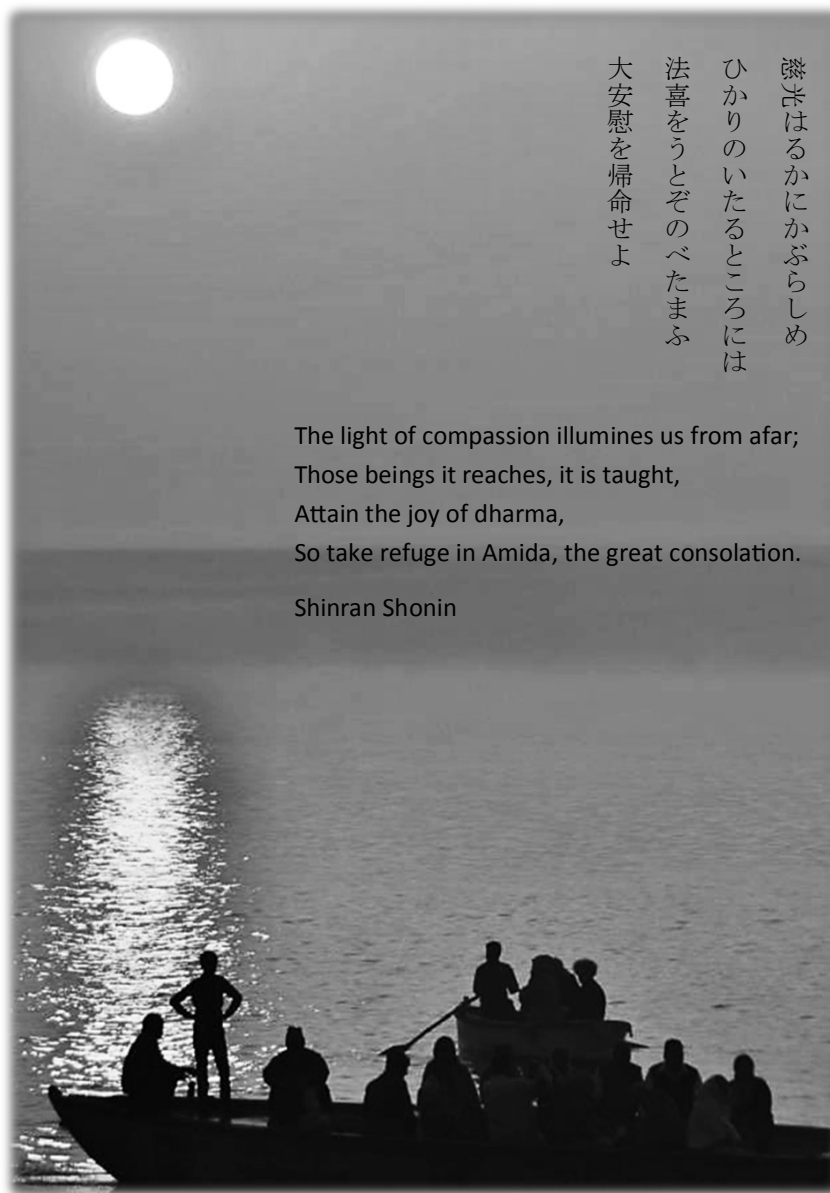




Guiding Light

APRIL 2017



彌陀はるかにかぶらしめ
 ひかりのいたるところには
 法喜をうとぞのべたまふ
 大安慰を帰命せよ

The light of compassion illumines us from afar;
 Those beings it reaches, it is taught,
 Attain the joy of dharma,
 So take refuge in Amida, the great consolation.

Shinran Shonin

Photography by Rev Yoshi

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

1011 Sheppard Ave West
 Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M3H 2T7
 (416) 534-4302 www.tbc.on.ca

APRIL 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Please Note: Events marked with an * asterisk are private and <u>NOT</u> open to the general public Thank you						1
2 MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE & Buyo Group Bento Sale 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm *Dana Mtg (Eko) 12:30 pm *Shin Fujinkai Meeting (Mezz) 12:30 pm *Sangha Mtg (LDC)	3 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	4 10:00 am Fujinotomo	5 7:00 pm Taiko	6 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikebono 7:00 pm Meditation	7 * 7:30 pm Buyo	8 11:00 am *Family Memorial Service *Funeral *49th Day Service
9 ESHINNI DAY SERVICE 9:15 am *Management Committee Meeting 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm * Board Meeting	10 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	11 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm * Minyo Teachers Workshop	12 7:00 pm Taiko	13 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm *Momiji 3:00 pm Ikebaono 4:00 pm *Yee Hong 7:00 pm Meditation	14 <div>TEMPLE CLOSED</div>	15 5:00 pm Hana Matsuri Family Banquet
16 HANA MATSURI SERVICE 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Hana Matsuri Service	17 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	18 10:00 am Fujinotomo 7:00 pm Buddhism Class 8:00 pm Bon Odori	19	20	21	22
<div>JSBTC Annual General Meetings of Board, Minister's Association and Women's Federation will be held in Toronto hosted by us</div>						
23 JSBTC TSUITO HOYO SERVICE *10:00 am Service (Please note the time)	24 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	25 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	26 11:30 am Momiji Community Mtg 7:00 pm Taiko	27 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikebono 7:00 pm Meditation	28 7:30 pm Buyo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	29
<div>Rev. Ouchi will be away ten weeks to complete his Kaikyoshi studies in Berkeley</div>						
30 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm Resume Writing Workshop (Mezz) Montreal						

