



Tacoma Buddhist Temple
 (Jodo Shinshu)
 タコマ 仏教会 (浄土真宗)

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MYOKYO

明鏡

(MYOKYO, the Bright Mirror of Buddha Dharma always illuminates our LIFE)

July 2018

Temple Mission Statement

"To offer those in the Pacific Northwest an enduring community that values inclusiveness and acceptance in seeking enlightenment."

Sensei's Message

A Thought on the Song "This is America"

Rev. Takashi



Miyaji

Recently, as I was watching videos on YouTube, an interesting music video came up as a recommendation. The clip was Childish Gambino's song entitled, "This is America." Watching the music video, which was very upsetting to say the least, for some reason the song got me interested to see what the meaning behind it was. Normally, I am opposed to things that are "weird for the sake of being weird," and a name like "Childish Gambino" already irks me to some extent but I thought, "I'll give it a try."

After looking online to see some of the commentaries on the song, I found that it was a piece speaking on violence in America. Although there are probably many interpretations analyzing this song, from the clothes worn to the dance moves featured, there is one interpretation that I found to be interesting. In an article published by TIME, it discusses how the song shows that there are many venues in which violence is taking place, whether it is in the news, television shows, or movies. Because we are bombarded with violent imagery, both in the real world and in the unreal world of entertainment, we are not able to distinguish between fact and fiction.¹

We may say we shun violence as a civilized society, but at the same time we allow children to be killed in our schools and are adamant about our right to bear arms. We say we are peace-loving people, but how many wars are waged both domestically and internationally on behalf of our country. We are shocked to see the violence on the news, but we also consume entertainment that almost always has violence in it. The contradiction that we see in our perception of violence is a commentary on our society today, and hence, "This is America."

¹ <http://time.com/5267890/childish-gambino-this-is-america-meaning/>

From a Buddhist perspective, as long as the self is consumed in attachments, there will never be an end to violence. But the purpose of our religion is not to eliminate those attachments *per se*. Instead, the goal is to understand the reality of our existence, where our attachments no longer work against us, but now help us to appreciate what is true in this life. In short, put aside America for a second; we have to see *ourselves* as the contradiction mentioned above.

This is Me. We like to think of ourselves as rational people who do things logically and with reason. We want to believe we are on the side of good and only do good things. However, Buddhism teaches us that we are *human*, that we make mistakes and many times, rather than logic and reason we do things based on egocentric motivations. When we come to realize this truth, then we can begin to see that all fellow sentient beings are undergoing the same struggle with their own attachments as well. This newfound fellowship that we share with everyone is the solidarity of all life, founded on the principle of Amida's wisdom and compassion.

As Shin Buddhists, we can appreciate this song in that it is a commentary of ourselves, albeit as a collective whole. The critique of our "self" and how it is a living contradiction, where we shun violence but at the same time entertain ourselves with it, show us the irrational, illogical, and egocentric side of ourselves that we tend to overlook but easily point out in others. But the Buddha Dharma continues to guide us to see that as imperfect beings, we can build a society that extends compassion to each other. Then, with a nod and a smile, we can fondly say, "This is America."

「これが私だ」

さいきん きゆうけい とし み さいきん わかもの あいだ は や おんがく
最近、休憩をしていた時YouTubeを見ていましたら、最近の若者の間で流行りの音楽がかけられ、それを見ました。Childish Gambino という歌手が作った曲で『This is America (これがアメリカだ)』という歌でした。
わたし むかし おんがく す さいきん は や きよく いや きか
私は昔D.J.をしていたことがあり、音楽は好きでしたけど、最近の流行る曲は嫌でもあまり聞かなくなりました。しかし、このビデオの題の内容の意味がどうしても気になり、インターネットでこれについての説明を調べてみました。

きよく ぼうりよく ひはん おも し きじ よ
この曲はアメリカにおける暴力の批判のことが主なテーマだそうです。TIME誌からでた記事を読ませてもらいましたが、その中にでる一つの見解を取り上げたいと思います。それは現代の社会では、色々な場で暴力のシーンが出ます。ニュース、テレビ番組、映画、などと言ったところで暴力が多々取り上げられます。暴力があまりにもあり、何が本当に起きた事件で、何が本当ではなくエンターテイメントとして起きているのかについて判断が付かなくなっているということだそうです。²

