

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 thought, 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

Amida Buddha's Other Power

Buddhist stories help guide us to a deeper understanding of the world around us and provide insight into our own lives. Two difficult aspects of our religion to navigate, I think, are why we need to rely on Amida Buddha's Other Power and why we can't achieve enlightenment on our own.

As a Buddhist, I recognize that I am limited in my abilities; this does not mean I can't accomplish things, make progress in life, reach my goals, help others, or even help myself. I am capable of these things.

Nevertheless, as a Shin Buddhist, it is essential to acknowledge that I am limited, incapable of achieving any type of Ultimate Good in my spiritual practice. Now, if I had to figure out enlightenment purely on my own, relying on my ability to do good, I would fall short and, more often than not, wouldn't even try.

I wouldn't say I am a good Buddhist, because at the end of the day, the real world is tiring and stressful. I do want to give back, but I spend a lot of time trying to find time just for me. Amida Buddha created the Vow of Compassion with this in mind, as not everyone has the conditions to become enlightened on their own, and this is what makes Shin Buddhism so prolific. Enlightenment that is given... Easy to say, yet this is something I often forget.

Today, my yard, which has been in disrepair since March, was worked on yet again. The crew who came to work did not confirm they were coming today, and I had forgotten it was even a possibility. Since it was a hot day, I knew I had to get the crew some drinks, even while I had plenty of errands to run, like getting gas, dropping off my church clothes at the cleaners, and washing my car. Quickly, I got behind on my day's to-do list. But that's the real world; things come up at a moment's notice, just when you least expect them.

At the car wash, I was so distracted that I didn't recognize the guy who sometimes wipes the water off my windows. He saw me and gestured for me to wait so he could grab a clean towel. I was annoyed; I needed to get moving. Since I often tipped them a few bucks, he must have recognized me. Today, he really spent time wiping, and I just wanted to get going. Today, out of all days, when I really needed to go, someone was really cleaning it. Many guys at the car wash just do a quick and sloppy job. But, since I assume this is a work program, I always give a tip. They could be out there doing less than legitimate work. Today, I just wanted to go; I was tired and feeling over the day that had barely even started.

I felt bad; he was working so hard in the sun, so I gave him an extra dollar. When I opened the door, I realized it was the guy who often helps me. I was so distracted, I didn't recognize him, but he looked sad today; usually, he has a very tough look on his face. He said, "I appreciate you," which in slang means "thank you so much," but it was the tone of his words that I could feel. I was taken aback and simply said, "I appreciate you," but my words lacked meaning behind them. He looked like he was starting to get emotional, so I just drove off.

I gave him one extra dollar. While I do tip every time he must have been going through something to say "thanks" the way he did. His tone and deep gratitude shamed me, as I did not recognize him today and got annoyed. He was showing me thanks for tipping him, and maybe for the extra dollar, too. In that moment, his gratitude made me uncomfortable, but later, it made me feel ashamed. I didn't appreciate his hard work, and when he thanked me, I barely acknowledged it. If I couldn't accept his thanks, how then can I understand my own relationship with Amida's compassion given to me?

Today was a harsh reminder of my own imperfections, but I am also grateful to him for giving me the opportunity to reflect on why I need Amida's compassion, given freely, because I often forget to cultivate gratitude in my life.

In gassho,
Landon

November Services

Please join us in-person in the hondo or virtually via Zoom (hybrid services).

November 2, 2025 | 10 A.M. – Shotsuki Hoyo
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS (Set clocks back one hour)

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

Dharma School has class.

Keirokai (in-person) will follow service.
Sangha members 70 years and older will be honored. (By invitation and RSVP only.)

November 9, 2025 | 10 A.M. – Family Service

Dharma School has class.

****Personal Emergency Preparation @ 12 noon*** (in-person & on ZOOM)
Lite lunch will be served between service & training.

November 16, 2025 | 10 A.M. – Eitaikyo & Family Service

Eitaikyo was originally intended to ensure that memorial services would continue even if
there were no surviving relatives.
Eitaikyo reminds us that we should honor all who came before us while at the same time,
ensuring that the Buddha Dharma continues to flourish for future generations to be able to
hear. Your dana donations will help to secure that future and we thank you for your
continued support, which we especially recognize at this time.

Japanese service will follow the English Service.

