



BODHI MIND



Vancouver Buddhist Temple
220 Jackson Ave., Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3
(604) 253-7033

vancouverbuddhistchurch.ca
January 2009
Issue 328

New Year's Greeting

“Immeasurable Light and Life”

At the beginning of the year, I would like to send you my greetings from Hongwanji, Kyoto. May we all live our lives cherishing everyday and reflect that all lives, including my own, are illuminated and embraced by the light and compassion of Amida Tathagata.

The restoration of the Hongwanji Founder's Hall will soon be completed. In the midst of the cold in January 1999, following the completion of Rennyō Shōnin's 500th Memorial Services, the ground-breaking ceremony was conducted. In June of the same year, the image of Shinran Shōnin was moved from the Founder's Hall to the Hall of Amida Buddha. For the ten years since that time, the restoration work has been carried out without any serious problems thanks to your generous donations, public subsidy, and the efforts of many professionals.

Historians describe Shinran Shōnin as having lived in temporary lodgings throughout his life because he had never built a temple. They may be correct. The Hongwanji's Founder's Hall was not built because of a request made by Shinran Shōnin. Rather, the structure was erected by the many people who highly regarded him. I have no doubt that they made great efforts to express their respect and adoration for him. Construction in an era when there was no electricity, they used their ingenuity to make the best use of natural light and sound. The main entrance to the Hall is on the east side because the Pure Land is believed to be in the west and it is a custom for members to hold Buddhist services facing west. However, it is really impressive to have the sunlight shining into the Hall during the morning service at Hongwanji. Moreover, a treasure of Hongwanji is seeing and hearing Jōdo Shinshū Buddhists from throughout the country who have gathered in the Founder's Hall, chanting *Shōshinge* with all their heart.

In the Founder's Hall, I can feel the joy and sadness of those who have paid homage there for 370 years. You can visit the hall with your friends and family on an occasion of a Buddhist service, or you can visit alone and quietly engage in a dialogue with Master Shinran. Either way is appropriate when visiting Hongwanji.

It may not be easy for overseas district members to visit the Hongwanji in Kyoto, but I hope that you will be able to come to Honzan when you have a chance to visit Japan. Also, I sincerely hope that you would have Shinran Shōnin and Hongwanji in your mind while you chant *Shōshinge* in front of the Buddhist altar in your home or in front of the image of Amida Buddha at your local temple.

January 1, 2009

Ohtani Koshin

OHTANI Koshin
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

Namu-amida-butsu

The radiance of enlightenment, in its brilliance, transcends all limits;
Thus Amida is called “Buddha of the Light of Purity.”
Once illuminated by this light,
We are freed of karmic defilements and attain emancipation.



*Hymns Based on Gathas in Praise of Amida Buddha
Collected Works of Shinran, Vol 1, page 326*

New Year's Eve
Wednesday December 31, 2008

10:00pm – New Year's Eve Service at Vancouver Buddhist Temple, followed by

11:30pm - UBC Bell Ringing Service at the Asian Studies Centre-University of British Columbia - No charge for parking

Vancouver Buddhist Temple has been hosting this annual event for over 16 years at the UBC Asian Studies Centre. This traditional event is observed to express gratitude for the past year and the bell ringing ceremony represents the symbolic ringing away 108 passions of human beings. It is a reminder of the need to free ourselves from self-centeredness as we face the New Year. Reverend Tatsuya Aoki will be officiating again this year. Following the bell ringing, Amazake, a traditional warm malted rice drink will be served on site.

Dharma School

Happy New Year everyone. We wish one and all good health and greater peace in the world for 2009. We hope that everyone has had an enjoyable holiday sharing time and meals with family and friends.

Dharma School teachers start the new term with a meeting on the 4th. We appreciate the young people who have been planning activities for the students while the teachers have their meetings.

