



MEGUMI

慈恩

GARDENA BUDDHIST CHURCH
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Rev. John Iwohara

Gardena Buddhist Church



November 2023

Volume LVI No. 11



Rev. John Iwohara

“A lot has changed. What’s Next?”

We live in very interesting times. A lot of the things that we used to take for granted are no longer what they used to be, if they still exist at all. So much is changing so fast that it’s hard to keep up some times. Complaining about this might be what it means to grow old. Whereas this has probably been true for every generation, it never seems as pressing as it does for your own. The temple, and religious institutions in general, have been relatively immune to the rapid changes happening around them. Traditionally, they have always been the places that you could rely on to stay “the same.”

This image is somewhat paradoxical because almost every religious tradition has brought about with it tremendous social change. Religions have helped entire communities, cultures and even societies see in entirely new and liberating ways. Furthermore, for Buddhist institutions, the idea of change is built into its very fabric. It is, in fact, one of the three distinguishing traits that can actually answer the question, “What is Buddhism?” The three defining traits are known as the three seals.

The three seals are: (1) (All that arises due to) various actions (conditions), is not permanent (諸行無常, *sho gyou mu jou*), (2) All existence is without actuality (諸法無我, *sho hou mu ga*), and (3) nirvana is tranquility (涅槃寂靜, *ne han jaku jou*). The first of the three seals reveals the truth of impermanence, the second, the truth of non-ego. Not fully understanding the meaning and implications of these first two traits is the reason for suffering. Finally, the third is on the truth of nirvana or what it means to overcome suffering. This third aspect of truth is achieved when one fully understands the truth that is revealed in the first two seals. The third seal, therefore, is focused on the truth of Enlightenment.

Given that understanding impermanence is a critical aspect of Buddhism, it only seems natural that temples be very open to change. During the height of the pandemic we were very fortunate that several key people shared their many talents with us and thus allowed the temple to change from in-person to on-line or virtual gatherings and services. Now, we have moved onto providing hybrid gatherings and services, although not all of our services and activities have resumed in-person. These transitions to how we propagate are all

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examples of impermanence, and what becomes possible when we are able to accept change.

It is obvious that the world before, and the world after the pandemic is a lot different. A lot of the old rules no longer apply including many of the rules that have been established by religious institutions. Religious institutions, because they have been established to protect and pass on their religious truths, tend to be slow to change. Some customs, for example, have been maintained for centuries.

A lot has changed. People’s attitudes towards religion has changed. The internet, for example, has changed the very meaning of boundaries. A church or temple is no longer limited to the space between its four walls. The limitation is now bandwidth.

Over the many centuries of Jodo Shinshu propagation, the temple structure, its architecture and arrangement of religious pieces, has always been an integral part of sharing the Jodo Shinshu experience. People still come to the temple and comment on how peaceful they are made to feel just sitting in the hondo (main hall). Unfortunately, it is also true that our Sunday service attendance has yet to return to pre-covid numbers. We are forced to ask, “Are the temple walls still serving to protect, or have they become barriers?” Given how virtual our world has become, do we need to consider breaking down even the imaginary

fifth wall? How much of the “old ways” should we keep? How much do we need to “protect” in order to keep from making changes for change’s sake?

What’s next? Although, on the one hand, it might be a scary and perhaps daunting to consider what we need to do next, on the other hand, it can also be exciting and rewarding. If we talk about and share our ideas, and work together to establish our shared dream of reaching towards what is possible for a temple to promote and share the Dharma of Namo Amida Butsu, then the “temple” will be able to continue to share what is most important. However, we can only do this if we remember what it is that is most important.



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.

- Nakayama, Edgar Kazuo (92)
- Katsuki, Setsuo (84)
- Inose, Kenichi (90)
- Arimoto, Robert Arata (85)

- September 2, 2023
- September 21, 2023
- October 7, 2023
- October 11, 2023



**Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 15 at 7PM
Via Zoom**



TUESDAY SOCIAL

We will celebrate Halloween on Tuesday October 31, with our annual HAPPY HAT DAY. Please wear your favorite hat, baseball cap, or hand-crafted hat and join in the fun. If you don't have one or forget to bring one, no worries, we will have one waiting for you. We gather at 9:30am with a coffee, tea, and sweet treat social, then play card games, puzzles, or just sit and chat. Please join us on Tuesdays from 9:30 – 11:30 am.

ABA News (Adult Buddhist Association)

The calendar says "November" which means the leaves are changing colors and the kakis will soon change from green to orange.

ABA will be supporting the upcoming PIF activity by preparing the vegetables. It's going to be so nice to have udon again after so much time has passed.

November also means elections. Come to the November meeting on the 19th to find out which members will be leading us in 2024.

