

BUSSEI SCRIPT

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VOLUME CXXVIII NO. 1

JANUARY 2016

90th Anniversary Year

By Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi, Resident Minister



Happy Anniversary New Year!

The emphasis of the new year is traditionally on the future. As this is our 90th anniversary year, we will also be looking back to appreciate all that has been done for us to enjoy our present state. As Shin Buddhists, we have been gifted with a very reliable guide to any of life's challenges. Are we aware of this valuable gift? Life is very complex. The human mind and

our place in the universe are profound and confusing. The Buddha addressed the core issues of human life and taught this Truth at various levels. Shinran presented this truth in a manner that can be appreciated by us ordinary beings. We have ample evidence that our predecessors benefitted greatly in good times and bad. Let us insure that our children continue to benefit, by understanding and living this great Truth.

In Zen meditation, the meditator is invited to count her/his breaths. This is a distraction technique to counter the mind's ability to bombard the sitter with random, chaotic thoughts. We may suggest a similar strategy to counter our incessant attention to our own selfish desires. By asking the question, "how did I get here," our attention is shifted from our concern for our personal future, to our indebted connection to others. We begin to realize that the efforts of so many people have resulted in benefitting my life. We begin to appreciate Shinran's declaration that "the Vow is for me alone." Somehow, in the vast mystery of time and space, I have been gifted life in the 21st century in modern America. Our living standard far exceeds even that of the historical prince, Siddhatha Gautama. Even with the threat of recent terrorist activity, our security, health, and social standards are far above that of our pioneering predecessors who established our temple. So our 90th anniversary year will focus on the lives and contributions of past members and ministers of our sangha. It was because of their commitment to the Buddha-Dharma that we enjoy the Teachings. Let us resolve to understand the essential teachings of Shinran, so that we may pass on this valuable guide to our children, who may face a more challenging future.

The closest link we have to the historical past is our temple elders. We may be reminded that some of them were part of the "greatest generation," as identified by Tom Brokaw.

One of the characteristics that inspired that tribute was their courageous ability to act in the interest of the greater community over their own self-interest. This was most evident in the tumultuous years of WWII. There are many real-life stories experienced by our temple members that are far more dramatic than the thin fiction that is aired on present day TV. They experienced economic insecurity, social discrimination, and minimal material comforts. Yet they persevered through the difficult times of the mid 20th century. We are the benefactors of their efforts.

We have suggested that our older Dharma School children interview many of our older members of our temple. The values that sustained these members need to be passed on to counter the current trends of popular culture. We can see ample display of conspicuous consumption, bullying and violence, and the inflation of self-promotion. It is at our temple that the truer values of gratitude, humility, and relationships need to be shared. The deeds of our elders need to be shared by stories, since our younger students weren't able to see for themselves. But they learn as we have, by observation as well as by words. So those of us who are in that middle age range might remember that it is by our conduct that children learn. It is fortunate that this sangha community has ample examples of a wholesome Dharma life. But what is a Shin Dharma life? It is not about being good.

Shinran was not living a virtuous life. It was a life of integrity. He was honest about his ego. He championed the life of the common man, not the rich and famous. We want our children to succeed, but not at the expense of false values. Most of us have lived common lives. Some have reached higher levels of career competence. But we should realize that whatever level we have achieved, has been supported by the efforts of so many others. Acknowledging this support is the basis of a Shin Buddhist life. "Thank you" or Namo Amida Butsu is our awakening.

In my experience in conducting funerals and memorial services, I find that lives are valued by what a person has given to others. Career achievements are mentioned, but it is the love that has been shared that is cherished. Our anniversary year will be one of gratitude to our elders. To our children, it is also a lesson of the value of a Shin Buddhist life.

Gassho,
Kenji Sensei

JANUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
					1 10 a.m. – 修正会 NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE (Shusho-E) @Honcho
3 9 a.m. DS Staff Mtg. 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 January Shotsuki Memorial 1 月祥月法要 11:45 a.m. Jr. YBA Meeting, Conf. Rm. 12 noon, Taiko	4 Temple Closed	5	6 10 a.m. – Craft Day, PR 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2 6:30 p.m. – Taiko Practice @Annex Hall 7 p.m. – Buddhism 1-2-3 @S. H.	7 7 p.m. – 90th Anniversary com- mittee mtg. CR.	8 9 10 a.m. – Koto Class 琴教室 @Sangha Hall SD Jr. YBL Leadership at OCBC
10 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 12 p.m. – TAIKO Practice @Annex Hall	11 Temple Closed 7 p.m., Ways & Means	12 10 a.m. SD Ministers Mtg. @ L.A. Betsuin	13 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1-2 6:30 p.m. – Taiko Practice @A.H. 7 p.m. – Buddhism 1-2-3 @S.H.	14 6:45p.m. Board Mtg.	15 16 7 p.m., BEC Lecture: Rev. Bridge, @ Sangha Hall
17 10 a.m. – HOONKO 御正忌報恩講 (Guest Minister: Rev. Harry Bridge, Oakland Buddhist Church) 12 p.m. – BTSJ New Year Party @Annex Hall	18 Temple Closed TBA—Southern District Conf. Planning Mtg	19	20 9am. Tai Chi Chuan, Annex Hall 10am Craft Day 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2 6:30 p.m. – Taiko Practice @A.H. 7 p.m. – Buddhism 1-2-3 @S.H.	21 7 p.m.— Shoshinge class @ Sangha Hall	22 23 10 a.m. – Koto Class 琴教室 @Sangha Hall 1-9 p.m., SD Jr. YBL Seminar I @ OCBC
24 9 a.m. – INTRO. TO BUDDHISM @Sangha Hall 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 11:30 a.m. – General Mtg. & Sangha Potluck Luncheon @Annex Hall	25 Temple Closed	26	27 9 a.m.—Tai Chi Chuan, Annex Hall 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Sangha Hall 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2 6:30 p.m. – Taiko Practice @A.H 7 p.m. – Activities Mtg. 7 p.m. – Buddhism 1-2-3 @S.H.	28	29 30 IBS/BCA Winter Pacific Seminar at L.A. Nishi and Higashi Temples 6-9 p.m. – BTSD/VFW BINGO @Annex Hall
31 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝/Vista Visitation 11:30 a.m. -- EcoSangha 12 p.m. -- Taiko					

