



# ONENESS

**Buddhist Church of Florin**



June 2021

Volume 6

One of the interesting things that I learned in my high school physics class that I still remember today for some reason, is that in physics, there is no such thing as “cold”. What we understand as “heat” is the kinetic energy being given off by any particular thing. Things that we think are “cold” have much less kinetic energy and therefore lack “heat”. An example of this would be if you put ice cubes in a warm drink, the “cold” in the ice doesn’t transfer making the drink cold; rather the “heat” in the drink transfers to the ice cubes to warm them up. It seems like a trivial matter, but when looking at things as a physicist with the understanding of the world as full of energy, it is an important distinction. I think the reason this stuck with me is because it really challenged my view on the world in that the way I thought the world operated on the atomic scale was actually quite different. Of course, day to day this didn’t really affect me since I still use the word “cold” and put jackets on and so forth. But this notion that there aren’t two opposites that exist but rather just one thing that is either there or lacking carried over into my studies in Buddhism and perhaps made it a bit easier to comprehend.

An example of this would be pleasure and pain. I think probably most people would agree that these are two very distinct things that are diametrically opposed. Thus, as humans, we are drawn to that which will bring us pleasure and try to avoid that which will bring us pain. There is the presence of the two within Abhidharma Buddhism when talking about our fleeting sensory experiences. However, this is different than ultimate reality which is permanent. And perhaps, if I may, it might be better for us to get closer to that reality by understanding our experiences as simply painful and painless. I offer this explanation as recognizing that our idea of “pleasurable” things comes from our ego and selfishness to have that which is pleasing to us. When we remove the self-attachment and selfishness from it, we see that there are simply things which cause us pain and that which do not. To go back to the original example of heat and cold, if we touch ice to our face on a cold day, it doesn’t feel good. But if we touch the same ice to our face on a hot day, it feels fantastic. There is no difference in the ice, the difference is what we want at the time. When we remove our attachment to how much we want to feel a certain way, we can say it in another way: that we no longer have the craving for pleasure. And thus, our experiences are just about pain and painlessness. In the greater scope of life and of Buddhism, it cuts to the core of the teaching of lessening the suffering of all beings. I hope that changing our view and understanding of how we interact with the world may help us suffer less. Inevitable as it may be for us to suffer, the Dharma helps us see that relinquishing our selfishness is what we need to ease it.

Gassho,  
Rev. Matthew Hamasaki

# Buddhism in Everyday Life

## Jodo Shinshu Creed - II

I affirm my faith in Amida's Infinite Wisdom and Compassion. Reciting the Sacred Name, I shall live with strength and joy.

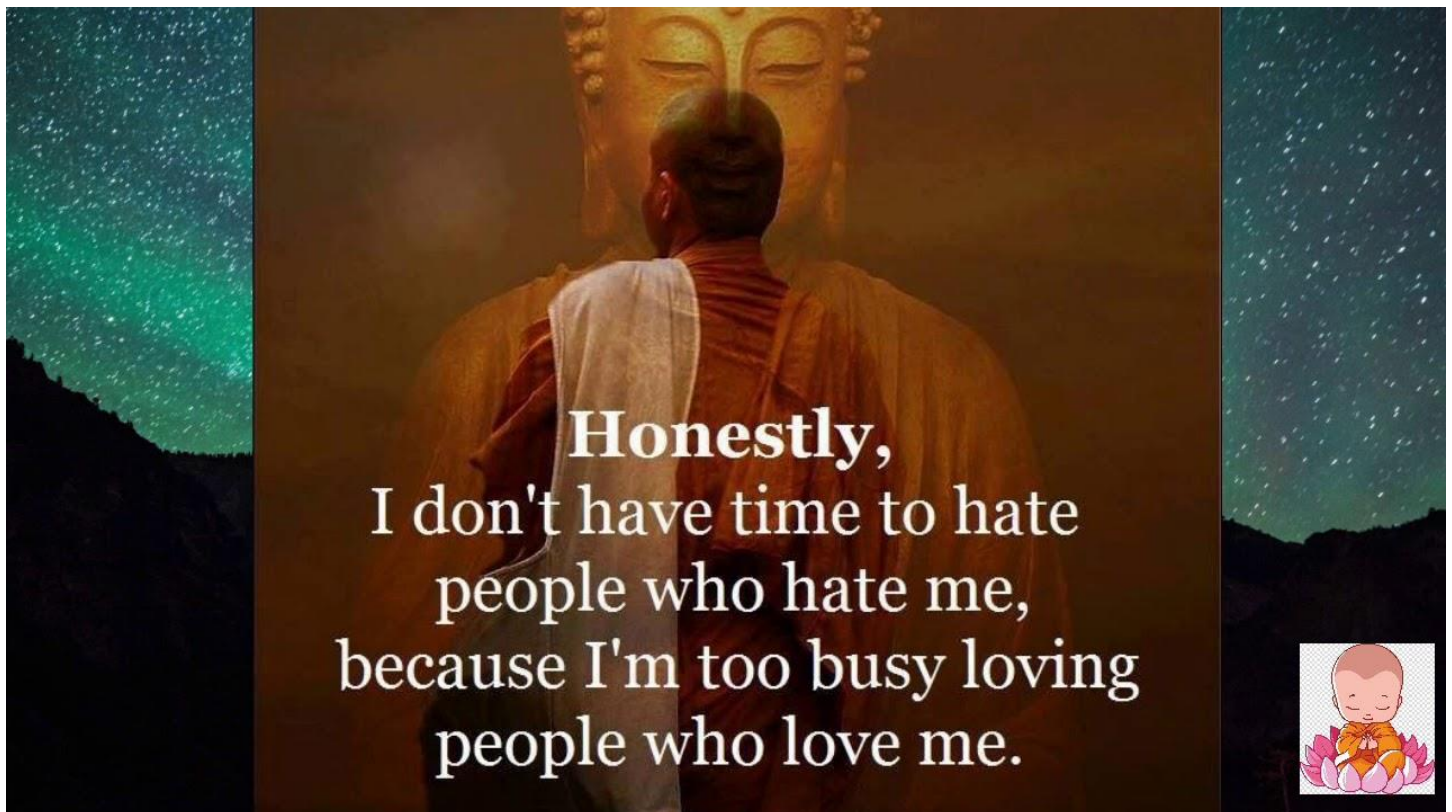
I shall look to Amida's Guiding Light. As I reflect upon my imperfect self, I live with gratitude for the Perfect Compassion which surrounds me at all times.

