

BUSSEI SCRIPT

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VOLUME CVI, NO. 7

JULY 2009

TRUE PARENT

By Rev. Yushi Mukojima, Resident Minister

Last month, I celebrated my first Father's Day. I received the warm congratulations of many Sangha members, and my wife and daughter treated me to dinner at a nice restaurant. The day left nothing to be desired.

However, sometimes I admit I don't feel that I am really a father at all. For me, fatherhood is more a feeling of wonder. When I see my wife struggling with child care everyday, her labor of love as she nurtures our daughter is fully apparent to me. She seems to emanate the very essence of motherhood.

Compared to my wife, I cannot help but think that I have not been able to do anything for my daughter, let alone become the embodiment of fatherhood. I tell myself I shouldn't just bear the title "father" but should make a fresh commitment to my responsibilities and become a parent who deserves to be Kurumi's father.

Speaking of parents, in Shin Buddhism we often call Amida Buddha *Oyasama* which means "True Parent." Although I also often use this term, this month, I would like to think about why we call Amida Buddha "Parent" and what "True Parent" means.

As you all know, kids tend to neglect expressing gratitude for their parents' love and affection and in fact want to become independent of them. However, parents never take their eyes off their kids and always embrace them with a loving look. Even when kids move away, parents always think and worry about them.

In my experience, this is a true observation. I really enjoyed living on my own after entering the university and didn't feel appreciation for the many favors which I received from my parents. I didn't regret at all leaving the life I had spent with them. But only when I was so sick one day that I wasn't able to do anything for myself, I realized how precious and valuable my parents' love was which I had taken for granted. Though I obstinately refused at first, they were so worried about me that they came all the way to school to take care of me. So I only realized my parent's love once I moved away from home. It really made me reflect deeply after realizing that I hadn't even been aware of their affection.

Parents raise their children with loving care without being asked. They don't start because a newborn baby says, "Hello, nice to meet you, Dad and Mom! Please raise me to become a good adult." Parents don't commit to their kids because somebody asks, "Please raise them." It is the parents who instinctively love and protect their child even before they are asked or are begged.

Unfortunately I cannot say this is always so. These days there have been very sad news reports of parents who injured their kids and, even worse, killed their own children. Although most of us probably think these extraordinary cases have nothing to do with us, we really don't know what we as ordinary parents would do in their situation or how we would behave if faced with the same kinds of causes and conditions. In that respect, we should be careful about making judgments.

Parents have countless wishes for their kids. For example, they wish for their kids to become a certain kind of adult or get a certain kind of job in the future. Their wishes for them are limitless. However, we almost never wish that we as parents will become a certain kind of parent.

For example, we don't consider what kind of parents we should be in order to raise our kids properly. Or we don't consider how we should build a wonderful environment in order to support the education for our kids. A true parent is one who first wishes him or herself to be the kind of parent who deserves to be a child's parent, long before indulging in wishes for one's child.

Such a wonderful parent, though, is Amida Buddha. As Amida Buddha is called True Parent, he always thinks and is worried about each one of us as if he were watching over his own child. He opened the great path to Buddhahood for us and is regarding each of us with a loving look in order to make us a Buddha even before we think to ask for it.

Amida Buddha is a Buddha of compassion who calls to all living things, "I will save you just as you are." Thus he represents ultimate compassion. However, please don't misunderstand that when Amida Buddha says he will save us just as we are that it means we can do anything we like. That is really a terrible and serious misinterpretation.

For example, suppose that you are invited to your friend's house for dinner. After enjoying dinner and your friend begins to clear the table, many of you will try to help out, won't you? Even if you don't really want to, you will at least offer to, right? But when your friend sees you reaching for the dirty dishes, what will he say to you? Probably, "It's OK, just leave them there as they are," right? Then you will be convinced by his assurances and go home relieved, saying, "Thank you for such a nice dinner."

But the next day, should you visit your friend again, are the dishes and teacups which you used last night still on the table? Of course not. Your friend washed and put away the dishes which you used, all with no help from you. So by saying, "Leave them there as they are" to you, he means, "Don't worry, I will accept all of your troubles."

In other words, to say, "Leave things as they are," means trouble and extra work for those who say it. Amida Buddha is exactly the same as this.

During his lifetime, there were many hardships Sakyamuni Buddha endured in order for him to establish his vow and be able to say to each one of us, "It is all right just as you are."

But we really don't know what Sakyamuni had to go through in order to save us. He was burdened with ascetic trials in becoming a Buddha which, were we to practice and accomplish Buddhahood on our own, could take us "five kalpas," which is an astounding period of time. If we could fathom his effort to be able to save each of us without exception, we might truly understand that to say, "I can do anything I like," is remarkably selfish.

The voice calling, "Supper is ready," is the same as the Nembutsu. A person who's preparing supper doesn't call everyone to the dining room the moment he starts cooking. Only when the cooking is finished and the meal is prepared, everyone is welcomed to the dining room with the announcement, "Supper is ready!" It is much the same with the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu." Within the Nembutsu is the calling voice of Amida Buddha saying to us, "Leave everything to me. I will surely save you." Because he accomplished his great vow to save all living things with the Nembutsu, all of us who are called will be born in the Pure Land and become a Buddha. We will be saved by hearing "Namo Amida Butsu," the calling voice of Amida Buddha who accomplished his vow.

"True Parent " continued on Page 3.

