



BODHI MIND



Vancouver Buddhist Church
220 Jackson Ave., Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3
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vancouverbuddhistchurch.ca
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Everyday is Happy New Year!

When we approach the end of the year, many of us find ourselves quietly looking back on the year, remembering and reflecting on the many changes we have had to live through in the 12 months we called “2007.” In the first few weeks of the New Year, we greet everyone with a “Happy New Year!” It’s a wonderful expression that has such a feeling of “freshness.” In addition as I get a year older, the time seems to pass quicker than ever.

I remember during the long and hot days of my first summer in Kyoto, one of my senseis began greeting us all with a hearty “Happy New Year, Everyone!” Needless to say, being greeted with this expression in July seemed most unusual. No one in the classroom said anything, so I also kept quiet while thinking, “This is very strange.”

After a few days, the sensei finally responded to the puzzled looks on the many faces around him whenever he used his off-season greeting. After a joyful greeting of “Happy New Year Everyone!” he added, “Remember . . . Everyday is Happy New Year!”

And so it is. To a Buddhist, everyday and every moment is a new beginning. Every heartbeat and every breath is an end and a new beginning. We are taught that life is a series of meetings and partings, and of endings and beginnings. With such a clear awareness of life’s nature, we are encouraged to live each year, to live each day and to live each moment not taking for granted the gift of this precious and unrepeatable time we have together. Such is a life of Nembutsu.

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year . . . every day of the year!

Namo Amida Butsu
Tatsuya Aoki

Current memberships will expire on December 31st. Please renew your 2008 membership now. Your support keeps Shinran’s teachings alive in Vancouver.

Arigato gozaimashita

Joya No Kane
Bell Ringing Service at UBC
11:30 pm Dec.31st, 2007
Asian Centre, UBC
1871 West Mall, UBC

Everyone welcome!



VANCOUVER BUDDHIST CHURCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
1:00 PM—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2008

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 13th, 10:30am Hōonkō and Shotsuki service with our guest speaker, Reverend Bob Oshita, Buddhist Church of Sacramento

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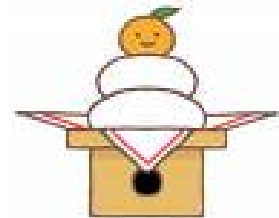
KAGAMI MOCHI

Kagami Mochi-“mirror-mochi”. This offering is also referred to as Kasane Mochi -piled-mochi. Mochi is a rice cake made from sweet glutinous rice which has been cooked, then pounded and shaped into balls. Traditionally a smaller mochi is placed atop of a larger mochi, and an orange with the green leaves is placed on top. This is displayed before New Year's Eve and is taken down and eaten on the final day of Japanese New Year.

According to my research, the Kagami Mochi is named because of its resemblance to traditional metal mirrors. The story I found was said to originate from a Shinto story of the Sun Goddess, who hid in a cave and made the world dark. The people prayed to a mirror which symbolized the Goddess, for her return. Her reappearance caused great joy and happiness for the people as the skies opened with brightness. The tangerine orange “daidai” placed on top of the kagami set is said that this type of orange whose fruit are yellow in winter, turns green again if left on the tree until spring. The Japanese pun on the word “daidai” means generations, is said to symbolize the continuation of a family from generation to generation. *Excerpts taken from the internet under Kagami Mochi.*

To everyone who participated in our Mochi pounding on December 16, Thank you for your encouragement, support and dedication. I hope you enjoyed the camaraderie of working together and sampling a variety of flavours added to the mochi. May we continue to enrich our lives with traditions and spreading the Dharma.

Season's Greetings, have a safe, happy and healthy New Year!



Dave Otori

Happy New Year Everyone,

Another calendar year flies by, and I hope you all have enjoyed a happy & healthy year 2007.

Our sangha participated in many activities, from Manju Making, Bon Odori dancing to Mochitsuki - pounding rice, harmoniously working together spreading the Dharma. Our major accomplishment, with many past and present Board Members striving towards a common goal, the dream of owning a residence for our minister came to fruition. Our temple, with the endorsement of our Board of Directors, purchased a three bedroom townhouse in a new development called MacPherson Walk in Burnaby. The completion date for this development will be in two years. If you wish to visit the site it is located at: 7450 MacPherson Avenue. The website is www.macphersonwalk.com. A portfolio is also available at the VBC office.

