

July Newsletter

by Rimban Katsuya Kusunoki

OBON

Summer has come. It is the season for OBON. OBON is one of the biggest Buddhist observances at Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple. In general, our loved ones who passed away before us come back to this world during OBON season and return to the other world



after OBON is over. There are many OBON traditions to welcome and send off our loved ones.

First of all, the family hangs lanterns with the family crest at the house entrance. Then our loved ones can come back to the “right” house without losing their way. Another tradition is to offer a cucumber and an eggplant to the home’s Buddha altar (Butsudan). A cucumber represents a horse and our loved one rides the “cucumber horse” to come home quickly. An egg-plant represents a cow and our loved one rides the “eggplant cow” to return the other world slowly. This tradition contains the family’s wish to see their loved one as long as possible. There is another tradition called “TŌRŌ NAGASHI” which floats a lantern on a river, lake, or ocean. It is a tradition to send off their loved ones.

Our teaching, Jodo Shinshu (Shin Buddhism), says that we are born into Amida Buddha’s Pure Land right after our life ends in this world. There, we immediately attain enlightenment, become Buddha, and come back to this World of suffering. Then they, as Bodhisattva, guide people who are not enlightened yet. They come to this World to guide others anytime, anywhere. It is not a limited opportunity like coming back only during Obon Season. Let me introduce a hymn (wasan) which our founder Shinran Shonin wrote.

**Those who reach the Pure Land of happiness
Return to this evil world of the five defilements
Where, like the Buddha Sakyamuni,
They benefit sentient beings without limit. (CWS P. 329)**

Here is the definition of “the Five Defilements”

(1) Defiled age: period in which famine, plague and wars arise

- (2) Defiled view: from which perverted thinking arises
- (3) Defiled passion: which gives rise to greed, anger, and foolishness
- (4) Defiled beings: who, through rejecting the moral laws and the principle of cause and effect, become physically and mentally weak
- (5) Defiled life: through which human life span gradually becomes short

Some people may think that this world is not that bad, and some other people may think that it is true. From Amida Buddha’s view, many beings are suffering and/or losing their way to live in this evil world of the five defilements. Amida Buddha cannot abandon them and made a strong wish to rescue them. Amida Buddha created a safe space (Pure Land) and evacuation route (The Nembutsu way) for them (us). Those who passed away before us become ushers to guide them to safely walk the evacuation route without getting lost. In Buddhism, these ushers are called Bodhisattva.

Shakyamuni Buddha attained enlightenment at the age of 35 and passed away at the age of 80. He shared the Buddha Dharma and guided others for 45 years after he was enlightened. Although we cannot guide others now, we will be able to do it just like Shakyamuni Buddha did in the second half of his life after we are born in the Amida Buddha’s Pure Land. We live our life as Bonbu (ordinary beings full of three poisons) now and will live our life as Bodhisattva in the future. Gassho.



Photo from Japan Rail Pass:
<https://www.jrailpass.com/blog/obon-festival-in-japan>



July 2026 Chair's Letter

By Tyler Moriguchi

Once when I was in high school I was scolded by lead dance instructor, Kiki Hagimori, as we danced at Seattle Bon Odori. “If you’re not going to do the dance right, don’t do it at all!” she said to me and several other overly enthusiastic participants. I don’t remember if we continued to dance but I do remember feeling properly chastened. I am pretty sure that Kiki didn’t remember the incident when she proudly introduced me as the newest dance instructor several years later.



As I was reading about the first Seattle Bon Odori held at the temple in 1932, I was filled with gratitude and a sense of connection to the countless Sangha members who have come before me. While some things have changed- the street in front of the temple used to be cobblestone, many traditions have remained. Just as they did over 90 years ago, we will end our Bon Odori with Goshu Ondo.

Now a Bon Odori instructor myself, I just smile when I see dancers jumping and whirling around the dance circle and think of Kiki. Mostly, I just hope they don’t step on anyone’s toes.

I would like to extend my deepest condolences to all our Hatsubon families who have lost a loved one over the past year and hope you will be able to join us for our Seattle Bon Odori on July 18-19.

Namo Amida Butsu,
Tyler Moriguchi



125th Anniversary

Mukashi, Mukashi...

In honor of the Seattle Betsuin’s upcoming 125th anniversary in November, we will be featuring excerpts from *Mukashi Mukashi, long long ago, The First Century of the Seattle Buddhist Church*, written by Ronald E. Magden, Ph.D. to commemorate the temple’s 100th anniversary in 2001.

“During the summer of 1932 the Lotus Association, along with other West Coast Nisei, was swept into a new appreciation of an ancient Japanese cultural tradition. Reverend Yoshio Iwanaga introduced Bon Odori, the Gathering of Joy dance, among young people who attended Nishi Hongwanji churches on the West Coast. At first Iwanaga taught songs as he traveled from temple to temple. He quickly expanded his offerings to include folk dances from all over Japan, especially those with religious lyrics. ...

Without much advance notice, [Corky Kawasaki, his wife Yuri, Masaru Harada, Hatsumi Tachiyama, Yudai Arakawa and Ayako Shinoda] organized the first Seattle Bon Odori in front of the church on August 15, 1932. The dancers were supported by several hundred members of the Sangha who built a yagura (stage), and staffed food booths. ...

In the beginning, the dancers formed a large oblong circle bowing towards each other in Gassho, a gesture of reverence. After formally bowing to each other several times, the dancers performed the popular Goshu Ondo followed by Tokyo Ondo and Itaro Bayashi (The Dance of the Itinerant Gambler). Everyone, young and old alike, who had been cooking or serving food came out for the last dance, Goshu Ondo.” (Magden, p. 74-75).



