



The Buddhist Temple of Chicago BULLETIN



Volume 70, Number 7  April 2014 (2558 B.E.)

Born in the Age of Seeking

In the “Brief Introduction to Buddhism” class that we offer a few times a year, I start with telling the life of the Buddha, and I preface it by saying there are many versions. The students comment afterwards that the version I tell differs from what they previously heard or read. Recently one student remarked that it made an impression on her that I presented the Buddha “as a product of his time.” Isn’t every one of us a product of our time? But maybe too often, the great historical figures are presented without context, as if they could’ve appeared at any time and place, changing our world through the sheer force of their personality.

In the legend of Shakyamuni Buddha, an old wise man is brought to the palace to predict the future of the baby Prince Siddhartha. The man cries with regret that he won’t live long enough to witness the boy become a great spiritual teacher. Although legendary, this story points to what was actually happening at the time of the Buddha. It was the Axial Age when many human societies were highly organized with divisions of labor and layers of authority. Besides the resulting problems

of economic and social inequality, there was the destructiveness of war on a scale and swiftness not possible in the simpler times of skirmishes between small bands of men wielding sticks and stones for weapons. With the sufferings of mass deaths, poverty and oppression, appealing to the gods through ancient rituals no longer seemed to be effective in bringing relief. A yearning for the direct experience of the spiritual became widespread and there was growing experimentation with various practices and teachings. The crying of the old seer at seeing the baby Siddhartha represents



Rev. Patti Nakai
Resident Minister

this longing for someone to finally come on the scene with the breakthrough that would show people the way out of worldly suffering.

It is significant that Siddhartha was born into a privileged class only in that he was afforded a thorough education in the arts and sciences of his

(Continued on page 5, right column)

One Degree of Separation

This is a photograph of Mr. Shigeharu (“Shig”) Itami (taken by his daughter Carol Itami). Born in Portland, Oregon, raised on a farm in Kyushu, Japan



by his maternal grandparents, he returned to Portland when he was 16. He now lives in Troy, Michigan. Last month we received an email from his daughter Carol, who wondered if we acknowledged birthdays in the Bulletin. This was a bit of “head scratcher” at first,

since none of us were familiar with the name.

Then Rev. Patti mentioned Rev. Ashikaga’s trips to Detroit. There is a small Japanese American community there, but no Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temple. Ministers from other Sanghas were invited to conduct services. In 1994, they invited Rev. Ashikaga, and he began traveling to Detroit two to three times per year, often for the O-Higan and O-Bon celebrations. Services were held at the International

Institute, an organization devoted to immigrant groups that was originally inspired by Chicago’s Jane Addams’ Hull House. There were about 20 members when Rev. Ashikaga began his trips there. He would leave Chicago at 8 in the morning, and return late at night. With aging and the inevitable attrition of attendees, the Detroit Sangha eventually dispersed. Mr. Itami may be one of the few left from the “itinerant” services days.



Glenn T. Fujiura
Temple President

I never knew about the Detroit connection. When I called Rev. Ashikaga to ask about his trips there, he smiled and said, “Ah, Mr. Itami. He’s very good at martial arts, growing things, and billiards.” I

find out that indeed, Mr. Itami is a black belt in Jujitsu, annually grows bumper crops of vegetables and fruit in his gardens that were based on traditional Japanese farming techniques he learned in Japan, and became a pool shark at his father’s billiards hall in

(Continued on page 6, left column at bottom)