わたし せんしんこく ぼうりよく ほんたい し どうじ がっこう かよ こども ころ
私たちは先進国として暴力を反対するかも知れませんが、それと同時に学校に通う子供たちが殺されても何もできない、武器を持つことは人権の一つだとも主張します。私たちは平和に向かう国だと言いながら、内・外国で戦争を常々と仕掛けます。ニュースで見る暴力に対して有り得ないと思いますが、暴力的な

² 『同』

えいが この み ぼうりよくもんだい たい あつか かん むじゅん げんざい
映画・テレビなど好んで見ます。暴力問題に対する扱いに関して矛盾があります。これが現在アメリカの
じょうきょう
状況なのです、だから「これがアメリカだ」なのです。

ぶつきょう ほんのう かぎり ぼうりよく けつ き と ほんのう と のぞ
仏教においては、煩惱がある限り、暴力というものは決して消えないと説きます。だから、煩惱を取り除く
ぶつきょう もくてき いま い なか ほんのう わたし なに ほんとう だいじ
のは仏教の目的だというよりも、今、生きてる中で、その煩惱が私に何が本当に大事なのかということを見
み せていただくという意味を持っているものです。つまり、煩惱が私を真実に向かわせるものだという役割が
あるということです。ですから、一旦「アメリカ」というものを横に置いて、まず「私」という存在に矛盾があること
し
を知らなければなりません。

わたし じぶん ろんりてき じょうしき も にんげん おも こ まさよし
これが私だ。自分は論理的であり常識を持つ人間だと思込んでいないでしょうか。そして、正義のために
い 生きており、自分には問題がないという思いはないのでしょうか。しかし、人間は人間であるからこそ、失敗も
お たにん きず ぶつきょう おし ろんりてき じこちゅうしんてき かんが ものごと
起こし、他人を傷つけることもあったり仏教が教えます。また、論理的というよりも自己中心的な考えで物事
はんだん おお わ たしや じぶん ふく いっさい しゅじょう おな
を判断することは多いのではないのでしょうか。これが分かれば、他者または自分を含めて一切の衆生が同じ
ほんのう まど き じこちゅうしんてき ちえ じひ きばん
ように煩惱によって迷わされていることに気づくのであります。そしてそこに、阿弥陀仏の智慧と慈悲を基盤と
たしや む おも
した他者に向ける思いやりがあらわれるのであります。

きょく じ こ たい はんせい うた み じ こ むじゅん
この曲は自己に対する反省の歌だとして見ることができます。自己における矛盾があるというのであり、そ
ぼうりよく ひはん ぼうりよく この もと わたし ひごりてき ひろんりてき
れは暴力を批判しながら暴力を好んで求めるということでもあります。そこに私たちの非合理的、非論理的、
じこちゅうしんてき こころ なか みいだ ぶつぽう
そして自己中心的なところが心の中にあることが見出されます。しかし仏法によって「パーフェクト」じゃない
じぶん み はじ たしや たい うで の えがお も
自分を見せていただき、そこで初めて他者に対して腕を伸ばすことができるのです。そして笑顔を持って、「こ
れがアメリカだ」と自信を持って言えるのであります。 合掌

Future Schedule

(Sat) July 7 at 8:00 am	BWA Field Trip to Bainbridge Island
(Tues-Th) July 17-19 at 7:30pm	Bon Odori Practice
(Wed) July 18	Eatonville and Orting Cemetery Visitation
(Sat) July 21 at 8 AM	Daifuku Mochi Making
(Sun) July 22	Obon Cemetery Visitations
(Fri-Sun) July 27-29	NWD YBL Retreat at Seattle Betsuin
(Sun) July 29 at 10 AM	Hatsubon and Urabon-e Service
(Sat) August 4 at 5 PM	Obon Odori Festival
(Sun) Aug 12, 19 & 26 at 10 AM	Family Service

President's Message



We had a cold/windy, but fun **temple picnic** a couple of weeks ago. Our temple picnic always celebrates the beginning of summer and the end of Dharma School for our children. Thank you to Donna Sasaki and all the members who made this happen!

TEMPLE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Why it's important to consider serving. Recruitment starting soon!

In June's *Myokyo* issue, I talked about the general role of the Board, why it's important to consider serving on the Board, and the problem we've had over the past several years of not having a full Board.

In this article, I'll be explaining in more detail what being on the Board involves and how your involvement (whether on the Board or serving on a committee) makes a huge contribution to supporting the temple.

How much time will I need to commit?

We have meetings on the 3rd Sunday of each month, starting at 8:15am and ending just before the start of Service. Besides the regular meetings, the amount of time each member spends depends largely on the committee s/he serves on.