Photo from Discover Nikkei:
<https://discovernikkei.org/en/journal/2018/7/21/seattle-bon-odori/>

Musical Notes

Submitted by Kemi Nakabayashi



A lovely memorial service was held at Tacoma Buddhist Temple on Saturday, June 13 for Michiko Yukawa. In addition to Michiko's grandson Taishi Ikeda, Rev. Patti Oshita provided Words of Remembrance, and Rev. Bob Oshita gave the Dharma message. Donna Sasaki was the organist. The chosen gatha was "Arigato" with the English translation of the lyrics that Mrs. Yukawa had worked on with Yaeko Nakano for the Tacoma Buddhist Temple gatha book. She also wrote the lyrics to "Gassho, 'Round the World," read by Crystal Inge to close the service. We sang "Gassho 'Round the World" at the June 28 service at Seattle Betsuin in memory of Mrs. Yukawa. Many across the districts of BCA grieve her passing. As part of the BCA Music Committee report to the BCA National Board on June 6, I included the accompanying photo taken in 2019 when Donna Sasaki and I travelled down to California with Michiko to participate in the Choir



Festival at Mountain View Buddhist Temple, organized by Berkeley Buddhist Board on June 6, I included the accompanying photo taken in 2019 when Donna Sasaki and I travelled down to California with Michiko to participate in the Choir Festival at Mountain View Buddhist Temple, organized by Berkeley Buddhist Temple choir members. As the Sing Namu Amida Butsu gatha book had just been published, the photo includes other contributors to the gatha book. Mrs. Yukawa with Rev. Yukawa worked on the gatha book project with Donna Sasaki and our Seattle team. The legacy of their work lives on in our publication.

The BCA Music webpage

<https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/music> has recently been updated including posting of the June issue of the BCA Music Newsletter. Nobuko Miyamoto shared an amazing narrative with photos about the filming at Manzanar of the teaching video of the bon odori dance steps for "120,000 Stories."



Donna Sasaki, Michiko Yukawa, dii Lewis, and Misaye Abiko





Sunday Service and Sunday Dharma Exchange Notes

Submitted by Irene Goto

Sunday Services have resumed in the Hondo (main hall) at 10:00AM, in person. Live-streaming of Sunday service is available. Please sign up for Seattle Betsuin's weekly e-news



(newsletter) at www.SeattleBetsuin.org and receive live-stream notification and other news via e-mail. Recorded Sunday Dharma Messages are available at <https://www.youtube.com/SeattleBuddhistTemple>.

Dharma Exchange takes place after Sunday Service from 10:50AM to 11:30AM, in the Hondo (Main Hall) or the adjacent Chapel, and is in-person only. You are invited to join us as we hear and discuss various aspects of the Dharma, usually led by a minister.

May 31 2026 [All Sangha Memorial Dharma Message | Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki | 2026-05-31](#)



Words Matter – we keep listening to the Buddha's kind words; we are shaped by the words we hear, even vegetables? Gentle, supportive kind words can help us live in peace and harmony.

NamoAmidaButsu contains kindness, wisdom and compassion. When we keep Buddha's words in our hearts and minds and we can live our lives.

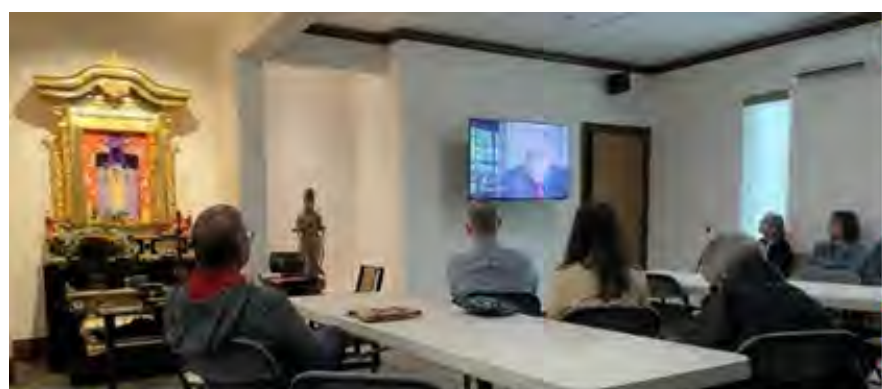
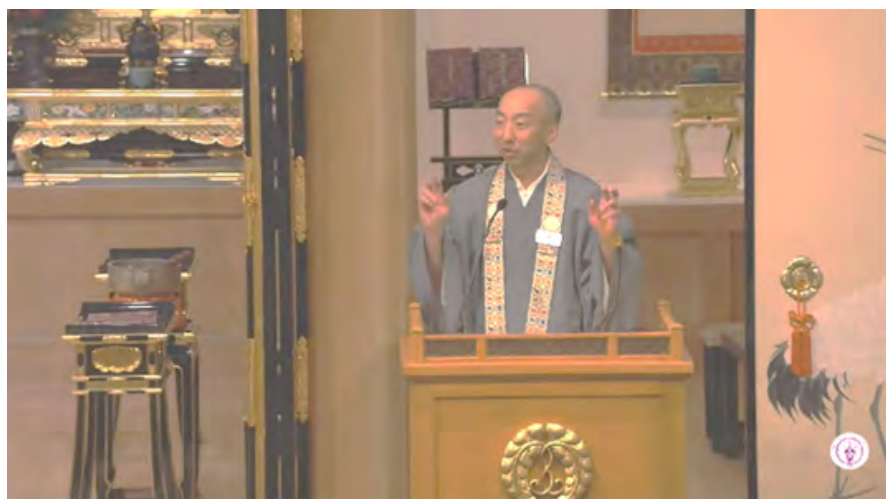
Dharma Exchange followed with the third installment of the video on the life of D.T. Suzuki.

May 24 2026 [Memorial Day Reflections | Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki | 2026-05-24](#)

Rev. Kusunoki reflects on the history of Memorial Day and its interconnection with the history of Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple.