July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5 10 a.m. - FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 JULY SHOTSUKI-HOYO 祥月法要 11 a.m. - Obon Dance Practice @ Annex 11:30 a.m. - TAIKO @ Sangha Hall 12 Noon - BWA Mtg. @ Conf. Rm.</p>	<p>6 Temple Closed 7 p.m. - W&M C. Mtg @ Conf. Rm. 7 p.m. - Kids Obon Dance Practice @ Annex Hall</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 12 Noon - Minyo Group 民謡 @ Annex 1.2 7 p.m. - Obon Dance Practice @ Annex Hall</p>	<p>9 6:30 pm - Board of Directors Mtg @ Conf. Rm.</p>	<p>10 9:30 a.m. - BUDDHIST STUDY CLASS A with Rev. Mukojima @ Conf. Room 11:00 a.m. - Sutra Chanting class @Hondo</p>	<p>11 10 a.m. - Koto Class 拵琴教室 @ Annex 1.2</p>
<p>12 10 a.m. - FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 11 a.m. - Obon Dance Practice @ Annex 11:30 a.m. - TAIKO @ Sangha Hall</p>	<p>13 Temple Closed 7 p.m. - Kids Obon Dance Practice @ Annex Hall</p>	<p>14 10:30 a.m. - SD Minister's Mtg @ LA Betsuin</p>	<p>15 12 Noon - Minyo Group 民謡 @ Annex 1.2 7 p.m. - Obon Dance Practice @ Annex Hall</p>	<p>16 10 a.m. - GOMENICHI @ Hondo</p>	<p>17 9:30 a.m. - BUDDHIST STUDY CLASS B with Rev. Yanagihara @ Conf. Room 11:00 a.m. - Sutra Chanting class @ Hondo</p>	<p>18 Imperial Valley Obon Cemetery Services 8:30 @ Calexico 9 a.m. @ El Centro 10 a.m. Brawley</p>
<p>19 8:30 a.m. - TEMPLE CLEANUP NO SERVICE 11 a.m. - Obon Dance Practice @ Annex 11:30 a.m. - TAIKO @ Sangha Hall</p>	<p>20 Temple Closed 7 p.m. - Kids Obon Dance Practice @ Annex Hall</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 12 Noon - Minyo Group 民謡 @ Annex 1.2 7 p.m. - Obon Dance Practice @ Annex Hall</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 10 a.m. - Koto Class @ Annex 1.2 1 p.m. - BEC Lecture Rev. Sasaki @ S. Hall 4:30 p.m. - VFW Benefit Chickie Dinner @ Annex 6-9 p.m. - VFW / BTSD BINGO @ Annex</p>
<p>26 9 a.m. - INTRO. TO BUDDHISM @ S. Hall 10 a.m. - OBON SERVICE 盂蘭盆会法要 AUGUST SHOTSUKI-HOYO 祥月法要 English Guest Speaker: Rev. Senyo Sasaki Japanese Guest Speaker: Rev. Akio Miyaji 11:30 a.m. - Summer Somen & Refreshment 11:30 a.m. - TAIKO @ Sangha Hall</p>	<p>27 Temple Closed 7 p.m. - Kids Obon Dance Practice @ Annex Hall</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 12 Noon - Minyo Group 民謡 @ Annex 1.2 7 p.m. - Obon Dance Practice @ Annex Hall</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 7 p.m. - Jr. YBA Mtg @ Conf. Rm Nambuatsu Camporee through August 2 @ Camp Morningstar</p>	

"True Parent" continued

So it is that true parents always embrace their child with an unconditional love, even if they must sacrifice their own life. I believe that this is why Amida Buddha is called True Parent. Therefore, each of us should express our deep gratitude to what Amida Buddha had to go through to save each one of us.

Now, once again, I would like to make a fresh resolve to become a good parent who deserves to be my loving daughter's father, respecting the great compassion of Amida Buddha.

In Gassho,

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Joyce Teague

Acknowledgments

Thanks to everyone for your great support of this year's Japanese Cultural Bazaar. We managed to make some "best bet event" media lists this year, resulting in an abundance of new visitors. Much appreciation to co-chairs LuAnn Lee, Yasuko Kinoshita and Mildred Kawasaki for managing our most important fundraiser. What a team! They even served a delicious dinner at all those committee meetings! And despite early worries, we had ample volunteer help by both members and great community friends—like SDSU graduate student Yurika Enobi, whom I noticed there both Saturday and Sunday. Heartfelt thanks to our volunteers, donors (listed elsewhere) and San Diego for making this another successful event.

Winner of this year's \$1000 cash prize for the Bazaar raffle was David Kawamoto. Congratulations, David!

Southern District Conference

Those who participated in this year's conference June 13 at the L.A. Betsuin had a good experience and came back well nourished, both spiritually and literally. We thank our friends at Venice Hongwanji and West L.A. temples who organized the confab attended by 340 *ondobo-ondogyo* (fellow seekers-fellow practitioners). The purpose was to gather to share the joy of the Nembutsu. If anyone would like to see the conference materials, I have left them on the office counter. Thanks to those who brought drinks and munchies for the pleasant bus trip up and back.

Summertime Schedule

Can you believe that this time last year, we were planning a baby shower for the Mukojimas? Now little Kurumi-chan graces our Sunday services with her smiling presence.

Check the calendar for all that's going on in July, especially our Obon-related services and activities, detailed on the cover of this issue. We encourage even those with two left feet to attend July dance practice. After all, the Bon Odori is all about the dancing and its deep meaning in our tradition. Bring the family, bring a friend, bring your two left feet!