Temple News 🌸 **February 2014**

- 🌸 2/01 Rev. Ashikaga conducted memorial service for the late Mrs. Lucille Shinsako at Lakeview Funeral Home. Mrs. Shinsako is survived by sons Talbert, Kenneth, Donald, Cary, and daughter Maria
- 🌸 2/02 Monthly memorial service. No one came for the Japanese service, but the Shoshinge class was held.
- 🌸 2/03 Rev. Nakai conducted cremation service for the late Mrs. Kasumi Yamanaka at Lakeview Funeral Home. A memorial service at BTC is scheduled for June 8.
- 🌸 2/08 Rev. Nakai conducted cremation service for the late Mr. Kenji Tademoto at Lakeview Funeral Home. *** Rev. Nakai conducted memorial service for the late Mr. Ken Yoshida at BTC. Mr. Yoshida is survived by wife Toshiko and daughter Janet.
- 🌸 2/09 Nirvana Day service.
- 🌸 2/13 Rev. Ashikaga conducted Makura-gyo (pillow service) for the late Mr. Naotaka Kamiya at Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights.
- 🌸 2/15 Asoka Society meeting. *** Rev. Nakai and Rev. Ashikaga conducted memorial service for the late Mr. Kenji Tademoto at BTC. Kenji is survived by wife Linda, sons Greg and Jeff, mother Haruko, brother Tomio, and sister Jan Saiki.
- 🌸 2/16 At Pet Memorial Service several members shared the Dharma lessons they learned from their pets.
- 🌸 2/19 Rev. Nakai attended monthly Uptown Clergy Luncheon. *** Rev. Ashikaga conducted one-year memorial service for Mr. Shigeo Suga at BTC.
- 🌸 2/20 Rev. Nakai spoke at a Northwestern University “Faith and Service” class. *** Rev. Ashikaga conducted memorial service for the late Mr. Naotaka Kamiya at Glueckert Funeral Home in Arlington Heights. Mr. Kamiya is survived by wife Atsuko and daughter Miyuki Bryan.
- 🌸 2/21 March bulletin prepared for mailing.
- 🌸 2/22 Rev. Nakai attended monthly Spiritual Beans interfaith discussion hosted by Treasures of Uptown. *** Rev. Nakai and several temple members attended the Asian American Coalition of Chicago’s Lunar New Year Banquet.
- 🌸 2/23 Brotherhood Sunday service with guest speaker Rev. Jose Torres, chaplain at Jesse Brown VA Hospital. *** Board of Directors met.
- 🌸 2/27 Social studies class from Naperville North High School visited BTC. *** Rev. Nakai spoke at CivicLab, a monthly meeting of interdisciplinary panels.

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

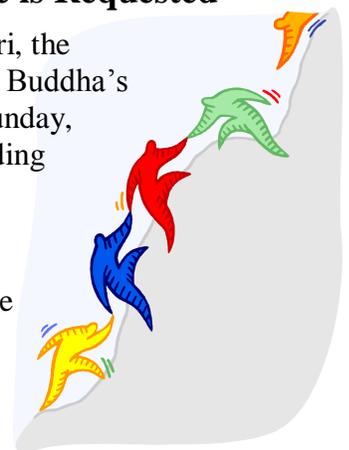
**Understanding the Nembutsu through recognizing the Paramitas in others.
 Send in your recognitions!**

- 🌸 Sunday Service Participants: Karen Baier, Bill Bohlman, Wendy Fawcett, Glenn T. Fujiura, Patrick Garone, Anna Idol, Janet Lipner, Lynnell Long, Betty Segal, William Shehan, Miriam Solon, Z Williams
- 🌸 Accompanist: Mrs. Ashikaga
- 🌸 Audio Controls: Jacob and Wendy Fawcett
- 🌸 Sunday Service Refreshments: Jackie Denofrio, Noreen Enkoji, Anna Idol, Haru Ito, Joe Korner, Peggy Sasamoto, Betty Segal, Linda Tademoto, Ruby Tsuji, Joey and Lauren Woodel, Upaya Group
- 🌸 Bulletin Mailing: Sue Balsam, Dennis Chan, Antoinette D’Vencets, Noreen Enkoji, Haru Ito, Chuck Izui, Michele Mulcahy, Gary Nakai, Masa Nakata, Mary Shimomura, Ruby Tsuji
- 🌸 Taking care of the Temple inside and out: Tomio Tademoto
- 🌸 Maintaining and updating the temple website and computer: Shawn Lyte
- 🌸 Emptying the trash bins, filling them with new bags and putting them out for disposal: Sue Balsam, Adam Kellman, Ruby Tsuji

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**Hana Matsuri Preparations
 Your Presence is Requested**

This year Hana Matsuri, the celebration of the historical Buddha’s birthday, will be held on Sunday, April 13. In the days preceding this special day we need volunteers to help with polishing the brass altar decorations and cleaning the hondo. On Saturday the 12th, please come to help the Crafts Group with decorating the Hanamido (flower shrine) and assist the lay leaders with setting up the altar.