Continue to stay safe and watch out for each other.



Hui Aikanes

Thank you to our Hui Aikane members for attending our luncheon meeting. We enjoyed a delicious potluck lunch and discussed future activities for our club. It was wonderful to see everyone that attended.

One upcoming temple activity is our annual "Pass It Forward" scheduled for Saturday, November 11th, 5 pm – 10 pm. Our members are asked to help other affiliated organizations with the preparation of the "Udon" fundraiser. Friday, November 10th, 10 am slicing kamaboko, chashu, prepared eggs, and cleaning spinach. Saturday morning beginning 11 am preparation for the spam musubi. If you are available on either day(s) your assistance will be greatly appreciate.



Nomination forms were sent via email or by mail. Please return your nominations by October 28, 2023. Tentatively we are planning our installation service for January 7th and installation luncheon January 20th.

Future date for our next meeting will be sent via email or by mail.

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



★ **PIF Udon Sale & Bingo**
Saturday, November 11, 2023
(Udon Pick Up 5pm-7pm/Bingo 7pm-9pm)

★ **Eitaikyo Perpetual Memorial Service**
Sunday, November 19, 2023 at 9:30am
Guest Speaker: Rev. Seigen Yamaoka



Happenings:

- ◇ BCA Endowment Fund Account. During our October meeting, Kathy Hori gave a short presentation. GBC BWA is considering to transfer our money market account to this fund. Minimum amount in order to open a BCA account is \$50,000. In the meantime, we will purchase a 1-year CD with our current money market account and take advantage of short term interest.
- ◇ 2023 BWA Japanese seminar sponsored by the GBC BEC has been postponed until next year. We're compiling a list of ministers to contact to be our guest speaker. Suggestion to coincide with February 3-4 Kisaragi service, and names of Nagamine Sensei, Rinban Hasebe (Hawaii), Takashi Miyaji Sensei, Taniguchi Sensei and Mikame Sensei (San Jose) are being considered. However, Takashi sensei is confirmed for Spring Ohigan 2025; Hasabe-sensei's schedule is filled for 2024.
- ◇ GBC 100th anniversary gift to the temple: Instead of a stove for the social hall, we're now considering new uchishiki for the onai-jin. Discussion included purchasing a set of 5 cloths to have a matching set. Budget estimate of \$20,000.
- ◇ GBC BWA 100th anniversary event planning (Feb, 2026). We've decided to have a special service, luncheon and a gift to our members. Forming a committee to start planning for the event: Imogene Imada, Kathy Hori, Chizuko Morimoto, Julie Miyata, Amy Kato, Shawna Tanaka.
- ◇ October 8th, Sunday – Lady Eshinni/Kakushinni Service. Thank you to Kathy Hori for chairing and to Charlene Hirotsu, Naomi Mekaru, Aya Motoyasu and Charlene Sakatani for assisting on the special osaisen collection at this service. Thank you also to E gumi for taking care of the Osonae.
- ◇ October 8th, Sunday- BWA Memorial Service – hybrid format from 11:30am. Thank you to all the members and guests who attended to memorialize our past members. We all had an enjoyable lunch afterward at Seashore Chinese Restaurant.
- ◇ October 14th, Saturday – We hope everyone enjoyed attending the Southern District Buddhist Conference, either in person or via Zoom. Also, thank you to the members who stayed after to attend the quarterly SDBWA General Meeting.
- ◇ October 28th, Saturday - Sushi-making class for BWA members in order to practice rolling and hone our skills. First class at 10:00AM. E/a gumi in charge of prepping the rice and set-up at 8:30am.
 - ▽ YABA – We plan to invite the YABA to join us at our 2nd sushi making session, some time in 2024.
- ◇ November 11th, Saturday – PIF Event: Udon Sale and Bingo. All groups are being asked to assist and support this event.
- ◇ November 18th, Saturday – Takikomi Gohan otoki prep. A/b gumi will be in charge of shopping for the ingredients. Prep on Saturday will be from 8:30am-12noon (same day as Tri-Temple seminar). Sunday (11/19) 5:30am start; general assembly: 6:30am to finish and package the takikomi Gohan otoki.

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- ◇ November 19th, Sunday. Eitaikyo Service. Hoping everyone wasn't too tired after the otoki prep to attend this important service!