Sensei will continue to offer a Sunday service on July 5 (July Shot-suki Hoyo Memorial Service) and July 16 (Gomeinichi). After the Hatsubon, O Bon (including August Shot-suki Hoyo) services on July 26 and the Bon Odori on August 1, the Hondo will remain quiet until September. Regular Family Service and Dharma School will resume Sept. 13 (includes September Shot-suki Hoyo).

We are fortunate to live in a fair city with a mild climate. Let's all enjoy summertime in San Diego, mindful of our many advantages and grateful for our circumstances, even when . *Gassho*.

JUNE BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

1. Rev. and Mrs. Mukojima and 18 temple members will attend the Southern District Conference on June 13. Sensei will be a panel participant at the conference.

2. The Mt. Hope Obon Service is discontinued this year with all families encouraged to attend the morning Hatsubon/Obon Services at the temple. Guest speakers will be Rev. Akio Miyaji (Japanese) and Rev. Laverne Sasaki (English). A somen snack will be served following the Service.

3. Gross income figures for the 2009 Japanese Cultural Bazaar exceed 2008 figures. Thank you to our excellent co-chairs and all our volunteers and donors.

4. The Board ratified a decision by the Executive Board to allow the King-Chavez School use of our parking lot and restroom facilities for their inaugural eighth grade commencement. The use fee was waived. As many as 600 people are expected to attend.

5. The Board approved a collaborative community activity between Zenbu, JAHSSD and SDSU Art Professor Wendy Maruyama to take place in the Annex Hall in August.

6. The Board approved payment of registration/lodging/travel expenditures for Sensei to attend the Summer Fuken at the Jodo Shinshu Center (JSC) in August; and for two BTSD representatives to attend the BCA Leadership Seminar at JSC in September.

7. The Board approved updated "Temple Use and Minister Services Fees."

8. The Board approved a 13-month fiscal year for 2009 with the temple's fiscal year to begin coinciding with the calendar year beginning in 2010.

9. Sensei was urged to make plans as soon as possible for the proposed May 2011 Sangha trip to Japan for the Shinran 750th Memorial. The memorial will be held May 15 at the Hongwanji in Kyoto. The World Funjinkai conference is May 16 and 17. A 7-10 day trip is anticipated.

10. Sensei's vacation was approved for Aug. 13-Sept. 9. There will be no Sunday services in August.

ABA

June started out with the Temple Bazaar on the 7th. We thank those who helped with all the preparations on Saturday and Sunday. Everyone helped in various booths. A few members participated in the Southern District Conference June 13 at the L.A. Betsuin. Some of us attended the temple picnic on June 21, Father's Day. We all had a great time, and the food was delicious. On July 4th we will be having our breakfast meeting at Jimmy's Restaurant on 3rd Ave. in Chula Vista at 9 a.m. Call Motoo if you wish to attend.

BWA REPORT

There was no meeting in June.

Fumiko Ohara sends a special thank you from BWA to Keiko Negoro and Yasuko Kinoshita for coordinating the volunteer helpers for sushi making for the Bazaar. Thank you also to all the members and volunteer helpers for making the 350 boxes that were completely sold out. A big thank you to Miyoko Yamanishi and Katsumi Kida for chairing the sushi making. They purchased the supplies, began preparation of the ingredients on Friday, and cooked and supervised helpers Saturday and Sunday. We really appreciate their dedication and hard work!!

The next meeting will be on July 5 at 12:00 noon. Group "B" will be responsible for the refreshments.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

I would like to follow up on our Lake Morena camping trip that was held May 22-24. The Muraoka, Honda, Sasaki, Schraeder/Baker, Tokunaga, Yamamoto, Flores, Kasai, and Ong families enjoyed a weekend of great weather, fishing, climbing on boulders, biking, making s'mores, and cooking and eating together! We had a total of 11 tents set up!

Two things really stand out when I look back at the weekend. During our Sunday morning service led by Ralph Honda, he asked people to share their favorite part of the camping trip. Along with the children's

responses, Jade's mom, Melanie Flores, said that this was the first camping trip she'd ever experienced with an organization where she actually felt that we were a family. She felt so welcome and comfortable. What a nice compliment to our Dharma School families. And at one point, Evan fell down the backside of a boulder and was crying, so Kyle Baker stayed with him while Sean Tokunaga came to find a parent to help. It's a great feeling to know that our kids really do practice the Golden Chain and help others, even when we aren't watching over them. Thanks again to all of the families for organizing and helping with the annual campout.

At the temple Cultural Bazaar, held on June 7, Dharma School families helped with the Craft Booth, two games, food preparation and numerous activities throughout the day. Thank you to the Jr. YBA and YBA members for helping man our game booths for most of the day! Thank you also to Lorin Sasaki for organizing the craft activities and the volunteer schedule.

The annual temple picnic, hosted by the Dharma School was held on June 21 at Rohr Park in Chula Vista. Service was held at 10 a.m., followed by the presentation of year-end attendance awards and recognition of the high school and college graduates. Thanks to the dads for barbecuing burgers and dogs on "their day," Father's Day. Thank you to everyone for bringing food to share!

Family Services will be held July 5, 12 and 19. There will be no Dharma School during July and August, but please come out for the Temple Cleanup on Sunday, July 19, at 8:30 a.m. O Bon Service will be held on July 26 at 10 a.m. Come out to Bon odori dance practice all this month, as we prepare for the Bon Odori on August 1. This year the temple is offering special Monday 7 p.m. night practices for kids, too!

Dharma School resumes on Sept. 13. Enjoy the summer!

