



法のともしび LIGHT OF THE DHARMA

NOTICE TO MEMBERS:

We are again conducting services in person as well as per ZOOM. Please contact Sensei for links.

REGULAR SCHEDULE

ENGLISH SERVICES
Sundays 10:30am

JAPANESE SERVICES
Sundays 11:30am

SEIZA MEDITATION
Thursdays 7:30pm

MORNING MEDITATION
Fridays 10:00am

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday March 5th
10:30am Shotsuki Service
(Bilingual)
Monday March 13th
7pm SBT Board Meeting

Your Donations are needed and appreciated!
Donations are the single largest source of income for the temple. Although there are no scheduled events, expenses do not stop. We want to be able to restart programs as soon as possible, so we thank you in advance for your contribution.

**FUJINKAI
TOBAN 1**

Contact: Itoko Akune
604-244-7710

Spring Higan, a Time for Reflection

*Sakyamuni Tathagata appeared in this world,
Solely to teach the oceanlike Primal Vow of Amida.
We, an ocean of beings in an evil age of five defilements
Should entrust ourselves to the Tathagata's words of truth.*

(From the Shoshinge-Hymn of True Shinjin, and the Nembutsu pg. 69 CWS)



Though it is stated in the Buddhist teaching that all things are transient and in constant change, it is still hard to grasp how quickly time is going by. Here, I thought we were just entering the new year and already we are heading into March.

March is the month when we observe the spring Ohigan service, which is translated as the "Other Shore Gathering". This title is reference to the "Other Shore of Amida Buddha's Pure Land", which is said to be opposite to "this shore of Samsara or suffering". It is written in the Contemplation Sutra on Amida Buddha (one of the Three Pure Land Sutras) that the first meditation on visualizing Amida Buddha in the Pure Land in the Western Quarters is to contemplate on the setting sun to the west. In Japan, there is a saying that the universe is in balance during the equinox when the length of day and night are equal and when the sun sets directly to the west. It is recognized as the best time to reflect on the setting sun to contemplate on the direction of Amida Buddha's Pure Land. In other words, it was the ideal time to reflect on the Buddha Dharma. In Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, the Ohigan service is also known as the San Butsu-E (讃仏会) Service, which means the "Praising of the Buddha Service". The reason for it being known as the "Praising of the Buddha Service" is because this is one of the most important aspects of Jodo Shinshu. We recite the Name, Namo Amida Butsu out of gratitude for receiving Shinjin or the entrusting heart when we are awakened to the sincere mind of Amida Buddha.

Often we are told that we attend the temple to listen to the Buddha Dharma and to gain balance in our daily lives. We have a tendency to focus so much on the overcoming of suffering aspect, that it is easy to overlook the aspect of joy in receiving the Dharma. As Shinran Shonin has written in the above passage from the Shoshinge, "Sakyamuni Tathagata (Buddha) appeared in this world solely to teach the oceanlike Primal Vow of Amida. We, an ocean of beings in the evil age of five defilements should entrust ourselves to the Tathagata's words of truth." When we realize that through the Nembutsu teachings of Amida Buddha, we are encountering the primal reason for Sakyamuni Buddha entering this world, how can we not be overjoyed by having the past conditions that have allowed me to encounter the Dharma.

I hope you will join us for the services in March, to both listen to the teachings of the Buddha Dharma, but also at the same time to express our joy in receiving the Onembutsu teachings.

In Gassho,
Grant Ikuta





FUJINKAI NEWS

Hiroko Yoshihara

Our annual Dana Day service was held on Sunday, February 19. Donations received on this occasion will be forwarded to a charitable organization decided upon by the JSBTC Women's Federation at its AGM in April. Last year the funds were given to the Food Banks of Canada. A heartfelt thank you to those ladies who forwarded their donation envelopes well before the Dana Day Service!

Fujinkai's annual general meeting was held following the Dana Day service. Bento lunch was served to representative from the temple board and members. Report on the meeting will be in the next temple newsletter.

Used stamp collection. We look forward to receiving used stamps. Please trim by leaving a border of ¼ inch to ½ inch around the stamp. If there is a postmark (location and date), please cut around it.

City of Richmond saves their envelopes for us which is collected several times a year. Thanks to their efforts, Save the Children organization is able to raise money for its activities.

JSBTC Women's Federation card project. Packages of 6 note cards (3 different designs) are available at \$10 each from Steveston Buddhist Temple Fujinkai.

