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# 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 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.*

☎ (510) 471-2581

📍 32975 ALVARADO-NILES RD UNION CITY, CA 94587

✉ OFFICE@SACBC.ORG



Rev. Landon Yamaoka

I hope that everyone's 2026 is starting off well! The last handful of Dharma talks I gave centered on New Year's resolutions and how I had a new realization that could be tied to Buddhist practices. In Jodo Shinshu, we ordinary people do not have to engage in rigorous practices to accumulate karmic merit, thereby enabling us to become enlightened. Rather, we rely on Amida Buddha's infinite wisdom and compassion, and through the recitation of the Name, Namo Amida Butsu, we express our appreciation for the gift of enlightenment. This gift we receive is given to those who cannot perform Buddhist practices to build merit, such as memorizing sutras or performing good deeds. We don't even need to become mindful of our emotions and senses, as is often emphasized in self-power practices like meditation.

Shinran taught that saying the Name is not a good act that we perform. Rather, the Name itself embodies enlightenment, and so we say it to reflect on its inherent power to bring all beings to liberation from suffering, including ourselves. When we say the Name, Namo Amida Butsu, we should reflect on what feelings arise in us. For some, these words mean nothing, and they are said without feeling anything; yet, for us followers of Jodo Shinshu, when saying the Name we should feel a deep sense of appreciation for the gift of enlightenment, for which we have done nothing to earn.

By saying the Name, our appreciation can grow, and we can understand the need for all beings to have access to this gift. When we truly begin to feel this deep appreciation, we are better equipped to lead a life of gratitude, and the desire to give back comes naturally. Whenever we feel gratitude, regardless of the source, we begin to understand all that we have received. The life of gratitude embodies aspects of the Bodhisattva path, of liberating all beings, not just focusing on our own journey. Of course, to be realistic, we can't put the needs of everyone before our own all the time, yet the life of gratitude allows us to understand our true selves. Instead of going through life with an attitude of "I, me, and mine," we can find space for the safety and needs of others in our lives.

This may seem odd at first, but the life of gratitude, of thinking of others, is something deeply rooted in the heart of the Mahayana Buddhist tradition. As the Bodhisattva Dharmakara, Amida Buddha vowed to attain enlightenment and to hold space for all those who could not engage in any other type of Buddhist practice. We can begin 2026 by reflecting on what it means to recite the Buddha's Name and why we, as individuals, have already been recipients of the ultimate spiritual gift. I hope the holiday season was a good one, and let us all reflect on the Name, and what it means to us as Jodo Shinshu practitioners.

In Gassho,  
Landon

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## Feburary Services

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

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### **February 1, 2026 – Shotsuki Hoyo & Nirvana Day Service**

10 A.M.(Hybrid)

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

Nirvana Service is the observance of Shakyamuni Buddha's death.

Rev. Landon will officiate this service.

February birthdays will be celebrated.

Dharma School will follow service.

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### **February 8, 2026 – Family Service & \*Pet Memorial Service**

10 A.M. (Hybrid)

\*If you would like your pet remembered, please send a picture or the name to Vanessah by Feb. 2. If later than that, best efforts will be made to include your pet.

You are welcome to bring a framed photo of your pet to be placed on the onaijin.

Rev. Landon will officiate this service.

Dharma School will follow service.

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### **February 15, 2026 – BCA Eitaikyo Joint Service with the BCA**

10 A.M. (Hybrid)

Eitaikyo, meaning "perpetual chanting of sutra," is a special memorial service to express our sincere gratitude for those who have passed on and have contributed to the development of our temple. Because of them, we are able to listen to Buddha Dharma today at our temple.

**10 A.M - in person at SACBC to watch via YouTube.**

You can access the service at home using the following link:

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMBJE4c8t4E>**

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### **February 22, 2026 – Family Service**

10 A.M.(Hybrid)

Boy Scouts will chair this service to honor **National Boy Scouts Day!**

Rev. Dr. Miyaji will officiate this service.