Morning Services are held on the weekdays on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00 am – 10:30 am when a minister is available. As emergencies do come up, last minute cancellations may occur. Thank You

MAY 2017

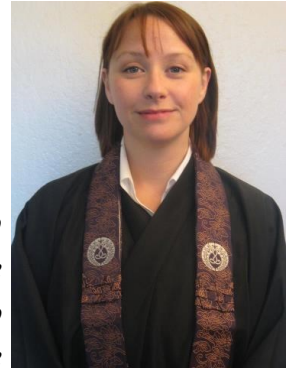
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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	1 10 am Sr Karaoke	2 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	3 7:00 pm Taiko	4 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm Ikenbono School 7:00 pm Meditation	5 7:30 pm Buyo Bon Odori	6 11:30 am *Inurnment 3:00 pm *49th Day Service
7 REGULAR SERVICE 10:30 am Kids Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm Dana Mtg (Eko) Sangha Mtg (LDC)	8 10:00 am Sr Karaoke	9 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	10 7:00 pm Taiko	11 10:30 am Japanese Grdn Club AGM 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm Ikenbono School Momiji 4:00 pm Yee Hong 7:00 pm Meditation	12 7:30 pm Buyo Bon Odori	13 11:00 am * 13th Year Memorial and Reception
14 PARENTS DAY Hamilton	15 10:00 am Sr Karaoke	16 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	17 1:00 pm Ohara School 7:00 pm Taiko	18 10 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm Ikenbono School Castlevue 7:00 pm Meditation	19 7:30 pm Buyo Bon Odori	20 11:00 am *Memorial Service
21 Gotanye & Shosanshiki 11:00 am Service	22 10:00 am Sr Karaoke	23 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	24 1:00 pm Ohara School 7:00 pm Taiko	25 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm Ikenbono School 7:00 pm Meditation	26 7:30 pm Buyo Bon Odori	27 Lumbini Opening
28 11:00 am Regular Service 12:30 pm Diabetes Seminar Vesak Montreal	29 10:00 am Sr Karaoke	30 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	31 1:00 pm Ohara School 7:00 pm Taiko			

Morning Services are held on the weekdays on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00 am – 10:30 am when a minister is available. As emergencies do come up, last minute cancellations may occur. Thank You

Our Children, Our Future

“The children of those who like to read the scriptures and keep the teachings close to their heart are likely to become people who also cherish the Buddhist teachings. Those who have – even once – become interested in the Buddhist teachings, are also susceptible to the Dharma’s influence, even though they may sometimes appear to be occasionally absent minded.”

-Renny Shonin



Every Sunday at service we reaffirm our trust in the Buddha, the Dharma (the Buddhist teaching), and the Sangha (our community), and we often think about how important our community is for a successful future for our Temple. However, there is one aspect of our community we rarely focus on, and when we do think about it, it often comes up in discussion as an afterthought. Our community is made up of various age groups and generations, and we tend to think about the Temple in terms of our Isseis, Niseis and Sanseis. But it is really our children who may well be our most important demographic within our Temple. They may well be our most important asset and investment as they are the window into our future.

Without a doubt, children can be difficult to manage, even put up with, at times. We may see them as noisy and messy, and they may get into things they should not....but we must remind ourselves that they are going through the phase of learning - learning how to be responsible, how to be gentle, how to be considerate. It is our job to teach them. It is not just the parent’s job but also our duty as members of the church and members of the Temple community to teach them by our example. I have often heard adults say that they are concerned whether or not the children will grow up to still have any interest in Jodo Shinshu. What will happen to our beautiful Temple? What will the future look like? Especially when the kids that *do* come here are so, ahem, rambunctious?

It is true. The children who come to Otera are very energetic, but that is because they are comfortable here. They feel like they are among friends and family. And when they go into the Hondo for Kid’s Sangha Service, they listen attentively and place their hands together and say Namō Amida Butsu.

Think about your own experience. I recently came across something written in a journal by Rev. Kenryu Tsuji. Rev. Tsuji was the first minister in Toronto, and the journal entry was dated April 22, 1951. He wrote, “This year’s program turned out to be quite successful. Unfortunately the children were very noisy. There was a restlessness in the air...The children should be separated.” This gave me a good laugh...not because the children were misbehaving, but because given the date (1951) I am certain that many of those children who were misbehaving are active as leaders of our Temple today. In fact when I look at many of our members, I know their parents were (or continue to be) active at the Temple and brought their children.

We were all children once. Previous generations used to worry about us, but our Temple is still here. Our Buddhist faith is still here. As Renny so eloquently describes in his quotation, don’t worry. We are planting the seeds. Give them time and they will learn and they will come.

