

Golden Chain



www.SACBC.org

Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church
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August 2025

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.



I hope that everyone is doing well and is staying cool this summer! I know the summer season comes with a lot of preparation for *Obon* and Bazaar, and the needs for the Temple are increased due to this. I understand everyone pulls together to work for the greater good of the Temple. Yet, at the same time, it is important to recognize how we often get stressed out trying to set up our various responsibilities during this time. I know when I have helped on committees, my patience with others ran thin since I usually just did manual labor, and I would be overwhelmed with multiple tasks I received all at once. I tried to do things in the order in which they were asked, of course, but there are times when I would be told certain things take priority over others, and at times, explaining this was not appreciated.

Trying to be patient did not always work when I was physically or mentally exhausted, and there were times my friend who worked with me would step in and be the polite one as I was about to explode. It is hard to stay calm when we are being overworked; this is just human nature. But I see how the teachings of Jodo Shinshu can help us with stressful interactions. In the bigger spiritual picture, we all get enlightenment just for the fact that we are foolish beings. This is very holistic, as nothing hinders our relationship with Amida Buddha, and yet, as imperfect people, we will forget this, especially when we are stressed out and tired.

When reflecting on this, sometimes, not always, when I am getting angry at someone or something, the imperfection that ties me to Amida stops me from just reacting and makes me think

about the bigger picture. There will be times where this does not happen, too, and that is on me, not Amida, obviously. But to stop and look at "my side of the street," while rare, has at times, prevented me from putting my foot in my mouth.

Last week, after my doctor appointments, I went to get takeout with my wife. Parking was tight that day, and after circling several times, I found parking. What a relief! When walking back with the food, I saw the car behind me was right up on the line. I almost always check to make sure before leaving that I am in the middle of the two cars, so I don't get blocked in or hit, which I did. However, this time, what I did not check was whether I was also in the lines. I had managed to park in the middle of the cars, but as one car was very far up, being in the middle put me over my spot's white line. Jodo Shinshu urges us to look at ourselves first, and while I checked part of the parking, being tired made me miss the most important aspect, which is to park between the lines.

We will all likely fail more often than succeed at monitoring ourselves, but Shin does not require us to perfect this self-policing. However, when we do succeed, I believe we are getting closer to embodying the mindset that Amida wishes we would all embrace. To recognize our foolishness and then turn our perspective, which opens our hearts and minds to the teachings, is the Shin way toward realization. I hope we can remember this as we work together to prepare for this year's Bazaar and *Obon*.

**In gassho,
Landon**

AUGUST SHOTSUKI HOYO

Family, relatives and friends are invited to attend the monthly memorial service for the following on **Sunday August 3, 2025 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	Fudenna Family
1975	Kumachiyo Kamiji	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

2025 Hatsubon Families

LOVED ONE	DATE
<i>Yoshie Yamada</i>	01/12/2025
<i>Sachi Fudenna</i>	04/30/2025
<i>Jimmie Yamauchi</i>	05/12/2025

Memorial Service 2025

Memorial year for those who passed away in:

2024 – 1st year	2013 – 13th year	1993 – 33rd year
2023 – 3rd year	2009 – 17th year	1976 – 50th year
2019 – 7th year	2001 – 25th year	1926 – 100th year



Services and Observances for August 2025

Please join us in-person in the hondo or virtually via Zoom (hybrid service).
Masks are not required in the hondo; wearing one is optional

Sunday, August 3, 2025 - Shotsuki Hoyo

10 A.M. (Hybrid)

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

Rev. Landon will officiate this hybrid service

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Hiroshima Bomb Memorial Observance

4:15 P.M. (PDT)

In the Hondo

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.

Friday, August 8, 2025

Nagasaki Bomb Memorial Observance

7:02 P.M. (PDT)

In the Hondo

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 9, 2025 – Obon Dance

Food at 5 P.M. Dancing at 7 P.M.

Dance practices (optional) in Sangha Hall at 7 PM on
July 29 & 31 and August 4, 6, & 7

Sunday, August 10, 2025 – Hatsubon & Urabon-e Service

10 A.M. (Hybrid)

We will honor those loved ones who passed away since the Obon service in 2024.

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

August 17, 24, & 31, 2025 – No Service

-----*Planning Ahead*-----

Sunday, September 7, 2025 – Family Service

10 A.M. (Hybrid)

Dharma School Registration.