Announcements:

- o October 22nd (Sunday) – Coordinating Council Meeting 11:30. Julie/Imogene will attend
- o November 5th (Sunday) November Meeting 11:15am (hybrid). A/b Gumi
- o November 16th (Thursday) – Meinichiko Service
- o December 3rd (Sunday) December Meeting 11:15am and General Meeting immediately after (hybrid). B/c Gumi



BWA Appreciation:

- ◇ BWA Memorial Donation

Fujimoto, Fumie
 Hori, Kathy
 Imada, Imogene
 Ishii, Reiko
 Maeda, Tom
 Maesaki, Kazue
 Maruyama, Kazuko

Maruyama, Phyllis
 Matsuda, Hiromi
 Mekar, Naomi
 Miyaji, Rev. & Mrs.
 Miyamoto, Mitsuko
 Miyata, Julie
 Morimoto, Chizuko

Okumoto, Yuko
 Sakatani, Charlene
 Shimizu, Mitzi
 Shimono, Natsuye
 Takahashi, Sae
 Tenpo, Helen
 Uyehara, Ritsuko

Wakimoto, Yuko
 Yoshimura, Masaharu
 & Seiko
 Yoshimura, Ted &
 Yumiko
 Yoshiyama, Nancy
 Yuki, Toyoko

- ◇ 80/88th Birthday

Anonymous
 Hori, Kathy
 Imada, Imogene
 Kikuno, Tamie

Maruyama, Kazuko
 Maruyama, Phyllis
 Rev. & Mrs. Miyaji
 Miyata, Julie

Okumoto, Yuko
 Oyama, Saeko
 Sakatani, Charlene
 Takano, Ryoko

Tenpo, Helen

YABA (Young Adult Buddhist Association)

Happy November! It is time to turn the clocks back an hour and the spooky pumpkins into pie.

On October 21st we attended the LA Galaxy soccer game at Dignity Health Sports Park. We had a great time cheering for the Blue, White, & Gold!

This month we will have cabinet elections and a game night. We are looking forward to the PIF Udon/Musubi & Bingo event.

Enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday!

Upcoming Events

- November 4: Game Night & Potluck





From GBC Board Chairperson

“The Dana of Giving”

Alan Miwa

I could feel it! I’m sure that if you were there, you probably felt it too! In all the preparation and in the activity and in the event itself. There was an air of joy and happiness. People coming together to selflessly do something for others. This was truly an exciting and enjoyable happening.

On Saturday, September 30, the YABA and ABA hosted a Bingo event at the Gardena Buddhist Church like no other that I have ever had the opportunity of being a part of. This event was to raise funds for the Lahaina Hongwanji Mission Relief fund. All kinds of people came together to make this happen. It would unfair for me to mention helpers by affiliated organizations because everyone was there to help. There were the regulars but there were many, many more. The bento meals and Bingo games were sold out long before that Saturday. It was a challenge for all the helpers to put together over 247 chicken teriyaki/cha-su meals and prepare for 253 bingo players. Attendance did not disappoint. We had a packed house that night (take that Covid!).

Before we played our first Bingo game, I was able to announce that we had already received \$16,000 in bento/bingo pre-purchases and donations. Thank you YABA artists for making me a large ‘check’ to show the audience.

While the bentos and Bingo games were the biggest contributors to our fund raising, baked goods and spam musubi were sold and we had a cup raffle.

After the numbers have been tallied, this one event alone will enable us to send a check of \$27,500 to help the Lahaina Hongwanji Sangha. Wow, what a feeling of Dana. Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen, both putting it together and being a part of it.



Scars are a sign that you've been hurt, but they are also reminders that you can heal.





Wisteria Chugakko

Reverend John Iwohara, Headmaster
Charlene Hirotsu, Principal



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



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 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.)

Wisteria Chugakko | Special Interview



Tyler Higuchi

He has been a member of our Dharma School at Gardena Buddhist Church since he was 2 years old, and is now 16 and in the 11th grade. He is wholeheartedly supported by his parents, Terence and Tracy Higuchi, and his brothers, Travis, and Trent.

As principal of Wisteria Chugakko, I met Tyler Higuchi when Tyler began attending the Wisteria Chugakko Summer Program at Gardena Buddhist Church in June of 2019. He was in the 7th grade class in the Fall of 2019. Part of our curriculum was to bring awareness to our students of the Japanese American experience during World War II.

Shortly after Wisteria Chugakko ended, I shared with all of the students the opportunity to apply for the Sue Kunitomi Embrey Scholarship. Tyler took this opportunity to apply to this program.

In 2019, Tyler applied to the Sue Kunitomi Embrey Scholarship Program by submitting his artwork and an accompanying short essay.



Q (WC: Charlene Hirotsu, Principal of Wisteria Chugakko): What was your motivation to apply to this scholarship program?

Tyler Higuchi (TH): I was motivated to apply to the scholarship program because I had learned a lot about the Japanese American experience during World War II through various summer camps, books, and museums. As a result, I felt very confident in my knowledge about the topic. Additionally, up until this point I had never applied to an art contest so I thought it would be a fun experience to create an artwork centered around a prompt, and to see how well I could do in the contest.