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**Febuary Shotsuki Hoyo**  
**Sunday, Febuary 1, 2026 at 10:00 am**

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

**DECEASED**

- 1921 FUMIKO TOMOTOSHI
- 1941 GEORGE ENTA
- 1949 SHINSUKE NAKAMURA
- 1952 ICHI SHIKANO
- 1964 MASAKO INAO
- 1965 HEIZO HASHIMOTO
  
- 1966 SHINICHI MUKAI
- 1968 UKA INAO
- 1972 FRED CHIAKI TESHIMA
- 1975 MASAO BABAOKA
- 1975 KINOSUKE YASUHIRO
- 1985 MASUKO KITAYAMA
- 1985 LYNNSEY AKEMI HISAOKA
- 1991 MIYOSHI KISHI
- 1992 MATSUKO SUYAMA
- 1992 SATORI SEKIGAHAMA
- 1993 FRED ICHIO SAKUDA
- 1994 YOSHIYE SHIBATA
- 1995 MASAO YAMAUCHI
- 1998 GEORGE HATAKEDA
- 2000 NICOLAS HIDEO CHU
- 2002 YASUKO SUYEYASU
- 2004 EDWARD ISAMU NOMURA
- 2004 RUBY NOMA
- 2005 REIKO KATO
- 2006 ORIYE USHIJIMA
- 2006 KAZUO SHIKANO
- 2007 SETSUYE SHIKANO
- 2008 KENJI FUJII
- 2009 MASAO TOMOTOSHI
- 2010 JAMES 'BO' KATAOKA
- 2011 YASUO HATSUSHI
- 2014 BESSIE HARADA
- 2015 MASARU YAMASAKI
  
- 2018 BETTY KITANI
- 2018 SUMIE SUYEYASU
- 2019 FUJIO YAMAMOTO
- 2019 TERUO KANEKO
- 2020 SADIE YAMAMOTO
- 2021 TED SHIGERU SATO
- 2021 ALFRED FUJIKAWA
- UNKNOWN KINO KAWAGUCHI
- UNKNOWN KATSU KATO

**FAMILY**

- TOMOTOSHI FAMILY
- KITAJIMA FAMILY
- MR. STACY NAKAMURA
- MR. BEN SHIKANO
- MS. NANCY TERUKO DODD
- DR. WALTER HASHIMOTO &  
DR. & MRS. RICHARD HASHIMOTO
- MR. & MRS. EDWARD MAYEDA
- MS. NANCY TERUKO DODD
- MS. PAIGE AJIMURA
- MS. PAIGE AJIMURA
- MR. PHILIP YASUHIRO
- MRS. HEIDI KITAYAMA
- MRS. PATTIE HISAOKA
- KISHI FAMILY
- MR. & MRS. KEN SUYAMA
- SEKIGAHAMA FAMILY
- MR. WAYNE SAKUDA
- MRS. ARLYNE SHIBATA
- MS. NANCY TERUKO DODD
- MR. GLENN NITTA
- CHU FAMILY
- SUYEYASU FAMILY
- MR. RAY NOMURA
- MR. & MRS. EDWARD QUAN
- KATO FAMILY
- MRS. YOSHIE YAMADA
- MR. BEN SHIKANO
- MR. BEN SHIKANO
- MR. VICTOR FUJII & MR. WALTER FUJII
- MRS. PATRICIA CARTER
- MR. JEFF KATAOKA
- MRS. TAKIKO HATSUSHI & MRS. YOKO HIRAMINE
- HARADA FAMILY
- MS. LAUREN YAMASAKI
- MR. & MRS. KYLE YAMASAKI
- MR. JEFF KITANI
- MS. NADINE SUYEYASU
- MS. ELLEN YAMAMOTO
- KANEKO FAMILY
- MR. WILLIAM MASTERS
- TERRY SATO
- MS. LINDA FUJIKAWA
- KAWAGUCHI FAMILY
- MR. WAYNE SAKUDA

**MEMORIAL SERVICES 2026**

Memorial year for those who passed away in:

2025 - 1 <sup>st</sup> year 2022 - 3 <sup>rd</sup> year 2019 - 7 <sup>rd</sup> year	2013 - 13 <sup>th</sup> year 2009 - 17 <sup>th</sup> year 2001 - 25 <sup>th</sup> year	1993 - 33 <sup>rd</sup> year 1976 - 50 <sup>th</sup> year 1926 - 100 <sup>th</sup> year
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## BOUTIQUE

Boutique is starting up again. Any sewists out there interested in joining us?

We also welcome "non" sewists; we have things you can help us with too. If you are interested, just come at the times noted below or call Jamie Nagata at (510) 506-4243 if you have any questions.

Boutique will begin meeting **February 19, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.** and thereafter meet on the **1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month from March** until we have completed our projects (usually in June). You don't have to stay the entire time, but if you do, please be sure to bring lunch.

