



ONENESS

Buddhist Church of Florin



September 2022

Volume 9

This month, we will be observing Fall O-Higan which happens during the fall equinox, when the day and night are the same amount of time. This balance is a signal to us to reevaluate the balance in our life and reflect on our recommitment to the Buddhist teachings. Higan is translated as “other shore” meaning that we are on the ocean of life-and-death, coming from the shore of ignorance and heading towards the other shore of nirvana.

As Jodo Shinshu Buddhists, we don't believe that we can attain enlightenment in this life. We are too possessed of worldly passions and ego-self that we are unable to let go of the material things that cause us suffering. However, this is not to say that we cannot benefit from the other shore before we get there. There is a metaphor in Buddhism of the “Middle Path” which is meant to teach us to stay away from extremes, such as eternalism (that everything has an unchanging self) and nihilism (that nothing actually exists) in order to understand the true reality of our existence. This is applied to many different concepts in Buddhism and life in order to help us strike an appropriate balance.

For this month, I'd like to focus on the Middle Path between our everyday world and the world of nirvana. To think that these are two different realms of existence would be mistaken. But, to think that they are also the same would be wrong as well. It gets quite confusing but suffice it to say that both are important, and you cannot have one without the other. In our everyday life, we must use words and ideas to get anything done. For instance, we use the term “car” to refer to the vehicle that takes us to work. If we were to disassemble our car look for what makes it a “car” we wouldn't be able to find anything. The true reality is that it is made up of different things that, when assembled a certain way, we attribute a “car-ness” to. But, when we need to tell someone that we're putting gas in the assortment of plastic and metal pieces that make up the vehicle that takes us to work, it's easier just to say “car”.

Still, it is necessary for us to take the time to contemplate on the true reality of things. Although we may never achieve an unceasing realization of enlightenment, it isn't to say that enlightenment is not already all around us, calling to us. So, hopefully we quiet our minds for a second and listen to the call. It isn't the easy or even instinctual thing to do, but if we can try to “see” the Other Shore while we are on the way over, it can help make the journey smoother sailing.

Gassho,
Rev. Matthew Hamasaki

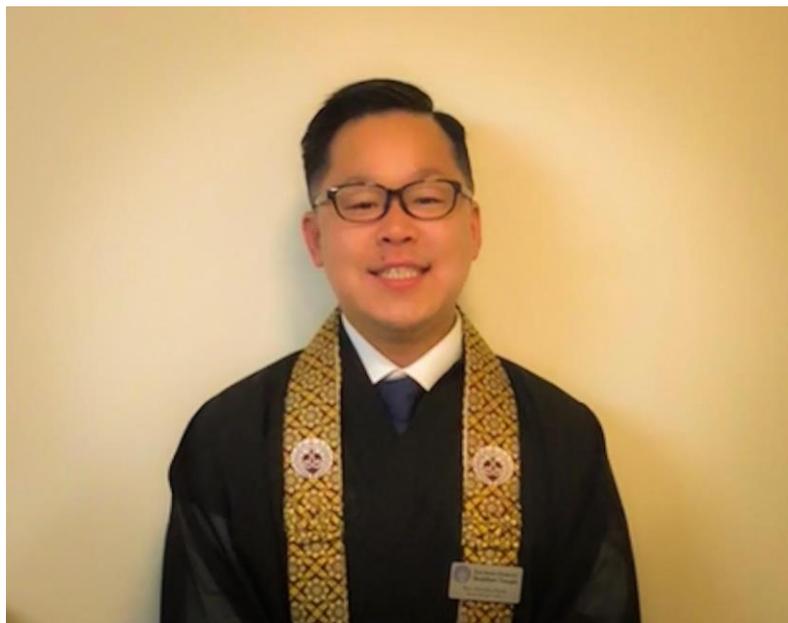


We're Happy They're Here!

We are excited to announce that Reverend Noritaka Imada, his wife, Michele Tiemi and daughter Emma have arrived!!

Reverend Imada will be the resident minister for Buddhist Church of Florin and Buddhist Church of Lodi. The Imada family will be living in Lodi. He will be conducting Sunday Services at Florin on the second and fourth Sunday of each month and the fifth Sunday of the month will be assigned on a rotation schedule.

Hope to see you soon at a Sunday Service to welcome the Imada family to the Buddhist Church of Florin!



September Monthly Memorial (Shotsuki Hoyo) Service

The monthly memorial service for those who passed away during the month of September will be held on **Sunday, September 25, 2022 beginning at 11:30 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 September are listed below. If you have a homyo (Buddhist name) on a card please bring it with you for placement on the onaijin (alter) 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 at 916-383-1831 or email imadabca@gmail.com to make special memorial arrangements.