Q: Tell us about your artwork and short essay.

TH: I believe that my prompt was related to the similarities between how Japanese and muslim Americans were treated following the Attack on Pearl Harbor and 9/11. I wanted to highlight the similarities by depicting how both communities were shut out by society and viewed as enemies to America. My art used less vibrant tones to represent both the somber mood of the country following these events as well as the hostility that the two communities were the target of.

I was recognized for my work through a letter that I received in the mail with my prize. I also received an email which explained that my artwork would be celebrated during a luncheon at a later date due to Covid.

Compare and Contrast What is Happening in the Muslim Community with the Japanese American experience. What can you do to support the Muslim community today?

The situation with the Muslim Americans during World War II. Both groups have been unfairly treated as traitors and/or prisoners in their own communities. On Dec. 7, 2015 President Trump called for a shutdown of Muslims entering the U.S. because he seemingly believes all Muslims are potentially terrorists. Coincidentally, on Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese planes attacked the U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, HI. The next day, the U.S. declared war on Japan and entered World War II. A few months later, Americans of Japanese descent were incarcerated in isolation camps because, "few if any could be trusted." Anti-Japanese sentiment was allowed to flourish in our country during this time. Alarmingly, more than seventy five years later, Muslim Americans are, like the Japanese Americans, being unfairly treated as traitors in their own country and anti-Muslim attitude is being allowed to grow strongly.

Today, I am creating artwork to remind our country of the parallels between the Muslim American and Japanese American experiences to help ensure that the injustices suffered by my Japanese American great grandparents are not repeated in this country.

Name: Tyler Higuchi
Grade: 7th
School: Adams Middle School, Redondo Beach
Sponsor: Charlene Hirotsu, Principal, Wisteria Chugakko

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Sue Kunitomi Embrey Student Awards Program 2022
 HS Visual Arts 1st Place winner
 Tyler Higuchi
 Sponsor: Charlene Hirotsu, Wisteria Chugakko

Focus Question: How did the U.S. history of discrimination against Asian Americans lay the foundation for recent Anti-Asian violence and what will you do to address these racist incidents?
 After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S government launched a racist, anti-Japanese campaign that helped to fuel anti-Japanese sentiment. That hate against Japanese Americans ultimately landed them behind barbed wire where they were unjustly treated as the enemy rather than as loyal American citizens.
 Fast forward to the present where violent attacks against Asians have skyrocketed to an all time high during the COVID-19 pandemic. Once again Asians are being unfairly blamed, this time for causing the COVID-19 pandemic. Indeed, former President Donald Trump, the highest US government official at the time, began to stir anti-Asian hate when he referred to the COVID-19 virus as the "Chinese Virus" and implied that the virus originated in China.
 The goal of my art piece is to raise awareness of the recent hate crimes against Asian Americans and to bring an end to these crimes. My piece depicts two portraits of myself, one with a mask to represent the hate against Asian Americans throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The other represents a Japanese American experiencing similar hate during WWII. The hand represents the hate against Asian Americans in their own communities.

In 2023, Tyler again took the opportunity to apply for the Sue Kunitomi Embrey Scholarship.



In 2020, the Wisteria Chugakko Summer Program was dark due to the COVID pandemic.

In 2021, Tyler attended the Wisteria Chugakko Summer Program as a 9th grader, our virtual program, "Wisteria Buds". It was a challenge for staff and students to be in a newly developed remote setting, and it was a successful experience for all. Again Wisteria Chugakko presented a curriculum in our "Learning our History" class about the Japanese American Incarceration.

In 2022, Tyler again took the opportunity to apply for the Sue Kunitomi Embrey Scholarship.

Q: Tell us about your artwork and the meaning behind your artwork?

TH: The prompt I chose for this year revolved around the similarities between how Japanese Americans were treated during WWII and how Asians were treated during the Covid-19 Pandemic. I wanted to bring awareness to the hatred of Asian Americans which was widespread in many cities across America. Like the Japanese Americans during WWII, they were unrelated to the issue at hand. Both communities were the victims of hate crimes for reasons which they could not control.

Q: Are you the subject represented in your artwork?

TH: I used myself as a reference in my artwork. I did this because I am Japanese American and I think that using a reference helps me to better visualize what I want to draw.

I was recognized for my artwork through email, but once again the luncheon was not held this year due to Covid.

Q: Tell us about your artwork and the meaning behind your artwork?

TH: My artwork was meant to depict the bravery of the Japanese American soldiers in the 442 and 100th Infantry Battalion. Although many felt betrayed by the U.S. they still wanted to show their loyalty for their country. They underwent harsh living conditions as they fought against enemy countries. I used a brush pen for my artwork because it is often linked to Japanese culture. The brush pen also creates rough lines which were meant to symbolize the liveliness of the battlefield.