Moe No Kai

Keiko Go

We were very lucky to welcome a Japanese instrumental musician Aki Takahashi from Toronto for Moe No-Kai on Feb. 16 for she happened to be in town until Feb. 19th. It was a short notice but we were also able to invite residents from Wisteria Place and students who are currently taking a Japanese course from McMath Secondary School. Aki Takahashi sang a number of Japanese folk songs accompanied by her shamisen that a lot of seniors were completely stunned by her beautiful singing voice. Some were clapping their hands to the rhythm recalling memories from their hometowns in Japan. Aki Takahashi played Tanko Bushi for us as a last song. Rev. Grant and the audience were so excited that we all danced to the song. After the concert, the seniors went into the classroom in a festive mood and sang "Hinamatsuri" song along with the ukulele players from Moe No-Kai formed just recently. We also had two seniors whose birthdays were in February so we celebrated their birthdays with tea and a special birthday cake from a birthday girl. Once again, we had a very lovely time and I would like to thank everyone who participated. The next one will be held on March 16th. I hope to see you all in the hope that it will be a little warmer by then. Stay healthy and safe everyone.



HANAMATSURI 2023 together with 2023 Keirokai

Please come and join us for The Hanamatsuri Weekend, celebrating the birth of the baby Buddha, on the weekend of April 15th and 16th. Come join us on this important event. For this year, we will be holding the Keirokai Sr. Appreciation gathering together with the Hanamatsuri luncheon on the Sunday, April 16th. Please join us for the service and stay for lunch afterwards. To register for the Keirokai, please contact the temple office to let us know you will be coming.

We are honored to have as our guest, Rev. Satoshi Tomioka from the Puna Hongwanji Temple in Hawaii. Tomioka sensei joined us 8 years ago in 2015 as our guest minister when he was just starting out as a Kaikyoshi minister. It will be very interesting to see how he has developed as a minister over those 8 years. Please join us for the weekend of events.



Saturday, April 15th

3:00 pm Lecture by Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
5:00 pm Potluck Dinner with guest minister Rev. Satoshi Tomioka from the Puna Hongwanji Temple in Hawaii.

Sunday, April 16th

10:00 am Dharma School Service
10:30 am Hanamatsuri Service with Guest minister, Rev. Satoshi Tomioka of Honolulu Betsuin
12:00 noon Hanamatsuri and Keirokai Lunch.

Come meet Tomioka Sensei at our potluck dinner on Saturday, April 15th at 5:00 pm. The food will be delicious as usual. In addition, it's an opportunity to meet and talk with Tomioka Sensei in an informal setting. There will be a sign up sheet in the kitchen so please come out and give the Rev. Tomioka a warm SBT welcome.

Shamisen Performance at the Temple

On February 16th, our temple was entertained with a special Shamisen performance by the professional Shamisen player, Aki Takahashi, who is based out of Toronto, Ontario. Aki-san happened to be visiting Vancouver for a couple of weeks and the temple was contacted to see if we would like to have her perform at our temple. Despite the short notice, we were able to coordinate the performance to coincide with the "Moe no Kai" seniors gathering. So, between the seniors who participate in the "Moe no Kai", as well as residents from Wisteria Place, and the Japanese class from MacMath High School joining us, a nice crowd gathered to enjoy the hour long performance by Aki-san. Aki-san was accompanied by the local taiko performer Kage.

Shinran's Exile (in Echigo)

This is a follow-up to the article I had written in the February newsletter. Twenty years ago, Itoko and I spent a day in Echigo (present day Naoetsu) reflecting on the suffering that Shinran had endured during his exile. I must say that it was a very humbling experience for both of us. As it is known even today, the winters were extremely cold (-10 degrees C) with three metre high snow drifts and the summers were humid and sweltering with temperatures in the high 30s. The living conditions were indeed different and difficult for Shinran.

On top of this, he was unable to identify with the people he was in contact with as they had no name. "I have no name; I am referred to as the Hunchback or the Worthless One", replied Shinran's aide. I am used to being called anything."

Realising this, Shinran gave him the name, Nembutsugo. "It will please me to call you Nembutsugo and think of yourself as such," Shinran told him.

Nembutsugo? The hunchback repeated. You give "a nobody" like me such a name?

The time in Echigo had a profound effect on Shinran. Here he experienced situations totally unfamiliar to him, having lived in a civilized and highly protected environment in Kyoto. After a cold winter of his first year of exile in Echigo, Shinran had a moment to take a walk on Kotogahama beach where he had initially landed by rowboat in the winter of 1207. How good it felt to stretch his legs again and smell the sea air. As he watched the procession of waves roll into shore, he thought of the changing process his life had undergone. He lost his name Zenshin and was replaced with Yoshizane Fujii, a criminal, by order of the Emperor. How disgraceful! I am not a criminal! I want a name - one that recognises my identity; one that describes who I really am. Looking out at the wave tossed beach, he felt he had to change his name.

Gutoku was the name he had chosen. Gutoku - a stubble headed foolish being, a stubble headed ignoramus! This is who I am; this is the right surname," he said aloud.