I shall follow Amida's Teachings. I shall understand the Right Path and resolve to spread the true Teachings.

I rejoice in Amida's Wisdom and Compassion. I shall respect and help my fellow beings and work for the good of my community.

Namu Amida Butsu

(Shin Buddhist Service Book)



## June Monthly Memorial (Shotsuki Hoyo) Service

The monthly memorial service for those who passed away during the month of June will be held on **Sunday, June 6, 2021 beginning at 10:30 am, via Zoom**. The persons who are noted in the Buddhist Church of Florin's (BCF) memorial records as having passed away in the month of June are listed below.

If the year 2021 is a special service year (see table) for a dearly departed relative, please contact Reverend Matt Hamasaki, Buddhist Church of Sacramento at 916-926-2221 to make special memorial arrangements. Please inform Lois Kashiwase of any corrections or additions to the list.

|                          |            |                                |            |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Andersen, Jeanne Hanae   | 06-21-2019 | Nakao, Joe                     | 06-17-1992 |
| Baishiki, Midori Barbara | 06-01-2016 | Nishi, Eiko                    | 06-23-1968 |
| Baishiki, Sadao          | 06-12-2011 | Nishida, Shinichi              | 06-25-1936 |
| Baishiki, Toichi         | 06-20-1952 | Nishida, Tsuneo                | 06-14-1920 |
| Chano, Masajiro          | 06-27-1904 | Nishikawa, Yukuno              | 06-21-1975 |
| Collins, Roy             | 06-03-2014 | Noda, Chiyo                    | 06-03-1976 |
| Fujii, Kengo             | 06-07-1920 | Noda, Fred Nobuyuki            | 06-20-1986 |
| Fujii, Sallie Chisato    | 06-12-1985 | Ohmoto, Yasugoro               | 06-22-1914 |
| Furukawa, Ben            | 06-06-1989 | Okamoto, Bill Takeshi          | 06-22-1995 |
| Furukawa, Myrtle Natsuye | 06-20-2011 | Okamoto, Tom                   | 06-20-2016 |
| Hamataka, Eimatsu        | 06-12-1971 | Sakaoka, Shunjiro              | 06-15-1949 |
| Hirakawa, Jun            | 06-15-1935 | Sato, Shimajiro                | 06-08-1972 |
| Idemoto, Takezo          | 06-09-1916 | Sawai, Tsuru                   | 06-15-1935 |
| Isa, Toshi               | 06-30-1919 | Stillborn,                     | 06-25-1923 |
| Ishimoto, Ise            | 06-20-1906 | Sumida, Hiro                   | 06-14-1959 |
| Ito, Isao                | 06-07-1979 | Tahara, Hatsuko                | 06-26-2006 |
| Ito, Shizuko             | 06-25-1993 | Takeda, Baby Girl              | 06-07-2002 |
| Kadoya, Ed Tokio         | 06-03-1985 | Takeda, Tadao                  | 06-21-1934 |
| Kadoya, Jerry Masaru     | 06-27-1976 | Takehara, Tami                 | 06-04-1963 |
| Kawamoto,                | 06-13-1910 | Takemoto, Kumajiro             | 06-26-1935 |
| Kawasaki, Kazuo          | 06-06-1938 | Takeoka, Frank                 | 06-13-1932 |
| Kawashima, Yakuye        | 06-05-1921 | Taniguchi, Matahachi           | 06-06-1927 |
| Kobayashi, Zenosuke      | 06-04-1917 | Taniguchi, Takeko              | 06-29-2020 |
| Koyama, Fumiko           | 06-21-1926 | Yamada,                        | 06- -1916  |
| Kumamoto, George         | 06-03-1979 | Yamamoto, Gary Russell         | 06-20-2012 |
| Kurima, Toyoki           | 06-22-1942 | Yanagishita, Shuzo (stillborn) | 06-25-1923 |
| Lee, Kingsley Ken        | 06-01-2020 | Yoshinaga, Haruye              | 06-23-1943 |
| Matsusaki, Iwakichi      | 06-28-1950 | Yoshinaga, Iwako               | 06-17-1972 |
| Muranaka, Sally Shizuko  | 06-22-2014 | Yubuta, Shigeichi              | 06-18-1962 |

