



ONENESS

Buddhist Church of Florin



October 2022

Volume 10

Hi everyone,

I am Rev. Noritaka Imada. On August 15th, I was assigned to the Buddhist Church of Florin and the Buddhist Church of Lodi.

I drove and moved from Colorado to California with my wife, Michele, and my three-year-old daughter, Emma. Before moving to California, I was at the Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple in Colorado. I was born into a temple family in Hiroshima, Japan and moved to the United States in 2019 after participating in the International Ministerial Orientation Program (IMOP) at Jodo Shinshu Center.

When I visited India and Nepal, I visited Kathmandu Hongwanji Temple. In the Hondo, there was an Amida Buddha with the familiar scent of incense. That was the moment, I decided to become Kaikyoshi Minister. The Amida Buddha is always placed in Hondo wherever we visit Jodo Shinshu temple. Whether it is a Jodo Shinshu temple in India, Japan or America, we recite the same name "Namo Amida Butsu" in front of the Amida Buddha. All over the world, there are many members who don't even know each other's faces or names, but we are reciting the same name "Namo Amida Butsu". Even before we were born, the tradition was the same. I would like to respect the many members who have kept this tradition, and I am happy to be involved in spreading the teaching and preserving the temple and the Sangha. During the pandemic, we have been restricted from gathering for Sunday services, funerals, etc., but little by little we are seeing more and more in-person events at BCA temples. I am looking forward to sharing the teachings of our founder, Shinran Shonin with all of you.

Also, I like playing the guitar, and I would love to play songs such as "Ondokusan", "Shinshu Shuka", "Namo Amida Butsu" and sing along with you. Below, I would like to share Ondokusan's translation as a Shinran Shonin passage.

"In gratitude to Amida, the Buddha-as-words, I dedicate my whole being to realizing Buddha's intent. In gratitude to the masters of teachings and the countless good Dharma friends among our ancestors, I dedicate my total efforts to spreading the Nenbutsu."

[Shinran Shonin - HYMNS OF THE DHARMA-AGES 59]

Gassho,
Namo Amida Butsu
Rev. Noritaka Imada



8/25/22 Imada family's first day at BCF. Emma helping Sharon Okamoto in the BCF garden. Our next Lotus Club member in training?

If you need to contact Rev. Imada, you can email him at: imadabca@gmail.com

October Monthly Memorial (Shotsuki Hoyo) Service

The monthly memorial service for those who passed away during the month of October will be held on **Sunday, October 9, 2022 beginning at 10:00 am. The service will be conducted in-person by reservation.** The persons who are noted in the Buddhist Church of Florin's (BCF) memorial records as having passed away in the month of October are listed below. If you have a homyo (Buddhist name) on a card please bring it with you for placement on the onaijin (altar) before the service.

If the year 2022 is a special service year (see table) for a dearly departed relative, please contact Reverend Noritaka Imada, Buddhist Church of Florin 209-503-4514 or email imadabca@gmail.com to make special memorial arrangements. Please inform Lois Kashiwase of any corrections or additions to the list.

Eto, Kaoru	10-07-1940	Nishi, Tamiko	10-14-1934
Furukawa, Shizu	10-20-1914	Nomura, Ichinosuke	10-29-1918
Hayashida, Yukio	10-05-1926	Oda, Tokutaro	10-07-1903
Hirakawa, Junichi	10-05-1933	Ohmae, Shigecko	10-07-1918
Ishimaru, Gosaku	10-08-1921	Ohta, Tsuneo	10-16-1990
Ishimoto, Tokutaro	10-31-1921	Oku,	10-03-1911
Kishimoto, Toraichi	10-11-1958	Oku, Toshi	10-06-1973
Kojima, Shigeru	10-29-1920	Oku, Yoichi	10-03-1971
Kono, Jane Michiko	10-08-2001	Ouchida, Soyo	10-31-1928
Koyama, Chiyo	10-21-1917	Sakai, Yoshinori	10-17-1944
Masuda, Kikujiro	10-14-1957	Sako, Tokichi	10-25-1956
Matsui, Tsuru	10-31-1979	Sato, Tsura	10-24-1943
Minamide, Yataro	10-04-1939	Sawada, Mitoko	10-27-1931
Miyaki,	10-26-1913	Sawai, Fujiko	10-31-1930
Miyata, Irene Tamayo	10-27-1992	Shimosaka, Robert Tadashi	10-17-1984
Mizusaka, William Yutaka	10-03-2016	Takeoka, Kumakichi	10-22-1960
Mori, Kojiro	10-07-1940	Tanaka, Fusaye	10-31-1999
Mukai, Frank T.	10-24-1996	Tanaka, Sekiyo	10-09-1987
Mukai, Tom	10-08-1989	Tanaka, Shizuichi	10-08-1976
Mukai, Tomie	10-13-1923	Tanigawa, Kogiku	10-27-1980
Munekawa, Makoto Jim	10-13-2017	Tanigawa, Shizuo	10-16-1921
Nakagawa, Chotaro	10-23-1953	Tanigawa, Tamazo	10-16-1954
Nakashima,	10- -1915	Yamanaka, Hachiro	10-26-1950
Nakashima, Kiyoshi	10-10-1950	Yasukawa, Leo Isamu	10-11-2013
Nishi, Charles Keishi	10-07-1970	Yoshinaga, Rin	10-15-1961

