



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
a Jodo Shinshu Temple



Guiding Light



佛心

June 2014

1011 Sheppard Ave West
Toronto, ON M3H 2T7
416-534-4302
www.tbc.on.ca tbc@tbc.on.ca

JUNE 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDA	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE & TBC Dana Scholarship Presentation 10:30 am Last Kid's Sangha 11:00 am English Service 12:30 pm Dana Mtg 1:00 pm Japanese Service 常例法座	2 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke カラオケ	3 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	4 7:00 pm Isshin Taiko	5 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:30 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikebana 3:30 pm York University Group Visit	6 7:00 pm Buyo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	7 11:00 am * Private Family Ceremony
8 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am English Service 12:30 pm Sangha Mtg (Eko) 12:30 Shin Fujinkai Mtg (KSR)	9 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke カラオケ	10 10:00 am Fujinotomo 7:00 pm MC & B of D Mtgs 8:00 pm Bon Odori	11 7:00 pm Isshin Taiko	12 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Momiji 2:30 pm Buyo 3:00 Ikebana 4:00 pm Yee Hong	13 7:00 pm Buyo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	14 9:00 am Picnic Prep
15 TBC CHURCH PICNIC at Camp Green Acres Temple Closed	16 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke カラオケ	17 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8 pm Bon Odori	18 11:00 am Macassa 7:00 pm Isshin Taiko	19 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Castlevew Service 2:30 pm Buyo Service	20 7:00 pm Buyo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	21 11:00am *Private Family Service 4:00 pm *Private Family Service
22 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am English Service 12:30 pm JSBTCWF workshop 4:00 pm *Private Family Service	23 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke カラオケ	24 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	25 10:30 am Momiji Group 7:00 pm Isshin Taiko	26 10:00 am Tai Chi 10:30 am Japanese Garden Club Mtg 2:00 pm Castlevew 2:30 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikebana	27 10:00 am Morning Service 7:00 pm Buyo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	28 12:30 pm Sr. Karaoke Party 12:30 pm NAJC Meeting
29 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am English Service	30 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke カラオケ					

Morning Services are held on the week days on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 AM—10:30 AM when a Minister is available.
 As emergencies do come up, last minute cancellations may occur Thank you !

JULY 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Events marked with an * (asterisk) are private and are <u>not</u> open to the general public Thank You !		1 HAPPY CANADA DAY TEMPLE CLOSED	2 7:00 pm Isshin Taiko	3 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Buyo 3 pm Ikebana	4 8 pm Bon Odori 8 pm Buyo	5 Obon Service in Ottawa
6 MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE 11:00 am English Service 12:30 pm Dana Mtg (Eko) 1:00 pm Japanese Service <i>Obon Service in Montreal</i>	7 10:30 am Sr. Karaoke カラオケ	8 10:00 am Fujinotomo 7 pm MC & Board of Directors Mtg 8 pm Bon Odori	9 7:00 pm Isshin Taiko	10 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Buyo 2 pm Momiji Service 3 pm Ikebana 4 pm Yee Hong Service 8 pm Last Bon Odori	11 Cemetery Flower prep 8 pm Buyo	12 Cemetery Visitations 7 pm Bon Odori at JCCC
13 OBON SERVICES 9:00 am HATSUBON Families Service 初盆法要 11:00 am Obon Service (E) 1:00 pm Obon Service (J) Guest Speaker: Rev. Brian Nagata	14 BDK Meeting 10:30 am Sr. Karaoke カラオケ	15 10:00 am Fujinotomo	16 11:00 am Macassa 7:00 pm Isshin Taiko	17 2:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm Castleview Service	18 8 pm Buyo	19
20 SUMMER SERVICE 9:30 am Bazaar Committee Meeting 11:00 am Service	21 10:30 AM Sr. Karaoke カラオケ	22 10:00 am Fujinotomo	23 7:00 pm Isshin Taiko	24 2:00 pm Buyo	25 8 pm Buyo	26 Obon Service in Ottawa
27 SUMMER SERVICE 9:30 am Bazaar Mtg (Eko) 11:00 am Service 夏季法座 (日英合同)	28 10:30 AM Sr. Karaoke カラオケ	29 10:00 am Fujinotomo	30 7:00 pm Isshin Taiko	31 2:00 pm Buyo	1 August Kid's Sangha Day at Wasaga	2

CAMP LUMBINI in WASAGA BEACH JULY 27 - AUG 2

Morning Services are held on the week days on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 AM—10:30 AM when a Minister is available. As emergencies do come up, last minute cancellations may occur Thank you !



