



ONENESS

Buddhist Church of Florin



June 2025

Volume 6

[Amida's compassion and the rain falls equally on everyone]



Hello June! Sometimes during June it is very hot and I hope everyone stays hydrated.

I have sensitive skin, so I really like the dry climate of America. But in Japan, it rains almost every day in June. June is called "Minazuki".

During the rainy season, you may suddenly stop and notice something while watching the raindrops falling from the sky. "Water from a watering can is only poured onto the plants that it wants to water." But the rain that falls from the sky does not choose anyone. It falls equally on blooming flowers and weeds by the roadside. It is just like the compassion of Amida Buddha. In our daily lives, we inevitably distinguish between people and things, such as "like" and "dislike," "good" and "bad." We open our hearts to people who are kind to us and keep our distance from people we don't like. We applaud people who try to live righteously and turn our backs on people who make mistakes. It is true that these are human emotions. But Amida Buddha's compassion is different. He shows compassion to not only blooming flowers, but also to weeds that are likely to be trampled on. Buddha's compassion is poured out without choice and without discrimination. Amida Buddha never looks at our appearance or past actions and says, "I will save this person, but I will not save that person." On the contrary, it is those who have given up on themselves, saying, "I'm nothing...", who he wishes to save. Sometimes we blame ourselves too often or compare ourselves to others and feel depressed. Or we may notice the anger and weakness inside of us and lament that our heart is not good. However, no matter what thoughts we have, or how negative our feelings are, the rain that falls from the sky will gently touch our cheeks and shoulders. In the same way, Amida Buddha's compassion is also poured upon us, no matter who we are. This is not because we are great, or because we are making an effort. It is because Amida Buddha's unchanging wish to "save us just as we are" reaches us even now. The Buddha's compassion is often compared to "light." But we feel the Buddha's work even in the rain. On a sunny day, we are illuminated by the Buddha's light. On rainy days, we feel as if the Buddha's gaze is in the drops. At this very moment, there may be people who are shedding tears for someone. There may be people who are suffering beyond help. I hope that this rain of compassion will reach the hearts of such people. On cloudy and rainy days, Amida's work is certainly with us. Let's enjoy such a June together.

In his Wasan, Shinran Shonin wrote, "The Amida Buddha's vow shines equally on us, no matter how much desire we have or lost we may be, and we are encouraged to simply recite the Nembutsu while being illuminated by that light. Finally, I would like to quote the words of Shinran from Jodo Wasan:

“Let us entrust ourselves to Amida’s great vow which was made for those people who lost in wrongdoing and sorrow. Amida’s boundless light reaches us all equally and gently encourages us to recite the Namo Amida Butsu with a sincere heart.” [Jodo Wasan/Shinran Shonin]

弥陀の本願信ずべし 罪惡生死のわれらをば 光明無量にてらしつつ 念仏まことに勧めけり 『浄土和讃』

Last month's quiz answer

At a restaurant, how do you say "Can I have the check, please?" in Japanese?

1. Oishii 2. Irasshaimase 3. Okaikei 4. Ocha

Answer 3. Okaikei

Oishii means delicious, Irasshaimase means welcome, and Ocha means tea. These were everyday Japanese conversations you might hear in a restaurant.

The next quiz



Which adjective describes hotness?

1. Samui 2. Hayai 3. Amai 4. Atui

In Gassho,

Rev. Noritaka Imada

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

(916) 383-1831





BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN

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

May 25, 2025

Dear Sangha:

I recently solicited volunteers to help produce the "Oneness", our BCF monthly newsletter. A survey was sent to solicit input from our membership in order to determine the Sangha's interest in continuing the newsletter. While only a few responses were received most respondents expressed an interest in receiving a monthly newsletter, either hardcopy or email.

I'm very happy to announce that Rev. Nori Imada has graciously volunteered to assume the responsibilities of Editor of the BCF "Oneness" Newsletter. The BCF has been extremely fortunate that Ginny Yamamoto Syphax donated countless hours to produce the newsletter for us for many years and that she has agreed to provide training and assist with the transition.

We owe a huge THANK YOU to both Ginny and Sensei!

Gassho,

Eric Fujii, President
Buddhist Church of Florin

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 8, 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 June 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 2025 is a special service year (see table) for a dearly departed love 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.