2022 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>
2021	1 st Year	1998	25 th Year
2020	3 rd Year	1990	33 rd Year
2016	7 th Year	1973	50 th Year
2010	13 th Year	1923	100 th Year
2006	17 th Year		

FUNERAL AND MEMORIAL SERVICES

Funerals

The Buddhist Church of Florin is sharing Reverend Noritaka Imada's ministerial duties with the Buddhist Church of Lodi. Reverend Imada's schedule at the Buddhist Church of Florin is the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month, Thursday to Monday. In the event of a death in the family, please follow these guidelines.

For a Makuragyo service, contact Reverend Imada at (916) 383-1831 during the business hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm when Reverend Imada is scheduled at the Buddhist Church of Florin. If the church office is closed or Reverend Imada is at the Buddhist Church of Lodi, contact Reverend Imada at (209) 503-4514. When scheduling the Makuragyo service, please consider his travel time, especially late at night, as Reverend Imada and family live in Lodi.

The Buddhist Church of Florin is conducting in-person Funeral services at the Church with COVID protocols (i.e., mask, social distance, contact tracing, release of liability) to ensure the safety of our Church members and Minister. Currently, the Church is not able to offer any type of onsite dining (Otoki).

Funeral services will be conducted on the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month, Thursday to Monday when Reverend Imada is scheduled at the Buddhist Church of Florin. Please contact Reverend Imada to decide the date and time for the service.

The Buddhist Church of Florin's Funeral Committee can assist with the preparation and general arrangements for the funeral with the family. Please contact the Funeral Committee, Walter Menda at (916) 392-1896 or (916) 835-0281 (cell) or Dick Kadoya at (916) 764-5972 (cell) for assistance.

Orei guidelines:

- Orei to Reverend Noritaka Imada
- Orei to Buddhist Church of Florin

Perpetual Memorial Services (i.e., 49th day, 1st year, 3rd year, 7th year, etc.)

In the event of a family Memorial service, please follow these guidelines. Memorial services will be conducted on the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month, Thursday to Monday when Reverend Imada is scheduled at the Buddhist Church of Florin. To schedule a service date and time, please contact Reverend Imada at (916) 383-1831 during the business hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The Buddhist Church of Florin is conducting in-person Memorial services at the Church with COVID protocols (i.e., mask, social distance, contact tracing, release of liability) to ensure the safety of our Church members and Minister.

Orei guidelines:

- Orei to Reverend Noritaka Imada
- Orei to Buddhist Church of Florin

Please note that in-person services are subject to cancellation if County/Centers for Disease Control guidelines change or if it becomes too risky for the health and safety of our Church members and Minister to continue with indoor gatherings.

Buddhist Church of Florin
In -Person Protocols for Services and Activities

Sunday, October 9th, October Shotsuki Hoyo at 10 am.

Sunday, October 23rd, Ladies of Jodo Shinshu and Family Service at 10 am.

Sunday, October 30th, No Service – Dharma School Halloween Party at 10 am.

**There will be light refreshments following the services and so in order to prepare enough for everyone, we ask that you please rsvp to florinbuddhist@gmail.com. Thank you!

UPDATED PROTOCOLS (effective 9/25/22):

We will continue to follow safety protocols for all in-person services and activities.