Continued on page 5

Our Children, Our Future, continued

Children cannot behave like adults. However, what they become as adults is influenced by what they see and learn from us. Let us embrace our Kid's Sangha and do whatever we can to help them grow as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists. Let us try to see beyond our own perspective and try to imagine things from their eyes and minds. Let us do all we can to ensure they want to come to our Temple. If you saw the world from a child's eyes, would the Temple be an important part of your life?

Reverend Christina Yanko

The Middle Way of Body, Mind & Spirit

A wise friend said to me “ take good care of your body”, it is the only place that you will live”. So true and Siddhartha who became the Buddha discovered this Truth for us after many years of ascetic practices where he almost died. He accepted food and drink and abandoned his fasting. Today we can practice the middle way by eating modest portions of healthy food, exercising regularly, and getting sufficient sleep each night.



I have been reading a great book by Richard Carson, Ph.D. called “Don't sweat the Small Stuff...and it's all small stuff.” He writes short passages where he describes “simple ways to keep the little things from taking over your life”. One passage goes like this: “ Whether it's ten minutes of meditation or yoga, spending a little time in nature, or locking the bathroom door and taking a ten minute bath, quiet time to yourself is a vital part of life.” Like spending time alone, it helps to balance the noise and confusion that infiltrates much of our day.” For me, tai chi followed by my own service in front of my Obutsudan each day does the trick.

“Reflecting upon my imperfect self” is a phrase that we repeat at each Sunday service. The beauty of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism is that while we reflect on our imperfections we are accepted unconditionally by the boundless compassion of Amida Buddha. We try to develop loving kindness for ourselves in spite of these imperfections and we try to extend that loving kindness to others. It is this gradual transformation into kinder, gentler human beings that we see the compassion of Amida Buddha working. We only have to look at the the elders in our Temple (I call them ‘Living Treasures’) to see this process happening.

Namo Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu

Dennis Madokoro

Let's Talk Dharma April 30, 2017

“The last of our four friends is the crowning glory of all emotions: equanimity, even-mindedness. It's far enemy is anxiety and restlessness but it's near enemy is indifference and the two are easily confused.....

But even-mindedness is based on the wisdom and insight that every thing changes, on an understanding of total impermanence. No matter what happens, it will all come to an end.”

What do you think?

Come join our last discussion group for 2017. We will meet in the Hondo promptly at 12:30. The mezzanine is being used for a creative writing class.

2017 SPRING HIGAN AND KEIROKAI CELEBRATION

Congratulations to the ladies of TBC Dana who were honoured during the Spring Ohigan service on Sunday, March 19th. A complimentary bento was enjoyed by all followed by an entertainment program. Lovely gifts from the Temple was appreciated by all the honorees.

Perfect weather greeted all those attending the Spring Higan Service and Keirokai celebration and this year, many of our recipients were in attendance.

Keirokai allows us to recognize Temple members who have achieved 77, 88 and 99 years of age. We also recognized 5 members who are over 100 years of age.

Honorees this year are:

77 years old (Kiju)

Kiyoko Nishikawa

88 years old (Beiju)

Kiyomi Asada; Rose Baba; Hideko Hedy Iwata; Iwao Kuroyama; Sueko Michibata; Sachiko Miyata; Misako Mori; Miyeko Mae Ogaki; Giichi Ohashi; Emiko Amy Toki; Yoshiaki Rick Toki; Michiyo Ueda; Alice Setsuko Uyeda; Tomiko Irene Wakayama; Chiyomi Rose Yokota; Tomoko Yoshida; Haruko Bando; Hideko Fujii; Yasuko Jean Furukawa; Miyoko Hamasaki & Tokiye Watte

99 years old (Hakuju)

Kazuo Tom Shimizu; Kikumi Yoshida & Takeo Yoshida

Over 100 years old

Shigeo Seko (100); Fusaye Hashimoto (100); Tsuyo Kusano (101); Shozo Ishikawa (102) & Yasuko Shimoda (103)

After the morning service, the honorees, their families and congregation gathered in the Social Hall to enjoy a delicious bento lunch prepared by Tori Ichii.

The afternoon festivities, co-hosted by Akiko Nishimura and Bob Nishikawa, started with Isshin Daiko performing 2 taiko numbers with the second being an amazing light show. Many of our honorees performed Karaoke: Iwao Kuroyama; Rick & Amy Toki; Giichi Ohashi & Bob Nishikawa. The church choir sang Chikuma Gawa and a sing-a-long to This Land is Your Land. Many Kids Sangha members performed: piano solos by Patricia Simose and Amy Tanaka respectively; The Cup Song by Sophie Erenberg and Mokoto Jacin; Chenuli Hunukubura sang Zou San and a Taekwondo demonstration by Rikizo & Misuzu Tamaki. You would think that with this line-up of talent it couldn't be topped, but our Ministers proved us wrong. Rev. Christina and Atticus sang The Rainbow Connection and Rev. Yoshi, along with the TBC Buyo Group, performed their version of YMCA by the Village People but renamed it YPBA (Young Persons Buddhist Assoc.). Ending all of this talent, we were delighted to have Sachiko Hata-Pereklita, accompanied on piano by Takayuki Fukada, sing Ai no Katachi.

