



# *Guiding Light*

OCTOBER 2017



*Illustration by Rev. Jokoh Mohr of Renjho Temple in Tokyo , Japan*

## **TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH** *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

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

# OCTOBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Please Note:</b> Events marked with an asterisk * are private and are not open to the general public						Thank You
<b>1 Monthly Memorial Service</b> 9:00 am Bazaar Food Mtg (Eko) 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm *Dana Mtg 12:30 pm * Sangha Mtg Shin Fujinkai Mtg	<b>2</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 1:00 pm *Private Fam Srv 7:00 Isshin	<b>5</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikenobo 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>6</b> 8:00 pm Buyo CANCELLED	<b>7</b>
Rev. Ouchi will be away in JAPAN September 30th— October 11, 2017						
<b>8 Regular Sunday</b> <b>Jeff Wilson Sensei</b> 11:00 am Service Service in Hamilton	<b>9</b> <div>OFFICE CLOSED</div> <b>Happy</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b> NO Karaoke	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>1:00 Ohara</b> 7:00 Isshin	<b>12</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm *Momiji 3:00 pm Ikenobo 4:00 pm * Yee Hong 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>13</b> 8:00 pm Buyo	<b>14</b>
<b>15 PET APPRECIATION SERVICE</b> 9:15 am *Management Committee Mtg 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm * BOD Mtg	<b>16</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 1:00 pm Ohara 7:00 Isshin	<b>19</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 Buyo 2:00 pm * Castleview 3:00 pm Ikenobo 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>20</b> <b>3:00 pm</b> <b>Pubic Lecture</b> <b>Rev Izui</b> 8:00 pm Buyo	<b>21</b> <div>Rev. Ouchi Guest Speaker Winnipeg Oct 21-22</div>
<b>22 Regular Service</b> <b>OVSA Presentations</b> 11:00 am Service 3:00 pm *Private Family Service / Reception	<b>23</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:30 am *Momiji Comm Mtg 7:00 Isshin	<b>26</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikenobo 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>27</b> 7:00 pm * Private Family Srv	<b>28</b> 11:00 am * Private Family Service Ottawa Workshop
<b>29 Regular Service</b> 11:00 am Service 4:00 pm Prv Fam Srv	<b>30</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Svc	<b>31</b>				
Morning Services are held on the week days 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.						

# NOVEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>*Events marked with an asterisk are private and are <u>NOT</u> open to the general public</b>  <b>Thank You</b>			<b>1</b> 1:00 pm Ohara School	<b>2</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikenobo 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>3</b> 8:00 pm Buyo	<b>4 11:00 am</b> *Private Family Srv
			Rev. Ouchi vacation in JAPAN October 31st – November 7th			
<b>5 MONTHLY MEMORIAL &amp; JSBTC DAY SERVICE</b> 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm *Dana Mtg 12:30 am *Sangha Mtg	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 2:00 pm *Momiji Service 4:00 pm *Yee Hong Service	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>TBC</b> <b>BAZAAR</b> <b>12:30– 4:30 pm</b>
	<b>BAZAAR PREPARATION WEEK</b>					
<b>12 REGULAR SERVICE</b> 11:00 am Service Service in Hamilton	<b>13</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 7 pm Isshin	<b>16</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm *Castlevie 3:00 pm Ikenobo 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>17</b> 8:00 pm Buyo	<b>18</b>
<b>19 EITAIKYO SERVICE (Perpetual Memorial)</b> *9:15 am MC Mtg Mezz) 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service	<b>20</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7 pm Isshin	<b>23</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikenobo 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>24</b> 8:00 pm Buyo	<b>25</b>
<b>26 REGULAR SERVICE</b> 11:00 am Service *12:30 pm Dana AGM *12:30 pm Sangha AGM	<b>27</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7 pm Isshin	<b>30</b> 10:00am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikenobo 7:00 pm Medita-		

**Morning Services** are held on the week days **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

## “Happy Time is Happy Life?”

*The ocean of birth-and-death,  
Of painful existence, has no bound;  
Only by the ship of Amida's universal Vow  
Can we, who have long been drowning,  
Unfailing be brought across it.  
Shinran Shonin, Hymns of the Pure Land*



It is already October, leaving only a few months left in the year. Did it seem to pass quickly for you or slowly? For me it felt like it went both. I had the opportunity to meet more people and make more friends, and when we are enjoying our time it passes so fast. Simultaneously I had to bid farewell to new friends in Canada and saying goodbye is never easy. The feeling of remorse seems to take a long time. I know many of you have felt the same way.

Shinran Shonin's Wasan says that the ocean of birth-and-death of painful existence has no bound. Even if we are having wonderful time one moment, we may have a difficult time in the future.

It reminds me of a story I heard that I would like to share with you:

Once up on a time, one minister visited a village. The village was poor, but the minister received a very hearty and warm welcome there. When he left the village he gave the village people two Jizo. Jizo is a bodhisattva who watches over children. He set one Jizo at the east side of village, and the other was set at the west side of village. Eastern Jizo was called “Kiku Jizo”. “Kiku” means “to listen”. When people requested their wish to the Eastern Jizo, the Jizo listened and granted the request. Western Jizo was called “Kikanu Jizo”. “Kikanu” means “to not listen”. So the Western Jizo did not listen to any requests and wishes, and just remained standing on the west side. The minister advised the village people to go and worship the Western Jizo, but of course, no one went to the West side and everyone went to the East side to make their wishes.