About 9-10 years ago, some changes were made in the Board's organization and committee structure. This was done to spread out the work to a broader group of temple members as our membership numbers declined and many members grew older.

Board committees: Most of the work of the Board is distributed between committees which can have one to three Board members on them. The Board also takes the lead in the monthly coffee hours, Keiro Luncheon and the New Year's party. **Most of the committees also have non-Board members who also take on important responsibilities and tasks that the committee oversees.** Non Board members can also serve as chair of a committee.

These committees are:

Finance	Administration	Communications & Outreach
Events	Toban	Membership & Pledge
Facilities & Grounds	Buddhist Education	

The names of the committees pretty much explain what their general responsibilities are. Representatives from the BWA, Dharma School and YBA are also voting delegates on the Board. We try to match a member's interests and skills with a committee that will be a good fit. An initial orientation session is done with new Board members.

Is'sho ni! Many of you are familiar with the Japanese term *is'sh oni* – which translates to “all together now” something said as we lift all together to carry a heavy load. Or the phrase “many hands make lighter work” may be familiar too. Since the temple has only one paid employee (our minister), we depend on as many of us as are able, to work together to support the temple.

There will be a special Dharma Exchange after service on June 24 for discussion and questions about the role of the temple Board. I'll report on the outcome of what should be an interesting session for the next *Myokyo*.

Gassho,
Wendy Hamai



Buddhist Women's Association News



Hot weather for Father's Day!! Huskies doing well!!! Mariners rockin' it!! Welcome summer!!!

There were so many people helping with our Bento Fundraising event!! Positive comments were expressed about the flavors and choices of cuisine thanks to **Patti, Michiko, and Kazuko**. **Emma and Kate** cut out the fruit stars and flowers – always a nice touch to any bento! **Rio and Kalea** cut the daifuku mochi perfectly – delicious and uniform! Thank you **BWA and non-BWA ladies** who came at 8:00 AM both days and stayed until we finished!!

Without you, this would not have been as successful! Special thanks to **Denise** for the many hours she devoted to this project amidst her own busy schedule between school **and** music **and** family. *Thank you very much, everyone.*

A delicious lunch was served to our Temple Yard Workers after service on Sunday, June 3rd. **Michiko Yukawa, Yasuko Morita, Kazuko Inoue, Crystal Inge and Riu Pittman** filled the plates for over 30 members and friends who helped clean the temple and parsonage yards-a great turn out!! A few people asked for our tasty orange chicken recipe–check out 'La Choy Orange Chicken Sauce.'

Peanut Butter and Jelly was collected the entire month of June. These items were given to a local group as chosen by the April-May-June Toban at the end of the month. Thank you for your generosity for our school children!!

Les Hitsman had been so busy creating over 200 sedum bowls, herb bowls, flower bowls and indoor and outdoor gardens for our Plant and Snack Sale on June 9th. He has an incomparable 'eye' for plant displays as is *also* evident in his weekly onaijin flower arrangements! Thank you **Ich Nakayama** for donating numerous maple and other trees and azalea plants for our sale, **Thelma, Martha, Pauline, Donna, Patti and Yasuko** for making the spam musubi, and everyone for baking items as well. Proceeds over \$1400 will be sent to the "Enmanji (Buddhist Temple) Fire Relief Fund" assisting 8 temple families who lost their homes in last fall's wild fires. Les held a final sale to temple members June 17th. Thank you, Les and Ich for sharing your gardening skills and plants!!

Our BWA Annual Bus Trip to Bainbridge Island July 7th-has literally filled the bus! This will be an interesting trip with a variety of activities and lots of snacks to eat on the bus – my favorite part of the trip!! You can also purchase lunch **and** dinner during the trip – another huge plus: no cooking!

As you travel this summer, please save your **unused hotel toiletries** as we do give them to our local women's shelter year round – they are the perfect size and easy to transport.

Please save July 8th for our next General Meeting after service in the Rev. Pratt room. A light lunch will be served by the July-August-September toban (Emiko, Patti, June W., Pauline, Anita, Michiko, Yaeko and Hana). Preparation plans for Obon **Daifuku Mochi making** on July 21, **obon strawberry mochi, our next craft session, Eshinni Kakushinni Service** and other items will be discussed.

Save the dates:

July 7	Bus trip to Bainbridge Island – 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
July 8	General Meeting – lunch provided by July-August-September Toban
July 21	Daifuku mochi for Obon – 8:00 AM
August 3,4	Obon Preparations – 8:00 AM each day

Thank you for your support and cooperation!!
June

Buddhist Education Committee News



At our temple's annual June picnic, Rev. Miyaji presented Ted Tamaki and Michiko Yukawa with gifts from the BEC (Buddhist Education Committee) for their retirement as minister's assistants.