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here is wishing you all a very Happy New Year and a prosperous 2016!! I hope you were able to eat all of the traditional "Good Luck" foods on New Years Day and spend it visiting with family and friends. And yes the countdown has begun for this year's New Years resolutions you may have made! Resolution or not, live each day with the teachings of the Buddha as your guide. We may not be able to explain what that means but it is the way most of us live. This New Year begins with Ho Onko Service/New Years Party January 17th, the Temple General Meeting on the 24th and the Temple 90th Anniversary coming up this October. Look for more information on these events and much more In this month's newsletter.

The beginning of the year also brings the new Board of Directors (BOD), I am happy to announce we have three new board members with room for one more; it is not too late to participate! The BOD Slate of members will be presented and voted on at the Temple General Meeting. As a reminder the General Meeting is open to all Temple members to attend. The meeting is comprised of potluck lunch, reports from Committee Members to include Budget, approval of Temple BOD Slate, a recap of 2015 and outlook for 2016. Continuing to be "eco (Sangha) – wise", we will only have a few written report "packets" available for the meeting. Questions and comments are welcome during this time as well.

The past year was eventful and successful for our Sangha, enjoying the newly remodeled kitchen, restrooms and entire lower floor, welcoming new and old members and friends alike making our Temple truly a gathering place for all.

Let's continue to maintain a strong Sangha as we deal with the ebbs and flows of daily life. I thank the current Temple BOD for another year of undying dedication and hard work towards a common goal and for Kenji Sensei and Mrs. Karen for their guidance.

Glenn Torio , Board President

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

On Thursday, December 10, the Board of Directors met and the following items were acted on or discussed:

1. Mark Madeira informed the Board of the Tai Chi classes he has graciously offered to provide for the Sangha. The type of instruction and the proposed class schedule was discussed.
2. The Treasurer projects ending the 2015 fiscal year in the positive. This is dependent on outstanding membership dues payments, a successful Mochitsuki and no unanticipated repairs or project costs.
3. The letter to the Sangha on the Kitchen Compliance Project status has helped reduce the outstanding debt. Members and others have been generous in their donations.
4. The Board was updated on the planning for the temple's 90th Anniversary celebration and the 2016 Southern District Conference San Diego will be co-hosting with the Vista Buddhist Temple.
5. The Board approved a proposal to modify how Hospitality is hosted after Family services.

BWA NEWS

Twenty-five members and guests enjoyed the delicious soup, dim sum and tasty dishes at our annual year end party, Bonenkai, held on Saturday, December 12 at China Max in Kearny Mesa. Folks also had fun and surprises with the gift exchange, which followed the luncheon.

Thank you so much to members and friends who helped out at mochitsuki on Sunday, December 13. It's one of our favorite times to help the temple, while also having fun and feeling our growing sisterhood. Included in the activities of the day was craft and candy sales

If you took part in the cleaning of the shrine items, Butsugu no Omigaki, or the general temple cleanup on Sunday, December 27, a HUGE "Thank you!" to you! Work can be done so quickly when there are many hands to help and we all work together.

Hope you will join our crafters at the twice a month sessions — on the first and third Wednesdays, January 6 and 20- Please join us from 10 am – 2 pm in the dining room.

Starting in January, there will be a Bonus activity on the craft days, starting at 9 AM, Tai Chi, with instructor Mark Madeira. This is an activity that all age groups can enjoy and benefit from. Please check with the office for confirmation of time.

At the Hoonko Service on Sunday, January 17, The BTSD BWA cabinet will be installed. They are: President Susan Moribe, 1st VP Akie Tomiyama, 2nd VP (vacant), Recording Secretary, Junko Kajita, Corresponding Secretary Mani Yamaguchi, Treasurer Susan Yonekura, Auditors (vacant), Welfare Chair Laurine Ota, Religious Chair Alice Matsumoto, Group Chairs Betty Torio, Kiku Graeber, Aki Tomiyama, Kim Hagio, Ex Officio Fumiko Ohara, Advisors Rev. Kenji and Mrs. Karen Akahoshi, Mary Suyenaga, and Leora Hamada.

