

Golden Chain



Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church
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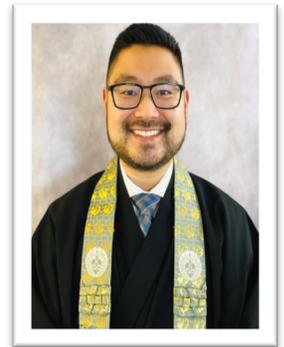
APRIL 2023

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.

850th/800th Joint Celebration



On March 12, 2023 at Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, the Bay District temples together observed and celebrated the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's birth, and the 800th Anniversary of the founding of this religious tradition.



Members from Alameda, Berkeley, Enmanji, Marin, Oakland, Palo Alto, San Francisco, San Mateo, as well as our temple, came in person and online to observe this joyous occasion. Our guest speaker of this event was the Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America, Rev. Marvin Harada, who gave a very memorable Dharma message with his good friend Freddy the Frog. If you don't know, this dynamic duo has been making their rounds all throughout the various BCA temples giving messages about the Dharma ever since I can remember.

Another word for this service is known as *omachiuke*, which translates to "in anticipation of," as in, we are observing this service in anticipation of its main scheduled time, which will take place in May, 2023 in Kyoto, Japan. There will be a delegation from the Bay District that will be representing this group. If you are going to Japan, I hope you are ready for what will be most certainly a very spiritual and moving experience. We will also enjoy some great food, *shochu*, and *onsen* too!

As I reflect on this service, what struck me the most was the sound of the voices chanting. I was very moved to hear the first jolt coming from the chanted line, "*San ge raku*," of the chanting of Sambujo. At this time, the sangha was asked to scatter petals all throughout the *hondo*. I can just picture the children having a fun time scattering the petals around. The instant the voices came out at once, I was struck by the sheer thrust and was really moved. There is really nothing like it; I am not even sure the online portion caught this. Now we can see what chanting is supposed to sound like and what its true power is! I really encourage people to come to our temple services to see what this voice can sound like when we all come together. This is the significance of coming to the services and being part of the sangha.

Together, let's remember the importance of the temple and see what it can be. We can't know about some things in life by watching YouTube and TikTok. Some things won't come through on the Zoom screen. Some things are worth getting up for, changing our clothes, and engaging other people. I like to think our spiritual path is one of those. *Gassho*.



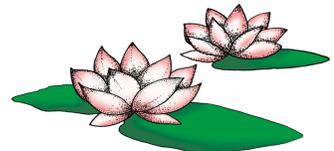
お待ち受け法要

3月12日、パロアルト仏教会で、親鸞聖人の850周年ご誕生及び立教開宗の800周年お待ち受け法要を厳修することができました。まず、お勤めの時に皆さんと共にご開山聖人が著述された「正信念仏偈」を称え、後に北米開教区総長原田・マービン先生のご法話をお聴聞させていただきました。

また法要の後に、日本語グループと英語グループに分かれ、「これからの浄土真宗」、「私にとっての親鸞聖人」、または「私はなぜ念仏の道を歩むことになったのか」という主な三つのテーマで、それぞれのグループでディスカッションを行いました。世の中がますます不安定となっていく一方で、我々は阿弥陀様の智慧と慈悲を拠り所としていくことが大切であるということを感じずにはいられませんでした。

今年5月には、約40名が桑湾教区の代表として京都の西本願寺へお参りをいたします。今回の法要で味わわせていただいたことを思い出しながら、参拝させていただきます。合掌。

今年5月には、約40名が桑湾教区の代表として京都の西本願寺へお参りをいた





Services for April 2023

California Department of Public Health: Starting April 3.

Based on the CDC COVID-19 Community Levels, our area is Low.

People can wear a mask based on personal preference, informed by their own personal level of risk.

April 2, 2023 – Shotsuki Hoyo

10 A.M.

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

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji will officiate this **hybrid service**.

April birthdays will be celebrated.

Japanese Dharma message follows the English service.

April 9, 2023 – Hanamatsuri

10 A.M.

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 discovered the Buddha Dharma, and brought to everyone the path to find true peace.

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji will officiate this **hybrid service**.