Please inform Lois Kashiwase of any corrections or additions to the list.

Abe, Betty Sadako	09-07-2020	Nishi, Takei	09-29-1919
Aoki, Tokuhisa	09-28-1993	Nishida Sr., John Yoshio	09-04-2003
Asada, Fumio	09-11-1933	Nishimura, Haruto	09-25-1996
Baishiki, Eve Midori	09-02-2019	Oda, Tomitaro	09-21-1916
Fujii, Gladys	09-01-1990	Ohara, Misuye	09-13-1973
Fujii, Toku	09-01-1968	Otani, Edward	09-26-2019
Furukawa, Eiji	09-05-1912	Saigo, Takeshi	09-21-1979
Furukawa, Yoshio	09-29-1917	Sakai, Yasuke	09-23-1977
Furukawa, Yuki	09-28-1927	Sasaki, Louis	09-18-2019
Fuwa, Tane	09-04-2003	Seno, Baby	09-17-1923
Hara, Tami	09-11-1917	Shiizaki, Stillborn	09-05-1927
Ishigaki, Infant	09-09-1915	Shimosaka, Chisako	09-18-1936
Ishigaki, Sadao	09-11-1989	Tahara, Carol Naoko	09-27-2020
Ito, Eijiro	09-20-1933	Tahara, Mitsuo	09-01-1929
Kawashima, Matsutarō	09-07-1922	Takahashi, Akio	09-29-1917
Kazuta, Umeno	09-10-1917	Takayama, Fumiko	09-28-1926
Kitamura, Yoko	09-05-1999	Takemori, Seiro	09-01-2002
Kumano, Jiro	09-29-1954	Takeoka, Bobby	09-14-1925
Kurima, Koichi	09-24-1974	Takeoka, Jimmy	09-11-1921
Kurima, Tora	09-04-1974	Takeoka, Tadashi	09-07-1999
Kushida, Kiyoshi	09-13-1914	Takeuchi, Tayeko	09-11-2014
Kushida, Takeji	09-04-1931	Tanaka, Shizue	09-29-1969
Maruki, Makiko	09-08-1940	Taniguchi, Mitsuru	09-21-1924
Miyano, Jitsuo	09-26-1973	Terasaki, Kiyoshi	09-02-1923
Nakajo, Masahiro	09-05-2020	Tsukamoto, Karen Miyeko	09-14-2018
Nakao, Herbert	09-30-1995	Tsushima, Kazuo	09-27-1988
Nakao, Roger	09-29-2021	Yabumoto, Jimma	09-20-1996
Nakashima, Satsue	09-14-1932	Yamamoto, Tamehachi	09-21-1962
Nekoda, Masae	09-24-1919	Yamoto, Isamu	09-29-1927
Nishi, Hisashi	09-01-1974	Yoshinaga, Hanna Hanako	09-02-1997
Nishi, Kinuye	09-23-1920	Yoshinaga, Toki	09-29-1977
Nishi, Shinae	09-20-1925	Yubuta, Shinichi	09-29-1962

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		

Buddhist Church of Florin

In-Person Service Guidelines

September Shotsuki Hoyo and Fall Ohigan
Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 11:30 A.M.
Reverend Noritaka Imada

Due to capacity issues, we ask that you **please RSVP the number of people attending by Wednesday, September 21, 2022** to florinbuddhist@gmail.com if you plan to attend the service.

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

- Face masks must always be worn while indoors.
- Sanitize hands before entering the Hondo or other church facilities.
- Attend services **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).
- During this time of COVID, the BCF is not able to offer any type of onsite dining.

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**

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 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: August 11, 2022

President, Lois Kashiwase: Rev Imada and his family will be driving from Denver and plan to arrive in Lodi on August 12th. He will be visiting Florin on August 16th for orientation. Rev. Imada will conduct Sunday Services at Florin on the second and fourth Sunday of each month and the fifth Sunday of the month will be assigned on rotation schedule. Tuesday and Wednesday will be his days off. Office hours on Monday, Thursday and Friday will be 9 am to 4 pm on a wraparound schedule.

First Vice President, Margie Sunahara: Ballots for the 2022-2024 BCF Board have been counted and still have a few more positions to fill. Researching possible janitor service for the church. Has drafted the 2023 BCF Master Calendar. Kyudo Kai reported they are processing paperwork for 501(c) 3 and estimated the first class to be in November.

Bazaar Chairperson, Jennifer Kubo: Fall Food Fundraiser, Sunday, September 11, 2022.
Super Bowl Fundraiser, Sunday, February 12, 2023
The Spring Food Fundraiser, Sunday, April 30, 2023.