Please note that on January 11th, Dharma School service for children will begin at 10:00 a.m. The Hoonko Service to commemorate the passing of Shinran Shonin will commence at 10:30. This is a new format being tried out for Hoonko and Hanamatsuri.

Dharma School students from Steveston are being invited to Vancouver for a joint service for the 11th.

The following Sunday, January 18th, Vancouver Dharma School students will be joining the Steveston students at their service which will also begin at 10:00 a.m.

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PUBLIC LECTURE
**"Mindfulness of the Buddha,
Awareness of Myself"**

Presentation by
Rev. Harry Bridge
*(Resident Minister at
Buddhist Church of Oakland and
Instructor at Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course at Berkley)*

Friday, January 9, 2009
7:00 – 8:30 pm
[Free Admission]

Vancouver Buddhist Temple

2009 - HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

I hope you all had an enjoyable winter break with your friends and family. Last year, 2008 seems to have gone by so quickly, it all seems a blur already. Thank you all once again, for all your dedication and support, in investing your precious time and efforts in our many events held in our Temple.

Looking ahead at this New Year 2009 our Temple members will be planning and hosting many Special events. There will be new elections coming up at our Annual General Meeting on Sunday February 01.

We look forward to continuing our public lectures on Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. We are honoured to welcome the Takanawadai High School Band visiting from Japan in April, in May along with the sponsorship of LDC (Living Dharma Centre) our Vancouver Temple will be hosting the Manning Park Family Retreat, and also presenting educational programs such as the Youth & Adult Retreats throughout the year. We look forward to the Grand Opening of the new Southern Alberta Temple in Lethbridge in April, the Powell Street Festival will be held at Woodlands Park this summer, and a Pilgrimage Tour to Japan in October and the celebration of our 105th Anniversary of our Temple. I hope you will be able to join us at the various events. Cheers to a happy and healthy New Year to everyone. Please refer to our newsletters regularly for updates on our events.

In Gassho

David Otori – President



Happy New Year

Welcome to the year 2009! Looking back, the year 2008, with all its ups and downs, has given us many moments to be grateful for. With gratitude for the year past, I look forward to the new year ahead. One of our senior members said to me, “Aoki sensei, I just try to take it one day at a time; and I am grateful for every day.” This also reflects the very essence of Buddhism. Within each day, let us try to take it a moment at a time, and be grateful for every moment. To live with such day-to-day, moment-to-moment appreciation, we call a life of Nembutsu.

Namo Amida Butsu,
Tatsuya Aoki

Notice of Annual General Meeting of the Vancouver Buddhist Temple

This notice is to announce the 2009 Annual General Meeting of the Vancouver Buddhist Temple. The date of the meeting is scheduled for February 1st, 2009 at 1pm at the Vancouver Buddhist Temple Social Hall.

All current temple members are eligible to attend and request your attendance to report all activities and events undertaken in 2008 and to plan any and all new business for 2009.

Dr. Robert Akune, Secretary,
Vancouver Buddhist Temple

Mottainai My Ohashi (Chopsticks) on Sale!!!



1 Set—\$10 2 Sets—\$18 3 Sets—\$25

Bring your own *ohashi* to avoid using *waribashi* (wooden disposable chopsticks) and be environmentally friendly!!! *The money raised will be donated towards the 750th Commemorative Service of Shinran Shonin*

LETHBRIDGE - Bus Trip April 22-28, 2009

A bus trip to Alberta is being planned to coincide with the opening of the BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA and the AGM of JSBTC (formerly BCC). The dates planned are April 22-28, 2009.

The cost will be approximately \$650/person (double occupancy) for bus and hotel. A minimum of 35 people are required to make this trip. A deposit of \$100.00 is required with reservation, refundable if the trip is cancelled.