Gassho, Ann Ong,
Assistant Superintendent

ZENBU PLANS "TAG PROJECT" IN AUGUST

Zenbu is planning a multi-generational community event with artist Wendy Maruyama and the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego at the temple on Saturday, Aug. 22, 2009.

Wendy is an SDSU art professor who is seeking to produce a massive art installation consisting of 120,000 handwritten name tags resembling the ones worn by the citizens and aliens of Japanese descent who were evacuated/imprisoned during WWII. Her intent, inspired by the huge displays of origami cranes displayed at Hiroshima's Peace Park, is to impress on the viewer the number of lives impacted by the evacuation order.

Because of the sheer number of tags Wendy has to create (she anticipates the project may take 2 or 3 years!), she has invited interested parties to help create some of the tags. The activity will be free and open to the public.

During a potluck luncheon in the Annex Hall, the artist will explain her project and give instructions what needs to be done. We will probably be recreating tags of Poston Camp because most San Diego Nikkei were evacuated there, so I am sure you will recognize a lot of internee names, living and deceased. JAHSSD will display photos and artifacts from Poston Camp. It will be an rewarding and educational activity for everyone.

Details in the August *Bussei Script*, via Zenbu e-mail, or call Joyce Teague at (619) 527-7855 if you'd like to help out. To receive Zenbu announcements, send your address to zenbu@cox.net.

FRIDAY LUNCHES AT KIKU GARDENS

As you know, BTSD is among several community organizations helping Kiku Gardens Senior Housing provide meals for its Friday Senior Lunch program. The schedule through October has been set. BTSD will coordinate the lunches on July 24 and September 11.

Ruth Voorhies, who also serves on the Kiku Gardens Board representing BTSD, welcomes temple volunteers to help plan and prepare the lunches we are responsible for. Just a small crew is needed for each meal because Kiku Gardens provides helpers to purchase the groceries and cook and serve the meals.

Kiku Gardens also invites the Sangha to enjoy the Friday meals. They are only \$3 and are always nutritious and delicious

BON ODORI PRACTICE SCHEDULE

July dance practices for our August 1 Bon Odori have been set: Sundays, 11:00-1:00: **July 5, 12, 19** and Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00: **July 8, 15, 22, 29**. Our group of dedicated dance instructors—Junko Kajita, Avis Honda, Ann Ong, JoAnn Katsuda, Jamie Shimizu and Susan Moribe—will be teaching us several new dances each practice.

We cordially invite the public to the dance practices as well as the Bon Odori. Encourage friends and neighbors to join in. Knowing the dances makes participation so much more fun and meaningful. All ages welcome!

For the first time, separate practices for children will be offered. See "Odori Dance Practice Just For Kids!" for more information.

With the practices and Bon Odori, we continue to grow and appreciate sharing this wonderful Japanese Buddhist tradition.

ODORI DANCE PRACTICE JUST FOR KIDS!

For the first time, special Bon Odori dance practices will be offered for kids! Practices will be held on Mondays July 6, 13, 20 and 27, starting at 7 p.m. in the Annex Hall.

The sessions are designed for the youngest dance enthusiasts through middle school. Please call the temple for more information.

TEMPLE CLEAN-UP IS JULY 19

Calling Sangha members of all ages!

It's that time of year to bring out brooms and cleaners for the annual summer temple cleanup. Clean-up day is set for Sunday, July 19 from 8:30 to 11 a.m.

Duties include window washing, vacuuming and cleaning the Hondo, tidying up the kitchens and the Annex and Sangha Hall as we prepare our facilities for our annual Obon Service, Bon Odori, and the many visitors we have for those two events.

There will be no service on July 19. Bon Odori practice will be held at 11 a.m.

If you have a few hours to spare on July 19 to tidy the temple, your efforts will be greatly appreciated.

BEC LECTURE:

"Becoming One with Buddha Every Day"

Rev. LaVerne Sasaki, Emeritus Retired, will be sharing his perceptions developed over a lifetime of living in the Dharma, in this friendly and informal lecture on Saturday, July 25 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Sponsored by our Buddhist Education Committee, the lecture will be held in our cool and air-conditioned Sangha Hall. Rev. Sasaki is a lively and engaging speaker, and we expect a large turnout for this event.

In addition to Rev. Sasaki's sharing of his insights, attendees will also receive a gift provided by the Numata Foundation, a bilingual edition of *108 Meditations* in Shin Buddhism.

"Becoming One with the Buddha Every Day" is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. RSVP not necessary.

NEW HEIGHTS UPDATE

By Ralph Honda, General Chairman

Thanks to the Sangha and friends, fundraising continues as the biggest effort for helping the New Heights Project reach its goal.

Since construction was completed last year, gifts received are replenishing temple accounts where funds were borrowed to help complete payments. Through the first six months of 2009, fundraising has totaled \$25,670.26, which averages \$4,278.38 per month.

Breaking down the figures, \$21,629.56 has been received in cash and credit card pledges, while \$3,991.50 are new gifts.

Some donors who completed their initial pledge have continued to support fundraising with special gifts.

The temple wishes to acknowledge the following individuals who recently made a special gift in the name of a loved one or special occasion: **Mrs. Ritsuko Nabeta** (in memory of Mrs. Mutsue Morishige); **Mr. Michio & Mrs. Naomi Himaka** (on the birth of grandson Trevor William Himaka); **Anonymous** special donation.

We will continue to encourage those members who have yet to be part of the fundraising campaign to climb on board. A gift in any amount will be more than welcome. To those who continue to contribute new gifts from the heart, your donation is accepted with a tremendous amount of gratitude.