Q: Were you recognized for your artwork?

TH: This year the award luncheon was held and I was recognized for my artwork from all 3 years.

Q: Tell us about the Sue Kunitomi Embrey Scholarship Program.

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Carrying the Weight

By Tyler Higuchi

How does the project address the criteria?

It is important to remember the 442nd Infantry Regiment, Military Intelligence Service, and the 100th Battalion because they are among the most decorated military units in U.S. history. This fact is made even more incredible given that these soldiers loyally fought for their country even though that country saw them as enemies and had imprisoned them and their families.

My drawing depicts an anonymous Japanese American soldier carrying a white American soldier through a trench in a forest. The Japanese American soldier is smaller than the soldier on his back to represent the typically undersized Japanese American soldiers. The smaller soldier also underscores the incredible odds the Japanese American soldiers defied to demonstrate their loyalty. The barbed wire behind the soldiers represents the family and friends that many Japanese American soldiers left behind at the camps. It again represents the incredible sacrifice the soldiers had to make in order to prove their loyalty to their country. The forest setting is an allusion to The Rescue of The Lost Battalion, the most recognized mission of the unit. In summary, the story of the 442nd Infantry Regiment, Military Intelligence Service, and the 100th Battalion must be preserved because they displayed the ultimate acts of loyalty to their country. These brave soldiers paved a path of pride, freedom, and success for all Japanese Americans like myself. We must continue to show respect and gratitude to those bravest of soldiers and their legacy. Thus I feel it is my responsibility to commemorate and celebrate their stories through my art.

Congratulations, Tyler.

Recognition also needs to be given to the parents of Tyler Higuchi, Terence and Tracy Higuchi, for their continued support and encouragement.

Tyler Higuchi is an upstanding member of the Gardena Buddhist Church Dharma School. He has served on the cabinet of the Sangha Teens as well as the Jr. Young Buddhist Association.

We are all very proud of your extracurricular achievements, and commend you for your determination and efforts.

With Gassho,
Charlene Hirotsu
Principal, Wisteria Chugakko

TH: I think the Sue Kunitomi Embrey Scholarship Program is great as it allows me to reflect on the experiences of my ancestors and how different life was back then. Every year I learn something new as I research for inspiration for my art. I enjoy learning more and more about my heritage; whether it be good or bad it is important to never forget these historical events. This program provides a learning experience while allowing me to express my creativity through my artwork. My goal for each art piece is to expand upon the prompt in a creative way, spark conversation and bring awareness to the Japanese American experience during WWII.

Q: Tell us how you feel about the experiences you have encountered through the 4 years of your participation in Wisteria Chugakko and the Sue Kunitomi Embrey Scholarship Program.

TH: Wisteria Chugakko has assisted me in learning about Japanese American culture. I really enjoyed all of the lessons that I learned during my time at Wisteria Chugakko, especially all of the field trips. Even after 6 years at Saishin Dojo, Wisteria Chugakko was able to provide even more detail about Japanese American culture which helped me feel more connected to my community. The Sue Kunitomi Embrey Scholarship Program has been a great way for me to express my gratitude for my culture through something that I love to do.

Q: Anything else you would like to share?

TH: I look forward to creating art and applying to

Sangha Teens

Sangha Teens is excited to start off our new school year. We have elected our cabinet and will have our installation soon. We are looking forward to bonding with our new 6th graders and working together to make this year fun and successful.

Upcoming events:

- Nov 12th- ST meeting
- Nov 19th- Sunday social donuts

Future dates to be determined:

- Spaghetti luncheon
- ST installation
- Great Room Cafe outing



Megumi Deadline is Monday, November 20, 2023

2023 TRI-TEMPLE SEMINAR

VENICE HONGWANJI
BUDDHIST TEMPLE

WEST LA
BUDDHIST TEMPLE

HOSTED BY
GARDENA BUDDHIST CHURCH

Join us for an **intergenerational discussion**
on the topics of
relationships and mental health!
All temples welcome!

NOVEMBER

18

1-3:30 PM

GARDENA BUDDHIST
CHURCH

1517 166TH ST.

Refreshments provided!
Virtual option available – RSVP as
a virtual participant for the Zoom link.

Contact: Nadine Kakimoto
nadine.kakimoto@gardenabuddhistchurch.org

RSVP HERE:
bit.ly/TriTemple2023



GARDENA BUDDHIST CHURCH PASS IT FORWARD 2023

LET'S PLAY BINGO

SATURDAY
NOV 11, 2023
7pm - 9pm

7 GAMES
FOR
\$25
PRE-ORDER

7 GAMES
FOR
\$30
AT THE DOOR

**BAKE
SALE**

We will also
have Community
Projects selling
their crafts in
the Social Hall!

