



# The Buddhist Temple of Chicago BULLETIN



Volume 70, Number 10  July 2014 (2558 B.E.)

## Open and Affirming For Centuries

Over the last year, when high school groups visited our temple, there was one question that they always asked about Buddhism: “What about same-sex marriage?”

Sometimes it was from a teen with what I call a glam-punk look asking the question with the wondering tone of “Does Buddhism accept someone like me?” Other times it was from a conservatively groomed person asking in a challenging tone of “Does Buddhism condone behavior that my religion sees as absolutely sinful?” In light of such questions, I am reminded of when a reporter asked Rev. Konen Mishima (now known as Hosokawa) in Los Angeles, “What does Buddhism say about homosexuality?”

Rev. Mishima answered, “In Buddhism, we say: All things in moderation.”

In Dr. Jeff Wilson’s article for the *Journal of Global Buddhism* (Vol. 13, 2012) titled “All Beings Are Equally Embraced by Amida Buddha: Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and Same-Sex Marriage in the United States,” he analyzes why Buddhism in general

## Dharma of the Dog

Soon after returning to The Buddhist Temple of Chicago after a long absence, I encountered the annual pet memorial. Rev. Ashikaga announced that the minister’s message would be replaced by remembrances of pets by members of the Sangha. This was new to me; I had never experienced one of these during my childhood days at BTC. I had my doubts. Replacing the teachings about the Dharma with pet stories seemed frivolous.

So I watched as members of the Sangha took turns at the podium, relating a favorite anecdote about their dog or cat. I believe there were some birds and a turtle honored as well. A few speakers choked back tears. Everyone had a funny story. The memories were lovely. Inspired, I raised my hand and told everyone about my dog, Mr. Bigsby.

Technically this was wrong. My dog was still alive.

But it was a GREAT story and it seemed a shame to wait until he was really gone. Until this past

and Jodo Shinshu in particular doesn’t have a problem with sexual orientation and gender-identification issues as other world religions do. In the basic teachings of Buddhism all living beings are seen as equal, but throughout Buddhist history, monastic practice developed into a system that justifies “more”



Rev. Patti Nakai  
Resident Minister

enlightened people looking down on their “less” enlightened fellow humans. With Pure Land and other lineages from Shakyamuni’s time focused on lay followers, there is the emphasis that no matter how morally imperfect one is, you are equal to any one else in the viewpoint of ultimate reality (symbolized as Amida, the “unbounded Life and Light”). While monastic Buddhism insisted on celibacy as the purest expression of non-attachment, lay-oriented Buddhism such as Jodo Shinshu accepts that men and women interact with each other emotionally as well as physically.

*(Continued on page 6)*

February I’ve told that story at every pet memorial since. Mr. Bigsby passed away a few years ago, which gave the story a tad more credibility. When Rev. Patti invited speakers to the podium this year I deferred. Time to put the story to rest.



Glenn T. Fujiura  
Temple President

Recently, someone passed on an article entitled “A Dog’s Purpose,” from the newsletter, *Oneness*, published by the Institute for American Buddhism. In the story a family’s dog is dying of cancer and had to be euthanized. The parents were perplexed by the reaction of their six-year-old son, who seemed to accept the dog’s death with very little grieving. The article ended with a wonderful reflection by the boy: “People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life — like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right? Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don’t have to stay as long.”\*