Looking ahead at this New Year of 2008, our Temple is planning and hosting many **Special** events. This year replacing our summer picnic, we are planning to visit the Seattle Bon Odori and Seafair events. Please view below for the list of dates and Special Events.

****Please refer to the enclosed Coloured page calendar for Monthly Memorial dates.**

DATES OF SPECIAL EVENTS – hosted by Vancouver Buddhist Church 220 Jackson Ave. 604.253.7033

- Sun Feb 03	AGM	1:00pm
- Sat Feb 09	Manju making	9:00am
- Sun Feb 10	New Year & Appreciation Lunch	-after Shotsuki Service
- Feb 15-17	NorthWest Convention	hosted by Seattle Betsuin in Tukwila
- Sat Mar 08	Manju Making	9:00am
- Sun Mar 30	Spring Bazaar	12:00 noon
- Sat Apr 05	LDC Lecture Series	hosted at SBT-guest minister Ron Kobata
- Sun Apr 13	Hanamatsuri/Keirokai	11:00 (Guest minister Gregory Gibbs)
- Sat Apr 26	BCC AGM	
- Sun Apr 27	BCC Tsuito Hoyo	
- May 04-10	Las Vegas & Cruise	field trip
- Sun Jun 01	Child Run/Outdoor Service	9:00am-Service to follow after run
- Sat Jun 07	Manju Making	9:00am
- Sat Jun 21	Golf Tournament	12:00 noon
- Sat Jul 05	Cemetery Site Visits	Vancouver, Burnaby & Fraser Valley
- Sun Jul 13	Hatsubon/Obon & Bon Odori	2:00 & 4:00pm
- Sat Jul 19	Seattle Bon Odori	field trip
- Sat Jul 26	Manju Making	9:00am
- Aug 02-03	Powell Street Festival	TBA
- Aug 29-Sep 01	Family Camp-Stave Lake	field trip
- Sat Sep 20	Manju Making	9:00am
- Sep 27-28	BCF Buddhist Convention	
- Sat Oct 18	Manju Making	9:00am
- Sun Oct 26	Fall Food Bazaar	12:00 noon
- Sat Nov 08	LDC Lecture Series	10:00am (Guest: Dr Alfred Bloom)
- Sun Dec 21	Mochi Tsuki	9:00am
- Wed Dec 31	Bell Ringing	11:30pm at UBC-Asian Studies Centre

Happy New Years Everyone, continued

We welcome you to attend our many events. Please remember that each and every one who participates in the events at the Temple make a difference in assisting in spreading the Dharma.

Your endless energy, dedication and support is very much appreciated in sustaining our sangha.

On behalf of myself and the Executive Board of Directors, Thank you for your time and effort in creating and making these events possible and exceeding their successes.

I wish everyone a safe, happy and healthy New Year.

In Gassho
Dave Otori

A man confessed that his mind was like filling a basket with water. "I am profoundly gratified in hearing the teachings during our dharma gathering. Afterwards, however, I retain nothing of this reverence."

Rennyō offered the advice, "Throw the basket of yours into the water; likewise, immerse yourself in the dharma. Not having faith is what is wrong."

Rennyō

From "Great Compassion: the Essence of Shin Buddhism" Fresno Betsuin Dharma Group

ITADAKIMASU II-cookbook

The Toronto Shin Fujinkai is presenting their new cookbook, Itadakimasu II, with over 200 mouth watering nutritious Japanese and Western-style recipes. This cookbook is yours for \$20.00. Copies are available for sale through the Vancouver Buddhist Church office.

BCC Calendars Now On Sale! \$15.00

Please support Jodo Shinshu programs in Canada by purchasing the new 2008 BCC Wall Calendar.

Proceeds from the sales of these calendars will go to the BCC Sustaining Fund.

Please contact Gina at the VBC office.