The exile had taught him that the education with which he had prided himself, his knowledge of Chinese calligraphy, his penmanship and his ability to articulate the Buddhist principles meant nothing to those in Echigo.

There were more important issues. How would I fend for myself? How do I plant a garden and cultivate vegetables and grow millet and rice? How do I prepare the fish caught off the beach? How do I cook? These are what matters. How foolish to think of myself as superior in wisdom because of my education and my skill in reading and writing Chinese? "No one in Echigo is prepared for an explanation of the Nembutsu", he thought. He simply came to feel a oneness with all the people and the natural environment and it was this that broadened his idea of the Nembutsu from an individual context to a collective arena of all living things.

What name describes himself as a monk in his commitment to working for the welfare of all beings? The traditional name, Zenshin, would not suffice. As he stood on the rock laden beach, he decided on the one that seemed most appropriate.

Shinran, it is! He explained, the first syllable "Shin" is from Tenjin, the Japanese translation of Vasubandhu (the second Pure Land patriarch) and the second syllable "Ran" is from Donran (the third and first Chinese Pure Land patriarch). Even though centuries separate these masters, their timeless understanding and writings of the Nembutsu had deeply affected him.

This was the name: Gutoku, Shinran. It expressed the person who he really was - the stubble headed foolish being. He had asked Lord Ogihara, a member of the Emperor's court, for the change in name. This was granted.

Gutoku, Shinran! This was indeed a most significant development during his exile.

In Gassho,
Roy Akune



MARCH 2023 MEMORIAL SERVICE (Please bring your "Homyo".)

Akizuki, Tom Fumi-taka	Hamaura, Robert Hiroshi	Koyanagi, Tadatoshi	Murao, Nagako	Nishihama, Mankichi	Shiyoji, Dennis
Amadatsu, Tsunemori	Handa, Noriyuki	Kurahashi, Tomiko	Nagata, Kazuo	Ogawa, Tsurue	Suzuki, Shigeo
Atagi, Kaya	Hashimoto, Masaaki	Kurahashi, Yoneji	Nagata, Toshiko	Ogawa, Masaharu	Takasaki, Mitsuo
Baker, Alice	Hori, Masami	Lee, William	Naka, Satsue	Ojio, Anthony Kusuo	Takasaki, Toshiko
Domae, Toyokazu	Horikoshi, Taro	Maede, Yoneharu	Nakano, Chitose	Omae, Kinuyo	Tasaka, Arizo
Domai, Hisae	Ikuta, Makoto	Maeno, Hajime	Nakata, Masayo	Omura, Yukiko	Wakayama, Tamio
Furukawa, Jun	Inouye, Susumu	Matsumura, Seitaro	Nakata, Minosuke	Sato, Rex Hiroyuki	Yamamoto, Hajime
Hamade, Lorne	Kakehi, Makoto	Morishita, Shigeo	Nakata, Tokiko	Sakamoto, Aiko	Yamamoto, John
Hamakawa, Yukiko	Kariya, Sonoye	Mukai, Teruo	Nakatsuru, Satoru	Sakamoto, Makoto	Yamamoto, Nuiko
Hamanishi, Hiroichi	Kitagawa, Tadao Tad	Murakami, Asamatsu	Niguma, Toshio	Sakamoto, Roy	Yamanaka, Takao
Hamanishi, Kazumi	Kobayashi, Harue	Murao, Kimiyo	Nishi, Masao	Sameshima, Toshio	Yoshida, Kazuo
		Murao, Yoshiyuki	Nishi, Takeshi Bill	Shirakawa, Hatsune	Yoshida, Yoshio

APRIL 2023 MEMORIAL SERVICE (Please bring your "Homyo".)

