



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.

On the Dharma Name

In our tradition, when someone passes away, that person is given a Dharma Name, or *homyō* in Japanese. In other Buddhist traditions this might be known as *kaimyō*. A Dharma name might commonly be given when someone passes away. However, I would like the reader to know that is not the only way to get a *homyō*. In fact, when one becomes a part of this religious order, that person will receive a *homyō* in a ceremony known as a *kieshiki*, or *kikyōshiki*, a Confirmation Ceremony. This is a sacred time in which one affirms that he/she will follow the Buddhist path, always listening to the Buddha Dharma, and placing Amida Buddha's Great Wisdom and Compassion as the center of one's spiritual foundation.



A Dharma Name will typically have the following reading: Shaku (Person's Name). The person's name will consist of two Chinese characters, or *kanji* in Japanese. In Japanese, that will look like the following: 釋○○. For example, my Dharma Name is Shaku Gishin. This is written as 釋巍信. The word 'Shaku' refers to the Shakya clan, the family which the historical Buddha Shakyamuni belonged. This means we have joined the sacred family of the disciples of the Buddha. We can liken this to the family name. Then, the given name would be one's individual name, or 'Gishin' in this case. 'Gishin' means "wondrous faith" or "majestic shinjin," which is referring to the mind of Amida Buddha that is given to the individual. Although I do not tout that I have this faith, it is nevertheless, something that I should aspire to become, or strive to find the meaning of in my life. This is why I believe it is important for a follower to be given a Dharma Name while in this life, although this is certainly not a requirement. The Dharma Name serves as an aspiration; it is a goal in which we strive for in our spiritual journey while in this life.

In many cases, a person's given Japanese name is used in their Dharma Name. For example, the name 'Kaori' written as 香織 in modern Japanese has the meaning "fragrance (of the Dharma)." This can be used in the Dharma Name for 'Myōkō' 妙香 where one of the characters of the Japanese name is used in the Dharma Name.

More can be said about the Dharma Name and as mentioned before, I will be introducing some of the Dharma Names of the members who went to Japan on the recent Joint Celebration service. A final note, if you would like to make an *ihai* or a small memorial tablet for a passed loved one who has gone to the Pure Land, we can place an order for one. An *ihai* has an inscription of a loved one's Dharma Name, and you can place this either in one's home *obutsudan* or in the individual's niche. For more information on this, please contact me. I will place some information regarding how to place an order for one in the Golden Chain.

法名

我々浄土真宗本願寺派では「法名」を頂きます。多宗派では「戒名」という言葉を使いますが、私たちは「法名」と言います。法名とは、よくお亡くなりになられた方たちに与える名前だと思われるがちですが、実はそうではないのです。ご門徒の方が生きておられるときに頂くこともできます。当流では、「帰敬式」または「帰依式」といった儀式がございしますが、これは仏教に新しく入られた方が三宝に帰依して、これから仏法の道を歩んでいきますということを宣言するものでございます。この時に、頂くのが「法名」です。この名前を頂いて阿弥陀如来のはたらきを依り所として生きていくことを覚悟させていただくのです。

法名を具体的に説明しますと、釋〇〇とあります。例えば、筆者の法名は釋巍信です。「釋」は、元々釈迦牟尼の釈迦族というところから来ています。つまり、お釈迦様の弟子の一員になるということです。これは現代の名字と考えてもいいかも知れません。そして、私の場合は「巍信」と名付けられていますが、「巍」は素晴らしい、おごそかの意味です。「信」は信心の意味です。合わせて素晴らしい信心、この上のない信心のことです。これは、私が持っている信心を指しているのではなく、阿弥陀如来様のお心そのものを指しております。そして、私はその信心を深く求めていく、またはその願望を持って生きていくことを指しているのです。ですから、今生きているときに法名を頂くことは非常に大切なものであるかと思えます。法名があることによって、私が仏法を求め中、何を大切にしていっていいのかという目的があらわれるのです。

なお、現代実際に使われている名前（俗名）が法名に含まれることもあります。例えば、「香織」という名前から釋妙香という法名を頂くことができます。今年の5月にメンバーの方の何人かが本山で帰敬式を受けまして、その時に法名を授与されました。その時にもらった法名の意味をこれから皆さんに説明していこうと思っています。

最後に、お位牌（法名を書いた板のこと）を作ることもできます。詳しくは次のページに添付しますのでご覧ください。お申し込み希望の方は、ぜひご覧になってください。合掌。

1. My Personal Podcast Covering Jodo Shinshu Buddhism

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/no-doubt-a-shin-buddhist-approach/id1511351502>

2. Our Weekly Sunday Services Can Be Found Here:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/shin-buddhist-sangha-services/id1517181914>

KAIUNDO CO.



