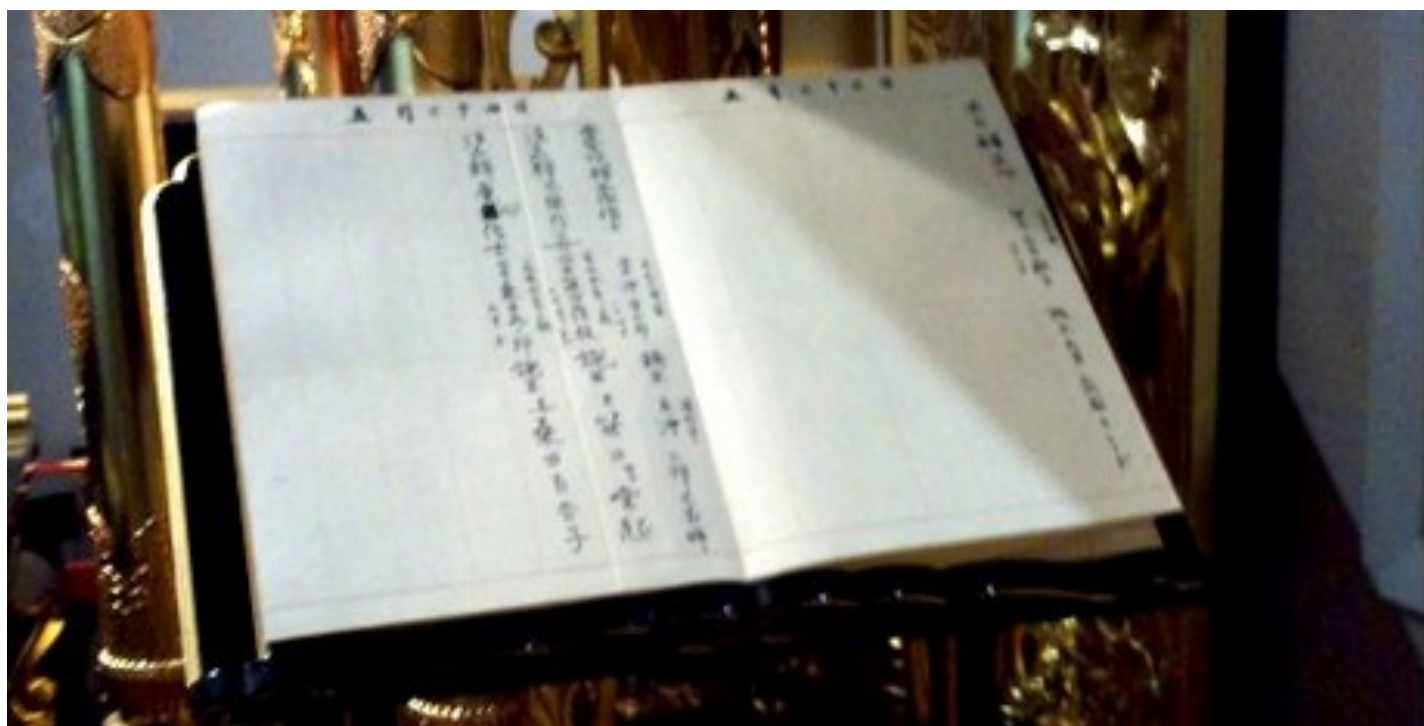




Guiding Light

November 2020



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

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

More Good News!

We are pleased to welcome Reverend Yoshimichi Ouchi back to the Naijin! After a long year of waiting, Rev. Ouchi has now received the proper documents from Canada Immigration & Citizenship that will allow him to return to work as our Minister. Welcome Back Rev. Ouchi!

We want to thank all of you for your patience and understanding as we postponed and rescheduled family memorial services. We know it was not easy. We do ask for just a little more patience as we start to schedule services that were postponed over the past year.

We would also like to thank Bishop Aoki, Reverend Grant Ikuta and Rev. James Martin for their unwavering support and for providing memorial, funeral and special services throughout the year, both in person and virtual. A special thank you to our Ministerial Assistants, Jeff Wilson Sensei, Joanne Yuasa Sensei and Dennis Madokoro for their flexibility and dedication in providing services during Rev. Ouchi's absence and during COVID-19.

Changes to Temple Services

As we continue to navigate through the constant changes of the COVID-19 requirements, our temple has been open for services since September. We have provided in-person and on-line services each week. The in-person services have not been popular and so we are reducing the number of in-person services to two (2) per month starting December. They will be held on the first and third Sundays of the month. The first Sunday will be our Shotsuki Memorial Service, while the third Sunday will be the Special Service of the month.