June 7, 2026 [SEATTLE BETSUIN SUNDAY SERVICE | 2026-06-07](#)

Minister's Assistant Rev. Matt May reflects on his love of sports and the importance of making positive choices in our lives.

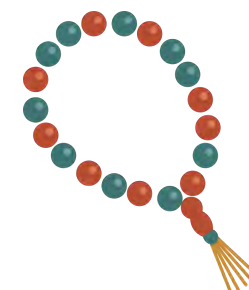
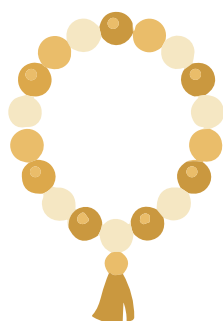
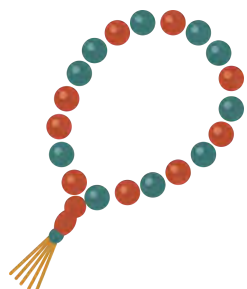


Dharma Exchange attendees viewed another installment of the life of D.T. Suzuki. Note: James C. Dobbins will speak on D.T. Suzuki June 21,2026.



Rev Matt May engaged some 24 attendees in making their own nenju at Dharma Exchange. A recorded Dharma Message in Japanese took place in the Hondo.

Nenju



Sunday Service and Sunday Dharma

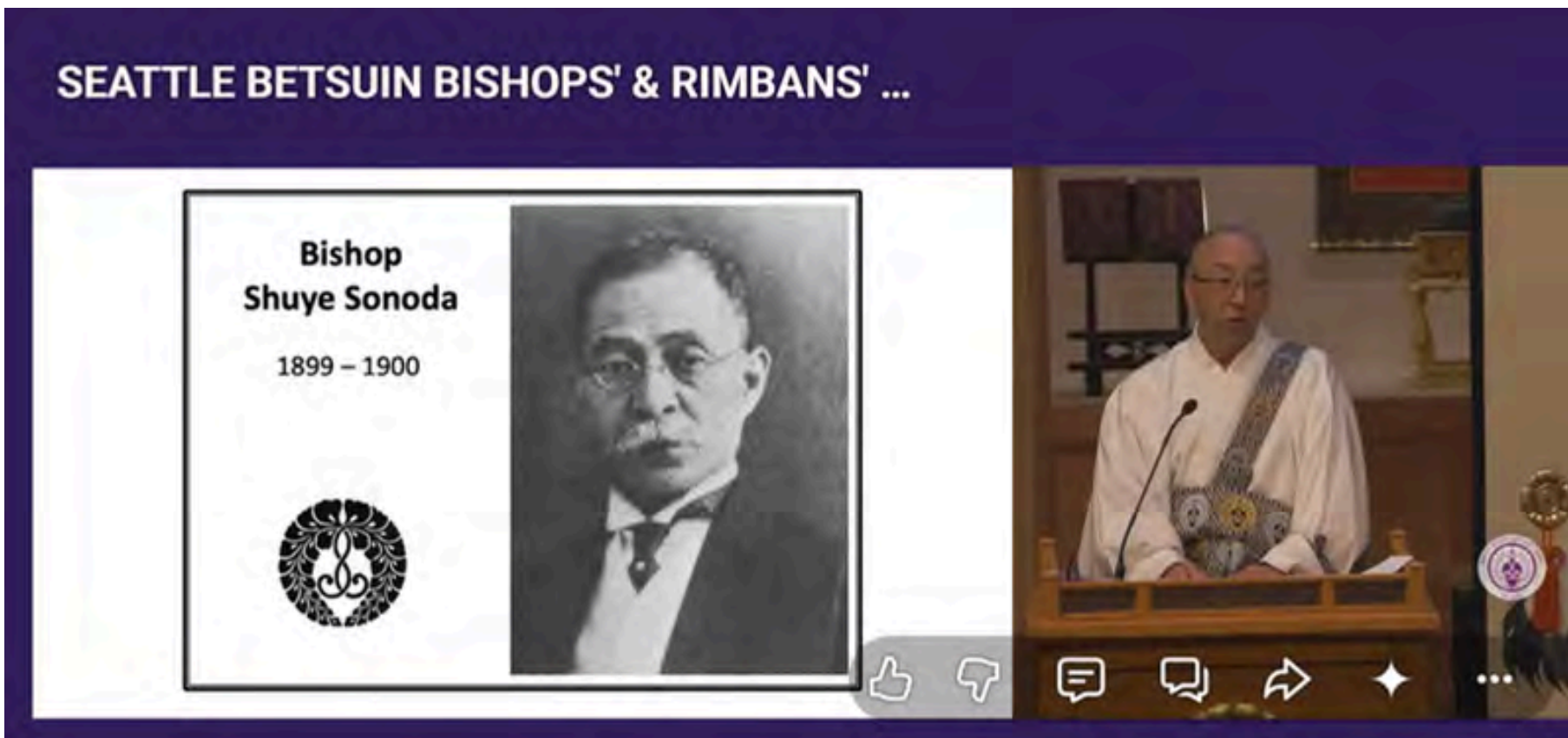
Exchange Notes Continued

Submitted by Irene Goto



June 14, 2026 [SEATTLE BETSUIN BISHOPS' & RIMBANS' MEMORIAL SERVICE | 2026-06-14](#)

In reflecting on the FIFA World Cup matches in the coming weeks, Rev. Kusunoki mentioned the homeless situation. In



the vicinity of the World Cup stadium he sees police trying to remove the homeless from the streets. Buddhism is meant to help others. Ignorant persons are those who do not understand the pain of others. It may be difficult as individuals to make a difference, but gradually, together we can make a difference -- for example, our participation together in ACRS's Walk for Rice, Dharma School's Socks Drive, Betsuin's dinners for Orion Center for youth, Camp Fire's Craft Fair to benefit pets. We can start with what we can do.