*Come and Join Us for
Fun and More!*



**UDON
SALE**



*Order
Before
October 29*

Udon
Pickup
**Nov 11, 2023
5 - 7 pm**



TAKE OUT AVAILABLE

\$15

PICK UP AT GARDENA BUDDHIST CHURCH
UDON INCLUDES:
GHASHU, EGG, KAMABOKO, GREEN ONION, SPINACH,
AND ONE SPAM MUSUBI (ADDITIONAL SPAM MUSUBI \$3)
*PRE-ORDERS NEEDED BY OCTOBER 29, 2023 OR UNTIL SOLD OUT

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

The church acknowledges the following donations received from 9/12/23 - 10/15/2023 with gratitude and appreciation.

Funeral/Makurakyo/Burial/Memorial Services

Higuchi, Carolyn	Kono-Song Famiy	Santos, Cheryl
Kaida, Yasuko	Nakaoka Family	Sasaki Novoa, Emily
Kang, Yoshie	Ronne, M/M Robert	Sasaki, Emiko

Shotsuki Hoyo Donations

Fujioki, R.	Kaida, Yasuko	Mori, Eiko	Sasaki, Emiko
Fujita, Teruko & Fumiko	Kaneshiro, Ronald	Nagatani, Ronald	Shibata, Reiko
Fukuman, Thomas	Kang, Yoshie	Nakamura, Patricia	Toshima, Jean
Higuchi, Carolyn	Kawamoto, M/M Derrick	Nakata, M/M Bob	Tsuge, Marilyn
Inose, Kay	Kono-Song Family	Nakawatase, Haruye	Uwahori, Sadae
Inouye, Ben	Kunibe, Mary	Ohara, Emily	Uyeno, Christine
Iwamoto, Dianne	Matsumoto, Eiko	Okihara, Craig	Yokota, Dale
Jackson, Donna (2)	Mikamo, Edith	Ronne, M/M Robert	Yokoyama, Elaine
	Miyata, Julie	Sasaki Novoa, Emily	

Fall Ohigan Service

Fujimoto, Fumie	Miyamoto, Mitsuko	Shimono, Natsuye	Uyeda, Midori
Hiramoto, Deborah	Miyata, Julie	Takahashi, Sae	Uyemura, M/M David
Hirotsu, M/M Stan	Morimoto, Nobuharu	Tamura, Mary	Wakimoto, Yuko
Imada, Imogene	Nakata, M/M Bob	Tanaka, Nancy	Yoshida, Suzanne
Kato, M/M Isao	Nakawatase, Haruye	Tenpo Suya, Susan	Yoshiyama, M/M Bryan
Kita, M/M Alan	Ohara, Emily	Tenpo, Helen	Yoshiyama, Rose
Maeda, Tom	Okada, Nobuko	Terao, Carolyn	Yuki, Toyoko
Maruyama, Kazuko	Okamura, Rodney	Tomiyoshi, Ruby	
Matsuda, Hiromi	Okumoto, Yoko	Tsuge, M/M Mike	

Special Donations

Anonymous	Kiyohara, Kimiko	Nakasone, Carmen Mits	Zaw, Noriko
Fukino, Allen & Octavia	Maeda, Akiko	Nakawatase, Haruye	
Gardena Jr. YBA	Morita, Ms	Takahashi, Lawrence	

2023 GBC Membership Dues (Received: 9/12/2023 – 10/15/2023)

Miyamoto, Jodi	Morimoto, Glenn	Morimoto, Tyler	Tani, Jeffrey
Morimoto, Chizuko	Morimoto, Katelyn	Murata, Jan	Tani, Kari

Eitaikyo Fund

Haruma, Yaeko	Nakano, Etsuko	Yokota, James
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Eitaikyo Service