Akizuki, Kinuyo	Hikita, Tatsuo	Kishiuchi, Yoshiko	Nakamura, Miyuki	Sakai, Ei	Yamaguchi, Junshiro
Atagi, Kazuko	Ikari, Senichi Roy	Kitade, Sute	Nakanishi, Harue	Sakai, Terry Teruo	Yamaguchi, Nobuye
Atode, Yasutaro	Ikari, Tsuru	Kitagawa, Michiko	Nakatani, Sam	Sakamoto, Hirotaka	Yamashita, Harry
Ayukawa, Margaret	Rev. Ikuta, Kyojo	Kondo, Fujikazu	Nakatsu, Tsunenobu	Sameshima, Margaret	Yamashita, Heijiro
Etori, Chiyo	Ito, Tamotsu	Koyanagi, Mutsuo	Narukami, Teruo	Sameshima, Merry	Yesaki, Sunae
Fukakusa, Akio	Kakino, Chiyoko	Maeda, Toshimatsu	Nishi, Misako	Minori	Yokota, Ayako
Hama, Kenzo	Kariya, Ayako	Matsumura, Matsuo	Nishi, Nancy	Shiyoji, Koito	Yokota, Shige
Hamada, Chiyoko	Kariya, Chiyoko	Matsuo, Kametaro	Nishi, Shigeo	Shoji, Matsue	Yoshida, Mitsuo
Hamade, Tokuno	Kariya, Isamu	Miyazaki, Susie	Nogami, Mieko	Suzuki, Richard	Yoshida, Kinoo
Hamanishi, Shinjiro	Kariya, Sadasuke	Shizuko	Ohara, Masao	Tani, Seikichi	
Hamano, Kiyoshi	Kariya, Yonekazu	Morishita, Masaharu	Oikawa, Hisashi	Tezuka, Michihiko	
Hashimoto, Shizue	Kawasaki, Takeo	Morishita, Michiyo	Okano, Tokiko	Urata, Minoru	
Haya, Yoshimatsu	Kimura, Yoshio	Morizawa, Choichiro	Oura, Chiye	Uyeyama, Tokue	
Hikita, Takeo	Kishiuchi, Michio	Murao, Mon	Oye, Yasuo	Yamada, Shizuyo	

STEVESTON BUDDHIST TEMPLE MINISTER'S OFFICE

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT

Wow!! Hard to believe, but it has been 3 years since we held our last in person AGM. Almost immediately following the 2020 Temple AGM, the world went into a global lock down with the Covid-19 pandemic. Throughout the Pandemic, we were fortunate to have been able to continue with many of our temple activities, thanks to the Zoom meetings. All of our services and other activities went online using Zoom and we were very fortunate that it provided a service for not only our local membership, but for people joining from all over the place. Last year was the first year in which we started to hold in person activities, including funeral and memorial services. Most of the temple activities would not have been able to function without the support from the Fujinkai, so may I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued dedication and support. The following are some of the activities that took place at our temple.

In January of 2022, we held our annual Hoonko Service with our guest being Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi from the Toronto Temple. Although we had some in person participation, Rev. Ouchi joined us via Zoom. It was much nicer for this year's Hoonko, as we were able to invite Ouchi Sensei in person to be our guest minister for the 2023 Hoonko Service.

We did not have a guest minister for our Hanamatsuri

service but had Rev. Aoki join us as our Obon guest. For the 2022 Obon, we held our first Bon Odori in 2 years. It was the first Bon Odori since Wisteria Place was built and many of the seniors living in Wisteria came out to enjoy the event.

After a hiatus of a couple of years, the temple golf tournament was also back at the end of July and things were starting to feel more normal again. Perhaps the highlight of the year was the 2022 Vancouver Island Obon Cemetery Visitation. We were able to organize a busload of people to visit the Island and spent 4 days enjoying some sightseeing as well as finding great meaning from the cemetery visitations. Something new to the visitation was being able to join in the Nanaimo Nikkei Community sponsored Bon Odori. We learned some new Odori and enjoyed learning the most, the "Mottainai Bon Odori".

In September, the BCJSBTF Convention was hosted by our temple, with my brother, Rev. Dr. Roland Ikuta being the guest minister. Though the numbers were small, we were able to enjoy a weekend sharing the Buddha Dharma. A walking tour of Steveston on Saturday afternoon led by Don Mukai was enjoyed by those who went on the walk.

In 2022, because of the Covid situation in the spring, our Keirokai event was postponed until October (Cont. P 5)

DONATIONS & Memberships

The Steveston Buddhist Temple sincerely appreciates and thanks the following for their generous donations: All donations deposited after Feb 23, 2023 will be announced in the next newsletter. Any donations with notations stating that they are in memory of several individuals, these names will be acknowledged in the month that the cheque was deposited. If you wish to have the donations acknowledged in the newsletter corresponding with a particular Shotsuki month, we ask that you make donations during that actual Shotsuki memorial month. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

最近一年を通じた法要と祥月御懇志を小切手にて一括で送られてくるケースが多くなりました。その場合は入金されたその月のニュースレターにまとめてお報せ致しますのでご了承下さいませ。尚、祥月御懇志袋上に差出人のお名前、ご住所の他、どの月の祥月御懇志もお忘れなく記載して下さいませ。有難うございました。

General donation(\$1245): Anzai June, Chow Nobu & Suezone, Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple, Hashimoto Junichi & Atsumi, Hirose Mary, Ikuta Teruko, Kakehi Tomoko, Kariya Florence, Martin Michael & Genevra, Oda Jennifer, Ohara Nobue, Ward Ryoko, Watanabe Keiko, Wong Tiffani, Yoshihara Ken & Hiroko, SBT Moe No-Kai