Don't forget to sign up for the Temple New Year party following the Hoonko service. Also, on Sunday, January 24, don't miss the annual BTSD General Meeting and potluck luncheon.

Thank you to Group B for the delicious lunch for our December meeting. PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO BWA General Membership Meeting in January. Our next meeting will be held on February 7th, at 11:45 am, when Group C will be hosting. Hope to see you then!

Gassho,
Susan Moribe, BWA President

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING JANUARY 24

The temple's annual General Membership meeting will take place on Sunday, January 24, beginning at 12 noon in the Annex Hall.

This once-a-year meeting gives the Sangha the opportunity to join Kenji Sensei, the Board of Directors and its committees, and affiliated organizations as they recap 2015 temple activities and provide highlights for the coming year. Members will be asked to approve the 2016 financial budget and Board of Directors slate.

Key reports will include the Kitchen Compliance Project (KCP) fundraising, the temple's 90th anniversary commemoration and more.

Temple bylaws state that a notification will be delivered to all dues paying members at least 10 days prior to the meeting date. A quorum of 25 members is required to qualify as official. The 2015 meeting drew approximately 50 interested members.

In addition, attendees are encouraged to share their favorite dish for the potluck luncheon.

Rev. Akahoshi, President Glenn Torio and the Board of Directors look forward to seeing many temple members at the annual meeting.

In Gassho.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Hope everyone had a great holiday with family and friends.

On November 29, we had our Annual Bowling Activity at the Kearny Mesa Bowl. There were 38 bowlers who enjoyed a great activity with family and friends. More fans came out to cheer the bowlers! Many made use of bumper rails that rose out of the gutter for bowlers who requested them and then descended again for bowlers who did not want them, making a fun time for all. Add snacks, good company, and DS's bowling outing was a great success! Thank you to everyone who joined us for a fun day of post-Thanksgiving bowling! Hope to see you all on the lanes next year!

During the Bodhi Service on December 6, Dharma School introduced five new students to the program. Anika Bull, Fiona Bull, Sophia Cameron, Kent "Tabo" Isakari and Finn Seymour each received an O Juzu (Nenju). Welcome new students!

On December 13, our Dharma School Students brought their parents to join the Sangha at the temple's mochitsuki. The kids help pound and grind the mochi. Others helped cool and package the mochi. Thank to everyone for helping out! Mr. Ralph was very grateful that you all came. We even saw former DS students.

The next Dharma School Teachers and Staff meeting will be on Sunday, January 3 at 8:45 a.m. Gassho, Avis Honda, Superintendent

JR. YBA NEWS

On December 6, we hosted our annual Chow Mein Luncheon fundraiser. Over 300 plates of delicious chow accompanied with a scoop of rice, cabbage and almond cookie were served. We wish to thank the many people who purchased tickets, supporting the fundraiser. Thank you to the many parents and friends for helping with the preparations. Thank you to Breven Honda and Davis Ong for chairing a successful event, and to the members who really hustled to sell a lot of tickets and worked hard. The luncheon was a great success!

Members participated in the Temple's Mochituski on Dec. 13. The boys and girls helped grind the rice, and pound and deliver mochi to the cutting and molding station. It was nice to see many former members come out and participate. It was a fun day!

ROSEY DAY FOR JR. YBA MEMBER: Sean Tokunaga and the Mira Mesa High School Marching Band will participate in the Rose Parade on January 1, New Year's Day, in Pasadena. If you watch the annual event on TV, be sure to keep your eyes wide open for Sean and the Sapphire Sound Band. GO SEAN!

Myself, along with two other members, will attend the Southern District Leadership Retreat on January 9 and 10 at the Orange County Buddhist Church.

"Buddhism in the Bathroom" is the theme for Seminar I that will take place on January 23 at the Orange County Buddhist Church.

Looking ahead, the Southern District Jr. YBL Volleyball Tournament will take place on February 6 at OCBC. Seminar II will be hosted by West L.A. Jr. YBA on Feb. 20.

We encourage new members to join the group. Jr. YBA is focused for high school students, grades 9-12 and offers religious and social activities. Interested youths are encouraged to attend Sunday services and speak to a current member about joining the group.

Thank you very much to everyone for supporting our many activities.

In Gassho,
Kenji Niwa, Jr. YBA President

Buddhist Education Committee

Kenji Sensei is offering a number of special education opportunities in January so we can all learn more about our Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition in terms of modern life.

Buddhism 1-2-3 The weekly, ongoing and open informal study class resumes Wednesday, January 6, at 7 p.m. in the Sangha Hall. This month Kenji Sensei is concluding his presentation on the Eightfold Noble Path by asking us to focus on two important aspects of that path: Appropriate views and appropriate thought.

We will meet each Wednesday into the summer, when we adjust the day of the week to allow for Bon Odori classes, and then take off for the month of August. Each class offers the 1-2-3 experience of chanting, meditation, and dharma.

Advanced Study Class in the Sho Shin Nembutsu Ge

For the next four months, Kenji Sensei is offering a focus on the Sho Shin Nembutsu Ge, by Shinran Shonin, under the omnibus title of "Shin Buddhism Today." The intent of the class, Sensei assures us, is to find modern equivalents to traditional metaphors to relate the teachings to our present life.