IMotoyasu, Steve
Munekata Wilhelm, Sheri

Nakatani, M/M David
Sayegusa, Fumie

Shimizu, Mitzi
Takao, Tamiko

Tomiyoshii, Ruby
Watanabe, Donald

Nokotsudo Donation

Nakabayashi, Stewart Nakano, Etsuko

General Donation/Facility Use/ Miscellaneous

Baba, Miyako

Kobayashi, Izumi

November 2023

- | | | |
|-------|---|---------|
| 1 | DS Teacher's mtg via Zoom | 7:00pm |
| 2 | Pass It Forward mtg via Zoom | 7:00pm |
| 3 | Jodo Shinshu 101 for Young Adults w/Rev. Iwohara | 7:00pm |
| 4 | Shotsuki Hoyo via Zoom | 10:00am |
| 5 | Daylight Saving Time ends | |
| | Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom) | 9:30am |
| | BWA Hybrid mtg | 11:15am |
| 8 | General Membership SVC and Mtg via Zoom | 7:00pm |
| 10 | Temple Closed—Veteran's Day | |
| 11 | Temple Closed--Veteran's Day | |
| | PIF Udon Sale & Bingo (Udon P/U 5-7pm, Bingo 7-9pm) | |
| 12 | Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom) | 9:30am |
| | Sangha Teen mtg | |
| 15 | GBC Board Mtg via Zoom | 7:00pm |
| 16 | Meinichiko service via Zoom | 7:00am |
| 18 | So. District Tri-Temple Seminar | 1:00pm |
| | Hui Aikane mtg | 12:30pm |
| 19 | Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom) | 9:30am |
| | Eitaikyo Hoyo Service | |
| | ABA mtg (In-Person & Zoom) | 11:30am |
| | Hui Aikane Installation | 11:30am |
| 20 | Megumi Deadline | |
| 22 | Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom) | 9:30am |
| | GBC Forward! Fundraising Meeting via Zoom | 7:00pm |
| 23-24 | Temple Closed—Thanksgiving Holiday | |
| 26 | Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom) | |
| | Coordinating Council mtg (In-person & Zoom) | 11:30am |

December 2023

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|----|---|---------|
| 2 | Shotsuki Hoyo via Zoom | 10:00am |
| 3 | Dharma School Teacher's mtg | 8:15am |
| | Sunday Service Bodhi Day Service (In-Person & Zoom) | |
| | | 9:30am |
| | BWA Hybrid mtg | 11:15am |
| 6 | DS Teacher's mtg via Zoom | 7:00pm |
| 7 | Pass It Forward mtg via Zoom | 7:00pm |
| 9 | PIF: Festival of Lights & Food Sale | |
| 10 | Sunday Service Oseibo Taikai (In-Person & Zoom) | |
| | | 9:30am |
| | PIF: Festival of Lights & Food Sale | |
| 11 | 2023 Obon mtg via Zoom | 7:00pm |
| 13 | GBC Board mtg via Zoom | 7:00pm |
| 15 | Jodo Shinshu 101 for Young Adults | 7:00pm |
| 16 | Meinichiko service Zoom | 7:00am |
| 17 | Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom) | 9:30am |
| | Hondo Clean Up | 11:00am |
| | ABA mtg (In-Person & Zoom) | 11:30am |
| 18 | Megumi Deadline | |
| 24 | Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom) | 9:30am |
| | Coordinating Council mtg (In-person & Zoom) | 11:30am |
| 25 | Temple Closed | |
| | Community Projects cancelled | |
| 26 | BS Troop 242 mtg cancelled | |
| 31 | Sunday Service (In-Person & Zoom) | 9:30am |
| | Year End Service | 7:00pm |

<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



婦人会便り

婦人会の通常の活動（敬称略）

- ▽ BCA基金口座。10月の会議で堀キャシーがマネーマーケットにあるお金をこの口座に移すことを検討していることを説明してくれました。BCAの口座を開くには最低5万ドルが必要。その間に1年のCDを買って、その短期金利をうまく活用することにします。
- ▽ GBC BEC主催の2023年BWA日本語セミナーは来年まで延期されました。2月3-4日の如月法要に合わせてはとの提案もあり、現在ご講師の先生の候補リストを作っています。候補者：長嶺先生、長谷部先生、宮地崇先生、谷口先生、三瓶先生。ただ、宮地先生は2025年のお彼岸のご講師に決まっております、長谷部先生は2024年のスケジュールは埋まっているのが現状です。
- ▽ ガーデナ仏教会創立百周年記念の贈答品：社交ホールのストーブの代わりにお内陣の打敷（1セット5枚の揃いの布）を検討中。予算は20,000ドル。
- ▽ 2026年2月のガーデナ仏教会婦人会創立百周年記念として、特別法要、昼餐会、メンバーへの贈答品を組み込むことを決定。特別委員会のメンバーは今田イモジーン、堀キャシー、森本千鶴子、宮田ジュリー、加藤エイミー、田中シャウナです。
- ▽ 10月8日（日）恵信尼公・覚信尼公追悼法要司会の堀キャシーをはじめ、お供えを用意して下さったE組、布施集めのお手伝いをして下さった広津シャーリーン、銘苺ナオミ、本安綾、坂谷シャーリーンに感謝します。
- ▽ 10月8日（日）婦人会追悼法要（11:30am対面&Zoom）参列して下さったご遺族やメンバーの皆様、ありがとうございました。法要後Seashore中華レストランで美味しい御斎ランチを皆で頂きました。
- ▽ 10月14日（土）南部教区仏教徒大会及び南部教区仏婦人会会議に対面又はZoomでご参加下さった皆様、ありがとうございました。
- ▽ 10月28日（土）巻き寿司の技術を磨くため

