

LOS ANGELES BETSUIN

No. 434

January-February 2016

jihō

WWW

LOS ANGELES HONPA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE
FOUNDED 1905



NEW YEAR'S GREETING



KOJUN OHTANI, MONSHU

At the beginning of the new year, I would like to extend my greeting to you.

On June 6, 2014, receiving the Jodo Shinshu tradition from Monshu Emeritus, I was inaugurated as the Hongwanji Resident Head Priest and Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha 25th Monshu. To commemorate the occasion together with all of you in front of Amida Buddha and the Founder Shinran Shonin, Dento Hokoku Hoyo, or the Commemoration on the Accession of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition will be ob-

served at Hongwanji, Kyoto, Japan from this coming October 1. With this observance as an opportunity, it is my hope that the Jodo Shinshu teaching will spread to as many as possible.

The Jodo Shinshu teaching was set forth by Shinran Shonin nearly eight hundred years ago and it has been carefully transmitted to us today. Be it Shinran Shonin's time or the present day, the Jodo Shinshu teaching remains unchanged and continues to serve as our spiritual foundation. This is because in this world of impermanence we live our lives never knowing when it may end. No one can guarantee that tomorrow I will not be involved in an incident or accident that will bring about the end of my life.

In closing, let us continue our journey along the Nembutsu path by going to the temple to hear more of Amida Buddha's constant working for our benefit. In doing so, throughout this year, let us reflect on our true selves, come to appreciate all the encounters of our everyday lives, and in gratitude, recite the Nembutsu.

Namo Amida Butsu

January 1, 2016

OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

Los Angeles
Hampa Hongwanji
Buddhist Temple
815 East First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

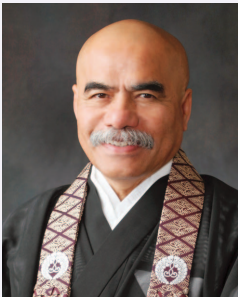
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RIMBAN'S MESSAGE

THOUGHTS ON THIS NEW YEAR — 2016



**RIMBAN
WILLIAM BRIONES**

As we begin the new year, many of us see the new year as a fresh beginning, an opportunity to start anew, maybe change some old habits, or perhaps to improve ourselves to become a better person. But as we begin 2016, rather than making New Year's resolutions, resolutions that are usually broken in a couple of weeks, let us reflect and be mindful of those innumerable causes and conditions that brought us to this new year. To recognize and be totally aware of the causes and conditions that surround us will result in experiencing the transforming power of gratitude and appreciation. This is the basis of the truth reality with which Jodo Shinshu is concerned.

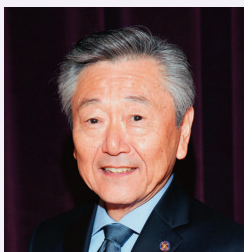
Reflecting on this past year, there is much to be grateful for. The special commemoration of the 110th Anniversary of the Betsuin, as with the 10th Anniversary of the Muyo Koju-do and the Wisteria Chapel, also the 100th Anniversary of the Hollywood Buddhist Church. Both were held as an acknowledgement to the hard work and continuous support that our temple members, past and present, provided throughout the years. Also, during 2015, our fundraising campaign, with the

generous donation from our members and friends raised \$863,674. Besides the generous donations, Betsuin and some of our affiliate organizations held very successful fundraisers. Some new, like the ABA/Hui Aikane sponsored Dinner/Bingo Night, the 50th Anniversary Dance and the Hollywood Buddhist Church sponsored "Sake Tasting" in commemoration of their 100th Year Anniversary and of course our annual Surf and Turf and Obon Carnival. Words cannot express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all of you who made this possible.

We've accomplished much in 2015, but we still have a long ways to go. As we began 2016, the major project of our 50th Anniversary Fundraiser Project and Campaign is refurbishing the *Naijin*. With the guidance of Rev. Takata, we have made arrangements with the Wakabayashi Company to dismantle and ship the *naijin* to Kyoto after our Hoonko Service in January. It will require six to ten months to complete and should be back before our Eitaikyo Service in November. Also, our Buddhist Education Committee is continuing to present special seminars, lectures and the quarterly Nishi Buddhist Study courses. And of course our Fund Raising Committee will continue to solicit donations and initiate new fund raisers. We look forward to another challenging year

(continued on page 8)

BETSUIN BOARD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



KENJI HATAKEYAMA

As I complete my first term as President of the Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation for your support to our Betsuin this past year. Moving forward to 2016, I sincerely ask for your continued support and help to make our temple become stronger for generations to come.