Some of their wishes were, “Please make me a rich-man!”, “Please cure my sickness!” and “Please give me big house!”. The Eastern Jizo granted their all wishes.

Their village was used to being a poor state, but after half of a year the village became a rich place. No one worked anymore, but they all had many more wishes to make. They started to get competitive, and changed their wishes to: “Please make me wealthier than him”. “Please give me a bigger house than her”. “Please give me better health than everybody else!” Everyone wanted to become the number one person. They asked the Eastern Jizo for “More! More!! More!!”

Then finally one day a person made a request to the Eastern Jizo. “Please make my neighbor become poor!” After the wishing, the neighbor became poor. And the neighbor requested the Eastern Jizo “Please make him sick!” They wished each other to become unhappy and have misfortunes. The village people could not trust each other anymore, because they didn't know who the one who requested their unhappy life was.

The minister who gifted the two Jizo came back to the village one day and saw what was happening. He suggested once again that they visit the Western Jizo.

The village people finally decided to pay attention to this advice and went to visit the Western Jizo. The Western Jizo did not grant any wishes, and the village became poor again and they had to work hard again. However the village people could trust each other and re-establish good relationships. And they started wishing for each person to find happiness.

The old story shows us that our human desire has no limit. When we dream of having something and then achieve it, we always come up with something else to wish for. This desire for something more makes life difficult.

Cont'd on Page 5

## “Happy Time is Happy Life?”

Of course if someone was to work hard to grant our wishes it would make us happy. However, we have to consider if that happy moment necessarily leads to a happy life. However, if someone is just looking or watching over us, as in the example of the Western Jizo, we might feel comfort in what we already have, and feel a warmth in our heart.

The existence may be parents, best friends, relatives...it depends on you.

In any case, when we notice someone or something is looking after me forever, we feel very relieved, because we are not standing alone.

*The ocean of birth-and-death,  
Of painful existence, has no bound;  
Only by the ship of Amida's universal Vow  
Can we, who have long been drowning,  
Unfailingly be brought across it.*

Amida Buddha is always looking after us to be brought across from this world to the pure land.

Gassho

Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi

## Appreciation Letter from Hongwanji

August 2017

Jodo Shinshu ministers and followers,

We are pleased to inform you that the *Commemoration on the Accession of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition to the 25th Monshu Sennyō*, which began on October 1, 2016 successfully concluded on May 31, 2017. A series of 80 ceremonies were conducted to publicly announce that the Jodo Shinshu tradition including the title of Monshu, or Head Priest of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Buddhist organization has been transmitted to our new leader, Monshu Sennyō.

We are thankful to have been able to mark this joyous opportunity together with many, both inside and outside of the organization. Success of the event was, we are sure, due to the support from you and many others and for that, we are deeply grateful.

Our next major observances at Hongwanji are the *850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth* scheduled for 2023 and the *800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching* the following year. Taking advantage of the energy following our recent commemoration, we would like to continue in our efforts toward the realization of a society of mutual respect.

*Cont'd on Page 6*

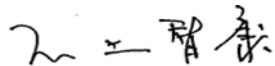
## Appreciation Letter from Hongwanji, cont'd

In the dharma message addressed on the first day of the *Commemoration of Accession*, Monshu Sennyō presented a concrete description of a way of living as a Jodo Shinshu follower. He reiterated this topic in his message at the conclusion of the series of services stating, "Although it is impossible for us to conduct completely pure good deeds like the Buddha [because of our human desires], it is still important for us to make the best of our efforts to carry out an ideal Buddhist way of living in every aspect of our life as much as possible."

To contribute toward the realization of a society in which everyone can live peacefully, let us try to actualize Monshu's guidance by not only entrusting ourselves to but also share the Buddha Dharma with others. In doing so, it is also essential for us to help one another and continue in our efforts to repay even a little of the benevolence we have received from the Buddha and innumerable invisible helping hands.

With asking for your continuous support and advice, we would like to conclude our message of gratitude. Once again thank you very much.

Respectfully yours,



Governor General IWAGAMI Chiko

Commemoration of Accession Headquarters

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha



Head Regent HONDA Takao

Commemoration of Accession Headquarters

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

## Rally Sunday

Sunday, September 10, 2017

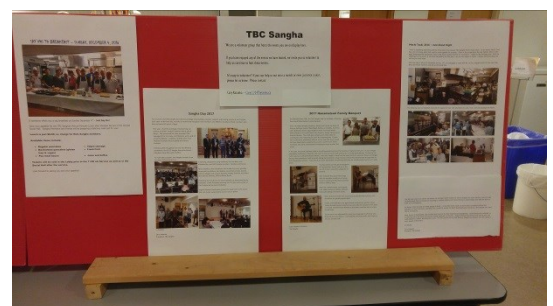
Rally Sunday was a busy day at the temple. Groups were busy setting up their displays and Kids Sangha welcomed back the children after the summer break.

Thank you to the ladies who made onigiri and spam musubi for the congregation and to the ladies who did the set up for the displays - we often forget to thank them.

For the beautiful ikebana displays, photo and information displays, thank you!

We look forward to seeing next year's displays.