We will have on-line services each week. We will continue with Facebook Live until the end of November (please see our website tbc.on.ca for details). In December, we will change our on-line format to Zoom. Our current broadcast format on Facebook Live is strictly one-way. Zoom will give our attendees an opportunity to see each other and have some interaction before and after services in a safe manner. It will also give us the opportunity to host guest speakers or Ministers. Zoom has improved its security issues over the past few months and we will have control over who attends the services. You will therefore need an invitation to attend the services. You will be able to access the service with a computer (with a working microphone and speakers and a camera), a smart phone or a tablet.

If you are interested in attending the virtual Zoom Services starting in December, please send an email request to tbc@tbc.on.ca to be put on the invitation list. You will be invited each week and it will be your choice to attend. Hope to "see" you there!

Service Schedule (subject to Provincial COVID 19 guideline changes)

		In Person	Virtual
November 1	Monthly Memorial Service	Yes	Facebook Live
8	Regular Service	None	Facebook Live
15	Eitaikyo Service	Yes	Facebook Live
22	Monthly Memorial Service	Yes	Facebook Live
29	Regular Service	None	Facebook Live
December 6	Monthly Memorial Service	Yes	Zoom
13	Regular Service	None	Zoom
20	Bodhi Day Service	Yes	Zoom

If you would like to participate in the Zoom services in December please email the Temple at tbc@tbc.on.ca so you can be sent the information each week

Please see the TBC website or page 13 of this month's Guiding Light for the new COVID -19 Protocols and requirements for attending services in person.

PEACE DECLARATION.

We are gathered here today on September 18 to observe the 40th Annual Memorial Service for All Who Perished in War, and particularly, this year marks the 75th Anniversary of the end of World War II. Unfortunately, however, the entire world is facing a crisis that humanity has never experienced, at least in modern times. Last December, a mysterious pneumonia-like disease was reported by the media, and within a blink of an eye, the virus has been rampaging throughout the world. This new infectious disease was named COVID-19, its pathogen has yet to be specified. At present, the death toll count is more than 900,000 and there is no sign of it slowing down. Nonetheless, under such circumstances, we have the determination to maintain the tradition of holding the memorial because we find it meaningful to reflect on the significance of having it.

In 2015 on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the end of the war, we released a recorded discussion that resulted from a dialogue on peace. Here, we pointed out the necessity of 'positive peace', which can be achieved only by overcoming various social or systematic problems that could induce warfare. Social inequality, violation of basic human rights like freedom of religion, hunger, and even environmental crisis are all the issues that we need to deal with to realize a peaceful society.

However, in a surge of the pandemic, many people hoarded facemasks and other necessities, which were then in short supply, and there were even instances of some who resold those products at a greatly inflated price. Furthermore, another outstanding concern is directed even towards the patients' families. Thus, this new infectious disease is disclosing our hidden self-centeredness as well as ignorance that easily violates the dignity of other lives.

Our Head Priest, Monshu Sennyō states in his message, 'A Way of Living as a Nembutsu Follower' as follows,

In today's world, there is an endless list of difficult global issues that are directly related to the existence of humanity such as terrorists attacks, armed conflicts, widening economic gap, global warming, mishandling of nuclear waste and violation of human rights through discrimination. Such are the result of our ignorance and blind passions in which we fail to see the true nature of ourselves.

Through this message, he clarifies that our egoistic human nature is the very origin of many of the global issues, and we must take this seriously.

Monshu also introduces the following Buddhist principle in the same message,

Buddhism describes the true reality of this world and humanity using such phrases as 'impermanence' and 'dependent origination.' 'Impermanence' refers to the fact that everything changes moment by moment. On the other hand, 'dependent origination' explains that all things and phenomena are interconnected with one another, which brings about various causes and conditions that then give another set of causes and conditions and so on and so forth. Therefore, in this world we cannot find an unchanging and fixed 'self.'

Now I would like to introduce the following *haiku* poem composed by Nagayama Shusui,

In the middle of rice planting, the rain comes, and everything becomes even more lively.

Every life receives the benevolence of nature. None can survive without air, soil or water. It goes without saying for us humans as well. We are enabled to live because we take other lives to receive nourishment from them. We all are interrelated to one another and everyone is enabled to live because things allow us to be. In addition, things are changing at every moment, which means there is no solid or unchangeable matter or phenomenon in this world.

Therefore, once we realize this ultimate reality of dependent origination, we cannot help but want to make efforts for the benefit of ourselves as well as others even though the result of our efforts is unknown, because unlike the Buddha who has boundless wisdom and compassion, we are imperfect our ability is limited. Being fully aware of our own limitedness, still we can try as hard as we can to control and minimize our ego, arrogance, attachment and belligerence, feeling close to other people's joy and sadness. The path to our ideal peaceful world can be found only when we overcome the current hardship by making sincere efforts to realize a society of peace and harmony, not one of conflict and exclusion.

