

Kelowna Buddhist Temple

The New Dharma Express

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 Web: www.kelownabuddhisttemple.org Email: kelbudt@gmail.com

Special Points of Interest:

- **Tues., April 30**, Sorting/pricing Japanese Items 1 ~ 4pm
- **Wed., May 1**, Sorting/pricing Japanese items 9 ~ noon, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- **Thur., May 2**, Sorting/pricing Japanese items 9 ~ noon, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- **Fri., May 3**, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm,
- **Tues., May 7**, Sorting/pricing Japanese items 9 ~ noon
- **Wed., May 8**, Sorting/pricing Japanese items if required 9 ~ noon, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- **Thur., May 9**, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm Prep veggies & make Gyoza sauce 1 ~ 4pm, Executive Meeting 7pm
- **Fri., May 10**, Cook Chow Mein & Gyoza 9 ~ noon, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Set up all sale items & tables 1 ~ 4pm
- **Sat., May 11**, Packaging Bentos & prepping for sales 8 ~ 11am, Sales, 11am ~ 2pm, Clean up 2 ~ 4pm
- **Sun. May 12**, Dharma School & Parent's Day 10am, Dharma Shotsuki Service 2pm
- **Wed., May 15**, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
- **Thur., May 16**, 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 |
- **Fri., May 17**, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
 - **Wed., May 22**, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm
 - **Thur., May 23**, 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

Clean-up Altar Toban

- Alan/Barb Yamaoka
 Lisa Yamaoka
 Carrie Yamaoka
 Brian Yamaoka
 Jim Nishi
 Teruo/Mutsuko Ogi
 Jean/Pat Yetman
 Jack/Marg Hatanaka
 Anderson Araujo
 Michael Martin
 Genevra Cavanaugh

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Service Chairpersons:

May. 12, *Dharma Shotsuki 2pm*
 Alan Yamaoka



Mar. 26, *Gotan-e (Shinran Shonin's Birthday)*
 Pegi Uyeyama



The Kelowna Buddhist Temple will be celebrating **Asian Heritage Month 'ALL THINGS JAPANESE'** on Saturday, May 11, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Featured will be Temple tours, sale of books, bento (lunchbox - limited quantity), gently used kimono & accessories, Japanese dishes, kitchenware, decorative items & etc. As with any event much planning and volunteer help is required. Following are the days we would like help:

- Tuesday, April 30 1 – 4 pm sorting & pricing [Japanese items](#)
- Wednesday, May 1 9 – noon sorting & pricing Japanese items
- Thursday, May 2 9 – noon sorting & pricing Japanese items
- Tuesday, May 7 9 – noon sorting & pricing Japanese items
- Wednesday, May 8 9 – noon if required sorting & pricing Japanese items
- Thursday, May 9 1 – 4 pm prep veggies & make gyoza sauce
- Friday, May 10 9 – noon cooking chow mein & gyoza
1 – 4 pm set up all sale items & tables
- Saturday, May 11 8 – 11 am packaging bento & prepping for sales
11 – 2 pm sales, 2 – 4 pm clean up

Please let me know if you are able to help on any of the days. If you have items to donate, please bring it to the Temple or contact me by April 26.
 Thank you.
 In Gassho, Shirley

From Sensei

Transformation of Self through the Nembutsu

Spring has arrived in the Okanagan, and many of us are busy working on spring cleanup in our gardens. The cherry trees are in blossom, and the grass is green again. We are once again witnessing the new life that is emerging after a long winter of ice and snow. With the arrival of Spring we can begin planning new gardens for the season.

With the beginning of Spring, we have a feeling of new life, and this can be the beginning of new ideas and goals. A few days ago, I was given a book, written about Eastern religion and culture. In this book, there is an interesting article on the question “what is the essence of a human being?” The Western view is based on Greek philosophy - the idea that each of us *is* a person, and from the time of our conception, has the integrity of *being* a person. However, the Eastern view is influenced by Confucian ethics, which regards us as *becoming human* by cultivating one’s actions and relationships. Throughout our life experiences and relationships with others, we become “human.” The difference between these two approaches is between “*being*” and “*becoming*.” I feel that we are constantly in a process of *becoming* human, through our life experiences and interactions with other people.

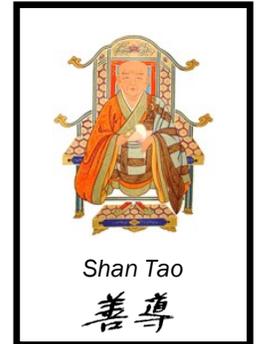
There is a Buddhist word “Saha” for the secular world which means “endurance” or “patience.” As we live our lives, we experience a sense of dissatisfaction because of our constant desires and wants. Throughout our experiences of continuous dissatisfaction, we develop endurance and “patience” on our way to “becoming human.”