Special Projects





## Camp Lumbini 2017

Stephen Taguchi

As a youth the one thing I always looked forward to each summer was Camp Lumbini – this sentiment continues to this day. As summer approaches, the time I spend with other counsellors becomes increasingly filled with conversations about new ideas for Camp Lumbini or simply recalling past years at camp. Camp Lumbini, in the past, used to have high attendance and it seems as though there are once again several youth attending the camp (16). This year, campers were divided into three teams and participated in various activities related to this year's theme: sesshu fusya. Sesshu fusya is the idea that the Buddha accepts us all as we are. As Shin Buddhists it is not necessary to be perfect; what matters is your intentions and effort.

Every day, each group takes turns conducting service and the group leader prepares a Dharma talk beforehand. In addition to conducting service, each team shares the chore workload at each meal during the day. Furthermore, every year each group creates their own cheer, poster and skit relating to the theme of camp. At the end of the week, the skits are presented. This year, the skits demonstrated the youth's understanding of sesshu fushya mixed in with a lot of hilarity. Every other day, there are larger activities organized for all attendees of Camp Lumbini that includes: bowling, a movie screening, canoeing/kayaking and mini golf. Camp Lumbini provides youth the opportunity to create bonds with other youth while engaging in and reflecting on the Dharma. Although some youth do not always attend regular service, Camp Lumbini provides way for attendees to participate in their own way and even return as counsellors to positively influence the next generation of our youth.

This year we were fortunate to have Ouchi-sensei attending camp this year for the first time as well as welcoming Yuasa-sensei back from the Vancouver temple. This year Ouchi-sensei and Yuasa-sensei designed a musical chairs-like activity that highlighted how the Buddha accepts us all despite our various differences. During their time with us at camp, they participated alongside the campers and were able to form friendships that they will surely cherish. On Thursday Yanko-sensei joined us after Ouchi-sensei departed for the city. Yanko-sensei ran a meditation workshop that focussed on relaxation and accepting yourself as you are in addition to accepting each person's individual differences. Thanks to these workshops, the campers were able to independently draw their own conclusions about the meaning of sesshu fusya. Thanks to the sensei attending camp along with parent volunteers we were able to run camp smoothly. Thanks to volunteers in the past I have many fond memories about Camp Lumbini which is the reason why it is a pleasure to organize Camp Lumbini every summer.



## 2017 Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada Day

I hope everyone enjoys the beginning of the new fall season, which illustrates the transient nature of all life. Leaves change their color and eventually fall to the ground. The fallen leaves then provide nourishment for the tree. In the spring, new leaves will spring from its branches to display its beautiful greenery...

At the present time, there are a number of issues throughout the world, specifically to do with racism, terrorist activities, nuclear threats, hate, and violence. These concerns remind me of a story of a bird in the *Amida Sutra*. It reads;



“Furthermore, Shariputra, in the land of Ultimate Bliss there are various birds of brilliant coloring, such as white egrets, peacocks, parrots, *sharikas*, *kalavinkas*, and *jivamjivakas*.

The birds sing six times a day in exquisite voices. Their very singing expresses *Amitabha's* teachings, such as the Five Roots of Goodness, the Five Powers, the Seven Factors of Enlightenment, and the Noble Eightfold Path.

When the people of the land of Ultimate Bliss hear the birds' voices, all of their thoughts are dedicated to the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha.”

To further illustrate, there is a story of a mythical bird, *jivamjivakas*, which goes like this...

Once upon a time, there lived a strange bird in a huge banyan tree. which stood beside a river. The strange bird had two heads, and only one body. Once, while the bird was flying high in the sky, he saw an apple-shaped fruit lying on the bank of the river. The bird swooped down, picked up the fruit and began to eat it. It was the most delicious fruit the bird had ever eaten. As the bird had two heads, the other head protested, "I'm your brother head. Why don't you let me also eat this tasty fruit?" The first head of the bird replied, "Shut up. You know that we've only one stomach. Whichever head eats, the fruit will go to the same stomach. So it doesn't matter which head eats it. Moreover, I'm the one who found this fruit. So I have the first right to eat it."

Hearing this, the other head became silent. But this kind of selfishness on the part of the first head displeased him very much. One day, while flying, the other head spotted a tree bearing poisonous fruit. The other head immediately descended upon the tree and plucked the fruit from it.

"Please don't eat this poisonous fruit," cried the first head. "If you eat it, both of us will die, because we have a common stomach to digest it."

"Shut up!" shouted the other head. "Since I've plucked this fruit, I've every right to eat it."

The first head began to weep, but the other head didn't care. He wanted to take revenge. He ate the poisonous fruit. As a result, both died.

I leave the story like this for you the reader to figure out.

Namo Amida Butsu

Rev. Tatsuya Aoki

Bishop, Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada



## **JSBTC Day 2017 Message from JSBTC President Dave Otori**

On behalf of the JSBTC Board of Directors, I wish to extend my warm greetings to all JSBTC Member Temples, their congregants and friends of the JSBTC. With the extremely hot summer behind us now, the cool rains and autumn colours will be something to look forward to.

On July 10-23, the JSBTC hosted a youth tour to Japan with many interesting places to explore. The main attraction was visiting our Mother Temple Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto. There were a total of six youth who registered from across Canada. The participants were two from Fraser Valley Temple, one from Calgary Temple, one from Manitoba Buddhist Temple and two from Toronto Buddhist Church. This year the chaperone was Bishop Aoki who took time from his busy schedule to be the tour guide for this trip. This tour leader opportunity was open to all ministers in Canada but due to their schedules no one was able to accompany the youth to Japan. Thank you very much to Bishop Aoki for putting big smiles on the faces of our Youth Delegates and for making available life long memories for the youth who attended.