### 2021 Memorial Service Schedule

Please schedule a service if your loved ones passed away in the following years:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Service</u>        | <u>Year</u> | <u>Service</u>         |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 2020        | 1 <sup>st</sup> Year  | 1997        | 25 <sup>th</sup> Year  |
| 2019        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year  | 1989        | 33 <sup>rd</sup> Year  |
| 2015        | 7 <sup>th</sup> Year  | 1972        | 50 <sup>th</sup> Year  |
| 2009        | 13 <sup>th</sup> Year | 1922        | 100 <sup>th</sup> Year |
| 2005        | 17 <sup>th</sup> Year |             |                        |

## Virtual Shotsuki Service

## VIRTUAL SHOTSUKI SERVICE

Please share the zoom link with any relatives or friends who may be interested in watching. Hope to see everyone Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Topic: **June Shotsuki Service/Dharma Graduation/Scholarship Presentations**

Date: June 6, 2021 at 10:30 am

June 6, 2021 10:30 AM

Buddhist Church of Florin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83339406274>

Meeting ID: 833 3940 6274

One tap mobile

+14086380968,,83339406274# US (San Jose)

+16699006833,,83339406274# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 833 3940 6274

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kblgb0Gzww>

## ONLINE PAYPAL DONATIONS

You can now make online donations/payments to the church by visiting our website at [florinbuddhist.org](http://florinbuddhist.org) and clicking on the "Donate" button near the bottom of the home page. This is convenient for you to make online donations/payments for such things as, osaisen, shotsuki, special services, membership and other services/events.

Contact Kathy Menda at (916) 392-1896 or (916) 761-9469 if you have questions.



Buddhist Church of Florin

# Governing Board Meeting Highlights

Meeting Date: May 16, 2021

**Fundraisers:** *Jennifer Kubo* reported the “Teriyaki, Chicken Plate Drive Thru” on May 2nd was successful, and sold 454 plates. Next Food Bazaar will be on September 12, 2021.

*Eric Fujii* reported on the BCF Golf Tournament, June 3, 2021 at Teal Bend Golf Club is in full swing.

**First Vice President, Margie Sunahara:** Continues to be responsible for use and security of BCF facilities and grounds. Picks up mail weekly from the US Post Office Box. She will be scheduling a BCF Calendar meeting in July.

**Treasurer, Kathy Menda:** All affiliates were reminded that the first quarterly reports for 2021 were due April 30<sup>th</sup>. Kathy also reported that the church was notified by the Sacramento Regional Solid Waste Authority that we needed to secure bins for recycling and organic waste. She contacted Waste Management and was able to order a reduced waste bin size (4 yard bin to 3 yard bin) to avoid the recycling and organic waste bins.

**BWA, Peggy Okabayashi:** BWA chaired the May 9<sup>th</sup> Shotsuki/Gotan-ye Service. The Elk Grove Food Bank – Cathy’s Closet and SPCA were the recipients of April Dana Projects.

**Jr. YBA, Ginny Syphax:** JYBA delivered Keiro goodie bags in April and next delivery will be in June. They exceeded their crane folding goal for Tsuru for Solidarity’s demonstrations. They held a very successful Udon/Spam Musubi Fundraiser on April 25<sup>th</sup>. From their proceeds they assessed \$1000 to the BCF. They are planning a JYBA Awake-a-thon on July 9-10, 2021.

