



ONENESS

Buddhist Church of Florin



April 2025

Volume 4



Hello everyone, it's April now. It's the season when cherry blossoms are in full bloom. In Japan, graduation ceremonies are held in March, and April is the season when new semesters begin at school and new beginnings are made at work. It is the season of new beginnings and endings like beautiful cherry blossom petals falling.

Separations caused by death can come suddenly in life, but in the teachings of Jodo Shinshu, they are not just the end. It is said that there is a world called the Pure Land where we can meet again. Instead of death at the end of life, it's a different thinking that you are living a life on the journey to the Pure Land and that you will see everyone later. No one has ever returned to this world after going to the Pure Land, so it's unclear whether the Pure Land really exists. Some people say that the Pure Land is so comfortable that no one ever returns. To be born in the Pure Land means that one is born after having become a Buddha through the power of Amida Buddha. Therefore, they have no need to return to this world, and they worry about and watch over those who have not yet become Buddhas. There is a poem:

"If you miss me, please recite the Nembutsu as *Namo Amida Butsu*. I am one of the Buddha who exists in the Nembutsu."

What does it mean to exist in Nembutsu? It is the Buddha's wish that the Nembutsu reaches people. When I recite the Nembutsu, the Buddha's wish to "reach me" is fulfilled. That is the wish of all those who have become Buddhas.

Also in April, we have a Hana Matsuri service that celebrates the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha. Shakyamuni Buddha was born on April 8th, about 2,500 years ago. He was born in Lumbini Flower Garden in northern India (now Nepal). Everyone was so happy that Buddha was born. The earth rejoiced and beautiful flowers bloomed in abundance. The sky rejoiced and nectar rain fell from the sky. In honor of this story, we decorate the Buddha's birthday statue with beautiful flowers and pour sweet tea over it like rain.



We look forward to seeing you at Hana Matsuri. Let's celebrate Buddha's birthday!

Last month's quiz answer



Shoulder is "Kata" in Japanese. Stiffness is also "Kata" in Japanese.

Try to guess what the following sentences mean:

Kata Katakatta Kara Katta Katatataki, Kata Tatakunikukatta.

The answer is:

I had stiff shoulders, so I bought a shoulder massager, but it was hard to massage my shoulders. That was a tongue twister!

The next quiz

In Japanese, words are often shortened, such as Starbucks becoming "Sutaba" and McDonald's becoming "Makku or Makudo." So how would you shorten Seven-Eleven?

1. Seven
2. Sebu
3. Sebu-Ire
4. Seleven

In Gassho,
Rev. Noritaka Imada
If you need to contact Rev. Imada, you can email him at:
imadabca@gmail.com
(916) 383-1831



April Monthly Memorial (Shotsuki Hoyo) Service

The monthly memorial service for those who passed away during the month of April will be held on **Sunday, April 13, 2025 beginning at 10:00 am**. The persons who are noted in the Buddhist Church of Florin's (BCF) memorial records as having passed away in the month of April are listed below. If you have a homyo (Buddhist name) on a card please, bring it with you for placement on the onajin (altar) before the service. If the year 2025 is a special service year (see table) for a dearly departed loved one, 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.