With the wish for peace, temple bells shall be tolled across Japan. Our aspiration for peace for the world, which reverberates through the sound of the bells, shall reach our children and grandchildren. Now let us continue our effort together.

Governor General Iwagami Chiko

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of December

Our monthly memorial services (shotsuki) are usually held on the first Sunday of each month (please check our temple calendars to confirm the day of the monthly memorial service) to remember and honour those who have passed away in that month regardless of year.

Usually, mail reminders are sent out to the next of kin but due to changing circumstances we have not always been able to reach families and hope that by publishing the names of those who have passed, we can still reach and remind families and dear friends of the month of their loved ones honouring.

Below is our listing of our members and supporters who have passed away during the month of December. All are invited and welcome to attend.

ABE, Jihei	KARATSU, Naoichi	MIYANISHI, Toshi	NOGUCHI, Yoshio Jack
AMEMORI, Sueko Deborah	KATSURA, Shigeo Bud	MIYASAKI, Roy Saburo	OHARA, Peggy
ARASAKI, Toyoko	KARIYA, Tafuru	MIYASHITA, Kiyoji	OHASHI, Minokichi
ASA, Kaname Frank	KAWABATA, Tsugiye	MIYAUCHI, Tameji	OHASHI, Sumi
BABA, Sam Sadaaki	KAWABATA, Yuriko	MIZUYABU, Tsunejiro	OHASHI, Vic Haruo
BEAUCHESNE, Janet Toshiye	KAWAGUCHI, Junge Jerry	MIZUYABU, Yukiharu	OHKANE, Kazuo Kenny
DOUCETTE, Nina Judith	KIMURA, Katsu	MORI, Kanzo	OHASHI, Tsuyoko
EBATA, Toshiaki	KIMURA, Masuitsu	MORI, Masa	OHTA, Yoshio
EBATA, Mary Yaeko	KISHIMOTO, Fumiko	MORI, Toshio	OIKAWA, Helen Kikue
EBISUZAKI, Yaeko	KITAMURA, Genichi	MORI, Satoko	OIKAWA, Tadao
FUCHIHARA, Wayne Makoto	KITAURA, Wae	MUKAI, Hiromi Peter	OKADA, Takanori
FUJINO, Sakiichi	KITAURA, Wae	MURATA, Tome	OKASHIMO, Hisayo
FUJINO, Bill Chiyokichi	KITAZAKI, Kazuo	NAGANO, Rikimatsu	OKAYASU, Shiota
FUJITA, Kano	KOBAYASHI, Kogiku	NAITO, Kazuichi	OKIMURA, Fred Y. Okimura
GOTO, Kazuye	KOMATSU, Koshiro	NAKAGAWA, Kazuo	OKUMA, Sensuke
HASHIMOTO, Kito	KONDO, Larry Soichi	NAKAGAWA, Kyoko	OMOTANI, Chiyoko
HASHIZUME, Waki	KONDO, Shohei	NAKAI, Shogo	OMOTO, Kenji
HATANAKA, Masaye	KONDO, Yonekichi	NAKAI, Hiroshi	OMOTO, Shika
HATANAKA, Jean Misae	KOYANAGI, Fujiko	NAKAMURA, Mike	OMOTO, Ume
HATANAKA, Yoshio	KUDO, Nobuko	NAKAMURA, Ryotaro	OTANI, Tatsuko
HAYASHI, Frances Akiyo	KUMAMOTO, Masayuki	NAKAMURA, Tomio	SAITO, Ken Kanao
HAYASHIDA, Bob Hideo	KUROKAWA, Ai	NAKATA, Baby	SAKURA, Shizue
HORIKAWA, Tomeno	MAEMURA, Masanori	NAKATSU, Tokutaro	SAWADA, Miyoko Atoinette
IKARI, Minoru Dick	MASUKAWA, Bessie	NAKAUCHI, Chiyoko	SEKO, Shigetaro
IKEBATA, Gloria Michiko	Yoriko	NIKAIDO, Frank Hideo	SHIKATANI, Kikuko
IKEDA, Tamae	MATSUI, Hiroyuki	NISHIDA, Kazuye Kay	SHIMIZU, Minosuke
IMAOKA, Hanaye	MATSUMOTO-SUN, Baby	NISHIKAWA, Iyo	SHIOZAKI, Masae
INOUE, Jokichi	MATSUSHIGE, Minoru	NISHIKAWA, Seiichi	SHIRAKAWA, Raiichi
IRIZAWA, Ayako	Jimmy	NISHIMOTO, Hideo	SUEFUJI, Yataro
IRIZAWA, Yoshizo	MITSUKI, Fumie	NISHIMURA, Miya	SUYAMA, Yoshihiro
ISOKI, Hanaye	MIIKE, Fumiko Alice	NISHIMURA, Shizu	SUZUKI, Minako
ITO, Hide	MIWA, Heishiro		
IWASHITA, Tomi Kikue			