Rev. Robert Gubenco, who is a member at Calgary Buddhist Temple has expressed an interest in being a Kyoshi minister in Canada. Under the supervision of Rev. James Martin and Bishop Aoki, we should have a Kyoshi minister soon to help with our extreme shortage of ministers in Canada. The JSBTC expresses our gratitude to Rev. Robert Gubenco, Rev. James Martin and Bishop Aoki for their dedication and guidance in fulfilling this need for the future of sustaining Jodo Shinshu in Canada.

Rev. Yoshi (Yoshimichi) Ouchi was assigned to Toronto Buddhist Church last year. He has been working closely with TBC, Rev. Christina and Socho Aoki in adapting to our Canadian culture. He has shown great enthusiasm and he is a true gift to us by being a new minister of the JSBTC. We are very proud in welcoming him in joining our Sangha.

I'm sorry to announce the resignation of Rev. Christina Yanko who is a resident minister of Toronto Buddhist Church. She will unfortunately be leaving JSBTC on Dec 31, 2017. Her husband Dave is an American citizen and he has been called back to the USA for active duty (which he cannot refuse) with the U.S. Coast Guard. I know it was a difficult decision for Rev. Christina to make but we all understand that it is very important to keep the family unit together whenever possible. I am going to miss her wonderful Dharma talks and her glowing smile. Thank you Rev. Christina for the wonderful experiences which you have provided to our Sangha during your appointment in Canada. Many members will be missing you and your family. We wish you good luck and safe travels for you and your family. The JSBTC Board of Directors appreciates the JSBTC membership for your support for all our Ministers and Bishop Aoki. The JSBTC is a representative of all Jodo Shinshu Temples across Canada and we wish that all members understand that we all have a voice. The Board has been working hard to ensure the health and well being of our ministers and to spread the Dharma of Jodo Shinshu to everyone.

In Gassho,

Dave Otori  
JSBTC President (on Behalf of the JSBTC Board)



Eastern Buddhist League (EBL) Conference 2017  
 Hosted by Midwest Buddhist Temple (Chicago)  
**“North American Buddhism: A Path Forward”**  
 Sept. 1-3, 2017

Our deep appreciation and thanks go to the Midwest Buddhist Temple in Chicago for hosting the Eastern USA and Canada at the annual Eastern Buddhist League Conference. The Toronto Buddhist Church has participated in these conferences from 1947 when a young Rev. Tsuji took some young Toronto Busseis (Young Buddhists) to the Midwest Buddhist Temple to take part in workshops, the Dharma and to meet other sanghas.

The theme of this year's conference, “North American Buddhism: A Path Forward”, looked at many aspects of the relevancy of our faith and the community around us in terms of inclusion and diversity, selfless giving, Buddhism and the environment and how one can hold many different beliefs and religions within Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. The keynote speaker was Rev. Kurt Rye, resident minister of Placer Buddhist Church in California. Rev. Kurt grew up in the Washington D.C. area and was a minister at Ekoji Temple. Rev. Kurt's professional background was in social work and in the mental health field before studying to become a Jodo Shinshu minister. Rev. Kurt's keynote address was about the many ways or paths that we are moving toward in North American Buddhism.

We also had the opportunity to take part in various activities such as touring a local micro brewery, a taiko workshop, a minyo odori workshop (Japanese folk dancing) and an outing to the local casino.

This conference is a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and renew friendships from the sanghas in Seabrook Buddhist Temple (N.J.), Ekoji Buddhist Temple (Washington, D.C.), New York Buddhist Church (NYC), Cleveland Buddhist Temple (OH), Twin Cities Buddhist Association (Minneapolis/St. Paul), Chicago Buddhist Temple and the host Midwest Buddhist Temple (Chicago).

The site of the 2018 Eastern Buddhist League Conference will be in Toronto over the Labour Day weekend (August 31st – September 2nd). Please put the date aside to come and attend to make new Dharma friends, to reacquaint with old friends and to take part in the Dharma energy that is created!



## 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.

Mr. Isamu Kodama                      93 yrs                      September 19, 2017

Mr. Hiroshi Nakabayashi              75 yrs.                      August 10, 2017

Our apologies to the Nakabayashi family for the omission of this obituary listing in the September “Guiding Light” newsletter

## Reflections on the 50<sup>th</sup> Year of the TBC Dana Scholarship

It's wonderful to have this opportunity to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Toronto Buddhist Church Dana Scholarship. I'm grateful for the opportunity to reflect on what the scholarship has meant to so many of us.

I received the scholarship in 1989. (Let's not do the math.) Turning back the calendar to 1989 is not a particularly enjoyable task, and I have Susan Takahashi to thank for making me do this. For most of us, including me, our teenage years were filled with awkwardness and angst. Added to this was the feeling of being different – speaking a different language or eating different food at home and having a different faith from most of our friends. In 2017, our Prime Minister says, and it is commonly accepted, that our diversity is our strength. But in 1989, those weren't widely held views.

In this context, the church, as we called it then, was a place of acceptance. A place where we would gather among friends of a similar background, where we could be ourselves and not have to explain things like our parents' expectations or how we could possibly eat sashimi. This is significant in the life of an adolescent, when you are constantly trying to figure out who you are and where you fit in. Many of us made lifelong friends, who have remained with us through thick and thin.