I want to thank our ministerial staff, led by Rimban William Briones, Reverend Koho Takata, and Reverend Kazuaki Nakata for dedicating their time and devotion to our members and community. The religious future of the Betsuin under the guidance of Rimban Briones and his very supportive ministerial staff continues to move forward in a positive direction.

I would also like to thank our temple komons, members of

the Board of Directors, and Board of Trustees for their continued support and guidance. A special thank you goes to our office staff along with the many volunteers for their assistance in meeting the daily administrative tasks of our temple.

I would like to thank our Branch Temples, Affiliated Organizations, Maintenance, and Special Committees for their help and support with temple events, programs, and facility maintenance. Once again, this year's Obon Festival, Surf & Turf, and Kohaku Utagassen program were all very successful.

I am truly grateful to all the mentors that have helped me along the way with the many programs and events here at the temple. Again, I would like to ask for your continued advice and guidance.

Finally, I would like to ask for your continued support, es-

(continued on page 12)

LIFE OF AWAKENING

by Rev. Koho Takata



REV. KOHO TAKATA

*I take refuge in the Tathagata of
Immeasurable Life!*

(Kimyo muryojunyorai)

*I entrust myself to the Buddha
of Inconceivable Light! (Namo
fukashigiko)*

(Collected Works of Shinran
P.69, Shonshige or Hymn of True
Shinjin and the Nembutsu)

Happy New Year to you all.

Throughout the last year, I was supported and guided by the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha. I am truly grateful to all of you for your untiring efforts, energies, and devotion in listening to the Buddha-Dharma and carrying out many activities and plans for preserving our temple as a place for receiving the Buddha-Dharma. May we also, together, continue to live with Namo-Amidabutsu as the basis of true and real life in this year 2016.

In this year, we will welcome the once-in-a-life time opportunity to commemorate various memorable events and anniversaries. As one of commemoration projects for the 50th Anniversary of the current Betsuin site, we will be shipping our altar and its ornaments to Kyoto, Japan. The *Gosenbutsu Kyosan Hoyo*, which means the Auspicious Commemorative Service for transportation of Amida Buddha Statue and Altar for restoration in Kyoto, Japan will be held on Sunday, January 24. This will be the last opportunity for us to see the existing altar in our hondo. From the next day, our altar will be disassembled and placed into a big container for shipping to Japan. We will be using the altar in the Wisteria Chapel as a temporary altar for hondo. The altar of the Wisteria Chapel was used at the old Nishi Hongwanji Temple. Having the altar in the hondo has a very special meaning for us. A temporary altar for the Wisteria Chapel will be brought by the Wakabayashi Company from Japan. During the process of the shipment of our altar and setup of the temporary altars in both the hondo and Wisteria Chapel, we will not be able to use both facilities. Morning Services and Memorial Services will be conducted at Muryo Kojyu-do (a memorial chapel of Immeasurable Light and Life) from January 25 to 30.

Our restored altar will be back to our Betsuin around the end of October. We will then hold a *Nyubutsu Kyosan Hoyo* which means Commemorative Dedication Service for Amida Buddha Statue and Altar in conjunction with the 85th Anniversary of the Betsuin Status and the 111th An-

niversary of our Betsuin will be held on Sunday, November 6, officiated by the **Bishop Kodo Umezu**.

The present altar was installed in 1969 and the Dedication Ceremony for the new altar and completion of the construction of the present Betsuin Temple was held on November 16, 1969 officiated by the former **Monshu Kosho Ohtani**. There were many dedicated members who made tremendous financial sacrifices to engage in their strong commitment to hand down the essential teaching of Nembutsu to the generations to come and spread the Buddha-Dharma to all.