The class will meet on the Third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Sangha Hall. Those dates are Jan. 21, Feb. 18, Mar. 17, and Apr. 21. Study materials are provided, and you may join in at any time.

Sensei identifies three things that participants will take away with them from the class, which is meant to be participatory and interactive:

- *Discuss modern interpretations of traditional terms (Shoshinge).
- *Reveal the relevance of Shin Buddhism today.
- *Enhance your life with gratitude and joy.

Fourth Sunday Intro Class

For a quick refresher on the history of Buddhism and our sect -- or if you know of students looking to learn more about Buddhism for a class assignment, Kaytee Sumida presents a class for one hour on the fourth Sunday of most months from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. before service. The next class will be held Sunday, January 24.

In Gassho,
Bill Teague, BEC Chairperson

Membership

Help Us Invite New Members

Please let us know who you think we should invite to become members of the Buddhist Temple. We'll be sending out formal letters in February and we're taking your suggestions in January. Don't forget that the best way to let your friends or family members experience the Temple and its services first hand is to invite them to join you some Sunday.

Please Pay Dues Early in Year

The Board of Directors asks that you pay your dues early in the year, so the Temple can run smoothly or if it makes life easier, we can easily set up a payment plan that works for you to smooth out the cost of membership on a monthly basis. We can also arrange for automatic payments by your debit or credit card. Call the Temple to find out how.

Bill Teague, Membership Chair



It was a good November and December for script sales. Thank you to everyone who purchased script for their personal use and for gifts for the holidays. Many of you ordered early and often and so we were able to beat the mail and weather delays. Although the price of shipping had increased, we didn't have a problem filling orders each week because temple members were putting in their orders.

Don't forget that script can be bought at any time. Just remember to give your order to Miyo or leave it in the script slot in the office before service. Script is ordered on Sunday afternoons and usually arrives in the office on Tuesday afternoons.

Albertson's, Sprouts, Smart & Final, Stater Brothers, and Von's Script is always available in \$100 gift cards. Also CVS, Target, and WalMart. For Home Improvement projects, we have Home Depot gift cards in both \$25 and \$100.

If you don't want to cook and need a night out, you can get Darden (Olive Garden and/or Red Lobster), Panera, Chili's, IHOP. Black Angus, Claim Jumper, PF Chang's, Flemings, Islands, Applebee's, and Outback are just some of the restaurants that you can order.

Wishing you a Happy New Year!
Miyo Hill, Script Chairperson

March 26, April 30, May 28, June 25, July 30, August 27, September 24, October 29 and November 26. Several dates are subject to change.

The VFW will sell their famous hot dogs and chili dogs at most of the BINGO nights from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.. BTSD will conduct benefit dinners for a few sessions. Stay tuned for the dinner dates.

The final BINGO night of 2015 was held on Nov. 28. The turnout was small. Hope more people to come out this year and enjoy a fun night of Bingo.

Bring out family and friends for an enjoyable evening and have a chance to yell BINGO!



WINTER PACIFIC SEMINAR – 21ST CENTURY EAST MEETS WEST

Jodo Shinshu from the Higashi & Nishi Perspectives
Saturday, January 30, 2016, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

This seminar takes place at two historic Temples in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

Concurrent English and Japanese panels will feature speakers from both the Higashi (East) and Nishi (West) traditions.

The keynote speakers will be Dr. Mark Blum, professor of Japanese Studies, U.C. Berkeley (English/Japanese) and Rev. Henry Adams, resident minister San Mateo Buddhist Temple (Japanese/English).

Rev. David Matsumoto, Director of Contemporary Shin Buddhist Studies, IBS (English), and Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara, Co-Director, BCA Center for Buddhist Education (Japanese) will present the history of the split of Nishi and Higashi. The two ministers will also serve as moderators for the English and Japanese panels, respectively.

The English-speaking panel will include: Dr. Blum, Rev. Noriaki Ito, Bishop, Higashi Hongwanji North American District; and Rev. Marvin Harada of Orange County Buddhist Church..

The Japanese-speaking panel will include, Rev. Adams, Rev. Kodo Umezu, Bishop, Buddhist Churches of America, and Rev. Nobuko Miyoshi, West Covina Buddhist Temple.

Registration fee is \$40 (includes lunch). Please submit payment in the form of cash, check of credit card by Sunday, January 17. Please make check payable to the Buddhist Temple of San Diego.

The morning session and lunch will take place at the Hompa Hongwanji (Nishi) Buddhist Temple, while the afternoon session will be at the Higashi (East) Temple.

Transportation arrangements to Los Angeles will be determined once all the registration is received by the Jan.17 deadline.

For more information, please contact the temple or check online by googling Winter Pacific Seminar 2016— East Meet West and click on the link.



Do you still wash your clothes in warm water? This practice is environmentally unfriendly and more costly. Consumer Reports shows that it does not make our clothes any cleaner than doing laundry in cold water. Unless you have a really good reason to use hot water, such as for cloth diapers or extra greasy and dirty items, switch to mainly cold water wash. It saves energy and your clothes will last longer. Lower temperature protects the dyes in clothes while helping to prevent shrinkage.



Update

BTSD/VFW BINGO SESSIONS WILL CONTINUE IN 2016

Looking for an entertaining activity to compliment your Saturday evenings in 2016? Don't be shy. Give BINGO a try!