Continued on page 5

Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of December , continued

TABA , Kunio Harry	TATEISHI , Keizo	UYEDA , Fusae	YAMASHITA , Joe
TAGUCHI , Emiko	TERASHITA , Shizue	UYEDA , Sami	YOKOTA , Saizo
TAHARA , Tami	TOHANA , Yonetaro	UYEDA , Takeo	YONEMURA , Chiye
TAKAOKA , Rinko	TSUCHIDA , Shizuka	UYENO , Mohachi	YOSHIDA , Akiko Elsie
TAKASAKI , Shizu	TSUJI , Nobuichi	WAKABAYASHI , Chutaro	YOSHIDA , Mitsuo
TANAKA , Kenneth Kenji	TSURUOKA , Misuye Jane	WAKABAYASHI , Yoshitaka	
TANAKA , Kiyoshi	TSUYUKI , Tama	WAKIDA , Aki	
TANAKA , Richard Hiroshi	UCHIMARU , Yoshi	WAKIDA , Kichinosuke	
TANAKA , Sawako	UEDA , Michiyo	WATANABE , Masachi	
TANIISHI , Ross Kiyoshi	URABE , Yoshikazu Fred	YAMANAKA , Tokutaro	

*** * CORRECTION * *****Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the month of November**

To the following family, please accept our apologies for the omission of your loved one's name in the October newsletter on page # 5. **SHIMIZU**, Mr. Charles

Thank You, In Gassho,
Toronto Buddhist Church

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. If we have missed any names, please notify the Temple office so that we may update our records.

Thank You and take care

Mr. Richard Susumu Nishino 104 years September 25, 2020

Mr. Teruji "Tin" Goto 93 years October 24, 2020

TEMPLE TAKEOUT

Saturday, November 14, 2020

Support the Toronto Buddhist Church during these unprecedented times!

Pre-Order your food through the online order form via www.tbc.on.ca then pick-up your order using the unique Temple Takeout drive-thru experience.

Pick-up will be from 12-5pm at the Temple (1011 Sheppard Avenue West, Toronto).

To ensure proper COVID-19 distancing, you will be asked to reserve a specific time slot for your curbside pick-up.

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL: SAVE 5% for orders received by Saturday, November 10.

Orders close on Thursday, November 12.



SEE MENU ON PAGE 6



TEMPLE TAKEOUT

Saturday, November 14, 2020, 12-5pm



Support the Toronto Buddhist Church by pre-ordering food for curbside pick-up at 1011 Sheppard Avenue West, Toronto. For COVID-19 distancing, you will be asked to reserve a time slot for your pick-up.

Build Your Own Bowls!

Udon | Soba | Rice

Teriyaki Chicken \$12 | Ginger Pork \$12 | Teriyaki Tofu & Shoyu Egg \$10

Side Items

Shoyu Eggs \$1

Edamame \$4

Salted | Furikake | Spicy



Delicious Desserts

Pies – by the slice (\$3), Mini-Me pies (\$5), or whole pies (\$15)!

Apple | Lemon Meringue

Gourmet Cupcakes – set of 4

Miso-Yuzu \$10 | Chestnut Red bean \$10 | Halfu-Halfu \$11



Dorayaki \$2 each (Japanese pancakes)

Red Bean | Nutella

Surprise Baked Goodie Bags \$5

Questions?
fundraisertbc@gmail.com

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW AT tbc.on.ca

For those with limited access to the internet, please call 647-490-6860

You Are OK.

I hope everyone is safe and well as the days shorten and the temperature drops. As we move from Autumn into Winter, the conditions will get harsher not just in the weather, but the situation concerning Covid-19 may turn difficult once again, as we move deeper into the second wave as predicted by scientists. Although predicted, no one will know exactly what this second wave will be like. The best we can do is remember what we did in the Spring; being diligent, being aware, and doing the best we can to keep ourselves and those around us safe.



There is a Japanese word that is probably uttered often for how we could - even should - be behaving in this situation: がまん, *gaman*. *Gaman* is translated as “patience, endurance, perseverance, self-control”. It carries the image of strength, stoicism, and forbearance. Holding in. Clamping up. Suffering through a situation. This trait or virtue has roots in Buddhism and is widely respected in the Japanese culture. Japanese children are told all the time they must *gaman* if a washroom cannot be found nearby! On a much more serious note, *gaman* is the virtue that is often credited for the survival of the Japanese Canadian community when they were subject to unjust incarceration during and immediately after the Second World War. *Gaman* can be a useful trait and it is easy to see how it can be applied to the current pandemic conditions. It’s also important to note though, that there is an aspect of *gaman* that can make a bad situation worse. That there is an expectation that *gaman* is to be done in silence, maybe even with a smile.