Since then, it has been almost 50 years. Countless followers were supported and guided by the Teaching of Primal Vow of Amida Buddha which was represented by our altar and its ornaments. They are expressions of the working of the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha in a tangible form. Amida Buddha is colorless and formless as well as the Pure Land. For those who cannot see the perfection of the true reality by our inner eyes which are always covered with blind passions like me, Amida Buddha manifests Universal Truth of Oneness in a form of body as the most compassionate, wise, and noble figure and also in a form of space and time, our temple altar, as the world of Immeasurable Life and Light.

It is said that *shinjin* (true entrusting mind) emerges from the proper arrangements of the Buddha's altar. Disposition of an altar reflects individuals' attitudes toward the true entrusting mind and heart of the Buddha and the teachings. The newly restored altar clearly shows our commitment to the future of the Los Angeles Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. Our path to the future depends on what we do now. I hope all of us become mindful of the intentions and efforts of our pioneers, commit ourselves to walk the great path which was revealed by Shinran Shonin and our pioneers, and move forth positively into a new history of our temple. I look forward to witness the shipment of our altar to Japan and also welcoming newly restored altar with you to keep listening to the teaching of the true and real life, Namo-Amdabutsu at each moment of our lives.

*The light of wisdom exceeds all measure,
And every finite living being
Receives this illumination that is like the dawn,
So take refuge in Amida, the true and real light.*
(The Collected Works of Shinran, P.325,
Hymns of the Pure Land #4)

THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A DREAM

by Rev. Kazuaki Nakata



REV. KAZ

First of all, I would like to say "Happy New Year of 2016" to our Nishi Betsuin Jiho readers. I hope everyone will enjoy the year of 2016.

Last November, I filled out the form, "Petition to Graduate" at my graduate school. The petition is for finishing up the course work of my master's degree to exit the school. I

am currently studying at the University of the West, majoring in Religious Studies (concentration in Buddhist Studies). It will be my second master's degree if I can complete the thesis. For my first master's degree, it took four years to graduate. The University of the West is my fourth college to attend in the United States and I am getting comfortable with the American colleges. I feel confident that I will be able to complete my second masters within two years. Hopefully, I will be able to write about my graduation in the July-August issue of the Betsuin Jiho.

There is a requirement of studying two foreign languages for a research purposes in the graduate school. My first language is Japanese, so I have an advantage to select Japanese as one of the requirements whereby I can forego the Japanese language classes. There are a great number of research articles on Buddhism (not only Japanese Buddhism) which are written in Japanese, so it is advantageous to know Japanese in order to study and research Buddhism. I chose Sanskrit as my second research language. The language has an alphabet which is known as Devanagali. Sanskrit is an ancient Indian language which is no longer used in India. In the academic world, Sanskrit is known as one of the most difficult language to master in the world. When I was considering taking the Sanskrit course, some of my friends teased me that it is very difficult to master Sanskrit based on their own experiences. Nonetheless, I began my studies of Sanskrit in the Fall of 2014. After three semesters, I am able to read and write the Sanskrit language.

In our Jodo Shinshu teaching, we have three main texts; the Infinite Life Sutra, the Contemplation (meditation) Sutra, and the Amida Sutra. The Infinite Sutra and the Amida Sutra which we use for services such as the Sunday service, are written in Chinese. These sutras are the translated version from the original Sanskrit version. The Contemplation Sutra which is written in Chinese is known

as an *apocrypha*. It is known as an apocrypha is because there is no original Sanskrit version and it appears that the content of the sutra is heavily influenced by Chinese philosophy and culture.

Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu, stated in his main publication "*Kyogoshinsho*" that the true teaching of Shakyamuni Buddha is described in the Infinite Life Sutra (*Sore Shinjitsu no Kyo wo Arawasaba, Sunawachi "Daimuryojukyo - Infinite Life Sutra-" Kore nar*). Shinran Shonin quoted sentences from several Chinese translations of Infinite Life Sutra in his *Kyogyoshinsho*, but some of them no longer exist. When I was studying Jodo Shinshu in Ryukoku University in Kyoto, I always dreamed of reading the original version of Infinite Life Sutra in Sanskrit to know how the Chinese translation differs from the original version.