It is an enjoyable activity for the veteran players and newbies with a chance to win cash prizes. Players 18-years-old and up are eligible to play.

The Buddhist Temple and Asian Pacific VFW Post 4851 will conduct 11 BINGO sessions starting at 6 p.m. in the Annex Hall.

Each session requires a \$10 buy-in, which includes 12 games of BINGO, giving players chances to win main and consolation prizes. Extra cards and pull-tabs are \$.50 each. Door prizes and purchasing pull-tabs offer more winning opportunities.

The Temple receives 50% of BINGO proceeds.

Here are the 2016 BINGO dates: January 30, February 27,

BTSD TO HOST VISTA TEMPLE SANGHA AND DHARMA SCHOOL WITH ANNUAL EXCHANGE ON JANUARY 31

The Annual Dharma exchange between BTSD and the Vista Buddhist Temple will take place on Sunday, January 31. The BTSD Dharma School will serve as hosts to our North County neighbors.

The Vista Sangha will participate in our Dharma School/Family service that begins at 10 a.m. Students will attend classes while all of the adults will take part in the Dharma message.

Following the service everyone is invited to the after-service luncheon. Dharma School Teachers and staff will provide the main dish. Dharma School classes will be assigned to provide either a side dish, salad or dessert for the luncheon.

Sangha members are welcome to bring a side dish, salad or dessert if they wish.

If you have any questions, please contact Avis Honda, Dharma School Superintendent, for more information.

The Dharma School staff and the temple looks forward to the activity and hopes that many from the BTSD Sangha attend to welcome the Vista Temple as we rekindle friendships at our annual gathering.

BTSD 90TH ANNIVERSARY KICKOFF

On Sunday, October 16, the temple will commemorate 90 years of existence.

Kenji Sensei, along with the Board of Directors hopes that the entire Sangha will make plans to participate in this milestone occasion.

Under the leadership of Glenn Torio, the anniversary committee has begun its task of planning activities and special projects leading up to the celebration.

In this month's Bussei Script, Kenji Sensei dedicates his article to the temple's anniversary and what it has meant to the temple spiritually, socially and culturally throughout the past 90 years.

During the year, followers of our Jodo Shinshu tradition will have the opportunity to register for the Kieshiki Buddhist name ceremony. Receiving a Buddhist name is a very meaningful as each recipient will stand in front of the image of Amida Buddha, recite the Nembutsu and receive his/her name. Rev. Kodo Umezue, Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America will conduct the ceremony. Kenji Sensei plans to promote the Kieshiki ceremony during his messages leading up to October. More information on the Kieshiki is forthcoming.

Anniversary details will be shared to the Sangha during the Ho Onko service on January 17.

Everyone is encouraged to save the date and participate in BTSD's 90th anniversary celebration.

Gassho,
90TH Anniversary Planning Committee

DID YOU KNOW?

After 10 years of informal gatherings at the homes of devout Jodo Shinshu followers, the Buddhist Temple of San Diego was established on May 19, 1926. For \$50 a month, the temple rented space on the upper floors of a building located on 6th and Market streets in downtown. Due to an increase in membership and expansion of the Japanese Language School, a permanent site for the church was chosen in the Spring of 1929. The temple was relocated to its present site at 29th and Market streets with a dedication ceremony on January 11, 1931.

Leading up to BTSD's 90th anniversary commemoration in October 2016, Did You Know fun facts about the temple's history will be shared each month in the Bussei Script.

Craft Days

WEDNESDAYS from
10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
BTSD Dining Room

Join us for some
crafty fun, and great memories
on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays
of each month

Happy Holidays!!!

From,
Asian Pacific Post 4851

BTSD PRESENTS

Tai Chi Chuan/Qigong Workshop



Chi (energy)



Gong (cultivation)

with Mark Madeira,
Tai Chi/Qigong practitioner
Every Wednesday, Beginning:

***Date:** Wednesday, January 20, 2016

***Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

***Place:** Buddhist Temple of San Diego
Annex Hall

***Cultivating Health & Vitality through gentle movements & Free-Form Meditation**

M E M O R I A L S E R V I C E S

MEMORIAL SERVICES allow us to pay homage to loved ones who have passed away. In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, family members hold a service at certain intervals following a relative's death to express gratitude for and acknowledge their continuing influence in our lives. If you wish to schedule a memorial service, please call during weekly office hours.

2016 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2015	3rd Year Memorial	2014	7th Year Memorial	2010
13th Year Memorial	2004	17th Year Memorial	2000	25th Year Memorial	1992
27th Year Memorial	1990	33rd Year Memorial	1984	50th Year Memorial	1967

BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO Membership Pledge for 2016

Renewal
 New Member*
 Sponsorship*
 Change of Address

Mr. Mrs. Ms. NAME: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

Mr. Mrs. SPOUSE NAME: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ CELL 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, part-time staff, 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.

Sponsorship Pledge: Individuals are invited to sponsor a new or existing member under the current membership program.