Thank you to all our performers, special guests, Temple members and volunteers who helped make this day a special one and we hope to see all of you for our 2018 celebration.

TBC Special Projects, Religious and CCOV Team 5

2017 SPRING HIGAN AND KEIROKAI CELEBRATION



OBITUARIES

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

Mrs. Hisako Minemoto	90 yrs	February 20, 2017
Mr. Kazuo Jack Onishi	90 yrs	March 14, 2017
Mrs. Tetsuko Tehara	95 yrs	March 17, 2017
Mr. Takeo Yoshida	98 yrs	March 22, 2017



Bon Odori 2017

It feels like spring is in the air, and with spring comes Bon Odori. Join us at the Toronto Buddhist Church to practice Japanese folk dances in preparation for the Obon festival on July 8. Women, men and children are all welcome and step-by-step instructions are given. Practices will be held every Tuesday and Friday, 8:00-9:30 pm, beginning April 25.

Obon is an important Buddhist festival. It would be great to see more TBC members participating in the odori this year as we also celebrate Canada's 150th birthday.

Bon odori practices, Toronto Buddhist Church

Tuesday and Friday nights, starting April 25, 2017

8:00 – 9:30pm *please note the time of Friday practices

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

I was proofing the monthly G/L for March as I usually do. But I had to write to tell you all, how much I loved the beautiful cover for March's GL. It is awesome, stunning, beautiful and soothing. An absolutely stunning shot with such a meaningful quotation.

Rev. Yoshi, I LOVE it! Please, let's keep it as a cover for awhile. When I first opened the attachment and saw the page, I was in complete awe. It's so amazing that it just puts you at complete ease while you're thinking about the quotation.

BRAVO ! BRAVO! I can't get over how it made me feel and think.

Diane Mark

DANA Membership Dues Reminder

A reminder that the 2017 Dana membership fee of \$15 per member is now due.

Please mail a cheque for **\$15** made payable to Toronto Buddhist Church, to the Temple, give it to any of the Dana executive or place your membership fee in the Dana mail slot in the temple office. Indicate on the payment that it is for your Dana membership. Also, if you are turning 80 years of age in 2017, please let us know as you will become an honorary member and not be required to pay the membership fee.

THANK YOU FROM THE SHIN FUJINKAI

Thank you for your support! Shin Fujinkai would like to thank the congregation for making this year's 'Winter Warm Up' another success. Thank you also to our members who came to help prepare and serve our 'yakisoba' lunch.

We hope to see you next year.



Living Dharma Centre Virtual Book Club

Thank you for following our past discussions on Sensei Jeff Wilson's book Buddhism of the Heart: Reflections on Shin Buddhism and Inner Togetherness. We hope that the readings and comments have sparked thought and reflection within yourself as well as reconnecting to some of the basics of Shin Buddhism. Our thanks go to Sensei Jeff for writing such an easy to read and approachable book!

Our next title for the LDC Virtual Book Club will be Man's Search For Meaning by Viktor E. Frankl. We will be starting this title on April 28th and we will complete it by May 28th. This book is widely available in paperback, audiobook and ebook format.

From a Good Reads Review:

"Psychiatrist Viktor Frankl's memoir has riveted generations of readers with its descriptions of life in Nazi death camps and its lessons for spiritual survival. Between 1942 and 1945 Frankl labored in four different camps, including Auschwitz, while his parents, brother, and pregnant wife perished. Based on his own experience and the experiences of others he treated later in his practice, Frankl argues that we cannot avoid suffering but we can choose how to cope with it, find meaning in it, and move forward with renewed purpose. Frankl's theory- known as logotherapy, from the Greek word logos ("meaning") - holds that our primary drive in life is not pleasure, as Freud maintained, but the discovery and pursuit of what we personally find meaningful."

Please join us by emailing Barb MacCarl at: bm.livingdharmacentre@gmail.com to be included in the discussions.

Coordinating Committee of Volunteers (CCOV) Update

April 15 Hanamatsuri Family Banquet assisted by CCOV Team 2

April 16 Hanamatsuri assisted by CCOV Team 3

This year the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada Annual General Meeting will be held at our Temple from April 20 to April 23. All CCOV Teams are needed over the four days. Even if you are not on a CCOV team, help is needed with transportation, baking, light meals and more. Come out to see old friends and make new friends.

Please contact your co-captains or Dawn at canzai@sympatico.ca or Darlene at darlene.rieger28@gmail.com for more information.

Thank you.

TBC Sangha Requests the Honour of your Presence at 2017 Hanamatsuri Family Banquet 5 pm Saturday April 15th in the Social Hall

Our Program.

Full Course Meal:

Appetizers

Choice of Roast Beef / Salmon / Vegan Entrée

Fruit Salad

Cake

Juice / Water / Green Tea / Coffee

Entertainment

Bingo

Adults - \$12

Youth - \$6 (17 and Under)

TBC Kids Sangha Members – Free

Donations for Door Prizes are appreciated

Tickets available from Sangha members or TBC office

Celebrate the Birth of Buddha!