Andersen, Jeanne Hanae	06-21-2019	Nishi, Eiko	06-23-1968
Baishiki, Midori Barbara	06-01-2016	Nishida, Shinichi	06-25-1936
Baishiki, Sadao	06-12-2011	Nishida, Tsuneo	06-14-1920
Baishiki, Toichi	06-20-1952	Nishikawa, Yukuno	06-21-1975
Chano, Masajiro	06-27-1904	Noda, Chiyo	06-03-1976
Collins, Roy	06-03-2014	Noda, Fred Nobuyuki	06-20-1986
Fujii, Kengo	06-07-1920	Ohmoto, Yasugoro	06-22-1914
Fujii, Sallie Chisato	06-12-1985	Okamoto, Bill Takeshi	06-22-1995
Furukawa, Ben	06-06-1989	Okamoto, Tom	06-20-2016
Furukawa, Myrtle Natsuye	06-20-2011	Sakaoka, Shunjiro	06-15-1949
Hamataka, Eimatsu	06-12-1971	Sato, Shimajiro	06-08-1972
Hirakawa, Jun	06-15-1935	Sawai, Tsuru	06-15-1935
Idemoto, Takezo	06-09-1916	Stillborn,	06-25-1923
Isa, Toshi	06-30-1919	Sumida, Hiro	06-14-1959
Ishimoto, Ise	06-20-1906	Tahara, Hatsuko	06-26-2006
Ito, Isao	06-07-1979	Takeda, Baby Girl	06-07-2002
Ito, Shizuko	06-25-1993	Takeda, Tadao	06-21-1934
Kadoya, Ed Tokio	06-03-1985	Takehara, Tami	06-04-1963
Kadoya, Jerry Masaru	06-27-1976	Takemoto, Kumajiro	06-26-1935
Kawamoto,	06-13-1910	Takeoka, Frank	06-13-1932
Kawasaki, Kazuo	06-06-1938	Takeoka, Yuriko	06-04-2022
Kawashima, Yakuye	06-05-1921	Taniguchi, Matahachi	06-06-1927
Kobayashi, Zennosuke	06-04-1917	Taniguchi, Takeko	06-29-2020
Koyama, Fumiko	06-21-1926	Wood, Kaye	06-25-2021
Kumamoto, George	06-03-1979	Yamada,	06- -1916
Kurima, Toyoki	06-22-1942	Yamamoto, Gary Russell	06-20-2012
Lee, Kingsley Ken	06-01-2020	Yanagishita, Shuzo (stillborn)	06-25-1923
Matsusaki, Iwakichi	06-28-1950	Yoshinaga, Haruye	06-23-1943
Muranaka, Sally Shizuko	06-22-2014	Yoshinaga, Iwako	06-17-1972
Nakao, Joe	06-17-1992	Yubuta, Shigeichi	06-18-1962

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		

CONDOLENCES

The Buddhist Church of Florin extends its deepest sympathies and condolences to the family members of the loved one that left our midst to be with Amida Buddha.

NAMO AMIDA BUTSU

SHERYL TOKUNAGA
October 28, 1955 to May 13, 2025

Join us for Sunday Service

**June Shotsuki Hoyo and Family Service
Celebrating Dharma School Graduates
and Father's Day
Sunday, June 8, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**

Officiant: Rev. Noritaka Imada

*There will be a light luncheon following the church service and in order to prepare enough for everyone, we ask that you please rsvp to florinbuddhist@gmail.com by **June 4th**. Thank You!!*

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

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.

Buddhist Church of Florin

OBON *Festival*



Saturday, July 19, 2025

Hatsubon/Nokotsudo Service	3 pm
Exhibits & Demonstrations	4 pm – 7 pm
Snack Bar	4 pm – 7 pm
Sacramento Taiko Dan	7:00 pm
Obon Odori	7:30 pm

Obon Odori Practice: July 8 – 10 & 15 – 17 at 7 pm

Florin Obon Workshop

July 17 from 5:30 pm

***Sponsored by Florin JACL and Buddhist Church of Florin
Limited space so please RSVP if you are planning to attend.
Please email Jenny Takahashi jmtakahashi@me.com.***

7235 Pritchard Road, Sacramento, CA 95828

Visit Website at <https://www.buddhistchurchofflorin.org>





HATSUBON AND OBON SERVICE OBON FESTIVITIES AND ODORI JULY 19, 2025, SATURDAY

Hatsubon/Obon Service 3:00 PM

Please attend the Hatsubon/Obon Service, Guest Speaker Rev. Henry Adams from San Mateo Buddhist Temple at 3 PM, followed by the Obon festivities.

Obon Festivities 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Food: Snack bar in the temple's courtyard serving delicious food, drinks and shave ice and more. **50/50 Raffle Prize**

Cultural Exhibits in the Multi-Purpose Room:

Mataro Kimekomi Dolls BWA Boutique Paper Crafts Florin JACL
Sacramento Hiroshima Nikkeijin Kai Ikebana International

Cultural Demonstrations in the YBA Hall:

Florin Kyudo Kai - Japanese Archery
Sacramento Kendo Club - Japanese swordsmanship
Sakura Minyo Doo Koo Kai, Henry Mizushima (fue) with Sacramento Taiko Dan-world renowned Japanese drumming performers.