- No longer needed to provide proof of vaccination.
- Face masks must always be worn while indoors.
- Everyone needs to sign-in before entering the Hondo or other church facilities.
- Attend services or activities **only when you are healthy and free from symptoms**.
- Continue to practice social distancing.
- Services will be held in the Hondo with seating properly spaced apart. Families may be seated together in specified sections. Families with children 5 years old and younger will have special reserved seating areas.
- **No Service Book** will be provided (Please bring your own service book or one may be purchased from the church for \$5).

Please note that in-person services are subject to cancellation if county/CDC guidelines change or if it becomes too risky for the safety and health of our Sangha members to continue with indoor gatherings.

In the event of a change, we will post the updates on our website, Facebook page and send out a message to our email list.

Remember
to
RSVP

Ladies of Jodo Shinshu Memorial Service

Please join the Florin BWA in honoring Lady Eshinni, Lady Kakushinni and Lady Yoshiko Ohtani at the Ladies of Jodo Shinshu memorial service on October 23, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. for the in-person service officiated by Rev. Noritaka Imada.

At the Buddhist Church of Florin, women play a major role in all church activities, and the reason is rooted in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist teachings and history. Today in the Buddhist Churches of America, women serve in leadership positions such as president, executive board members, and Dharma School superintendents and teachers. The Buddhist Women's Association has supported the temples for over 120 years through their efforts, activities, and fundraising.

The contributions of women are not surprising considering their importance in Jodo Shinshu history and development. Lady Eshinni made it possible for Shinran Shonin to commit his life to spreading and writing the Nembutsu Dharma. After Shinran's passing, Lady Kakushinni wanted to keep his teachings alive. She built a small temple in Higashiyama, Kyoto to enshrine his ashes and portrait. As a result, the Nembutsu teachings began to reach more people. 50 years later the temple was named the "Hongwanji". Because of Lady Eshinni's and Lady Kakushinni's vision and devotion in supporting Shinran and his teachings, the Hongwanji has transmitted the Nembutsu teachings worldwide for many generations.

After World War II, Lady Yoshiko Ohtani, the spouse of the 23rd Monshu, Kosho Ohtani, visited many temples in Japan and around the world and worked to revive the Buddhist Women's Association (BWA). Therefore, annually the BWA chapters observe an service in her memory to commemorate her dedication to Buddhism.

Donations in the memory of Eshinni, Kakushinni and Lady Ohtani may be made via PayPal by logging into the Buddhist Church of Florin website at florinbuddhist.org and clicking on the "Donation" button or by mailing a check to the Buddhist Church of Florin-Buddhist Women's Association at P.O. Box 292006, Sacramento, CA 95829-2006.

In addition, donations to support the Institute of Buddhist Studies Eshinni and Kakushinni Professor of Women and Buddhist Studies Fund may be made through the BCA Dharma Forward Campaign. Pledge your financial support at <https://bca.kindful.com>. Note in your donation that it is restricted to the Eshinni and Kakushinni Professor of Women and Buddhist Studies Fund.



Buddhist Church of Florin
2022-2024 Governing Board and Administrative Positions

Executive Council

President	Eric Fujii
1 st Vice President	Margie Sunahara
2 nd Vice President	Lon Tsukamoto
Recording Secretary	Shirley Gee
Treasurer	Kathy Menda
Komon	Dick Kadoya
Immediate Past President	Lois Kashiwase

Administrative Officers

Corresponding Secretary	Jan Takeuchi
Auditor	Dick Kadoya
Activities Chairperson (2)	Sandy Okuno & Sharon Okamoto
BCA Liason (Official Delegate)	Lois Kashiwase; Peggy Okabayashi & Eric Fujii
Membership Chairperson	Susan & Bob Takeda
Research Chairperson	Glenn Fujii
Public Relations Chairperson	Ginny Syphax
Historian	Vacant
Buddhist Education Committee	Lois Kashiwase
Youth Director	Vacant
Maintenance Chairperson	Mike Kakutani & Lloyd Okimura
Health & Welfare Chairperson	Ginny Syphax
Bazaar Chairperson	Jennifer Kubo
Publications Chairperson	Ginny Syphax/Lois Kashiwase
Information Technology Chairperson	Derek Shimosaki

Directors-at-Large:

- Group 1-Tyson Fong & Elizabeth Fujii
- Group 2-Peggy Okabayashi & Joy Okamoto
- Group 3-Walter Menda & Jan Takeuchi

congratulations

ONLINE PAYPAL DONATIONS

You can now make online donations/payments to the church by visiting our website at florinbuddhist.org and clicking on the "Donate" button near the bottom of the home page. This is a convenient, secure way to make online donations for osaisen, shotsuki, services, membership and special 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: September 8, 2022

2022-2024 Governing Board: The Board was installed by Rev. Imada. Lois K. thanked departing board members and especially those that were continuing in their past or new capacities.