Collins, Donna	04-16-2015	Morishige, Mitsuru	04-04-1916
Deguchi, Shoji	04-26-1933	Morita, Goro	04-04-1937
Fujii, Shigetaro	04-10-1935	Nagai, Fumie	04-16-1919
Fujikawa, Masami	04-27-1915	Nakagawa, Infant	04-25-1913
Fujiwara, Atsumu	04-26-1930	Nakano, Tsuyuko	04-25-1930
Fujiwara, Kiyoshi	04-26-1930	Nakashima, Percy Shotetsu	04-25-2004
Fujiwara, Koki	04-26-1930	Nakatani, Mamoru	04-06-1995
Fukushima, Hanako	04-10-1913	Ohta, Kotoshiro	04-20-1969
Furukawa, Cindy Miyeko	04-17-2023	Okamoto, Tadanao	04-28-2006
Furukawa, George Shigeto	04-26-2010	Okasaki, George Kunito	04-07-2007
Furukawa, Mary Matsuno	04-13-2010	Okimura, Misaye Doris	04-25-2016
Hamataka, Kaoru	04-22-1913	Oku, Tadao	04-22-1917
Hamataka, Yuriko	04-03-1928	Ouchida, Hiroharu	04-17-1986
Imahara, Chizuko	04-10-1932	Sakakihara, Mitsuzo	04-??-1942
Imahara, Haruko	04-20-1927	Sasaki, Kikuo	04-10-1940
Imahara, Thomas	04-02-1979	Senda, Iwao	04-08-1926
Inouye, Tokuji	04-01-1963	Shintaku, Sato	04-02-1938
Irikawa, Tajiro	04-28-1962	Sumida, Shozo	04-01-1920
Iwamura, Minoru	04-07-2006	Sumida, Yuki	04-14-1982
Kadotani, Tsunekichi	04-09-1958	Takata, Fusako	04-11-1923
Kajita, Mariko	04-20-2009	Takeoka, Mitsue	04-25-1987
Kakutani, Minoru	04-29-1999	Tanaka, Sekiyo	04-23-1919
Kanenaga, Eddie Kanji	04-23-2020	Tanigawa, Jane Haruko	04-29-2009
Kanenaga, Kazuko	04-04-1980	Taniguchi, Toshi	04-24-1957
Kato, Heizaburo	04-28-1959	Tanihara, Kisaku	04-27-1928
Kato, Hiroyuki	04-16-1942	Tanihara, Tamayo	04-09-1976
Kato, Masaharu	04-09-1975	Terminel, Margaret Ann	04-13-2005
Kawamoto, Stacey Kiyoko	04-22-2016	Tominaga, Tamotsu	04-11-1919
Kawanishi, Atsushi	04-04-1994	Tsuda, Hachihei	04-18-1957
Kozumi, Karoku	04-14-1966	Tsukamoto, Kaneichi	04-19-1985
Kuroda, Tomeno	04-22-1973	Tsukamoto, Michiye Arlene	04-28-2009
Maeda, Benkichi	04-21-1939	Uno, Hiromu	04-23-2004
Matsui, Tsuta	04-24-1990	Urokogata, Yoshikazu	04-21-1935
Matsui, Roy	04-11-2020	Yamamura, Kaneto	04-04-1973
Minamide, Koharu	04-20-1975	Yamanaka, Yoshimitsu	04-25-1985
Miyao, George Hiromu	04-21-2001	Yoshida, Suchiyo	04-05-1987
Miyata, Hikoichi	04-16-1922	Yoshimi, Yajuro	04-24-1941
Mizusaka, Iwao	04-14-1926	Yoshinaga, Kimiyo	04-17-1916

2025 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>
2024	1 st Year	2001	25 th Year
2023	3 rd Year	1993	33 rd Year
2019	7 th Year	1976	50 th Year
2013	13 th Year	1926	100 th Year
2009	17 th Year		

Join us for Sunday Service

HANAMATSURI and April
Shotsuki Service
Sunday, April 13, 2025 at 10:00
a.m.

*Hanamido Decorating on
Saturday, April 12th at 6 pm.
Please donate flowers and come help
decorate the Hanamido.
Light dinner will be provided.*



(***Both graphics on this page were created by former Dharma School student, Brayden Fong (now attends University of Irvine***)

Family Service
Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Services Officiated by:
Rev. Noritaka Imada

** The front gates may be locked 15 minutes after the start of scheduled services and/or activities. Thank you.

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.





SAVE THE DATE!
2025 FLORIN OBON FESTIVAL
Saturday, JULY 19, 2025

Mark your calendars and spread the word to your
Family and Friends to join us to experience:
Obon Odori Dancing
Japanese Culture Exhibits and Demonstrations
Delicious Food and Shave Ice
Obon Odori Practice: July 8-10 and 15-17 at 7 pm

Obon planning meetings will begin in April, 2025. If you're interested in volunteering and helping us make the festival a success, please contact Lois Kashiwase at loiskash2@comcast.net.

“Obon, Obon, it’s Festival Day!”



2025 Membership Dues

Thank you to the following members for their 2025 membership dues received in February/March:

2025 membership dues are due January 31, 2025.

Larry Ito
Ron & Judy Shimizu
Debra Yamamoto

Ken & Peggy Okabayashi
Janice Shintaku

Debra Sasamoto
Janet Sumida

Please direct membership questions to Susan Takeda at (916) 837-5699 or s.takeda@comcast.net.