How Do We Learn Nembutsu?

Isn't it hard to believe that it is already June? This is especially true for me and my family...it was a really eventful half of a year. I'm in a totally different position now than I was just six months ago. One of our members came up to me and said the days were getting longer and longer, but my time in Toronto is getting shorter and shorter which makes the time seem to go by quickly. My family is always thinking about how to spend the rest of our time here.

I don't have any idea what people's general perceptions are about the month of June, but I personally love it because day by day it gets warmer, letting us know that summer is definitely on its way. In addition to the ability to enjoy the weather, all of my family's birthdays are in June. They are only 10 days apart, which leaves us with the question of: "Should we have just one party? or three parties in a row?"

My son Harufumi is going to be two years old pretty soon, which is maybe another reason why I felt time go more quickly than it actually did. Each moment with Haru is very precious and special to us. If I leave home for a few days of travel for the Temple, I come home and can immediately notice differences in how Haru is doing things.

He is just about at the stage to learn language, and it is so cute and fun to talk to him. I can recognize more words from Haru everyday both in English and Japanese. Of course, he has begun to learn with his favorite things such as juice, banana, rice and potato. And for some unknown reason his favorite word is bus (he has not learned to be frustrated with public transit at this early age).

I have to be more careful from now on what I say and do in front of Haru because he listens and copies. Without thinking I used some bad words at the table, and he already copied me!

One day, my wife and I noticed that Haru was saying something sound like Na...Na...Na... which we couldn't understand. Later on, we discovered that whenever he saw a Sagarifuji (wisteria crest of the Hongwanji), he always started to say this phrase. We finally discovered that this was his version of Nembutsu. He even puts his hands together as he recites it. I never taught him how to do this. In all likelihood he saw what we do and he just copied us.

I strongly believe that one of the important ways Nembutsu is transmitted in Jodo Shinshu is from parent to child. I also believe that it is fair to give religious freedom and choices to our children, but I sometimes feel that today's society is so conscious of being open minded that we might not be giving our children a foundation to work from. Even if you converted to Buddhist as you matured, you may remember that your parents or grandparents gave you some kind of guidance based on their faith tradition. If nothing more, it gave you a frame of reference. I would like to have a little bit more emphasis on keeping religious faith and teachings within a family.

We should make our temple into a more family friendly environment so all family members can enjoy listening to the Buddha Dharma at the temple. Buddhism is for all people, young and old.

Gassho

Rev. T. Fujii



STORIES FROM THE PRESIDENT: ARE YOU LISTENING?

Not long ago Bishop Tatsuya Aoki circulated a short NHK clip entitled “*Learning to Listen*”. It was about ministerial students practicing the art and science of listening along the bustling sidewalks of Kyoto. The students invited passersby to talk about their various personal issues, and while listening attentively, they did not offer any advice or comment. The students did not speak. They just listened. And they learned a whole lot.

This brings me to my own story about listening, or maybe it’s about not listening.

Long ago when I was young, I was having a tough time in San Diego. I looked forward to the end of the day, a stiff drink (or two) and a good game on TV. It was not to be. An urgent call from my office in Toronto got me scrambling to get to New York by next morning so I could try to win a Big Deal for my firm. The Japanese buyer decided to audition two advisors on the spot, one a very reputable New York firm and the other, mine.