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OCTOBER SHOTSUKI HOYO

Family, relatives and friends are invited to attend the monthly memorial service for the following
on **Sunday October 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**

DECEASED

1928 Torao Hisaoka
1934 Yukie Takayama
1939 Kou Tanaka
1963 Magoichi Sekigahama
1964 Naka Yasuhiro
1969 Yaeka Haraguchi
1970 Mitsu Mukai
1973 Tama Sakuda
1976 Yoshiye Yamamoto
1978 George Yonekura
1984 Annabel Cavan
1984 Bryan Randall Hall
1989 Masutaro Kitani
1998 Arnold Hsieh
2004 Teruko Tamasu
2005 Sae Hamada
2006 Emiko Miyakawa
2006 Glenn Rice
2007 Marie Cuccia
2009 Noboru Kawaguchi
2009 Nobuko Marge Okada
2010 Jimmy Isao Tanaka
2017 Kazuyuki Uemura
2019 Masakatsu Nakamura
2022 Frances Nakamura

FAMILY

Hisaoka Family
Takayama Family
Tanaka Family
Sekigahama Family
Mr. Philip Yasuhiro
Mrs. Miki Tsutsui
Mr. Ed Mayeda
Sakuda Family
Ms. Nancy Teruko Dodd
Mrs. Toyoko Yoshioka
Mr. & Mrs. Abel Cavan
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Hall
Kitani Family
Mrs. Sylvia Ma
Mr. & Mrs. Koji Tamasu
Hamada Family
Mr. Yasuho Miyakawa
Mrs. Jane Rice
Mrs. Ann Cuccia
Mrs. Harumi Watanabe
Mr. & Mrs. Hideo Okada
Ms. Cynthia Kawamura
Mr. & Mrs. Tet Uemura
Mr. Philip Yasuhiro
George Nakamura & Cindy Sakihara

Mrs. Takae Wong
Mrs. Sachi Fudenna & Mrs. Michi Handa

Yama Mori (death year unknown)
Sumiko Kamiji (death year unknown)

Memorial Service 2023

Memorial year for those who passed away in:

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 2022 – 1st year | 2011 – 13th year | 1991 – 33rd year |
| 2021 – 3rd year | 2007 – 17th year | 1974 – 50th year |
| 2017 – 7th year | 1999 – 25th year | 1924 – 100th year |

If this is a special service year for a departed relative, please contact the church office at (510) 471-2581 to schedule a memorial service.



Services for October 2023

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

October 1, 2023 – Shotsuki Hoyo 10 A.M.

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

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji will officiate this hybrid service.
Dharma message in Japanese will follow the English service.

October 8, 2023 – Family Service 10 A. M.

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji will officiate this hybrid service.
October birthdays will be celebrated.
Dharma School will follow service.

October 15, 2023 – Family Service 10 A.M.

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

October 21, 2023 – Fall Seminar (Saturday) 3 – 5 PM @ SACBC

Rev. Etsuko Mikame of San Jose Betsuin will
give a lecture on the history of our mother temple, the Nishi Hongwanji.

October 22, 2023 – Family Service (hybrid) 10 A.M.

Rev. Etsuko Mikame will be our guest Speaker for this Sunday Service.
Dharma School will follow service.

October 29, 2023 – Family Service 10 A.M.

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

AA is chairing this service.

AA is hosting lunch for all who attend the service.

Please RSVP to Emily by October 15.

Dharma School will follow service.

October 28 (Saturday) – 7 P.M. – Obake/Momiji Dance (fundraiser)



What's Up Dharma School?