Pure Land Buddhism teaches us that when we have been able to establish a new sense of personal “self” through shinjin and the nembutsu, we are able to journey through the difficulties of life, and transcend, or pass through, even death itself.

Birth in the Pure Land is for one who has realized “true shinjin.” This is associated with the experience of *awakening* and refers to being saved by Amida Buddha. One of the Seven Patriarchs, Shan-*tao*, in the Parable of the White Path, no matter how difficult the afflictions that we may encounter on that path, when we express the Nembutsu spontaneously we are continuously crossing over from the secular world, one step at a time, as we respond to the calling voice of Amida. This is the meaning of “towards birth.” Therefore, a person can establish a new sense of personal self within the process of awakening, and be able to overcome the difficulties within one’s life.”

The process of transformation or “*becoming*” is a frequent theme within the Sutras. In the Amida Sutra, there are references to the lotus flowers “as large as chariot wheels growing in the pools”. The flowers are described as being of different colors “those of blue color emit blue radiance — they are exquisite, wonderful, fragrant and pure.”

This Sutra is full of important Buddhist symbols of transformation, such as flowers, gems, and birds. All are symbols of transformation. Imagine the lotus flower that grows in muddy water. The muddy water is symbolic of our secular life, full of suffering, difficulties, and sadness. Yet from that muddy water emerges the beautiful lotus blossoms, exquisite, wonderful, fragrant, and pure. This example symbolizes for us the overcoming of our mundane earthly existence. We acquire a new way of *becoming* and become *awakened*.



The process of awakening is brought about by the act of saying the *nembutsu*. It is composed of *aspiration* and *practice*. We say “*Namu*” and take refuge in *Amida Butsu*. *Namu Amida Butsu* is the same as “I return to the life of the Buddha.” Saying the nembutsu is the Buddha’s calling voice, in the sense that Amida Buddha calls out to us to return to the Buddha. I believe that this is a wonderful way of helping us understand. However, as we Westerners have little background in the Eastern Buddhist culture, it is sometimes difficult for us to recite Buddha’s name.

Shan-*tao* gave us ways to practice. He gave us the “*five right acts*” that we need to do every day at our family shrine. These help us recite the name “*Namo Amida Butsu*.” These acts are: everyday chanting, thinking about the Buddha, worship at home, and praising and making offering to the Buddha. I believe that we could build these practices into our lifestyle. In this way, it might be more likely that the nembutsu would become spontaneously recited.

Our saying the Nembutsu is as follows: The process of awakening “brings us to realize the truth of something long forgotten, and we understand something so deeply that we are convinced of its reality beyond doubt. It is like when a child calls out “mom”, but at a deeper level the mother is calling out to her child. The mother’s heart echoes or resonates within the child’s heart, and therefore the child calls out ‘mom’. This process takes place in both directions. The child’s calling out “mom” interacts with her love for the child, just as Amida Buddha which surrounds all beings and all forms of life with love and compassion.

Let us try to say the Nembutsu in our daily life, and listen for the calling voice of Amida.

In Gassho Rev. Yasuhiro Miyakawa

Gotan-e (Shinran Shonin’s Birthday)

May 26th, 2:00 PM



Kelowna Buddhist Women's Association

Our busy spring fund raising has come and gone, however, there are always other activities that will be keeping us busy.

On April 3rd, the Women's Association executive held a meeting to follow-up on a number of items that were tabled from the meeting in January 6, 2019 and to discuss new items. The JSBTCWF (national women's association) has updated the Terms of Reference document; additional stainless steel bowls and towels will be purchased for the kitchen; Manju sales are being planned again for sale in December; although cooking demonstrations were not held this year they may resume next year; financial assistance towards registration will be given to KBTWA members who will be attending the World Women's conference in San Francisco; JoeAnna's House was selected as the local Dana Day charity that we will be donating to (funds raised through our Manju sales); a reprint of our 2016 cookbook is being planned for the fall of 2020 and we will start soliciting for recipes now and Joyce will be coordinating a Food Safe workshop this fall (please let Joyce know if you are interested in taking this course).

In previous newsletters I have mentioned that the Temple will be organizing an Asian Heritage Month event on May 11, 2019 with the help from the Women's Association. Shirley and myself are working with Rick and Alan to organize the event. The theme this year is "All Things Japanese". If you have the time to spare we would greatly appreciate help for this event. A schedule of what and when help is needed is listed in this month's newsletter. Please contact Shirley at kelbudt@gmail.com.

Thanks to Shirley and Joyce who organized the potluck dinner for Hanamatsuri on April 14, 2019. I heard that there was a great variety of food with just the right amount of side dishes and dessert.