Exhausted and totally ignorant about the deal, I managed to catch an over-night flight to New York. Anxious the whole flight, I didn’t sleep at all. By morning, the flight plus *jisa boke* left me twitching and stupefied. At the meeting my potential client was represented by a taciturn General Manager and four attentive subordinates. My competitor in the audition turned out to be a very sharp New York-type, crisp button-down shirt and a perfectly tailored suit. Everyone looked showered and well rested and ready to rumble, except me. I honestly did give it a try, but my eyes would not stay open. I did my best to listen but my mind drifted from one beautiful dream to another. Not a word came out of my mouth the whole day as the American team leader rambled on, touting the value and virtues of the business he was trying to sell (read “dump”). My hopeless condition was only aggravated by the Japanese leader’s devious negotiating tactic. For most of the meeting his eyes were closed as if in deep slumber. Then at key unexpected moments his eyes slowly peered open, and he suddenly interrupted the discussion with a brief game-busting observation. Just as suddenly, he returned to blissful repose. Meanwhile the New York lawyer kept leaping into the fray, verbal jabs here and uppercuts there, hectoring about earnings ratios, cash flows, discount rates, capitalization rates and whatever else popped into his super-charged mind. In my stupor I sure was impressed. Mercifully the meeting came to an end later that day. I knew I had failed the audition badly but I was really too tired to care. The Japanese leader slowly approached me, with bad news I was sure. “Kusano-san,” he said kindly as he shook my hand, “I have decided. The other lawyer does not listen well and he talks too much. I will hire you” Now I was really speechless.

There are other lessons in this story, but let’s stay with listening. Sometimes it’s impossible to listen, despite my best efforts. Many times my ego gets in the way and I am too impatient to listen. Other times, I realize I haven’t really learned how to listen at all. So listening is really hard. But in the meantime there is one good place to practice listening. The place is our hondo where a sense of security and tranquility immediately envelopes me. Special services are wonderful with so many coming together and renewing acquaintances, and the Sangha hums with life. I really like the special services. But when it comes to quiet listening, I find it particularly enjoyable during the regular Sunday services when it is especially quiet and relaxed in the hondo. The voices of our senseis offering their Dharma talks and the resonance of the chanting of the congregation ring so clearly in my breast and in my mind. The Buddha and me. When you have time and feel inclined, I will be happy to share this special space with you.

-Roy Kusano

New Service Books Ordered!



For the past long while our members have repeatedly approached us asking that we consider finding a new Service Book. Some of the pasted in sheets were wrong, the translations were dated, and we were all VERY tired of the same three Gathas (after a while nobody even cares if they see the Golden Sun, as long as they don't have to sing about it). Well we are finally able to give good news! New Service Books have been located, complete with updated translations and new Gathas, and are currently on order!! Our old Gathas are still in there, but the new ones are certainly a welcome addition. They are the product of 10 years of research and hard work from Orange County Buddhist Church. It will undoubtedly be a learning curve getting used to the new books, but a welcome one that will hopefully enrich our minds and services alike.

Obon Guest Speaker

Brian Kensho Nagata is a fourth generation Californian born and raised in Fresno, California. After assignments in Mitutoyo Corporation's Los Angeles, New Jersey and Chicago branches he was assigned to the Numata Center in Berkeley, California to oversee the BDK English Tripitaka Project which is translating the Buddhist Canon (the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha) from classical Chinese into English (this project will probably take several hundred years to complete) and the Numata



Program in Buddhist Studies which works with ten major North American universities (including Toronto, McGill and Calgary in Canada) to enhance their Buddhist Studies programs. Brian serves as an advisor to the American Buddhist Study Center in New York City and to the Washington DC Ekoji Buddhist Temple. He also volunteers at the Buddhist Churches of America's Center for Buddhist Education (CBE) where he co-founded the "Technobuddha" program for young adults which has attracted some young members from several British Columbia temples and leads CBE Study Tours to Japan. Brian knows nothing of scholarly Buddhism and will only be able to share his life experiences and the many blessings and lessons he receives from the Buddha every day of his life.

OBITUARIES

The Toronto Buddhist Church wishes to extend its deepest condolences to the families, relatives and friends of the following individuals who have passed away during the past month.

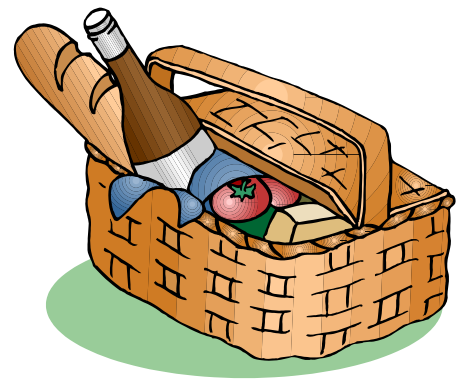


<i>Mr. Shigeharu Abe</i>	<i>(73 yrs)</i>	<i>May 10, 2014</i>
<i>Mrs. Pauline Doi</i>	<i>(100 yrs)</i>	<i>May 11, 2014</i>
<i>Mrs. Mieko Yajima</i>	<i>(70 yrs)</i>	<i>May 26, 2014</i>
<i>Mr. Takeo Ohashi</i>	<i>(83 yrs)</i>	<i>May 22, 2014</i>