Oct. 2023

We had our first day of Dharma class on Sept.10. This year's theme will be Colors of Amida Buddha. Rev.Miyaji put it simply — "Amida Buddha is our Spiritual Foundation." Referring to the Disney movie, "Inside Out," we will be 'navigating' our emotions with the guidance of Amida Buddha's teachings.

We focused on "Joy," discussing some of the joy of coming to temple and reflecting on our family, friends, and teachers. Students then made a gratitude card to the person of their choice and will be handing it to them.

Dharma class dates for 2023 (subject to change):

- Sept.24, 2023 – Dharma class (before appreciation luncheon)
- Oct.8, 2023 – Dharma class/Birthday Celebration
- Oct.22, 2023 – Dharma class
- Oct.29, 2023 – Dharma Activity
- Nov. 4, 2023 (Sat) – Keirokai Prep
- Nov. 5, 2023 – Keirokai (it will be after service)/Birthday Celebration
- Nov.19, 2023 – Dharma Class
- Dec.3, 2023 – Dharma class (Bodhi Day and Mochitsuki)/Birthday Celebration
- Dec.17, 2023 – Dharma Class

Not too late to register! If you know any other family that might be interested, please email Betty Yamasaki (at b_yamasaki@yahoo.com) or Cathleen Yoshida-Matsubayashi (cathleenandken@yahoo.com) and we will email them a registration link.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Again, stay safe and healthy!

In Gassho,

Cathleen and Betty



SACBC Dharma School Proudly Presents Colors of Amida Buddha



**November 5, 2023 (Sunday)
In Sangha Hall
11:30-1:30pm**

**Celebrating those who are 70 years young and older!
Please join us for some good company & games!
RSVP TO SACBC by **October 17, 2023 (TUESDAY)**.**

PLEASE RSVP TO EMILY

at 510-471-2581

or

email at sacbcoffice@gmail.com

Be sure to include in the phone message or email:

- Name
- Phone number (where we can reach you)
- Email
- Number of bentos for seniors (may place one additional bento order for people accompanying them not 70 years young or older)
- Staying or pick up

NOTE: If you cannot stay but would like to pick up bento, please indicate that. Pick up will be after service until 12:00pm. Please note this will be an in-person event only.

***Please RSVP by October 17 (Tuesday)
This is an in-person event only.***



You're Invited to Our **HUGE** **Fall Rummage Sale!**

Saturday, Oct. 7th (10am* – 3pm)

Sunday, Oct. 8th (11am* – 3pm)

**No early birds.*

All are welcome! Join us Saturday & Sunday for our first rummage sale in 4 years! Hosted by the SACBC Buddhist Women's Association. There will be a large selection of Adult & Children's Clothing, Home Wares, Kitchenware, Books, Games, Toys, Tools and much, much more! Many members have donated items to be sold.

FABULOUS BARGAINS –

everything priced to sell!

Be sure to invite your family & friends!

Cash or credit card. Ample parking.

Everything “as is” – *No refunds or exchanges*

Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church sacbcoffice@gmail.com
32975 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City, CA 94587 510-471-2581

THANK YOU, BOB STANLEY!

A big THANK YOU to our member, BOB STANLEY. He is always here, immediately, when he receives a call that something isn't working to keep things cool, cold, frozen, or warm/hot as appropriate. Recently he added freon to fix the hondo air conditioner. Before the bazaar, he made sure the refrigeration and freezer units were working, as well as the ice maker. His time and any materials or parts needed are given graciously.

Bob, thank you for your Dana!

BWA ANNOUNCEMENTS

BWA – report by Karen Suyama

Below are some activities we will be having before our year end and memorial service in December, so save the two dates below.

Rummage Sale – October 7 & 8

We will be doing some set up on Friday, October 6th from 1:00pm. Please help to pull out the tables and clothes racks, etc., as well as some of the donations we have receive to set up the Sangha Hall. There will also be set up on Saturday morning from 7:00am – will still need help. Hours for the sale are:

Saturday – 10:00am to 3:00pm and Sunday – 11:0am to 3:00pm, then clean up follows.

Thanks in advance for helping BWA.