Here is a bit of history on these two dedicated Jodo Shinshu temple members:

Tacoma-born Ted Tamaki was raised here at the Tacoma Buddhist Temple. His first family home was just north of the temple on Fawcett, and before the war, the family moved up the hill to Tacoma Avenue, just across from the Japanese Language School. Ted attended Dharma School and was a member of the YBA (Young Buddhist Association). During WWII, Ted and his family were evacuated from Tacoma, first living at the Pinedale, then Tule Lake internment camp in California, and finally the Minidoka internment camp in Idaho. Ted returned to Tacoma after serving in the military and attended college at the University of Puget Sound, majoring in Chemistry.

Ted married Martha in 1955 at the temple with Rev. Futaba officiating. Moving to Portland, Oregon, to work and raise a family,

Ted joined the Portland Buddhist Temple. At the temple he joined the board of directors, sang in the choir and was involved in the building of their new temple.

A job change took Ted and Martha to the Bay Area in California for ten years, where they were members of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. Ted retired at the age of 65 from Gillette, working as Director, Quality Control for Oral B Laboratories, and he and Martha moved back to Tacoma to be near their sons. Since then, Ted and Martha have been active members of our temple with Ted serving on the board of directors, chairing the BEC and teaching the Dharma School Lotus class.

Ted became a minister's assistant under Rev. Shinjun Fukuma in 2008. During a NW District Convention in Seattle, Bishop Koshin Ogui honored Ted as a minister's assistant, giving him a certificate, shikisho (sash) and robe. This honor was a complete surprise to Ted and he credits a certain TBT Reverend (last name starts with a "Y") as the instigator of this event.

Rev. Sunya Pratt was a very important mentor in Ted's life, helping him understand and appreciate the Jodo Shinshu teachings as they applied to daily life. Temple member and friend, Mr. Hisato Miki, was also instrumental in helping Ted by translating the Jodo Shinshu teachings during the time when the temple had only Japanese-speaking temple ministers.

California-born Michiko Yukawa came from a Jodo Shinshu family. Her father and an uncle were BCA ministers and four uncles became ministers of their own temples in Japan. During WWII, she and her family were evacuated to the Topaz internment camp in Utah.

Michiko later became a college graduate, majoring in Pharmacology at the University of Utah. After graduation, she and Rev. Yukawa married and moved to their first temple assignment at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento from 1961 to 1969. While in Sacramento, Michiko worked as a pharmacy intern while performing the duties of a temple minister's spouse.



Michiko first came to the Tacoma Buddhist Temple with her husband, Rev. Kosho Yukawa, while he served as our resident minister from 1986 to 1996, after previously serving 7 years at the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Temple and 4 years at the San Jose Buddhist Temple and then helping his brother run a publishing company in California. While at our temple, Michiko worked as a secretary for a public middle school, was very active as a Dharma School and YBA parent with her children as well as being an advisor for the BWA (Buddhist Women's Association).

The Yukawas left Tacoma in 1996 due to Rev. Yukawa's ministerial assignment at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento, where he served until 2003. Michiko and Rev. Yukawa retired to Tacoma in 2003 and became temple members. Michiko's inspiration to become a minister's assistant came from having seen her mother study for and achieve tokudo ordination (very rare for women in America at that time). In 2001, while her husband was at the Sacramento Betsuin, there were 1100 temple members as well as 400 dharma school students. The need arose for assisting the resident ministers and a small group, including Michiko, started training.

Under then bishop, Rev. Koshin Ogui, English tokudo training sessions began after being approved by the Hongwanji in Kyoto. Michiko's final tokudo training in 2003 lasted 11 days in Kyoto, Japan. Secluded from any outside contact, the students' training days were long: waking up at 5:30am with lights out at 10:30pm. Michiko and her group would stay up past lights out, studying by flashlight.

Since returning in 2003, Michiko has been an active temple member assisting the ministers, serving on the BWA, helping the sangha learn new gathas and participating in all the fund raisers. Michiko also served on the committee to develop the Dharma School Service Books that we use today, which translated many of the Japanese gathas into "singable" English.

Thank you so much, Ted & Michiko, for all your years of service on and off the onajin and being part of our sangha family!

