

Kelowna Buddhist Temple

The New Dharma Express

PO. Box 22092, RPO Capri Centre Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 9N9 phone 250-763-3827
 Web: www.kelownabuddhisttemple.org Email: kelbudt@gmail.com

Special Points of Interest:

- Wed., May 2, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Thur., May 3, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Fri., May 4, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm,
- Wed., May 9, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Thur., May 10, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm Executive Meeting 7pm
- Fri., May 11, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Sun. May 13, Dharma School, Dharma Shotsuki Service, Parent's Day 10am
- Wed., May 16, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Thur., May 17, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Fri., May 18, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Wed., May 23, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Thur., May 24, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Fri., May 25, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Sat., May 26, Asian Heritage Month Activities 11am ~ 2pm
- Sun., May 27, Dharma School, Gotan-e (Shinran Shonin's Birthday) 10am
- Wed., May 30, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- Thur., May 31, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm

May Monthly Memorial

- Master Masaharu Terai
- Mr. Kinai Kita
- Mr. Shichigoro Hayashi
- Mrs. Tomeno Oikawa
- Mrs. Mitsu Hayashi
- Miss Yukiko Yokota
- Mr. Iwajiro Yoshikawa
- Mr. Bunzo Sakamoto
- Mr. Shojiro Yamaoka
- Mr. Suekichi Koga
- Mr. Katsuzo Hayashi
- Mr. Kuniyoshi Tamura
- Mr. Yazo Atagi
- Mr. Robert Kawaguchi
- Mr. Roy Tanemura
- Mrs. Takeko Kimura
- Mr. Masaichi Terai
- Mr. Masaru Tamaki
- Mr. Shuo Yamaoka
- Mrs. Chiyoko Yamaoka

Clean-up Altar Toban

- M/M Herb Tanaka
- Tomoye Yamaoka
- M/M Jay Hunter
- Ms. Naomi Tanaka
- M/M Tad Kondo
- M/M David Matsuyama
- M/M Don Favell
- Ms. Marilyn MacLean
- M/M Joe Uyeyama
- M/M Mark Gilbert
- Mrs. Gail Brown
- M/M Randy Caruso

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Service Chairpersons:

May. 13, 10am
 Alan Yamaoka
*Dharma School, Parent's Day
 Dharma Shotsuki*



Mar. 27, 10am
 Pegi Hayashi - Uyeyama
 Dharma School & Gotan-e
(Shinran Shonin's Birthday)



PLEASE NOTE, THE TEMPLE EMAIL ADDRESS HAS BEEN CHANGED TO:

kelbudt@gmail.com

Lawn Mowing Schedule

- May 5 - Herb Tanaka
- May 12 - Gary Koga
- May 19 - Reg Tomiye
- May 26 - Ken Yamada

Please ensure that you cut the grass as scheduled. If you are unable to take your turn, please contact the next person on the list to arrange a trade. Clean under the mower deck when completed.

Thank-you for your co-operation.

Reminder

We are requesting a donation from each member to help purchase a new vehicle for our Minister. Reverend Miyakawa travels several times each month to each Buddhist Temple in the Central Okanagan, performing various services on request, and as a result, his vehicle has accumulated a substantial amount of mileage. At our last BC Interior Shin Buddhist AGM, the combined temples calculated that a **minimum of \$115 per member** would help cover most of the cost of providing a new vehicle for Sensei this spring. Your donation can be e-transferred (**before the end of May please**) to kelbudt@gmail.com.....or a cheque can be sent to:

Kelowna Buddhist Temple
PO Box 22092, RPO Capri Centre
Kelowna, BC V1Y 9N9

Thank you for giving generously to this much needed cause. If you have already sent your contribution, we thank you most sincerely.
 In Gassho,
 Kelowna Buddhist Temple
 Board of Directors

From Sensei

The Murmur of Na-man-da-bu

May is the month in which Shinran Shonin was born. Shinran was the founder of our Jodo Shinshu teachings, and is known for having brought Buddhist teachings to ordinary people.