Obon Odori Dancing 7:30 PM

Everyone is invited to dance-Grandparents, parents, children and friends. Fun, fun for everyone!

Obon Odori Workshop-July 17, Thursday, 5:30 PM in the Multi-purpose Rm

This workshop is co-sponsored by the Florin JACL and Buddhist Church of Florin. Learn about dance background, hand/dance movements, clothing, accessories, and obi tying. Everyone is invited to this educational workshop on the tradition of Obon Odori dancing. Dinner will be served. Limited space so please RSVP to Jenny Takahashi jmtakahashi@me.com.

Obon Odori Dancing Practices-7 PM

Dust off your kachi kachis, uchiwa (fan), getas and attend the Obon Odori practices on July 8-10 & 15-17.

2025 Membership Dues

Thank you to the following members for their 2025 membership dues received in April/May:

Calvin Abe
Kenny & Cindy Kakutani
Andy Noguchi & Twila Tomita
Derek Shimosaki
Stephanie Yamada
Burt & Carol Yoshioka (monthly)

Jackie Chinn
Colleen Lopez
Lloyd Okimura
Ryan & Julie Shimosaki-Lam
Tosh Yamamoto

Dick & Sally Kadoya
John & Ailene Nishida
Dean & Donna Shimosaki

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

Directory Changes:

Tosh Yamamoto change of address – 795 Shoreside Dr., Sacramento, CA 95831





Buddhist Church of Florin Dharma School
News & Events- June 2025
"B.R.A.I.D." – Building Respectful Awareness

Summer Wish
Submerge yourself in
A realm of intrigue and find
Treasure to cherish

- Skylar Lam

Upcoming Dharma Lesson/Activity

June 8, 2025	Graduation and Father's Day presentation
July 19, 2025	Obon/Hatsubon
August 24, 2025	Basketball Instructional Clinic (ages 4-8 years old) 10:00-11:30am
Sept. 14, 2025	Basketball Instructional Clinic (ages 4-8 years old) 10:00-11:30am
Sept. 28, 2025	Basketball Instructional Clinic (ages 4-8 years old) 11:00am-12:30pm
Oct. 26, 2025	Halloween Party 11:00am-1:00pm
	Basketball Instructional Clinic (ages 4-8 years old) 1:00-2:30pm



SAVE THE DATES!

Basketball Clinic

Ages 4 to 8 years old

Bring your kids out for 1.5 hours to 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)



Annual Camping weekend!!

Come join us for a fun
weekend!!!



Camping dates:

Thursday, July 24 – Sunday, July 27, 2025



RSVP to Kenny Teranishi 916-717-0297;
Craig Shijo 916-206-8508; or
Sharon Arase 916-549-0040



June '25 BWA Dana Project



**GIVING MORE THAN SHELTER
TO ANIMALS IN NEED**

**REQUESTING FINANCIAL
DONATIONS TO BE
PROVIDED TO THE
SACRAMENTO SPCA**

Added info
In Deepest Sympathy

PurpleStride Walk



Sixty team members walked for **Sheryl Tokunaga** including several BCF/BWA members.

In addition, the **Okimura family** also walked in memory of **Ron Okimura**.

Team Toke comes in as the #1 Sac'to fundraising group with over \$23,000 donated to help fight Pancreatic Cancer.

BWA Riverboat Cruising in May



Twelve BWA members are cruising down the Danube River at the time of this writing. (Budapest, Vienna ...) through Hungary, Austria, & Germany.



May '25 BWA Dana Project



BWA Board members prepared pancakes then served breakfast to Maryhouse participants on April 28. Monthly dana donations went towards the purchase of a trunkful of breakfast drinks.

KITCHEN REMODEL PROJECT



Goal

\$100,000

\$50,000



The kitchen remodel is now completed. Thank you to our generous members, affiliate organizations and friends in getting us closer to meeting our goal. The deadline for ordering a brick paver has passed and we are still accepting donations toward the project. The next time you are at Church, come see our beautiful commercial kitchen!



Ken O./composting

Gary O./drip system

Takuwan (\$18) has been added to the list of "for sale" items prepared by Mrs. Okamoto. That sale & beverage container recycling fund the LOTUS Club.



plants from seeds in early March. Many hours were spent weeding the area. (Note: No weeds at the moment.) Just about all LOTUS members participated in clearing the area.

Lloyd O. rototilled on LOTUS as well as non-LOTUS days & prepared the water ditch.