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Year End Fun Night Friday, December 28, 2007 6 P.M. Udon – Games – Prizes



**\$10 = Udon
and 25 chips
for games**



Akemashite omedetoo! Happy New Year, everyone!

On behalf of the Fraser Valley Buddhist temple members, we would like to wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year. Thank you to everyone who participated during the 2007 year in all of our shotsuki services, our special services, Hoonko, Hanamatsuri and Obon and supported us in our special events, the bazaar, mochi making and games night. Our no host luncheons at Nikkei Home helped us keep in touch with our elders. We sadly said our farewells to three of our older members, but tried to keep in mind that change is inevitable, that is the way of life.

The 2008 year will be busy and exciting as we look forward to our regular services, special services and special events. Perhaps we will venture forth with a new event...movies nights or outings to participate in Living Dharma Centre events. Our lunches at Nikkei Home will continue and hopefully we will be able to assist in some small way the two large events which will be part of the VBC calendar this year... the BCC AGM in the spring and the BCJSBF convention in the fall.

Please keep in mind that our January Hoonko and shotsuki service will be held on January 12 at 2:00 pm. The guest minister will be Reverend Bob Oshita from the Buddhist Church of Sacramento.

In gassho,
Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations from November 2007 .

\$5 - \$99: Mr.& Mrs. M. Araki, Evelyen Evans & Bill Miyazaki, Eileen Fujita, Ron & Marilyn Fujita, Mr. & Mrs. H. Honkawa, Sue Ikeda, Amy Kawamoto, Mrs. Emiko Shikaze, Mr. & Mrs.J. Tateyama, Stan & Lucy Yoshioka.

\$100 - \$299: Byron Kagawa, Mr. M. Saito (in memory of Nancy Saito)

\$300 - \$499: Mr. & Mrs. C. Saimoto (in memory of Ayaka Kagawa)

\$500 - \$1000: Mr. & Mrs. J. Kamimura

New Years' Resolutions to help the world....

Did you know?????

- In 2004, we generated over 3 million tones of municipal waste in the GVRD. That's enough to completely fill BC Place Stadium 3 times over.
- The Western World is discovering the art of using reusable materials for wrapping gifts? It is suggested that you should wrap your gift in square of cloth ... the Japanese have done this for generations and call the cloth a *furoshiki*.
- Old household items (in good condition) can be donated to charity. The Big Brothers, Canadian Diabetes Association, and Developmental Disabilities Association will even come to your home to pick them up.
- Ready to drink beverage containers now have a deposit on them. Go ahead and pick up that pop can on the ground... it's worth a nickel and you are saving the environment.

Make a resolution to help the world environment and "go green" - it's a very Buddhist thing to do.

SHOTSUKI (Memorial) List—January

December Shotsuki/monthly memorial service will be held on Sunday, January 13, 2008

