

Golden Chain



Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church
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www.SACBC.org

August 2024

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.



Hi my name is Landon Yamaoka and I would like to introduce myself. I would like to thank all of you for the opportunity to assist part-time at your temple! I graduated from the University of Arizona in Tucson with a bachelor's degree in Anthropology with a focus in cultural studies, and a minor in Sociology. I have learning disabilities, and the University of Arizona had the best program in the nation for people with learning differences. In addition, I took cultural studies as a replacement for my language requirements. I used East Asian studies for this, and in a Japanese religious studies class, I was introduced to the doctrine of Jodo Shinshu.

Never hearing this growing up in temple, I started my personal journey back to Jodo Shinshu by first reading my grandfather's books on his personal bookshelf, eventually leading me back to Palo Alto Buddhist Temple after college. (I had never planned to return to Sunday services after I finished Jr YBA, but I did enjoy helping at Obon every Summer).

After college I took a job at a drug recovery program taking incarcerated youth out of Juvenile Hall. I started as an educational counselor and was later asked to transfer to the living skills and drug recovery side at group home sites. My thesis for the Institute of Buddhist Studies was looking at the 12-Step Program and comparing it to other Buddhist Drug recovery models. My conclusion was that there are aspects of Jodo Shinshu teachings that can be used for a potential Shin Recovery model.

I then worked in San Francisco Japan Town for a youth organization. I ran prevention services for middle school and high school youth and received training in mental health and case management. I also worked with high schoolers in a leadership development program, and in the summer, I helped to run a camp for middle school youth.

My last job was teaching adults with developmental disabilities living and work skills, provide job coaching, and being a case manager writing reports for state social workers. Through these jobs I would at times use Buddhist ideologies, not in an effort to convert people, but to help to show a different perspective when they needed more guidance. This ultimately led me to want to learn more about Jodo Shinshu. I took the Jodo Shinshu correspondence course, then applied to IBS, where I did the dual track of Shin studies and chaplaincy.

I am looking forward to working with all of you and hope that I am able to provide some assistance where help may be needed.

In Gassho,
Rev. Landon Yamaoka

Notice

Resident Minister
Rev. Miyaji

In the October, 2023 Golden Chain, there was an article regarding the use of *ihai*, which are wooden tablets with the Dharma Name engraved. I was asked to clarify this matter with our sangha. My intention was that families might be inclined to have the tablet be more visible when placed in the niche or family altar. However, upon further inquiry, in Japan it is commonly understood in many Buddhist schools other than Jodo Shinshu that the soul of the deceased is contained within the *ihai*. I had no intention of portraying this point, as this runs contrary to the Jodo Shinshu understanding that all beings are born in the Pure Land upon one's passing. Any possible misunderstanding caused by this article is unfortunate. The Jodo Shinshu tradition does not condone the use of *ihai* in its religious practices. For further clarification, please reach out to Rev. Miyaji. Gassho.



“Introduction to Basic Buddhism for the West and Beyond: Fireside Chat Sessions with Laypersons and Teachers” (Starts September 7, 2024)

- Description: This course is designed to provide the basics of Buddhism for those seeking a religious/spiritual foundation through the Dharma. We will be looking at its teachings, history, and application in daily life as this world religion deepens its roots in North America and beyond. These basics are essential for better understanding of Shin Buddhism as well as of Buddhism in general.
- Each session will feature 2 guest speakers: a lay person and a teacher. Dr. Ken Tanaka and guest speakers will discuss and share their views on the topics found in the book, *Jewels: An Introduction to American Buddhism for Youth, Scouts and the Young at Heart* (BDK America, 2020) by Kenneth Tanaka.
- Dates: 10 sessions on the *first* Saturday of the month:
 - In Japan 日本, on the following Sunday morning.
 - September 7, October 5, November 2, December 7,
 - January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3, and June 7.

[Application to Register for the Course](#) —
Please apply here: <https://forms.gle/YFApcTqs2wS88sPw5>

AUGUST SHOTSUKI HOYO

Family, relatives and friends are invited to attend the monthly memorial service on
Sunday, August 4, 2024 at 10:00 AM