*(Continued on page 5 at bottom)*

## Temple News 🌸 May 2014

- 🌸 5/03 BTC Kokyo Taiko participated at Kodomo-no-Hi (Children's Day) Festival sponsored by several Japanese American community groups.
- 🌸 5/04 May monthly memorial service was held. \*\*\* The Shoshinge class met then joined the afternoon Japanese service for chanting. \*\*\* Memorial service for the late Mrs. Namiye Hanamoto was officiated by Rev. Nakai at Lakeview Funeral Home. Mrs. Hanamoto is survived by daughters Karen Yamasaki and Linda Heckman.
- 🌸 5/05 Ashes burial service for the late Mrs. Hanamoto at Montrose Cemetery, conducted by Rev. Nakai.
- 🌸 5/10 Ashes burial service for the late Mr. and Mrs. Kiyoshi Ono was conducted at Montrose Cemetery by Rev. Nakai. Both were active temple members before relocating to Honolulu where both passed away last year – Mrs. Yukie Ono in February and her husband in October. The service was arranged by Mrs. Ono's brothers, Joe and Masanori Morimoto.
- 🌸 5/11 Mother's Day Sunday service with Dharma School was held.
- 🌸 5/12 Rev. Nakai attended Monthly Uptown Clergy luncheon. \*\*\* Michael Takada, new CEO of the Japanese American Service Committee visited temple and discussed our mutually beneficial endeavors.
- 🌸 5/17 Asoka Society met.
- 🌸 5/18 Tanjo-e (Shinran Shonin's birthday) service was held.
- 🌸 5/20 Bon Odori instructors met to start practicing 2014 program.
- 🌸 5/21 Our past temple member Irene Shishido passed away on May 22 in San Francisco, CA. The late Mrs. Shishido is survived by sons Darryl and Marc.
- 🌸 5/23 June bulletin was mailed.
- 🌸 5/24 Tanjo-e Seminar "Depiction of Women in Japanese Buddhism" held with guest speaker Dr. Gail Chin. About 30 people attended including a few who were new to our temple.
- 🌸 5/25 Hatsu Mairi service with Dharma School. Four children of two families were officially welcomed to our temple. Dr. Gail Chin was guest speaker.
- 🌸 5/26 Rev. Nakai led Japanese Buddhist Federation ministers in chanting at the Nikkei Community Memorial Day Program at Montrose Cemetery.
- 🌸 5/30 Rev. Ashikaga conducted ashes interment service for the late Mrs. Lucille Shinsako at Montrose Cemetery. \*\*\* Dr. Gail Chin conducted an in-depth tour of the Asian art exhibits for 8 temple members at the Art Institute of Chicago.
- 🌸 5/31 Rev. Nakai attended the Spiritual Beans interfaith discussion group hosted by Treasures of Uptown.

Our deepest sympathy to  
the family and friends of:

**Namiye Hanamoto  
Irene Shishido**

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! Understanding the Nembutsu through recognizing the Paramitas in others. Send in your recognitions!

- 🌸 Sunday Service Participants: Sue Balsam, Anna Idol, Bill Bohlman, Glenn T. Fujiura, Wendy Fawcett, Tom Lane, William Shehan, Craig Widby, Leroy Wiley
- 🌸 Accompanists: Mrs. Ashikaga, Ruth Abbinanti, Mia Blixt-Shehan, John Marino
- 🌸 Audio Controls: Jacob and Wendy Fawcett.
- 🌸 Sunday Service Refreshments: Noreen Enkoji, Haru Ito, Ruby Tsuji, Upaya Group, Dharma School and past Hatsu Mairi families
- 🌸 Bulletin Mailing: Sue Balsam, Dennis Chan, Antoinette D'Vencets, Noreen Enkoji, Haru Ito, Chuck Izui, Masa Nakata, Mary Shimomura, Ruby Tsuji.
- 🌸 Natsu Matsuri Mailing: Ruth Abbinanti, Karen Baier, Susan Balsam, Bill Bohlman, Gail Chin, Ed Horiuchi, Anna Idol, Alice Murata, Arlene Nozawa, Linda Triplett, Rachel Triplett, Ruby Tsuji, Jennie (Jane) Watanabe
- 🌸 Cleaning Temple washrooms: Jun Park.
- 🌸 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.



Rev. Patti Nakai leads chanting at Montrose Cemetery on May 26. See Temple News.  
Photo by Keith Sunahara.

## ONE Northside Convention Report

By Nancey Epperson

On May 4, 2014, ONE (“Organizing Neighborhoods for Equality”) Northside held its organizing convention at Anshe Emet Synagogue in Lakeview. Several members and friends of BTC attended this convention, including Sue Balsam, Nancey Epperson, Miriam Solon, Linda Triplett, and Rachel Triplett.

We heard from a variety of speakers on issues related to social justice, who asked pointed questions to the elected officials present which included several aldermen, State Senate President John Cullerton, and Governor Pat Quinn. Issues discussed included preserving low-income housing, community use of the closed Stewart School building, and prohibiting employers from asking about a job applicant’s criminal record on an employment application.

