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Vancouver Buddhist Temple



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Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

Dec 2019, Issue #432

Message from Rev. Aoki



On behalf of the Aoki family, I wish to thank all the members of the Vancouver and Fraser Valley Buddhist Temples, from the bottom of my heart, for your support and understanding throughout the year 2019.

While quietly reflecting on 2019, how quickly a year passes. At such times I wonder what causes us to lose sight of what is truly of value. "What is the big picture of life that Buddhism tries to encourage us to keep in mind, as we live?" When we lose sight of the big picture, without thinking, we just feel we know what we value, and we know what is right. But the essential point of Buddhism is very simple: What we must value most in life... is life itself. We must value this opportunity to live and appreciate this experience that we share together.

My studies for academic advancement through Nishi Hongwanji was successfully completed in June. Earlier in the month of April, I started a programme to learn Japanese tea ceremony. While I was learning how to make and serve green tea, I also learned about the philosophy of tea ceremony. There is a Buddhist saying that is closely associated with the Tea Master, Sen No Rikyu (1522-1591). The phrase is, "*Ichigo-Ichie.*" Literally it means, "One Moment-One Meeting." Within the tea ceremony it implies that our coming together in this moment happens but once in our lifetime; let us appreciate this time together.

Ultimately, in the big picture of things, it is certainly not about winning or losing a hockey game. It is not about getting what we want or having our way. Ultimately and most essentially, it is about valuing life and this time we have together. When our Dharma eyes are open, we cannot help but see that we must not take for granted this very moment of life we are living. As I've often asked, "How many months of Decembers will be ours to enjoy?"

Cont'd on pg 2

Cont'd from pg 1

However many, that number is limited. Realizing this, let us try to live together and work together harmoniously in the spirit of "Ichigo-Ichie." Let us live knowing that each day is new and fresh and at the same time, each moment may be our last. With our Dharma eyes open, let us try to enjoy this winter holiday season, letting go of our complaints, our anger, and resentments and embrace each moment and each meeting with others, knowing that they will never come again. In Jodo Shinshu, we would call a life of Ichigo-Ichie, "A life of Nem-butsum." "

Thank you for your kindness and support throughout the last year. We look forward to another wonderful year together. I would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy Holiday Season!

In gassho,
Rev. Tatsuya Aoki

Message from the Board

The new garage door to replace the damaged old door is still not ready for installation.

The back-up door is working thankfully, so we ask for your patience. The fall Food Fair is now over and while we did have a good total revenue many items did not sell out as we had hoped. The committee will review what our strategy for the next fair should be. Our final anniversary celebration was held on November 10 in conjunction with Eitaikyo and November Shotsuki. To a good turnout of attendees our former resident minister Rev. Ohrai Fujikawa gave an interesting Dharma talk describing our history as well as his own past experiences in Canada. The occasion was celebrated with a sumptuous lunch followed by a round of bingo games.

Our History (continued from October Bodhi Mind)

In 1977 our temple members decided to build a new temple complex on the property on which the old temple sat. The sale of the Argyle property was the major source of the much-needed funds for construction. A combined grant of \$100,000 was declared by the city, province, and federal government. A further \$100,000 came from the building fund contributed by the members and friends. The source of the final \$500,000 required was to be determined by the temple finance committee. To our members and community the fund-raising project statement of appeal read, "we are hopeful and confident that your faith in the Buddhist religion and its rewards of goodness and truth will outweigh the financial sacrifices and obligations imposed by this project." To everyone's relief sufficient funds were received in a relatively short time. Thanks to the commitment and dedication of our past and present members forty years later, we are still enjoying the temple building. Let us not forget the efforts of our past members and be truly thankful.

Gassho,
-From the Board

Food Drive runs from December 1 to January 31

Please bring in non-perishable food donations!

For example: Dry Pasta, Canned goods like soup, fruits, and veggies, fish, tomato sauce as well as baby formula, rice, peanut butter, mac and cheese, etc.

Please check expiry dates on your donations

Our temple is helping the Vancouver Food Bank by collecting food to support hungry families, children, and individuals who have difficulty and cannot afford to buy groceries.

Please bring to the temple especially when we gather for Mochitsuki time!



Hoonko Service

The Hoonko Service is the memorial service of the founder of Shin Buddhism, Shinran Shonin, who passed away on January 16, 1263, at the age of 90. For over 700 years, Shin Buddhists have observed the Hoonko service for Shinran, allowing us to recall and appreciate the Teachings. This service is the most important in the year for Shin Buddhists.

Please join us for VBT’s Hoonko Service on Sunday, January 12, 2020 at 10:30 AM



VBT Bodhi Day Service

The word “Buddha” means “Enlightened One.”