Dharma School & the BWA will host otoki lunch following service.

April 16, 2023 – Family Service

10 A.M.

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji will officiate this **hybrid service**.

April 23, 2023 – Family Service

10 A.M.

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji will officiate this **hybrid service**.

April 30, 2023 – Family Service

10 A.M.

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji will officiate this **hybrid service**.

SACBC Hanamido



Dharma School & JLS students will be decorating our Hanamido for our Hybrid Hanamatsuri service this year! **Come help on Saturday, April 8, 12:15 pm, Hondo classrooms.** (with Pizza lunch) **Please bring any flowers you have from your garden!**

Those attending the service in person, will be able to pour sweet tea on the image of the baby Buddha.

Wearing a mask is based on your personal level of risk.



SILENT AUCTION



SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BUDDHIST CHURCH

12th Annual Silent Auction - July 15-16, 2023

Spring is here and the 58th Annual SACBC Bazaar is getting closer. We are calling upon the Sangha to help us reach out to local businesses they regularly frequent and ask for donations. We appreciate any donation from businesses and “friends” of SACBC.

For the 12th Annual Silent Auction, we are asking SACBC organizations and affiliated organizations, as well as Sangha members for donations. We gladly accept donations of new items as well as gently used and precious older items. Items that attract interest and competitive bids are suggested below:

TICKETS / GIFT CERTIFICATES

TICKETS to

- Sporting Events
- Amusement Parks
- Interesting places in the Bay Area
- Plays, musicals, movies

CERTIFICATES to

- Spas
- Restaurants
- Specialty Shops

ELECTRONICS

- Tablets
- eReaders (eg. Kindle)
- Headphones
- Amazon Echo

- Bluetooth Speakers
- Video games
- Video game gift cards (eg. Roblox, Call of Duty)
- Gaming accessories (eg. controllers, mouse, headsets, carrying case, etc.)

THEME BASKETS (examples)

SPORTS: Basketball, baseball, football, soccer, golf, tennis, fishing, etc. Include equipment, memorabilia, etc.

FOOD: Wine, Liquor, Samplers (Crackers, Pasta, Chocolates)

GIFT CARDS

ARTS & CRAFTS

CELEBRATIONS: Christmas, Valentine’s Day, Halloween, Birthday, Anniversary, etc.

PETS: Dog, Cat, Fish, Birds, etc.

“HIS”, “HERS”, “KIDS”

BOOKS

KIDS TOYS that are popular right now

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Art: Paintings, Sculptures
- Japanese art pieces
- Dolls
- Collectibles (vases, ceramics, etc.)
- Air Fryer

- Tools
- Travel aids
- Small appliances
- Handcrafted items (knitted, crocheted, embroidered, woven, sewn, etc.)

To participate in this year’s Silent Auction, donations must be received by **July 1, 2023**. Donations can be left in the office starting in May. Contact information for potential donors is also appreciated. Thank you! We look forward to seeing you at the Bazaar.

Questions? Please contact Karen Fujii. Email: k.fujii02@comcast.net Church Telephone: (510) 471-2581

2023 SACBC BAZAAR – July 15-16, 2023
Saturday, July 15, 11:00am-7:00pm
Sunday, July 16, 11:00am – 3:00pm

We are working out the details and planning of our bazaar this year. Please come help and support our biggest fundraiser for SACBC. A short shift in a couple of areas could be the difference between success and disappointment for our bazaar. **WE NEED YOU.** Tell your family, tell your friends – come support SACBC’s bazaar.

You can come help set up, work a shift or two during the weekend, and help clean up afterwards. Please come and help make this fundraiser the best we’ve had in a long while. You can let John Arai or Karen Suyama know you can help work at the bazaar. It won’t take long with a lot of helpers. Next meeting will be April 26th at 7:00pm.

SACBC BWA

There is a Bay District BWL meeting on April 8th.
We will be co-hosting the Hanamatsuri Otoki on April 9.
Our next two meetings will be at 9:00am on April 23rd, then 9:00am on May 21st.

Anyone is encouraged to come to temple and join our meeting, then stay for service.
Your ideas are welcome!

