

GOLDEN CHAIN

I am a link in the Buddha's golden chain of love that stretches around the world. I must keep my link bright and strong. I will try to be kind and gentle to every living thing and protect all who are weaker than myself. I will try to think pure and beautiful thoughts, to say pure and beautiful words, and to do pure and beautiful deeds, knowing that on what I do now depends not only my happiness or unhappiness, but also that of others. May every link in the Buddha's golden chain of love become bright and strong, and may we all attain perfect peace.

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Rev. Landon Yamaoka

I hope everyone is doing well! I had been trying to decide what to write, had planned something out, and then last night had a very brief encounter with someone while driving to acupuncture.

I wasn't feeling well, but after a shower, I decided I could drive my wife and me to Hayward, since she usually drives, so I could rest if I were in pain

or my body was shutting down. We usually take surface street to Seminary, which isn't the greatest area, but it saves us from getting stuck on the interchange. I saw a man in a wheelchair with a sign. As I pulled up, I noticed he had a prosthetic leg, and I knew my wife had left a small bag of Panda cookies in my console.

I knew there was time to hand him something, as it was a stop sign. While still semi rushing, I handed him the cookies, and he smiled at me and said, "God bless you, sir!" I felt bad, I know I probably had a startled look on my face, and then sheepishly said "Thank you" and "Please take care", and drove off. I immediately felt bad for not really looking at him, as, while not intended, it could have looked as if I didn't view him as "human." I obviously did not want to make him feel that way, but the way he said "God bless you, sir," the look in his eyes, and his smile made me feel ashamed. I had just taken a bunch of money out and had smaller bills in my wallet for tips at the coffee shop. I didn't need those bills for that night or the next day, and yet I didn't want to get my bag out to find my wallet. He probably really needed the money, but just by giving him a small bag of cookies, he looked so sincere and grateful, it made me question my own appreciation for how much I have.

It is easy to focus only on what we don't have rather than what we do, especially if we have a lot. I wondered how he lost his leg, as he was a veteran. I wondered about the losses he has endured and how hard his life must be. For him to thank me with such emotion and appreciation, and to feel him asking God to bless me for a small snack, just hit me hard.

In an HBO show about the start of the War in Iraq, a news reporter who is playing a real life person gets into a firefight and, not being in the military, is scared. Someone tells him the tire on the car he is behind is basically bulletproof, so at that moment, he is in the safest place, and that it's all about perspective. Perhaps it is easier to appreciate something in the face of danger, or after experiencing major losses and hardships. This man, by being grateful, made me reflect on my own appreciation for our teachings, and while he did ask God to bless me, the emotion behind it made me think about my relationship with them.

How often do I feel something as deeply as I did with that man when reflecting on the Nembutsu? I don't recite the Nembutsu with the same devotion he used when thanking me. However, when I hear things in class, in Dharma talks, or just from people's thoughts and feelings about Buddhism, a similar feeling sometimes arises that I believe I felt from that man. I think the best way for us to learn to feel more is to engage with other people, because then we can feel what they are feeling, and we can learn to search within ourselves to find ways to better feel. I hope that the Buddhist teachings help all of us find a new perspective, so we can learn together how to better feel and appreciate our teachings!

In gassho, Landon

April Services

PLEASE JOIN US IN-PERSON IN THE HONDO OR VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM (HYBRID SERVICE).
MASKS ARE NOT REQUIRED BUT RECOMMENDED IN THE HONDO.

APRIL 4, 2026, SATURDAY – HANAMIDO PREPARATION

12:30 P.M. HONDO CLASSROOMS (SEE DETAILS BELOW.)

APRIL 5, 2026 – HANAMATSURI

10 A.M. (HYBRID)

Hanamatsuri is the commemoration of the birth of Gautama Siddhartha in Lumbini Garden. On this auspicious occasion, we remember and pay homage to the founder who later discovered the Buddha Dharma, and brought to everyone the path to find true peace.

Rev. Landon Yamaoka will officiate this **hybrid service**.

April birthdays will be celebrated.

Dharma School will follow service.

APRIL 9, 2026 (THURSDAY), 2-3 PM PDT

DR. THOMAS CALOBRISI'S - WHAT MAKES BUDDHISM BUDDHIST?
EVERYDAY BUDDHIST LIVE EVENT VIA ZOOM, (REGISTRATION LINK)

<https://tinyurl.com/5n9a2yyp>

APRIL 12, 2026 – SHOTSUKI HOYO

10 A.M. (Hybrid)

At this monthly memorial service, we will honor those loved ones who passed away in the month of April.

Rev. Dr. Miyaji will officiate this hybrid service.

APRIL 19, 2026 – FAMILY SERVICE

10 A.M. (HYBRID)

Rev. Landon will officiate this hybrid service. Dharma School will follow service.