It was on December 8 that Siddhartha Gautama was Enlightened as Sakyamuni Buddha. While sitting in meditation beneath a Pippala tree, Gautama made a firm resolution not to move from his sitting position until he attained Enlightenment. Since Enlightenment is known as Bodhi in Sanskrit, December 8 is called “Bodhi Day”.

Please join us on Sunday, December 1, 2019 for Vancouver Temple’s Bodhi Day Service.

HUMANITY THROUGH A BUDDHIST EYE: AN EXPLORATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

- **KEYNOTE SPEAKER DUNCAN RYUKAN WILLIAMS**
Williams is a Soto Zen priest and Director of the Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture at the University of Southern California. He is the author of “American Sutra: A Story of Faith and Freedom in the Second World War”
- **TOUR OF THE CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HUMAN RIGHTS**
- **PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND WORKSHOPS**
- **DISCOVER THE RICH TRADITION, CULTURE AND DIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA**
- **JODO SHINSHU BUDDHIST SERVICE
MANITOBA BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

**June 12 - 14, 2020
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Greetings from the Valley

Hello all and greetings from the Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple. October was a beautiful crisp month and we were able to continue the fall weather for the beginning half of November. I

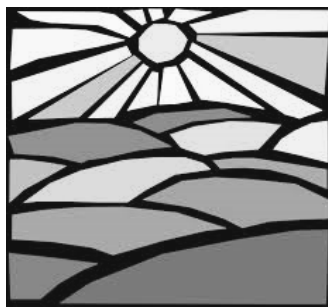
It was a pleasure to have Rev. Grant conduct our service and he brought his mom who was adamant that BC weather is much nicer than Alberta's during this time of the year. We would like to thank all the people for helping at our bazaar at the end of October.

The adage that many hands make light work is so true. Thank you to all who made, sold, donated, and purchased goods to support our fundraiser. Udon is always a delicious treat at this time of year. As the weather changes, we would like to contact people in case service is canceled.

Please email Lori North to add or update your email information:
Lori.North@gmail.com

Our next two services for December and January will be held in the morning at 11:00 am. Dec. 7th will be our December shotsuki and Bodhi Day service.

This will be followed by our traditional bingo entertainment. If you would like to participate, please bring a \$10 wrapped gift.



Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

Donations

Received in Gratitude



November 9, 2019 November Monthly Memorial Service and Eitaikyo

Mitsuo Saito, Ronald Nishimura, Stan & Lucy Yoshioka, John & Masuko Kamimura, Teruko Ikeda, Denise Cork, Chieko Takasaki, Lori North, Mrs. May Mukaida, Jenny Fujita & Mike McSkimming, Ron & Marilyn Fujita, Byron Kagawa, Greg & Lynn Smith, Sam & Pat Yoshioka, Vivien Nishi, Jean Nakatsui, Ryoko Tateyama, Amy Nagamatsu, Anonymous
In Memory of Fusae Nishimura: Ron Nishimura

In Gassho,
Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

VBT Annual Mochitsuki (Sweet Rice Pounding)

Sunday, December 8th



9:00 AM Rice pounding at VBT Social Hall

Join us for the annual Mochitsuki (sweet rice pounding) day and help pound, form, and EAT the mochi. Every participating household will receive some mochi to take home.

Please register by Thursday, December 5th so we know how much lunch and mochi to prepare. 604-253-7033

115th Anniversary of temple history and 40th anniversary of temple building

The combined anniversary service was observed on Sunday, November 10 with Rev. Orai Fujikawa as our guest speaker.

We started the ceremony with Ochigo Processional with 7 children, and there were two commendation awards from Nishi Hongwanji, our mother temple in Kyoto, Japan. The first commendation award was presented to Vancouver Buddhist Temple for its history and for propagating Buddhism in Canada. The second award was presented to Sensei Bob Akune who has served as temple director for many years and help temple service as assistant minister. Afterward, the anniversary meal was served, cake was cut and there were Bingo games after the service.



Tōban Group

From lunches at our monthly Shōtsuki services, to wiping down tables and cleaning the washrooms, the temple would not be the warm and welcoming place for gathering if it were not for the dedicated hard work of our members. When people come to the temple—whether it's for the first time or the 100th time—the care we put in our temple expresses how precious we hold the Teachings of the Buddha.