Hanamatsuri Service Sunday April 16th

In Buddhist tradition, we celebrate the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha and we observe this important date with offerings of fresh flowers and by pouring sweet tea over a statue of Baby Buddha. The ancient stories tell of sweet tea raining down upon the Baby Buddha and the blossoming of flowers as the earth celebrated the birth of the future Buddha.

In Jodo Shinshu tradition, we use the term “Hanamatsuri” or Flower Festival to denote Buddha’s birthday and the service where we observe this momentous occasion and it tends to also occur during the blossoming of the cherry blossoms in Japan. Over fifty years ago, our Temple decided to combine the two events and we hand out small cherry blossom boutonnieres to mark the Birth of Shakyamuni Buddha.

We look forward to seeing you at this service to honour the Buddha and participate in this happy time on Sunday April 16th.

Kids Sangha Service: 10:30am

Regular Service: 11:00am

INFANT OR FIRST VISIT PRESENTATION TO THE TEMPLE: SHOSANSHIKI

Sunday May 21, 2017 at 11:00am

In the Jodo Shinshu tradition, we present any infants and children up to the age of three to the sangha (community) and the Temple in a special presentation at the service on Sunday May 21st, 2017 at 11:00am.

Please register any children three years of age or under so they can be introduced to the Temple community (sangha) and to the Buddha.

We love children and we welcome them all to this special presentation.

Please complete the application form and submit it to the Temple office by Sunday May 14th.

Child’s Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: (dd/mm/yy) _____ **M** _____ **F** _____

Mother’s Name: _____

Father’s Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Postal Code:** _____

Tel: _____ **Email:** _____

Résumé Writing Workshop: "Get Noticed, Get Hired, Get The Job You Want"

It's increasingly difficult for Canadians to find work these days. Permanent jobs are disappearing, youth unemployment is rising, and even older workers are having to re-enter the workforce to supplement their income. Competition for jobs is fierce.

So how do you stand out among hundreds of job seekers? And how do you elevate your résumé so that it makes a compelling impact?



Join us in the Temple's Mezzanine on **Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 12:30pm** for a practical and hands-on workshop to learn tips and best practices to boost your chances of getting noticed, and ultimately, getting hired.

Everyone is welcome, and the workshop is free of charge. Register today through Eventbrite: <http://bit.ly/tbcworkshop>

Please bring a copy of your résumé with you so that you can participate fully in the workshop.

About the Facilitator:

Glenn Nishimura is the Principal and Chief People Strategist at Nishimura Consulting. As a 20 year HR veteran and former business lead in corporate HR at TD Bank Financial Group, he now acts as an advisor and consultant to entrepreneurs, startups and small business owners across North America and Europe, where he helps to build strong company cultures and smart people practices.

He is a frequent keynote speaker, sits on the advisory board for Venture for Canada and the Board of Directors at Toronto Buddhist Church, and mentors young entrepreneurs through Futurpreneur and the Ontario College of Art & Design. He also writes about HR and performance management as a columnist for PROFITguide & Canadian Business.

Volunteers Needed to Arrange the Naijin/Altar Flowers

No Experience Necessary (Training Provided)

A group of five ladies takes turns arranging the altar flowers for the Temple every week. We are looking for more people to join this group of volunteers to share this responsibility.

Requirements

Available 4 to 12 Friday afternoons a year for 1.5-2 hours between 12:00pm-5:00pm
(We can arrange after work hours if you are only available after 5:00pm)

Job Description

Remove last week's flowers from a large vase and two small vases
Wash vases
Arrange new flowers in the vases in an attractive fashion

Please contact **Pamela Yoshida** at 416-534-4302 or tbc@tbc.on.ca if you are interested in volunteering.



KIDS SANGHA

KIDS SLEEPOVER!

HOLD THE DATE: KIDS SANGHA ANNUAL SLEEPOVER: SATURDAY JUNE 3RD AND SUNDAY JUNE 4TH. MORE INFORMATION AND SIGN-UP TO COME.

April 16, 2017 – 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Nature Walk / Outdoor Scavenger Hunt

What is good a way to welcome Spring and inspire a love and appreciation for the natural world? Go on a Nature Walk!

We will explore the park and neighborhood around the Temple looking for signs of the warm weather to come. Our walk will end back at Temple with a cup of hot chocolate.



Image courtesy of Nifty Mom

May 7, 2017 – 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Arts and Crafts

Join us for an hour of fun

doing arts and crafts.



image courtesy of Craft Art for Kids

KIDS SANGHA

May 21, 2017 – 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Outdoor Games

In Celebrating Shinran's Birthday and the start of the warm weather we will hold outdoor team games in the park behind the Temple.

Please have the kids dress in loose clothing and running shoes.

We look forward to seeing you!

Denise, Naomi, Rachel, Koji, Abigail, and Leanne



image courtesy of www.themodestmomblog.com

KIDS SANGHA'S VISION

Our vision is to bring together young children of all ethnic backgrounds and help them learn and experience the Buddha Dharma in a way that is relevant to their everyday lives.