This Summer as part of my spiritually-integrated psychotherapy program, I had to take classes specifically about care *in a pandemic*. We learned about how the pandemic measures affect people's psyche and their spirit. In other words, how did the novelty of such a global disaster affect us and how can we help each other through it? What was most notable was that *everyone experiences the pandemic differently*. There is no “right” way of experiencing the pandemic.

I offer myself as an example of this. Many of my classmates had and still continue to have great difficulty from not being able to *be* with other people. I, in stark contrast, was VERY comfortable, indeed, really thrived in the stay-at-home measures, because I have clinical Social Anxiety Disorder. For me, the measures were pretty close to my ideal living situation, and in complete honesty, I am in no hurry to go “back to normal”. The way I experience Social Anxiety Disorder means that pre-pandemic life, or what we remember as “normal life”, takes a lot of therapeutic work and energy. This is not about me and my mental health; I will share more about it another time. For now, it is enough for you to know that I live with this disorder and it had/has a unique effect on the way I experience the pandemic. Ultimately, this pandemic has emphasized the idea that there is no such thing as “normal”.

Being reminded that there was no “normal standard” made me think of what we hear in our temples: “Come as you are”. To me, this also means “You are OK”. “OK” does not mean “good” or “well”, but rather “all right”. Shin Buddhism teaches that the causes and conditions of your life have led you to be in the only place you *could be*. There is no other way you could be except for the way you are right now. And that makes you all right. This poem sums it up beautifully:

Just Right - by Goromatsu Maekawa (translated by Rev. Taitetsu Unno)

You, as you are, you are just right

Your face, body, name, surname,

For you, they are just right.

Whether poor or rich

Your parents, your children, your

daughter-in-law, your grandchildren

They are, all for you, just right

Continued on page 8

You Are OK. Continued

*Happiness, unhappiness, joy
and even sorrow
For you, they are just right.*

*The life that you have walked,
is neither good nor bad
For you, it is just right.*

*Nothing to boast about, nothing
to feel bad about,
Nothing above, nothing below.
Even the day and month that you die,
Even they are just right.*

*The Life in which you walk together
with Amida,
There is no way that it can't be just right.*

*When you receive your life as just right,
Then a deep and profound faith
begins to open up.*

(From *Ocean: An Introduction to Jodo-Shinshu Buddhism in America*,
by Kenneth K. Tanaka. WisdomOcean Publications, Berkeley, California. 1997)

Shin Buddhism teaches that Amida Buddha's limitless wisdom and compassion, which we experience through all the causes and conditions of life, has sustained each of us to this day, and will continue to do so. This does not mean that you will enjoy every moment, but you *will* get through it.

It is OK to feel anger, sadness, anxiety, deflated, unmotivated, fear, and other unsettling emotions through the pandemic conditions (or *any time* for that matter). You don't need to disguise your pain and "grin and bear it". Please listen to yourself if these feelings come up. If someone shares with you that they are having these experiences, please listen to them. And while I understand the urge to want someone you care about to "cheer up" and may want to tell them to do so, please first just acknowledge and respect *their* experience. A common understanding of "compassion" is that it means "to fix or alleviate pain", but it literally means "to suffer together" (com "with" + passion "to suffer/feel). The first step in being compassionate is simply to acknowledge (the other's) feelings.

All reactions and responses are OK, but please be aware of how they affect you and those around you. Just because it's OK that you feel a certain way, it does not mean it has to stay that way. If the feelings feel out of control, and/or they

Continued on page 9

You Are OK., Continued

become so heavy that they are overwhelming, please reach out to someone. If not to a friend, family member or doctor (or minister!), here are just a few other ways to speak to someone about what you or a loved one is going through:

Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000 *to speak to a registered nurse. The nurse can help you with any health matters, including depression, anxiety or other mental health or addiction concerns. Telehealth is free and confidential and nurses are ready to take your call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.*

Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 *is a free, anonymous and confidential phone and on-line professional counselling service for youth. Big or small concerns. 24/7. 365 days a year.*

Toronto Seniors Helpline: 416-217-2077 *is a specialized service for seniors in Toronto which provides assistance in stabilizing age-related mental health and addiction crises, risk and safety assessments, immediate referrals to community mobile crisis units, and support for families and caregivers.*

More information about these and many other resources can be found at the Government of Ontario website (www.ontario.ca/page/mental-health-services) and Canadian Mental Health Association Toronto (<https://toronto.cmha.ca/find-help/>).