**Admin Duties, Ginny Syphax:** Monitors incoming BCF phone calls; Emails; FB page; hosts Sangha Check-in; and picking up and sorting mail from US Post Office Box. Formats and prepares the “Oneness” for publication.

**Dharma School, Judy Yuki:** They are planning to have a Dharma School Drive Thru Graduation following the service on Sunday, June 6, 2021.

**BEC:** Sunday, June 6, 2021, Shotsuki/Dharma School Graduation and scholarship presentation. Next meeting will be planning the Hatsubon Obon Service on Sunday, July 18, 2021.

**Facilities Maintenance Kenny Teranishi/Gary Okamoto:** The repaving of the church parking lot by Ace Asphalt started on May 11 at 6 am. Will continue on May 12; May 19 and be completed on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to Gary Okamoto for opening the gates at 6 am and closing. The sprinklers near the olive trees are being repaired. Lloyd Okimura’s next project is to paint and add handrails to the Old Temple front stair steps. Peggy Okabayashi will see if BWA will help defray cost of supplies.

**Audio/Visual Committee, Mike Kusama:** The A/V Committee is in the process of being set up.

The BCF approved the purchase of Sacramento Betsuin’s new service book “Sacramento Betsuin Personal Service Book” to be given one per BCF family.

# Arigato!

*Our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the following for their help and selfless giving to the Buddhist Church of Florin.*



***Ginny Syphax:** For monitoring the BCF phone calls; Emails; FB page; hosts Sangha Check-in; and picks up and sorts the mail weekly from the US Post Office Box and formats and prepares the "Oneness" for publication. She also bakes desserts for the Lotus Club.*

***Margie Sunahara:** For being responsible for the use and security of BCF facilities and grounds. Picks up and sorts the mail weekly from the US Post Office Box.*

***Gary Okamoto, Kenny Teranishi & Lloyd Okimura:** For taking care of the many areas that were damaged by the wind storm in late January (installed roof panels, replaced lattice fence, repaired gym stucco and many more projects). Installed paper towel dispensers in kitchens and restrooms. Replaced gas piping on burners in the gym kitchen.*

***Kenny Okabayashi:** Worked on the electrical for exhaust fan and light in outside kitchen. He also completed exterior motion lights for outside kitchen.*

***LOTUS: Club:** Rain or shine on every Thursday morning the group is committed to maintaining the church grounds and facilities. Even with the COVID 19 pandemic, the group continued to maintain the church grounds.*

***Walter Menda:** For volunteering to clean our temple hondo, onaijin, multipurpose room, and office. Also maintains church records.*

***JoAnn Kusaka, Sharon Okamoto & Jan Takeuchi:** Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic they continued to support the Lotus Club members by preparing delicious meals and refreshments in a safe manner for them to consume.*

## 2021 Membership Dues

The Buddhist Church of Florin thanks the following members who have paid their 2021 membership dues.

Crandall, Gregory

Furukawa, Randy & Cindy

***2021 membership dues were due by January 31, 2021.***

The 2021 membership form can be found on our website at [www.florinbuddhist.org](http://www.florinbuddhist.org), at the temple or from Tim Tsukamoto at (916) 606-0455 or email [timtsukamoto@gmail.com](mailto:timtsukamoto@gmail.com). Please direct membership questions to Tim Tsukamoto.

***The Buddhist Church of Florin welcomes the following returning/new members:***

***Gregory Crandall***

***We look forward to seeing you at service and temple functions when the church is able to reopen and hope the BCF will meet your religious and community desires.***

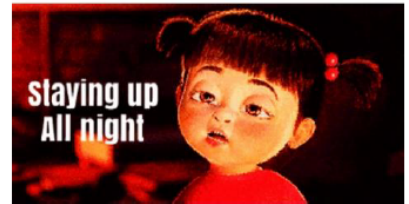
*Arigato gozimasu!!!*



**Thank you for everyone's support! Jr. YBA appreciates all of the volunteers, those who placed orders, and also to those of your who gave an extra donation. Thank you so much!**

## **JR. YBA'S AWAKE-A-THON**

Jr. YBA will be having their annual Awake-a-thon starting Friday, July 9 at 7 PM through Saturday, July 10 ending at 7 AM. This 12-hour Awake-a-thon is held annually to raise funds for a charitable organization. This year JYBA has chosen the Buddhist Church of Florin (BCF). This will be the first time BCF has been chosen. Because of the reduction in BCF fundraisers, JYBA thought BCF needed the extra funds. If you would like to contribute to this fundraiser, please use the form below.



\*\*\*\*\*CUT HERE\*\*\*\*\*

Yes! I would like to contribute to JYBA's Awake-a-thon fundraiser.