In Gassho,
Lynrae

Toban News

July Toban News



Obon Fundraiser: ALL MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO HELP **Saturday, August 4.**

All toban Chairs:

Please e-mail/call your group and remind them of the following dates:

- Obon service on **Sunday, July 29**
- Obon festival on **Saturday, August 4**

June Toban Group:

Jeff and Vivian Hiroo (chairs)

Denise Cline

Delbert and Cynthia Sasaki

Erin Berkey

Phone Tree Members:

- Tad and Joan Kajimura

July Toban Group:

Richard and Tracy Ling (chairs)

Coco Inoue

Ellen Shigeno

June and Barry Weled

Kjirsten Winters

Phone tree members:

- Peter Lee
- Frank Shigio

August Toban Group:

Kevin and Mayumi Ikeda (chairs)

Masahiro Sugano

Diane Taniguchi

Elsie Taniguchi

Kosho and Michiko Yukawa

September Toban Group:

Bobby and Junko Yotsuuye (chairs)

Debby Abe

Bob Gach

Mike Shiogi

David and Kathy Yotsuuye

Phone tree members:

- Ed and Kimiko Fujinaga
- Violet Mizukami

Phone tree members:

- Ted Masumoto

June Group Responsibilities:

- Obon: Help make and serve somen after Obon Service July 29th. (June, July and August Toban)
- Obon: Provide snacks for Friday and Saturday, August 3 and 4. (June and July Toban)
- Obon: Clean up kitchen area, bathrooms, social hall and other areas in use for Obon activities.

July Group Responsibilities:

- Monthly clean-up with August
- Obon: Help make and serve somen after Obon Service July 29th. (June, July and August toban)
- Obon: Provide snacks for Friday and Saturday, August 3 and 4. (June and July toban)
- Obon: Clean up kitchen area, bathrooms, social hall and other areas in use for Obon activities.

August Group Responsibilities:

- Monthly clean-up with July
- Obon: Help make and serve somen after Obon Service July 29th. (June, July and August toban)
- Obon: Provide lunch for Saturday set up on August 4 (August and September toban)
- Obon: Clean up kitchen area, bathrooms, social hall and other areas in use for Obon activities.

September Group Responsibilities:

- Obon: Provide lunch for Saturday set up on August 4 (August and September toban)
- Obon: Clean up kitchen area, bathrooms, social hall and other areas in use for Obon activities.
- Monthly clean-up for September and October
- Back to Temple Breakfast: YBA provides, sets up and cleans up. Help if requested

Keiro Luncheon: TBT Board Members set up and clean up. Help if requested

Monthly Book Club
Buddhism Today!

July 12 (Th) at 7pm at Kings Books

Featured Book:
The Road Home

By Ethan Nichtern

Obon Odori Festival
Tacoma Buddhist Temple

August 4 (Sat) at 4:30-9:00pm

Come join us in the obon festivities!
There will be dancing and food!

OBON dance practice

July 17, 18, 19 at 7:30-9:00 PM

TBT Social Hall

Summer Services in August.

Family Service is scheduled for

August 12, 19 and 26 at 10 AM.

From Your Facility Committee



Upon driving up to the temple on Garden Cleanup Day I spotted large mounds of dirt and gravel which gave me the heebie-jeebies. Had the residual toxic waste below Tacoma created a huge new species of super mole that could punch through concrete and asphalt? I've run into moles in my time but this time I figured I was over my head. Of course Buddhism teaches that life is precious. Therefore, I thought at the time that sparing their lives would be a compassionate course of action. Some of you might just chalk this decision up to yours truly cynically attempting to shirk out of work. By golly you would have been wrong this time around. In fact, I would be flabbergasted if that thought entered your heads. Well, it turns out that five yards of material were hauled in for a few projects. As a result, a rednecky walkway, comprised of mud and cut plywood, was transformed into an esthetically pleasing, safe stretch of real-estate. Additionally, a void below the main entrance sidewalk was filled in with gravel. A gap between the lawn and the backyard concrete walkway was filled in. The planting area in front of the temple now sports a layer of dirt. But there are those just want to be the nail that stands out and not mix in the crowd. Instead of placing dirt someone employed a pressure washer to blast away dirt that was resting peacefully on the stairs and pavement on the south side of the temple. That area is now squeaky clean. In addition to playing musical spots with dirt temple members trimmed trees and brush, in addition to, weed whacking the overgrown lot next to the temple. But after all the hard work temple members got to dine on a delicious lunch courtesy of the temple Buddhist Women's Association. Many thanks for the Garden Cleanup crew and the BWA for topping it off with some fine dining. Now we have some pending projects in the queue.