Dharma Exchange was led by Rev. Kusunoki. He entertained discussion on his Sunday Service Message of helping those in need. Leanne Nishi-Wong explained the homeless situation surrounding the temple grounds and what has been attempted to help both the situation and the individuals, but seemingly without positive results. Others contributed, describing their feelings of numbness. Rev. Kusunoki reminded us to keep a compassionate heart in whatever we do.

Dharma School News

Submitted by Joan Nakano



As we close out the 2025-2026 school year, moving into our refreshed digs in Memorial Hall, we, Superintendents Yvette Terada and Claire Murata, would like to thank our Dharma School teachers. These people volunteer their time and energy to create Buddhist learning experiences for temple children most weeks during the school year. Many of our teachers started out as parent volunteers and have continued on, even as their children have grown up, attended college, and rejoined the temple as leaders. As the restoration project comes to a close, and the middle school and high school students have moved classrooms, the teachers and students seem to have a new energy. Thank you to the Dharma School teachers, for taking the time to be trusted adults in our children's lives, modeling the Dharma and taking refuge in Amida Buddha.

We would also like to acknowledge our graduating seniors, Ai, Drew, Hieu, Mari, Misa, Nathan, Noemi, and Vincent. We know you will do well in your future endeavors, and we will always be here to support you!

We would like to thank the parents who serve on the Dharma School board. They have been champions, doing so much planning, shopping, dishwashing, accounting, meeting, serving, showing up early and staying late. We are so grateful to our newer members, who bring fresh ideas and energy.

Thanks also to the parents and kids of the Dharma School. You are what makes this fun and rewarding. Thank you to Rinban Kusunoki for his belief in the importance of the Dharma School and his thoughtful support. Finally, thanks to the Seattle Betsuin sangha. The children see your kindness, your service, and your gratitude, and we hope they grow up to be just like you.

Gassho,
Claire and Yvette

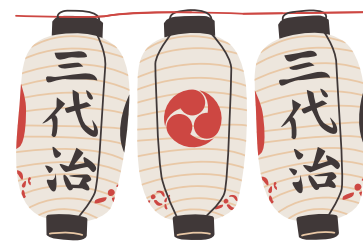
A graphic with the text "SCHOOL IS OUT! SCREAM AND SHOUT" in colorful, stylized letters. The word "SCHOOL" is in red and yellow, "IS OUT!" is in blue and green, and "SCREAM AND SHOUT" is in red. The word "AND" is in a smaller, blue font with a white outline. The background is white with faint, colorful, abstract shapes.

<https://mx.pinterest.com/pin/22940279340637558/>

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association

Submitted by Ileene Tanabe

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association SBBWA's Mission is to cultivate religious awareness as Jodo Shinshu Buddhist women and promote fellowship among its members; to serve and support the Seattle Betsuin, and contribute services to the welfare of the community.



Seattle Bon Odori 2026

Bachan's Closet

Japanese antiques and
secondhand items

Located in the
Seattle Betsuin Gym

We are still accepting only Japanese items particularly kimono, yukata and happi, dance accessories. Please no books or Japanese dolls in glass cases, or large pieces of artwork.

**Bachan's closet donations will be accepted until
Sunday, July 5th.**

We look forward to seeing you at Seattle Bon Odori on July 18th and 19th.



SEATTLE BETSUIN OBON PRACTICE SCHEDULE



2026 Obon/Cemetery Services

Saturday, July 11

12:00pm at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery (Queen Anne Hill)

1:00pm at Washington Memorial Park (SeaTac)

3:30pm at Lake View Cemetery (Capitol Hill)

Sunday, July 12


10:00am Obon/Hatsubon (Remembering
Ancestors/First Obon Service) at Seattle Betsuin
Temple in Hondo (Main Hall)


11:00am Obon Nokotsudo (Columbarium)
at Seattle Betsuin


1:00pm at Evergreen Washelli Cemetery (Northgate)


3:00pm at Sunset Hills Memorial Park (Bellevue, WA)


Upcoming Events

JUL 7 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm 
BON ODORI DANCE PRACTICE

JUL 8 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm 
BON ODORI DANCE PRACTICE

JUL 9 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm 
BON ODORI DANCE PRACTICE

JUL 13 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm 
BON ODORI DANCE PRACTICE

JUL 14 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm 
BON ODORI DANCE PRACTICE

JUL 18 3:00 pm – 9:00 pm
2026 SEATTLE BON ODORI – SATURDAY

JUL 19 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm
2026 SEATTLE BON ODORI – SUNDAY



VOLUNTEER FOR SEATTLE BETSUIN BON ODORI

Please help spread the word that volunteers are needed for the
Seattle Betsuin Bon Odori

Below is the link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4DA9AB29A3FF2-64159912-2026#/>

CUB SCOUT PACK 252 REPORT

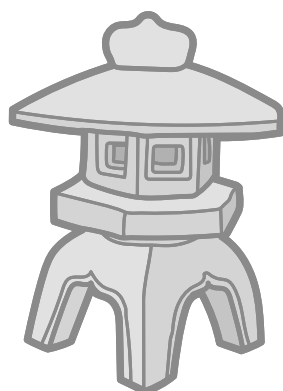
Submitted by Mayuko Tanimura



June 14th @Wisteria Park

Blue and Gold took place and marking the end of the 2025-2026 academic year. Each grade level performed a short play, and the potluck provided a wonderful conclusion to the year.

The next academic year is scheduled to start in September.





125th Anniversary Photo Request – Help Us Celebrate Our History!

As part of the Seattle Betsuin’s 125th Anniversary celebration, committee members Krista Lee and Dean O’Shields are gathering digital photos to feature in a year-long social media campaign honoring our temple’s history.