Our Kids Sangha program is run in a safe and fun environment by a team of volunteers who are passionate about teaching children. Our hope is that children aged 4 to 13 yrs of age will build new friendships, have fun and feel good about time spent at the Temple as they participate in activity-based programs geared towards this age group.

Kids Sangha meets every 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. No classes during the summer. Classes resume Rally Sunday September 10th.

The program is open to all families so please feel free to drop in anytime.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

We are always looking for volunteers who are passionate about teaching young children. We currently have opportunities open in our classroom or daycare.

If you are interested, please contact Denise Crofton at dcrofton@rogers.com

Please note: Volunteers must pass a background check and agree to TBC's policies and procedures as they relate to childcare.

TBC DANA SCHOLARSHIP INVITES APPLICATIONS

The Toronto Buddhist Church Dana Scholarship Committee invites all qualified, graduating students to apply for a scholarship.

Eligibility:

Students who are first time applicants and who are members or who are children or grandchildren of members of a temple/church in the Eastern District of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada and who will be attending their first year of post-secondary education at a recognized institution such as a university, college, institute of technology, etc.

All applications must be submitted in writing and accompanied by a Letter of Reference. The amount of the scholarship is dependent on monies available each year end and is at the discretion of the Committee.

The selection criteria will be as follows:

Academic Results	50%
Church Activities	30%
School and Community Involvement	10%
Essay (300 words)	10%

If you wish to apply for a scholarship, please contact the office at tbc@tbc.on.ca or 416-534-4302 and an application form will be forwarded to you as soon as possible.

**** DEADLINE for the scholarship application is Sunday, April 9, 2017 ****

All scholarship winners will be honoured at the scholarship presentation and luncheon which will take place on Sunday, September 24, 2017 (during the 11:00 am service).

Diabetes, Diet and Lifestyle Informational Session

On Sunday, May 28th from 12:30 – 2:00pm you are invited to join us to learn about the practical life choices that will be important to know to prevent and live with diabetes in your everyday life. Today in Canada, there are 11 million people who are living with diabetes or prediabetes. Chances are you know someone who is affected by this disease. Come and find out how to prevent or minimize the harmful effects of this disease on you or your loved ones.

Some of the topics we will look at are: practical and wise choices of eating at restaurants, shopping for food, prevention of diabetes and the interpretation of today's packaging information on food labels.

This free presentation will be lead by Jessica Chan, a registered nurse and a certified diabetes educator from the North York Family Health Team – Diabetes Education Program. There will be some free brochures and pamphlets in English and some in Japanese.

Please bring your own lunch and your questions and join us in the Mezzanine on Sunday, May 28th after the service for this important presentation.

Evening of Buddhism

Tuesday April 4th at 7pm

Jodo Shinshu Seven Masters—Tao-ch'o

We will be doing a series of sessions focusing on the seven people Shinran Shonin named as the great teachers who contributed to the teachings of Pure Land Buddhism. This time we will focus on Tao-ch'o, the great philosopher from China who, after visiting the temple of Tan-luan, was inspired to convert to Pure Land Buddhism and helped spread the Pure Land teachings throughout China.

Tuesday April 18th at 7pm

Jodo Shinshu Seven Masters—Shan-tao

We will discuss the great teacher from China, Shan-tao. He is said to have converted to Pure Land Buddhism after coming across a beautiful painting of Amida Buddha's Pure Land. He is known for focusing on the development of the three-fold mind: sincerity, deep entrusting, and aspiration for rebirth.

Meditation and Mindfulness with Ray Nakano

Are you suffering from stress?

Have you tried meditation on your own but it hasn't worked?

Would you like to be more mindful in what you say and do every day?

Then, you may want to attend our meditation and mindfulness sessions.

Ray Nakano has facilitated meditation sessions for over 5 years and is leading 2 hour meditation sessions at the Toronto Buddhist Church. You can sit on a chair or a cushion.

Come out and join us!

When: Every Thursday evening from 7 to 9 pm.

Where: Toronto Buddhist Church

A typical 2 hour session includes:

Guided sitting meditation (30 minutes)

Silent walking meditation (10 minutes)

Silent sitting meditation (20 minutes)

Dharma talk

Sangha sharing

Dharma talks are basic Buddhist teachings. Some talks that we have had: the 4 Noble Truths, the Noble Eightfold Path, the 5 Awarenesses.

Sangha sharing is an opportunity for the group to share regarding their mindfulness practice and talk about their experience and any problems or concerns they are having.

If you would like to attend:

Please arrive at least 10 minutes early in order to allow time to "settle in", so the session can begin promptly at 7 pm.

Please turn off your smartphone upon entering the meditation room (the Hondo).

If you have any questions, please contact Reverend Christina Yanko at 416-534-4302 or you can email Ray Nakano at mindfulnesspracticesangha@hotmail.com.



JSBTC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

APRIL 21ST - 23RD 2017

1011 SHEPPARD AVE W | TORONTO, ONTARIO | M3H 2T7

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) Invites you to attend the following events related to our **Annual General Meeting** hosted by TBC

CLOSING BANQUET AT CASA IMPERIAL
SATURDAY APRIL 22ND at 6:30PM

\$50.00
PER PERSON

INCLUDES:
10 COURSE MEAL + WINE!