If you have questions about the project's fundraising effort and wish to make a contribution please contact me at (619) 885-3788. *Gassho*

GOLF TOURNAMENT IS AUGUST 23

On Sunday, August 23, the temple will host the 14th Annual BTSD Golf Tournament at Eastlake Country Club in Chula Vista.

A field of up to 72 golfers will be eligible to participate in this fundraising event that will benefit the temple's operations.

Registration fee for the four-man scramble format is \$115 per person. The fee includes practice range balls, 18 holes of golf, golf cart, morning donuts and coffee, lunch and prizes. Check-in begins at 7:15 a.m. and first tee-off is at 8.

Both team and individual registration will be accepted. Please make your check payable to the Buddhist Temple of San Diego. Registration deadline is Sunday, August 9.

Non-golfers are encouraged to be part of the tournament by submitting a donation earmarked for the prize drawing. Monetary gifts, gift certificates and merchandise will be deeply appreciated. Tee and hole sponsorships are also available. Deadline for submitting donations is August 16.

For more information, please call the temple or e-mail co-chairs Ron Yagura (yags442@sbcglobal.net) or Ralph Honda (rkhayh@aol.com).

We encourage everyone to be a participant in the tournament as either a golfer or a donor. Your participation and support will be greatly appreciated.

KING-CHAVEZ'S FIRST GRADUATION CEREMONY

An eighth grade commencement ceremony for 150 students from King-Chavez Preparatory Academy Middle School was held on June 18 at the temple. Over 500 graduates and guests filled the temple parking lot to witness the school's first middle school graduation ceremony.

Following the pomp and circumstance, refreshments were served and the students were congratulated by school officials as well as family members.

King-Chavez Middle School is located on the corner of 30th Street and Island Avenue, one block east of the temple. We were honored to have served as the venue for its historic occasion.

Beginning this September, the graduates will become the first high school freshman class enrolled at the King-Chavez High School campus located downtown.

SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER

High school graduates and continuing college education students eligible for BTSD Scholarships are reminded that the deadline for submitting an application is July 1.

Scholarships will be awarded at O Bon Service on July 26.

750th SHINRAN SHONIN MEMORIAL

By Ralph Honda

"Peace and Tranquility" is the theme for the Buddhist Churches of America's 750th Shinran Shonin Memorial. Shinran is the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. The commemoration will be held Feb. 27 and 28, 2010 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose. The event will be held in conjunction with the BCA National Council meeting.

The memorial is being observed one year prior to the Hongwanji's 2011 commemoration in Kyoto, Japan. Sangha members and friends are urged to participate in this event that will include speakers and services dedicated to the life of Shinran.

Keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Kenneth Tanaka of the Musashino University in Tokyo. Rev. Tanaka, who grew up attending the Mountain View Buddhist Temple and did graduate work at the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS), is the author of the acclaimed book *Ocean*, an accessible introduction to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

The banquet speaker will be Pieper Toyama, head of the Pacific Buddhist Academy (PBA) in Honolulu. PBA is the first Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Preparatory High School in the United States.

Activities begin Saturday, Feb. 27 with a Dharma message from Rev. Tanaka. In the afternoon, a symposium featuring various speakers both in English and Japanese will focus on the life of Shinran Shonin. The banquet will wrap up the day's activities.

On Sunday, Feb. 28, families are encouraged to participate in a music oriented service. The event is free and open to the public.

For the next four to five months, Dharma School students and the adult Sangha are encouraged to participate and share writings on the theme "Peace and Tranquility." Students are asked to submit drawings and collages based on the theme. Everyone is encouraged to submit haiku and tanka poetry. Selected entries will be chosen to be displayed at the conference and appear in the 2011 BCA calendar.

Registration fee is \$110 per person. Hotel fee is \$144 per night. Registration forms will be available by September. Please contact the temple for more information.

For updates on the BCA's 750th Shinran Shonin Memorial Observance, please check the BCA *Wheel of Dharma* newsletter and the temple's *Bussei Script*.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT MINISTERS FUKEN

Rev. Mukojima served as the host minister for the annual Southern District Ministers Fuken (retreat) held June 9 and 10. Nineteen ministers, plus spouses attended the event held at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Kearny Mesa.

Dr. Nobuo Haneda of the Maida Center in Berkeley and Rev. Jim Yanagihara, Emeritus, were the main speakers.

The session began on Tuesday afternoon with opening service led by Rev. Mukojima. Following sutra chanting, Rimban Abiko of the Los Angeles Betsuin welcomed the ministers. Dr. Haneda addressed the delegates with an afternoon Dharma message. Later that evening everyone enjoyed a wonderful dinner at Onami Restaurant.

After breakfast Wednesday morning, Rev. Yanagihara addressed the ministers. The fukun ended with a business meeting.

The meetings were successful and everyone enjoyed their stay in San Diego.

Buddhist Temple of San Diego Membership Pledge for 2009

Renewal
 New Member
 Change of Address

Name _____ Birthdate _____
 Spouse Name _____ Birthdate _____
 Address _____ Apt: Number _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip code _____
 Phone (_____) _____ Work Phone (_____) _____
 e-mail _____ Occupation _____

Membership Pledge: The temple has an annual campaign to raise funds that go towards the Operating Budget. This budget pays for ministerial salary, programs, utilities, maintenance and the day-to-day expenses of running the temple. This tiered membership offers members the opportunity to choose their level of donation.