Also we need some small children to be in the O-chigo procession with the current Dharma School students. And as always we need some photographers to capture the colorful festivities.

THE BTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ELECTED OFFICERS

Temple President - Glenn T. Fujiura (also Board Chairman)
 1st Vice President, Religious Affairs - Bill Bohlman
 2nd Vice President, Membership - Kiyo Omachi
 3rd Vice President, Temple Relations - William Shehan
 Treasurer - Glenn T. Fujiura
 Corporate Secretary - Margaret Waters
 Auditor - Elaine Siegel
 Dharma School Superintendent - Diana Schoendorff

GENERAL MEMBERS

Rev. Patti Nakai

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Recording Secretary - Peggy Waters
 Director of Building and Grounds - Tomio Tademoto

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Tracy Ito
 Adam Kellman
 Lynn Maruyama
 Debbie Miyashiro
 Jerry Morishige

MEMBERS REPRESENTING AFFILIATED UNITS

Asoka Society - Haru Ito
 Crafts/Fujinkai - [Vacant]
 Education Center Director - Rev. Patti Nakai
 Iaido - Jerry Morishige
 Japanese Language School Superintendent - Rev. Yukei Ashikaga
 Kokyo Taiko - Miriam Solon
 Young Adults Group - Wendy Fawcett

The BTC Mission Statement

Founded in 1944 as an administratively independent temple, The Buddhist Temple of Chicago aspires to the following:

- ☸ To present and explore the Three Treasures of Buddhism – the Buddha (teacher), the Dharma (teachings), and the Sangha (community).
- ☸ To be guided and inspired by the historical Buddha, Gautama Shakyamuni, and the teachers who have followed – Shinran Shonin, Manshi Kiyozawa, and Haya Akegarasu.
- ☸ To present the Buddha-Dharma in a language and manner relevant and understandable in contemporary America.
- ☸ To welcome all who seek the Dharma without any exceptions.
- ☸ To be a positive presence in our local community working to enhance the vitality of our neighborhood.
- ☸ To honor and continue the traditions of our founding members.
- ☸ To always live the Nembutsu – Namu Amida Butsu.

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Minister Emeritus
 Rev. Yukei Ashikaga

President
 Glenn T. Fujiura

BTC BULLETIN

Team

Ruth Abbinanti, Michele Mulcahy, Rev. Patti Nakai, Gary T. Nakai, Ruby Tsuji, Ann Yi (Editor)

Feedback & Submissions

Comments, corrections, questions, & suggestions welcome. Submissions of articles, essays, book reviews, photos, poetry, news items, announcements, drawings, etc., strongly encouraged. Submissions will be reviewed for suitability and space availability. Anonymous submissions will not be published, but author's names may be withheld from publication upon request.

Contact

E-mail BTCbuledtr@hotmail.com or speak with anyone on the BTC Team

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The 2014 BTC Scholarship

ELIGIBILITY – Applicant must be a high school senior or an undergraduate senior who has attended The Buddhist Temple of Chicago Dharma School and/or participated in one of the youth activities of BTC and has been a paid member or listed on a family membership two years prior to the scholarship year according to BTC membership records.

SELECTION – The BTC Scholarship will be awarded on the basis of scholastic merit and personal dedication to the Temple with consideration given to individual need.

PROCEDURE – An applicant must complete the Scholarship Application, obtain one recommendation, and write a 200-word essay. All applications must be accompanied by a certified transcript of the student’s high school grades and ACT/SAT scores (if available, or a letter given as to the reason why this was omitted). The responsibility for a completed application and submission by the time of the deadline rests solely with the applicant.

OBTAIN SCHOLARSHIP FORM – Contact Rev. Patti Nakai at 773-334-4661 for an application packet.

DEADLINE – Applications must be received by midnight May 24th, 2014. All correspondence, forms, inquiries and applications should be sent to:

The BTC Scholarship Committee
 c/o The Buddhist Temple of Chicago
 1151 W Leland Avenue
 Chicago, IL 60640

PRESENTATION – The Buddhist Temple of Chicago Scholarships will be awarded in June during the BTC Graduation Service, on June 8th at 11 AM. Recipients will be notified by e-mail or telephone during the first week in June.