Last Fall, I began reading the original Sanskrit version of the Infinite Life Sutra and I am gradually discovering some essential concepts in Jodo Shinshu teachings from the Indian aspects. I feel that my Sanskrit skills is helping me to understand a much deeper sense of the Jodo Shinshu teachings. It is a challenge to study any foreign language, especially studying a language that is not for conversation or travel. In my case, my ten-year dream of reading the sutra Sanskrit has finally come true. I am fortunate to have the opportunity to do so. This reminds me of a passage in the Three Treasures. "*Difficult to hear the Dharma, so fortunate to have an opportunity to hear it now.*"

Following the observance of the 110th year anniversary of Nishi Betsuin, we are now gearing towards the observance of the 50th anniversary of Nishi Betsuin at its current site in 2019. We cannot know how or what people were thinking about Nishi over 111 years ago, but we can think about how we can move forward from the present to the future with Nishi Betsuin. It is very important to maintain the tradition but at the same time, we should try new things to bring others to the Betsuin. I believe that each of our dreams for our temple will make the Nishi Betsuin a more memorable and active place for us. As a resident minister, I would like to hear your what your dream for the Betsuin is and I would like to see new aspects to redesign the whole concept of the Nishi Betsuin. I am sure that these discoveries will make our temple good to go for another 50 years.

Gassho

MY REFLECTIONS ON OUR CENTENNIAL MILESTONE

by Judy Izumo

Thank you to everyone who came to help celebrate **Hollywood Buddhist Church's Centennial** and to those who could not attend but contributed monetarily or through their efforts to help support our 100th anniversary. If you attended either the centennial service or the luncheon, and did not receive your copy of the program, they will be available in the Betsuin office.

Now that our celebration is over, and I can reflect upon the words **Bishop Umezu** delivered at the seminar and centennial service. I realize he was speaking to each of us as individuals, and was teaching us the importance of "*Hongwan*" the Primal Vow and "*Hongwan-ji*," the temple of the Primal Vow.

As individuals, we can choose to listen and try to gain the wisdom that comes from living the Nembutsu life. Our parents guided us and brought us to Hollywood Buddhist Church or Nishi Hongwanji to listen to the ministers who brought us the words of the Buddha and taught us the baby steps...just saying "*Namo Amida Butsu*." As individuals, many of us have started attending the Dharma Center Classes, where we are learning not by difficult practice, like tests, homework or even by going up to Mt. Hiei in Kyoto, but by simply LISTENING to the words that are being spoken by our ministers. When we have questions, they do their best to help us understand the true teachings.

The mission statement for Hollywood's Centennial was to pay homage to the founding members and honor our ministers, grandparents and parents. These individuals strove to enable each of us to learn the Buddha-Dharma teachings, especially the Primal Vow, which meant each and every one of us is guaranteed birth in the Pure Land. Knowing this, we are able to become truly settled, creating a path for us to live a more meaningful happier Nembutsu life, if we listen to the teachings the ministers bring to us through their classes and Dharma talks. As we listen, we gain gratitude and appreciation for all the little



Attendees to the Hollywood Buddhist Church Centennial Service. Center front is Bishop Kodo Umezu, flanked by Rimban Briones to his right and Rev. Koho Takata to his left. Nine past Betsuin ministers also took part in this milestone service.

things we tend to take for granted. We learn that there may be bumps in the road that cause us to stumble, but as we move on, life continues. We learn about impermanence and everything changes and if you try to stop change, you will bring suffering only to yourself from your attachments. You can't stop time. But as individuals, we can only change how WE react or accept the bumps or changes. We are all interdependent and connected in some way, thus any action we make

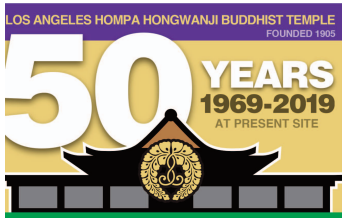
as individuals has an effect on others. I believe I can make a difference as an individual, as each of you can also do. Bishop Umezu began our seminar, playing the words of Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream!" speech. Upon reading the first three verses of the English translation of the sutra, *Juseige*, which we chant almost weekly at the Betsuin, I found both brought similar feelings of empowerment to ME.