Naijin Flowers: King Hiroko

Shotsuki February(\$3,385): Akizuki Casey & Ayako, Akizuki Eiko, Akizuki Gary & Gloria, Akizuki Russ, Akune Aaron & Vicky, Akune Robert & Molly, Akune Roy & Itoko, Akune Ted & Rose, Araki Marci, Araki Maya, Challoner Bernice, Doi Peter & Louise, Flynn Sharon, Grant Peter & Wendy, Hamade Naomi, Hamanishi Betty, Hamaura Dean, Hamaura Misaye, Higo Kay, Hirose Mary, Ikuta Teruko, Izumi Basil & Etsuko, Kariya Victor, Kawabata Jack, Kawabata Mitsuyo, Kimura Sueko, Kishi Leane, Kokubo Alice, Komori Dick & Setsuko, Kumagai Tetsuo & Noriko, Maeda Stacy, Mayede Don & Connie, Messer Karli, Morishita Linda & Dennis, Murao Ray, Nakanishi Mike & Frances, Nakano Alison, Niguma Kazuko, Nishi Albert, Nishi Joe, Nishi Kyoko, Nishi Pat, Nomura Dan & Colleen, Nomura Mark & Chris, Nomura-Kemp Norine, Nomura-Rejto Cathy, Oye Hanako, Phillips Kim, Ryan Larry & Jeanne, Saito Tokiko, Sakai Alan & Carol, Sakamoto Bud, Satosono Aya, Tanaka Mel, Tasaka Janice, Tasaka Cheryl, Tasaka Joyce, Tasaka Kaz & Chic, Tasaka Randy & Joyce, Tasaka Rick & Naomi, Tasaka Susan, Turnbull Kathy, Yamamoto Kevin, Yamanaka Sachiko, Yasui Atsushi, Yesaki Arthur, Yesaki Mitsuo, Yesaki Shiro, Yesaki Tad

& Moe, Yesaki Tom, Yoshihara Ken & Hiroko

January: Akizuki Casey & Ayako

Major Services(\$360):

Nehan-e service (Nirvana Day): Akune Ted & Rose

Hoonko service: Akizuki Eiko, Hamaura Masako, Kawamoto Tobo & Hiroko, Mizushima Tatsutoki & Karen, Mukai Akiko, Nishikihama Teruko, Nitta Ayako, Sakai Tomiko

Jodo-e service (Bodhi Day): Nishikihama Teruko

Eitai-kyo service: Nishikihama Teruko

Funerals & Memorial services (\$6,166.90) In memory of the late:

Fred John: John Annie, Akune Roy & Itoko, Araki Ron & Linda, Chan Rob & Elsie, Hamaura Misaye, Hirose Mary, Homes Ruby & Tkachuk Dave, Ikuta Kuni & June, Iwata Genevieve, Katai Ed & Teruko, King Hiroko, Koyanagi Bruce, Lum Hitomi & George, Maede Judith, Maede Toyoko, Mayede Constance, Miyazaki Akemi, Quan Toshiko, Ryan Larry & Jeanne, Sakai Alan, Sakamoto Bud, Sakiyama Nobby & Liz, Sangelo Dian, Sangelo Christopher, Sangelo Michael, Tanaka Eddie, Tanaka Jim, Wickham Sharon & Kelly, Wilson Lily, Uyeda Jeff & Trish, Uyeda Akemi, Yasui Doreen.

Reg Matsumura's 49th day memorial: Matsumura Margaret

Reg Matsumura: Ikuta Kuni & June, Kawamoto Tobo & Hiroko, St. Hilaire Richard

Jack Harada: Akune Roy & Itoko, Butler Linda, Domai Kiyo, Go Keiko, Hamanishi Frank & Pat, Higo Kelvin, Hirose Mary, Ikuta Denise, Ikuta Kevin, Ikuta Kuni & June, Ikuta Teruko, Kawamoto Mary, Kawamoto Tobo & Hiroko, King Hiroko, Kitagawa Masayuki, Minato Akiko, Narukami Don & Chiyo, Ryan Larry & Jeanne, Sakai Mitsuka, Sakamoto Bud, Watanabe Sachiko, Yesaki Tom, Yoshihara Ken & Hiroko, SBTWA

Sakie Nariwa: Ikuta Kuni & June

Michael Sokugawa: Ikuta Kuni & June

Masami Miura: Miura Eriko, Miura Maiko, Miura Renako

Husband Yoshiro Doc Tomihiro 5 year: Tomihiro Kazuko

Brother-in-law Yoshiro Doc Tomihiro 5 year: Koyanagi Susie

Husband Hayao Sakai's 7th year memorial: Sakai Tomiko

Jennifer Tasaka's 13th year memorial service: Tasaka Kaz & Chic

Yukio Kariya's 33rd year memorial: Challoner Bernice

** An apology for not sending out Nehan-e (Nirvana Day) service donation envelopes last month.

(From P 4) when we were finally able to hold it in the multipurpose room at Wisteria Place. It was another sign that things were getting back to normal.