**SACBC SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP GENERAL
MEETING**

Date: Sunday, April 16, 2023
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Location: SACBC, 32975 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City, CA 94587

The general nature of the business to be transacted is approval of the payoff of the bank loan for the construction of the facility being used by Wisteria Gardens doing business as Umenoki Gardens Senior Home.

Because it is important that we have a quorum, if you are unable to attend the Special Meeting, please submit a proxy. No member may serve as a proxy for more than one person. (The proxy sheet is included in your paper notice.)

This special meeting will be in-person and via Zoom. The Zoom link will be the same link as the weekly Sunday service.

Thank you
The Board Directors

What's Up Dharma School? April 2023

We attended the BCA Eitaikyo Service at Palo Alto Buddhist Temple where the temples in the Bay area were also in attendance. Bishop Harada gave a Dharma talk to the students, bringing back Freddy the Frog. After the service, students were split up into classrooms by grades/age. The younger class had a lesson on meditation, with breathing and visual techniques. A big thank you to the Palo Alto Dharma school teachers for having class! We all then convened to have bento together.

We are now preparing for Hanamatsuri! Hanamido decorating will be Held on April 8 (Sat). Look for the time in the Golden Chain.

Here are the remaining days of Dharma classes for the 2022-2023:

- March 26
- April 2
- *April 8 (Hanamido decorating)
- April 9 (Hanamatsuri Service)--Dharma School and BWA will host an otoki.
- May 21
- June 4
- June 11 - Last Day of Dharma Class



Stay safe and healthy,
In Gassho,
Cathleen and Betty



Hanamatsuri Celebration!

The Sangha is invited to join us for a short Hanamatsuri presentation by the Dharma School on April 9. Soon after, BWA and Dharma School will be hosting an Udon Otoki luncheon in the Sangha Hall.

Dharma students: We will be having a short Dharma class before otoki.





SACBC Sakura Jams



Reunion Dance
Saturday, April 8th, 7-11PM

MUSIC FROM 70S-2000S

DJ TAKA (REV. MIYAJI) & REV BRIDGE . DJ CHRIS PALACIO .
DJ MISTAFISTA . DJ NINOYELLO . DJ YAMIX

LIGHT APPETIZERS . BEVERAGES . DANCING . 50/50 RAFFLE
\$25 EVENTBRITE TICKET FOR 18+
\$10 EVENTBRITE FOR 13-17
FREE FOR CHILDREN 12 & UNDER
MORE INFO AT SACBCEVENTS@GMAIL.COM
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/EVENTBRITE-SACBC-SAKURAJAMS](https://tinyurl.com/eventbrite-sacbc-sakurajams)

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CAR DONATION PROGRAM

**** Donate your unwanted car, truck or van, while receiving a tax deduction and support SACBC.**

**** Running or not, even wrecks are accepted. Harold's Car Donation Service will 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: haroldscardonationsservice.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.

FREE E-WASTE PICK UP

to benefit Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church

Go to www.eWaste4good.com and fill in your information. Enter our organization as the beneficiary. Within a few days, a dispatcher will call you to schedule an at home or office pickup date. Then, your electronics will be picked up, recycled and the proceeds will be sent to our organization. You can also call eWaste4good at 800-317-3112

Thank you for supporting SACBC!

CORRECTION AND APOLOGY

The paper version of this month's Golden Chain includes Amazon Smile (donation program). However, Amazon has discontinued this program since January 2023. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.



APRIL EVENTS

April 2 — SUN	SHOTSUKI HOYO
April 8 — SAT	JOIN DHARMA SCHOOL & JLS STUDENTS DECORATE OUR HANAMIDO AT 12:15 PM WITH A PIZZA LUNCH
April 9 — SUN	<i>HANAMATSURI</i> <i>DHARMA SCHOOL & BWA HOST OTOKI LUNCH AFTER SERVICE</i>
April 16 — SUN	FAMILY SERVICE
April 23 — SUN	FAMILY SERVICE
April 30 —SUN	FAMILY SERVICE
ALL SUNDAY SERVICES START AT 10:00 AM Meeting ID: 818 7869 6300 PASSCODE: 549504	