APRIL 26, 2026 – FAMILY SERVICE

10 A.M. (HYBRID)

Rev. Landon will officiate this hybrid service



SACBC HANAMIDO

PLEASE COME HELP DECORATE THE HANAMIDO FOR OUR HYBRID HANAMATSURI SERVICE THIS YEAR! DECORATING WILL BE ON SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 12:30 PM, HONDO CLASSROOMS.

PLEASE BRING ANY FLOWERS YOU HAVE FROM YOUR GARDEN!

THOSE ATTENDING THE HANAMATSURI SERVICE IN-PERSON, WILL BE ABLE TO POUR SWEET TEA ON THE IMAGE OF THE BABY BUDDHA.

April Shotsuki Hoyo
Sunday, April 12, 2026 at 10:00 am

Family, relatives, and friends are invited to attend the monthly memorial service for the following:

DECEASED

FAMILY

1948	MAGOICHI KAWAMOTO	MRS. SHIZUYE AWAMURA
1953	HIROSHI SEKIGAHAMA	MR. HARRY SEKIGAHAMA
1962	YASUJIRO ASANO	MR. ALAN ARAI & MR. JOHN ARAI
1979	YOSHIE KITANI	KITANI FAMILY
1982	HANAKO ARAI	MR. ALAN ARAI & MR. JOHN ARAI
1982	KOOMEI GEROGUE KATO	MRS. TERRY SATO
1985	IWANARI KAJIKAWA	KAJIKAWA FAMILY
1995	EIICHI TAKAYAMA	TAKAYAMA FAMILY
1997	MITSUKO TANAKA	TANAKA FAMILY
2001	MITSUYE YAMAHARA	MR. & MRS. TOM CHUN
2003	TOKIYO KAWAGUCHI	KAWAGUCHI FAMILY
2005	GEORGE KAWAMOTO	MS. ANN KAWAMOTO
2006	SHIMAKO NARUO	MR. & MRS. GERALD NARUO
2006	BESSIE SHIMOYO KARAMATSU	MRS. IRIS YAKUMA
2007	EDWARD NG	MR. SCOTT NG & MRS. CHARISSE FELDMAN
2007	MIEKO YOKO	MR. & MRS. JERRY MORINO; MR. & MRS. RON OYE & MS. EDNA ONODERA
2008	YOSHIYE NAGATA	MR. & MRS. KEN NAGATA & MR. FRANK NAGATA
2008	YOSHITO YAKUMA	MR. STEVE YAKUMA
2008	KENJI OSAKI	MS. NOREEN OSAKI & DR. CURTIS MARK
2008	MAY MARK	MS. NOREEN OSAKI & DR. CURTIS MARK
2009	YUKIE NAKANO	MRS. PATRICIA TAKEMOTO
2009	YUTAKA KOTAKE	MRS. JEAN KOTAKE
2009	GEORGE KAWAGUCHI	MRS. TOMIKO KAWAGUCHI
2009	JOE KIMURA	KIMURA FAMILY
2012	ITSUKO UEMURA	MR. & MRS. TESUJI UEMURA
2014	NIKKI FUDENNA	MR. BOB FUDENNA
2016	RIE ANDO	MR. STAN ANDO & MRS. YUMIKO FUJII
2016	ROBERT IGUCHI	JENNA IGUCHI AND PHYLIS TAKAHASHI
2019	CHIEKO UCHIDA	MS. DONNA HORI
2019	HISAO YOKO	MS. EDNA ONODERA
2021		MR. & MRS. RON OYE & MR & MRS. JERRY MORINO
2022	YASUSHI YAMADA	YAMADA & OSAKI FAMILY
UNKNOWN	TOMIKO HAYAKAWA	MRS. HARU HAMAMOTO

MEMORIAL SERVICES 2026

Memorial year for those who passed away in:

2025 - 1 st year 2022 - 3 rd year 2019 - 7 th year	2013 - 13 th year 2009 - 17 th year 2001 - 25 th year	1993 - 33 rd year 1976 - 50 th year 1926 - 100 th year
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Jewelry for Bazaar 2026

It's time to get ready for the 2026 Bazaar.

In previous years Jewelry sales were very popular. Shoppers walked away with smiles as they wore the items purchased at Bazaar Bargain prices.

If you have any jewelry you no longer want, Taiko group wants it to sell at their booth. Your donated items convert to donations for the church.

Items can be left in the church office or at Taiko practice on a Monday or Wednesday, 3-5 pm.

NO BROKEN OR TARNISHED ITEMS, PLEASE.



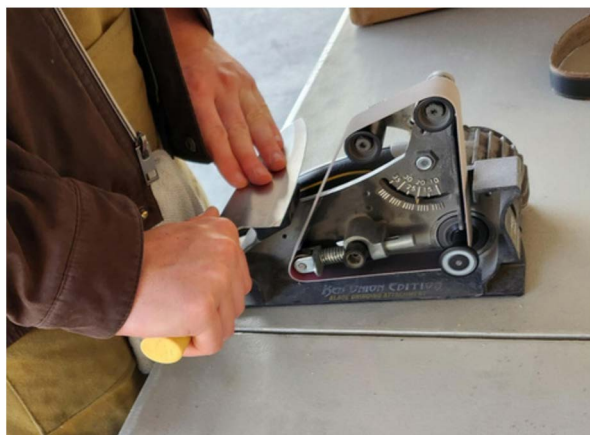
Dr. Thomas Calobrisi's — What Makes Buddhism Buddhist?