We ended the year off in December with the Bodhi Day service followed by an enjoyable fellowship during the Bonenkai year end party.

Other activities throughout the year that have occurred at our temple include numerous funerals, the "Moye no kai" Seniors' Drop in, Seiza meditation on Thursday evenings, Lectures on Tuesday evenings, Fujinkai Garage Sales and chanting on Friday mornings. One of the activities that has been missing for the past several years has been the Food Fair and Bazaar. We may need to ask ourselves, is this something we want to restart, or is there something we could do in its place?

In conclusion, may I again thank all of you for your continued participation, and I look forward to continuing sharing the Nembutsu teaching together.

In Gassho,

Grant Ikuta, Minister Steveston Buddhist Temple

Tsumugu Project [Re] 紡ぐプロジェクト [Re]

このプロジェクトでは、和楽器の音を通して日本とカナダの文化交流を行います。

「想いを紡ぐ」というタイトルに、コロナ禍の空白を経た今現在の私達が、再始動、再会、再考などをテーマとしてイメージできる[Re]を加え、オンラインでは得られない、生の音で体感出来る文化交流をrestartするきっかけとなる公演を実施します。敢えて、3年前に現地を訪問した津軽三味線デュオ[輝&輝(KIKI)]と和太鼓奏者[金刺敬大]の3人で再スタートすることによって「今まで培ってきた絆をまたここから紡ぎ始めよう」という想いを込めています。

輝&輝 (KiKi) プロフィール

(注：日本語プロフィールと英語プロフィールの内容が多少違います)

2008年に白藤ひかり、武田佳泉のふたりによって結成された本格派津軽三味線デュオ。それぞれが全国大会で日本一になった経験を持ち、世界でも人気のある女性津軽三味線ユニット。輝&輝(KIKI)の持ち味は、伝統的な津軽三味線のスタイルである「民謡」を大切にしながら様々な音楽ジャンルを取り入れた民謡のアレンジ楽曲や、津軽三味線の奏法を存分に生かした自身で作曲するオリジナル曲。2人それぞれが異なる流派で培ってきた音色やフレージングの違いも魅力の一つ。2人の個性が重なり合い、他では聴くことのできない輝&輝(KIKI)ならではの音楽を確立させている。津軽三味線ならではの迫力と、女性らしい繊細さを兼ね備えた表現に定評がある。

輝&輝(KIKI)の名前の由来は「出身も流派も違う二人で新しい輝きを生み出したい」という思いから。

Ki&Ki is a Tsugaru Shamisen female duo by Hikari Shirafuji and Kanami Takeda.

Both have taken 1st place at Tsugaru Shamisen competitions across the country.

They are not only known in Japan but also overseas, having performed on stages globally.

As Kanami and Hikari originally are from different schools of shamisen training, each carries their own unique character and playing style.

This has helped build a name for them since their debut...

The origin of KIKI ("KI (輝)" means sparkle) comes from their wish to create a sense of "shine" through their uniquely different backgrounds and playing styles of the Tsugaru Shamisen.

金刺敬大 (Keita Kanazashi) プロフィール

11歳より、東京下町の地元の祭りで太鼓を打ち始め、祭礼やイベントなど数多く出演。

2001年、全国でも稀にみる3兄弟での和太鼓ユニットは「は・や・と」としてプロデビュー。以降、「は・や・と」としてだけでなくソロでの活動も含め、国内外に活動のフィールドを広げている。日本舞踊や歌舞伎囃子、剣道の要素を取り入れた繊細さと大胆さを併せ持つ情熱的なパフォーマンスは、業界でも唯一無二の「品格」のあるパフォーマンスと評価されている。

He started to play Taiko at local Tokyo festivals when he was 11 years old. In 2001, he formed with his two younger brothers HA・YA・TO, three brothers Taiko unit. Since then not only as a group but also as a solo, he's built his career up as a Taiko artist and has expanded his activities abroad. Keita's style of performance, mixed with elements of Kendo, Japanese dance and Kabuki-bayashi is praised as a high balanced fusion of daintiness, sensitiveness and dynamism with strong passion, or even elegance.

Some photos of their last concert here (April 2019)



Japanese Instrumental Concert
Tsumugu Project [Re]
Thursday
April 13
2023

Keita Kanazashi
(Taiko Drums)

KiKi
輝&輝
(Tsugaru Shamisen)

Steveston Buddhist Temple
4360 Garry Street, Richmond, BC
Tel: 604-277-2323 Mail: info@steveston-temple.ca
Show time: 7pm Doors 6pm
General admission \$25 Advance ticket \$20
Children under 12 \$15 Children under 12 advance ticket \$10
Presented by STAGEMIND, INC.