ONE Northside is the result of the merger of Lakeview Action Coalition (LAC) and Organization of the Northeast (ONE), two community-activist coalitions. BTC had been a member of the “old” ONE, and is now a member of ONE Northside. Members of ONE Northside include 40 religious congregations, 35 non-profit organizations, 8 community & tenant organizations, 6 cultural associations, 7 schools, and 8 businesses & unions. A short video of the convention can be seen at: <http://youtu.be/LqbC-hbQDZw>

## 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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## BTC BULLETIN

### Team

Ruth Abbinanti, Michele Mulcahy, Rev. Patti Nakai, Gary T. Nakai, William Shehan, 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](mailto:BTCbuledtr@hotmail.com) or speak with anyone on the BTC Team

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## Bon Odori Practices Start Monday, July 21

It's time to get out your dancing slippers ("zori") and gear up for the annual dance festival called Bon Odori. There will be five practice sessions leading up to Bon Odori on Saturday, August 2. The sessions start at 7:30pm and run to about 8:45pm on July 21, 23, 25, 28 and 30.

Even if you are unsure about participating in Bon Odori, please come to any of the practice sessions just for the fun of it, to reunite with old friends and meet new ones and to get a bit of exercise in. The dances are based on traditional Japanese folk dancing and consist of simple moves in repeated patterns. You can bring your own props or borrow what we have at the temple – folding fans ("sensu"), round fans ("uchiwa"), towels ("tenugui") and wooden castanets ("kachi-kachi"). Everyone is welcome, so bring your family and friends of all ages.

This is the tentative list of the dances we will be doing – Shinshu Ondo, Ichigo Maita, Tohoku Ondo (new dance honoring those affected by the 2011 tsunami), Arigataya, Ichi Tasu Ichi ("One-Plus-One"), Omikoshi Ondo (new), Sukiyaki, Aizu Bandai San, Okosa Bushi, Tokyo Ondo, Tanko Bushi ("Coal Miner's Dance") and Bon Odori Uta.

## Asoka Society Schedule Changes

By Dennis Chan

The Asoka Society has changed their meeting schedule for summer. Instead of the usual third Saturday of the month, meetings will be on July 19 and August 16 at 1:00 p.m. at The Buddhist Temple of Chicago. If you wish to participate in either Toban, please call Alice Murata at 773-463-4631 or e-mail her at [alicemurata@hotmail.com](mailto:alicemurata@hotmail.com).

## Young Adults Group Botanic Garden Trip

By Wendy Fawcett

The Young Adults Group will have a social meeting on Sunday, July 13. We plan on visiting the Chicago Botanic Garden beginning at 4:00 p.m. Some of the group members will be meeting at the gardens with their bicycles and plan to ride around the Gardens, but all are welcome even if you do not ride! Admission to the gardens is free however there is a \$25 parking fee per vehicle.

Please let me know if you would like to attend and need a ride. E-mail me at [wendyjfawcett@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjfawcett@gmail.com) if you have any questions about this outing.

## Let's learn Kumihimo!

Kumihimo, or "gathered threads" is a traditional Japanese craft that is gaining popularity in the US. In old Japan, braids made on a traditional wooden loom (marudai) were used as obijime – the thin rope used to hold the obi in place. This style of braid was also used by samurai to lace up their armor. During the Heian period, braiding was done by Buddhist monks as a form of meditation. Today, crafters of all nationalities are learning this art using a hand-held foam disk, and turning their work into jewelry.



There will be an introductory kumihimo class at BTC on July 26, taught by Nancey Epperson and Alice Murata. We'll make a beaded bracelet (similar to the one pictured). All materials needed will be included in the class kit: foam disk, bobbins, beads, cord, cord ends, clasp.

**When:** Saturday, July 26, 2014, 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$25.00 (includes kit and lunch)

**Class size:** Maximum 10 participants

**RSVP:** Alice Murata at [alicemurata@hotmail.com](mailto:alicemurata@hotmail.com)

## May Temple Events (see Temple News for details)



From left to right: Four children and two families are officially welcomed to the temple for Hatsu Mairi, Dr. Gail Chin delivers a talk at Sunday Service, temple members visit the Art Institute for guided tour by Dr. Chin (far right). Photos by Lynnell Long, Ann Yi, and self-described "Handsome Photographer" Art Institute security guard.

## Musical Talent Needed!

By William Shehan

BTC is excited to announce a new group! The all-volunteer group is forming to lead the service in singing, entertaining at BTC events, and performing at special services such as Visaka. We have a director and accompanist but need YOU! If you have any interest in singing, playing or performing, then contact William Shehan, Vice President of Temple Relations at [William@fiercebuddhist.com](mailto:William@fiercebuddhist.com), 312-212-3473 or speak with me at the Temple.