The following activities are the responsibility of

Toban #2

December

Dec 1 (Sun) 10:30 AM Bodhi Day / December Shōtsuki

Dec 8 (Sun) 9:00 AM Mochitsuki

January

Jan 1 (Wed) 10:30 AM New Year's Service

Jan 4 (Sat) 10:00 AM Toban + Bazaar & Board Meeting

Jan 12 (Sun) 9:00 AM Hoonko and Shōtsuki

Jan 18 (Sun) 9:00 AM Manju making



Dr. & Mrs. Robert Akune

Mr. Patrick Couling

Ms. Shirley Hanazawa

Mrs. Masako Hattori

Mrs. Tokiko Hayashi

Mr. Shinobu Homma

Mrs. Anjula Joshi

Mr. & Mrs. Narhari Joshi

Mr. Tom Kadota

Mr. & Mrs. Yasutoshi Kanegae

Mrs. Mary Kawamoto

Mr. & Mrs. Takehisa Kawasaki

Mr. Mits Kazuta

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Kitamura

Mrs. Fujiko Kitano

Mr. Martin Kobayakawa

Ms. Fumie Kondo

Mr. Paul Kondo

Mr. Randy Kondo

Mrs. Yoshiko Koyanagi

Mrs. Kazue Kozaka

Mr. Takeshi Kumano

Mrs. Shu Ming Lai

Mr. Jason Lesage

Ms. Anny Lin

Mr. Neal Marshall

Mr. Doug Maruno

Mrs. Terumi Matsunaga

Mr. & Mrs. Sadao Minato

Mr. Kazuo Mori

Mr. John Nguyen

Mr. Ronald Nishimura

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Nomura

Mr. Tom Okada

Mrs. Fusae Sameshima

Mr. Tetsuo Takemori

Ms. Joyce Takeshita

Ms. Marilyn Teramura

Mr. Eiji Tsuji

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukishima

Mrs. Toshiko Tsukishima

Ms. Kazue Tsurusaki

Mr. Dave Wong

Mrs. Masako Yada

Mrs. Kuniko Yuasa

December Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The December Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held on **Sunday, December 1 at 10:30 am**.

1959

HIROSE, Tanejiro
MATSUYAMA, Iyo

1960

HARA, Matsuji
NAKAZEKI, Ihachi
NOGAMI, Sankichi
UYEYAMA, Yoshiye

1961

IWABUCHI, Ichio
SHOJI, Kojiro

1962

NAITO, Ise

1963

MIZUNO, Tsuru
SAKATA, Yone

1964

NAKAMURA, Hikoza
OHASHI, Gengo
OYE, Tomi

1966

ARAKAWA, Sute
KOHARA, Shirayu

1968

FUJIOKA, Kenji
TAKIMOTO, Yojiro

1970—50th Year

MAEDA, Ko
OOKA, Fusaye
YANO, Kenichi

1972

KARIYA, Gorokichi
MATSUI, Sadajiro
NEHA, Tomonori

1973

MORI, Bun
NAGASAWA, Kinsaku

1974

INOUE, Teru
NAKAMURA, Keizo

1975

MIYATA, Ninosuke
UYEDE, Shige

1976

KOYANAGI, Kyuichi

1977

HIGO, Hajime
MATSUNO, Takao

1978

NAKATSU, Gen
ROBINSON, Robert

1979

AJIMOTO, Haruye
HAMANISHI, Kentaro
KOYANAGI, Jun
MASUHARA, Yohei
NAKASONE, Yoriko
YAMANOUCHI, Keiji

1980

SHOJI, Tamiko

1982

NAKATSU, Kanichi
YOSHIDA, Makio

1984

MORI, Kenji
SHIBATA, Yasuhiro

1987—33rd Year

TAKAHASHI, Tsusaburo

1988

KITADE, Yoshiharu
MORISUE, Kazuo

1989

MUKAI, Mine

1990

FUJITA, Kiyoshi
NAGASAWA, Tatsu
NATSUHARA, Sawaye
OHORI, Masa
SUGAWARA, Yoshiko
TAKASAKI, Takeo

1992

BABA, Masako
HAMANISHI, Toshio
TAKAGI, Nobue

1993

MINAMIDE, Toshiye
ONO, Suye
YAKURA, Ko

1994

TAKATA, Takeo
Tahara, Toshiyuki

1995—25th Year

HAMAGUCHI, Kisako

1996

KITAGAWA, Sotojiro

1997

HONDA, Kazuo
KAWAMOTO, Masao
NISHI, Yoshiko
YOSHIDA, Yoshie

2000

ASAOA, Takashi
IWASAKI, Mitsuji
KOYANAGI, Saburo
MASUHARA, Wakako
OKAMOTO, Yukio
TOMANEKI, Machiye