Minister's Report: Rev Imada's first service was on August 28 followed by a welcome social in the courtyard. Light refreshments were made and served by Sandy O. and Sharon O. Since Rev Imada's responsibilities are shared with Lodi, future services will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

1st Vice President: Margie S. reported that the new copier was delivered and installed. A laptop donated by Carol Kusama has been updated and configured for newsletter production by Paul Kashiwase. Margie also reported that she is looking for a new janitor and also will research the cost of a commercial pest control service.

2nd Vice President: Lon T and Walter M. reported that this year's mochitsuki has officially been cancelled due to continuing COVID-19 concerns. We have been invited to order mochi from the Placer Buddhist Church, who will hold their event December 18. Information will be distributed as soon as it becomes available.

BWA Report: The Summer Camp held in August was a success with 24 attendees. The BWA Social (card playing) and Movie Day have resumed. Florin BWA is responsible for workshops for the upcoming virtual FBWA Conference. Carol Kusama reported all workshops are ready. The BWA Rummage Sale will be held Saturday, November 3. Drop off items for the sale beginning November 2. **No clothing, electronics or furniture will be accepted.** The annual Tsuitou Hoyo has been rescheduled for December 10.

Activities: Plans are being made to continue a light refreshment social following the 4th service of the month; tentatively to begin in October. ACC is holding a 50th Anniversary Ohana Walk on September 17. Eric reported the event registration is going well and BCF will man a check station.

Fundraising: Because many members receive the Oneness newsletter each month by email, the convenient donation envelopes are not readily available. The Board agreed to provide a packet of envelopes labeled for the individual special services with the annual New Year's letter. Peggy will contact the president of NorCal Buddhist Churches to ask all temples to share their event calendars to avoid overlaps and assure the most success in fund raising for everyone.

Youth Protection: Temple teachers, advisors and Sensei will need to be fingerprinted to comply with Youth Protection Policies and Best Practices. They and the Board will need to comply with the training requirement.

Membership: Release and distribution of an updated temple membership directory is anticipated before the New Year.

OHANA WALK

It was a beautiful morning for a walk-in the park on Saturday, September 17th!! The ACC organizers expected over 700 walkers down the Greenbelt and Pocket Canal Parkway. The walkers could start and end at any of the six checkpoint stations at any time between 8 am and 11 am. The walk was followed by an ACC Ohana picnic with lots of fun and games.

The Buddhist Church of Florin (BCF) team had over 20 registered walkers so BCF was listed on the back of the Ohana Walk Tee-shirts. Thank you to everyone that registered to walk and everyone that made a donation under the BCF team to support the ACC Senior Services 50th Anniversary.

Special thank you to the volunteers at checkpoint #3, Kenny Okabayashi, Paul Kashiwase, Ginny Syphax, Ann Tsukamoto, Stacy Okasaki, Myra Okasaki, Lois Kashiwase and checkpoint #3 Coordinator Eric Fujii.

Everyone had a great time stopping by the BCF checkpoint and visiting with folks they haven't seen in a long time!!!



2022 Membership Dues

The Buddhist Church of Florin thanks the following members who have paid their 2022 membership dues.

Kuroda, Dale
Yoshioka, Burt

Kuroda, Janet

Nishida, John & Ailene

Please direct membership questions to Susan & Bob Takeda @ s.takeda@comcast.net

The Buddhist Church of Florin welcomes the following new members:

***Dale Kuroda
Ryan and Sabrina Okimura & family***

We look forward to seeing you at service and temple functions and hope the BCF will meet your religious and community desires.

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 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).

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. Contact Walter Menda for a Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Application at (916) 392-1896 or wmenda@pacbell.net.

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 Church Membership Form.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

The Fall Food Fundraiser was a huge success! Thank you to those who placed orders, helped clean, prep food, cook, plate, bag and delivered to the cars. Without your help, this would not have been possible. Thank you so much!