Saturday Tea Social – November 18

Please join us for our first Saturday Tea Social that will be held on Saturday November 18, from 3:00pm. Any of our SACBC members can join us for a little social to share some tea and stories. Let us know when you RSVP if you need a ride, we can arrange for one of our members to pick you up.

Also, if you are not already a member, please consider joining the BWA as a member (male, female, any age) for a nominal fee of \$15.00 per year. Hope to see you there.

Please join us at our next meeting on October 15th at 9:00am. Everyone is invited.

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Save the Date: Saturday, November 18, 2023

**SACBC BWA will be hosting a Saturday Tea
All BWA members and our SACBC Sangha friends are
invited!**

Where: SACBC Hondo classrooms

Time: 3:00-5:00PM

**Kindly RSVP to Emily at the SACBC Office by November 8,
2023 if you would like to attend. Also, if ride assistance is
preferred, please let us know.**

Take care and we hope to see you there!



A quick public service announcement from Curtis Mark, M.D.:

I bet many of you are confused about vaccines this year. Here is the scoop.

Covid - new vaccine just approved. Targets the most recent strains. Anyone can get it. Availability likely to be in the next 2-3 weeks.

Influenza - nothing new here. Every fall this is available for all ages.

RSV - new vaccine for a cold germ that has been around for decades. Most deadly in infants. Older adults (over 60) should consider getting it. Becoming widely available.

Interesting tidbit - RSV and influenza are clearly seasonal, and vax should be given in the fall because of the predictable pattern. With Covid, so far there has not been any seasonality. So if it becomes a yearly recommendation, when should you get it? We are not sure!

Most of us old people should get all three. You may not decide to get all three at once, but it is safe to do so. Please check with your doctor.

A side note - Shingles vaccine is a 2-part vaccine available for adults 50 and older.

So, roll up your sleeves and take the jabs!

A WORD FROM THE BOOK SECTION

Thank you to Larry Gissible, Karen Fujii, and Emily Carpio for all their “behind the scenes” assistance to prepare me to chair the 2023 SACBC Bazaar Bookstore.

The weekdays of July 10-14 were five busy days to set up the tables, move & arrange books and other bookstore inventory to our large 9-table bookstore area; also, there was time to re-evaluate and purge outdated and unnecessary oversupply of materials in Japanese and for children. Thanks to Kara Tokubo, Lily Kawabata, Emily Carpio, Rev. Miyaji, Kaori Miyaji, Michelle (from the boutique), and John Arai.

Thank you for the many donations of books, etc. from JAMsj (Japanese American Museum of San Jose), Karen Fujii and her granddaughter Dali, Larry Gissible, Daryl Hatano, Bob Kitajima, SACBC, Sharon Hsia Tokubo, Judy Tokubo, and the anonymous/unknown donors from August 2019 to May 2023.

July 15-16 had a few hard-working, enthusiastic volunteers to service the bookstore: Emily Carpio, Sharon Hsia Tokubo, Joshua & Mitty (two graduate students from Taiwan doing post-graduate studies at Stanford; friends of Sharon), Judy Tokubo, and John Arai (help with the credit card reader). Thank you to Todd Tokubo et. al. for their cleanup help, including folding/storing tables, packing up/storing books, moving unsold inventory back into storage, saving the uchiwa fans and SACBC t-shirts for Obon Festival sales.

FYI—The 2024 bazaar bookstore is accepting donations: books about Buddhism, reading materials in Japanese, books about Japanese history/ culture/literature, books by Japanese or AJA authors, JA history/culture, children and YA literature, and cookbooks. Bring your donations to the SACBC office during its weekday hours or to the Sangha Library in the Hondo on Sunday service day. We thank you for your continued support and hope to exceed the \$1200 profit of the 2023 bookstore.