Please contact: **Nori Sugimoto 604 730-2684** or **Naomi Shikaze 604 636-1095**
before January 5, 2009



Hōonkō Service

Hōonkō, meaning a gathering to express our indebtedness and gratitude, is a memorial service in memory of Shinran Shonin, and is an occasion to express our gratitude to Amida Buddha for having awakened us to life's supreme meaning. Hōonkō is the most important Jodoshinshu observance in Japan. At the Honzan, or mother temple in Kyoto, Hōonkō is a week-long observance from the 9th through the 16th of January. Hōonkō is one of the principal holidays in which one participates in the art of "hearing the light" through listening to sermons, talks, ritual and Sangha fellowship.

Excerpt from the book Traditions of Jodoshinshu Hongwanji-Ha by Masao Kodani & Russell Hamada

We welcome you to our Sunday January 11th, 10:30am Hōonkō and Shotsuki service with our guest speaker, Reverend Harry Bridge, resident minister at the Buddhist Church of Oakland and Instructor of the Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course at Berkeley.

Special Reminder for VBT Dharma School

A Special Dharma Service Hōonkō Service will start at 10:00 am on January 11th.

Steveston Buddhist Temple—Hōonkō Activities

Vancouver Buddhist Temple members are encouraged to attend the Hōonkō activities at Steveston Buddhist Temple.

Saturday January 17	2:00 pm	Public Lecture by Rev. Pat Usuki of San Fernando
Sunday, January 18	10:00 am	Dharma School Hōonkō Service
	10:30 am	Hōonkō Service

TOBAN #6

The responsibilities of members of Toban #6 for the month of January, 2009 consists of the following:

- New Years Day service, Jan. 1, 1030 am, refreshments including omiki (rice wine), punch, tea, etc.
- Toban bi-monthly Meeting, Sat. Jan 3, 10am, meeting chair is Toban #7.
- Hoonko and Shotsuki service, Jan. 11, 1030am, guest minister, Rev. H. Bridge , lunch(otoki) to be served
Two helpers from all other tobans requested for lunch preparations on Jan. 11, 9am.

Team Captains: **Dr. Bob Akune 604-922-8323 & Mrs. Kay Komori 604 266-5231**

Toban #6 Members

Dr. & Mrs. Bob Akune	Mr. & Mrs. Julien Begg	Mrs. Sandra Kawasaki
Mrs. Kay Komori	Ms. Lorene MacDonald	Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Meugens
Mrs. Yoshiye Nakata	Mr. & Mrs. Dave Ohori	Mrs. Junko Ohori
Dr. & Mrs. Bob Ohori	Mr. & Mrs. Minoru Oyama	Mr. & Mrs. Kiyozaku Takahara
Mr. Minosuke Teranishi	Mrs. Etsuko Tsuji	Mr. & Mrs. Eiji Tsuji
Mr. & Mrs. Hirotsuke Tsujimoto	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukishima	Mrs. Toshiko Tsukishima
Mrs. Etsuko Tsukushi	Mr. & Mrs. Fumiaki Ueda	Mr. Teruo Uyeda
Mr. & Mrs. Yasuo Uyeno	Mr. & Mrs. Susumu Uyesugi	Mr. & Mrs. Dan Uyesugi
Mrs. Emiko Uyesugi	Mr. & Mrs. George Uyesugi	Mrs. Nobuyo Uyeyama
Mrs. Jean Wakahara	Mr. & Mrs. Isao Watanabe	Dr. Hiroko Watanabe
Mrs. Karen Wong	Mrs. Frances Xu	Mrs. Masako Yada
Mrs. Kiyoe Yada	Mrs. Miyoko Yamada	Mrs. Taeko Yamamoto

**Vancouver Buddhist Temple
Pilgrimage Tour
October 13-28, 2009 14 nights/16 days**

For those who are interested in participating in our Pilgrimage Tour to Japan, please contact Yoshin Tamaki at Iwata Travel at 604 684-5101 at your earliest convenience or contact our office at 604 253-7033 for an application form to reserve your spot.

Do You Like to Eat?