	Sustaining Member	Dana Member	Wisteria Member	Bodhi Member
Individual/Senior/Youth (All ages)	\$250.00	\$350.00	\$500.00	\$ _____
Couple / Family	\$400.00	\$600.00	\$1000.00	\$ _____
Optional: Senior Reduced Cost (75 yrs and older)	\$125.00			
Optional: Youth Reduced Cost (30 yrs and younger)	\$125.00			\$ _____

Recommended Annual Donations (Optional):

FLORAL OFFERING FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$30)
 The fund helps defray cost of regular fresh flowers for the onaljin (altar) \$ _____

GENERAL MAINTENANCE FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$30)
 The fund helps provide upkeep of the Temple properties \$ _____

SCHOLARSHIP FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$20)
 The fund rewards members' deserving high school graduates and college students. \$ _____

DHARMA SCHOOL (Suggested annual donation of \$20)
 This fund helps the Dharma School, which does not conduct fundraisers, to sustain its activities. \$ _____

Total amount \$ _____

Please indicate payment schedule: _____ **Amount enclosed** \$ _____
 _____ Annually _____ Semi annually _____ Quarterly _____ Monthly

To use credit card:

Visa Mastercard Acct#: _____ Expires (MM/YY): _____

Authorized signature (if charging): _____
 Billing address if different from above: _____ Zip _____

Please make your check payable to the Buddhist Temple of San Diego. A percentage of your dues supports the Buddhist Churches of America and is remitted annually to the BCA via the Temple. Benefits include a year's subscription to the BCA publication Wheel of Dharma and our own monthly newsletter, Bussei Script.

THANK YOU! Mailing Address To Send Your Pledges: Buddhist Temple of San Diego
 2929 Market Street
 San Diego, California 92102

For any questions about membership, please call the Temple at 619-239-0896 or send inquires to the Membership Chair at info@btsg.net.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO 等證書を旅費をも仏教会より負担致します。

八、浄土真宗センター訪問小旅行は参加人数が少ないため来年は延期の予定です。

九、理事会の方針に従って、葬儀の開催は先生入りの法礼と仏教会施設使用料金を新しく設定致しました。

十、理事会が二〇一〇年の一月から会計年度を始めるとして二〇〇九年度の会計年度を十二月まで承認致しました。

十一、仏教会の市の新制度に従い節水を心がけます。

十二、向嶋先生が二〇一一年日本で開催される総務聖人七五〇回大遠征法要に参加の意向を計画しています。

十三、五月十五日(日)の親鸞聖人七五〇回大遠征法要と五月十六日(月)と十七日(火)を開催される世界仏教婦人会大会へ出席の予定です。日本人の旅行期間は一週間から十日と予定しています。

十四、向嶋先生の身元を決定しています。八月十二日(木)から九月九日(水)まで予定しています。尚、例年通り八月の日曜礼拝は予定していません。

ABARリポート

六月十七日(日)日本文化祭の開催は、大成功のうちに終了いたしました。週末のお手伝いいただいた全員の皆様、感謝申し上げます。

六月二十一日(木)のロケッツがロバパークにて開催されました。激しく雨が降っていましたが、食事を大いに満喫しました。

次回の朝食会議は七月四日(土)午前九時のランチです。

トヨタのミートアップイベントが開催されます。全員の参加を予定されている方は、担当の諸君にお声かけ下さい。

婦人会リポート

六月の婦人会会議は予定通り行われました。日本文化祭の司の仕込みを手伝い下さい。

本トヨタの方々の手配して下さった根菜味噌汁、木下安子両夫人へ大原会長より婦人会を代表してお礼の言葉が送られました。また、お寿司作りにお手伝い下さった全の方々に感謝申し上げます。

お陰様で三五〇人分のお寿司が完結致しました。また、今回共同募金を努めて下さった山西美世子、木田慶美両夫人に感謝致します。両夫人は仕込み前日から必要な材料や用具を準備し、土曜日と日曜日は早朝からの調理、ボランティアの方々の監督と大忙しでした。お二人の努力と熱意と心より御礼申し上げます。

次回の会議は七月五日(日)正午よりカンファレンスルームで行われます。軽食の準備はソーループBとなっております。

今年もお盆法要期間の大掃除が予定されています。当仏教会では二年一回、仏教会へ感謝の意を込めて、お内陣仏具のお掃除が教室、台所、洗面所に至

仏教会大掃除

今年もお盆法要期間の大掃除が予定されています。当仏教会では二年一回、仏教会へ感謝の意を込めて、お内陣仏具のお掃除が教室、台所、洗面所に至

お盆期間の境内を隅々まで掃除致します。お盆期間一回は七月十九日(日)午前八時半からの始末のべし。お盆期間の全員の皆様の手伝いをお願いします。お願致します。尚、その日は日曜礼拝は予定していません。毎週の練習は十一時の会議として行われます。

お知らせ

七月二十八日(日)のお盆法要後、会館にて向嶋先生夫妻よりお義葬が披露されます。毎年恒例の義葬食会は向嶋先生夫妻から仏教会へお参り下さる全員の皆様へ感謝の意が込められています。ご参加の後、会館へお立ち寄り下さい。お盆期間の練習はお待ちしております。

