20 GBC Board mtg via Zoom	7:00pm
26 Centennial Gen Ops mtg via Zoom	7:30pm
29 Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom)	9:30am

<Regular Activities>

Sunday:	Isami Taiko Practice @11:15am weekly
Monday:	2nd & 4th Community Projects @9:30am 2nd & 4th Cub Pack 1230 mtg @6pm
Tuesday:	Tuesday Social @9:30am Weekly

Wednesday:	Ikenobo/Ikebana Class @2pm 3/month
Thursday (or Saturday)	Tea Ceremony Class @9:30am 1st & 3rd Boy Scout Troop 242 mtg @7pm
Friday:	2nd & 4th Girl Scout Troop 4345 mtg @7pm
Saturday (or Thursday):	Tea Ceremony Class @9:30am

『王舎城の悲劇』

宮地美子師

浄土真宗で大事なお経はお釈迦さまが説かれた
 仏説無量寿経・仏説観無量寿経・仏説阿弥陀経の
 浄土三部経と言われる3つのお経です。その中の
 仏説観無量寿経には王舎城で起きた悲しい出来事
 を通して、その主人公である韋提希(いだいけ)夫
 人がどのように苦悩から救われたかが説かれたお
 経です。

その出来事は今この世の中でも日常的に見聞きす
 る出来事と大差ありません。よって私たちが抱える
 苦悩の根本は何かを考えさせていただけると共に、
 人間の根本的な悩みを解決して下さる道しるべ
 のお経なのです。

そのストーリーの中で、お釈迦さまは韋提希夫人を
 救うために色々な仏様の国々を紹介しておられます
 が、最終的に韋提希夫人は、『私は阿弥陀様のお
 浄土に生まれたい』と望まれます。その時お釈迦さ
 まは、にこりと微笑まれて、よくぞ阿弥陀様の国を
 選ばれたと喜ばれます。そしてこの物語の最後に
 阿難尊者の観経の心はとの問いに『汝、よくこの語



韋提希夫人の願い

をたもてこの
 語をたもつと
 は無量寿仏
 の名をたも
 てとなり』と
 おっしゃいま
 した。無量寿
 仏とは無量
 光仏と同じよ

うに阿弥陀様の
 別名です。阿弥
 陀様の名という
 皆さんお分りの
 ように“南無阿弥
 陀仏”の六字名
 号のことで、『阿
 難よ、阿弥陀仏
 の名、南無阿弥陀仏をた
 もて』とおっしゃっているの
 です。阿難という名を皆さんの名前に置き換えてみ
 ますと“美子よ!この語をたもちなさい、阿弥陀様
 のお名前、南無阿弥陀仏をたもちなさい”ということに
 なります。



王舎城城壁の跡

仏説観無量寿経の肝要、一番お釈迦さまがおっし
 ゃりたいことは、この世の中の事、なにも頼りになる
 ものはありませんよ、そのことに早く気づいてお念仏
 を称えながら、自分に与えられたこの世での使命を
 果たしなさい。

苦悩の根元を知ること、そしてその苦悩の根元に意
 味を見出してく下さるのが南無阿弥陀仏なのです。
 一体、韋提希夫人の苦悩とはなんだったのでしょうか。
 日曜法話にてその『王舎城の悲劇』に関する法
 話をしておりますので、ガーデナ仏教会のwebサイ
 トを検索し、Past Dharma Messages 8月20日日
 曜日をお聞き下さい。

合掌

秋季彼岸会法要&セミナーのお知らせ

○ 秋季彼岸セミナー

日時： 9月16日(土) 日本語:午前9時30分
 英語:午後1時30分

○ 秋季彼岸会法要

日時： 9月17日(日) 午前9時30分

* 特別講師(9/16&17): 伊藤憲昭総長 (ロサンゼルス東本願寺別院)



婦人会便り

婦人会の通常の活動（敬称略）

- ▽ 附属団体連絡協議会：百周年記念アルバムに載せるため2001年から現在までのグループの歩みを提出して下さい。
- ▽ 8月5日（土）&6日（日）：お盆祭りは婦人会のメンバーはじめ、仏教会メンバーや多くのボランティアの方々のお陰で大盛況裡に終わりました。お手伝いに来て下さった皆様にお礼申し上げます。特に炊飯チーム、洗い物をお手伝いして下さったYABA、美味しい朝食や土曜日のランチをお手伝いの方々に準備して下さったC&D組、お疲れ様でした。
- ▽ 寿司クラス：婦人会の新メンバー向け寿司クラスを1-2回実施してはどうか。お盆や藤まつりで巻き寿司を作る際に戦力になれるよう、まずベテランメンバーとペアを組んで、技術やちょっとしたコツの習得を目指す。次のステップとして、YABAメンバーを招待し、今後共に協力して寿司作りを担えるようにすることが目標。
- ▽ 2026年 ガーデナ仏教会婦人会創設百周年記念：特別法要、昼餐会、メンバーへの贈答品などが提案されています。また、婦人会の新しいユニフォームとしてスカーフを作ることに加えて、羽織タイプのジャケット（アンサンブル）も検討中。さらに南部教区の全ての婦人会をご招待して、仏教会外での昼餐会も検討中で、250人収容可能な場所（都ハイブリッドホテル？）を探しています。
- ▽ 9月2日（土）南部教区ジュニアYBL会議：婦人会は昼食にカレーを提供することを申し入れました。準備は9/1日（金）は午前9時から、9/2（土）は午前10時から始めます。
- ▽ 9月9日（土）婦人会メンバーのためのティーランチ：参加人数がかなり集まっており、楽しい思い出に残るひとときになることでしょう。
- ▽ 9月24日（日）婦人会誕生日パーティー：今年お祝いするメンバーは、菊野民枝、丸山和子、奥本洋子、小山佐恵子、高橋小枝（敬称略）。礼拝後ランチに出かけます。
- ▽ 9月16日（土）秋季お彼岸セミナー：ご講師はロサンゼルス東本願寺別院 伊藤憲昭総長。D/e組は午前中にある日本語セッションの軽食の準備をお願いされています。
- ▽ 9月17日（日）秋季お彼岸法要：御斎のおはぎは午前5時からの炊飯をD/e組が担当し、午前6時からは全員がお手伝いします。

アナウンスメント:

- ▽ 9月7日（木）PIF会議（Zoom）今田イモジーン&宮田ジュリー出席予定
- ▽ 9月10日（日）9月婦人会例会（ハイブリッド）午前11時15分 当番 D/e組
- ▽ 9月24日（日）附属団体連絡協議会（Zoom）午前11時30分 今田イモジーン&宮田ジュリー出席予定
- ▽ 10月1日（日）10月婦人会例会（ハイブリッド）午前11時15分 当番 E/a組

感謝録:

- ▽ 特別寄付 丸山和子 松田紘美
宮田ジュリー 高雄ダナ
ナランホ パトリック