If you are interested in the VBT Diner's Club, please call Gina at the VBT office (604) 253-7033. She will place you on the list of people to be called when we do these 'Dinners Out'.



Namu-amida-butsu

The light of compassion illumines us from afar;
Those beings it reaches, it is taught,
Attain the joy of dharma,
So take refuge in Amida, the great consolation.



*Hymns Based on Gathas in Praise of Amida Buddha
Collected Works of Shinran, Vol 1, page 327*

Dates of Special Events hosted by the Vancouver Buddhist Temple for 2009

Jan 09	-Fri @7:00pm	Lecture presentation by Rev Harry Bridge (LDC)
Feb 01	-Sun @1:00pm	AGM – Election year
Feb 07	-Sat @9:00am	Manju Making
Mar 14	-Sat @9:00am	Manju Making
Mar 17	-Tue@10:30am	Takanawadai High School Band Concert
Mar 29	-Sun@12:00noon	Spring Bazaar
Apr 10	-Fri@7:00pm	Lecture presentation by Rev. Shigenori Makino (LDC)
Apr 12	-Sun@10:30am	Hanamatsuri/Keiroukai (guest: Rev Shigenori Makino)
May16-18	-weekend	Manning Park Family Retreat
Jun 06	-Sat@9:00am	Manju Making
Jun 07	-Sun@9:00am	Childrun - followed by Outdoor Service at QE Park
Jun 16	-Tue@7:30pm	Bon Odori dance practice begins
Jun 20	-Sat@12:00noon	VBT Golf Tournament
Jun 27	-Sat@4:00pm	Toban Party
Jul 04	-Sat-check schedule	Cemetery Sites' Services – Vancouver, Burnaby & Fraser Valley
Jul 10	-Fri@7:00pm	Lecture presentation by Rev. Daien Soga (LDC)
Jul 12	-Sun@2:00pm	Hatsubon/Obon & Bon Odori @4:00pm
Jul 19	-Sun@10:00am	Temple Picnic at Central Park in Burnaby
Jul 25	-Sat@9:00am	Manju Making
Aug 1-2	-weekend	Powell Street Festival at Woodlands Park
Aug 21-23	-weekend	Family Camp at Stave Lake
Sep 19	-Sat@9:00am	Manju Making
Oct 03	-Sat@9:00am	Manju Making
Oct 13-28	-field trip to Japan	Pilgrimage to Hongwanji
Oct 25	-Sun@12:00noon	Fall Bazaar
Nov14	-Sat-TBA	VBT 105 th Anniversary Banquet
Nov 15	-Sun@10:30am	VBT 105 th Anniversary Service
Dec 20	-Sun@9:00am	Mochitsuki
Dec 31	-Thu@10:00pm	New Year's Eve Service
Dec 31	-Thu@11:30pm	Bell Ringing at UBC Asian Centre

Please refer to the enclosed coloured page calendar for Shhotsuki/ Monthly Memorial dates

Please Vote

Every other year, our temple has an election of a new board of directors. Year 2009 is just such a year. Every individual member shall be receiving, by mail an election ballot, on which he or she is asked to mark 25 members who they feel can best serve our temple and provide leadership for the betterment of our sangha. Following the annual general meeting a returning officer and his/her committee shall tabulate the votes, after which the newly-elected board shall vote for the executive officers consisting of president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

Dr. Robert Akune

SHOTSUKI (Memorial) List—January

November Shotsuki/monthly memorial service will be held on Sunday, January 11th

1958

IZUMI, Yoshiko
 NAKAGAWA, Minosuke
 TATEOKA, Hatsutarō
1960—50th Year
 UYENO, Mantarō
 SATO, Jusaburo
 HAMAKAWA, Yosokichi
1961
 OZAWA, Shuzo
1962
 BABA, Shosuke
1963
 BANNO, Shizu
1964
 HONMA, Kiyōji
 UYENO, Takezo
1965
 TERAOKA, Imaye
1966
 KUMANO, Kameo
 NAKAYAMA, Shichiro
1968
 KOYANAGI, Kiyōichi
1970
 HORITA, Kazuhide
1971
 MUKAI, Tomiichi
1972
 KAWAMOTO, Koto
 FUKUNAGA, Kunikichi
1973
 KITASAKA, Hana
 TANAMI, Ai
1974
 ARAKI, Buyemon
 HASEBE, Sumiyo
 MURAO, Tameichi
1975
 NAKANO, Seiichi