Name:

Address:

Donation amount:

Please make checks payable to: **Buddhist Church of Florin**

Send this form and your check to:

Florin JYBA  
c/o Ginny Yamamoto-Syphax  
3318 Yosemite Park Way  
Elk Grove, CA 95758

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!**

Check #:

Received:







**Buddhist Church of Florin Dharma School News & Events**  
**June 2021**  
**“B.R.A.I.D.” – Building Respectful Awareness  
& Inclusion through Dharma**

Buddhist Church of Florin Middle school aged members were invited to attend a (BYR) BCAMiddle School Youth Retreat Event on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Here is a recap of my favorite activity and what I learned from the event....

After a small and quick service, we were placed into breakout rooms where we went through riddles that taught us to build upon and help each other’s ideas to reach a goal. My favorite one was a riddle that involved us guessing how many mosquitoes were killed. One of the leaders in the room would clap their hands and the other would say the number of mosquitoes that were killed. Instead of having anything to do with the number of claps, it had to do with the number of words that were used to ask the question, which baffled us at first, but as the round went on, we finally figured out the answer. What I learned from the event was we sometimes (or perhaps all the time) have to rely on other people for help, and that some things can’t be done alone. ~Ella Lam



**Dharma Zoom**  
**Summer Break June- August**

**PARTY  
INVITATION**

You're Invited to Celebrate with Us!

—————

**HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES**

Sunday June 6, 2021 @ 2 pm  
Drive thru celebration  
Buddhist Church of Florin  
Dharma School  
7235 Pritchard Road  
Sacramento, CA 95828

—————

RSVP TO: Judy Yuki [judyukid@gmail.com](mailto:judyukid@gmail.com)  
Text : 916-826-5606

# Dharma School Fireworks!

Due to the need of social distancing. This year the Dharma School 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations will be slightly different.

What: **Bring your own dinner** and chairs

Where: BCF parking lot

When: Sunday, July 4, 2021 @ 7 PM

What else: Fireworks donation accepted.

Who: Please let Judy Yuki (916) 826-5606 know if you will be coming. Thank you!

We hope in 2022 we can go back to the potluck/fireworks celebration.





May News  
June 2021

# BWA News

## **THANK YOU/ARIGATO**

Jan Takeuchi in memory of Jane Tanigawa.

Connie Yee and Alice Okimura – gift cards for Sacramento Children's Home.

## **DANA – Cultivating Generosity**

The BWA plans to hold several Dana Projects monthly to assist local community organizations that serve those in need.

April Dana Projects – Thank you to the Sangha, family and friends who donated items!

Cathy's Clothes Closet – BWA donated 12 bags of gently used women's clothes.

Sacramento SPCA – BWA donated 7 bags of towels and blankets.

May Dana Projects – Sacramento Children's Home Crisis Nursery – baby items (age 0-5 years)

Sacramento Children's Home Residential Program – clothing, personal items, gift cards.

Drop off on Thursdays 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM (Lotus Days), final drop off/drive through day, Friday, May 28, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

June Dana Projects – Loaves and Fishes Water Drive, SPCA Newspaper Drive.

**Walking Group** – Meet Wed. June 2nd 9:00 AM in Elk Grove Park, at the Pool house parking lot.

**BCF Golf Tournament Bakers** - Need a few volunteers to bake brownies for golf tournament goody bag. (Brownie prep will occur before June 3 tournament.) Contact Sandy Okuno for details.

**BWA General Meeting** – Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 1:30 PM. A general membership meeting is scheduled via Zoom to ratify the BWA Bylaws changes. A summary of the changes were sent to BWA members for their review.

**BCF Temple Maintenance** – The BWA will be donating funds for the old temple building painting and other maintenance needs.

For more information about the BWA activities, Boutique items, Dana Projects or Walking Group, please contact Sandy Okuno for details. 916 424-6146 or [whocares13@comcast.net](mailto:whocares13@comcast.net).

###

# BWA June 2021 Dana Project



SACRAMENTO  
**LOAVES & FISHES**

## WATER DRIVE

In the spirit of hospitality and radical love, Loaves & Fishes is an oasis for guests seeking respite and a space of belonging. To ensure that our guests are served without judgement or barrier, we do not accept government funds. Our programs are 100% run by the generosity of individual supporters, local businesses, and community foundations.

**Requesting: Costco/Walmart, etc. gift card(s) for L&F to purchase cases of water (instead of collecting physical water bottles (cases).**

May order gift cards from [<https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/>] or order from Ann T.

**Walmart**/\$10 (2.5% rebate); **Safeway**/\$10 (5% rebate); **CVS**/\$10 (6% rebate)

Order by May 26 if ordering from shopwithscrip (for church rebate)

The BWA Board approved the purchase of scrip gift cards for Loaves & Fishes to purchase several cases of water.