	Sustaining Member	Dana Member	Wisteria Member	Bodhi Member
Individual / Senior / Youth (All Ages)	\$300	\$375	\$500	\$
Couple / Family	\$500	\$650	\$1000	\$
<u>Optional:</u> Senior Reduced Cost (75 years and older)	\$150			
<u>Optional:</u> Youth Reduced Cost (30 years and younger)	\$175			\$

(Membership Amount)

Recommended Annual Donations (Optional):

FLORAL OFFERING FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$40)..... \$

This fund helps defray cost of regular fresh flowers for the Onajin (Central Altar).

GENERAL MAINTENANCE FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$40)..... \$

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)..... \$

Dharma School does not conduct fundraisers. Your annual donation helps sustain its activities.

TOTAL AMOUNT \$

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$

***PLEASE INDICATE PAYMENT SCHEDULE:**

Annually
 Semi-annually
 Quarterly
 Monthly

TO USE CREDIT CARD:

Visa
 MasterCard
 AMEX
 Acct# _____
 Expires (MM/YY) ____/____

Authorized signature (if charging): _____

Billing address (if different from above): _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to the BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO. A percentage of your dues support 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 a printed copy of our monthly newsletter, the "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 inquiries to the Membership Chair at info@btsd.net.

*For NEW MEMBERS and SPONSORSHIPS, proration is available.

BTSD Special Service Credit Card Donations 2016

ENVELOPE FREE DONATION: BTSD is offering the opportunity to conveniently plan your special service donation(s) by using your credit card. Please indicate the amount you wish to donate for each service and the treasurers' committee will take care of your transaction(s).

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ Unit. Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone (_____) _____ Work Phone (_____) _____

Credit card: Visa Mastercard Amex (credit cards will be charged during the month of each special service.)

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

Authorized signature (if charging): _____

Billing address (if different from above): _____

SPECIAL SERVICES 2016

\$ **New Year's Day (Shusho-e) – January 1**
This is a day of dedication. With renewed resolution, we dedicate ourselves to the way of the Nembutsu.

\$ **Ho-Onko (Shinran Shonin Memorial Day) – January 17**
Commemorating the memory of Shinran Shonin (May 21, 1173 – January 16, 1262), the Founder of Jodo Shinshu (True Pure Land sect). Shinran Shonin was the first to teach absolute faith in Amida Buddha.

\$ **Nirvana Day (Nehan-e) – February 14**
On this day we solemnly observe the passing of Sakyamuni Buddha into Pari-nirvana.

\$ **Spring Higan (Higan-e) – March 20**
Higan ("Other Shore") is observed on or around the Spring equinox. During this time, harmony rules throughout the universe. Therefore, we gather before the shrine of Amida Buddha to devote ourselves to the realization of this harmony in our inner lives.

\$ **Hanamatsuri (Buddha Day) – April 10**
Celebrating the birth of Gautama (the historical Buddha) in Lumbini Garden. A flower shrine ("Hanamido") is set up in front of the main altar representing Lumbini Garden. The sangha offers flowers and pours sweet tea over a statue of the infant Buddha.

\$ **Gotan-e / Fujimatsuri (Shinran Shonin Day) – May 15**
Shinran Shonin was born near Kyoto, Japan on May 21, 1173. On this day we observe his birth as the founder of the Jodo Shinshu sect.

\$ **O Bon (Bon) – July 31**
Bon is a Buddhist Memorial Day. It is an occasion for rejoicing in the enlightenment offered by the Buddha. It is often referred to as the "Gathering of Joy."

\$ **Fall Higan (Higan-e) – September 18**
The sangha gathers once again, on or around the Fall equinox to recall the practice of the Six Paramitas.

\$ **Eitaikyo (Perpetual Memorial) – November 13**
On this day, all dedicated members and Dharma friends who devoted themselves to the spiritual welfare of the temple, whether known or unknown, are honored so that we may continue to practice the Buddha's teachings.

\$ **Bodhi Day (Jodo-e) – December 4**
Gautama meditated under the Bodhi Tree (Tree of Enlightenment) and became a Buddha; perfect in Wisdom and Compassion.

\$ **Joya-e (Year-end Service) – December 31**
On New Year's Eve we meditate on the countless blessings we have received throughout the year and express our gratitude to our parents, our nation, all beings and Amida Buddha.

Please mail this form to: **Buddhist Temple of San Diego c/o Treasurers**
2929 Market Street
San Diego, CA 92102

For any questions about Special Service credit card donations, please call the Temple at 619-239-0896, or send inquiries to the Treasurer at info@btsd.net.



BRIDGING OUR FAITHS
THE INTERRELIGIOUS COUNCIL OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The InterReligious Council of San Diego

Invites You to Share a Spiritual Weekend with

Father Michael Fish

January 22–24, 2016

at the

San Diego Vedanta Monastery
1440 Upas Street, San Diego, CA 92103
(619) 291-9377

Spiritualizing Relationships A Spiritual Talk

Seeing and interacting with the Divine in ourselves and in others.

Friday, January 22
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be provided.
There is a \$15 registration for this session.

The Divine In Nature

A Two-Day Spiritual Retreat

Many traditions invite us to discover the Divine in both nature and human nature; as the Celts would say “listening to the heartbeat of the Divine in everything”. Spending a little time gaining an historical perspective, we will explore this ancient spirituality and allow it to offer us new eyes and a fresh spirit.

Saturday, January 23
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Sunday, January 24
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Lunch will be provided.
There is a \$30 registration for this session.