Please join us for a gourmet 10 course meal, including Hong Kong Style Lobster at Casa Imperial. Guests are Welcome! **Sign up today, as tickets are limited to 120 people.**

Casa Imperial is located at Warden & Steeles Ave, and is situated in a historic Victorian style house. This restaurant was named as one of Toronto's top Chinese restaurants in the city.

Please visit tbc.on.ca to see the set Menu for the event (Click JSBTC link in the footer)

Annual General Meeting:

Learn more about Temple Activities and hear from various Ministers and JSBTC Members from across Canada.

APRIL
21

Friday April 21, 2017
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
followed by hospitality time

APRIL
22

Saturday April 22, 2017
9:30 am – 4:30 pm
** Sign up for one or both days*

Sunday Service: Starts at 10:00 am
(please note the earlier start time)

Come to our special service. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear chanting by all our JSBTC Ministers and listen to a special Dharma talk.

APRIL
23

POT LUCK LUNCH
Bring your favourite dish to share!

If you would like to attend the AGM Meeting and or Banquet please register with our TBC office. No registration is required for the Sunday Service or Pot Luck lunch.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH gratefully appreciates all donations received.

Due to the strict guidelines set out by the banks, we have been advised that they will be closely monitoring all cheques to be deposited to the church account to ensure that they are made out correctly. They can and will refuse any cheque(s) that are improperly written.

All cheques are to be made out as follows:

Toronto Buddhist Church

Please do not use any short forms such as TBC, T.B.C and especially please **do not use** Toronto Buddhist Temple or TBT.

If you are making a donation to either Dana or Sangha, Guiding Light, Altar Flower Fund, etc. they should be made out to Toronto Buddhist Church with a notation in the memo section as to which organization or fund the donation is to be directed.

We appreciate everyone's co-operation in this matter.

SHARE YOUR CREATIVITY.

The Guiding Light is seeking artists, whether hobbyist or professional, who are willing to show their work on the cover of our monthly newsletter. We have in the past received contributions from many of our Temple members, and most recently Rev. Yoshi. We would love to see pieces of sumie, calligraphy, drawings, photographs etc. which would be suitable for our Buddhist publication.

If you have artwork you'd like to share with the readers of the Guiding Light please send a digital reproduction to:
darlene.rieger28@gmail.com

Guiding Light

Please join us for the Eshinni Day Service

On Sunday April 9th at 11:00am

It has been said that the work of outstanding Buddhist women has often gone uncelebrated. This service on Sunday April the 9th is to celebrate, honour and thank Eshinni, the wife of Shinran Shonin.

We have heard that both Eshinni and Shinran saw each other as a Boddhisatva and Eshinni's financial and material support allowed Shinran to further his efforts in bringing Jodo Shinshu to the masses in 13th century Japan.

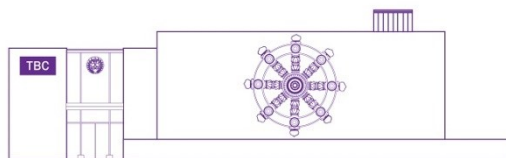
From Eshinni's letters found in Hongwanji, Eshinni did not see marriage to Shinran as an impediment to being a Buddhist nun and following her beliefs.

Please join us to help celebrate and thank Eshinni, an outstanding and independent woman, for helping to further our Jodo Shinshu religion on Sunday April 9th at 11:00am.

For further reading please see: The Life of Eshinni: Wife of Shinran Shonin by Yoshiko Ohtani and Letters of the Nun Eshinni: Images of Pure Land Buddhism in Medieval Japan by James C. Dobbins

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Temple is hosting the 2017 JSBTC AGM which is approaching and we need your help to make it a success. We require volunteers for many of the different areas of the AGM from Thursday April 20 - Sunday April 23rd. If you are available please contact June Asano at asanojune@gmail.com or Darlene Rieger at darlene.rieger28@gmail.com and let us know the days and times you are available. Thank you in advance for your help.



MEMBERSHIP
Join/Renew

WE NEED YOU

***Join or Renew
Online***

2016 is done and gone, and we must now approach you to renew or apply for your membership for 2017. This past year our membership continued to climb to over 300. This is most encouraging and this steady upward trend bodes well for the future of our Temple. But we know there are still some who have not applied for membership or have forgotten to submit the membership application with your membership fee.

Needless to say the future of the Temple depends on our members so we need you to take the time or remember to submit your application and fee.

We continue trying to improve the benefits of being a member of the Temple, here are a few reasons why a membership is valuable:

1. Most importantly, as a member you will have the right to vote on all important matters affecting the Temple, such as the election of the President and the Directors, the approval of budgets and all significant matters affecting the future of the Temple.
2. As a member you are subscribing to the Jodo Shinshu values of the Temple.
3. As a member you are entitled to free notarial services offered by one of our Temple members.
4. As a member you are entitled to a discount on premium-level CAA memberships.
5. As a member you will be entitled to attend special Temple activities free of charge or at rates not available to non-members.
6. As a member you will be entitled to a free mailed subscription to the Temple newsletter, the Guiding Light, so long as your membership is up to date. Due to increased postage costs, non-members will be charged a subscription fee (\$25.00) if they wish to receive a hard copy of the Guiding Light. This change will be implemented in June 2017.