SHIMOKURA, Mitsugu
1976
 MUKUDA, Naosaku
1977—33rd Year
 USUI, Hiraye
1978
 HASHIMOTO, Tomo
1981
 UI, Shigeichi
1982
 SONODA, Tatsuhiko
1983
 YADA, Genji
 OKABE, Taki
 ENDO, Moshichi
 NAKASHIMA, Masako
1984
 YAMASHITA, Kenichi
 ARAKI, Ichiro
1985—25th Year
 YUMOTO, Tamaya
 HISANAGA, Kura
 SONODA, Tadasu
1986
 OHORI, Genichi
 YOSHIYE, Eishiro
1987
 YAMAMOTO, Yonetarō
 SHIMA, Brett
 HORI, Yonezo
1988
 HAMAGUCHI, Tsuneki-
 chi
 KINOSHITA, Tamiyo
 MARUYAMA, Shigeru
1989
 NAKANO, Jin
 ATAGI, Hanaye
 TAKEMOTO, Otogusu
 SOKUGAWA, Yuki

KOBUKE, Motoye
1990
 FUJII, Chuichi
 MIURA, Yoshitaka
 OYE, Misayo
1991
 YAMAMOTO, Risao
 KIKUCHI, Shozo
 NAKANO, Kazuo
1992
 WAKAHARA, Betty
 HAMAZAKI, Shigeyoshi
1993—17th Year
 NODA, Tsutomu
 MAEHARA, Jun
1994
 IMAOKA, Hideo
 OIKAWA, Makie
 NAKATA, Seiichi
1995
 YABUNO, Shio
 TERAOKA, Kimiyo
1996
 KONDO, Yojiro
 NAKAHARA, Kazuko
 NAKATANI, Betty
 SAKAI, Sayuri
1997—13th Year
 TANAKA, Kazue
 NISHIKAWA, Toshio
 SHIMIZU, Akemi

1998

OGURA, Shunei
1999
 UYEYAMA, Toshie
 IWATA, Hisaye
 TSUKAMOTO, Mayumi
 NISHI, Haruko
 SUGINOBU, Chizue
2000
 KUROMI, Shigeru
2001
 TAMOTO, Saichi
2002
 ASO, Kazue
 BENDIG, Richard
 KUROKAWA, Nora Hi-
 sako
 SAKAI, Yasuji Frank
2003—7th year
 YAMAMOTO Kiyoko
2004
 TANI, Kenzo
2006
 GOTO, Shigeo
 HANAZAWA, Fumiko
 NISHIMURA, Masao
 URAISAMI, Seiji
2007—3rd Year
 NATSUKOSHI, Sakae
 OTSUKA, Kazuko
2008—1st Year
 MATSUI, Otohiro

With deepest sympathies...

The Vancouver Buddhist Temple wishes to express its deep condolences for the family of Mr. Kazuma Sakata (age 78) who passed away on December 5th.

Namu-amida-butsu

The light dispels the darkness of ignorance;
 Thus Amida is called “Buddha of the Light of Wisdom.”
 All the Buddhas and sages of the three vehicles
 Together offer their praise.



*Hymns Based on Gathas in Praise of Amida Buddha
 Collected Works of Shinran, Vol 1, page 327*

Akemashite omedetoo gozaimasu ... Happy New Year from the Valley!