We are looking for old and historic photos of:

- The temple building (past and present)
- Temple organizations (BWA, YBA, Scouts, Dharma School, etc.)
- Temple events and celebrations, including Obon
- Any meaningful moments that capture our community’s history



If you have digital photos you’d like to share, please email them to the Temple Office. office@seattlebetsuin.org

When submitting, please include:

- The date or approximate year
- Names of people or organizations pictured (if known)
- Any background information that may be of interest

While we cannot guarantee that every submission will be used, we warmly welcome all contributions as we work to preserve and share the memories that shape the Betsuin’s story.



Thank you for helping us honor 125 years of community, tradition, and gratitude.



Committee seeks families of individuals housed in Nokotsudo

Last year, the Nokotsudo Committee was formed to explore converting the temple's Nokotsudo (Columbarium) from a temporary storage location of cremains to a permanent Nokotsudo. As part of the committee's work, we are attempting to locate family contacts for the approximately 300 individuals currently housed in the Nokotsudo. If you have a family member in the Nokotsudo, please contact the temple office at office@seattlebetsuin.org.

Also, if you would be interested in a niche in the permanent Nokotsudo, please contact the temple office.





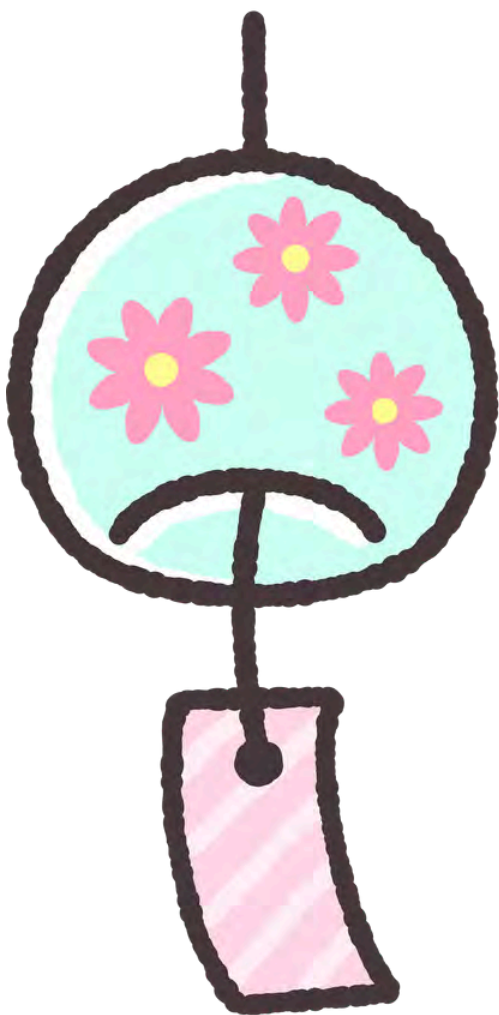
**ON BEHALF OF THE
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

We would like to “thank” the following for contributing their 2026 sustaining membership dues - the basic dues towards Temple maintenance/operations (i.e. security-a high priority, staffing, up-to-date tech equipment/maintenance) plus **Religious Programs** (i.e., Live Streaming of Sunday services, Special Services, seminars with guest speakers, Sensei’s podcast).



Michele Aoki, Lisa Barr, Rev. Donald Castro,
Steve & Lori Chisholm, Jean Deguchi,
Steve & Marina Espinoza, Eileen Hamamoto,
Lori Hamamoto, Susan Hatai, Michiko Hirata,
Tetsuden & Kanako Kashima, Nina Tomita-Kato,
Sally Kawaguchi, Rose Kishi, Irene Mano,
Hugh Matsubayashi, Sheri Mizumori,
Yoshio & Judith Nakamura,
Curtis & Charlene Nakayama, Mabel Nishizaki,
Henry Nose, Tokuzo & Mari Okumura, Tish Oye,
Alex Sakamoto, Dennis Shibata,
Sato & Darlene Shimizu, Franklin Shinoda,
George Suetsugu Jr., Wayne Suyenaga,
Sonoe Taketa, Masao & Frances Tamekuni,
Peggy Tanemura, Akico Taniguchi,
Ron & Suzuko Terada, Michael & Gayle Teramoto,
Lloyd Tyner III, Marissa Wong,
Rick Wong & Leanne Nishi-Wong,
Victor Yagi, Sharyl Yamamoto, Fusae Yokoyama,
Harry Yoshimura,
Jeremy Zimmerman

Compiled by Joan N. & Steph O.





JULY SHOTSUKI HOYO

The July Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service will honor the memory of those listed below who passed away in the Month of July within the last 50 years