TBC Annual Picnic
 Sunday, June 15, 2014
 at Camp Green Acres
 11123 Kennedy Road, Markham, ON

Entry fees – Car and driver	\$5.00
Adults (16 yrs+)	\$3.00
Seniors (65 yrs+)	Free
Children (15 yrs and under)	Free

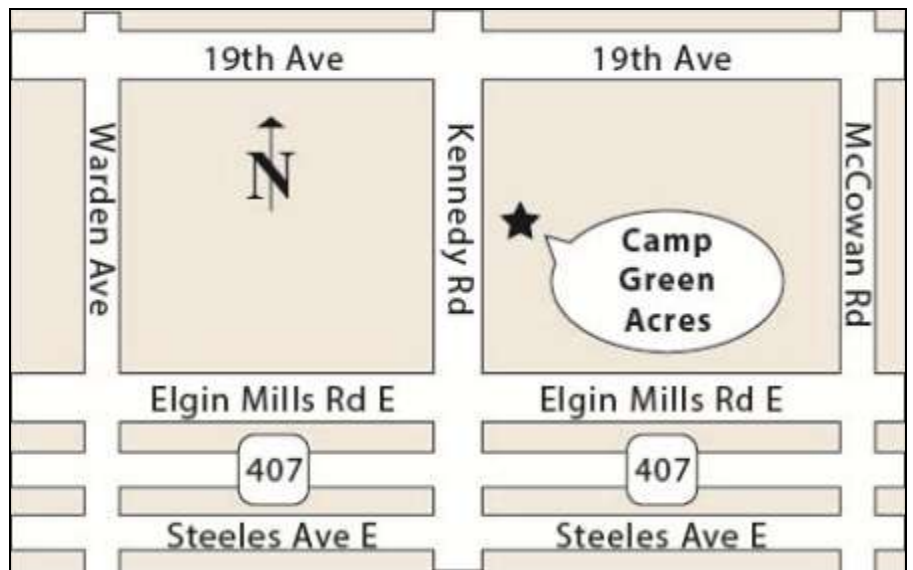
10.00am	Gates open
10.30 - 11.30 am	Kids Sangha Activity
11.00 am	Tractor ride
11.45 - 12 noon	Open Air Service
12.00 noon - 12.30 pm	Free hotdogs
12.00 noon - 1.00 pm	Lunch
1.00 pm - 2.00 pm	Races and games
2.30 pm	Farm visit
2.30 pm – 3.00 pm	Minyo odori
3.15 pm – 4.15 pm	Bingo
5.00 pm – 6.00 pm	Supper and Fukubiki
6.30 pm	Clean up and load van



****supervised heated swimming pool available****

HELP WANTED

Following the picnic, around 7.30pm, the Picnic Committee is seeking volunteers to help unload the van and put everything away at the Temple.



OBON
SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2014
CEMETERY SCHEDULE

Once again the Toronto Buddhist Temple is preparing for our annual Obon services at the many cemeteries in and around the city.

Last year we began having central services inside most of the cemeteries due to the intense July temperatures and a smaller volunteer base. The new format was graciously received, for which we were very grateful. In fact, the responses were largely positive! Most people enjoyed the opportunity to share the service with others, which brought a deeper sense of community!

We apologize for the last minute change of venue for the central service at Highland Memory Gardens. Originally it was to be held at St. Cristus Garden, but when we arrived we noted the area was totally unshaded and the morning sun was already unbearable. After approval from the office we relocated to a shadier site just to the right of the mausoleum building. This shaded area will again be our gathering place this year.

Please watch for the obutsudan set up at Resthaven, Prospect, Park Lawn, Pine Hills and Mt. Pleasant (normally plot 7) as some changes were also made to more shaded areas in order to offer some reprieve to those present.

A new central service will be held at Spring Creek Cemetery in Mississauga at 9:30 am, conducted by Jeff Wilson Sensei who will also stop at Glen Oaks Cemetery in Oakville at 9:00 am.