With the oshoogatsu (New Year's) festival come and gone, we in the valley wish everyone peace and contentment through the 2009 year. Although there may be many challenges ahead of us, the political and economic climate being as it is, we hope that all the temples can joyfully observe Shusho-e (New Year's Service) as we rededicate our lives to following the path laid down to us by St. Shinran and Amida Buddha as our teachers. Remembering that we are all interconnected, true success in our own lives can only be attained by working together. Hopefully our economic and political leaders will also come to this realization.

The Fraser Valley Buddhist temple would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped us during the 2008 year and wish you all a peaceful, positive harmonious 2009 year.

Our January service, the Hoonko service, will be held on January 10th at 2:00 with Reverend Harry Bridge from Oakland, California. We invite you all to attend to begin our new year together.

In gassho,

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

The Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple would like to gratefully acknowledge the following donations.

\$0 – 100

Mr.& Mrs. Hiro Honkawa-Bonekai, Mrs. Emiko Shikaze-In Memory of Mr. Doug Ikeda, Mr.& Mrs. Joe Tateyama-Bonekai, Eileen Fujita-In Memory of Mr. Kiyoshi Fujita, Jenny Fujita-In Memory of Mr. Kiyoshi Fujita, James Fujita-In Memory of Mr. Kiyoshi Fujita, Ron & Marilyn Fujita-In Memory of Mr. Kiyoshi Fujita, Mrs. May Mukaida-Bonekai, Mrs. T. Fuchihara-Bonekai, Marion Fujita-In Memory of Mr. Kiyoshi Fujita, Mrs. Chieko Takasaki-Bonekai, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Nagamatsu-Bonekai, Anonymous In Memory of Roy Muraki, Mr. & Mrs. Merv Araki-Bonekai, Reio Honkawa-In memory of Ken Honkawa

\$Over 100

Mr. & Mrs. John Kamimura-Nov. & Dec. Shotsuki

Namu-amida-butsu

The light shines everywhere ceaselessly;
Thus Amida is called "Buddha of Uninterrupted Light."
Because beings hear [and apprehend] this power of light,
Their mindfulness is enduring and they attain birth.



*Hymns Based on Gathas in Praise of Amida Buddha
Collected Works of Shinran, Vol 1, page 327*

JSBTC Update January 2009 From the Office of Bishop

*A monthly update from the national headquarters of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC).
11786 Fentiman Place, Richmond, BC, V7E 6M6. Ph: 604-272-3330, office@bcc.ca www.bcc.ca*

It is my sincere wish that the New Year 2009 will be a very Happy and Peaceful one to you and your family in the constant working of the Compassionate Light of Amida Buddha.

One of the keys to understand Jodo Shinshu tradition is to believe in “Jodo”, the Pure Land. What and where is “Jodo”? It is the realm that Bodhisattva Dharmakara vowed to establish to welcome all the sentient beings, so that they will be able to complete their aspiration to attain Buddhahood.

Can you find such a realm on this earth? Looking at the history of mankind, it seems to have been proven impossible to attain enlightenment in this present world except Gautama Siddhartha who was enlightened 2500 years ago in India.

Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu, had tried to attain enlightenment in his youth for 20 years on Mt. Hiei near Kyoto in the 12th century and failed to do so. As a result, he had to give up the Path of Sages and chose an alternative path called the Pure Land Path, relying solely on the working of Amida Buddha. Therefore “Jodo”, the Pure Land, must be somewhere BEYOND this present world which is contaminated with five defilements; time, view, blind passion, sentient beings, and life.

Shinran Shonin praises in the his hymn;

The cloud of light is unhindered, like open sky;
There is nothing that impedes it.
Every being is nurtured by this light,
So take refuge in Amida, the one beyond conception.

In Jodo Shinshu tradition, therefore, we are told that each and every one of us will be welcomed into the Pure Land by Amida Buddha as soon as we close our human life. Then we will be able to attain Buddhahood before coming back to this world to guide relatives and friends to the path of Nembutsu.