Sangha News for February

❁ The families of Kenji Tademoto would like to thank our BTC family for the outpouring of support and kindness throughout his hospitalization and his memorial service. Your cards, calls of encouragement, and good wishes were uplifting. Your presence at his Memorial service, your gifts, and your refreshments for his guests were greatly appreciated. *Thank you – The Tademoto families.*

❁ Shig Itami of Troy Michigan, will be turning 100 years old on April 18, 2014. *Happy 100th birthday to Mr. Itami! – Daughter, Carol Itami.* Note: See Glenn T. Fujiura’s article on Mr. Itami’s connection to BTC in this issue.

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The Lesson Of Gratitude and How It Helped Me Overcome Suffering

By Wendy Fawcett

In her minister’s message given the Sunday before I was scheduled to give my lay talk, Rev. Nakai said, “If it takes you ten years to understand ‘Namu Amida Butsu,’ that’s okay.”

I was still working through what I wanted to talk about, and her statement made me pause and reflect on the short time I had been coming to BTC. I hadn’t really given much thought to what it would be like, what *I* might be like in the future, after practicing Buddhism for ten years. Looking back over what I have learned in the past year and a half, celebrating the New Year, and looking forward to what 2014 may bring, I realized that the greatest lesson I have learned so far is to practice gratitude.



Wendy Fawcett served as Lay Speaker, January 12, 2014

Photo by William Shehan

So what brought me to BTC? The simple answer is suffering. In April of 2012, my grandmother passed away. Prior to that, I had been suffering in other ways. I was a new lawyer and was working in a firm I absolutely hated. I questioned whether I made the right career choice on top of being overwhelmed financially. Both my husband Jacob and I had sisters who were terribly ill. I felt as though I was being punished for something. I acted selfishly, and it affected my relationships. I was not a good wife, friend, sister, or daughter.

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... The Lesson of Gratitude

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I finally quit my job. Jacob and I took a quick weekend visit to Chattanooga, Tennessee, to visit my sister and her children. That Saturday, my grandmother suffered a major brain aneurysm. She passed away on the following Tuesday. Her death was completely unexpected. Yet I am so happy that I was able to be there when she passed over.

I held her hand and watched her take her last breath. What a miracle life is and what a mystery is death! As many of you know, I am Native American, and Grandma believed in the old ways of our people. But I feel comforted in knowing that she is a Buddha and I listen for her voice in the teachings.

There was something about watching my grandmother take her last breath that made me realize that there was something missing deep within me. I felt lost spiritually and realized I'd felt this way for a long time. The culmination of the events I faced that year made me search for something more. Jacob found the BTC website, saw the temple was within walking distance, and suggested we check it out. We've been coming ever since.

So how has Buddhism impacted my life? The greatest lesson I've learned from the teachings is gratitude. I practice gratitude through the daily application of the three dharma marks.

Being grateful helps me to overcome my suffering. Life is suffering, and my desire to "keep up with the Jones" only caused more suffering. Living in Uptown is a daily reminder that not everyone has a place to call home or a job or even the medications necessary to live a healthy life. Shifting my focus to the simple basic things that I do have that so many others do not, such as a good job, a warm home, and food in my belly has helped me overcome my desire for things that are superfluous and unnecessary.

Being grateful helps me live life in the present. Impermanence is not easy to accept. Sometimes a memory triggers a feeling of sadness. Or I worry about things that *could* jeopardize my future. Worrying about the future or living in the past interferes with my relationships. Being grateful for today, this moment, keeps me in this moment. I've learned that at any moment I could lose my job or I could lose someone I love. I have no control over those things. But I must be thankful for the people and things in my life and appreciate them now. Being grateful helps me adapt to change, whether it is good or bad.

Finally, being grateful helps me feel connected to others. William Sheehan's Dharma School lesson was simple but excellent. We are all running around trying to find peace and joy. But if we focus on Amida Buddha's light, love, and compassion, we are a part of that light. Every day I walk to the train and I make eye contact with those I share the sidewalk with. I share a smile, or a "Good morning." I am thankful to Rev. Ashikaga and Rev. Nakai and the Sangha at BTC for creating an atmosphere where we felt welcome.