Jr. YBA, Ginny Syphax: The JYBA donated \$800 to BCF from the proceeds of the "Lock In" on July 23, 2022. **Thank you very much for your donation!**

BCF will be participating in the ACC Ohana Walkathon, on Saturday, September 17, 2022. Lois Kashiwase, Ginny Syphax, Stacy Okasaki, Kenny Okabayashi & Ann Tsukamoto will be staffing a check point station. BCF team has been created and requesting participants and donors to register with the BCF team.

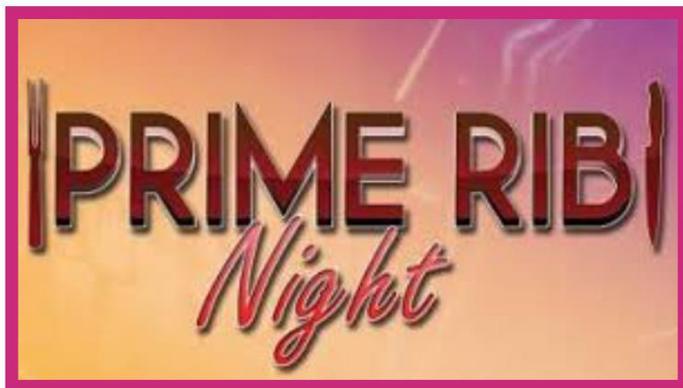
Northern California District Council (NCDC) will be hosting the 2024 BCA National Council Meeting (NCM). The Steering Committee **is asking Florin to provide a Recording Secretary to record the minutes of the 2024 NCM Committee meetings.** ****Attention Sangha Members, if you are interested in volunteering for this position, please contact Lois Kashiwase at loiskash2@comcast.net.**

The BCF Board approved to purchase a laptop and software to be used by the Publication Chairperson.

BCF MUST RECEIVE YOUR ORDER NO LATER THAN AUGUST 23, 2022. Please send to Eric Fujii listed below.

Buddhist Church of Florin
Curbside Pick-Up Dinner
Prime Rib, Gravy, Rice, Veggies

Saturday October 1, 2022 3-5pm



HOW TO PLACE YOUR ORDER:

- 1) **Complete ORDER FORM** below
- 2) **Make out CHECK to Buddhist Church of Florin** (*Checks will be deposited **after** the event)
- 3) **Submit ORDER FORM & CHECK** (Mail or drop off NO LATER THAN September 23, 2022) to:
E FUJII, 325 34TH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95816
- 4) **Pick up your order** on Saturday October 1st -between 3-5PM...
 - Drive into church parking lot at 7235 Pritchard Road, Sacramento 95828
 - Check-in at first station and your dinner will be delivered to your car.

YOUR NAME?	TOTAL DUE:
HOW MANY ORDERS?	_____ X \$35.00 EACH
YOUR PHONE NUMBER?	
<p><i>*We will make every effort to accommodate requests for 'end cuts'. Let us know how many of above orders are END CUTS: _____</i></p> <p><i>(*No other special requests).</i></p>	

Need more information? Contact E Fujii (916) 955 1954 or email efujii52@gmail.com

Buddhist Church of Florin Jr. YBA

The Jr. YBA would like to thank everyone who donated to our “Lock-in” fundraiser. We collected a total of \$800 which was donated to our selected recipient, the Buddhist Church of Florin. Without generous donors like you, this fundraiser would not have been a success.



THANK YOU!!! – JYBA members: Garrett, Baylee, Devin, Kianna



Buddhist Church of Florin Dharma School

News & Events

September 2022

**“B.R.A.I.D.” – Building Respectful Awareness
& Inclusion through Dharma**

Seizing the moment,

Thousands of lifetimes within

A single sunrise

- Ella

Happy September! We hope the start of school has been a smooth and welcome transition. It is the beginning of a new school year! Please remember to “Seize the moment.”

Dharma Zoom

Dharma Zoom Dates

September 18, 2022 10:30 AM Theme for Sangha Member TBA

September 25 2022 10:30 AM Theme for Sangha Member TBA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460705891>

Meeting ID: 834 6070 5891

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,83460705891# US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 834 6070 5891

+14086380968,,83460705891# US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kON6iCAan>

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

BWA Sept 2022 Dana Project



Requesting:

Items to fill holiday stockings

Aug. Dana Projects (Last call)

Requesting:



Food for Food Pantry



Requesting:

Holiday stockings



Homemade &/or purchased stockings – For Dec.