**September Shotsuki & Victims of War Memorial Services will be on
September 14, 2025**

10 A.M. (Hybrid)

Bazaar Appreciate Lunch follows service.

OBON Cemetery Visitations were held on July 26.

SUMMER PACIFIC SEMINAR

Center for Buddhist Education, Institute of Buddhist Studies, Jodo Shinshu International Office, BCA Film & Video Committee

BUDDHISM & MOVIES



Ming Lai is a filmmaker and photographer. His narrative and documentary films explore the human condition, from social issues to arts and culture. He's created TV commercials and videos for many international clients, including Coldwell Banker, Epson, Fujitsu, Marukome, and Yakult. His fine art and documentary photography express his artistic vision. With all of his projects, he strives to create enduring works of art that benefit humanity.



Paul Daisuke Goodman is the creative director at Eight East Productions and the writer and director of the award-winning film, *No No Girl*. He is also an editor at the popular online Buddhist school, *Everyday Buddhist* and has contributed to publications such as *Lion's Roar* and *Pacific Citizen*. Paul is a three time cancer survivor and began making feature films after his initial diagnosis in 2016.



Reverend Victor Ogundipe received Tokudo ordination in September of last year. He is a student at the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS) in the Master's of Divinity program. Victor and his family, his wife of 13 years, Mylinda, and his 8-year-old daughter, Sati, just moved to the Bay Area in fall of last year. Victor works as a data scientist at the University of Michigan. He enjoys learning new things, visiting new places (especially visiting Buddhist temples and sanghas that he has never visited before), and he is very interested in exploring ways of sharing the Dharma through film.

AUGUST 1-2

JODO SHINSHU CENTER, 2401 DURANT, BERKELEY, CA 94704

IN-PERSON (ZOOM AVAILABLE)

REGISTRATION: TINYURL.COM/SUMPAC

What's Up Dharma School?

August 2025

Please save the date!

Registration will be **Sept 14, 2025**

First day of Dharma School 2024-2025 on **Sept.21 2025(Sunday)**.

More information to come!

In Gassho,

Cathleen and Betty



Tree Preventive Maintenance:

Thank you, Amy Hatsushi & Ted Hatsushi, for noticing the branches of the Oak tree on the side of the hondo. These branches were touching the roof and providing easy passage for squirrels and rats. No rodents are welcome to chew into the building!



Tree branches growing over the hondo roof with some resting on the roof.

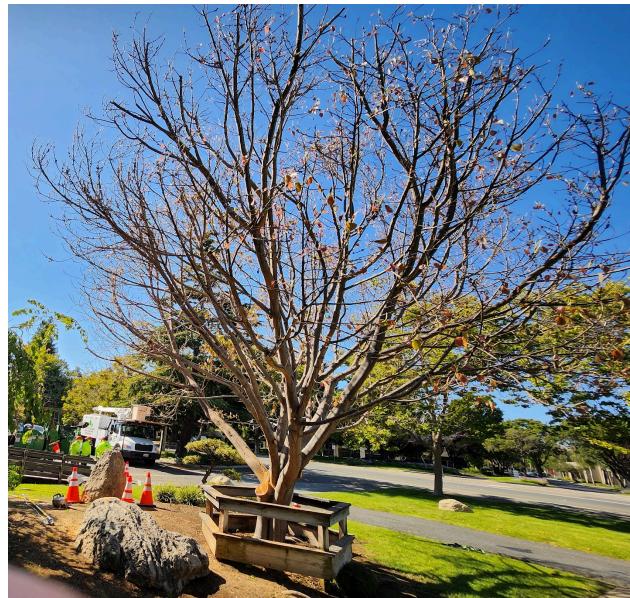


Ted removing low-growing branches from the tree that were hanging over the driveway and hitting large vehicles.



No more low-hanging branches above the hondo nor touching the roof. Thank you.

Bodhi Tree Gets Needed Pruning:



This time of year, the Bodhi tree drops its leaves. It is the perfect time to prune it. The pruning was overdue. There will be more pruning in the coming years to keep the tree healthy and keep it from outgrowing the area where it is in front of the church.

Thank you, Amy for arranging for the tree specialists to come prune this precious tree.
(In the photo on the right, the tree is not leaning; the photographer was.)

BWA – report by Karen Suyama

Please join us for our next meetings on August 10th at 9:00am, or September 14th at 9:00am.