Adachi, Elaine	Hiroo, Edward	Moriguchi, Sadako	Takahashi, Mary
Akada, Yoshio	Horike, Ayako	Morikawa, George	Takano, Tomi
Aoki, Ruth	Iboshi, Ralph	Moriyama, Tamotsu	Taketa, Shikao
Arinobu, Yuki	Idaka, Totaro	Muneta, Jean	Tamura, Tadashi
Asaba, Kimiko	Inaba, Frank	Muramoto, Raymond	Tanaka, Shizue
Chang, Wai Kam	Inaba, Miyoko	Nagaishi, Shigeo	Tanemura, Toshikazu
Chu-Chan, Mee	Inouye, Shizu	Nakagawa, Nami	Tanino, Katsumi (Kats)
Demise, Ayako	Ishida, Kenichi	Nakamura, Jimmie	Taylor, Fusako
Fugami, Irene	Ishii, Miyoko	Nakamura, Saiji	Terada, Kimi
Fujihira, Shiro	Kajimura, Tsutomu	Nakashima, Fumiko	Terada, Minoru
Fujimoto, Asataro	Kajita, Aico	Nakashima, Yoneko	Terada, Toshiko
Fujino, Paul	Kaku, Yoshi	Nakawawa, Katsuko	Terao, Sadao
Fujita, Aiko	Kanaya, Mary	Nakayama, Kozo	Tokunaga, Joe
Fujita, Jack	Katayama, Donna	Namba, Chieko	Tsuboi, Tamiye
Fukai, Kiyoshi	Katayama, Yoshiko	Nishi, Asako	Tsuchida, Tsune
Funai, Aubrey	Kato, Michiko	Nishimoto, Junzo	Tsujihara, Naoto
Funamori, Yoneko	Kato, Sumiye	Nitta, Sami	Tsujii, Janet
Furuta, Charles	Kawahara, Kikuno	Nogami, Hamano	Tsukui, Florence
Furuta, Ikuno	Kawahara, Masano	Nomaguchi, Chiyokesa	Uchida, Yoshio
Furuta, Isamu	Kawanishi, Fusa	Ohara, Toshio	Yabuki, Haru
Gota, Helen	Kitano, Osamu	Ogohara, Kazue	Yamagiwa, Paul
Hamano, Kinuyo	Kiuchi, Kin	Okawa, Miye	Yamaguchi, Atsumi
Harada, Yoshito	Koura, Hatsuko	Okimura, Teimei	Yamaguchi, Kozo
Haraguchi, Sadame	Kubo, Masako	Omori, Aiko	Yamamoto, Dawn
Harui, Margie	Kurata, Shin	Ono, Kiyoko	Yamamoto, Ichiro
Hasegawa, Saburo	Kusumi, Shogo	Otani, Rise	Yamamoto, Kikuno
Hashimoto, Miyuki	Maruko, Teruo	Otsuji, Takeo	Yamamura, Ito
Hayashi, Kinko	Matsuhira, Ajiro	Peck, Hideko	Yamane, Akio
Hayashi, Mitsui	Matsushita, Kan	Saito, Yayoi	Yamasaki, Fujie H.
Heyamoto, Fumiko	Mitoma, Jay	Sakamoto, Alyce	Yamashita, Henry
Higa, Michael	Miyahara, Kiyomi	Sakamoto, Mineko	Yasunobu, Seiji
Hino, Ryusho	Miyauchi, Tsuru	Sako, Yoshiaki	Yoshida, Nobuko
Hirai, Mikiye	Mizuki, Tomoko	Seko, Roy	Yoshida, Seiichi
Hirano, Tokino	Mizumori, Nancy	Shimbo, Sakayeko	Yoshimura, Dick
Hirata, Hajime	Mizuno, Hatsue	Shinoda, Ronald	Yoshino, Minoru
Hirata, Osamu	Mori, Kerry	Shintaku, Albert	

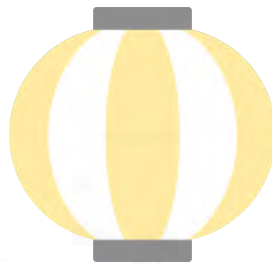


AUGUST SHOTSUKI HOYO

The August Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service will honor the memory of those listed below who passed away in the Month of August within the last 50 years

Akada, Riyoichi	Itakura, Akiko	Moriyasu, Rekiichi	Shimada, Michelle
Akada, Shizuye	Iwamoto, Shigeru	Muromoto, Masu	Shimamoto, Fumi
Akizuki, George	Kajimura, Hareo	Masumoto, Riye	Shimomura, Tsuru
Aramaki, Shigeto	Kajita, Kinichi	Nagasugi, Hiroto	Shirakata, Toshiko
Aoyama, Masatoshi Martin	Kaku, George	Nakagawa, Yoshie	Suganuma, Hiroyuki
Dodobara, Megumi	Kato, Kazuo	Nakamura, Jutaro	Sunahara, Margaret
Erie, Toshiko	Kato, Tom	Nakamura, Yuki	Suzuki, James
Fuji, Yukiko	Kawabata, Yoshikazu	Nakanishi, Toshio	Suzuki, Tazu
Fujimoto, Kaoru	Kawahara, Toshie	Nakano, Minnie	Tachiyama, Toshiko
Fujino, Suteko (Sue)	Kawahara, Yasunori	Nakano, Sono	Takeuchi, Shigeo
Fujita, Kikumi	Kawamoto, Takayuki	Nakano, Tsuruko	Taki, Noboru
Fukei, Naka	Kikuchi, Hiroshi	Narimatsu, Miyoko	Tanabe, Suehiko
Furukawa, Yoshio	Kimoto, Gon	Niki, Tsutomu	Taniguchi, Mitsuyo
Goto, Tatsumi (T.R.)	Kinomoto, Oliver	Nishi, Sadao	Tashiro, Yoshi
Habu, John	Kirihara, Tomoyoshi	Nishikawa, Miyuki	Terao, Ume
Habu, Richard	Kiyonaga, Toshio	Nishimura, Haruo	Teraoka, Seisu
Hamasaki, Sakae	Kodama, Sadako	Niwa, Tami	Toshi, Hisako
Hamasaki, Shimo	Komine, Kiyoshi	Nogaki, Kenko	Tsubota, Minoru
Hanada, Matsu	Koon, Ying	Nose, George	Tsukada, Hatsumi
Harada, Kiyoko	Kozai, Masao	Ohta, Hideo	Uyeda, Masato
Harada, Mitsuyo	Kubo, Chojiro	Okada, George	Wada, Corey
Harada, Sadako	Kubo, Frank	Oono, Yoshio	Wakazuru, Joseph
Hata, Sachiko	Kubota, Betty	Osaki, Take	Watanabe, Kazuo
Hayashi, Sally	Kumata, Tazuko	Oye, Tetsuya	Wataoka, Takayo
Hiroo, Yoshie	Kurimoto, Yoichi	Parker, Tomiko	Wheeler, Robert
Holcombe, Noriko	Kuwahara, Susie	Sakai, Tama	Yahagi, Hiroshi
Honmyo, Masayoshi	MacNealy, Denny	Sakai, Yoshi	Yahagi, Takano
Hoshino, Chieko	Mamiya, Yoshiko	Sakai, Yoshiko	Yamagiwa, Robert
Hoshino, Shizuye	Mano, Kasumi	Sakamoto, Saburo	Yamaguchi, Shiro
Hung, Shao-Chen	Matsumoto, Ayako	Sako, Kimiye	Yamamoto, George
Ikuta, Carol	Matsuura, Robert	Sakoda, Toshio	Yamamoto, Mitsue
Imabori, Martha	McLeod, Grace	Sakurai, Shinji	Yamamoto, Tatsuya
Imanaka, Ted	Mitchell, Raymond	Sasaki, Sachiyo	Yamasaki, Kazuo
Imanishi, Takeo	Miyatake, Sumiko	Seto, Kazuko	Yoshida, Elmer
Ishida, Nobu	Mochizuki, Kiyoto	Seto, Tatsuji	Yoshizawa, Lucy
Ishikawa, Shigeto	Morimoto, Eichi	Shigihara, Takeshi	Yukawa, Ayame
			Yutani, Alice