Shinran Shonin was born in Kyoto, Japan on May 21st 1173 to an aristocratic family. This was a time of social instability with civil war between factions. Because of the turbulent fighting for political power, the once proud family, including the father and all five sons was driven to enter the monkhood in order to survive. In 1181, when Shinran was around eight years old his father died. He was then taken to Shoren-in Temple, where he was quickly initiated into the monkhood to study traditional Buddhism. Despite his young age, he was a serious student who spent his energies poring over the sutras. Over the years, Shinran was gradually drawn to the Pure Land teachings.

Eventually, Shinran encountered Master Honen and his teaching about the importance of the Nembutsu. Honen believed that the recitation of the Nembutsu was essential. Shinran enhanced this practice, but also drew attention to the importance of having shinjin (faith). He emphasized the Nembutsu, yet believed and taught that the Nembutsu needed to come spontaneously from the entrusting heart (shinjin). Since then, the simple spontaneous recitation of the Nembutsu became the most important practice. This meant that ordinary people, such as “farmers, fishermen, labourers, and commoners” were equally capable to practice Buddhism.

When we go to temples, we often hear the murmuring “Na-man-da-bu,—Na-man-da-bu” of the Nembutsu. Our forefathers and mothers brought this Buddhist practice with them to Canada. Recitation of the Name, “Na-man-da-bu” expressed spontaneously from within is a manifestation of Amida Buddha. When times were difficult, they heard “Na-man-da-bu” and felt that Amida Buddha was with them.

When one declares that he/she is Buddhist, people recognize that person as a Buddhist, and tend to form an image or impression of Buddhism such as: mindfulness, gentleness, kindness, compassion, calmness, thoughtfulness, selflessness, a life in harmony with other beings. These descriptions may create the impression that the Buddhist way of life will bring positive changes to their own lives. It may be an impetus to those who seek a more peaceful life of harmony, freedom, and fellowship with other living beings.

The most important practice of our Jodo Shinshu religion is the active recitation of the Nembutsu. What is it that is so powerful for us in reciting the name “Namo Amida Butsu?” However, sometimes people are shy or reserved about saying and reciting it? It is an “easy practice,” yet for us this may be the part that is “difficult to believe.” We still do not realize that this act of saying the Nembutsu is what we need to do, and what needs to happen. This is the part of our teachings that is “difficult to believe,” Shinran Shonin described us as “foolish beings of wrong views and arrogance.” We need to simply have an entrusting heart. This is not something that we achieve by our own effort. In order for us to have the entrusting heart, we need to immerse

ourselves with our whole being into the deep compassion of Amida Buddha. In other words, we cannot hold Amida’s compassion, instead Amida’s compassion will hold us, and when this occurs, it will completely eliminate all our earlier doubts.

When I read the biographies of the great patriarchs of Jodo Shinshu: Tao-cho, Shan-tao, and Honen, I was amazed to learn that they literally lived the Nembutsu life every waking moment of their day. Many of these masters recited the Nembutsu thousands of times each day. It was recorded that Tao-cho (Shan-tao’s Master) recited the Nembutsu 70,000 times per day, Shan-tao (Honen’s teacher) 30,000 times a day, and Honen (Shinran’s Master) 70,000 times a day.

A few years ago, I tried to experience this. I wondered how many recitations I could say. I decided to try to consciously count the number of times that I could recite the Nembutsu each day. However, if I was to become so immersed in the Nembutsu, how would I be able to count my recitations? I purchased a tally counter at a stationery store and a group of us began to record the number of our recitations in a Log Book. We were not able to recite as the Masters did. Even with our best efforts, the most that we could reach was around 10,000. An average day for us was 4,000-5,000 recitations.

One important lesson that we learned from this practice was the experience of being immersed in the Nembutsu. Everywhere that we went, we thought of Amida Buddha, and recited the Nembutsu. From this we learned that Shan-tao and Tao-cho and Honen must have been completely enveloped and “at one” with Amida Buddha. This was their style of meditation on Amida Buddha.