に婦人会メンバー対象の第一回寿司クラスを午前10時から開催します。E/a組はお米とセットアップの準備を午前8時半から始めます。

- YABAを第二回目のクラス（2024）に招待しようと計画しています。
- ▽ 11月11日（土）PIFイベント：うどん販売&ビンゴ。全てのグループがお手伝いとサポートを頼まれています。
- ▽ 11月18日（土）炊き込みご飯の準備。A/b組が材料の買い出し担当。土曜日は8:30am - 12noon（Tri-Templeセミナーと同日）、日曜日（11/19）は5:30amから準備を始め、6:30amに皆で仕上げや容器に詰める作業をします。
- ▽ 11月19日（日）永代経法要 皆様、御斎の準備でお疲れかもしれませんが、この大切な法要に是非ご参加下さいますようお願い致します。

アナウンスメント:

- ▽ 10月22日（日）附属団体連絡協議会（Zoom）午前11時30分 宮田ジュリー & 今田イモジーン出席予定
- ▽ 11月5日（日）11月婦人会例会（ハイブリッド）午前11時15分 当番 A/b組
- ▽ 11月16日（木）命日講（Zoom）
- ▽ 12月3日（日）12月婦人会例会（ハイブリッド）午前11時15分 引き続き総会 当番B/c組

感謝録:

* 婦人会英語記事（P5）に掲載



『聴聞のおかげ』

宮地美子師

蓮如上人が、『御一代記聞書』にこう教えられています。

至りて堅きは石なり、至りて軟なるは水なり、水よく石を穿つ。「心源もし徹しなば、菩提の覚道何事か成ぜざらん」といえる古き詞あり。

いかに不信なりとも、聴聞を心に入れて申さば、御慈悲にて候間、信を獲べきなり。只仏法は聴聞に極まることなりと云々。(御一代記聞書193)

現代語訳:「至りて堅きは石なり」とは、かたいものといえば石です。「至りて軟なるは水なり」とは、やわらかいものといえば水です。

そんなやわらかい水で、かたい石に穴があくと思へますか?ところが屋根から雨だれが落ちます。そこに石があって、雨だれが絶えずぽたぽた落ちていると、「水よく石を穿つ」軟らかい水が、堅い石に穴に開けるのです。

『穿つ』=うがつの意味は、“穴をあける・通り抜ける・物事の本質をとらえると言う意味です。

この言葉の意味は、かたくなに仏法から目をそらしている私たちでも、阿弥陀様の願いを聞いているうちに、阿弥陀如来のお慈悲によって必ず信心を得さ



せていただけますよ。といただけます。

「ただ仏法は聴聞に極まることなり」だから仏法は聴聞に極まるのです。「極まる」というのは、2つも3つもない、これ1つということです。

聴聞一つで、信心獲得できると教えられています。浄土真宗では、“仏法を聴け”“聴聞に限る”“聴聞に尽きる”等と言われるのはその事を現しています。原田総長が、聴聞を重ねる私たちは、以下のようなことに気づかせていただけるとおっしゃっています。

1. 外の事象よりも、自分の中を見る力が備わる
2. 自分を取り巻く環境への感謝と共に法に出遇えた不思議を思える
3. 生死を超えることができる
4. さまたげられない(念仏者は無碍の一道なり)
5. 人生無意味なことはないと思える
6. 自己反省ができるようになる
7. 一如の世界が恵まれる
8. 内面的な平和が与えられる
9. サンガの一員である喜びがある
10. 自分自身への目覚めがある(本当の自分の姿に出遇える)

確かに聴聞を重ねておられますとさまざまな気づきを与えていただけます。

日々の生活の中でお念仏を称え、仏法を聴くご縁を大事にしていまいりましょう。

秋も深まってまいりました。この冬にはインフルエンザが流行ると言われています。

どうぞご法体お大事になさいますよう。

合掌

永代経法要ご案内

日時：11月19日(日)午前9時半

場所：ガーデン仏教会 (対面及び Zoom)

導師/法話(日英): 山岡誓源名誉開教使

バーチャル(Zoom)でご参加希望の方は、ガーデン仏教会のウェブサイト(<https://www.gardenabuddhistchurch.org/service-sign-up>)に

アクセスして登録して下さい。後ほどこちらからリンクをお送り致します。

*永代経登録について: 仏教会では、永代経登録を受け付けています。登録は\$500ドルとなっております。登録締め切りは11月6日とさせていただきます。