1958

Yoshiko Izumi
Minosuke Nakagawa
Hatsutarō Tateoka

1960

Mantaro Uyeno
Jusaburo Sato
Yosokichi Hamakawa

1961

Shuzo Ozawa

1962

Shosuke Baba

1963

Shizu Banno

1964

Kiyōji Honma

Takezo Uyeno

1965

Imaye Terakita

1966

Kameo Kumano

Shichiro Nakayama

1968

Kiyōichi Koyanagi

1970

Kazuhide Horita

1971

Tomiiichi Mukai

1972

Koto Kawamoto

Kunikichi Fukunaga

1973

Hana Kitasaka

Ai Tanami

1974

Buyemon Araki

Sumiyo Hasebe

Tameichi Murao

1975

Seiichi Nakano

Mitsugu Shimokura

1976—33rd Year

Naosaku Mukuda

1977

Hiraye Usui

1978

Tomo Hashimoto

1981

Shigeichi Ui

1982

Tatsuhiko Sonoda

1983

Genji Yada

Taki Okabe

Moshichi Endo

Masako Nakashima

1984—25th Year

Kenichi Yamashita

Ichiro Araki

1985

Tamaya Yumoto

Kura Hisanaga

Tadasu Sonoda

1986

Genichi Ohori

Eishiro Yoshiye

1987

Yonetaro Yamamoto

Brett Shima

Yonezo Hori

1988

Tsunekichi Hamaguchi

Tamiyo Kinoshita

Shigeru Maruyama

1989

Jin Nakano

Hanaye Atagi

Otogusu Takemoto

Yuki Sokugawa

Motoye Kobuke

1990

Chuichi Fujii

Yoshitaka Miura

Misayo Oye

1991

Risao Yamamoto

Shozo Kikuchi

Kazuo Nakano

1992—17th Year

Betty Wakahara

Shigeyoshi Hamazaki

1993

Tsutomu Noda

Jun Maehara

1994

Hideo Imaoka

Makie Oikawa

Seiichi Nakata

1995

Shio Yabuno

Kimiyo Terakita

1996—13th Year

Yojiro Kondo

Kazuko Nakahara

Betty Nakatani

Sayuri Sakai

1997

Kazue Tanaka

Toshio Nishikawa

Akemi Shimizu

1998

Shunei Ogura

1999

Toshie Uyeyama

Hisaye Iwata

Mayumi Tsukamoto

Haruko Nishi

Chizue Sugino

2000

Shigeru Kuromi

2001

Saichi Tamoto

2002—7th Year

Kazue Aso

Richard Bendig

Nora Hisako Kurokawa

Yasuji Frank Sakai

2003

Kiyoko Yamamoto

2004

Kenzo Tani

2006—3rd Year

Shigeo Goto

Fumiko Hanazawa

Masao Nishimura

Seiji Uraisami

2007—1st Year

Sakae Natsukoshi

Kazuko Otsuka Campbell

With deepest sympathies...

*The Vancouver Buddhist Church offers its
deepest condolences to the families of*

*Mrs. Fumi Mori who passed away
on Nov 25th at the age of 72*

*and Mr. Ken Kitano who passed away
on December 6th at the age of 78.*

Season's Greetings!

Sensei Tatsuya
Aoki, Yukari, Sora,
and Sakura



Dave and Monica
Ohori
All the Best for
2008!!

Wishing all of you a
Happy & Healthy
Year for 2008!

Greg & Gina
Chor



Henry & Izumi
Low



All the best for
health & happiness!

Martha Banno

Min & Midori
Koyanagi



Seasons Greetings!

Bob & Molly
Akune



Best Wishes

Frank & Pat
Hamanishi

Seasons Greetings!

Mr. & Mrs. Shizuo
Tanaka



Happy Holidays!

Brad, Lorna,
& Girls

Best Wishes!

Tsutomu & Reiko
Omoto



Festive Greetings!

Tatsu & Karen
Mizushima

January 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10:30 am Shusho-e (New Year Service)	2	3	4	5 10:00 am Toban Meeting
6 10:30 am <u>Steveston</u> Hoonko Service	7	8	9	10 12:00 pm Japanese Service followed by Seniors Club	11	12 2:00 pm <u>FVBT</u> Hoonko and Shotsuki
13 10:30 am <u>VBC</u> Hoonko and Shotsuki	14	15	16 11:00 am Nikkei Home Service (Rev. Kikuchi)	17 12:00 pm Japanese Service followed by Seniors Club	18	19
20 10:30 am Family Service	21	22	23	24 12:00 pm Japanese Service followed by Seniors Club	25	26 4:00 pm Shiga kenjinkai
27 10:30 am Family Service	28	29	30	31 12:00 pm Japanese Service followed by Seniors Club		

- Jan. 6 Service cancelled at VBC. Members are encouraged to attend the Hoonko service at the Steveston Buddhist Temple. Guest Minister is Masayuki Fukuma from Tacoma Buddhist Temple.
- Guest Minister for Hoonko at Vancouver and Fraser Valley is Rev. Bob Oshita from Buddhist Church of Sacramento
- Jan. 26—Shiga Kenjin-kai Tsuito-Hoyo Service and New Year's Party at VBC
- Feb.3—VBC Annual General Meeting. 1:00 pm. *All members are encouraged to attend.*
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For more information on coming events, please go to www.vancouverbuddhistchurch.ca or phone the Vancouver Buddhist Church during regular business hours at (604) 253-7033