## Cancelled: Newspaper Drive

(If you **have been** saving newsprint on behalf of BWA's Dana project, we will still take & drop off to SPCA).

Collection Dates: June Thursdays (9 a.m.-1 p.m.) [LOTUS days]  
BCF parking June 25 (Friday) (10 a.m. – 1 p.m.) [w/Board members]  
lot drop off

If in the 95831 zip code area, may deliver to Sandy's residence  
or call for pickup Sandy (916 424-6146)



[June issue]

# LOTUS Club News

May, 2021 News

Learning Oriental Trimming ...

Land Park Pond 7-'20

## Garden Re-established



**SHARON OKAMOTO** has become a LOTUS fixture



during the past several weeks re-establishing the church (mini) garden with the first plantings of uri. "Cucumbers will be the next crop to be planted," says Sharon.



## Featured Member

**Ken Okabayashi** the church electrician, composter, master repairer is another LOTUS member who spends multiple days on the grounds completing various projects.



His latest project was installation of lighting inside and out of the outside kitchen. A project that lasted several weeks was repair of the fence surrounding the perimeter of the church. Ken is also providing the compost for the newly established garden.



A lot of lady/man power has gone into the restart of the garden. (Above) **Ben K.** rototilling hard soil (L) **Tomio I.** checking it out (wk. 1); (R) **Gary O, Mike K, Ken O** digging very firm ground to repair a pipe leak; **George M,** supervising.



## LUNCH FIXIN's

**JoAnn Kusaka**

**JoAnn K/Jan T**

**Sharon Y/Mark (L&L)**

**Sharon Okamoto/  
Ginny Syphax**

Weekly AM snacks

Rigatoni/garlic bread, stuffed chicken, udon, chicken wings

3 loaves of bread

Lemon whipped cream cake, strawberry topped whipped cream

Banana cream

chow mein

cake



# Teriyaki Chicken Plate Fundraiser

Thank you to all who came out to help at our first teriyaki chicken fundraiser. It was a huge success.

We're grateful for the dedicated area chairs and their hardworking crew:



Chicken: Lon Tsukamoto

Purchasing/finance: Ann Tsukamoto

Facilities/rice cooker: Kenny Teranishi

Drive up order distribution: Ginny Syphax

Health & Safety: Peggy Okabayashi

Plate assembly: Kathy Menda

Traffic: Walter Menda

Check-in: Judy Yuki

Orders: Norma Nakata

We also appreciate Dennis Martinez & Glenn Harada for providing us with a great group of helpers; thank you Sacramento Kendo Club! A big thanks goes out to our YBA kids. They did a great job assisting at the end of the day with clean up.

A special thank you goes out to Sandy Okuno for connecting us with Frank's Quality Meats, along with Lon Tsukamoto, Craig Shijo and Dean Shimosaki for getting our chickens cut in half on such short notice.

We are truly thankful for all the volunteers who generosity gave their time and effort to make this event a success.



## Buddhist Church of Florin

### **Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Scholarship Recipient**

The Buddhist Church of Florin is proud to announce the recipient of the 2021-22 Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani scholarship. This student is actively involved at church, school and the community. Congratulations to this outstanding individual.

### **Senior High School Scholarship Recipient**

#### **Devon Akiyama is the recipient of the \$8,000 scholarship**

Devon is graduating from West Campus High School, where he excelled as a scholar with a 4.3 grade point average. His academic achievements include Commended National Merit Scholar, Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction, and Indigenous Scholar from the College Board Indigenous Recognition Program (Native Hawaiian). He volunteered at school, serving leadership roles on various school organizations including the Model United Nations, which he founded and was the President; the National Honor Society; the California Scholarship Federation; the Math, Engineering, Science, Achievement (MESA); and Lieutenant Governor of the Key Club with oversight over 17 schools in the Sacramento area. He is an Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America providing service in the community and at church. Devon regularly participates at church activities and fundraisers; chairing and giving reflections at Sunday services; writing articles for the church's newsletter; and actively participating in the church's YBA as its President. Devon received the Buddhist Church of Florin's Kansha awards (twice) for his altruism to the Temple and members; and the Tamazo Tanigawa awards (twice) in recognition of his outstanding service in the community.

Devon will be attending the University of California, Berkeley, majoring in Business Administration.

Devon is the son of church members, George and Merri Akiyama.

In his scholarship essay, Devon wrote, "Growing up at the Buddhist Church of Florin, I have had the opportunity to observe many aspects of the Six Paramitas, the six virtues to practice on the Eightfold Path. Some of the virtues, like meditation and diligence, are easy to identify. However, Selfless Giving (*dana*), is something that is much more complex and a virtue that I have learned through my experiences at church.