The Buddhist Church of Florin welcomes the following new members:

Debra Sasamoto

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



2025 MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member **Name/Address Change** **Annual Renewal** **Other** _____

Last Name First Name Middle Initial Birthdate
Telephone #

Home Cell **Email**
Spouse

Last Name First Name Middle Initial Birthdate
Telephone #

Cell **Email**
Address

Street City State Zip Code

Children at home under age 25: (List last name if different than above)

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Birthdate		
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Son	<input type="checkbox"/> Daughter
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Son	<input type="checkbox"/> Daughter
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Son	<input type="checkbox"/> Daughter
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Son	<input type="checkbox"/> Daughter

This information will be published in the church directory.

Membership Dues:

New Member (1st year)	\$150 per adult /\$300 couple/family
New Member Ages 80 - 84 (1st year)	\$100 per adult
New Member Ages 85 and over (1st year)	\$ 50 per adult
Ages 25 - 30	\$100 per person per year
Ages 31 - 79	\$280 per person per year/\$560 couple/family
Ages 80 - 84	\$190 per person per year
Ages 85 or older	\$100 per person per year

Check Payment Preference: ___ Annual ___ Semi-Annual ___ Quarterly ___ Monthly (10 payments)

Checks must be made out to BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN or the bank will return the check.

Check if paying via PayPal: ___ (make sure you put in the PayPal notes, payment is for "membership dues")

Comments: _____

MEMBER'S SIGNATURE: _____

Membership dues are payable/due in January 2025. If joining mid-year, yearly dues are pro-rated for 2025.

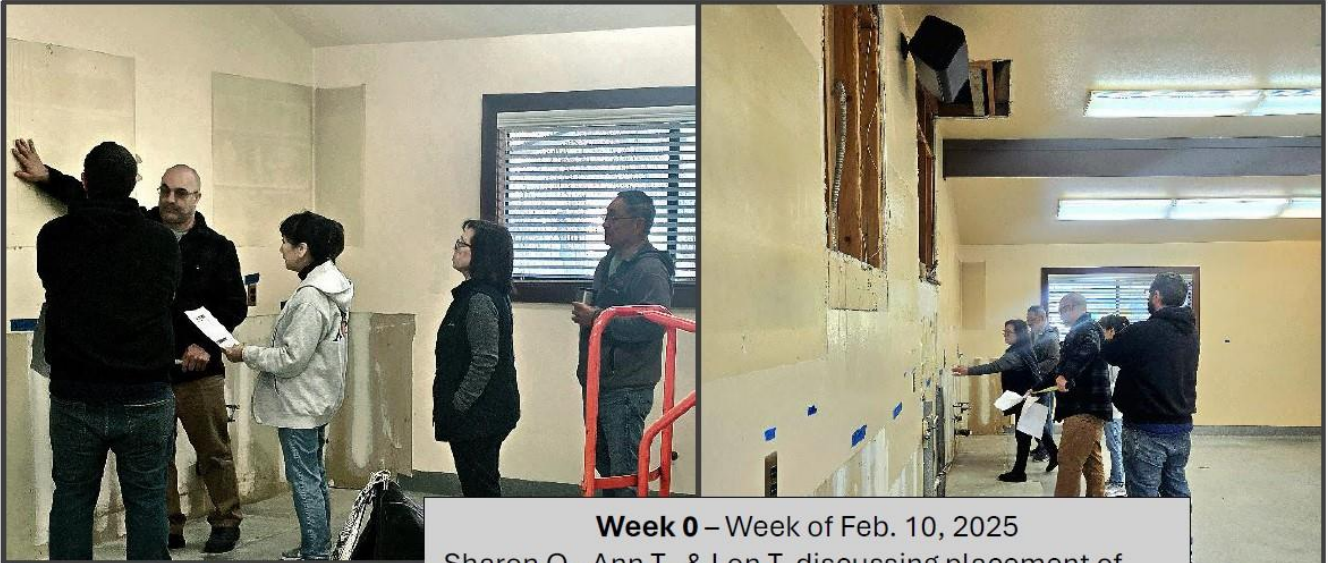
For office use: Date: _____ Amt Pd _____ Ck No. _____ Cash _____ Rec'd by: _____ Entered _____