Tony Gregg has two bids to replace the parsonage exterior waterline and should have received another by June 18th. Both companies that have submitted proposals use boring machines, not very entertaining but they'll do the trick. However, we have a device in the parsonage that delivers a bit too much entertainment. We still have a problem with the ADT security panel outputting radio signals. Perhaps the security panel will transmit signals from ET. If the aliens pay us a visit and they're friendly we'll give them some of that delicious BWA food. If not, we'll hand over some natto. Other projects involve replacing the handrails and decking for the parsonage, fixing the lock on the parsonage front door, and sealing a leaky sink in the parsonage basement. And one last thing Smokey the Bear (just as real as the Bigfoot I saw on TV) wants me to report-a planned update for the fire extinguishing system for the kitchen range.

Every week Jeff Hiroo and Fred Pelger are still ganging up that pesky dirt. Mike Shiogi, David Yotsuuye, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, and Del Sasaki never cease to contribute to the Facilities mission. Additionally, Gary Ichinaga, Bob Yoshioka, and Tad Kajimura provide important work for the Facilities team. Also, Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens just blow us away with the beauty they impart on the temple grounds.

Great gathering for a picnic despite wet weather!

Our annual temple picnic and potluck lunch was held on June 10th at Edgemont Park. The weather was rainy and cool with a few sunbreaks here and there.

Rev. Miyaji conducted his first Tacoma temple outdoor service at 10 am.

After service, Erin Berkey and Junko Yotsuuye started games for the kids before the rain came. They had relays that involved potatoes, water, beach balls, and the ever popular geta to keep all ages of kids busy!

Once the rain started, it was time for lunch. Thanks to Fred and Les for donating and barbecuing hot dogs. Thanks also to Jeff for bringing his BBQ grill. There were a lot of delicious dishes for the potluck lunch, we had plenty to eat!

Afterwards (and yes, it was still raining) we all sat down to BINGO. Thanks to Jerry Akita for taking care of the BINGO calling, June for getting all the prizes.

Though we didn't have good weather to play softball, Mike Shiogi brought his music equipment so that we had plenty of fun music to keep our spirits up!

Special thanks to the following helpers:

Collecting all the kitchen supplies in advance of the picnic – Yasuko Morita, Kazuko Inoue, Tanya Henriques
Morning crew who helped load tables, chairs and supplies – Mike and Priscilla Shiogi, Henry Stoll, Del Sasaki, Jeff Hiroo, Tom Hubbell, Fred Pelger, Les Hitsman, Al Sasaki
BBQ cooks – Fred Pelger, Les Hitsman, Rev. Yukawa
Kid games – Erin Berkey, Junko Yotsuuye
Kid snack bags – Junko Yotsuuye
Bingo and Bingo prizes – June and Jerry Akita
Raffle prizes – Kazuko Inoue
Softball equipment – John Inge (let's hope for better weather next year!)
Music – Mike Shiogi
Afternoon crew who helped unload tables, chairs and supplies back to the temple – Ken and Lynne Tanino, Wendy Hamai, Del Sasaki, Tom and Lynrae Hubbell, Mike and Priscilla Shiogi, Fred Pelger, Les Hitsman, Al Sasaki

Thanks again for helping to make our annual picnic a successful one!

Gassho,
Donna Sasaki

Just around the corner...

Obon 2018

We are set to celebrate our Obon Festival on **Saturday, August 4th**, at our Temple. We will serve three main rice bowls: Teriyaki Chicken Rice Bowl, Unagi Rice Bowl, and Tofu Rice Bowl. We will continue to have freshly made pies, daifuku mochi, strawberry mochi and peanut butter mochi. We are offering our popular and refreshing "Root Beer Floats" on the street level (only). The Barbeque Teriyaki Corn on the Cob will return on our menu, as will spam musubi, cold somen and of course, our Mariner Dogs!. The kitchen and the beer garden will be open from 4:30, Obon Service will begin at 5:00, and our memorial candle ceremony will conclude our obon at 9:00 pm.

We will have our first **Obon meeting on July 1st** in the Rev. Pratt Room after service. Tony, Jim or I will contact you as a reminder as well. A light lunch will be served. We are still looking for chairs and slots to fill for one shift, or both shifts. Thank you for your support and for being part of this HUGE event!!

Dance practices are scheduled for July 17-19 in the Social Hall from 7:30-9:00 pm.