Everyday Buddhist live event via Zoom, Thursday, April 9, 2-3PM PT (registration link)

<https://tinyurl.com/5n9a2yyp>

SHARP!

On March 15, Thomas of Fremont sharpening came and “put the edge” on knives & tools while we attended service. This was his second time at sacbc. He helped with the Eagle Scout project by pouring the cement to form the pads that our dumpsters sit on.



THOMAS IS AT THE FARMER'S MARKET IN NILES
ON SATURDAY MORNINGS.

WELCOME BACK, THOMAS!

BWA REPORT by Karen Suyama

Thank you to everyone who came out to help and support the BWA Rummage Sale on March 7th & 8th. With so many people coming on Friday afternoon, the setup was quick and we had everything out onto the floor by Friday.

Thank you to Karen Fujii for organizing the Key Club high school students and Logan High students to help us set up and unpack boxes on Friday. They then came back on Sunday to pack it up when we were done!

Many customers, friends and family came to "shop," and I am happy to report we were able to sell a lot of items, big and small

Thank you for helping us raise money for future temple projects. Currently the BWA will be helping to fund the cleaning of the hondo and Onaijin carpet, as well as cleaning the upholstery on the pews.

Our next BWA meeting is March 22nd. We hope to see everyone then.

Thank you for your continued support of the BWA!

**DIRECTORY UPDATE
MR. & MRS. DENNIS JASANY
2321 SAN PLACE COURT
DISCOVERY BAY, CA 94505-9350**

CAR DONATION PROGRAM

- ** DONATE YOUR UNWANTED CAR, TRUCK OR VAN
- ** RECEIVE A TAX DEDUCTION AND HELP SACBC
- ** RUNNING OR NOT, EVEN WRECKS ARE ACCEPTED
- ** WE HANDLE ALL DMV PAPERWORK
- ** IT IS FAST AND EASY ** TOWING IS FREE!

FOR MORE INFO AND TO SCHEDULE A PICK UP CALL:
HAROLD'S CAR DONATION SERVICE
800-310-5274
WEBSITE: HAROLDSCARDONATIONSERVICE.COM

DON'T FORGET TO MENTION THAT THIS IS A DONATION FOR SACBC
SO THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THE CAR GO TO OUR CHURCH.

April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 3-5 pm Taiko 5-10pm AA	2 9am-2pm Boutique 11am-1pm JLS prep 5-10pm AA	3 5-10pm AA	4 8:30-3pm JLS 12:30 PM Hanamido Preparation in Hondo
5 10am Hanamatsuri Dharma School	6 3-5 pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner) 5-10pm AA	7 6:30-8:30pm Scouts 5-10pm AA	8 3-5 pm Taiko 5-10pm AA	9 11am-1pm JLS prep 2-3pm Everyday Buddhist (see GC) 5-10pm AA	10 6am O-Jinjo  5pm - 10pm	11 8:30-3pm JLS
12 GC Articles Due 10am Shotsuki Hoyo	13 3-5 pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner) 5-10pm AA	14 6:30-8:30pm Scouts 5-10pm AA	15 3-5 pm Taiko 5-10pm AA 7:30-8:30 Bazaar Meeting	16 9am-2pm Boutique 11am-1pm JLS prep 5-10pm AA	17 5-10pm AA	18 8:30-3pm JLS
19 10am Family Service Dharma School	20 3-5 pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner) 5-10pm AA	21 6:30-8:30pm Scouts 5-10pm AA	22 3-5 pm Taiko 5-10pm AA	23 11am-1pm JLS prep 5-10pm AA	24  5pm - 10pm	25 8:30-3pm JLS
26 10am Family Service	27 3-5 pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner) 5-10pm AA	28 6:30-8:30pm Scouts 5-10pm AA	29 3-5 pm Taiko 5-10pm AA	30 11am-1pm JLS prep 5-10pm AA		

AA - Athletic Association

JLS - Japanese Language School

DS - Dharma School

BWA - Buddhist Women's Association



Southern
Alameda County
Buddhist Church

Southern Alameda Co. Buddhist Church
32975 Alvarado-Niles Rd.
Union City, CA 94587



APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

4-SATURDAY	12:30 PM	HANAMIDO PREP
5-SUNDAY	10:00 AM	HANAMATSURI
9-THURSDAY	2:00 PM	DR. CALABRISI
12-SUNDAY	10:00 AM	SHOTSUKI HOYO
19-SUNDAY	10:00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
26-SUNDAY	10:00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE

ALL Sunday Services Start at: 10:00 AM PDT
ZOOM Meeting ID: 818 7869 6300 | **Passcode:** 549504