以上

* 仏教会への意見や質問等がございましたら、仏教会事務局 鶴岡川口(03)5360-0886までご連絡下さい。

* サンティエロ仏教会のメールアドレス info@btsd.net

* 向嶋宗昭先生のメールアドレス yushi_mukojima@btsd.net

なもあみだぶつ
南無阿弥陀仏

二〇〇九年 七月 会報
サンディエゴ仏教会

悪人正機

しんじつ おや

— 眞実の親 —

住職 向嶋 謙史

先月、私にとって初めての父の日を迎えました。門徒の皆さんからは暖かい祝福の言葉を頂き、また、妻と娘は素敵なレ스토랑へお祝いまでしてもらいました。何とぞ至れり尽くせりの父の日でありました。しかし、未だ父親にならないう自覚すらも、私が父親にならないう自覚が何か不思議な気持ちでいびつです。朝から晩まで育児に奮闘している妻を見ておられます。母親として娘を大切に育てている姿が十分に伝わってまいります。母親としての風格すら全身から滲み出しています。そんな妻と比べますと、私は父親としての風格が乏しく娘は何もしてやれていないように思えてなりません。父親とはなにかの役割があるのか、自分自身に問いかけつつ、かわいらしい娘の姿を眺めながら父親としての自覚を再確認し、娘にどうやって関わっていくべきかを考える日々を送ることを決意を新たにしております。

を「親さま」とか「眞実の親」というふうに呼んでいませう。私もよく使う呼び名ですが、何故ゆえに阿弥陀仏を「親」と呼ぶのか、また「眞実の親」とは一体何を意味しているのかを皆さんと味わってみたいと思います。

皆さんもご存知のように、子供というのは親への恩を忘れがちで、すぐに親から離れたがるものです。しかし、親はというと我が子からひと時も目を離すことなく常に愛情に満ちた眼差しで包んでいきます。たとえば、我が子が目の届かないところに行こうとしても、心はいとも子供の方を向いています。

私の経験上、全くその通りで、親から頂いた数多くの恩に感謝するわけでもなく、両親と一緒に過ごした生活に未練を感じるわけでもなく、大学に入ってから一人暮らしを満喫しておりました。しかし、ある日、病に伏して自分でも出来なくなると、初めて当たり前と思えた親の愛情が何とも有り難いものであったかを気づかされました。また、そんな時は必ず両親から安否を気遣う連絡が入り、こちらが強く断らなければ、わざわざ看病に訪れるほど心配するものなのです。いつも一緒にいると気づけなかつた両親の愛情が親と離れて初めて気づかされ、親の心子知らずとは何の事だったのだと深く反省したことがありました。

また親というのは、誰から頼まれなくても我が子を育てます。子供が「オキヤ」と生まれて「お父さんお母さん、はじめまして。今日から宜しくお願ひします。どうか私を立派な人間に育ててください」と頼まれた

から子供を育てるのではあります。また、他人からどうにか育ててもらう「頼まれて我が子を育てるわけでもありません。頼まれる前から、請われる前から子供を育てるのが親であります。

しかし、残念な事に、近頃の親を見ていると、必ずしもそうでもないをまかせん。最近の世相を見ても、親が我が子の生命を傷つけるような痛々しい事件が数多く報道されています。他人事のように考えている方がおられるかもしれませんが、私達凡夫の親は縁があればのようにも変わり、何をしてもかすかわからない存在であります。そういった意味では十分気を付けていかななくてはなりません。

また親というのは、我が子に教え切れないくらい願ひを持っています。こんな人間になしてほしい、将来はこんな職に就いてほしいと願ひがありません。しかし、私達は親である自らに願ひをかけることばいませぬ。「この子のためにこんな親になつてもらう。この子の教育のためにこんな環境づくりをしてもらう」というようなことをあまり考えはしません。本當の親とは我が子の願ひを持つ前に「自らがこの子でかまわぬ親であらう」と願ひつものなのです。

そう願ひつて下さったのが、阿弥陀仏なのです。「眞実の親」と呼ばれるように、阿弥陀仏は我が子を見守めるように私達一人ひとりを気にかけて下さり、私達がお願ひする前から、「ほごけ」になる道を聞き、慈しみの眼差しで常に私達に働きかけて下さっています。皆さんも「存知のようだ、阿弥陀仏は菩薩の仏である。り全その衆生に「その手手教敷く」と呼びかけて下さり



Bussei Script

Buddhist Temple of San Diego

2929 Market Street, San Diego,
California 92102

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Phone: 619-239-0896

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SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

PERMIT NO. 396

BTSD OBON SERVICES and 2009 BON ODORI

O BON marks the time of year when Shin Buddhists pay their respects to family and friends who have passed away. At BTSD, special services are held in memory of our loved ones. Then at the **Bon Odori**, we carry on the colorful Japanese Buddhist tradition of joyful dancing in gratitude to those deceased who have contributed to our lives today.

Here is temple's O Bon schedule:

Saturday, July 18, Rev. Yushi Mukojima will conduct Obon services at Imperial Valley cemeteries in **Calexico** (8:30 am), **El Centro** (9 am) and **Brawley** (10 am). Call the temple for details.

Saturday, July 25 from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Sangha Hall, the Buddhist Education Committee presents a free, informal lecture by **Rev. Laverne Sasaki, Emeritus** speaking on "Becoming One with Buddha Every Day." Attendees will receive a complimentary book of Jodo Shinshu meditations. Refreshments will be provided.

Sunday, July 26, BTSD will conduct a Hatsubon Service (for those who have lost relatives or friends since Obon 2008) at **9 a.m.** The combined **Obon and August Shotsuki (Memorial) Services will be conducted at 10:00 a.m.** (Please note there will be no Mt. Hope Cemetery services this year; everyone is encouraged to attend the morning services at the temple). Dharma speakers for the Obon Service will be **Rev. Laverne Sasaki, Emeritus** and **Rev. Akio Miyaji** of Orange County Buddhist Church. The **2009 Temple Scholarships** will also be awarded. An activity suitable for youngsters will be offered during the lectures. Please join us for hospitality with refreshing somen noodles and refreshments following the service.