St. James will hold a smaller central service beginning at 8:45am

Services at Westminster and Beechwood are no longer available due to a continuation of absent families over the last few years.

As usual, Hatsubon Service on Sunday, July 13 begins at 9:00 am, English Service is 11:00 am followed by the Japanese service at 1:00 pm. Homyos for the Hatsubon Service may be collected down in the Social Hall, where families are invited to enjoy refreshments. Everyone attending the English and Japanese services are also invited to stay for tea and sweets following those services.

Natsu Matsuri will take place during the day at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre and Obon Odori begins at 7:00 pm. Please enjoy the atmosphere of Japanese culture, and bring lots of water. The sun can get quite hot!

The Ohaka Mairi services are an important occasion for us and we take the opportunity to pay deep respect to our loved ones but more importantly, we offer our gratitude to Amida Buddha for his Compassion and Wisdom, as we all travel the Dharma Path together in the Onembutsu.

In gassho,
Religious and Obon Committee

Service Schedule

Please watch for changes to this schedule in the July issue of the Guiding Light

Glendale	10:30 am	Elgin Mills	1:00 pm
Highland Memory Gardens	9:30 am	Glen Oaks	9:00 am
Mount Pleasant	9:30 am	Meadowvale	1:00 pm
Pine Hills	9:30 am	Park Lawn	11:00 am
Resthaven	11:00 am	Prospect	11:00 am
Sanctuary	9:00 am	Riverside	9:00 am
St. James	8:45 am	Salem	1:00 pm
Spring Creek	9:30 am	St. Philips	9:30 am
York	9:30 am		

DANA NEWS

Toronto Dana donated 50 boxes of manjus and 50 bentos to the JCCC Bazaar. Thank you to everyone who contributed foods and helped with assembling the boxes. We appreciate your kindness. Special thanks to Hamako Yoshida for transporting the foods to the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre.

TBC DANA COMMITTEE



We have received another shipment of the beautiful, colourful commemorative Monto Shikisho created especially for the 15th World Buddhist Women's Convention being held in Calgary on May 30th and 31st, 2015. The design consists of scattered snow flakes and lotus flowers blooming within orange maple leaves, anchored by the Jodo Shinshu wisteria crest at the base. It is available from the temple office for \$50 including taxes.

There's still time to register for the convention--please visit www.wbwconvention.com. The first registration deadline is May 30, 2014 after which registration will be open to the general public.

Final registration deadline is November 29, 2014.

BUYO

Here is a lovely photo of our talented Buyo ladies after performing at the CMC: Asian's in Ontario

**Bon Odori 2014**

After a long, cold Winter, why not welcome Spring with some dancing? It is once again time for Bon Odori dancing at the Toronto Buddhist Church! Get a little exercise while learning Japanese folk dances. Newcomers are welcome as step-by-step instructions are given. Practices are held **Tuesday and Fridays evenings, 8:00 -9:30 pm**. They run until early July when all of the dancers, dressed in yukata or happi coats, perform at the Obon festival. The Obon festival will be held at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre on **Saturday, July 12, 2014, starting at 7:00 pm**.

Bon Odori is for all genders, ages, the young and the young at heart. So come out to the TBC to learn odori, see old friends, make new ones, and have some fun!



“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

-Maya Angelou
Namo Amida Butsu

Camp Lumbini

Sunday July 27th to Saturday August 2, 2014

It's almost that time of year again! Camp Lumbini is the Temple's Annual Summer Camp for children and youth aged 8-14. Held at the Wasaga Beach cottages, the overnight camp provides campers with a full day schedule of games and team building activities.

Every day starts with exercises and morning service. Campers can then expect a day filled with visits to the beach, arts and crafts, and games. Evening activities include mini-golf, the drive-in theatre, campfires, and bowling.

In addition, the camp always has one big outing planned for the week. In the past, we have gone rock climbing, kayaked, and explored caves. It is always a memorable experience.