スティーブストン仏教会 開教使 2023 年次総会 報告

信じがたいことですが、最後の対面総会を開催してから3年が経ちました。2020年の年次総会のほぼ直後に、世界はCOVID-19のパンデミックにより世界的な封鎖に入りました。パンデミックの間中、わたしたちは幸運にも、Zoom Onlineのおかげでお寺の活動の多くを続けることができました。すべてのお参りやその他の活動はZoomを使用してオンラインになり、地元のメンバーだけでなく、多くの人々にサービスを提供できたことは非常に幸運でした。昨年の秋ごろからようやくお寺での対面式活動を再開することができるようになりました。お寺での活動は皆様のご理解とご協力なしにはできなかったもので、この場をお借りして皆様の献身と支援にお礼を申し上げます。以下はこの一年に行われた主な行事をまとめた報告です。

2022年1月にトロント仏教会の大内 祐真開教使を招待して報恩講法要を勤めました。直接お参りする方もいらっしゃいましたが、大内先生はZoomで参加してくださいました。去年はZoomでしか参加されなかったもので、今年の報恩講法要にはもう一度大内先生をお招きして、今回は先生にトロントからこちらまで出向していただきました。やはり、Online参加よりも直接来ていただいた方が比べ物にならない程よかったと思います。お参りに参加されたメンバーの方々も同じことを感じたと思います。

昨年のお盆のゲストミニスターとしてOkanagan教区の平野先生に来て頂きました。そしてお盆にはバンクーバー仏教会より青木総長が講師として来て下さいました。2022年のお盆には3年ぶりで盆踊りを開催することができました。Wisteria Placeが建てられてから初めての盆踊りだったので、Wisteria Placeに住む多くの高齢者も参加され大いに楽しめました。

数年の休止の後、お寺のゴルフトーナメントも7月末に再開され、物事は再び正常に感じ始めていました。そして、2022年のハイライトは、8月に行われたバンクーバーアイランドのお盆お墓参りツアーでした。ツアーには48名の参加者が集まりました。観光や、お墓参りを組み合わせたとても意味のある旅でした。今回は初めてナナイモ日系コミュニティが主催された盆踊りに参加し、いくつかの新しい踊りも学びました。その中で最も楽しかったのは「もったいない 盆踊り」でした。

9月には、BC州門信徒大会をスティーブストン仏教会が主催し、私の兄である生田ローランド先生が講師としてアルバータのレスブリッジから来られました。数は少なかったですが、仏法を共有する週末を楽しむことができました。ドン・向井さんが率いる土曜日の午後のスティーブストン・ウォーキングツアーは、参加された皆様には好評でした。

2022年は毎年春開かれる敬老会はコロナの影響で10月まで延期となりましたが、無事にWisteria Placeの講堂で開催することができました。

12月の成道会法要で年末を迎え、その後、忘年会で楽しいひと時を過ごしました。

その他にお寺では葬儀や、追悼式をはじめ数多くの活動をしてきました。「萌の会」、木曜日の夜の静座瞑想、火曜日の夜の講習会、婦人会ガレッジセール、金曜日の朝のお勤めと静座などの行事はその一部でした。最後に、皆様の継続的なご参加に改めて感謝するとともに、念仏の教えを引き続き一緒に共有することを楽しみにしております。

合掌、
スティーブストン仏教会
駐在開教使
生田グラント

萌の会 郷 恵子

2月16日の萌の会では、トロント在住の三味線演奏者のAki Takahashiさんをお招きしました。急なお話でしたが、Takahashiさんが2月19日までバンクーバーに訪問されていることを伺ったので、丁度16日に萌の会が開催される予定に合わせ公演して頂くことをお願いしました。折角トロントで活躍されている演奏者をお招きするため多くの方に聞いて頂きたく、ウィステリアプレイスとマクマスハイスクールの日本語学科を専攻されている皆様にもお声を掛けました。三味線に合わせ数々の民謡を熱唱されたTakahashiさんの歌声にすっかり酔ってしまい、手拍子でリズムを取られるシニアの中には日本の故郷を偲んでおられた方もいました。そして最後は生田先生をはじめ、観客の方々が炭坑節に合わせ踊りだし汗ばむほど盛り上がりしました。その後シニアの皆様はクラスルームに行き、お祭り気分勢いで先月結成されたウクレレ演奏者に合せて『楽しいひな祭り』を合唱しました。また2月のお誕生日をお迎えしたシニアの方が持って来て下さったバーズデーケーキでお茶タイムも楽しみました。2月の萌の会もとても華やかに過ごすことができました。参加して下さった皆様には心から感謝しております。次回は3月16日になります。その頃には少し暖かくなることを期待し、再度皆様のお越しをお待ちしております。