As we approach the anniversaries of our various organizations and Nishi's 50th anniversary at the present site, I believe, each of us can make a difference in perpetuating the Nembutsu life which encompasses us. We need to realize we are a Betsuin which is a special designation given by honzan (mother temple in Kyoto). All of us need to learn what this means (don't forget we have dharma classes every day of the week!) and why having our Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Betsuin is so important and needs to be standing another 50 years, at the very least. My obachan, ojichan, aunts, uncles, Mom and Dad are all here in our Muryo Koju-do, and this will be my permanent home when I join my parents in their niche. That is why I have a personal obligation to make sure the temple stands. What about you? As the ministers teach us, the funerals are for those who are living, as another opportunity to listen to the Buddha-Dharma, perhaps renew relationships that have been lost with family members or acquaintances. People may say "Oh, I don't want a funeral!" but is there a chance it will help even one person

(continued on page 6)

50TH YEAR COMMEMORATION

by Ernest Hida



As we begin the New Year, I take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Happy New Year. *Shinnen omedetou gozaimasu. Kotoshimo dozo yoroshiku onegai itashimasu.*

The 50th Anniversary Committee has been busy working on the projects, the fundraising campaign, the Nishi Dharma Center, and the preparation for the 50th celebration.

It is now approximately 3½ years to the 50th Anniversary of the temple at its present location. The temple site will be 50 years old. How time flies. For those of us who are 50 years old and older, we know how it is as the years go by – aches and pains, here and there, from wear and tear. The temple building is no different. Maintaining the building is just as important as keeping our bodies healthy. Therefore, for the 50th Anniversary projects, various repairs of the temple are planned, with the main project being the restoration of the *onaijin*/altar, the most important part of the temple. In Japan, it is a tradition for temples to refurbish their *onaijin* every 50 years.

We ask you for your continued support of these 50th Anniversary projects of the temple. As part of the refurbishing of the *onaijin*, Buddhist floral tiles will be installed on the ceiling of the *onaijin*. All donors' name will be placed on the back of the tile, therefore, you will have the honor to have your name in the *onaijin* for the next 50 years until the next refurbishing. To have your name placed on the tile, donations must be received by July 31, 2016. All names will then be sent to the Wakabayashi Company of Kyoto to be placed on the tiles. The tiles will be sent with the renovated *onaijin* pieces.

On January 24, 2016, Sunday, a special service will be held for the closing of the *onaijin* before it is sent to Kyoto. We invite you to this special service and join the ministers to say farewell to your *onaijin*.

On November 7, the Adult Buddhist Association (ABA) and Hui Aikane held a joint fundraising Teriyaki Dinner and BINGO with all proceeds donated to the 50th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign. Thank you to the ABA and Hui Aikane members for their dedicated efforts to raise funds for the 50th Anniversary. Also, thank you to other organizations for their fundraising efforts for the 50th Anniversary and individual donors for their generosity.

We thank you very much for your past support and we sincerely look forward to your continued dedicated support. Let us put our hearts and minds together and work to-

gether for a wonderful and meaningful 50th Anniversary celebration of the Betsuin in 2019 to honor our *Issei* pioneers and past members for the legacy they left for us.

Gassho,

Ernest Hida, 50th Anniversary Committee Chairman

Centennial Reflections - continued from page 5)



Dignitaries at the Hollywood Buddhist Temple Luncheon share a congratulatory certificate from the City of Los Angeles. L-R: Councilman Mitch O'Farrell; HBC president, Asao Masumiya; Betsuin president, Kenji Hatakeyama, Rev. Koho Takata, Rimban William Briones, and BCA Bishop Kodo Umezu

who is grieving the loss of a family member or friend? Can the words of the Buddha change another person, as it did when I lost my Dad and Mom. I had thought I would be crying and suffering, but instead I found I was so grateful for the life my parents had lived and all the friends that came to their funerals to reaffirm that every single person counts and makes a difference.

HBC is a small sangha community of Buddha-Dharma learners and teachers, but look at what so few people were able to accomplish with the guidance and patience of our ministers! *Arigato* to everyone who supported Hollywood, the land of the stars and our *Baka Club*! I truly hope LAH-HBT will knock everyone's socks off for their 50th Anniversary at the present site, and just wait until you see what the BWA has in store for their Centennial!!! *Gambatte!*

^ In *Gassho*, Biig Judy

HO-ONKO, SHINRAN SHONIN'S MEMORIAL SERVICE

by Rev. Koho Takata

The members of the Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple and their families are invited to attend the Hoonko, the Memorial Service for Shinran Shonin which is the most important tradition in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhism to be held on Sunday, January 17, 2016. The guest speaker for the service will be Reverend Masao Kodani of BCA Minister Emeritus for English Service and Reverend Nobuo Haneda of Maida Center for Japanese Service.