DECEASED

FAMILY

1920	Yoshio Shibata	Tanaka & Shibata Family
1966	Sanosuke Yamauchi	Handa Family
1969	Tokiyo Yamauchi	Handa Family
1972	Takeo Fudenna	Mrs. Sachi Fudenna
1975	Kumachiyo Kamiji	Mrs. Sachi Fudenna & Mrs. Michi Handa
1976	Gengo Tanaka	Tanaka & Shibata Family
1976	Saranelis Jayaweera	Dr. Palitha Jayaweera
1985	Ben Matsumoto	Mr. Mitchell Matsumoto
1985	Takao Misaki	Ms. Karen Fujii & David Misaki
1987	Masato Kato	Kato Family
1987	Tamako Suyeyasu	Suyeyasu Family
1989	Shitoyo Kotake	Mrs. Jean Kotake
1991	Katsuyoshi Kinoshita	Mr. Nobuo Kinoshita & Mrs. Teiko Funk
1992	Shie Hiramine	Mrs. Yoko Hiramine
1995	Shizue Hashimoto	Dr. Walter Hashimoto & Dr. & Mrs. Richard Hashimoto
1996	Robert Sueo Okamura	Mrs. Lilyan Okamura
1999	Kiyoko Tsurui	Mrs. Alice Nagata
2000	Kay Katsuko Fujitani	Fujitani Family
2001	Mary Mariko Tomotoshi	Tomotoshi Family
2001	Fumiko Sato	Mrs. Terry Sato
2002	Masaru Yoshioka	Mrs. Toyoko Yoshioka
2008	Joy Lee Geisick	Geisick Family
2010	Helen Yamasaki	Ms. Lauren Yamasaki & Mr. & Mrs. Kyle Yamasaki
2010	Hideo Katsumoto	Katsumoto Family
2010	Sadako Kawamoto	Ms. Ann Kawamoto
2017	Francis Kawahara	Kawahara Family
2017	Nobuo Noma	Mrs. Joyce Noma Quan
2019	Melissa Abe	David & Alice Abe
2020	Isao "Ace" Handa	Michi Handa, Joann Rogers, Jeff Handa
2021	Yaeko Yasuhiro	Mr. Philip Yasuhiro
2022	Aiko Joo	Mr. & Mrs. Joo
2023	Joan Wong	Wong Family
	Ryo Tomotoshi (death yr. unknown)	Tomotoshi Family
	Shizuma Hamamoto (death yr. unknown)	Hamamoto Family
	Hama Kajiwara (death yr. unknown)	Kajiwara Family
	Wataru Tashiro (death yr. unknown)	Tashiro Family

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2024 Hatsubon Families

<i>LOVED ONE</i>	<i>DATE</i>
<i>Takeko Maruyama</i>	<i>7/20/2023</i>
<i>Hiroshi Teramura</i>	<i>7/31/2023</i>
<i>Joan Wong</i>	<i>8/29/2023</i>
<i>Satoshi Sekigahama</i>	<i>9/8/2023</i>
<i>Yosio Hisaoka</i>	<i>10/7/2023</i>
<i>Karen Morliengo</i>	<i>10/21/2023</i>
<i>Maureen Nakano</i>	<i>11/12/2023</i>
<i>Jane Rice</i>	<i>12/31/2023</i>



Services and Observances for August 2024 — **UPDATED**

Please join us in-person in the hondo or virtually via Zoom (hybrid service).
Masks are not required but strongly recommended in the hondo.

Sunday, August 4, 2024 - Shotsuki Hoyo **10 A.M.**

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

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji will officiate this hybrid service

Monday, August 5, 2024 **Hiroshima Bomb Memorial Observance** **4:15 P.M. (PDT)**

On August 6th, 1945, at 8:15 AM (JST), the atomic bomb on Hiroshima city was dropped killing initially 140,000 people and affecting countless more lives. Sensei will conduct a brief service and ring the *kansho* in our reflection of hope for world peace.

Thursday, August 8, 2024 **Nagasaki Bomb Memorial Observance** **7:02 P.M. (PDT)**

On August 9th, 1945 at 11:02 AM (JST), the atomic bomb on Nagasaki city was dropped killing initially 70,000 people and affecting countless more lives. Sensei will conduct a brief service and ring the *kansho* in our reflection of hope for world peace.

Saturday, August 10, 2024 – Obon Dance **Food at 5 P.M. Dancing at 7 P.M.** Dance practices (optional) in Sangha Hall at 7:30 pm on July 30, August 1, 5, 7, & 8 at 7 PM.

Sunday, August 11, 2024 – Hatsubon & Urabon-e Service **10 A.M.**

We will honor those loved ones who passed away since the Obon service in 2023.

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

Sunday, August 18, 2024 – Service & General Membership Meeting **Service at 10 AM; General Meeting at 10:15 AM**

Both the service and meeting will be hybrid.

ZOOM meeting link: (Sunday services' link)

<https://bit.ly/3gEVeDx>

and login using:

Meeting ID: 818 7869 6300

Passcode: 549504

OR You can also call in using your phone by dialing (669) 900-6833

August 25, 2024 – No Service

September Shotsuki will be on September 15, 2024

OBON Cemetery Visitations were held on July 13.

Donate your unwanted car, truck or van!

Receive a tax deduction and help SACBC -- Running or not, even wrecks are accepted! Harold's handles 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!



Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church Annual Obon Festival

EVERYONE IS INVITED • FREE ADMISSION

Saturday August 10, 2024

Food Sales: 5pm • Obon Dance: 7pm (PDT)

You're invited to the **Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church's Buddhist Festival of Obon**. We will have Obon Dancing, Japanese Music with the San Jose Chidori Band, and Japanese Foods.

Fun for everyone!

Colorful yukata-clad participants gather for the Obon dance – a memorial day for our departed loved ones, and a day to give thanks to them. With joy and gratitude, we honor and remember our deceased loved ones, whose very existence has made our own lives possible.

Obon Dance Practices (Optional)

7:00 pm on 7/30, 8/1, 8/5, 8/7 and 8/8 in the Sangha Hall at SACBC. (Tues., Thurs., Mon., Wed., Thurs.) Dance Practices are **OPTIONAL** – you need not practice. You can just come & join our Obon Dance. **EVERYONE is invited to DANCE!**

Obon Service: Sunday, August 11, 2024 at 10:00am.

SACBC will conduct its Annual Buddhist Obon Spiritual Service for all our departed loved ones. Those who lost their loved ones this past year are especially welcome. We will conduct a special service for them called **Hatsubon** (*First Obon Service*).

**Southern Alameda Co.
Buddhist Church**

32975 Alvarado-Niles Road,
Union City, CA

510-471-2581



www.SACBC.org



SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BUDDHIST CHURCH PRESENTS...

CARVING THE DIVINE

Buddhist
Sculptors
of Japan

仏師

An Award-Winning
Film by Yujiro Seki

Film screening
followed by
Zoom Q&A with
Director, Yujiro Seki

SATURDAY • SEPT. 28, 2024 • 3PM

At SACBC, 32975 Alvarado-Niles Rd., Union City, CA

Tickets at Eventbrite: [tinyurl.com/pcxd38kw](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pcxd38kw)

\$20 admission (\$30 at the door)

Chicken or Vegetarian Bentos for after film & Q&A can be pre-ordered by Sept. 20 for \$18 ea. by email: sacbcoffice@gmail.com or by phone: 510-471-2581.

**Visit Eventbrite for more information: [tinyurl.com/pcxd38kw](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pcxd38kw)
or email: sacbcoffice@gmail.com or call: 510-471-2581**

AUG 2024

*August is National Wellness Month.
Exercise, meditate, eat healthy, sleep well.*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		JULY 30 7pm Obon dance practice		1 6am O-Jinjo 10-12pm AA 7pm Obon dance practice	2 6am O-Jinjo 10-12pm AA 5-7 AA	3
4 10am Shotsuki Hoyo	5 6am O-Jinjo 8:30am Qi-gong 3-5pm Taiko 4:15 Hiroshima Bomb Mem'l 7-8pm Obon dance practice	6 6:30-8:30 Scout	7 3-5pm Taiko 7-8pm Obon dance practice	8 6am O-Jinjo 7:02 pm Nagasaki Bomb Memorial 7-8pm Obon dance practice	9 6am O-Jinjo	10 Obon Fest 5pm Food sale 7pm Obon dance
11 10am Hatsubon & Urabon-e	12 6am O-Jinjo 8:30am Qi-gong 3-5pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner)	13 6:30-8:30 Scout	14 3-5pm Taiko	15 6am O-Jinjo	16 6am O-Jinjo	17
18 10am Sunday Service 10:15 am General Membership Meeting	19 6am O-Jinjo 8:30am Qi-gong 3-5pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner)	20 6:30-8:30 Scout	21 3-5pm Taiko	22 6am O-Jinjo	23 6am O-Jinjo	24
25 No Sunday Service	26 6am O-Jinjo 8:30am Qi-gong 3-5pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner)	27 6:30-8:30 Scout	28 3-5pm Taiko	29 6am O-Jinjo	30 6am O-Jinjo	31

Southern Alameda Co. Buddhist Church
 32975 Alvarado-Niles Rd.
 Union City, CA 94587-3165



AUGUST EVENTS

Aug. 4 th – SUN	SHOTSUKI HOYO
Aug. 5 th – MON	HIROSHIMA BOMB MEMORIAL OBSERVANCE
Aug. 8 th –THURS	NAGASAKI BOMB MEMORIAL OBSERVANCE
Aug. 10 th – SAT	OBON DANCE 7PM • FOOD SALES 5PM
Aug. 11 th – SUN	HAATSUBON & URABON-e SERVICE
Aug. 18 th – SUN	SUNDAY SERVICE & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Aug. 25 th – SUN	NO SUNDAY SERVICE
<p>SUNDAY SERVICES START AT 10:00 AM (IN-PERSON & ON ZOOM) Zoom Meeting ID: 818 7869 6300 PASSCODE: 549504</p>	