Thank you to everyone who has offered the use of their ice chests, fans and tents, and also who have brought fruit for our pies. Please mark your items.

Times to mark on your calendar:

Saturday, July 28	Otsuyu – 2 batches	Anita Nakayama/Michiko Saito
Sunday, July 29, Hatsuobon	Obon Service – Somen served	Anita Nakayama/Michiko Saito
	<i>Tobans will help prepare and serve</i>	
Tuesday, July 31	Making of Tsukemono	Yasuko Morita, Kazuko Inoue

Wednesday, August 1	Making Teriyaki Chicken Sauce	Fred Pelger, Les Hitsman
Thursday, August 2	Otsuyu making - 4 batches	Anita/Michiko
Friday, August 3	Making pies plus other preparations	Vicki Yoshioka, June Akita
	Starting at 8:00 am	
Saturday, August 4th-OBON	Food preparations begin	
	Starting at 8:00 am	
	BWA – Making strawberry mochi 10:00 am	
	Lunch served to workers – 12:00 noon	
	Boil Somen noodles - noon	
	Tobans will make and serve lunch	
	Construction begins in Social Hall and Street Level – 12:30	
	Food sold beginning at 4:30 pm (first rice at 4:00)	
	Beer Garden open at 4:30 pm	
	Service at 5:00 pm	
	Dancing and eating until 9:00	
	9:00 pm – Candlelight Ceremony in Garden	
	9:00 pm -Take down of Social Hall and Street Level	
	Clean up in Kitchen as well	
	<u>If you can help, please stay</u>	
Sunday, August 5th	Cleaning of the garden and candles	
	Clean kitchen and social hall (if needed)	

Again, if you have some **frozen fruit or fresh fruit** that you are willing to share for our pies, please put them in our freezer in the Rev. Pratt Room by July 15th so we will know how much to purchase. **Thank you very much for your contribution of sugar, butter, flour and fruits to our pies.** We will be making the pies on Friday, August 3rd, starting at 8:00 AM. We appreciate your help, even for a few hours.

We are still looking for some help for Obon. If you would like to **help first or second shift**, please let us know. We can surely find an area that could use an extra hand. **Thank you, everyone, for your willingness to help before, during and after Obon.**

Jim Doyle, Tony Gregg, June Akita (kitchen)

Yearly Memorial Services

General Memorial Service Years for 2018

1st Year - 2017	17th Year - 2002
3rd Year - 2016	25th Year - 1994
7th Year - 2012	33rd Year - 1986
13th Year - 2006	50th Year - 1969

July 2018:

1 st Year	Tanbara, George Ayao	Shaku Ji-Shin	July 1, 2017
13 th Year	Masumoto, Irene Kinuye	Shakuni Ji-Sen	July 29, 2017

August 2018:

3 rd Year	Fujita, Hiroshi	Shaku Koh-ki	August 7, 2016
	Osaka, Sue	Shakuni Jo-Kyo	August 28, 2016
7 th Year	Nakano Kenichi	Shaku Ken-Shin	August 8, 2012



Higashi, Noritoshi

Shaku Shun-Jo

August 21, 2012

September 2018:

3rd Year
17th Year

Crider, Misao
Miyaji, Ruth Ayako

Shaku Chi-Kai
Shakuni Myo-Raku

September 21, 2016
September 27, 2002

~Message from Violet~

G *A beautiful flower arrangement was delivered to my room at Mill Ridge Village with no name attached. I would like to thank the someone who sent it. The flowers lasted for a long time and was very much appreciated. - Violet Mizukami"*



Greeters:

Note: Please have new visitors sign in their name and give them the following booklets:

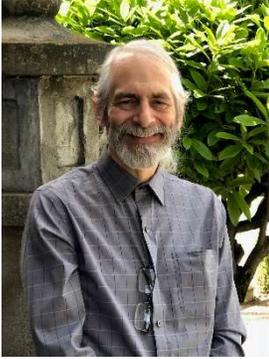
- Temple Information Booklet
- Messages from the Buddha (mini booklet with pale pink cover)
- 1/2 page list of Temple activities
- "Want More Info." (1/2 sheet form)

If you are not available on the day you are assigned, please find your replacement.

July	1	Jim Doyle & Tony Gregg
	8	Lynrae & Tom Hubbell
	15	Yasuko Morita & Erin Shimizu
	22	Michael Shiogi & Henry Stoll
	29	Ken Tanino & Coco Inoue
August	5	No Service
	12	David Yotsuuye & Bobby Yotsuuye
	19	Jane Burster & David Campbell
	26	Denise Cline & Merlaine Cook
September	2	No Service
	9	Wendy Hamai & John Inge
	16	Del Sasaki & Rick Tanabe
	23	Kevin & Mayumi Ikeda

Welcome!