Ho-onko is a time to express our gratitude to Shinran Shonin, the day of his death, January 16, 1262. Liter-characters "Ho" means "re-turn" and "Ko" means "to clarify the meaning of."

Ho-onko is the most important for the Jodo Shinshu Buddhists because it is a day to pay our respects to the founder of the sect, Shinran Shonin. We commemorate the anniversary of his death. On this occasion, we assemble together to pay our homage to his memory and to Amida Buddha for having awakened us to the existence of life's supreme debt of gratitude.

Shinran Shonin lived in the Kamakura Era, Japan. In a time of disunity and violence, Shinran Shonin sought a



founder, on the day of his death, January 16, 1262. Liter-characters "Ho" means "re-turn" and "Ko" means "to clarify the meaning of."

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way for all beings to attain perfect peace equally. Shinran Shonin interpreted Buddhism on the level of common people. During the period in Japan, to become a Buddhist meant having to leave one's home and family to enter a life of strict practices and intellectual study of Buddhism. Shinran Shonin, however, lived the life of an ordinary person – the same as that of the farmers and fishermen. Shinran Shonin had a wife and children. He ate meat and fish. Shinran Shonin lived a Nembutsu life with his family and opened up the path to Buddhism to the common people. If Shinran Shonin had not clarified the teachings of the Primal Vow, our temple and Sangha would not be in existence today. For this, we praise the virtues of our founder Shinran Shonin, express our sincere appreciation for having encountered his teachings, and reconfirm our true entrusting mind to listen and live his teachings each day.

In conjunction with Hoonko Service, we are fortunate to have a Hoonko Seminar entitled "Life of Awakening: Namo-Amidabutsu" on Saturday, January 16, 2016. The seminar will begin at 9:00am and end at 3:00pm. The guest speaker will be Reverend Masao Kodani and Reverend Nobuo Haneda. They will focus on the essential teaching of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism which was clarified by Shinran Shonin. The registration fee is \$15.00 and the deadline will be on January 9, 2016. We encourage all of you to hear the Buddha-Dharma on the Memorial of Shinran Shonin.



"LIFE OF AWAKENING: NAMO AMIDA BUTSU"

Saturday, February 6th

9:00 am - 4:00 pm @ LA Betsuin

**Guest Speaker:
Rev. George Matsubayashi**

Jpn: 9:00-11:45 am Eng: 1:00-3:15 pm

Registration Fee: \$10

Tel: 213-680-9130

HO-ONKO SEMINAR

Saturday, January 16th

Nishi Betsuin

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Guest Speakers:
Rev. Masao Kodani (Eng)
Rev. Nobuo Haneda (Jpn)**

Registration Fee: \$15

Deadline: January 9th

Tel: 213-680-9130



NIRVANA DAY (SAKYAMUNI BUDDHA'S MEMORIAL)

by Rev. Koho Takata

The members of the Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple and their families are invited to attend the annual Nirvana Day Service, which is the observance of Sakyamuni Buddha's Memorial Service to be held on Sunday, February 14, 2016. The speakers for the service will be Rev. William Briones for English Service and Rev. Koho Takata for Japanese Service.

Sakyamuni Buddha, founder of Buddhism, passed away into Nirvana on February 15. It is a day for all Buddhists to pay our deep gratitude and appreciation to the historical Buddha Sakyamuni for leaving us the wonderful teachings of Buddhism and also for his appearance in this world enabling us to encounter the teachings of Amida Buddha's Primal Vow.

Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, teaches us about the reason of Sakyamuni Buddha's appearance in this world in his major writing "The True Teaching, Practice, and Realization of the Pure Land Way."