The Dana scholarship was part of all of this. Every year, we knew who received the scholarship and could aspire to achieve like the ones who went before us. Scholarships like the Dana scholarship are important because they provide an essential vote of confidence that we might not receive from the outside world. When I went to my high school guidance counsellor to ask for a scholarship application for the University of Toronto, she told me only the best students would receive them and was reluctant to give me the application. (Yes, I got the application, and yes, I got the scholarship.) In that year, the competition for the Dana scholarship was probably stiffer - I remember feeling intimidated by my Dharma school classmates' perfectly written notebooks, and I was usually the one catching up!

The financial support was a smaller but significant aspect. In those days, the Dana scholarship was enough to cover a significant portion of my tuition. But most of all, as a recipient, I felt supported by my community. When we started the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers in 2007, one of the first things we did was to establish a scholarship for law students of Asian origin. We named it after the first Asian woman judge in Ontario, the Honourable Maryka Omatsu, who many of you may know of due to her role in the Japanese Canadian redress campaign. A scholarship provides role models, encouragement, and moral support. I'm so very thankful to have been a lucky recipient of all of this. And given its invaluable role, it comes as no surprise that the Dana scholarship is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year.

On a broader level, having the solid foundation of my Buddhist faith has provided me with principles that continue to guide me. When we were high school students attending Dharma school, we were lucky to have Reverend John Iwohara as our teacher. John made Buddhism accessible and relevant to all of us, in his humorous and low-key manner (and he was from California, so that in itself made him pretty cool). Learning about concepts like karma and interdependence, the Four Noble Truths, and the Eightfold Noble Path – I thought: "This makes sense. I'm set."

Indeed, those lessons have served me pretty well – they have provided me with peace through tough times and guided me through difficult decisions. I don't know if I can say that teenage awkwardness and angst have been fully replaced by adult wisdom and poise, but I am grateful to the Toronto Buddhist Church for giving me the path and tools to help get me there.

In gassho,

Sandra Nishikawa



## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the TBC Dana Scholarship

On September 24, 1967, the TBC awarded its first scholarship to three aspiring students. 50 years later to the day, on September 24, 2017, the TBC celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the TBC Dana Scholarship. Over 30 of the past scholarship recipients along with their families and the general congregation attended the special service and celebratory reception.



The TBC Dana Scholarship Committee would like to thank Sandra Nishikawa and Clayton Madokoro for sharing their TBC memories during the service, the Shin Fujinkai and friends (led by Elaine Takahashi) for the exceptional canapé and hors d'oeuvres, Abigail Kataoka for the delicious celebratory cake, Lori Okada for the beautiful ikebana arrangements, Denise Crofton for the website co-ordination, Crystal Anzai for the poster designs, and the many individuals who worked behind the scenes on the celebration. The Committee would also like to thank the 50th Anniversary Committee consisting of Aja Shimizu, Eric Mark, Sherri Nishimura and Susan Takahashi for their hard work and dedication in organizing the event.

**Call for Applications:** The purpose of the TBC Dana Scholarship is to encourage, recognize and assist graduating high school students who have demonstrated their commitment to the Jodo Shinshu faith and who are striving for post-secondary school academic excellence. If you or someone you know would like to apply from the scholarship, please to contact the Church ([tbc@tbc.on.ca](mailto:tbc@tbc.on.ca), subject: Scholarship or 416-534-4302).

## TAIKO TAIKO

Join Isshin for an introductory taiko drumming workshop on Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2017

## TAIKO TAIKO AND MORE TAIKO

One class not enough? Join Isshin for a 4 class series of introductory taiko Wed. Nov. 15 to Wed. Dec 6/17

Visit our Eventbrite page for all the details and to register. Links below

One class link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/single-day-intro-to-taiko-workshop-registration-37921055899>

Four class link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4-week-intro-to-taiko-workshop-registration-37921342757>

Questions? Contact Darlene  
darlene.rieger28@gmail.com



## 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

## DANA NEWS

### 2017 Toronto Buddhist Church Bazaar

This year the bazaar will be held On Saturday, November 11 th. We hope that we can count on everyone for your contributions and support.

### Dana Annual Meeting

The Dana ladies will be holding their AGM following the service on Sunday, November 26 th in the mezzanine on the second floor of the temple. All members are invited to a lunch which will be served at 12:15pm followed by our meeting at 1 pm.

# THANK YOU

Tamaki Family for your generous donation of a double bed for cabin 3 at Camp Lumbini. The kids and renters at camp really appreciate it.

Mika thank you for your donation of the headset the Temple members will really find them useful





## Jodo Shinshu and Rituals



Have you ever wondered why we chant during our services? Have you ever thought about what practice I should be doing as a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist? According to the words of Shinran Shonin, he states in the *Tannisho*, “Just say the Nembutsu and be saved by Amida Buddha”. If all we have to do is to recite the Nembutsu (Namu Amida Butsu), then why do we chant every Sunday at service?

If you have ever wondered any of the above, then come join us on Friday, October 20<sup>st</sup> from 3:00 pm as we will have a special guest lecture from Rev. Fumito Izui of the Hongwanji department of Ritual and Liturgy Education. You may be surprised to know that the Hongwanji has a very rich and deep history in rituals, which has been instrumental in transmitting the Nembutsu teachings from generation to generation. Rev. Izui will unlock the secrets to chanting so that you will have a better appreciation of the various chants that we do at our temples.