Let's all be care-full with ourselves and each other this Winter and we will be OK.

Namo Amida Butsu

Joanne Yuasa

Eitaikyo or Perpetual Memorial Service

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Eitaikyo began during the Edo Period (1603-1868) as Buddhism spread from China into Japan. The Eitaikyo tradition in Canada was started by our founding minister, Rev. K. Tsuji and is followed by most Jodo Shinshu temples. Eitaikyo evolved from the early Buddhist idea of accumulation of virtues by Buddhist followers directed towards loved ones or themselves by providing offerings for the maintenance of their temple.

Eitaikyo comes from “eitai-dokkyo” which literally means, “Perpetually chanting Buddhist sutras.” We have changed from the idea of virtue accumulation to the spirit of dedication of and appreciation for those who have come before us. Eitaikyo gives us a connection to our past and shows us we are all interconnected and not alone. We would not be who we are, without the compassion and support of our family and friends, past and present. Our family and friends’ dedication to our temple and their devotion to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism allows us to “perpetually” share and propagate the Teachings of the Buddha now and into the future.

Eitaikyo gives all of us, who live busy lives, who may live far away or who don't attend temple services regularly, a chance to honour our loved ones once a year in November. The Eitaikyo book lists those honoured as founders of Toronto Buddhist Church for their devotion and support to our temple. An Eitaikyo fund is not a general operating fund but it was set up to help our temple in times of emergency.

Your participation and contribution will help keep the temple and the Dharma alive “perpetually” for future generations.

Please join us for the annual special Eitaikyo or Perpetual Memorial Service at 11am on November 15th.



Rennyo Shonin and JSBTC Day 2020

Good Morning, I will try to link Rennyo Shonin and JSBTC Day through three themes; collaboration, co-operation and finally the theme of support.

Rennyo Shonin, born in 1415, was the Eighth Abbot of the Hongwanji. As history shows, Rennyo by virtue of his unrelenting and formidable efforts, within his lifetime, revived and restored a badly floundering Hongwanji. He came to be regarded as the “Second Founder” of the Hongwanji.



First, the theme of collaboration.

Last month in her dharma talk, Joanne sensei talked about the letters that Rennyo Shonin used as a means of imparting the Teachings to the far outlying regions of Japan. These Teachings, or Gobunsho in Japanese, were then used by the followers in the country as part of their twice monthly services. Rennyo also initiated the practice of chanting the Shoshinge as an integral part of daily service at home for followers.

As to the JSBTC Day and the theme of collaboration, I would like to acknowledge that “All” of the comments about the JSBTC were provided to me by Larry and Amy Wakisaka, former President and Vice-President of the TBC and our JSBTC representatives. If you are watching this morning, thank you Larry, thank you Amy.

At our service this morning, we are recognizing and celebrating JSBTC Day. JSBTC stands for “Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada” of which Toronto Buddhist Church is proud to be one of 12 Member Temples across Canada which comprises our National organizing body.

JSBTC Day is a special memorial service held by member Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples across Canada in either October or November each year to remember and honour Jodo Shinshu Buddhist pioneers and followers in Canada. This period of time is important historically in Canada as on October 12, 1905 (115 years ago), Nishi Hongwanji, our Mother Temple in Kyoto, Japan, sent our first Jodo Shinshu minister to Vancouver in order to begin spreading the Dharma Teachings to Canadians.

Many of the pioneers and followers who we are remembering with gratitude and appreciation today may, in fact, be related to you as your brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, parents, grandparents or friends of your family.

This leads to an aside about pioneers and the theme of collaboration that I felt I must share with you. These words are taken from “Bukkyo Tozen”. A book written by Terry Watada about Jodo Shinshu in Canada.

The first aside is about the Nisei who in 1947 set out to purchase a house to be used as a church and as a residence for Rev. Tsuji and his new bride, Sakaye. The first task was to raise enough capital for a down-payment. Several supporters offered loans of \$100.00 each in return for promissory notes guaranteeing the return of the money within five years. (That would be several thousand dollars in today’s dollars.) That was a considerable sum for Nisei families struggling after the war and internment trying to support their own families and now more money they could ill afford for a new church and residence.

I now mention Tom K. Shimizu, President of the Toronto Young Buddhist Society, the Nisei organization, Fumi Maeda, Secretary and Peggy F. Harada, Treasurer. With such financial backing a committee comprised of Harry Kondo, Toshio Nishijima and Mamoru Nishi purchased a house at 134 Huron Street in October 1947. Thus, the first Buddhist Church was established in Toronto.

The second aside deals with a serendipitous meeting that had consequences for The Temple where we are standing in today. These are the words of Rev. Tsuji, the founding minister of TBC.