Just a reminder that the registration deadline for the World Women's Convention in San Francisco is April 26, 2019. Cost of the hotel has been reduced. If you would like information on this convention please contact me.

In Gassho,

Maureen Hatanaka



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.

A Record in Lament of Divergences (Tannishō)

3

Even a good person attains birth in the Pure Land, so it goes without saying that an evil person will. Though it is so, people commonly say, "Even an evil person attains birth, so it goes without saying that a good person will." This statement may seem well founded at first, but it runs counter to the intent of the Primal Vow, which is Other Power. This is because people who rely on doing good through their self-power fail to entrust themselves wholeheartedly to Other Power and therefore not in accord with Amida's Primal Vow, but when they overturn the mind of self-power and entrust themselves to Other Power, they will attain birth in the true and fulfilled land. It is impossible for us, who are possessed of blind passions, to free ourselves from birth-and-death through any practice whatever. Sorrowing at this, Amida made the Vow, the essential intent of which is the evil person's attainment of Buddhahood. Hence, evil persons who entrust themselves to Other Power are precisely the ones who possess the true cause of birth. Accordingly he said, "Even the good person is born in the Pure Land, so without question is the person who is evil"

Donations continued;

Sustaining Fee

- MacLean, Marilyn \$170.
- Morrell, Myrna \$175.

Building Fund

- Yamaoka, M/M Alan \$300.

Dharma Shotsuki

- Yamaoka, Alan & Barb - In memory of George Hayashi \$50.
- Nishi, Geraldine - In memory of Carl Nishi \$25.
- Sugie, Sam & Irene - In memory of Mother, U. Tatebe \$25.
- Uemoto, Kaichi & Linda - In memory of Shigeto Kimura \$30.
- Tanemura, Shirley - In memory of Shigeto Kimura \$50.
- Teramura, Toshikazu & Margaret - In memory of T. Teramura \$25.
- Ohashi, Hanako - In memory of Tomechiyo Teramura \$30.
- Yamaoka, Alan & Barb - In memory of Carl Nishi \$30.
- Tamaki, Stan & Robyn - In memory of Ronald Tamaki \$50.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY"

MRS. SUCINO HATANAKA

MAY 16, 1917





From the Temple Executive

How wonderful that Spring has finally arrived. Thank you to those who came out for the Spring yard clean up on April 13th. The cool weather cooperated, enabling the few people who came out to help complete the work. Also, thank you to Ken Yamada for pruning and trimming all the Temple trees and shrubs. Once again, a delicious breakfast was prepared by the ladies for all to enjoy.

Hanamatsuri was celebrated on April 14th, even though the attendance was low, it was enjoyed by those who made the effort to come and celebrate Shakamuni Buddha's birthday. This year the tradition to visit the hospital and care homes was made by the Dharma school students.

In recognition of "Asian Heritage Month" the Temple will be celebrating on May 11th with an "All Things Japanese Sale" from 11am to 2pm. We are asking for donations of gently used kimonos, Yukata and accessories, Japanese dishes, kitchenware and decorative items. Please contact Shirley Tanemura or myself to arrange for pickup or drop off at the Temple by April 30th. We ask for your assistance in preparation for this event and much needed help on May 11th. Please refer to the schedule published in this newsletter for dates and times. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Homelessness continues to be a problem at the Temple. It's a scene that plays out every day – a scene that is wearing thin with neighboring businesses as well. The recent closure of the shelter called Inn From the Cold on Sutherland Ave. hasn't helped the situation. During a service last month a homeless person entered the Temple and proceeded upstairs. Luckily he was stopped but he managed to steal fruit and cookies before he was asked to leave. Recently we had a homeless person set up along the fence by the Gordon Dr. exit. Thank you to Alan Yamaoka for cleaning up this mess. Please be cautious of your surroundings and keep the door locked especially if you are alone at the Temple.

As your Board of Directors, we will have major hurdles we must address and ask for your assistance to find ways to solve these issues.

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

Portrait Fundraiser



Naka Image

www.nakaimage.com

crystal@nakaimage.com

FB and Instagram: *Nakaimage*

Have you been thinking about updating your family portraits?

Crystal Naka is a talented, professional photographer. She has generously offered to create portraits for interested parties, with all proceeds donated to the Temple!

Crystal offers various packages at very reasonable prices. (Minimum package price is only \$50.00!) Please visit her web page www.nakaimage.com to view her artistry, ask any questions or to arrange for an appointment time and location.

Through your participation, not only will you have up to date images, you'll also be supporting our Temple!