Volunteer Opportunities

Our Temple was founded and still exists today because of the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. However, it has doubtfully escaped the minds of many that our usual body of volunteers is indeed decreasing rapidly. Those who previously dedicated the majority of their time and effort are aging and-or need a break from always having to work so hard so often. When trying to recruit new volunteers, we continue to run up against the same problem...many people are not in a position where they can dedicate their time on a regular basis, making it hard to commit. This is not to say that they do not want to volunteer, but that their work or family life does not have the flexibility to guarantee being able to dedicate a regular amount of time every week. In fact, most people express a desire to contribute and the fact that they can't makes them feel bad. Well I am not one to let people feel bad! If you want to volunteer, today is your lucky day!! Every month in the Guiding Light I will have a section where people and groups can list volunteer opportunities, and if what is listed sounds like something you can do, please contact the poster! If you do not have access to email, please call the office at 416-534-4302 and I (Rev. Christina) will be happy to contact them on your behalf.

TBC PICNIC VOLUNTEERS - Sunday June 15th at Camp Green Acres

We are looking for people to: serve hotdogs, help at the races and bingo, load and unload the truck at TBC, clean up the park afterwards, help with fukubiki (the draw). Contact Dawn Anzai: canzai@sympatico.ca or Joanne Omori: joanne.omori@rogers.com

COFFEE TOBAN - 1st and 3rd Sundays every month starting September

We are in desperate need of people to make the refreshments and tidy up afterwards! Training in the use of kitchen appliances will be provided. Please contact Kay Uchida: kay_uchida@hotmail.com



**Eastern Buddhist League
2014 Conference
Washington, DC**

**SAVE THE DATE
AUGUST 29 – 31, 2014**

“Buddhism: Flourishing through Difference”

In many ways the 2014 theme is our hope for the future. We—our Sanghas, our temples, and our district—experience difference among us. In some cases, we seek only to manage difference; in other cases, we embrace difference and use it to help us grow and thrive. As individuals, we are each different in terms of culture, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, gender preference, perspectives, and opinions. These differences, as we come together, impact the nature of our Sanghas. Difference also affects our temples and our communities, as seen in the diversity of chanting, philosophy, mindfulness practice, the nature of membership, how our members come to join our temples, and the list continues. Difference can divide, difference can be ignored or merely tolerated, or difference can be acknowledged, embraced, and used to benefit the whole.

The questions that will weave through this year’s EBL conference are about the what and how of flourishing through difference. What does it mean to flourish? As individuals and as communities, our aim is to thrive—not just survive, but to thrive—within and through our context. What are the tools available to help us flourish at each level? How have Sanghas tried to welcome, embrace, or otherwise acknowledge difference, and what lessons have we learned? We hope our discussions this August will help us identify how we can use difference for our benefit—as individuals, Sanghas, temples, districts, and as networks that support the study of the Dharma.

Friday and Saturday sessions held at Crystal City Marriott; Sunday at Ekoji Buddhist Temple.

For further information contact Laverne Imori at limori@comcast.net

EBL Conference Labour Day Weekend

The Eastern Buddhist League Conference (EBLC) which encompasses the Pure Land temples of both Eastern Canada and Eastern United States will again be having their Labour Day Conference hosted by the Ekoji Buddhist Temple, Fairfax Station, Virginia.

The Toronto Buddhist Church will be chartering a bus leaving Friday, August 29th at 7 am and returning Monday September 1st, 2014.

Here is some preliminary information:

1. Conference Dates: Friday, August 29th through Sunday, August 31st.
2. Conference Locations:
Friday and Saturday at Crystal City Marriott, 1999 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202, USA
3. Hotel Accommodations: Crystal City Marriott, 1999 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202, USA. Cost per night is \$99.00 per night plus taxes (one King or two Double Beds) and will send out more info when plans finalize. Reservations will be made by individuals directly with Marriott reservations at 1-800-228-9290 or 703-413-5500. They will have rooms blocked for this weekend.
4. An add-on optional event will be a 3 hour twilight tour of D.C. on Sunday evening.
5. Nen Daiko (Ekoji's affiliate taiko group) is planning a 20th anniversary performance along with Soh Daiko (New York Buddhist Church) and Hoh Daiko (Seabrook Buddhist Temple) on Saturday evening. Registration will be separate for this event.
6. Parking is available for the bus at the hotel.
7. At this time, conference registration fees will not change significantly from last year's rates.
8. Their keynote speaker will be Reverend Earl Ikeda of New York Buddhist Church.
9. The theme of the conference is **BUDDHISM: FLOURISHING THROUGH DIFFERENCE**.