Quote;

“I met Mr. Numata who came to visit about 1952. I think he came to visit Canada to introduce his products (micrometers for Mitsu Toyo International Corporation). He was all alone and stayed in cheap hotels by the railroad station. When I was holding Sunday school, here was this man whom I had never seen before sitting in our Sunday School. And so, when it was over, I went and talked to him. He said, “I’m from Japan. My name is Yehan Numata and I have come to do some business.... I wanted to make sure there was a Buddhist group here”. He also said” You know we’ve really got to spread the teaching of the Buddha because it is a teaching of peace” So, we had a really good discussion. He didn’t have any spending money because the Japanese Government wouldn’t let him take any money out of the country. So, we fed him and gave him beer. That’s how I met Mr. Numata. “

Continued on page 11

Rennyo Shonin and JSBTC Day 2020, continued

Imagine, that meeting in 1952 led partly to the fact that today, we are holding service in this Temple. Mr. Yehan Numata started the Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai, a Buddhist charitable organization known as the BDK. The BDK is supported by the Mitu Toyo International Corporation.

Remember that chance meeting of Rev Tsuji and Mr. Numata way back in 1952. The BDK donated a seven-figure amount that helped us to build this beautiful Temple.

Those are two long asides I know, but I thought you should know about these collaborations. The first aside dealt with the first Church that was built by our Nisei pioneers. The second aside dealt with the serendipitous meeting between the Rev Tsuji, our first TBC minister and Mr. Yehan Numata.

So back to our last theme, this is the theme of support.

During Rennyo Shonin's time, Jodo Shinshu followers of the outlying areas formed groups of likeminded devotees that were called Ko, or fellowships. These followers would meet at a Dojo, or place of worship, they would listen to sermons and enter into probing discussions about what they had heard. Such fellowships would forward monetary offerings that had been gathered at their meetings to the Hongwanji. This was their way of helping to support and maintain the Hongwanji.

And so today, we carry on this theme of support as in our JSBTC Day

Last year, donations on JSBTC Day went to the Ministers' Retirement Fund to help fund the retirement of our hardworking and dedicated ministers in their retirement. This year, the National JSBTC Board will be directing donations to the JSBTC Sustaining Fund in order to help fund the continuation of worthwhile and necessary endeavours such as funding of the Bishop and the Office of the Bishop, to assist our Resident Ministers in many ways, to help fund the training of Dharma Lay Leaders and many other situations which generally help our sanghas nationally to remain healthy in order to continue to successfully spread the Dharma Teachings.

This past year, the covid-19 pandemic has been difficult for many of us and our temple has not been exempted from its difficulties, hardships and necessary adjustments. Our significant expenses by and large remain static while donations have been reduced. Fortunately, the JSBTC National Board has stepped in quickly to waive a certain portion of the national annual assessment dues to the tune of approximately \$12,000 in order to help defray at least some of our operating costs at TBC. They are also considering the viability and possibility of waiving at least a portion of the remaining part of the year at their Board meeting this month. This help has been extended to every Jodo Shinshu Member Temple across Canada on a prorated basis based on membership. JSBTC donations today, as mentioned, will be directed to the "JSBTC Sustaining Fund".

Please be generous in considering a donation today or tomorrow by using the dedicated "JSBTC Day" envelopes. Your kind donation will help express gratitude to our fellow Jodo Shinshu pioneers who have come before us to spread the Dharma.

All JSBTC Day donations will be gratefully recognized by a tax receipt by Toronto Buddhist Church. If donating by way of a cheque, please kindly make the cheque payable to "Toronto Buddhist Church" and write in the memo area of the cheque "for JSBTC Day".

In Gassho

Dennis Madokoro

NEED A MASK FOR THE OCCASION?

\$10.00 EA. OR 3 FOR \$25.00

We have a variety of Japanese Print Cotton Masks for sale at the temple.

More were lovingly made and generously donated by

Jill Saito



**CALLING ALL SANGHA KIDS****FIND THE HIDDEN WORD GAME.....**

Test your knowledge by answering the questions and filling in the blanks. Then take the last letter of each answer to reveal the hidden word. Good luck. Have fun.

1. Who is the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism? _____
2. "I am a member of Kids _____.
3. What is our religious belief? _____
4. When we put the palms of our hands together to pray, this is called _____.
5. He became Enlightened while sitting under the Bodhi tree. Who is this? _____
6. Shitake is a type of _____.
7. Name the Kids Sangha summer camp in Wasaga Beach. _____
8. "I am a link in Amida's golden chain of love that stretches around the world. I will be _____ and gentle to every living thing.
9. _____ is a place of perfect peace and happiness.
10. Name the first letter of our religion? _____
11. The circle of beads used to pray is called _____.
12. I attend the Toronto _____ Church.
13. A collection of songs, sung during the service is called _____.
14. A soft round Japanese sweet treat, often filled with red bean paste, is called _____.