I will quote part of the Dhammapada selection "Joy" to express how I feel: *But whoever follows the wise discovers his family and is filled with joy.* Thank you, BTC.

... Born in the Age of Seeking

(Continued from page 1)

time. But from the start he was sensitized to suffering in the mourning of his birth mother's death. Perhaps his father didn't show it as much, but I feel his aunt Prajapati who was obligated to take her sister's place did not keep her grief a secret from the young child. Like the old seer, she herself was hoping for a way out of suffering and perhaps planted that seed of seeking in her nephew. As much as his warrior-king father wanted to shield Siddhartha from the unpleasantness of the world, the prince had tutors and other associates who made sure he learned the harsh realities of life.

Another part of the legendary story of the Buddha's life is the "Four Gates" where the prince asked to be taken out of the palace to see the world outside. But perhaps it was his chariot driver who served as his teacher – intentionally taking the young man to see aged and ailing people approaching death and to see the impact of a person's death on their family and friends. Then most importantly, the prince was brought to encounter one of the many ascetics seeking the truth beyond the pursuit of materialistic goals. The ascetics cast off all the trappings of worldly life and survived on the food placed in their begging bowls, food given by all the many people in society who encouraged them in their search for the direct spiritual experience.

Inspired by the shining-faced seeker dressed in rags, Siddhartha left the palace to spend the next six years of his life trying out the various methods of spirituality taught by several different gurus. Maybe those guru-groups were not a large percentage of the population but they were able to be established and flourish because a critical mass of people respected

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their endeavors and supported them with offerings.

Even when Siddhartha broke away to contemplate on his own, the youth who brought him hay to sit on and the maiden who brought him milk for nourishment were representative of the society that felt an individual's spiritual seeking was crucial to everyone's future.

The more I read between the lines of the legendary stories of the Buddha, the more I see it may be a mistake to see his awakening as purely the product of "self-power," pulling himself up by his own bootstraps. All through his life he was nurtured and guided by fellow seekers, *dobo* – he was fortunate to be born at a time when so many people felt a strong spiritual yearning and encouraged those who set off on the path to truth.

In the Larger Sutra, Ananda sees Shakyamuni Buddha's face brilliantly shining and asks if it is because he is doing *nembutsu* – contemplating (*nen*) other Buddhas (*butsu*). Looking at the lives of those around him and those who had gone before him, the Buddha couldn't help but recognize them all as Dharmakara, the *bodhisattva* whose vows and practices are fulfilled in his, Shakyamuni's, awakening. In the Larger Sutra, then, it is Shakyamuni declaring to us that his as well as our eventual awakening is the result of *tariki*, the Power Beyond Self.

... One Degree of Separation

(Continued from page 1)

Portland. He was known as "gitcho" – the old Japanese insult for a southpaw – because he generally played with his left hand (but noted that he always accepted the loser's money with his right hand). He still plays regularly despite cataract surgery that left him seeing 2 balls where there is only one – a good Buddhist, he understands the art of life is readjustment. "You just have to know which one to hit," he says.

So why a birthday greeting in our Bulletin? Mr. Itami feels a connection to BTC and as it turns out, he is a regular reader of the Bulletin. Rev. Ashikaga did the memorial services for his wife, Haru, in February of 1997. Since then Mr. Itami has asked Rev. Ashikaga to do Haru's memorial service here in Chicago every February and purchases two roses, her favorite flower, for each service. It was Buddhism that brought Shig and Haru together, indirectly at least. They first met at a temple function and later, his parents

and their Buddhist minister arranged for Shig to work at a Furuya dry goods store. Coincidentally, the young and lovely Haru Ishioka showed up there to help out about the same time. They were married June 16, 1940.

Shig and Haru were imprisoned in the internment camps in 1941, along with their first child, Jane – first to Tule Lake, the largest of the 10 internment camps and then to Minidoka in the remote high desert of Idaho. Apparently Mr. Itami was a camp "arranger," who by hook or crook would get things and get things done for his compatriots in the camps. Like the founding membership of our temple, the Itamis moved to Midwest after their release, settling into Detroit, Michigan, where he worked as a mechanic and taught judo. Shig and Haru would have two other children, Roy and Carol, two grandchildren, Marc and Nicole, and two great grandchildren, Emily and Allison.