Costs:

Bus (return): CAD \$160 (include gratuities)

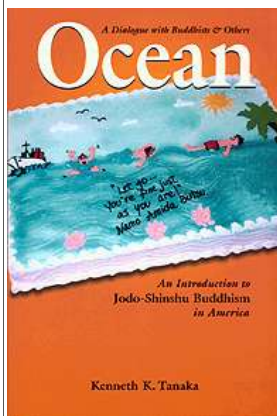
N.B.: conference attendees will receive preference in bus bookings.

For more information please contact the following:

Jessie Ebata 416-249-9805 email: j.tazuko@bell.net

Diane Mark 416-225-2695 email: dianeymark@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE



No doubt many of you recognize the book pictured here. It is one of the most popular introductions to Jodo Shinshu and has gone to print four times! We are excited to announce that Hongwanji is sending the author Kenneth Tanaka to our temple in September for a public lecture (Saturday the 13th) and as our guest speaker for Rally Sunday (Sunday the 14th). Many thanks to Hongwanji Headquarters in Japan for giving us the opportunity to listen to this esteemed teacher, and many thanks to Rev. Fujii for suggesting it!

Dr. Kenneth Kenshin Tanaka is a professor of Buddhist Studies at Musashino University, Tokyo, Japan, and is an ordained Shin Buddhist minister with MAs from IBS as well as University of Tokyo and PhD. from U.C. Berkeley. Currently he also serves as president of International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies (IASBS) and as board members of many other academic societies and organizations. Educated both in Japan and U.S.A., Dr. Tanaka is one of truly rare bicultural specialists and prolific writers on Pure Land Buddhism.



Getting to Know You: Sid Ikeda



Of the many things I have yet to do, I have yet to run into a Japanese Canadian in Ontario who does not know Sid Ikeda, and for good reason. If I were to list the number of this man's contributions to the community, I would have to dedicate an entire Guiding Light Issue, if not 2. But it is not just his phenomenal dedication that people think of when they think 'Sid Ikeda', but his vibrant personality. I can't think of a single time Sid has come to my mind where a smile did not accompany it.

It is amazing to me how Sid always remains so cheerful. If you have never had a look at his schedule book, please do yourself a favour and look over his shoulder one day when he is adding something you asked him to do to his schedule. It is jam packed! When I mentioned to him how busy his schedule looked, he said earnestly "Oh I'm not busy. Today I" Fill in the dots with more things than most of us do in a couple of days, and every single one has to do with helping others. And I know from experience that if he could not attend something he will call afterwards to see how it went and if there is anything he can do to contribute.



When speaking with Sid, he really stressed the importance of volunteering. He pointed out that because in life everything is interconnected, he works as hard as he can to help others. I guess that is why he is always smiling!

My meeting with Sid lasted longer than I realized because I love listening to him talk about his life. If you have not had the chance, please ask him to go for coffee one day and I guarantee you will come away amazed at how many truly inspirational things he has seen and done.



If anyone should write a book about their life, it is Sid Ikeda. He told me that the one thing he learned from an early age was to never be afraid to ask people. That is the secret to life: never be afraid to ask. Just by simply having the courage to ask he has met the Gomonshu, attended the enthronement of the Japanese Emperor, been on countless boards and committees responsible for founding this, or raising money for that. The Japanese beds in Yee Hong? Sid asked for them and connected Momiji with Yee Hong. You never know what can happen if you just ask but you can almost certainly know what will happen if you don't.

Namo Amida Butsu Sid Ikeda. Our community is a better place because of you, and we are fortunate to have you to learn from...and you play a pretty fabulous harmonica.

Rev. Christina Yanko

涼しきうたごえ人
 夏のカラオケ Party
 Suzushiki Utagoe Party
 Natsu no Karaoke Party

Saturday June 28, 2014
12:00~5:30PM
at TBC Social Hall
EVERY ONE WELCOME!!
Admission \$15.00

ENKA SONGS ODORI
JACKPOT BINGO
FUN GAMES
MINYO SO-ODORI
OISHII BENTO

for tickets please call:
Jessica (416) 733-1894
Evelyn (416) 752-6879

TBC
 夏のカラオケパーティー開催日
 六月二十八日(土) 正午開始

TBC Senior Karaoke Club