**ALL INSTRUMENTS, SKILL LEVELS,  
AND AGES WELCOME!**

## ... Dharma of the Dog

(Continued from page 1)

Ah yes. The Dharma of the dog. I am inspired again. So bear with me while I resurrect Mr. Bigsby (the story, not the dog).

Back in 1999 he was found wandering down west Grand Avenue. A big brown Labrador retriever. His ears had just brutally been chopped off with a knife or hatchet. He must have just escaped from his tormenters because the wounds around his ears were still fresh and bleeding profusely.

Even then, he was calmly walking up to people on the sidewalk offering to “shake hands.” Some good Samaritans took him to the animal shelter that night.



About a week later my family encountered him as we were looking to adopt a dog. His story grabbed the big hearts of my wife and my kids and they immediately selected him for adoption. I resisted. Being of a shallower character, I protested, “I kind of want a dog with ears.” But up against a baleful looking dog and a determined wife and three daughters, I had no chance.

He settled in, watched the kids grow up, and became a minor celebrity in our neighborhood – the dog with no ears.

But as the commercial announcer always says, “But wait, there’s more.” A few years later, he was

## REMINDER: SAVE THE DATE Eastern Buddhist League Conference 2014

By Ruth Abbinanti

This year’s Eastern Buddhist League Conference, “Flourishing through Difference” will be held August 29-31. The host is Ekoji Buddhist Temple in Fairfax Station, Virginia near Washington, D.C. This is a wonderful opportunity to grow in Dharma knowledge and deepen Sangha friendships as we live and work together for a few days.

The sessions will explore various perspectives on how as individuals and as communities we can thrive by learning from the many points of view and experiences within our Sanghas. We will discuss how to use our many differences of age, gender preference, perspectives, and opinions to create plans to help our temples not to survive but to flourish. More detailed information will follow. Check our website regularly for links to updates.

struck with some double-bad luck – a detached retina in the right eye and few months later, a cataract in the left eye. Both required surgical interventions that left him totally blind. Most people saw Mr. Bigsby as a tragic figure, complimenting us for being so “patient” in not having him euthanized. But the blindness didn’t make that much of a difference. He could navigate using his sense of smell, hearing, and his familiarity with the layout of our house and the surrounding neighborhood. We continued our long walks. I became his “seeing eye guy.” I would say, “Watch out,” which was his cue to stop and walk around something. Of course, I would get distracted occasionally, and so it was good thing that big dogs have hard heads.

Our daily path led through a park with a little league field. Behind home plate was an area thick with tall weeds. Foul balls were lost, even if the Little Leaguers saw where they landed. Perhaps because of his heightened dependence on smell, Mr. Bigsby developed a peculiar genius for tracking down the lost balls. He could sniff and locate one from 10-20 feet away. Suddenly stopping at the edge of the field of weeds, nose pointed up into the breeze, he would take several deep snorts, move a few steps ahead, snort some more, and then charge into the brush and almost always retrieve a ball. By the end of the summer, we had buckets of them. He couldn’t wait to head out the door every day.

And that’s my lasting memory of him. Sitting by the door, eager to greet the day, impatient with me as I prepared us for the walk. I think of that often: Bigsby, no eyes, no ears, no regrets. Ready to face the world, tail wagging, knowing there were always fresh baseballs to be found in the weeds.

\* A dog’s purpose. Oneness, V. 14 (1), Spring, 2010.

## ... Open and Affirming For Centuries

(Continued from page 1)

Monogamous opposite sex partnerships are seen as the social norm, but this has not been the sole reality through the ages. Thus Buddhism teaches that nothing is fixed in the flow of impermanence. Through the shifting convergence of causes and conditions, marriages come about, fall apart, or continue despite long separation (e.g., Shinran and his wife Eshinni) or other partners (e.g., Haya Akegarasu's second marriage). A society may define the legal state of "marriage" as between one man and one woman, but in human history, relationships occur in myriad combinations. Buddhism does not comment on the one-man-one-woman combination as having any special sanctity over other relationships.