Upcoming activities:

1. **Rummage Sale – October 4th and 5th.** Your rummage is someone's treasure. We look forward to your fine donations. Please NO broken, dirty, damaged items – if you wouldn't buy them, neither will our customers.

BAZAAR 2025

We just held our 60th SACBC Bazaar and it was a lot of work getting ready for our largest fundraiser. Thank you everyone for your help and support.

OBON – August 9, 2025

It's almost here.... please join us for obon dance practice on July 29, 31, August 4, 5 and 7th at 7:30pm. Obon night is Saturday August 9, at 7:00pm with the Chidori Band performing. It's always a fun time and I'm looking forward to a beautiful evening of music and dancing.

Don't forget to attend our Obon/Urabon Service on Sunday August 10, at 10:00am.



SACBC Obon Lantern Tags

At our Obon on August 9th, we will be adding memorial tags to our lanterns. If you would like to honor a past family member(s) or friend(s) please let the office know. We are suggesting a donation of \$35 first time tag (with future renewals being \$20). Tags will be laminated so they can be reused in future Obons. Please order by August 2nd.

OBON BENTOS

This year, we will have two options for the Obon Bentos.



The first option will be **Huli Huli Chicken** and the second option will be **Miso Glazed Salmon**. Both bentos will come with corn and broccoli and cost \$20 each. Soda will be \$2 and Water will be \$1.

Please email your orders to the office at sacbcoffice@gmail.com

The Bentos will be ready for pick up at 5 pm. We will have tables and chairs in the gymnasium set up.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

Thanks

John and the Obon Bento crew



SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY BUDDHIST CHURCH
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July 15, 2025

RE: SACBC Office Manager update - Emily Carpio

Hello Sangha families,

I would like to inform you that our SACBC Office Manager, Emily Carpio, last day as SACBC Office Manager will be Thursday, July 31, 2025.

Emily has worked as SACBC's Office Manager since September 2021. She brought her eagerness and enthusiasm to the office manager role! I appreciate Emily's help as our office manager through the shut down during the pandemic and through the reopening of the temple and helping with church activities, such as the Bazaar, Golden Chain newsletter, year-end activities, and fundraising events such as our dances.

Emily is looking forward to traveling and spending time with her son.

I wish Emily well on her next adventures and extend warmth and gratitude for your time with SACBC.

Please wish Emily the best!

Gassho,
Kyle Yamasaki

*To the Sangha
I would to express my deep gratitude to the entire SACBC Sangha. It has been truly an incredible to have worked with such a welcoming community. Thank you for the friendship and generosity each one has extended to me. I intend to keep this connection and stay in touch! Yours warmly, Emily*



opportunity

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

Events are subject to change.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		JULY 29 7pm Obon dance practice	JULY 30	JULY 31 7pm Obon dance practice	1	2
3 10am Shotsuki Hoyo	4 3-5pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner) 7pm Obon dance practice	5 4:15pm Hiroshima Mem'l Service 7pm Obon dance practice	6 3-5pm Taiko	7 7pm Obon dance practice	8 6am O-Jinjo 5-9pm Bingo 7:02pm Nagasaki Bomb Mem'l Service	9 5:30pm Food sales 7pm Obon dance begins
10 10am Hatsubon & Urabon-e Service	11 3-5pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner)	12 6:30 pm Scouts	13 3-5pm Taiko	14	15 6am O-Jinjo GC article deadline	16
17 No Service	18 3-5pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner)	19 6:30 pm Scouts	20 3-5pm Taiko	21	22 6am O-Jinjo 5-9pm Bingo	23
24 No Service	25 3-5pm Taiko 4-5pm Taiko (beginner)	26 6:30 pm Scouts	27 3-5pm Taiko	28	29	30
31 No Service Labor Day weekend	SEPT 1 Labor Day Office Closed					

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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AUGUST EVENTS

3rd —SUN	SHOTSUKI HOYO
9—SAT	<i>OBON FESTIVAL</i> 5:30PM—FOOD SALES; 7:00PM-- DANCE BEGINS
10th —SUN	Hatsubon & Urabon-e Service
17th—SUN	NO SERVICE
24TH-- SUN	NO SERVICE
31—SUN	NO SERVICE
SEPT 1—MON	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY (OFFICE CLOSED)
ALL SUNDAY SERVICES START AT 10:00 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 818 7869 6300 PASSCODE: 549504	