Refreshments will be provided.
There is a \$20 registration for this session.

Michael Fish is a Camaldolese monk and a member of the New Camaldoli Hermitage in Big Sur, California. Balancing solitude and ministry has given him first hand experience of the challenges and obstacles men and women experience today when trying to live a vibrant and valid spirituality in the world. His ongoing quest is to express and explain ancient truths and mysteries making them more accessible to modern seekers of a relevant spirituality.

Photo from “Retreat Phtos,” <http://hermitfish.org>



How To Participate

Space is limited. So, please register at <http://mysignup.com/sdirc>.

If you plan to attend all three sessions, you can save by paying \$50 in advance for the entire weekend, or pay \$60 at the door on Friday, January 22.

Checks should be made payable to “IRC” and sent to the Vedanta Monastery at the address above

BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO

2016 NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



Happy New Year!

The Buddhist Temple of San Diego and Rev. Kenji and Karen Akahoshi, cordially invite our members and friends to attend the Temple's 2016 New Year Party following the Ho Onko Service on Sunday, January 17, 2016 at 12 noon in the Annex Hall.

You may reserve a traditional Japanese-style bento lunch, regular or vegetarian, for \$15. A KFC Chicken lunch reserved for \$9. Entertainment and a lot of celebrating will be part of the program.

We would like to provide a complimentary Bento for our ministers; all temple members who have attained (or who will attain this year) the venerable age of 88; couples celebrating their 50th year anniversary; and all new individual or family members who have joined the temple in the last year. We will have reserved seating for our honorees and their families. Though your lunch is complimentary, we do ask that our honorees turn in a reservation if you plan to attend to assure we will have a lunch waiting for you!

We sincerely hope you will be able to join us at the celebration. Please fill out and return the form below, or call the office at 619/239-0896 to RSVP by SUNDAY, JANUARY 10.

In gassho,
2016 New Year Party Committee

NEW YEAR PARTY LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Please fill out and mail this form with payment in the enclosed envelope by Sunday, January 10th

All orders except those from our special guests must be paid for in advance.

NAME(S) PHONE

E-MAIL

*PLEASE RESERVE: Regular Bento x \$15 = \$
Vegetarian Bento x \$15 = \$
KFC Chicken x \$9 = \$
TOTALS: \$

I am "88 & Great!" and will attend, so please reserve a complimentary bento for me.

I/we became new members in 2015 and will attend the party, so please reserve the complimentary bento(s) indicated above.

一 他力は如来の本願力

駐在蘭教使 向崎謙史

新年明けましてめでとうございます。旧年中は門徒の皆様と大変お世話になりましたと、心より御礼申し上げます。本年もよろしくお願致します。さて、一月は御正意報講とさせていただきます。報講は一三三年に入滅された親鸞聖人を偲びその遺徳を称え、感謝して、浄土真宗で最も大切な法です。聖人は十九歳で法上人に出遇われから九〇歳で生涯を終るまで阿闍梨の本願に全を任せていく自我を放れた他力存の生き方を全うされました。禪の教えをめられた曹洞宗の開祖道元禪師は次のように述べています。釈尊在世の頃は、釈尊以外に大勝れた他弟子も多かつたが、そんな方々でも一生懸命に修励されたのだから、今日我々のような劣た凡夫はなさら励んで修行せねばならぬと。その一方で、親鸞聖人はうろちうろちおられます。「私の身も心もまごころを探ってみても真のひとかけらも持たせてないのだから、その自分がどれだけ死にの狂いで修行をしても有漏の行、穴だけのザルの水を入れてもようなもので空しいものだ」と。こうして見ると、道元禪師と親鸞聖人の立場は同じ仏道修行人でありながら、全く逆の立場であったように見えます。

の道だんなに険ひあつと、自分の前にまはたかる壁を打ち破つてみるという信念、これは人間が強く生きる為には是非とも必要としたと思ひます。親鸞聖人は生きる私達にとって、非善に魅力的な考えです。ところが、親鸞聖人はこの魅力のある「自力」を完全否定されました。心の片隅に隠れて存する醜い根柢を許さなかつたので、聖人はこの根柢を取り除くと自己の力のありたけをあらわして〇年もの長い間、比叡山で修行されました。そうして片隅に隠れているほげな根柢、これこそ自分の本性であつて、実は大きな根柢の固まりそのものが自分であつた気がされました。泥だらけのちづて床を掃除しても綺麗にならないように、自分の力でいくら功徳を積んでも、それは所詮根柢にまみれた善ばかり、空しいのだと気がついたので、自力の行で仏に到るとされなかつたのはその道が決して険しいから、難しからという理由ではなく、たに難しい、険しいからという理由だけなら親鸞聖人は、きこゝ人々の先頭に立てその道をまられたことと思ひます。しかし、自力の道は根柢をかかえ凡夫にとって確実に閉ざされた道であつたのです。