JULY 2026 BETSUIN CALENDAR



JULY 2026 BETSUIN SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AUGUST 2026 SPECIAL EVENTS August 2 Atomic Bomb Victims' Memorial Service		1	1	2 1:30 pm Nikkai Manor Service	3 Independence Day Observed (Office Closed)	4
5 10 am SUNDAY SERVICE 10:50 am Dharma Exchange Japanese Language Service	6 <i>Rimban's day off</i>	7 7 pm Bon Odori Practice	8 7 pm Bon Odori Practice	9 7 pm Bon Odori Practice	10	11 12 pm Obon Service at Mt. Pleasant 1 pm Obon Service at WA Memorial Park 3:30 pm Obon Service at Lake View
12 10 am HATSUBON/OBON SERVICE 10:50 am OBON/HATSUBON SERVICE Dharma Exchange 1 pm Obon Service at Evergreen Washelli Cemetery 3 pm Obon Service at Sunset Hills Memorial Park	13 <i>Rimban's day off</i> 7 pm Bon Odori Practice	14 7 pm Bon Odori Practice	15	16 1:30 pm Nikkai Manor Service	17	18 SEATTLE BON ODORI
19 NO SUNDAY SERVICE SEATTLE BETSUIN BON ODORI	20 <i>Rimban's day off</i> 8 pm Newsletter deadline	21	22 11 am Merrill Gardens Ranton	23 8 pm Betsuin Cabinet meeting	24	25
26 10 am SUNDAY SERVICE 10:50 am Dharma Exchange Japanese Language Service	27 <i>Rimban's day off</i>	28	29	30	31	<p>To view all services, please visit http://www.youtube.com/seattlebuddhistemple</p> <p>Please call ahead to make an appointment with the Seattle Betsuin office at 206-329-0900.</p> <p>Visits by appointment only.</p>



The Seattle Betsuin

Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations from May 16, 2026 - June 18, 2026

Funeral/Memorial/Nokotsudo	Given by:
Florence Fujita Service	Dave & Julianne Fujita
Kenny Dodobara Funeral / Yoshie Dodobara Memorial	Ben & Misa Dodobara
Kenny Dodobara Burial service	Ben & Misa Dodobara
Shotsuki Hoyo Marion Dumont, And Bishops' and Rimbans' Memorial Service	Kemi Nakabayashi & Jim Norton
In Memory of Mary Kajita Kato	Connie Ozeki-Chinn
In Memory of Donald Akira	Jason & Dawna Emoto
In Memory of Florence Fujita	Esther Sugai
In Memory of Jaden Huh	Connie Ozeki-Chinn, Gyotoku Family, David & Dina Uchida, Grace Tazuma & Bruce Brundige
In Memory of Kenny Dodobara	Mae Yamasaki & Gordon Habu, Rick Wong & Leanne Nishi-Wong, Connie Ozeki-Chinn, Frances Shintaku, Roy & Deanna Ikegami
In Memory of Kenny & Yoshie Dodobara	Junko Nakano
In Memory of Kuniko & Sherri Takamura	Connie J Ozeki-Chinn, Gayle Shimizu
In Memory of Miki Nakano	Junko Nakano
In Memory of Sadako Lillian Tokunaga	Sally Kawaguchi & Family
In Memory of Sat Ichikawa	Grace Ichikawa



The Seattle Betsuin

Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations from May 16, 2026 - June 18, 2026

In Memory of Yoshiko Kozai

Steven Kubota

Nokotsudo

Junko Nakano

Special Services

All Sangha Memorial

Connie J Ozeki-Chinn, Frances Shintaku, Rick Wong & Leanne Nishi-Wong, Tetsuden & Kanako Kashima

All Sangha Memorial (in memory of Louise Sakuma, Lindsay Sakuma, Cedrie Sakuma, Gayle Sordetto

Stephanie Ojima

Bodhi Day

Meri Lashley

Gotan-e

Aiko Fujii, Alan & Lori Hoshino, Ann Oxrieder, Ann Kashiwa, Art & Lori Kozai, Calvin & Yvette Terada, Connie Ozeki-Chinn, Dale & Shizue Kaku, Dennis Shibata, Duane & Ann Mayeda, Ernest & Sanaye Nagai, Frances Shintaku, Frank Kiuchi, Grace Tazuma & Bruce Brundige, Henry Nose, Dean O'Shields, Irene Goto, James & Tomiko Zumoto, Jan & Marc Keltner, Janice Deguchi, Joan Nakano, Joe & Margaret Gotchy, Judith & Yoshio Nakamura, Junko Nakano, Kate Wehr, Keko & Ken Watanabe, Kemi Nakabayashi & Jim Norton, Kiyoko Nakanishi, Lauren Asaba, Mabel Nishizaki, Mae Yamasaki & Gordon Habu, Margaret Teramoto, Marlene Okada, Masao & Frances Tamekuni, Masuru & Anna Tahara, Minako Kunihiro, Miyoko Tazuma, Nina Tomita-Kato, Nori Suguro, Paul & Teresa Mori, Pauline Sakuma, Peggy Tanemura, Reiko Hara, Rick Wong & Leanne Nishi-Wong, Ritsuko Kawahara, Roy & Kazumi Shimizu, Sheri Mizumori, Sonoe Taketa, Stephanie Ojima, Steven Uyenishi, Stuart Teramoto, Susan Moriguchi, Tetsuden & Kanako Kashima, Tina & Jeff Ko, Tish Oye, Toshio Shahbaghlian, Tsukasa & Keiko Namekata