November 23, 2025 | 10 A.M. – Family Service

November 30, 2025 – NO Service
Thanksgiving Weekend

****Mr. Paul George of the Alameda County Fire Community Emergency Response Team
(CERT) Program Manager will train on how YOU CAN GET PREPARED for an emergency.**

November Shotsuki Hoyo

Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 10:00 am

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

DECEASED

1958 JULIE ANN HANDA
 1960 SHIGEZO ARAI
 1963 YOSHIO KAMIJI
 1967 UMEKICHI NOMURA
 1967 RIYO KUSHIDA
 1973 MITSUKO ABE
 1974 KEIKO SAKAMOTO
 1976 IMAYO ENTA
 1977 KIKUZO KAWAGUCHI
 1984 YASU KAWAMOTO
 1988 TAMOTSU MIYAKAWA
 1989 KENJI KAWASE
 2001 JAMES TSUGIO SAKATA
 2003 TOSHIO HAMAMOTO
 2003 KAZUO SUYEYASU
 2003 MARLA EMI HASHIMOTO
 2004 MASUKUNI KITANI
 2004 THUDUGALAGE MADURAWATHIE
 2005 JIMMY KUWAMOTO
 2006 TOSHIO NAGATA
 2007 WALTER OKINO
 2007 JANET MINEISHI
 2007 SEIICHI KAMI
 2008 LEO IKEDA
 2011 KATSURO YASUHIRO
 2012 BEN ARAI
 2013 BETTY TANAKA
 2014 SUSAN IGUCHI
 2017 PATSY FUJIMOTO
 2018 YUKIE KAWASE
 2018 TOYOKO FUJITA
 2019 SHIZUKO YAMAUCHI
 2019 TOYOKO YOSHIOKA
 2022 YONEO "JOHNNY" UCHIDA
 2023 MAUREEN NAKANO
 2025 SHIZ AWAMURA
 UNKNOWN BABY HANDA
 UNKNOWN MATSUE HANDA
 UNKNOWN SUSAN KATO

FAMILY

MRS. MICHU HANDA
 MR. JOHN ARAI & MR. ALAN ARAI
 MRS. SACHI FUDENNA & MRS. MICHU HANDA
 NOMURA FAMILY
 MS. KAREN FUJII
 MR. DAVID ABE
 MR. PAUL GAN
 ENTA FAMILY
 KAWAGUCHI FAMILY
PENDING NAME
 MR. YASUHO MIYAKAWA
 MS. PATRICIA KAWASE TAJ
 SAKATA FAMILY
 MRS. HARUKO HAMAMOTO
 SUYEYASU FAMILY
 DR. & MRS. RICHARD HASHIMOTO
 MR. JEFF KITANI
 DR. INDIRA JAYAWEEERA
 MRS. HINAKO KUWAMOTO
 MR. & MRS. KEN NAGATA
 OKINO FAMILY
 MRS. JAMIE NAGATA
 KAMI FAMILY
 MRS. KAREN BALLACK
 MR. PHILIP YASUHIRO
 MR. JOHN ARAI & MR. ALAN ARAI
 MS. CYNTHIA KAWAMURA
 MRS. PHYLLIS TAKAHASHI
 MR. YUTAKA FUJIMOTO
 MS. PATRICIA KAWASE TAJ
 FUJITA FAMILY
 MS. NANCY TERUKO DODD & MS. STACY COLE
 MS. JUNE GACAD
 DONNA HORI/UCHIDA FAMILY
 NAKANO FAMILY
PENDING NAME
 BILL HANDA
 KATO FAMILY

MEMORIAL SERVICES 2025

Memorial year for those who passed away in:

2024 - 1 st year 2023 - 3 rd year 2019 - 7 rd 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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WHAT'S
UP?
Dharma School



Hi all-

Our theme for the 2025-2026 year will be "Our Temple" where we will continue to learn about the temple services and traditions, practicing the four key characteristics of Myokonin (joy, deep gratitude, humility, and indebtedness). We started to work on centerpieces for our upcoming Keirokai and in our last class, our students had a chance to practice ringing the kansho with Kathy Velasco and Rev.Landon.

Bay District Dharma School Teacher League rotates among our temples every two years.

Congratulations Cathleen for graciously taking on the role of presidency on behalf of SACBC DS!

We are still welcoming new students!

Looking forward to Keirokai!

In Gassho,
Betty and Cathleen

Upcoming:

- Nov.2 Keirokai/Students will be at service before Keirokai/Birthday Celebration for Nov.
- Nov.9 Dharma classes
- Dec.7 Dharma classes/Birthday celebration for Dec./Mochitsuki
- Dec.14 Dharma classes



Would you like an 8x10 copy of this photo? We have six available! email or call the office to reserve your copy.

Got two hours to spare for Bingo?

From 5-7PM, help is needed in the front selling daubers and Hot Ball.

FROM 7-9PM, HELP IS NEEDED VERIFYING BINGOS.

email the office at: office@sacbc.org to sign up

FREE! To any sangha member who may consider or in need of a nearly new, slightly used, four wheel walker.

Please contact the SACBC office by calling:
510-471-2581 or
email: office@sacbc.org



A special shout out to **Joyce Okimoto** who sewed all the dog bone pillows that Boutique sold at Bazaar.

Thanks, Joyce, for all your hard work!