A few years ago I was at a Buddhist gathering in the Bay Area and I asked retired minister Rev. Laverne Sasaki if he had conducted any same-sex weddings. He responded, "For over twenty years," letting me know it was no big deal to him. The Wilson article points out that unlike many Christian denominations, there was hardly any controversy in the Buddhist Churches of America over performing same-sex weddings. There was only a report that one woman quit her temple over the issue and that only one minister campaigned against it. At our temple the only person I've heard expressing disagreement about the subject of same-sex couples was the young Japanese minister we let go of a few years ago. Otherwise, at our Sunday services and other activities, we've become used to seeing members and friends who are gay and transgender as part of the increasing diversity of our temple. Still we get phone calls and e-mails from people who want to know before they attend if we accept LGBTQ persons. I tell them our temple has no problem, but I warn them that some immigrant Buddhist groups may have some cultural prejudices that have nothing to do with the Buddhist teachings.

Christian churches are making a point of advertising themselves as "open and affirming" to let LGBTQ people know they will be welcomed and that their committed partnerships will be recognized as marriage. But for Buddhists we can claim that our temples have been open and affirming for centuries. Historically there have been instances of discrimination against people who were seen as not fitting into "proper" gender roles and relationships. At our temple, I heard that there were some members who grumbled that modern dance artist Kim On Wong shouldn't be around children because he was so "flamboyant," but when I was a Dharma School

teacher, I thought it was great that Mr. Wong performed for the children and showed them that a man can be graceful and expressive.

I write this after performing my first same-sex wedding. (See wedding photo of Tova Weisman and Mary Harvey.) The main challenge was getting used to different ways to refer to the two people instead of the standard "bride and groom" and "husband and wife." (At the end of the ceremony, I introduced them as "the awesome couple.") But it was the same as any wedding – seeing two people lovingly committed to each other and all their relatives and friends expressing joy and support for the union.



Being "open and affirming" when it comes to gender and sexuality feels dramatic because it challenges our own sense of identity and feelings of physical attraction to other humans. The Buddhist teachings help us get through our discomfort by reminding us of the principle of dependent arising (Japanese *engi*, Sanskrit *pratitya samutpada*) that shows there is a web of countless factors that influences what we are at each moment, how and what we think, perceive, act etc. The characteristics of what is "male" and what is "female" go beyond a simple list of physical features, and even physical features don't all fall neatly in either-or categories as we already know in dealing with race and ethnic classifications.

And throughout Buddhist history, there's been the recognition that people don't come together in relationships for any simple reason or anyone's conscious intention. "Hard is it to be born," reminds us how unlikely it was that our particular parents met and developed a relationship that resulted in our birth. So in the many biological, psychological (and even geographical) factors involved in dependent arising, we can't blame any one for being different from what our current society wants to define as appropriate appearance and behavior for each category of humans. The historical Buddha and all the great teachers keep exhorting us to go beyond "name and form," that is, to appreciate reality as it is and to revere each of our fellow living beings for their own unique life and not according to what we think they should be.

*Note:* LGBTQ stands for Lesbian / Gay / Bisexual / Transgender / Queer.

## Buddha 'Bout Town: Buddhist & Cultural Happenings

❁ **CLOSING SOON Through July 13: Kitagawa Utamaro selections.** Location: Art Institute, Gallery 107. This exhibition highlights some of the Art Institute's collection of the artist's most celebrated prints.

❁ **NEW July 19 through October 5, 2014: Onchi Koshiro: The Abstract Prints.** Location: Art Institute, Gallery 107. Koshiro was a leader and innovator of the *sosaku hanga* (creative print) movement that revolutionized Japanese printmaking before and after WW II. He was a pioneer in producing abstract designs.

❁ **July 25-27: Maida Center Retreat, "Tradition and Creativity: Introduction to the Kyogyoshinsho"** by Dr. Nobuo Haneda, long-time BTC teacher and friend. Rev. Patti Nakai will speak. Registration materials at the temple or contact MaidaCenter@sbcglobal.net or 510-843-8515.

❁ **August 16 & 17: BTC Kokyo Taiko.** Location: Chicago Botanic Garden Children's Festival at 12:30 p.m. 1000 Lake Cook Rd, Glencoe.