Personally, as I get older and physically weaker, “Jodo” the Pure Land appears to be getting more familiar and realistic in my life, especially when I give my thoughts to the loved ones such as father, mother, and uncles and aunts and many friends who have gone to the Pure Land. We all can meet in the Pure Land through the meditation of namoamidabutsu.

Once again, Happy New Year and let us continue to practise the Nembutsu.

With gassho,
Orai Fujikawa

Coming events:

Jan	11	JSBTC Special General Meeting for proposed by-laws in Vancouver
Feb	1	Visit to Manitoba Buddhist Temple
Apr	23-24	MA Meeting in Lethbridge
	25-26	JSBTC AGM and Dedication of the New Temple in Lethbridge
May	27-28	World Jodo Shinshu Coordinating Council in Kyoto
Sep	15-17	MA Meeting/Seminar in Steveston

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Family Retreat

May 16-18 2009, Manning Park, BC

Early Bird Registration due: January 23, 2009

Enjoy a weekend designed to promote fellowship between the various age groups within the families attending. Participate in activities, lectures and workshops. The event is open to anyone who is curious about or interested in the teachings of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

Accommodations will be community style with shared cottages and hotel rooms. When requesting your group to stay together, please submit all names on one registration form. Organizers will try to accommodate your requests and use discretion being mindful of other guests.

Guests will bring their own protein to the Saturday, May 16 dinner BBQ. All other meals will be provided as planned by the organizing committee. All guests will sign up for meal preparation, cooking and cleanup duties. Please let us know if any member of your group has food allergies. **Local guests are welcome to bring home-made desserts to share.**

Manning Park is just 3 hours from Vancouver and 2 ½ hours from Kelowna. Participants are responsible for their own travel to Manning Park.

Registration is during the afternoon of Saturday, May 16 and closing services will end by 11am on Monday, May 18. Inquire about registration fees, and Early Bird rates. Early registration fees are discounted for registrations received with payment (by cheque) by January 23, 2009. Final Registration must be received with payment by **March 15, 2009.** All cheques payable to “**Vancouver Buddhist Temple**”

Rates-(per person for Chalets & Cabins)*			Before
Types	Age	Price*	Jan 23/09
Adult Member* (AM)	26+	\$135	\$120
Adult Non-Member (AN)	26+	\$150	\$135
Youth (Y)	14 to 25	\$80	\$80
Child (C)	6 to 13	\$40	\$40
Infant (I)	to 5	free	free

*Hotel Room requests will be \$244 per room for the weekend + 50% of the per person rates above

**Discounted rate apply for adult members of the JSBTC (Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada), BCA (Buddhist Churches of America), Hawaii Kyodan and members of any affiliate of the Nishi Hongwanji.*

Please let us know if you would prefer hotel, cottage or chalet accommodations. Thank you.
Standard Cottage – sleeps 8 – (14 available)
 1 double & 2 sets of bunks plus 1 double hide a bed, sitting room with TV & full kitchen
Deluxe Cottages – sleeps 10 – (4 available)
 3 bedrooms-2 queens & 2 sets of bunks plus 1 double hide a bed, sitting room with TV & kitchen
Tri-Plex Chalets – sleeps 14 – (3 available)
 – adjoining rooms to sleeping units with separate bathrooms
 2 bedrooms-2 queens & 2 sets of bunks plus 1 hide a bed, sitting room with TV & full kitchen

Sponsored by: The Living Dharma Centre Hosted by: Vancouver Buddhist Temple
 To request a registration form or if you have any questions, please contact:
 VBT at **604-253-7033** or Email: **retreat.vbt@gmail.com**

Adult Dharma Retreat
Saturday, February 28, 2009
Steveston Buddhist Temple

A one day retreat from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm is being planned for the Lower Mainland Tri-Temple district. The purpose of the retreat is to give members an opportunity to study and experience the Jodo Shinshu teachings in a concentrated format. If you are interested in learning more about our teachings and traditions in an interactive and in depth retreat, please contact your minister (Ikuta Sensei or **Aoki Sensei**) to register. A nominal registration fee of \$ 20 will be collected to cover the expenses for lunch and dinner. Space is very limited so if you are interested, please contact the ministers as soon as possible.