2001

AKASAKA, Minoru
MURAO, Yasukichi

2002

TAKAI, Nobuo
TAKENO, Hisae
YAMAMOTO, Ei

2002

HARA, Miyoko
HARAGUCHI, Masanobu
NISHIKIHAMA, Sawae
SEKIYA Mitsuo

2003—17th Year

KOYANAGI, Suyeko
TATARA, Eiko
NISHIMOTO, Kumeko
HATTORI, Allan

2004

TAKEMOTO, Yasuye

2005

KAGETSU, Hide
TAKEMORI, Ichiro
YONEDA, Minoru

2006

MIYAZAKI, Yoshie
2007—13th Year
KOMORI, Edward
NATSUHARA, Kaoru
KITANO, Ken

2008

SAKATA, Kazuma
HAYASHI, Shigeiko

2009

GOMYO, Yuichi
CHIBANA, Jinjo

2010

YONEDA, George
OKABE, Hitoshi

2011

NUKINA, Roy Masami

2012

NOMURA, George
MARTIN, Hunter
SAKIYAMA, Mitsuyo
FUJITA, Eileen

2013—7th Year

HAYASHI, Kotaro
UEGAKI, Takuo
SHIKAZE, Emiko
MATSUNAGA, Takao

2014

TAKATA, Etsuko

2015

IKEGAMI, Kinya
TAHARA, Yume

2016

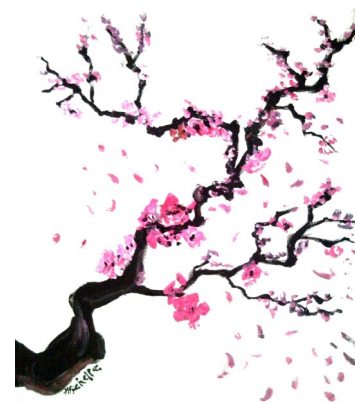
TAKAKI, Jean
TANAKA, Mike
FUKUI, Makoto
2017 - 3rd year Year

TSURUMARU, Chizuko
TSUJI, Akiko

TANIZAWA, Masaaki

2018 - 1st Year

NATSUKOSHI, Noriko
TATEYAMA, Henry
FUKUHARA, Toshiro



Sun.	Mon.	Tues	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
December 2019						
1 <u>10:30 AM</u> Bodhi Day and Monthly Memorial Shotsuki Service	2	3	4	5 <u>12:00 PM</u> Noon Howakai	6	7 <u>10:00 AM</u> Board Meeting <u>2:00PM</u> Fraser Valley Temple (Rev. Aoki)
8 <u>9:00 AM</u> Mochi-tsuki Year-end Sunday Service	9	10	11 Karaoke Club Year-end Par- ty	12 <u>12:00 PM</u> Noon Howakai	13	14
15 No Service @ VBT	16	17	18 <u>11:00 AM</u> Nikkei Home Service (Rev. T. Aoki)	19 <u>12:00 PM</u> Noon Howakai	20	21
22 No Service @ VBT	23	24	25 Christ- mas Day Office closed	26	27	28
29 No Service @ VBT	30	31 <u>10:00 PM</u> New Year's Eve Service @ VBT (No Soba served) <u>11:30 PM</u> Bell Ringing @ UBC Asian Centre	New Year's Eve Bell-Ringing—Dec. 31, 11:30 PM Join us in front of the UBC Studies Building (1871 West Mall, UBC Campus) to ring the Pacific Bell. Everyone gathered will have the opportunity to continue the tra- dition of symbolically “ringing away” the 108 worldly passions to start the year anew.			
January 2020			1 <u>10:30 AM</u> New Year's Day Service Office closed	2	3	4 <u>10:00 AM</u> VBT Toban + Ba- zaar & Board Meeting
5 <u>10:30 AM</u> English Dharma Service	6	7	8	9 <u>12:00 PM</u> Noon Howakai	10 <u>7-9PM</u> Public Lec- ture by Rev. Grant Ikuta	11 <u>11AM</u> FVBT Service (Rev. Aoki) (Guest: Rev. Grant Iktua)
12 <u>10:30 AM</u> VBT Hoonko & Monthly Shotsuki Memorial Service	13	14	15 <u>11:00 AM</u> Nikkei Home Service (Rev. T. Aoki)	16 <u>12:00 PM</u> Noon Howakai	17	18 <u>9:00AM</u> Manju Making
19 <u>10:30 AM</u> Steveston Temple Hoonko No Service @ VBT	20	21	22	23 <u>12:00 PM</u> Noon Howakai	24	25
26 <u>10:30AM</u> English Dharma Service	27	28	29	30 <u>12:00 PM</u> Noon Howakai	31	