Harvey/Greg
Installed post & fence

Tomio Helped plant



Sharon O., Harvey K. & Danny M. installing vine supports



After a long morning ...
(before lunch)

JoAnn Kusaka

Head food preparer, preparing lunch at home during kitchen remodeling

Sharon Okamoto

Lunch prep; dessert

Linda Menda

Lunch prep

Tomio Ito

WELCOME BACK,
Linda & Danny Menda!!

Newsletter Survey Results

In April, a newsletter survey was sent to all members and thank you to the 29 members for taking the time to respond. Happy to report the monthly newsletter is read, prefer an email version, a few prefer a paper format, to receive it monthly and would approve paying for the service if necessary. Comments included: the Oneness is a way to connect with the church, sangha, and community, enjoy the “Get to Know the Sangha” articles, like Sensei’s articles, enjoy Sensei’s word games and Japanese quizzes/lessons, Dharma School articles, really appreciate Skylar Lam’s understanding and insightful contributions, 2-month calendars, condolences, articles on special events/activities, important action taken by the Board, the website has a lot of information, would like short articles that strengthen knowledge of Buddhism, we really enjoy receiving the newsletter monthly, and my dad and I read it cover to cover!

Thank you to everyone who attended Sensei’s Baked Sushi Cooking Class! Oiishi!







JOIN OUR

JAPANESE STUDY CLASS

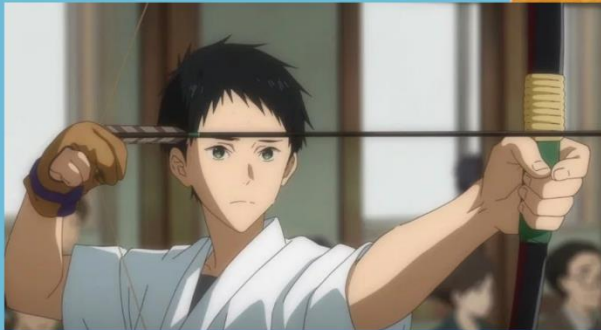
Every 4th Thursday
7PM - 8PM
at Buddhist Church of Florin

Kyudo Summer Camp

Learn Kyudo this summer June 6 - July 18, 2025. Every Friday 5 -6:30 pm. Ages 13-16

What will be covered

- History of Kyudo
- Hassetsu, form fundamentals
- Safety in the dojo



Buddhist Church of Florin
gymnasium

7235 Pritchard Road
Sacramento, CA

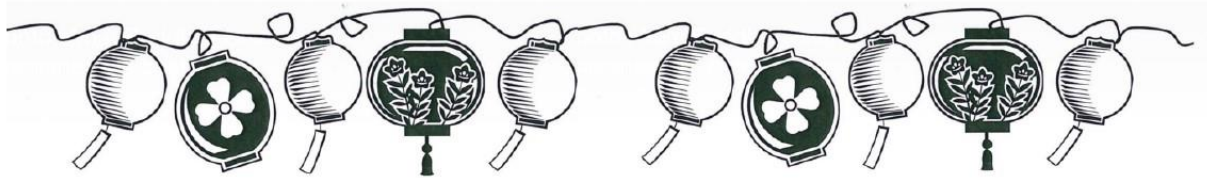
Contact Paula Yoshioka
808-489-1116 or email
kyudokaiflorin@yahoo.com

Adults are invited to attend
with the kids.

\$30 participation fee for
adults, kids are free.



Deadline to register May 23, 2025



FLORIN OBON DANCE WORKSHOP

Sponsored by the Florin Japanese American Citizens League and the Buddhist Church of Florin

Thursday, July 17, 2025 5:30 pm-7:00 pm

Buddhist Church of Florin

7235 Pritchard Road, Sacramento, CA 95828

Come and enjoy a light meal of hot dogs, salad & chips followed by an introduction on the significance of Obon at Buddhist temples. At this event, you will also learn about wearing the traditional yukata and the assorted items used during Obon dancing. After the workshop, participate in the Obon dance practice in the parking lot starting at 7:00 pm.

To ensure there is plenty of room and food, the event will be limited to 50 attendees. Please RSVP if you are planning to attend; walk-ins will not be accepted. Please email Jenny Takahashi jmtakahashi@me.com with your name and the names of friends or family members attending with you before July 10, 2025.

Buddhist Church of Florin Obon Festival July 19, 2025



4:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Cultural Exhibits and Demonstrations: Kendo, BWA Boutique, Ikebana (Japanese flower arranging), Kimekomi Dolls, Kyudo (Japanese archery), Hiroshima Kenjin kai, Florin JACL-SV
7:00 pm	Sacramento Taiko Dan
7:30 pm	Obon Odori