Bob Potasky



Tell us where you were born and raised.

I was born at Fort Ord, California when my father was stationed there. My family moved to Tacoma when I was a baby but I spent most of my life growing up in Puyallup.

Why have you chosen to become a member of the Temple?

I was born into one of the traditional religions. Their beliefs never really made sense to me, so I drifted away from them as I grew up. After some research, Buddhism seemed to make a lot of sense. I'm hoping to learn more about it as a member of the Buddhist Temple. [L] [SEP]

Do you have any skills or interests that can add to the Sangha and/or Temple?

I'm not really sure what I know that can help the Sangha. I'm a photographic design and video instructor by trade. Maybe I can do something in one of those areas or just help out as a general laborer (I push a mean broom).

What is the one thing you want the Temple to know about you?

That I'm sincere in my quest to learn more and use that information to help others and myself. [L] [SEP]



O Bon Memorial Candle Observance

Summer is here and OBon season will start soon!

The candle observance held in our beautiful garden and pond behind the parsonage has been a wonderful way to end the evening after the festive dancing at Bon Odori. It is a moment of remembrance of our loved ones while we chant Sambujo and our garden is aglow at dusk with over 200 candles. We remember them with gratitude and joy for what they have done for us. The spirit of Obon is captured in the saying, "okagesama de genki desu" - thanks to you, I am fine. It is an expression of the interconnectedness in our lives and appreciation to all who have come before us.

This will be the 11th year for this observance. Buddhist and many non-Buddhists participate. The sentiment of gratitude is universal. Many guests visit the garden during the dancing and festivities, and spend time in quiet reflection when they place their candles in the garden.

We will be lighting up our Japanese garden again at this year's Bon Odori on **Saturday, August 4** **starting immediately after dancing ends.** Orders will be taken at Sunday services or you can complete and mail the form below. You can also order a candle at Bon Odori but it is a very hectic time and pre-orders are greatly appreciated. We can include Buddhist names on pre-ordered candles, though a Buddhist name is not necessary to place an order. Many non-Buddhists are remembered during this observance. If a Buddhist name was done in previous years, it will automatically be included. If you're not sure if we already have a Buddhist name, or would like to know who you've remembered in past observances, contact me and I'll check our files.

Memorial Candle Order Form (\$5 per candle)

Ordered by _____ Phone # _____

Email: _____

Names for candles: (1 name or couple per candle, please) *Please print clearly.*

Checks should be made out to: Tacoma Buddhist Temple

Mail to: Wendy Hamai 609 Vista Drive, Tacoma, WA 98465

(questions?-Call Wendy at 253 566-9503 or e-mail - wfhamai@rainierconnect.com)

*July 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Family Service Dharma Exchange at 10am	2	3	4	5	6	7 BWA field trip to Bainbridge Island 8 AM
8 Family Service Dharma Exchange at 10am	9	10	11	12 7pm Book Club @ Kings Books	13	14
15 Board Meeting Family Service D. Exchange 10am	16	17 Bon Odori Practice @ 7:30 17th-19th	18 Eatonville & Orting, Cemetery Visitation	19	20	21 Daifuku Mochi Making 8 AM
22 Family Service D. Exchange 10am Obon cemetery visit	23	24	25	26	27 NWD YBL Retreat at Seattle 27-29	28
29 Family Service Hatsubon Service D. Exchange 10am	30	31				

*August 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 Obon Prep	4 Obon Prep 8 AM Odori at 5 PM
5 No Service	6 BCA Minister's Fuken at Portland 8/6th-9th	7	8	9	10	11
12 Family Service 10:00 AM	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Family Service 10:00 AM	20 MYOKYO DEADLINE	21	22	23	24	25
26 Family Service 10:00 AM	27	28	29	30	31	





TACOMA BON ODORI

A JAPANESE FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

Outdoor festival | Japanese food | Traditional dance
Taiko drumming | Beer garden | Candlelight memorial service

Saturday, August 4th

4:30 – 9:00 p.m.

TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE
1717 South Fawcett Avenue |
Tacoma, WA | tacomabt.org |
Located 3 blocks up from the UWT campus

Everyone Welcome!

Dance lessons
in Temple social hall

July 17-19

7:30 – 9:00 P.M.