Buddhist Church of Florin
Governing Board Meeting Highlights
March 13, 2025

1. The Hondo kitchen remodel project is on schedule to be completed before the Florin AC Prime Rib Dinner fundraiser on April 26, 2025.
2. The BCF is conducting additional fundraising for the kitchen remodel. Members may purchase pavers like the ones at the entrance to the Hondo. More information available in this newsletter and on the website.
3. The Super Bowl Fundraiser netted over \$11,000! Adding age sushi to the menu choices was very successful. Thank you to Ann T., Jennifer K. and everyone who helped!
4. Speaking of fundraisers – Loco Moco netted over \$4,000 despite the rising cost of supplies. Great job, Eric and crew!
5. The Dharma School curriculum for 2025 is now set and a slate of fun activities is coming up. April is Hanamatsuri (April 13) and decorating the Hanamido (April 12 @ 6 pm) with flowers.
6. An instructional basketball team is being formed. See flyer in this newsletter. If you know of a family with Dharma School children (ages 4-8 years old), please invite them to contact Kimiko Yamamoto Hayashida (kimikoyamamoto11@yahoo.com) for more information.
7. Please remember to renew your membership. Membership form can be found in this newsletter and on our website (BuddhistChurchOfFlorin.org). Thank you to those who have already renewed.
8. The Board is looking for someone to prepare the Oneness Newsletter. If you are interested in publications, publishing software, or are just good with computers, please contact Margie Sunahara (mjsunahara@att.net).
9. There is a road improvement project along Florin Rd from Franklin Blvd. to Power Inn Rd. from November 2024 to September 2025. Please be mindful that you may need to consider alternate routes to temple at some times.



2025 Kitchen Remodeling

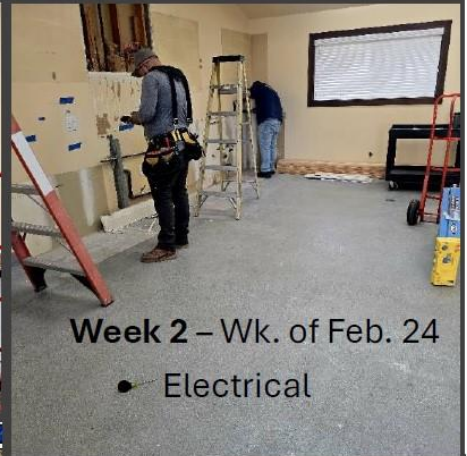


Week 0 – Week of Feb. 10, 2025
Sharon O., Ann T. & Lon T. discussing placement of new stainless steel sinks, drain boards, cabinets, etc. LOTUS members removed remaining kitchen items



Week 1 – WK. of Feb. 17

- Demolition
- Measurements
- Reviewed plans



Week 2 – Wk. of Feb. 24
• Electrical

Week 3 – Wk. of March 2



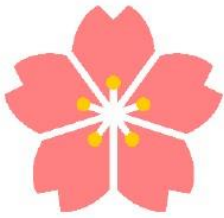
- Roughing/trimming (as described by Kenny O)
(Water pipe extension, receptacle installation, drain placement)
✚ In preparation for sink



NEW

Rev. Imada's Cooking Class





**Buddhist Church of Florin Dharma School
News & Events- April 2025
“B.R.A.I.D.” – Building Respectful Awareness**

Nature’s Gift

Breathe life into the
Frost-kissed leaves that sway in the
Winds of nature’s gift

- Skylar Lam

❖ *Flowers and Volunteers are needed for Hanamido
Decorating on Saturday, April 12 6:00-8:00pm
Light Dinner will be provided (pizza, salad, and water)
RSVP to Nadine Nouchi by Wednesday, April 9 at nnouchi@att.net*



Upcoming Dharma Lesson/Activity

April 12, 2025	Decorating Hanamido 6:00-8:00pm
April 13, 2025	Hanamatsuri
April 27, 2025	Four Gates
May 11, 2025	Dharma School will present Mother’s Day gifts
May 25, 2025	White Elephant
June 8, 2025	Graduation and Father’s Day presentation



SAVE THE DATES!

Basketball Clinic

Ages 4 to 8 years old

Bring your kids out for 1.5 hours to do learn basic skills of basketball. No experience needed. Bring a water bottle, dress appropriately, and wear appropriate shoes.

Sunday, August 24th: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Sunday, September 14th: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Sunday, September 28th: after service (11:00 AM to 12:30 PM)

Sunday, October 26th: after the Halloween get together (1:00 PM to 2:30 PM)

For more information, please contact Kimiko Yamamoto Hayashida (kimikoyamamoto11@yahoo.com)



April '25 BWA Dana Project



Maryhouse is a daytime, no barrier, drop-in center for women and families experiencing homelessness. The program provides morning coffee, essential supplies, and hygiene care to women. Services for women include warm showers, clothing, diapers, menstrual/incontinence supplies and personalized resource counseling to thousands of vulnerable people every year.