This is actually not the first time that Rev. Izui is visiting our temple, he was here as one of the ministers helping out with the Gagaku Court Music during the opening of the temple back in 2005. If you belonged to the Gagaku Club back in 2005 you’ll want to make sure you come to Rev. Izui’s talk as he may bring back some fond memories of the opening of our temple. He might even give a brief demonstration of the Gagaku music, perhaps with our own Yoshi Sensei.

So mark your calendars for Friday, October 20<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 pm. (Rev. Izui will be speaking in Japanese and Rev. Grant, who will be here for the JSBTC Ministers’ Meetings will translate into English).

# Guiding Light

## REMINDER: ONLY MEMBERS ARE RECEIVING GUIDING LIGHT

As mentioned in our membership articles the rising cost of postage has forced us to implement a subscription fee for all those who are not members of the Temple. The subscription fee charged applies to those receiving the Guiding Light by mail. If you were not a member in 2016 or have not applied for or renewed your membership for 2017 you will no longer receive your Guiding Light after the July/August issue (this has been extended from June as mentioned in the article). The subscription fee is \$25.00.

If you do not wish to apply for membership but wish to continue to receive a copy of the Guiding Light by mail please submit your subscription form and fee to the Toronto Buddhist Church (indicating it’s for the Guiding Light).

The Guiding Light is also posted on the Toronto Buddhist Church website [tbc.on.ca](http://tbc.on.ca)

Subscription form on page 15

**SUBSCRIPTION REQUEST FOR THE GUIDING LIGHT FOR NON MEMBERS**

NAME (MR./MRS/MISS/MS) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **ENGLISH ONLY**\_\_\_\_\_ **ENGLISH/JAPANESE**

Send your request to Toronto Buddhist Church, 1011 Sheppard Ave. W. Toronto, ON M3H 2T7, accompanied with your subscription fee of \$25.00. Cheques should be made payable to Toronto Buddhist Church indicating it is for subscription for the Guiding Light. You can also drop the form off at the Temple office.

**\*\*A tax receipt will not be issued for the subscription fee**

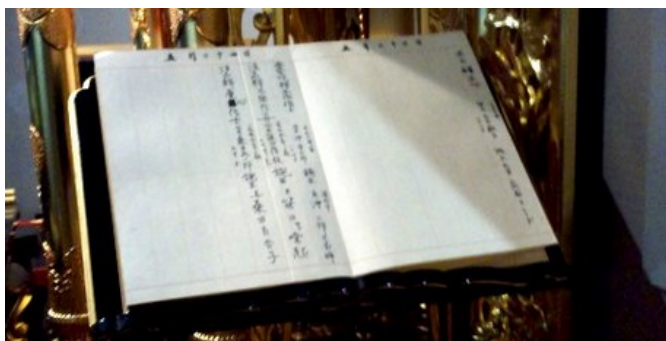
**Perpetual Memorial Service (Eitaikyo)****November 19, 2017**

The Perpetual Memorial Service (Eitaikyo) is for a temple member who has been entered into the Eitaikyo record book by a family member for perpetual honouring by the temple especially at this special annual service.

The Perpetual Memorial Service (Eitaikyo) is a way to guarantee that the loved one will have a special memorial service for them as conditions change and the loved one may not have family or friends to attend the temple to observe a monthly memorial service for them. Our Eitaikyo record book is kept behind the main altar and when there is a minister present during the week, a service is also performed at the area of the Eitaikyo book specifically to honour those listed in the book along with this annual service.

This is a tradition started in our temple's early days by our founding minister, Rev. K. Tsuji and it is a tradition usually carried on by Jodo Shinshu temples.

If you lost a loved one who was devout in faith or devoted to our temple, please consider adding them to our Eitaikyo book. Please notify the office during regular hours and we can make arrangements to include them in this honoured tradition.



## JSBTC (Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada) Day 2017



In April of this year, Toronto Buddhist Church was fortunate to host the JSBTC 2017 Annual General Meeting and many of our temple members and supporters witnessed and enjoyed the Dharma sharing by Temple Delegates, Ministers, National Board Directors, Women Federation Reps and guests from across our country. All told, 11 temples were represented at the AGM. It was a wonderful opportunity to discuss and plan our strategies for the upcoming year and into the future and to share together the Light of the Nembutsu.

This year, at Toronto Buddhist Church, we will be celebrating JSBTC Day 2017 on Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>. This is a time when we can reflect on our national organization which is responsible for many things like the Bishop and the Office of the Bishop, medical and benefit plans for our hard working and valuable ministers, life insurance for them, educational opportunities for our ministers, strategic planning for our Canadian Kyodan, supplemental retirement funds for our ministers and a growing list of positive initiatives to spread the Dharma Teachings and to assist all our temples and their members through the active work of the LDC (Living Dharma Centre).

JSBTC Member Temples contribute to the JSBTC based on their membership for which the JSBTC is most grateful but the national organization is faced, like everyone else, with rising costs. It is vitally important that we try hard to continue to offer security and benefits to our ministers and positive and important benefits for all JSBTC Member Temples and their members and supporters.

I would ask that you join our wonderful temple in celebrating JSBTC Day 2017!