七高僧の一人ある龍樹菩薩は、仏に到達する為二つの道があると説かれました。一つは、隣を歩いていくような自力修の道で、もう一つが、水上を船で走るとな他力存の道です。そして、先ず自力修の道は私達のような弱い人間に出来るような善な道ではなく、大善い道である事を示され、もう一つの水上を走る船に乗って他力の道を進む事に勧められました。隣を歩く険しい道を示す二つは、凡夫の私達に、自己の眼界を知らしめ、他力の道、即ち、阿闍梨の本願力におまかせする他力存の道に導いて下さっているのです。現代社会特先を制することを目的とする親鸞聖人会では、自己主張が善徳とされていこうと思ひます。それ故人々々が我欲を満たす為に血眼になつて生きています。そのような環境で育つた人々にとって、道元禪師の可能を信じる思想がより身近で生かされているように思われるでしょう。しかし、その根柢に自我を否定し、自己の無力を感じる自身がなかつたらとしたり、その思想は砂上の楼閣のように脆くも崩れ去り、誰も生きの意味を見失ってしまう。道元禪師も勿論二つは自力否定を根柢にしておられました。禪師が著された「正法眼藏」の中で「仏の家に我が我が心を持ち入れて、仏に全を任せ、仏に導かれぬならば、己の力をも入れず、心をも働かさないで生死を離れることができ、仏になるのである」と自己の力を放れ、仏の力に任せて悟の世界に到る言われています。自力の力を放れて、全てを阿闍梨の本願力に任せていく方法は、一見消極的な生き方と思えるかもしれませんが、実は阿闍梨のおはなきによって私達人間は真の自己と導いて下さっているのです。親鸞聖人は、自己を定した上で、まらぬ人生として全てを諦められただけではなく、無力な凡夫を支える本願力に導かれて自己の私達以上のたくましさで九〇年の生涯を力強く歩まれたのです。報講を勧めるにあたり、自我を放れた他力存の教えこそが、私達の人生を確かなものにして下さる正しい道と改め、気がけて頂きましょう。

仏婦2016年1月会報記事

倉スーザン 会計監査：無名 ウェルフェア：太田ローレン

宗教：松本アキ 組長：鳥尾ベティ、グレーバキク、富山アキ、萩尾キム、前会長：大原文子、相談役：赤星開教使い夫妻、末永メリー、浜田リオラ

7) 1月17日(日) 仏教会一般総会ならびに持ち寄り昼食会)

8) 当番

昨年12月6日(日) 仏婦例会の昼食は、B組でした。

9) 1月の仏婦会議はありません。

10) 2月7日(日) 午前11時45分 仏婦会議

当番C

1) 昨年12月12日(土) カーニメサのチャイナマックスで行はれた忘年会に25名の参加者があつた。会員ならびにゲストは、交換ギフトを頂き楽しんだ。

2) 昨年12月13日(日) 行はれた餅つき大会に援助下さり有難うございました。当日は、クラフトの品やアーモンドポップコーン、アーモンドブリトルの販売も行はれました。

3) 12月27日(日) 午前仏教会大掃除ならびに内陣仏具磨きにご協力下さり有難うございました。

4) 手芸教室は、一月の第一第三水曜日、(1-6日、1-20日) 午前10時から午後2時まで行はれます。

5) 一月からタイチの講習が始まります。講師はマデイラマーク氏。午前9時から始まります。詳細は事務所まで確かめ下さい。

6) 1月17日(日) 午前10時から報恩講法要が行はれます。当日、婦人会役員の就任式が行はれます。

会長：森部スーザン 副会長(1) 富山アキ 副会長(2)

無名 書記：梶田順子 通信書記：山口マニ 会計：米



2016 BCA Calendars... Ready for Pick-up!

The 2016 BCA calendars have arrived, and are available to all dues paying members. In order to help the temple defray mailing costs, we are asking all members to pick-up your calendars on your next visit. Calendars may be picked up in the office. *Thank you!*

SHUSHO-E/New Year's Day SERVICE (January 1), JANUARY SHOTSUKI HOYO (January 3), HO ONKO SERVICE & TEMPLE NEW YEAR PARTY (January 17)

The **January Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly memorial)**, to commemorate loved ones lost during the month of January, will be in conjunction with the Dharma School/Family Service on **Sunday, January 3**.

Our **Ho Onko Service** will be held on **Sunday, January 17, 2016, at 10 a.m.** Ho Onko, "a gathering to express our gratitude," is a special service in memory of the founder of Jodo Shinshu, Shinran Shonin, who died January 16, 1262. As followers of Shinran's teachings, we gather each January to express our thanks that we are able to receive and share the Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha. **Rev. Harry Bridge, Oakland Buddhist Church**, will be our guest speaker for this service. Rev. Bridge will also be giving a Special Dharma Lecture the evening before, on **Saturday, January 16 at 7 p.m.** in the Sangha Hall.

Our annual **New Year Party** will be held immediately following the Hoonko Service. Let's all get together to usher in the New Year! Attendees can choose from a delicious, traditional Japanese-style bento lunch (regular or vegetarian) at \$15/each. There is KFC chicken available for \$9. Lunches must be reserved and paid for in advance. **Please use the reservation form included with this issue. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, January 10.**

We hope you will be able to attend these January events. For your convenience, envelopes for a Ho Onko offering and your New Year Party reservation are included with this mailing. If you are reading this issue online or as an e-mail attachment, we invite your Ho Onko offering or New Year reservation, too.

We welcome and treasure your continued support of the Temple and its services, programs and activities. Gassho.