May, 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Dharma School 10am Nirvana Day 2pm	29 Taiko Practice 7pm	30 Sorting/pricing Japanese items 1 ~ 4pm	1 Sorting/pricing Japanese items 9am ~ noon, TSS Meditation 10am - 12:30pm	2 Sorting/pricing Japanese items 9am ~ noon, TSS Meditation 10am - 12:30pm	3 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	4 Lawn Mowing Herb Tanaka 
5	6 Taiko Practice 7pm	7 Sorting/pricing Japanese items 9am ~ noon	8 Sorting/pricing Japanese items if required 9am ~ noon, TSS Meditation 10am - 12:30pm	9 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Prep veggies & Gyoza sauce 1 ~ 4pm, Executive Meeting 7pm, Taiko 7pm	10 Cook Chow Mein & Gyoza 9am ~ noon, TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Set up all sale items & tables 1 ~ 4pm	11 Packaging Bento & prepping for sales 8 ~ 11am, Sales 11am ~ 2pm, Clean-up 2 ~ 4pm, Lawn Mowing Gary Koga 
12 Dharma School, Service, Parent's Day 10am Dharma Shotsuki 2pm	13 Taiko Practice 7pm	14	15 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	16 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Taiko 7pm	17 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	18 Lawn Mowing Reg Tomiye 
19	20 Taiko Practice 7pm	21	22 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	23 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Taiko 7pm	24 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	25 Lawn Mowing Ken Yamada 
26 Dharma School, 10am Gotan-e (Shinran Shonin's Birthday) 2pm	27 Taiko Practice 7pm	28	29 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	30 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm, Taiko 7pm	31 TSS Meditation 10am ~ 12:30pm	1 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>Women's Association (Fujinkai)</u>		Uyeyama, Pegi Hayashi	\$40.
Caruso, Mrs. Heather	\$5.	Koga, Carol	\$30.
Hatanaka, Mrs. Sugino - in appreciation	\$50.	Suzuki, Rick & Tanaka, Peggy	\$100.
<u>Perpetual Memorial (Eitaiquo)</u>		Tomiye, Reg	\$50.
Tanemura, Shirley	\$20.	Ohashi, Hanako	\$50.
Suzuki, Rick & Tanaka, Peggy	\$50.	Tanaka, Herb & Cheryl	\$30.
Martin, Michael	\$25.	Sugie, Sam & Irene	\$25.
Yamaoka, Alan & Barb	\$20.	Tahara, Morio & Jane	\$30.
Suzuki, M/M Toshiya	\$40.	Anonymous	\$20.
Yetman, Pat & Jean	\$30.	Yamaoka, Tomoye	\$30.
Tanaka, Naomi - In memory of Shigeru Tanaka	\$50.	Uemoto, Kaichi & Linda	\$30.
Tanaka, Chiyoko - In memory of Shigeru Tanaka	\$100.	Richardson, Janice	\$40.
Koga, Carol	\$40.	Anonymous	\$50.
Anonymous	\$40.	Hatanaka, Maureen	\$30.
Matsuyama, David & Linda - In memory of Shigeru Tanaka	\$50.	Tanemura, Shirley	\$50.
Uyeyama, Pegi Hayashi	\$20.	Yamaoka, Jack & Darlene	\$50.
<u>Spring Equinox (Eitaiquo/Ohigan)</u>		Mayeda, Derek	\$50.
Tanemura, Shirley	\$20.	<u>Memorial</u>	
Suzuki, Rick & Tanaka, Peggy	\$50.	Brown, Gail - 49 Day Memorial for Shizue Hayashi	\$166.66
Tanaka, Chiyoko -	\$50.	Favell, Don & Joyce - 49 Day Memorial for Shizue Hayashi	\$166.67
Tanaka, Naomi	\$25.	Uyeyama, Pegi Hayashi - 49 Day Memorial for Shizue Hayashi	\$166.67
Matsuyama, David & Linda	\$40.	<u>General</u>	
Uyeyama, Pegi Hayashi	\$20.	Cavanaugh, Genevra	\$25.
Yamaoka, Alan & Barb	\$20.	Tanaka, Chiyoko - In appreciation for visitation	\$50.
<u>Hanamatsuri</u>		Tanaka, Chiyoko - In appreciation for Chow Mein	\$25.
Charpentier, Junko	\$50.	Yamaoka, Alan & Barb - Donation of Envelopes	\$77.40
Omae, Shizue	\$50.	Yamaoka, Alan & Barb - Chow Mein	\$100.
Kakuno, Jane	\$50.	Mayeda, Derek - In appreciation	\$250.
Anonymous	\$10.	Tanaka, Herb & Cheryl - In appreciation	\$250.
Ewuk, Meiko	\$30.	<u>In Kind Donations</u>	
Stack, Anne	\$150.	Tomiye, Reg - Najjin Supplies	\$13.62
Caruso, Randy & Charlene	\$20.	Hayashi - Uyeyama, Pegi - Wet Floor Sign	\$16.
Yamaoka, Alan & Barb	\$50.		

Donations continued on page 3;