8:30	Participants arrival and registration		
9:00	Opening Service	Hondo	
9:30 - 10:45	Introduction & Chanting Workshop	Hondo	Ikuta/Aoki Senseis
10:45 - 11:00	Break		
11:00 - 12:00	Lecture on Jodo Shinshu	Classroom	Aoki Sensei
12:00 - 12:45	Lunch	Kitchen	
12:45 - 13:30	Chanting Practice	Hondo	Ikuta/Aoki Senseis
13:30 - 13:45	Break		
13:45 - 14:30	Discussion	Classroom	
14:30 - 15:00	Buddhist Etiquette	Hondo	Mr. Makoto Ikuta
15:00 - 15:10	Break		
15:10 - 16:00	Naijin Explanation & Preparation	Hondo	Mr. Roy Akune
16:00 - 17:00	Afternoon Service (Otsutome) & Review	Hondo	
17:00 - 18:15	Free Time & Dinner	Kitchen	
18:15 - 19:00	Dharma Talk Workshop	Classroom	Ikuta/Aoki Senseis
19:00 - 20:00	Dharma Talk Presentation	Hondo	
20:00 - 21:00	Evening Service & Closing Ceremony	Hondo	

Registration is required.

Namu-amida-butsu

The majestic light, transcending form, is beyond description;
 Thus Amida is called "Buddha of Inexpressible Light."
 All the Buddhas praise this light –
 The cause by which Amida's Buddhahood was fulfilled.



*Hymns Based on Gathas in Praise of Amida Buddha
 Collected Works of Shinran, Vol 1, page 328*

Season's Greetings!

*Happy Holidays!
Dave, Monica, Kyle
and Devin Ohori*



*Mr. & Mrs.
Harry Mizuta*



*Happy
Holidays!
Lorna, Brad,
Nicole, Courtney &
Stephanie Bishop*



Nori Sugimoto



*Warmest wishes for
a Happy year in
2009.*

*Greg, Gina, Anthony,
Lexi &
Jenni
Chor*



*Bob & Molly
Akune*



*Best wishes for a
Happy, Healthy New
Year!*



*Martha
Banno*

*Frank & Pat
Hamanishi*



*Tatsu & Karen
Mizushima*



*Shizuo &
Akemi Tanaka*



*Tamotsu & Michiyo
Teranishi*



*Best wishes!
Robert & Lori
North*



January 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes- day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:30 am New Year's Service	2	3 10:00 am Toban Mtg.
4 10:00 am Dharma Service	5	6	7	8 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Senior's Club	9 Vancouver Buddhist Temple 7:00 pm Public Lecture by Rev. Harry Bridge	10 Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple 2:00 pm Hoonko Service & January Shotsuki. Rev. Harry Bridge
11 Vancouver Buddhist Temple 10:00 am Dharma School Hoonko Service 10:30 am Hoonko / Shotsuki Rev. Harry Bridge	12	13	14	15 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Senior's Club	16	17 Steveston Bud- dhist Temple 2:00 pm Public Lecture by Rev. Pat Usuki of San Fernando
18 Steveston Buddhist Temple 10:00 am Dharma School Hoonko Service 10:30 am Hoonko Service Rev. Pat Usuki	19	20	21 11:00 am Nikkei Home service & visitation. (Rev. Aoki)	22 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Senior's Club	23	24
25 10:30 am Dharma Service	26	27	28	29 12:00 pm Japanese Ser- vice followed by Senior's Club	30	31 4:00 pm Shiga Kenjinkai Memorial Service and New Year's Party at VBT.