If you are cleaning your sewing room or helping someone else do theirs, we are grateful for any donations. We are always in need of bias tapes of all colors, especially, navy, any shade of pink, blue and purple. We can also use zippers of any color and length.

Thank you for your continuing support in helping make our Boutique a successful one.

In Gassho,  
Jamie Nagata

## JANUARY BIRTHDAY'S



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** [REV. T. MIYAJI]  
SANDY MARUYAMA, NOREEN OSAKI,  
KYOKO HATSUSHI, JUDY TOKUBO,  
MIA MOSIER [REV. LANDON]



### ITEMS FOR FREE

Free 6 foot wide by ? outdoor carpet and a working in good condition Honda lawn mower.

Please contact the SACBC Office if interested.

EMAIL: [OFFICE@SACBC.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@SACBC.ORG)



## What's Up Dharma School?

Before the new year, the students made a snowman for the winter holiday. For the first day of class, based on Rev.Landon's dharma message, we discussed resolutions and how to follow up by creating a plan/schedule and having a positive mindset. For the new year, the students learned how to make a crane chopstick holder. Dharma School will be preparing for a short hanamatsuri presentation the next couple of classes.

Looking ahead, Dharma School classes is scheduled for (dates are subject to change):

- Jan.25
- Feb.1
- Feb.8
- March 8
- March 29
- April 4 (Hamaido decoration)
- April 5 (Hamamatsuri)
- ~~April 19~~ April 26 \*changed
- May 3
- May 17
- June 7 (Last Day of Dharma School)
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In gassho,  
Cathleen and Betty



# FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 10am Shotsuki Hoyo   Nirvana Day	<b>2</b> 3-5 pm <b>Taiko</b> 4-5pm <b>Taiko</b> (beginner) 5-10pm AA	<b>3</b> 6:30-8:30pm <b>Scouts</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>4</b> 3-5 pm <b>Taiko</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>5</b> 11am-1pm <b>JLS prep</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>6</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>7</b> 8:30-3pm <b>JLS</b>
<b>8</b> 10am Family   Pet Memorial Service	<b>9</b> 3-5 pm <b>Taiko</b> 4-5pm <b>Taiko</b> (beginner) 5-10pm AA <b>GC Articles Due</b>	<b>10</b> 6:30-8:30pm <b>Scouts</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>11</b> 3-5 pm <b>Taiko</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>12</b> 11am-1pm <b>JLS prep</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>13</b> 6am <b>O-Jinjo</b> <b>BINGO</b> 5pm - 10pm	<b>14</b>  8:30-3pm <b>JLS</b> <b>Happy Valentine's Day</b>
<b>15</b> 10am <b>BCA  </b> Eitaiyko Service	<b>16</b>  <b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b> 3-5 pm <b>Taiko</b> 4-5pm <b>Taiko</b> (beginner) 5-10pm AA <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30-8:30pm <b>Scouts</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>18</b> 3-5 pm <b>Taiko</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>19</b> 11am-1pm <b>JLS prep</b> 5-10pm AA 9am-2pm <b>Boutique</b>	<b>20</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>21</b> 8:30-3pm <b>JLS</b> noon - 5pm <b>Private Funeral</b>
<b>22</b> 10am Family Service	<b>23</b> 3-5 pm <b>Taiko</b> 4-5pm <b>Taiko</b> (beginner) 5-10pm AA	<b>24</b> 6:30-8:30pm <b>Scouts</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>25</b> 3-5 pm <b>Taiko</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>26</b> 11am-1pm <b>JLS prep</b> 5-10pm AA	<b>27</b> <b>BINGO</b> 5pm - 10pm	<b>28</b> 8:30-3pm <b>JLS</b>
						

AA - Athletic Association  
 JLS - Japanese Language School  
 DS - Dharma School  
 BWA - Buddhist Women's Association



Southern  
 Alameda County  
 Buddhist Church

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit  
Organization

U.S.  
POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
UNION CITY,  
Ca 94587  
Permit No. 27



## FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

1ST - SUNDAY | SHOTSUKI HOYO | **NIRVANA DAY**

8TH - SUNDAY | FAMILY & PET MEMORIAL SERVICE

15TH SUNDAY | BCA **EITAIYKO** SERVICE

22ND SUNDAY | FAMILY SERVICE

**ALL** Sunday Service Start at: 10:00 AM PST  
**ZOOM Meeting ID:** 818 7869 6300 | **Passcode:** 549504