Submitted by Judy K. Tokubo



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

STATE HEADQUARTERS

1727 PALI HIGHWAY ■ HONOLULU, HI 96813 ■ PH: (808) 522-9200 ■ FAX: (808) 522-9209

www.hongwanjihawaii.com

August 10, 2023

Dear Dharma Friends,

We have been watching in disbelief the tremendous destruction caused by the recent wildfires on Maui. The loss of life, livelihood, and property has been devastating. Lahaina Hongwanji and its Sangha were directly affected by the fires. The temple, columbarium, classroom building, and minister's residence were completely destroyed in the horrific fires that devastated historic Lahaina town. Many temple members were forced to evacuate, and many homes were burnt to the ground. Our hearts go out to all who have been impacted by this disaster. As residents and our fellow Sangha members begin the process of rebuilding and healing, Hawaii Kyodan is committed to supporting relief efforts on Maui. In the spirit of compassionate action, we have established the **MAUI WILDFIRE DISASTER RELIEF FUND**. You can donate in the following ways:

1. Online at www.hongwanjihawaii.com by clicking on the "Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief" button under the "Donate" tab.
2. Through GoFundMe at the following link: <https://gofund.me/ff77a520>
3. Check and cash donations can be sent directly to Hawaii Kyodan Headquarters. Please make check payable to HHMH and in the memo line designate "Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief" to ensure proper credit.

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, HI 96813

All donations collected will go to support Lahaina Hongwanji and relief efforts on Maui. The Office of the Bishop and Committee on Social Concerns will prioritize addressing the immediate and short-term needs of temple families displaced by the fires and supporting the greater community as it rebuilds. The Committee will select reputable relief agencies and organizations to support in order to ensure our donations will directly aid those impacted by this disaster. Updates will be shared on our website at www.hongwanjihawaii.com.

Mahalo for your generosity and support during this time of tragedy.

In Gassho,

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani
Bishop

Dr. Warren Tamamoto
President

Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair
Committee on Social Concerns

Events are subject to change.

OCTOBER 2023

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|--|---|--|-----------|--|
| 1 10am Shotsuki Hoyo | 2 8:30am Qi-gong 5-9 pm AA 7pm Kendo | 3 6:30 pm Scouts | 4 5-9pm AA | 5 11am-1pm JLS 4-6 pm Taiko 5-9 pm AA 7pm Kendo | 6 | 7 RUMMAGE SALE 10am-3pm 8:30am-2pm JLS classes |
| 8 10 AM Family Service RUMMAGE SALE 11am-3pm | 9 8:30am Qi-gong 5-9pm AA 7pm Kendo | 10 6:30 pm Scouts | 11 5-9pm AA | 12 11am-1pm JLS 4-6 pm Taiko 5-9pm AA 7pm Kendo | 13 | 14 8:30am-2pm JLS classes |
| 15 10 AM Family Service Golden Chain article deadline | 16 8:30am Qi-gong 5-9pm AA 7pm Kendo | 17 6:30 pm Scouts | 18 5-9pm AA | 19 11am-1pm JLS 4-6 pm Taiko 5-9pm AA 7pm Kendo | 20 | 21 8:30am-2pm JLS classes |
| 22 10am Family Service | 23 8:30am Qi-gong 5-9pm AA 7pm Kendo | 24 6:30 pm Scouts | 25 5-9pm AA | 26 9am-2:30pm Boutique 11am-1pm JLS 4-6 pm Taiko 5-9pm AA 7pm Kendo | 27 | 28 8:30am-2pm JLS classes 7-11pm Obake/Momiji Jams Dance event |
| 29 10am Family Service AA hosting lunch for attendees of this service Pls RSVP | 30 8:30am Qi-gong 5-9pm AA 7pm Kendo | 31 Happy Halloween 6:30 pm Scouts |  | | | |



OCTOBER EVENTS

| | |
|--|--|
| 1st--SUN | SHOTSUKI HOYO |
| 7th—SAT | <i>BWA RUMMAGE SALE (10am-3pm)</i> |
| 8th—SUN | FAMILY SERVICE <i>BWA RUMMAGE SALE (11am-3pm)</i> |
| 15th—SUN | FAMILY SERVICE |
| 22th—SUN | FAMILY SERVICE |
| 28th—SAT | <i>OBAKE/MOMIJI JAMS DANCE EVENT AT THE GYM 7PM-11PM</i> |
| 29 th —SUN | FAMILY SERVICE (AA HOSTING LUNCH FOR ATTENDEES) |
| 31 st —TUES | HAPPY HALLOWEEN |
| SUNDAY SERVICES START AT 10:00 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 818 7869 6300 PASSCODE: 549504 | |