In the late 1960s, Stanley Milgram of Yale University conducted one of the classic experiments on social networks. Packages were sent to randomly selected people, asking them to forward the package to a person unknown to them on the other side of the country. The only rule was that they had to send the package to someone they knew who might have a better chance of knowing the stranger. For example, someone in Nebraska might be asked to send the box to Joe, a plumber in New Jersey. The package would be sent to a cousin in Florida for no other reason than Florida is closer to New Jersey. Each person who received the package was asked to send a postcard to Milgram so he could track packages as they moved across the country. On average it only took five mailings to reach the unknown person. Six degrees of separation.

And so an email reveals an unexpected connection to Detroit, Michigan. Quite the life for Mr. Itami, from Portland to Japan to Detroit. And we find ourselves connected to this journey by only one degree of separation. It was a vastly different world on Mr. Itami's birthday. Born on April 18th, a Saturday, Babe Ruth was one week away from his major league debut as a pitcher. Ford Auto assembly line worker wages had just skyrocketed from 27 to 62 cents an hour. Ukrainian nationalism was at its peak, rising up against the imperial powers of the West and the Russians to East, and the Chicago Cubs, who lost to Cincinnati 0-1 on that Saturday Mr. Itami was born, would go on to win the World Series in . . . well, maybe the world hasn't changed THAT much.

So from the BTC Sangha – your Sangha – a hearty happy 100th birthday greeting.

Buddha 'Bout Town: Buddhist & Cultural Happenings

❁ **NEW! May 4, 2014 (Sunday): ONE Northside Inaugural Convention.** Location: Anshe Emet Synagogue, 3751 N. Broadway, from 2:30 to 4 p.m., doors open at 2. Join 1,000 other members of ONE Northside, a community group whose mission is to advance campaigns for affordable housing, education, mental health justice, violence prevention, and economic justice. For more info, contact ONE Northside's staff at 773-769-3232 or Hannah Gelder at hgelder@onenorthside.org.

❁ **NEW! May 10, 2014: Document May 10 for the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center's online photo & video exhibition.** This online exhibit at apa.si.edu is asking photojournalists and filmmakers of all skill levels, ages, and backgrounds to contribute submissions to an online exhibit of photographs and video about Asian Pacific American life on May 10, the 145th anniversary of the Golden Spike ceremony that marked the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad. This historical joining of the continent was marked with a photograph that excluded the Chinese workers critical to the building of the railroad. For more info: <http://SmithsonianAPA.org/life2014.pdf>

❁ **NEW! Through May 2014: Mai Wagner ceramics.** Location: The Coffee Studio, 5628 N. Clark Street, Chicago. On display are Wagner's work on Buddhism, nature, and poetry. Thanks to Dennis Chan.

❁ **Through April 6: The Year of the Horse.** Location: The Art Institute, Gallery 109. This exhibition showcases portrayals of horses in Japanese and Chinese art from the 6th to the 18th centuries.

ONGOING

❁ **The Field Museum** features Buddhist artifacts in permanent sections devoted to China and Tibet.

❁ **The Art Institute** features large collections of Buddhist statuary and art in its Alsdorf Galleries and in its collections of Chinese, Japanese, Indian, and Korean art. Additional Buddhist art in other galleries can be found using the search tool available at the Art Institute site: www.artic.edu/aic/collections/

❁ **The Smart Museum of Art** at the University of Chicago features rotating works of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean art, often with Buddhist themes. Visit smartmuseum.uchicago.edu/exhibitions/asian-art/ for current highlights.

❁ **Please send information** on other Buddhist and/or Japanese cultural events in the Chicago area to: BTCbuledtr@hotmail.com



April Temple Events & Activities Guide



📖 Education & Meditation 📖

- ❁ See Calendar on page 8 for specific dates.
- ❁ Up-to-date details and last-minute changes are available on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/budtempchi.
- ❁ All events are free, held at the Temple (unless otherwise noted), and open to the public.