Regular memberships are valid from January 1 to December 31 each year, so we ask that those wishing to be recognized as a Temple member complete the application form as early as possible at the start of each year. Once your signed application and membership fee (Note increase in 2017 from minimum \$100 to minimum \$125 per year) or your promise to pay the total fee by May 31 have been received, your membership card will be sent to you.

Honorary Membership Cards will be issued to all members 77 years of age and over who sign up for the year 2017, or if already an Honorary Member, he or she confirms in each year his or her wish to continue Honorary Membership. Honorary Members do not need to pay any annual membership fees, although all donations are welcome.



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

*a Jodo Shinshu Temple***2017 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION***In the case of couples, please complete information for each applicant individually.*

Applicant #1 Renewal () New ()		Mr. () Mrs. () Ms. ()
Last Name: _____		Birthdate: dd/mm/year: _____
First Name: _____		Email: _____
Address: _____		Phone: _____
City: _____		Signature: _____
Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____		
<p>I promise to pay \$_____ as my Membership Fee for 2017 and am enclosing the amount of \$_____ on account of such fee. I will pay the balance of my Membership Fee, if any, by May 31, 2017. By signing this Membership Application I hereby adopt the vow printed on the reverse side of this Application.</p> <p>-----</p>		
Applicant #2 Renewal () New ()		Mr. () Mrs. () Ms. ()
Last Name: _____		Birthdate: dd/mm/year: _____
First Name: _____		Email: _____
Address: _____		Phone: _____
City: _____		Signature: _____
Prov. _____ Postal Code: _____		
<p>I promise to pay \$_____ as my Membership Fee for 2017 and am enclosing the amount of \$_____ on account of such fee. I will pay the balance of my Membership Fee, if any, by May 31, 2017. By signing this Membership Application I hereby adopt the vow printed on the reverse side of this Application.</p>		

Please note that this application is for membership from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017. The Individual Membership Fee for 2017 is a minimum of \$125. However, the Temple welcomes and will be grateful for any amount over and above this minimum fee.

A tax receipt will be issued for the total Membership amount paid.

Please note that \$80 of your Individual Membership Fee is paid to Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) as an assessment for each member of our Temple.

Membership Fees may be paid in one lump sum or in monthly or installments. **Please do not use Offering envelopes to pay membership fees. Instead, please insert them in separate plain envelopes clearly marked "For Membership". Please make any cheques payable to Toronto Buddhist Church.**

SAVE THE DATE

Were you ever a DANA SCHOLARSHIP recipient
(or know someone who was)?
If so, we want YOU!

When: Sunday, September 24th, 2017

Where: Toronto Buddhist Church
1011 Sheppard Avenue West
Toronto, ON

Why: To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of
the Dana Scholarship!

Please email TBC.scholarship.1967@gmail.com
with your mailing address so we can send you more details!



2017 Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC)

Buddhist Youth Tour to Japan

Young Buddhist International Cultural Study Exchange (YBICSE)

For many years, Nishi Hongwanji has been sponsoring the YBICSE program. The basic purpose of this program is to expose young Buddhists to ideas about sharing Nembutsu teaching with others by visiting Hongwanji (mother temple), experiencing a homestay, touring historical Jodo Shinshu sites, and meeting people and Young Buddhists from different countries. The main portion of the trip will be organized through the Hongwanji (July 11 – July 19), and the second part will be just the Canadian group on our own to visit Tokyo and other cities. Opportunity will be afforded to those youths who wish to receive confirmation rites by our head minister (Gomonshu-sama). Please keep in mind that participating youths will be ambassadors representing their local temples and JSBTC.

Youths who wish to visit with relatives or friends at the conclusion of the group tour may do so; however, please notify Rev. Aoki so that the return flight to Canada can be coordinated. We will be in Tokyo on the last day (July 23).

Candidate Qualifications:

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist

Between the age of 15 and 25

In good health

Dates of Trip: July 10 – July 23, 2017

Cost of Trip: CDN \$2,000.00 (plus Travel Insurance arranged by the participant)

Application and Selection Process:

Fill out the application and waiver form(s), write an essay, and ask your resident minister and lay member (preferably a local temple Dharma School Teacher or a temple president) to fill out the reference forms.

Application forms must be submitted to: **Rev. Tatsuya Aoki**
YBICSE Registration



Vancouver Buddhist Temple
220 Jackson Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3



Application Deadline: **May 5 , 2017**

Ten [10] Participants (new or past applicants) will be chosen from Canada. Priority of selection will be given to those who have never participated in past tours.

Canada Delegates will be announced by May 10, 2017

An application form is available from your local temple and your minister.

If there are any questions regarding 2017 YBICSE, please contact Rev. Tatsuya Aoki (JSBTC Group Leader).
Vancouver Buddhist Temple: (604) 253-7033 E-mail: rev.aoki@gmail.com

Forms available in the office.