In the Kikigaki, Rennyo Shonin tells the story of a man called Kazue as follows: “*Since he recited the Nembutsu incessantly, he used to cut himself while shaving. He recited the Nembutsu, forgetting what he was doing. He (Kazue) said ‘it seems that people of the world cannot say the Nembutsu even for a short while unless they move their mouths intentionally. How shameful!’*”

It is hard to believe that Kazue was so immersed in the Nembutsu, that the dangers of shaving were not important to him. However, it shows us the importance of his Nembutsu practice. Let us recite the Nembutsu as an expression of our gratitude to Amida Buddha.

In Gassho, Rev. Yasuhiro Miyakawa

“Since he recited the Nembutsu incessantly, he used to cut himself while shaving. He recited the Nembutsu, forgetting what he was doing.”



Kelowna Buddhist Women's Association

April has been a quiet month for the women's group, although there was the organization of the Hanamatsuri potluck dinner. Thanks to Genevra for organizing that for us and to Tammy for organizing the bingo prizes. It was nice to have the tables decorated with flowers and beautiful daffodil arrangements decorating the side tables. Thanks, Rick.

There was an Interior Health inspection of our kitchen in March and we passed with flying colours. Thanks to the ladies and Herb who helped out to clean up the kitchen and other areas to prepare for the inspection.

This month we will be preparing for the JSBTCWF's AGM which will be held in Calgary on April 27 th & 28, 2018.

In Gassho,
Maureen



Asian Heritage Month

The Kelowna Buddhist Temple The Kelowna Buddhist Temple will be participating in Asian Heritage Month. Please join us on Saturday, May 26th, 2018 from 11:00am to 2:00pm to watch Japanese Cooking Demonstrations. See how to make California rolls, Japanese sweets and a Japanese entree. Admission is \$2.00. Some of these items will also be for sale.

Recognition

During our Hanamatsuri service, Mrs. Marilyn MacLean and Mrs. Anne Stack were each presented with an Onenju in recognition of their recent, successful completion of the Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course. Both Marilyn and Anne spent many hours over the course of two years to deepen their knowledge and appreciation of the Nembutsu teachings. Congratulations, we are very happy and proud of your accomplishments!



Donations continued;

Newsletter

Mori, M/M Satoshi	\$30.
Tanaka, Mrs. Chiyoko	\$50.
Fong, M/M Michael	\$50.

Vehicle Replacement Fund

Tanemura, M/M Melvin	\$250.
Hatanaka, Ms. Maureen	\$150.
Ueda, Mrs. Amy & Family	\$150.
Matsuyama, M/M David	\$230.
Anonymous	\$150.
Martin, Mr. Michael	\$100.
Stack, Mrs. Anne	\$250.
Kouchiyama, M/M Jason	\$230.
Lacey, M/M Gord	\$300.
Anonymous	\$300.
Favell, M/M Don	\$230.
Favell, Ms. Lindsay	\$115.
Suzuki, Rick & Tanaka, Peggy	\$300.
Kondo, M/M Tadashi	\$230.
Yamada, M/M Ken	\$130.

**British Columbia Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Federation
2018 Post Secondary Scholarships**

The British Columbia Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Federation awards two Post Secondary Scholarships annually. These scholarships are open to any resident of BC who:

Is a full-time student attending a recognized post-secondary institution and enrolled for this coming fall semester in a program leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate; and

Participates in religious/spiritual events and activities through a church, temple, or other recognized religious group.

For more information, or to have an application emailed to you, please contact Lori at scholarships.bcjsbtf@gmail.com

Deadline for applications is August 4, 2018

From the Temple Executive

Spring is upon us. The weather is getting nicer and the daylight is getting longer as each day passes. Thank-you to those who came out for the Spring yard clean up on April 7th. The wet weather made it a challenge for the very few people who came out to help. Once again, a delicious breakfast was prepared by the ladies for all to enjoy. Also, thank you to Ken Yamada for taking the time out of his work schedule to prune and trim all the Temple trees and shrubs. Hanamatsuri was celebrated on April 8th, the actual birthday of Shakamuni Buddha. This year there were no visitations to care homes or the hospital due to only a few Dharma School students. It is the first time in the Temple history that this long time tradition didn't take place. We encourage young children to come out and attend Dharma School classes.