➤➤➤➤➤ Special Services & Events <<<<<<

- ❁ April 13, 11 am – Hana-matsuri, historical Buddha's birthday

🔔 Regular Sunday Services 🔔

- ❁ Religious Service (in English) – Sundays, 11 am.
- ❁ Dharma Sunday School (for children) – Second and fourth Sundays, 10:30 am (April-June).
- ❁ Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial Service) – The first Sunday of the month at 11 am (in English) and 1 pm (in Japanese).
- ❁ Lay Speaker Sunday – Third Sunday of month, 11 am.

🏠 Meetings, Socials, Volunteering 🏠

- ❁ Asoka Society – Third Saturday, 1 pm. Social includes refreshments.
- ❁ Board Meeting – Once a month, Sunday, 12:30 pm. This month: April 27.
- ❁ Bulletin mailing & submissions – Mailing is conducted the 2nd-to-last Friday of every month, at 10 am. Submissions are due eight days prior to the mailing on Thursday, 6 pm. See page 3 for details on submissions.

- ❁ Introduction to Buddhism – This 4-week course is held periodically throughout the year. Visit budtempchi.org for the schedule or e-mail Rev. Nakai at rev.eshin.patti23@gmail.com.
- ❁ Buddhism Study Class – Wednesdays, 7 to 8:30 pm. No previous Buddhism study required.
- ❁ Meditation – Thursdays, 7:30 pm and Sundays, 9 am. **First-timers please arrive half-hour early.**
- ❁ Sutra Study Class – Second or third Sunday of the month, 12:30 to 2 pm. No previous Buddhism study required. This month: April 13th (tentative).

☀ Cultural Activities ☀

- ❁ Calligraphy (Japanese brush writing) – First and third Tuesdays, 7:30 pm. Currently on hiatus. Contact Temple if interested.
- ❁ Chinese Movement (Qigong) – Every Tuesday morning, 11 am to noon. Call Dennis Chan 312-771-6087 for information & to register.
- ❁ Crafts Group – First & third Saturdays, 10 am to noon.
- ❁ Japanese Fencing (Kendo) – Dojo sessions held every Tuesday from 8 to 10 pm at Bethany United Church. Call Bob Kumaki, 847-853-1187 for info.
- ❁ Japanese Language School (children or adults) – Every Saturday, 10 am. Call Temple to register.
- ❁ Japanese Swordsmanship (Iaido) – Mondays, 7 to 9 pm.
- ❁ Kokyo Taiko Drum Troupe – Fridays, 7 to 9pm.

BTC CALENDAR APRIL 2014

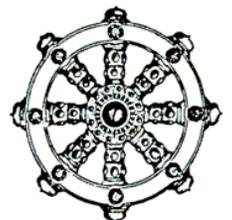
日本語の 祥月法要
4月6日 午後1:00 時

See Temple Events & Activities Guide on page 7 for more details.
Events may be cancelled or moved after press time due to unforeseen circumstances.
Check www.facebook.com/budtempchi for the most up-to-date changes.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7pm Buddhism Study Class	3 7:30pm Meditation	4 7pm Kokyo Taiko	5 10am Japanese 10am Crafts
6 9am Meditation 11am Monthly Memorial Service (English) 1pm Shotsuki Hoyo (Japanese)	7 7pm Iaido	8 11am Qigong	9 7pm Buddhism Study Class	10 6pm Bulletin submissions due 7:30pm Meditation	11 7pm Kokyo Taiko	12 10am Japanese
13 9am Meditation 10:30am Dharma School 11am Service - Hanamatsuri 12:30pm Sutra Study	14 7pm Iaido	15 11am Qigong	16 7pm Buddhism Study Class	17 7:30pm Meditation	18 10am Bulletin mailing 7pm Kokyo Taiko	19 10am Japanese 10am Crafts 1pm Asoka Society
20 9am Meditation 11am Service	21 7pm Iaido	22 11am Qigong	23 7pm Buddhism Study Class	24 7:30pm Meditation	25 7pm Kokyo Taiko	26 10am Japanese
27 9am Meditation 10:30am Dharma School 11am Service	28 7pm Iaido	29 11am Qigong	30 7pm Buddhism Study Class			

Rev. Patti Nakai, Resident Minister
Rev. Yukei Ashikaga, Minister Emeritus
Rev. Gyomay M. Kubose (1905-2000), Founding Minister

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