Find the answer on page 14

We look forward to the day when we can safely welcome everyone back to Kids Sangha. Until then, please continue to stay healthy and safe.

With gratitude,

Jessica, Yumi, Abigail, Rachel, Koji, Denise, Cynthia and Naomi

We're Open!

We are pleased to announce that we have opened our doors for Sunday Services in September. The safety of all our temple members and guests continues to be at the forefront and we thank everyone for adhering to the new protocols that we have put in place. At this time we are not open for other activities or Children's Services at the temple.

You will notice changes at the temple including many signs and posters meant to keep everyone safe.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS of the new Safety Protocols

- As the Hondo is limited to 50 people per service, you will be required to register your attendance in advance
- **Each** attendee (including children) must complete and submit a health questionnaire for every service
- You will be required to wear a face covering at all times while on TBC property, sanitize your hands and observe physical distancing practices.
- The temple will be fully cleaned after each service with all high touch areas sanitized/disinfected frequently.
- The office will not be accessible on Sunday. Please speak with a volunteer for your requests.
- The upper and lower levels are closed. Lower level washrooms are reserved for emergencies only.

If an attendee chooses not to abide by TBC's protocols they will be asked to leave for the safety of others, but they will be able to attend our live-streaming services.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS of Changes

- There will be no group singing or chanting out loud. Minister/leader only.
- There will be no books, nenju, headsets, or montoshikisho to borrow
- Please leave your offertory in the box as no baskets will be passed
- There will be no refreshments or socializing inside the temple.
- All services are live-streamed on Facebook Live. Please join the [TBC Broadcast Group](#).

Even a carefully measured reopening carries the risk of contagion, so please carefully consider your own risk category (eg. over the age of 70; with compromised immune systems; living with or caring for someone with a compromised immune system) and your willingness and ability to abide by our carefully considered safety protocols.

Please let us know if you have any questions. We hope you are well and we look forward to seeing you soon.

The Calgary Buddhist Temple "Sangha Engagement"

Is pleased to highlight these upcoming, online workshops and invite you to share these wonderful opportunities with others.

Saturday, December 12th at 2pm Mountain Time is "**Kampai – Uniting People with Sake**". Yasuhiro Washiyama is the Co-Managing Director of Sake Gami in Calgary and will be including a few suggested purchases for us to do some online taste testing together! Stay tuned for all the fun and exciting details to come including registration link!

Sunday, January 24th, 2021 from 1-2:30pm Mountain Time will be "**Alzheimer's: Prevention Instead of Life Sentence**". An important learning opportunity to be presented by sangha member, Trudy Gahlinger. Registration and additional details to come – Save the Date!

Sunday, February 7th, 2021 from 2-3:30pm Mountain Time. Rev. Harada is the Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America and will be speaking to us on "**Resolving Life's Problems through Buddhism**". Registration and additional details to come – Save the Date!

Sunday, March 7th starting at 1pm Mountain Time will be "**Introduction to Expressive Arts/Creative Journaling**" to be led by Sara Clark. Registration and additional details to come – Save the Date!

All our "Sangha Engagement" workshops/presentations are open to everyone! Registration is FREE and donations to local Jodo Shinshu Temple are gratefully appreciated.

"During this pandemic, nothing is better than widening your horizon mindfully and virtually. "

TO REGISTER FOR SERVICE**PLEASE CONTACT BY:****VISIT THE WEBSITE AT:** <https://tbc.on.ca/>**EMAIL:** tbc@tbc.on.ca**PHONE:** 416-534-4302**PLEASE FILL OUT AND BRING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE WITH YOU TO EACH SERVICE****COVID-19**

Please complete the following questions

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Date: _____ Time: _____
 Email: _____

Do you have any of the following:

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
No <input type="checkbox"/> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
No <input type="checkbox"/> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
No <input type="checkbox"/> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
No <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | Fever | | Cough | | Difficulty breathing | | Sore throat,
trouble swallowing |
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
No <input type="checkbox"/> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
No <input type="checkbox"/> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
No <input type="checkbox"/> | | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
No <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | Runny nose | | Loss of taste or
smell | | Not feeling well | | Nausea, vomiting,
diarrhea |

Yes ☐ Have you been in close contact with someone who is
 No ☐ sick or has confirmed COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

Yes ☐ Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the
 No ☐ past 14 days?

**If you answered YES to any of these questions,
 go home & self-isolate right away. Call Telehealth
 or your health care provider, to find out if you
 need a test.**

TORONTO.CA/COVID19

TORONTO Public Health



ANSWER TO KIDS SANGHA HIDDEN WORD GAME

NAMU AMIDA BUTSU