The food bazaars are an excellent example of this selfless giving. With week-long preparations to ensure a successful fundraiser, the Sangha members demonstrate their commitment to the church and their dedication to its continued prosperity. Growing up, I had the chance to participate at bazaars by filling sushi boxes, transporting rice, and greeting customers.

Since then, I have been given more opportunities to serve and learn about my own potential for contributing selflessly to the church. As a member of the Young Buddhist Association (YBA), I have had the chance to exercise *dana* to a greater community, most recently by distributing holiday gift bags to Keiro members of the church.

As an Eagle Scout candidate, it was important to me to develop a service project that would positively impact my church and support the expressions of *dana* I have witnessed all these years. My project included restoring and beautifying the exterior of the Outdoor Kitchen. The kitchen is an integral part of the food bazaars and continues to serve our congregation through fundraisers.

Across my activities as a Buddhist youth, I have learned many principles including the Eightfold Path, the Four Noble Truths, and the Six Paramitas. I try to apply these lessons regularly, but it is watching one specific virtue in motion, *dana*, which inspires me to better give back to my community and one which I will strive to practice throughout my life.”

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Congratulations to our 2021-22 Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Scholarship recipient, Devon Akiyama.

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The Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Scholarship program was established in the memory of Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani. The Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Scholarships provide annual academic financial assistance to graduating high school seniors and university, college or vocational school students. Students are evaluated on the basis of their commitment to church, community and school, academic achievement, personal character, written essays and in-person interviews.

The Buddhist Church of Florin encourages church members’ children who are graduating high school or attending a university, college or vocational school full time to apply for these scholarships.

If you are not members of the Buddhist Church of Florin, join the church and your children will be eligible for these scholarships.

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Acknowledgment from the 2021-22 Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Scholarship recipient:



Recently, I have had many opportunities to look back on experiences and memories that I will take with me as I head off to college. It is during these reflections that I realize how grateful I am to have been raised at the Buddhist Church of Florin.

Learning about Buddhism in Dharma School, playing on the church basketball team, working with friends at food bazaars, and volunteering with the JYBA have all helped to shape me into the person that I am today. Being able to stand in the same place where my grandfather and great grandparents lived and to talk with people who knew them has been a real privilege. It has allowed me to better connect with my family's history and to truly appreciate the efforts of our ancestors to protect our church for generations like mine that have followed them.

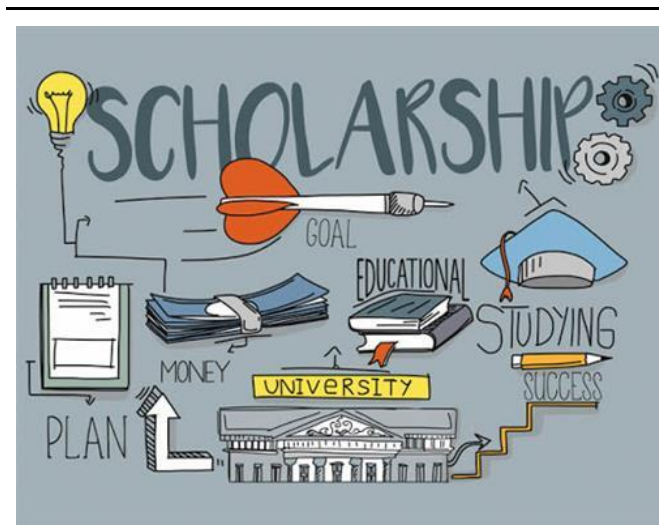
Looking forward, I will be attending the University of California at Berkeley to pursue my bachelor's degree in Business. The generous support of the Nakatani Scholarship will be especially helpful with the costs associated with achieving those educational goals. I am hoping to continue my engagement with the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha by attending services at the Berkeley Buddhist Temple near the campus. Additionally, I am confident that I can rely on the lessons learned as a student at our church to practice the principles of compassion and interdependence to support me throughout my college experience.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to the Buddhist Church of Florin for giving me a foundation from which to grow. BCF is not just my temple; but it is also my home where the Sangha feels like family.

Thank you also to the many individuals who have supported me at Florin—our ministers, advisors, and Sangha members—who have served as role models and teachers to me all these years.

Finally, a special thank you to my parents and my family for always being there for me and for encouraging me in everything I do.

In Gassho,  
Devon Akiyama



Buddhist Church of Florin  
Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant  
\$1,500

Public school education is the foundation for a harmonious and prosperous society. Unfortunately, public school teachers pay for classroom supplies and educational material with their own money because of school budget cuts. The Buddhist Church of Florin supports public school teachers by offering a \$1,500 grant for classroom supplies and education materials; and if necessary, for reopening Personal Protection supplies and equipment.