We are collecting funds towards the purchase of Sensei's new vehicle. A reminder to those who haven't donated, please do so by either e-transfer to kelbud@gmail.com or given to your district rep.

As your Board of Directors, we will have major hurdles we must address and must find ways to solve these issues. As our congregation is ageing and with fewer fund raising activities, it has become increasingly difficult to meet our obligations.

Also, the Temple is getting older and is showing it's age and in need of some repairs

To this end we the board will be needing to put our heads together to try to find ways to raise funds.

We are open to your suggestions and possible solutions.

In Gassho,
Rick



Gotan-e (Shinran Shonin's Birthday)

Shinran is said to have been born on May 21, 1173, in an area southeast of Kyoto in a place called Hino, and given the name Matsuwakamaru. His father, Hino Arinori, was a member of a branch family of the Fujiwara clan and was a high court officer. Shinran's mother was Kikkonyo, said to have been the daughter of Yoshichika, a member of another branch of the Fujiwara clan. Apparently, she passed away when Shinran was 8 years old. Because of the turbulent infighting for political power during that period, the once proud family, including the father and all five sons, was driven to enter the monkhood in order to survive. Losing his father in 1181, young Shinran was brought by his uncle, Lord Noritsuna, to the Shoren-in Temple in Higashiyama, where he was hurriedly initiated into the monkhood by Jien Sojo and given the name Hannen.

Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu, never intended to start a new tradition. He considered himself as simply a person who accepted Amida Buddha's Primal Vow as the vehicle by which the Pure Land could be reached. After many years of study and practice, he came to understand the precise difficulty in achieving Enlightenment; it was impossible because of the poison of self-centeredness in every human action. Thus, he abandoned the difficult path and began traversing the easy path of relying on Amida's compassionate Vow. After studying the works of the seven masters, maintaining that they were ones who properly transmitted the Pure Land teaching, he came to revere Honen Shonin. Shinran coined the term "Jodo Shinshu," meaning "True Teaching of the Pure Land," and employed it to indicate that the teaching he had received from Honen was the true teaching. Exhibiting modesty and humility throughout his life, Shinran inspired and won the respect of many people.

from Jodo Shinshu Shogyo

From The Editor



With the passing of Mrs. Misuyo "Dot" Wakano, on April 3, 2018, our community has lost another of our hardworking pioneers. Dot was always an eager participant at all Temple fundraising activities until declining health prevented her from taking part. For many decades, Dot worked alongside her husband and children at various Nurseries until they were able to open their own business, Rick's Garden World. Through her work, she was able to make lasting relationships with co-workers and customers, many of whom became good friends. Our Temple community has missed Dot's warm and gentle personality and her presence at the Temple, as she dealt with her health issues. She is among the people that have had to live through Canada's racist policies during the second world war and persevered to regain the respect of Canadians and establish a good life for the next generations. We thank Dot for sharing her life with us and extend out sincere condolences to her daughter Martha and grandsons Ryan and Kevin, as well as her siblings and extended family.

Namo Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu

May, 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 Dharma School, Nirvana Day 10am	30 Taiko Practice 7pm	1	2 TSS Meditation 10am - 12:30pm,	3 TSS Meditation 10am	4 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	5 Lawn Mowing Herb Tanaka 
6	7 Taiko Practice 7pm	8	9 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	10 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Executive Meeting 7pm Taiko 7pm	11 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	12 Lawn Mowing Gary Koga 
13 Dharma School, Dharma Shotsuki Service, Parent's Day 10am	14 Taiko Practice 7pm	15	16 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	17 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Taiko 7pm	18 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	19 Lawn Mowing Reg Tomiye 
20	21 Taiko Practice 7pm	22	23 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	24 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Taiko 7pm	25 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	26 Lawn Mowing Ken Yamada 
27 Dharma School, Gotan-e (Shinran Shonin's Birthday) 10am	28 Taiko Practice 7pm	29	30 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	31 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Taiko 7pm	1 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	2 Lawn Mowing Rick Suzuki 

With Gratitude the Temple and all of its Affiliated Organizations

Acknowledge Your Generous Contribution

Apologies for any Errors or Omissions.