花祭りと敬老会：4月15-16日

4月15日(土)

3:00 富岡さとし先生のご講義

5:00 富岡先生とボットラックサパー

4月16日(日)

10:30 花祭り法要。富岡さとし先生のご法話。

12:00 花祭りと敬老会ランチ

敬老会ランチに参加なさる方は、お寺(604-277-2323)にご連絡ください。





法のともしび

婦人会からのお知らせ 吉原ヒロコ



婦人会ダーナ法要が2月19日(日)に行われました。この日に頂いたご懇志は4月にありましたJSBTC婦人会総会で決められた慈善団体に寄付されます。

去年はカナダフードバンクに寄付いたしました。19日当日、またそれ以前に寄付して下さった皆様方に心から感謝申し上げます。ダーナ法要の後、お寺の婦人会総会がありました。お寺の代表の方達と婦人会会員の皆様にお弁当が配られました。総会の報告は4月のニュースレターに載ります。

使用済み切手収集。使用済み切手を持って来て下さるのを待っています。切手の周りを1/4~1/2インチほど残しておいてください。場所と日付の入った郵便局の判が押してある場合は、それも残しておいてください。リッチモンド市がお寺用に封筒を用意し、1年に何回か集めてくれます。そしてありがたい事に、これらの集めた使用済み切手がSave the Childrenの活動資金になっています。

JSBTC婦人会のカードプロジェクト。お寺の婦人会が、6枚入りカード(3種類のデザイン)を\$10.00で売っています。

春の彼岸会について

如來、世に興出したもふゆゑは、
ただ弥陀の本願海を説かんとなり。
五濁惡時の群生海、
如來如實の言を信ずべし

タタガタの真実の言葉に身を委ねるべきなり。
(証信念仏偈より)



仏教の教えでは、物事は絶えず変化していると述べられています。この、根本の教えを何度も聞いていますが、それでもいまだに時の流れの速さに驚きを感じている自分です。ついこの間新年を迎えたばかりと思っていた

のに早くも3月になりました。3月は「春の彼岸会法要」の月です。「彼岸」は「此岸」の反対言葉で、「此岸」とは「この娑婆の世、あるいは迷いの世」のことです。それに対して「彼岸」とは「悟りの境地、あるいは阿弥陀如来のお浄土」を表現する言葉です。また、春分や秋分の日に「彼岸会法要」が行なわれるのは浄土三部經の「仏説觀無量壽經」と関係があります。

「仏説觀無量壽經」は王舎城悲劇をもとに書かれたお経であり、内容は主人公の韋提希(いだいけ)婦人が西方にある阿弥陀如来のお浄土にどのようにして生まれることができるかを説かれているのです。そこで、お浄土に生まれる前にはまずお浄土や阿弥陀様の姿を見ることが必要なので、それを可能とするために13種の瞑想をお釈迦様が韋提希婦人に教えられます。その第一の瞑想として西に沈む夕日を想像するようにと説かれています。そしてそれができたら、次にその向こうにある海を思い浮かべ、その次にはお浄土が見えて、最終的にはお浄土の空中に浮かぶ阿弥陀如来が見えることができると書かれています。春分や秋分の話に戻りますが、ちょうどこのころは昼と夜の長さが同じであり、太陽も真西に沈むので、西方にある阿弥陀様のお浄土を思うのには最適な時期と言い伝えられています。この理由で彼岸会法要がこの時期に行なわれるのです。

また、浄土真宗では「彼岸会法要」は「讃仏会法要」とも呼ばれています。「讃仏会」とは「阿弥陀様のはたらきを讃える」ということです。その「はたらき」とは生きとし生けるものをそのまま救い取ってくださる本願のはたらきであります。親鸞聖人は正信偈の中に「如來(によらい)、世(よ)に興出(こうしゅつ)したもふゆゑは、ただ弥陀(みだ)の本願海(ほんがんかい)を説(と)かんとなり。」とお釈迦様がこの世に誕生された理由はただこの本願のはたらきを教えるためだと書かれています。阿弥陀様のはたらきを喜びの心で讃えるのは「仏恩報謝のお念仏」とも言われています。

3月にはお彼岸法要をはじめ多くのお参りをするご縁があります。ご一緒に喜びのお念仏をととなえ、お参りいたしましょう。

合掌、
生田グラント



萌の会





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Join the Sangha and spread the Dharma

Japanese Instrumental Concert
Tsumugu Project [Re]
At the Temple
Thursday
April 13
2023



Keita Kanazashi
(Taiko Drums)

KiKi
輝 & 輝
(Tsugaru Shamisen)



Show time : 7pm Doors 6pm
General admission \$25 Advance ticket \$20
Children under 12 \$15 Children under 12 advance ticket \$10

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