Our colorful **Bon Odori: Gathering of Joy** will take place on **Saturday, August 1 from 5 to 9 pm** in the parking lot. Dancing begins at 6:30 p.m. and musical entertainment will precede the odori. Food sales will take place under the walkway. The Obon Again Resale Shop will be set up in the Sangha Hall. The Temple is pleased to co-sponsor a free exhibit in the Annex Hall curated by the **Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego**. Other activities are planned in the Annex Hall. You can create a memorial lantern to be hung outside during the dance. We will also offer a craft activity for kids.

Yearly Obon events offer opportunities to remember friends and relatives whom we miss and to whom we owe much. The Bon Odori is a chance for us to share our Jodo Shinshu beliefs with the community through music and dance. Please use the attached envelope if you wish to donate towards these occasions.

SO. CALIFORNIA BON ODORI SCHEDULE

Here is the Bon Odori schedule for BCA temples in the Southern District. Times reflect when dancing is scheduled to begin. Please google a temple's web site for more info about their events.

Arizona Buddhist Temple – June 13

Gardena Buddhist Church – August 1 and 2, 6 p.m.

Guadalupe Buddhist Church – July 19, noon

Higashi Buddhist Temple – July 25 and 16, 6:30 p.m.

Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha – August 9, 12 noon

Los Angeles Betsuin – July 11 and 12, 6:30 p.m.

Orange County Buddhist Church – July 18 and 19, 7 p.m.

Oxnard Buddhist Temple – July 11, 6 and 8 p.m.

Pasadena Buddhist Church – July 11 and 12, 7 p.m.

Buddhist Temple of San Diego – August 1, 6:30 p.m.

San Fernando Buddhist Temple – July 4 and 5, 6:30 p.m.

San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple – August 1, 7 p.m.

Senshin Buddhist Temple – June 27, 7:30 p.m.

Venice Buddhist Temple – July 18 and 19, 6:30 p.m.

Vista Buddhist Temple – July 25 and 26, 7 p.m.

West Covina Buddhist Temple – June 27, 7 p.m.

West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple – July 25 and 26, 6:30 p.m.

BCA Center for Buddhist Education HIGHLIGHTS – July/August 2009

Experience the Jodo Shinshu Center this summer!

2140 Durant Ave. Berkeley, CA 94704

NEW! Visit www.bcacbenews.wikispaces.net

News on upcoming programs at venues nationwide.

FRI. JULY 17 – SUN. JULY 19

**IMMERSING in
BUDDHA-DHARMA**

*Reflect in the Quietude
of the Buddha-Dharma--*

*Meditation * Mindful Buddhist Meals
Calligraphy * Tea Ceremony
Chanting * Dharma Sessions*

Registration: BCA members \$125.00

Non-BCA members \$150.00

Deadline extended to: July 3

Please call.

MON. AUG.3 – FRI. AUG. 7

**WAKING UP to the
DHARMA**

*Start your day with Buddha!
Early morning meditative sessions*

Daily Schedule

6:30-7:00 am - Service & Dharma Talk

7:00-7:30 am - Tai Chi

7:30-8:30 am - Chagayu

(Traditional Monk's vegetarian meal)

Attend one morning or the whole week.

All welcome!

Donations accepted at door.

FRI. AUG. 14 – SUN. AUG. 16

**ABCs of
DHARMA SCHOOL**

Sharing the Path:

*A Seminar for Pre-School to 5th Grade
Dharma School Teachers*

Guest Lecturer:

Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto

Registration: \$125.00

Deadline: July 24

Early Bird Registration: \$100.00

Early Bird Deadline: July 1

For more information or if you need forms mailed or faxed to you:

Call: (510) 809-1460 Email: director@cbe-bca.org

Make checks payable to Buddhist Temple of San Diego. Orders are due on July 26, 2009 and will be available for pick up on Aug 1, 2009 @ 5 p.m. at the Bon Odori. Send your order to:

Buddhist Temple of San Diego
 c/o Ken Muraoka
 2929 Market Street
 San Diego, CA 92102

Bentos will only be held until 7:00 p.m.

If you would like to confirm your order please e-mail me at kenmuraoka@mac.com

*Vegetarian bentos contain eggs.

BENTO

There will be a limited amount of bentos available at the Bon Odori, pre-order yours to guarantee dinner. [Other food items will be available for purchase during the festival.]

Number of bentos _____
 Number of vegetarian* bentos _____
 Total _____ x \$13.00 = \$ _____

Name _____
 Phone (____) _____

2009 BON ODORI T-SHIRT ONLY \$12

	Quantity
Child XS	_____
Child S	_____
Child M	_____
Child L	_____
Adult S	_____
Adult M	_____
Adult L	_____
Adult XL	_____
Adult XXL	_____

The design will be printed on a color T-shirt. The image will be a 3 color print. A final design will be complete soon. Limited sizes will be sold at the Bon Odori. Order to guarantee your size.

Make checks payable to Buddhist Temple of San Diego. Order are due on July 19, 2009 and will be available for pick up on July 29, 2009 as well as at the Bon Odori. Send your orders to Buddhist Temple of San Diego c/o Ken Muraoka 2929 Market Street San Diego, CA 92102.

Total _____ X \$12 = _____

Name _____
 Phone # (____) _____

BON ODORI



T-SHIRT BACK