We'll be serving breakfast at Maryhouse.
[...at the time of this submission; subject to change.]

Wellspring

March BWA Dana Project



Collecting hygiene items for Wellspring Women's Center

Wellspring Women's Center in Sacramento's Oak Park neighborhood, nurtures the innate goodness and personal self-esteem of women and their children. We serve nearly 200 women and children each weekday and offer four different programs: the Nutritious Meal Program, the Children's Corner Program, the Safety Net Services Program, and the Women's Wellness Program.



February BWA Lady Kujo Dana Project

CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

Much **thanks** to those who donated to the February Lady Kujo Dana Project. Just over \$2,400 was donated. \$2,500 will be sent to BCA's Social Welfare Committee for distribution to affected **members** of Pasadena and other BCA temples/churches.

FRIG. REPAIR

Thanks **Darrell Matsuda** (new BCF member) for cleaning the frig parts, determining the problem, then replacing the thermostat. Darrell spent two LOTUS days & additional days working on this project.
It's now "just like new."



ALL LOTUS ladies (Sharon/JoAnn/Jan) helped w/pruning in March. JoAnn is having to prepare lunch at home because of the kitchen remodel.



(L) LOTUS guys & gals cleared out the kitchen just prior to the remodeling start. (Rainy day)
(R) Lloyd cleaned/repared another lantern.



JoAnn Kusaka

Head food preparer, preparing lunch at home during kitchen remodeling

Sharon Okamoto

Lunch prep; dessert

Tomio Ito

Morning treats

Ginny Syphax

Señorita bread





FUNDRAISER

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN GOLF TOURNAMENT

Includes 18 holes of GOLF, CART, RANGE BALLS, MULLIGANS,
MIRACLE PUTT, SNACK GOODIE BAG, SOMEN & SAKE!

WHEN: Thursday - **June 5, 2025** **WHERE:** Teal Bend Golf Club

8:00AM Shotgun (Check-in starts at 7:00AM)

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT must be received by **MAY 29th, 2025**

A)	TELL US WHO IS GOLFING:	
#1		\$95.00
#2		\$95.00
#3		\$95.00
#4		\$95.00
		OPTIONAL Donation: \$
		Total Payment: \$

B) PROVIDE YOUR GROUP'S CONTACT INFO (one email & phone number:

C) REGISTER AND PAY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- 1) **ONLINE:** Use QR Code to register and make ONE total payment for your group.
- 2) **CHECK:** Made payable to Buddhist Church of Florin. Mail registration form and check(s) to E.Fujii 325 34th Street, Sacramento 95816 (mail or drop in door mail slot. **DO NOT** mail to the church)
- 3) **VENMO:** Complete and mail registration form to E.Fujii 325 34th Street, Sac, 95816; And Venmo total payment for your group to: @Elizabeth-Fujii-3.



D) OTHER STUFF:

- Format: Individual play 2-person Blind-Draw
- Single players & twosomes are welcome; will be matched with other players.
- Need more info? Contact Eric Fujii at efujii52@gmail.com or cell (916) 955 1954



BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN

P.O. BOX 292006, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95829-2006

SUPPORT OUR 2025 KITCHEN REMODEL PROJECT

Order your brick paver today or you can make a donation.

Each brick paver is \$2,500 and it will have the wisteria with up to 4 lines of your personal message centered horizontally and vertically.

Order before May 31, 2025. The order form is available on our website at: www.buddhistchurchofflorin.org.

SAMPLE



Share this information with families and friends who may wish to have a commemorative brick.

Leave a legacy and preserve the Buddhist Church of Florin as a vibrant community center for the future!

If you have any questions, contact the Buddhist Church of Florin at: buddhistchurchofflorin.org or (916) 383-1831.



Join us in supporting

Sheryl Tokunaga

Sheryl is currently battling pancreatic cancer and we need your help!

Team Toke will be walking in the Pancan Purplestride on Saturday, April 26 in honor of Sheryl. We came in 2nd place last year in Sacramento, for fundraising. This year we are striving to be #1! But we can't do it without you.

Click (or copy/paste) on the link below to check out our team's website to donate and/or join our team and walk with us!

https://secure.pancan.org/site/TR/PurpleStride/PurpleStride?team_id=60369&pq=team&fr_id=2975

We appreciate all your support!

-The Tokunaga/Yee Family