To be eligible for the Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant, you must be a full-time public school teacher in Kindergarten through 12th grade; and a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin (church membership dues are paid and current).

How to become a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin? If you are married, please join under the couple/family category or if single, the adult single category. Contact Walter Menda for a 2021 Church Membership Form at (916) 392-1896 or [wmenda@pacbell.net](mailto:wmenda@pacbell.net).

Please complete the Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Application and email to Walter Menda. Applications are being accepted on an ongoing basis.

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Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Application

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number and E-mail Address:

Member of Buddhist Church of Florin (Yes/No):

Name of School:

School District:

Grade:

Teaching Credential (Yes/No):

School Term (i.e., September 2021 to June 2022):

How I plan to spend the \$1,500 grant:

I certify that I have provided complete and accurate information to the items on this application. I fully understand that any misrepresentation of information may revoke any right to a grant.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

If you haven't designated Buddhist Church of Florin as your charitable organization, please do...free money to BCF! Thank you!



## Make a Free Donation to the Church? As Easy as 1, 2, 3, 4. 5

### IF YOU SHOP ON AMAZON, YOUR PURCHASES CAN EARN \$\$\$ FOR THE BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN!

The **Buddhist Church of Florin (BCF)** has joined a neat new program, **AmazonSmile**, an easy way to support the Church every time you shop, at no extra cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you find the same low prices, selection and easy shopping, while Amazon donates ½% of the purchase to the Buddhist Church of Florin.

#### HERE'S HOW IN 5 EASY STEPS:

1. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on an internet computer
2. Sign in (email address or mobile phone) in the field.
3. Enter your Amazon Password in the field.
4. Select Buddhist Church of Florin – type in “Florin” to find it
5. Start shopping

If you're not an Amazon member yet, first click on “Create an Account”, follow instructions, and select Buddhist Church of Florin.

#### AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM INFORMATION:

- **How do I shop at AmazonSmile?**  
To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to shop at AmazonSmile.
- **Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?**  
Millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.
- **Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?**  
Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding, and other account settings are also the same.

# GIFTCARD FUNDRAISER

Purchase gift cards for yourself, family or friends and Buddhist Church of Florin (BCF) will receive a percentage of the sale. Don't forget gifts for birthdays, graduations, baby showers, or anniversaries. For a complete list of gift cards offered, go to [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com). You can place your order online (BCF's enrollment code is 2481168D38LL7) or you can contact Ann Tsukamoto at 916-683-3401 or email [awtsukamoto@comcast.net](mailto:awtsukamoto@comcast.net) to place your order and make arrangements to pick up your order at her house in Elk Grove.

**NEW!!!! If you want to place an order, your order must be received by Ann by 12 PM on the following dates.**

**ORDER DUE DATES: (mark your calendars!)**

**This Wednesday, May 26!!!**

Next ordering deadline is June 23, 2021

Your order will arrive at Ann's house the following week.

Ann has the following on hand (limited amounts) for immediate purchase:



Ann must receive your order by 12 PM on the due date.

**Ann has in stock (call her at 916-683-3401) the following cards:**

**\$25 –Raley's/Bel Air, Starbucks, Target, & Walmart**

# JAPANESE AMERICAN WWII INTERNMENT MEMORIAL AND LEGACY PROJECT FLAG SIGNING

Are you or do you know of anyone who is a survivor of the Japanese American incarceration camps during WWII?



Please come and support a Japanese American Community Project for camp survivors held in collaboration with the Japanese American Museum of San Jose.



This is a Memorial project to honor all of the survivors with a 48 star flag signing event.

**When: Sunday, June 6 from 1pm to 3pm**

**Where: Nisei VFW Post 8985  
1515 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95814**



**What:** Survivors of the incarceration camps can sign a 48 star flag which will be donated to the San Jose Japanese American Museum to be a part of a Memorial and Legacy Project in honor of their memory and history of our community and culture



For more information or questions,  
please contact:

[JGogo@scscourt.org](mailto:JGogo@scscourt.org) or  
[FlorinJACLSV@gmail.com](mailto:FlorinJACLSV@gmail.com)

# Thursday Night Medical Series

Thursday, June 17, 2021

6:30 pm via zoom

## "Healing from Harm"

*The impacts of trauma and harm on our brain and bodies and discuss  
some ways we can work towards healing.*



**Tara Umemoto, MSW, PPSC**  
**Berkeley Buddhist Temple, Minister's Assistant**

Please sign-up at

[BetsuinPrograms@buddhistchurch.org](mailto:BetsuinPrograms@buddhistchurch.org)

Buddhist Church of Sacramento, 2401 Riverside  
Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818-2233