The Seattle Betsuin
Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations in May 16, 2026 - June 18, 2026

General Donations

Donation	Given by:
Butsudan Adoption. Gassho	Drew Laney
Thank you from the Huh Family	Jamie & Joon Huh
Shinran Shonin	Susanne Umeda
Japanese Dharma Discussion	Akiko Payne
Kaneko Music Fund	Sterling Davenport
Donation for adopting obutsudan.	Jesse Moneyhun
General Donation	Charlene & Curtis Nakayama, Donald Castro, Gary Higashi, Grace Hatano, Michael & Gayle Teramoto, Rick Wong & Leanne Nishi-Wong, Ron Hamakawa, Steve & Lori Chisholm, Tokuzo & Mari Okumura, Yukiko Iwai
Osaisen	Juiling Wang, Leonora Clark, Mabel Nishizaki, Miyoko Tazuma, Sachiko Nakama, Sonoe Taketa, Sue Tanaka
In Honor of Julie Mayeda's Birthday	Lisa Duff, Masao & Frances Tamekuni
Donation during Pawsitive festival	Ryan Reed
BCA Music Gatha Lyric prize to HS DS Classonation during Pawsitive festival	Buddhist Churches of America
BCA Music Gatha Lyric prize to HS DS Classonation during Pawsitive festival	Buddhist Churches of America



The Seattle Betsuin
Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations in May 16, 2026 - June 15, 2026

General Donations

Donation

Given by:

ARP Donation - In honor of Dr. Kemi Nakabayashi

Carmen Tsuboi Chan & Paul Chan

ARP Donation - Audio/Video Equipment

Kawabe Memorial Fund

ARP Donation - Fire disaster donation

Tacoma Buddhist Temple YBA

Hiroshima to Hope

Rick Wong & Leanne Nishi-Wong

Tsugihara Scholarship

Roy & Deanna Ikegami





**Rennyō Shōnin's Letters: Gobunshō
Complete Five-Fascicle/Volume Version
Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple**

With deep respect and gratitude, we are pleased to share with you this newly republished volume, Rennyō Shōnin's Letters: Gobunshō – Complete Five-Fascicle/Volume Version, published in 2026 by the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple.

This book represents the republication of a Japanese-to-English translation project undertaken by lay members of the Seattle Betsuin beginning in 1948 and completed in 1976, with ministerial guidance and support. May this volume help spark renewed engagement with Rennyō Shōnin's teachings and encourage fresh encounters with the Nembutsu in our shared life of faith.

Pricing is set at \$20 per volume with shipping option available.
Please use the link below to order your copy.



94th Annual

2026

SEATTLE BON ODORI

Saturday, July 18

3pm – 9pm

Sunday, July 19

3pm – 8pm

Japanese folk dancing in the street

Great food options

Beer Garden featuring Two Story Zori

Taiko performances & interactive demonstrations

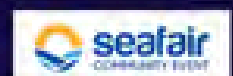
Mini Bachan's Closet – Grandma's thrift store

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple
1427 South Main Street
Seattle, WA 98144



Events Schedule

obon.seattlebetsuin.org





WHITE RIVER



BUDDHIST TEMPLE

BON ODORI

JULY 25, 2026 4-9:30 PM

3625 AUBURN WAY NORTH
AUBURN, WA 98002

FOOD BOOTHS & BEER GARDEN 4:30 - 8:30
OKINAWA KENJIN KAI EISA TAIKO 4PM
KIDS' OBON DANCE 5 PM - OBON SERVICE 5:30
WELCOME CEREMONIES 6PM - OBON DANCING 6:15
SEATTLE MATSURI TAIKO 7:30

WWW.WRBT.ORG/BONODORI

**SEATTLE BUDDHIST
CHURCH
1427 S MAIN STREET
SEATTLE, WA
98144**

**2026 JULY
WHEEL OF THE
SANGHA
A MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF
SEATTLE BUDDHIST
CHURCH**

EVERYDAY BUDDHIST:

[HTTPS://WWW.EVERYDAYBUDDHIST.ORG](https://www.everydaybuddhist.org)

**BCA EVENTS Buddhist
Churches of America Buddhism
| Buddhist Churches Of
America**



**seattle betsuin's meditation
is on Zoom only. Email:
newsletter@
seattlebetsuin.com for the link**

2026 SEATTLE BETSUIN SUNDAY SERVICES

July 5
10 am **Sunday Service**
10:45 am Dharma Exchange
Japanese Language Service

July 12 **HATSUBON/OBON SERVICE**
10 am **OBON/HATSUBON SERVICE**
10:45 am Dharma Exchange

July 19 **NO SUNDAY SERVICE**
SEATTLE BETSUIN
BON ODORI

JuLY 26
10 am **Sunday Service**
10:50 am Dharma Exchange
Japanese Language Service

**DHARMA EXCHANGE
AFTER SERVICE
10:50 AM
IN-PERSON**

**5-Minute
Dharma
Message**



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CHANTING BY CLICKING CHANTING | BCA
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Thursdays 9:30 am - 3:00 pm.
**By appointment only due to the
reconstruction in the main
temple.**

**MINISTER 24 HOURS 206.329-0800
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