With Gratitude and in Gassho,

Larry Wakisaka  
TBC President  
JSBTC Vice President

### **JSBTC Day Reminder on Donation Procedures:**

As in recent years, JSBTC is requesting local temples to collect donations for JSBTC Day. In order to comply with the new Canada Not for Profit Act, local temples are asked to count the donations received, to receipt their local temple members and supporters directly and forward the proceeds with a list of the names and addresses of the donors as well as the amounts to JSBTC.

Donors at Toronto Buddhist Church should write their cheques to “**Toronto Buddhist Church**” and indicate “JSBTC Day” in the memo area of the cheque. Special JSBTC Donation envelopes are available for donations.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important procedural matter.

## Call For Costume Jewellery Donations



TBC will be having a fundraising Jewellery Table at the Church Bazaar with proceeds going to the Eastern Buddhist League Conference in Toronto on Labour Day Weekend 2018.

\*Please bring all donations to the office  
For more info please contact June Asano  
Email: asanojune@gmail.com

## Pet Appreciation

**Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am**

Our pets are our best friends and are members of our families. They often teach us many valuable lessons in unconditional love and unquestioning faith. We will be honouring and remembering our dear animal friends with a Pet Appreciation service on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. You are welcome to bring a photo of your beloved pet and participate in this service of gratitude.



## 2017 Ontario Volunteer Services Award

Our temple is fortunate to have two young ministers and a hard-working office staff. But, we often forget that many tasks and functions at the temple are looked after by our volunteers. The OVSA is one of the highest honours we can bestow and gives us a chance to say "thank you".

Four names were submitted to the Ontario government and nominees were honoured at a government ceremony in June.

On Sunday, October 22, we will be honouring our 2017 OVSA recipients.  
This year's worthy recipients are:

Linda Nakao	50 years
Pamela Yoshida	30 years
Kathy Wani	10 years
Darlene Rieger	5 years

Following the morning service, there will be a light luncheon served in the Social Hall.

## TBC BAZAAR 2017

Fall has just arrived and plans for the annual TBC bazaar are in motion.

Do you have a hobby and interested in selling your items at the bazaar? Half and full tables are available for rent.

We would also be interested in hearing new ideas for the bazaar. Please contact us at [canzai@sympatico.ca](mailto:canzai@sympatico.ca)

Thank you

TBC Bazaar Committee

### TBC Annual Bazaar

**Saturday, November 11, 2017**

Fall is fast approaching and with it the Temple's biggest annual fundraising event.

We need your help!

Donations are needed for sale at the various venues:

Japanese items  
Baked goods and Food items  
Gently used items for the White Elephant Sale  
Plants  
New items for the Silent Auction and Lucky Draw

*(Please note that we are unable to sell used clothing, children's toys and books.)*

If you are able to help during the week before the bazaar, please check the posted work schedule or email [canzai@sympatico.ca](mailto:canzai@sympatico.ca)

We will be able to begin accepting donations from Sunday, November 5, 2017.

***Please contact the TBC office if other arrangements are needed.***

Your support is much appreciated!

TBC Bazaar Committee

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

# ANNUAL BAZAAR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017

12:30pm to 4:30pm

1011 Sheppard Ave West, Toronto  
(1 block east of Downsview station)



### THE CROWD PLEASERS

Udon • Sushi • Chicken Yakitori • Obento  
Chow Mein • Tempura • Dessert Selection

Japanese Food • Baked Goods  
Silent Auction • Lucky Ticket Draw and more!

For more information:  
Please call 416-534-4302 or visit us at [www.tbc.on.ca](http://www.tbc.on.ca)



**2017 BAZAAR WORK SCHEDULE****\*\* schedule listed is tentative and subject to change \*\***

DATE	TIME	TASK
Sunday, October 29		wash pots for anko making bring down white board
Friday, November 3		Wash azuki beans Prepare hakkusai for tsukemono
Saturday, November 4		Make Anko Wipe wooden boxes in cooler fridge Sanitize serving trays
Sunday, November 5	after ser- vice after ser- vice	Put up bazaar banners (main entrance and side fence) Take apart Social Hall stage
Wednesday, November 8		Move chairs from Hondo Bring tables up to Hondo Set up tables in Social Hall for food preparation & packaging
Thursday, November 9		Manju making Wash 250 lbs of rice
	evening	Close naijin Set up tables in Hondo, Lobby and Social Hall
Friday, November 10		Make sushi, udon, udon dashi, toppings for udon Cut pork for chow mein Cut vegetables for chow mein and tempura Prepare broccoli and carrots Prepare shrimp for tempura Wash rice of inarizushi
	evening	Make inarizushi Bring down brown trays for oribako Wash rice for Saturday's bazaar meals Rearrange tables in kitchen Set up kitchen for Saturday - cooking chow mein Ready kitchen for udon, tempura, teishoku dinner
Saturday, November 11		Make chow mein, udon, tempura Cut tsukemono Package sushi, chow mein, inari, bento, chirashizushi Move oribako goods up to Hondo Clean up in Social Hall, Kitchen  Clean up Mezzanine

## Zen Meditation and Mindfulness

When: Every Thursday Evening from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Where: Toronto Buddhist Church – Hondo.

### The two-hour session will include:

- Guided Sitting Meditation
- Silent Walking Meditation
- Silent Sitting Meditation
- Dharma Talk

Sangha Sharing Dharma talks may include the 4 Noble Truths, the 8 fold Noble Path, the 5 Skandhas, etc. Practices may include recitation of the 5 Mindfulness Trainings, Beginning Anew, Touching the Earth, etc. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early in order to allow time for “settling in” so the session can begin promptly at 7:00 pm.