"Sakyamuni appeared in this world and expounded the teachings of the way to enlightenment, seeking to save the multitudes of living beings by blessing them with this benefit that is true and real." (CWS P.7)

Also, in Shoshinge "Hymn of True Shinjin and the Nembutsu," Shinran Shonin expressed his deep gratitude and his strong conviction to Sakyamuni Buddha as follows:

"Sakyamuni Tathagata appeared in this world



The Passing of Sakyamuni Buddha mural painting in the Betsuin hondo

*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."*

(CWS P.70)

We, the followers of the Amida Buddha's Primal Vow, therefore, commemorate Sakyamuni Buddha's Memorial once a year to pay our homage to him who is the manifestation of Amida Buddha, the Buddha of Infinite Light and Life.

Let us all gather on the memorial day of Sakyamuni Buddha and express our gratitude and appreciation to Sakyamuni Buddha for making us to encounter the Truth of Primal Vow of Amida Buddha.

Rimban - continued from page 2)

and with your continued support we can continue to build upon the strong foundation that our Issei and Nisei pioneers built 110 years ago.

As the year 2015 comes to a close I would like to wish you and your family a very meaningful and fulfilling 2016. To all our affiliate organizations, members, friends of the Betsuin, my sincerest gratitude and appreciation for all your time and support. Many thanks to our Betsuin staff, Rie Fujie, Koko Kimoto and Vance Ikkanda for keeping the office running efficiently. As well as our office volunteers, especially Bruce Hatakeyama whose computer programming has made my work less of a burden — many thanks. My deepest appreciation to the Board of Directors and Komon

for their guidance and patience. And of course to Rev. Takata and Rev. Nakata for their tireless devotion and commitment to keep the Nembutsu Teachings central within our temple activities.

I am truly humbled to be rimban of the Los Angeles Betsuin. My sincerest appreciation and gratitude to all of you for making this past year a most valuable and rewarding experience. I look forward to 2016 as we share and live within the Nembutsu.

May gratitude and appreciation enter your life through your understanding of the Nembutsu Teachings.

Namo Amida Butsu

KISARAGIKI: LADY KUJO & BWA LATE MEMBERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

by Rev. Koho Takata

The members of LA Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple BWA and their families and friends are invited to attend the annual Kisaragiki Dharma Service, which is the observance of **Lady Takeko Kujo's Memorial Service** to be held on Sunday, February 7, 2016. The guest speaker for the service will be Rev. George Matsubayashi, a former Rimban of LA Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.



Takeko Kujo

Lady Takeko Kujo, was founder of the Buddhist Women's Association, who promoted women's status and redefined women's role at temple. Lady Kujo was born as the second daughter of the 21st Monshu of Hongwanji, Myonyo Shonin. She was a devout Nembutsu follower who not only was an avid listener of the Dharma but also took an active part in community service. Lady Kujo was instrumental in the construction of the Asoka Hospital, one of Japan's first modern medical centers, after the Great Tokyo Earthquake in 1923. She was also founder of the Kyoto Joshi Gakuen (Kyoto Women's Schools) and known for her poetry expressing her deep appreciation of the Nembutsu teaching. Lady Kujo passed away in 1928 at the age of 42. To honor her great contributions to the Hongwanji and also community, we hold Kisaragiki Memo-

rial Service on February every year.

The World Federation of Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha BWA respectfully carried over the Dana (selfless giving) spirit of Lady Takeko Kujo and established the annual Dana Day in 1965 to be observed in February every year and practicing Dana by benefitting offertory collections to charitable and social welfare agencies. Our temple BWA members are currently joining in visitation to nursing and care home residents to practice Dana. Let us practice to put into action the caring mind and the compassion Lady Kujo has shown us to follow.

We are also observing BWA Late Members' Memorial Service in conjunction with Lady Kujo's Memorial. It is a time to remember and honor all those who have passed away before us and to recognize the continuation of the influence of their deeds upon our lives. Let us gather at temple the opportunity given by Lady Takeko Kujo and passed members of BWA for listening to their Dharma messages delivered by ministers.

8TH ANNUAL SURF & TURF FUNDRAISER DINNER



Last year, there were well over 1,000 attendees to the Surf and Turf. Many enjoyed the BINGO for the adult and children, as well as a raffle and a Silent Auction.