<u>Perpetual Memorial (Eitai-kyo)</u>		Yetman, M/M Pat	\$30.
Suzuki, M/M Toshiya	\$50.	Tanaka, Mrs. Chiyoko	\$50.
Anonymous	\$50.	Tanaka, Ms. Naomi	\$50.
Suzuki, Rick & Tanaka, Peggy	\$75.	Hayashi, Mrs. Shizue	\$50.
Uyeyama, M/M Joe	\$25.	Favell, M/M Don	\$50.
Yamaoka, M/M Alan	\$30.	Ewuk, Mrs. Meiko	\$30.
Tahara, M/M Morio	\$100.	Koga, Mrs. Carol	\$30.
Cavanaugh, Ms. Geneva	\$25.	Anonymous	\$40.
Martin, Mr. Michael	\$25.	<u>Memorial</u>	
<u>Perpetual Memorial / Spring Equinox (Eitai-kyo/Ohigan)</u>		Terada, Mr. Nagatoshi - in memory of Tatsujiro Terada	\$50.
Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley	\$30.	Kondo, M/M Tadashi - in memory of Shig Tanaka	\$100.
Murata, Mrs. T.A.	\$20.	Matsuyama, M/M David - in memory of Shig Tanaka	\$50.
Tanaka, M/M Herb	\$30.	Tanaka, Mrs. Chiyoko in memory of Shig Tanaka	\$50.
<u>Hanamatsuri</u>		Tanaka, Ms. Naomi - in memory of Shig Tanaka	\$50.
Omae, Shizue	\$50.	Tamaki, Mr. Stan - in memory of Ronald Tamaki	\$50.
Mayeda, Derek	\$50.	<u>General</u>	
Tanemura, Shirley	\$30.	Tanaka, Mrs. Chiyoko - In Appreciation for Chow Mein	\$25.
Tahara, M/M Morio	\$100.	Cavanaugh, Ms. Geneva - Sofa & Chair	\$200.
Carpentier, Junko	\$50.	Kouchiyama, M/M Jason	\$160.
Hatanaka, Maureen	\$30.	Cavanaugh, Ms. Geneva Parking	\$50.
Terada, Lorne	\$50.	Yamaoka, M/M Alan - In Appreciation	\$100.
Stack, Anne	\$250.	Anonymous	\$10.
Uemoto, M/M Kaichi	\$40.	<u>Sustaining Fee</u>	
Richardson, Janice	\$30.	Nakamura, Ms. Naoko	\$170.
Yamaoka, M/M Jack	\$50.	<u>Building Fund</u>	
Suzuki, Rick & Tanaka, Peggy	\$100.	Yamaoka, M/M Jack	\$100.
Yamaoka, M/M Alan	\$50.	<u>Dharma Shotsuki</u>	
Matsuyama, M/M David	\$50.	Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley	\$20.
Yamaoka, Tomoye	\$25.	Sugie, M/M Sam - in memory of Mrs. U Tatebe	\$20.
Uyeyama, M/M Joe	\$20.	Nishi, Ms. Geri - in memory of Mr. Carl Nishi	\$50.
Yamaoka, Ms. Carrie	\$50.	Yamaoka, M/M Alan - in memory of Mr. Carl Nishi	\$30.
Tanaka, M/M Herb	\$30.	Suzuki, Rick / Tanaka, Peggy	\$50.
Suzuki, M/M Toshiya	\$40.		

Donations continued on page 3:

Legislation enacted by the Provincial Government restricts organizations from divulging personal information without the approval of the individuals affected. The donations generously made by Temple members and friends fall under the realm of personal information. Therefore, if you object to your donations being published in the Temple Newsletter, please let us know and we will cease doing so (Mail or Email your wish to be omitted from the published list). In Gassho, Temple Board of Directors