JR. YBA

No one ever imagined the pandemic would go for this long. In February 2021 (ending in August 2022), the Jr. YBA volunteered their time to delivering goodie bags to the BCF Keiro members. Our Keiro members were such the vulnerable group, stuck like prisoners in their houses. We thought it was necessary for our Keiro members to have safe contact/conversations with others. So, the Jr. YBA stuffed bags, drove around from Elk Grove to Isleton to Rancho Cordova and Sacramento. This was truly an enjoyable & learning experience for the Jr. YBA members (we heard great comments from our Keiro families as well). During this time, we were saddened when we lost a few members, but it was turned back into smiles when we gained two new Keiro members. We hope our project brought a smile to everyone's face. Thank you Keiro members and families for allowing us to deliver these bags. (Some Keiro members are not pictured due to nursing/private homes safety protocols.)



It truly was a great experience for both our Keiro members and the Jr. YBA members. Practicing the true meaning of Dana, humbled by receiving the gifts, and showing the ultimate respect to our elders.
Namo Amida Butsu





Buddhist Church of Florin Dharma School
News & Events
October 2022
**“B.R.A.I.D.” – Building Respectful Awareness
& Inclusion through Dharma**

Perspective. Loosely defined as a point of view. It is something that we so often forget about when we are simply existing because face it, we can't exactly push a button and *pop*, go straight into the mind of someone else and tell what they are thinking or feeling. Perhaps it is all for the uniqueness of our special way to see the world, but we must also consider how someone else might perceive the exact same thing.

We see everything through a lens, and that lens can sometimes hinder or help us see the world as it truly is. While we might not be able to remove the lens, maybe we could piece together how everyone else sees the world and how we see the world to find the closest version to what the world actually is.

Or maybe we can start small and consider how our actions and words will affect someone who views the world through that different lens. Maybe if we-to use Reverend Imada's analogy-try to see the world through that particular pair of sunglasses, we could understand and empathize with that person better.

Gassho,
Ella Lam

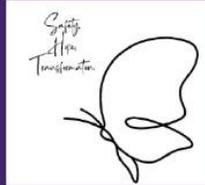
HALLOWEEN PARTY!!!

October 30, 2022 (10:00 AM) Come join us for our Halloween party. Come dressed in your costume -adults come in costume too! Games, goodies and prizes for the best costume (kids & adults). Please RSVP by October 16, 2022, how many kids/adults will attend to florinbuddhist@gmail.com
Thank you!



BWA Oct. 2022 Dana Project

 My Sister's House



Run for a Safe Haven

William Land Park, Sacramento

October 22, 2022

Request:

Register for run/walk or donate to My Sister's House Run for a Safe Haven

Or ... can walk as part BCF-BWA November walk.

<https://www.runforasafehaven.com/>

2021 Run for a Safe Haven participants



Sept. Dana Projects (Last call)

Items to fill holiday stockings



Requesting:

Holiday stocking fillers:

Small toiletries, new socks, new t-shirts, ponchos, blankets, hats, gloves, scarves . . . for adults

Collection Dates:

BCF Gym

Thurs. [LOTUS days]

(9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

[Call Sandy Okuno for questions]

LOTUS News

Learning Oriental Trimming

Sept. 2022 News
Oct. '22 issue]

Land Park Pond 7-'22

**Ben
Kusaka**



Summer Haircuts (Pruning)

[Before/After]

**Jan
Takeuchi**



LOTUS welcomes the Imadas

Rev. Imada and family joined LOTUS for lunch in late August.

*Ken
Installing
exterior
motion
sensor
lights &
removing
old mister
tubing.*



Ken Okabayashi



LUNCH FIXIN's (August-Sept.)

- JoAnn Kusaka** Weekly AM snacks
Beef & gravy w/garden veggies, tacos; somen/nigiri
- Jan Takeuchi** Chicken rollups, chocolate cookies (w/ice cream on top)
- Sharon Okamoto** Hawaiian pineapple cake, Japanese milk kanten w/mandarin oranges
- Peggy Okabayashi** Another batch of mustard nasubi koko
- Ginny Syphax** Peaches and cream dessert
- Food bazaar/Ann T** Curry rice bowls, chicken for salad, homemade soup.