If you have any questions please contact the Temple at 416-534-4302 or you can email Denise Crofton at [dcrofton@rogers.com](mailto:dcrofton@rogers.com)

## Mindfulness Towards Your Body (Yin Yoga) with Denise Crofton

On **Thursday October 12<sup>th</sup>** join us for a special meditation and Yin Yoga session.

We will begin at 7:00 pm with 30 min. of Guided Seated Meditation and then an hour of Yin Yoga.

**Come out and join us on Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>...all are welcome!**

### What is Yin Yoga?

Most forms of yoga today are dynamic and active practices working our muscles (‘yang’ tissue). In these forms of practices we are only working half our body. Yin yoga allows us to work the other half, the deeper ‘yin’ tissues of our ligaments, joints, deep fascial network and even our bones. It’s important to work all of our tissues in order to maintain optimal health. Mindfulness towards your Body is a sequence taught by my Yin Yoga teacher Bernie Clark, which I would like to share with you. This sequence provides gentle traction to your connective tissue working out any stiffness you may feel in your body. The intention of the class is to be mindful towards the sensations you feel in your body as you move through a sequence of postures.

Please bring a yoga mat, blocks, bolsters or towels/blankets. We do have yoga mats and a limited supply of blocks available for those who do not have their own.

If you have any questions please email Denise Crofton at [dcrofton@rogers.com](mailto:dcrofton@rogers.com).

A minimum donation of \$5.00 for the October 12<sup>th</sup> session would be appreciated...all proceeds go towards the Toronto Buddhist Church.

Gassho,

Denise Crofton

Image courtesy of Krystyn Strother.



## 2017 TBC BAZAAR SILENT AUCTION ITEMS



Saturday December 2nd, 2017  
Showtime: 12:00 noon

***TBC SENIOR KARAOKE CLUB***  
***YEAR END CONCERT 2017***  
at TBC Social Hall

十二月二日(土) 年末コンサート 正午開演  
男シニアカラオケクラブ 開催日時

**EVERY ONE WELCOME !!**

**Admission: \$15.00**

**includes:**

**Oishii obento**

**Enka songs**

**Odori**

**Good times**

**Grande finale**

**for tickets and information please call:**

**Jessica Nakamura (416) 733-1894**

**Setsuko, Lambeau (416) 225-4747**

***TBC SENIOR KARAOKE CLUB***

# KIDS SANGHA

PLEASE JOIN US.....

October Theme – “Dana – Giving”

October 1 – Thanksgiving

Thankful tree craft

Poem writing

self-reflection – giving back and being thankful

creative napkin folding



October 15 – Halloween

Halloween team challenges

Trick or treat bag making craft

Home decorating

Tricks’ charades

Costume designing



\*\*\*\*\*

November Theme – “ Dhyana – Meditation”

November 5 – meditation workshop with Ray Nakano

November 19 – all about the Dharma Wheel (part 1)

salt dough making

creating salt dough Dharma Wheels



SEE YOU ALL THERE.....

Gassho,

Jessica, Yumi, Abigail, Rachel, Koji, Denise & Naomi



## 2017 Thanksgiving Food Drive

Our annual food drive in support of the Daily Bread Food Bank is here. The Food Bank helps thousands who go hungry in our city. People on social assistance, new immigrants, seniors and single parent families all depend on the Food Bank.

Food items will be collected until October 15, 2017. Please support the food drive by bringing in non-perishable food donations. There are boxes in front of the office for your contributions. Suggested donations are dry pasta, canned soups, fruit, vegetables and fish, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and baby formula. (Please check expiry dates on your donations).

Thank you.  
Shin Fujinkai

WANTED

 <p><b>SOUP</b></p>	 <p><b>MAC &amp; CHEESE</b></p>	 <p><b>CANNED FISH</b></p>
 <p><b>BABY FORMULA</b></p>	 <p><b>PEANUT BUTTER</b></p>	 <p><b>RICE</b></p>
 <p><b>DRY PASTA</b></p>	 <p><b>TOMATO SAUCE</b></p>	 <p><b>CANNED VEGGIES</b></p>

Food Drive runs from Sept 24 - Oct 15

Bring in non-perishable food donations. For example, suggestions are dry pasta, canned goods like soup, fruits and veggies, fish, tomato sauce. Also baby formula, rice, peanut butter, mac and cheese.

Please check expiry dates on your donations.

We are helping the Daily Bread Food Bank by collecting food to support hungry families and children and individuals who have difficulty making ends meet and can't afford to buy groceries.

*Thank you*



# Special Luncheon

Sat.  
Nov. 25th., 2017



at Momiji Place - noon to 4pm 3555 Kingston Road

## "Honouring Japanese Canadians on the **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of their Internment & Displacement in Canada"

Reception, BentoBox, Photo & Film Exhibits  
Stories by Internees & Entertainment

**Ticket \$10 until Oct. 15th., \$15 from Oct. 16th.**

at Momiji Office and Toronto Buddhist Church at regular office hours  
or send a cheque made out to the Greater Toronto Chapter NAJC  
to TorontoNAJC, 6 Garamond Court, Toronto, ON, M3C 1Z5.

Hosted & Sponsored by Toronto NAJC



Contributing Partners: Momiji Health Care Society



Nat'l Ass'n of Japanese Canadian



Toronto Buddhist Church



JCCC Heritage Committee