❁ **September 18-21: Joffrey Ballet presents three dances in their Stories in Motion program.** Location: Auditorium Theatre. The third dance, "RAKU," tells a tragic love story and the burning of the Golden Pavilion in Kyoto, Japan. For tickets, visit <http://joffrey.org/stories>

❁ **NEW October 11 through January 4, 2015: Ghosts & Demons in Japanese Prints.** Location: Art Institute. This exhibition showcases highlights, including Hokusai's series *One Hundred Stories (Hyaku monogatari)*, featuring chilling images of ghouls against bright blue backgrounds drawn from legends, and depictions of Shoki, the Demon Queller, who could subdue even the most frightening goblins with his sword.

### 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/](http://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/](http://smartmuseum.uchicago.edu/exhibitions/asian-art/) for current highlights.

❁ **Submit information** on other Buddhist and/or Japanese cultural events in the Chicago area to: [BTCbuledtr@hotmail.com](mailto:BTCbuledtr@hotmail.com)

## July Temple Events & Activities Guide



- ❁ 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](http://www.facebook.com/budtempchi)
- ❁ All events are free, held at the Temple (unless otherwise noted), and open to the public.



### ➤➤➤➤ Special Services & Events ◀◀◀◀

- ❁ July 27 Sunday – Temple Picnic, 1-4pm
- ❁ Bon Odori Practice – Monday July 21, Wednesday July 23, Friday July 25, Monday July 28, Wednesday July 30 at 7:30 pm
- ❁ Aug 2 – Bon Odori Festival, 7:30 pm

### 🔔 Regular Sunday Services 🔔

- ❁ Religious Service (in English) – Sundays, 11 am.
- ❁ Dharma Sunday School (for children) – On Break until September 14. Usually the second and fourth Sundays, 11:00 am
- ❁ 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.

### 📖 Education & Meditation 📖

- ❁ Introduction to Buddhism – This 4-week course is held periodically throughout the year. Visit [budtempchi.org](http://budtempchi.org) for the schedule or e-mail Rev. Nakai at [rev.eshin.patti23@gmail.com](mailto:rev.eshin.patti23@gmail.com).
- ❁ Buddhism Study Class – On break until Sept 10. Usually on Wednesdays, 7 to 8:30 pm. No previous Buddhism study required.
- ❁ Meditation – On break until September Usually on Thursdays, 7:30 pm.
- ❁ Sutra Study Class – Being held on July 13th but normally the second or third Sunday of the month, 12:30 to 2 pm. No previous Buddhism study required.

### 🔔 Meetings, Socials, Volunteering 🔔

- ❁ Asoka Society – Third Saturday, 1 pm. Social includes refreshments.
- ❁ Board Meeting – Once a month, Sunday, 12:30 pm. This month: July 20.
- ❁ 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.
- ❁ Temple Picnic – Sunday, July 27, 1-4pm.

### ☀ 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 – On Summer Break. Usually on 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. Currently on break until September Call Temple to register.
- ❁ Japanese Swordsmanship (Iaido) – Mondays, 7 to 9 pm.
- ❁ Taiko (BTC Kokyo Taiko Drum Troupe) – Fridays, 7 to 9pm.

# BTC CALENDAR JULY 2014

日本語の 祥月法要  
7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](http://www.facebook.com/budtempchi) for the most up-to-date changes.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11am Qigong	2	3	4  7pm Kokyo Taiko	5
6 11am Monthly Memorial Service (English) 1pm Shotsuki Hoyo (Japanese)	7  7pm Iaido	8 11am Qigong	9	10  6pm Bulletin submissions due	11  7pm Kokyo Taiko	12
13 1pm Sutra Study	14  7pm Iaido	15 11am Qigong	16	17	18 10am Bulletin mailing  7pm Kokyo Taiko	19 1pm Asoka Society
20 12:30pm Board Meeting	21  7:30pm Bon Odori Practice	22 11am Qigong	23  7:30pm Bon Odori Practice	24	25  7:30 Bon Odori Practice	26 10am Kumihimo Class (see p. 4)
27  1-4pm Temple Picnic	28  7:30pm Bon Odori Practice	29	30  7:30 pm Bon Odori Practice	31	1	2  7:30pm Bon Odori

Tear off this last page and tuck it in your wallet/purse or post it on your refrigerator.

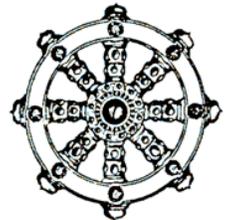
Flip it over for details on the specific events.

Never miss a Temple event again!



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

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