Collection Dates:

BCF Gym

August Thurs. [LOTUS days]

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

[Call Sandy Okuno for questions]



Goat Milk Soap Making
8/13/22

HOLLOW OAK ACRES

This block features a collage of images related to goat milk soap making. At the top left is a logo for Hollow Oak Acres. The main image shows a goat in a field. Below it are several smaller photos of people wearing gloves and using equipment to make soap. At the bottom, there are images of finished soap bars, one of which is shaped like a flower. The text 'Goat Milk Soap Making 8/13/22' is overlaid on the right side, and the 'HOLLOW OAK ACRES' logo is at the bottom.



BWA SUMMER CAMP

This block is a collage of photos from a summer camp. At the top, the text 'BWA SUMMER CAMP' is written in a bold, serif font. Below it are several photos showing people engaged in various activities. One photo shows a display of many colorful, decorated Easter eggs. Other photos show people sitting at tables, some wearing face masks, and one photo shows a sign that says 'SUMMER CAMP IS BACK!' with a decorative border.

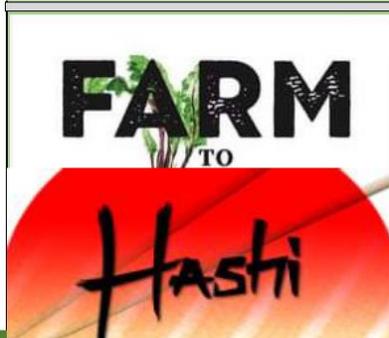


Lunch Prep

LOTUS meals have been coordinated and prepared by Joann Kusaka. LOTUS members have enjoyed morning snacks EACH week and have had JoAnn's homemade koko (different kinds each season.) During the summer she has prepared recipes using garden veggies harvested by sister, Sharon Okamoto.



Walt Menda shown here dusting the Nokotsudo. Walt works "behind the scene" keeping the inside facilities "spick and span." He's often found in different sections of the church including the onaijin, temple, MPR ...



Recent Lunch

- Spicy eggplant dish Joann K
(Used 20 nasubi)*
- Watermelon salad Sharon O*
- Mustard koko Peggy O*
- J. fried rice/oden/ daikon kim chi Yukie H*
- Often have church-grown shishito peppers, tomatoes ...*

LUNCH FIXIN's

(July-August)

JoAnn Kusaka

Weekly AM snacks, special treat: chocolate chiffon

Jan Takeuchi

Spicy eggplant variations (w/chicken), grilled veggies, somen

Sharon Okamoto

Tuna sandwiches using last of tuna donated by Mark

Peggy Okabayashi

Hayashida, garden vegetable salad, nigiri

Yukie Hoffman

White balsamic watermelon salad w/mint, garden salad,

Ginny Syphax

almond jello; fresh strawberry cake

Masako Tomono

Mustard koko for each LOTUS member; cherries

Ken Okabayashi

J. fried rice, oden, daikon kim chi

Tuxedo cake, water, cookies; Texas sheet cake/lemon brownies

Monetary donation

Picked up Takemori corn & watermelon



Buddhist Church of Florin
Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Recipients

The Buddhist Church of Florin's Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grants are awarded to three deserving public school teachers. Each recipient receives a grant in the amount of \$1,500. The Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant recipients are Stephanie Kuroda, Nadine Nouchi, and Kimiko Yamamoto Hayashida.

Stephanie Kuroda teaches 6th grade at Crocker Riverside Elementary School in the Sacramento City Unified School District. With the grant award, Stephanie plans to purchase classroom supplies for her students; plus, educational materials such as novels for reading groups, supplemental grammar and math materials, and science supplies for laboratory experiments.

Stephanie is a church member and granddaughter of Janet Kuroda.

Nadine Nouchi teaches 1st through 6th grade physical education at Theodore Judah Elementary School in the Sacramento City Unified School District. Nadine plans to purchase specialized physical education equipment for her special population students (moderate to severe autism), as well as non-traditional interactive equipment for all grades to use.

Nadine, husband Henry Lam, and daughter, Ella are church members.

Kimiko Yamamoto Hayashida teaches 7th, 8th, and 9th grades at Holmes Junior High School in the Davis Joint Unified School District. She plans to purchase mathematics and study skills supplies and educational materials for her students to be successful in school; including math materials for a special education class she co-teaches.

Kimiko, husband Mark Hayashida, and twin sons, Kai and Kenji are church members.

Congratulations to our dedicated public school teachers; Stephanie, Nadine, and Kimiko!

The Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grants are available to church members who teach in public schools. Grant applications are being accepted for the 2022-23 school term. For more information regarding this grant program, please see the Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant article and application included in this newsletter.

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).

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 2022 Church Membership Form at (916) 392-1896 or 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.

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 2022 to June 2023):

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