SURF AND TURF DINNER

8th ANNUAL



MARCH 12, 2016

\$20.00 per plate

Dinner 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Bingo 4:30 PM – 8:00 PM

PRESALE ONLY

MENU: TERIYAKI STEAK and SALMON • GREEN SALAD • GREEN BEANS • RICE

Meals will be packed as "TAKE OUT"

DINE IN and enjoy your meals with family and friends along with a game of BINGO, raffle, and silent auction.

The number of meals to be sold will be limited.
Unclaimed dinners will be donated after 7:00 pm

NO MEALS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

All proceeds will go to the Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.

DID YOU KNOW?

by Eiko Masuyama



Kenji Hatakeyama is the current president or chairman of the Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Board of Directors. He follows a long list of dedicated and generous members going back to 1922. Who are these leaders? Do you remember any of them?

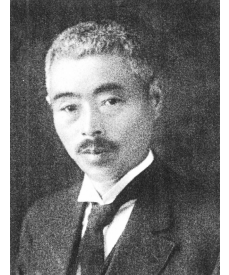
We should remember with gratitude the leadership provided by them and those who came before, each in their time, to overcome the problems of their generations, from discrimination to the influenza epidemic, the Great Depression, World War II and relocation, the redevelopment of Little Tokyo, the increased cost of maintenance and upkeep of the temple and the decrease in membership and number of services.

THANK YOU, PAST PRESIDENTS:

Kenlund (Lonny) Quon	2013-2014
Tatsushi Nakamura	2012
Gary Kawaguchi	2006-2011
Ernest Hida	2003-2005
Fujiyoshi Yamamoto	2001-2002
Shoichi Sayano	1994-2000
Masaru Okino	1991-1993
Hisao Hamanaka	1989-1990
Jun Okimoto	1986-1988
Tsutomu Maehara	1984-1985
Kaoru Inouye	1982-1983
Dr. Ryo Munekata	1980-1981
Tetsujiro Nakamura	1978-1979
Masashi Kawaguchi	1971-1977
Eijiu Sasajima	1967-1970
Kyuji Hozaki	1965-1966
Keiichiro Sayano	1961-1964
Masami Sasaki	1956-1960
Eijiu Sasajima	1952-1955
Mikio Konishi	1952
Shigemi Aratani	1946-1951
Masuo Sakamaoto	1942-1945
Ukitaro Aratani	1941
Kurakichi Kaneko	1940
Kinya Mayeda	1938-1939
Shinnosuke Tamari	1936-1937
Fujino Yano	1932-1935
Soji Fukui	1927-1931
Torazo Okamoto	1926
Yoshitaro Hirai	1922-1925

* * * *

Yoshitaro Hirai was the first president of the Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Board of Directors (1922-1925).



Yoshitaro Hirai

He first came to the United States as a representative of the Japanese government, to the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. A few years later, he and his family emigrated to the United States, establishing Evergreen Nursery at 1539 North Bronson Avenue, in the Hollywood area (c. 1910). Mr. Hirai became the president of the Japanese Association, which was a formal organization composed primarily of businessmen and farmers. He also tutored newly arrived Japanese immigrants on how to survive in the United States. Mr. Hirai served as chairman of the Building Committee and donated \$30,000 to build the original Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, 119 East Central Avenue. It is now called the Historic Building of the Japanese American National Museum. He was very supportive of the Hollywood Buddhist Church, presently, a branch temple of the Betsuin.

Mr. Hirai and his wife returned to Japan to retire in 1929. He passed away on March 27, 1933, in Nara (near Kyoto), Japan.

[Thank you to Mrs. Atsuko Hirai and Dr. Fred Tsutsui, grandchildren of Yoshitaro Hirai, for providing above information.]

* * * * *

Donations to Nishi Archives and Library

- Shoichi Sayano: box of 15 books from Keiichiro Sayano Collection, including Jodo Shinshu, General Buddhism, and other books
- Donna Ikeguchi Mendivil: pencil with "To Our Sunday School Students" and "Harmony in the Sangha" printed along edge of pencil, and nenju bag with "kiri" (Ohtani family crest) and nenju with "Rafu Betsuin" (in kanji) printed on Buddha bead
- Mary (Aoki) Nakamura: hardcover book, *White Road of Thorns, Journalist's Diary – Trials and Tribulations of the Japanese American Internment During World War II*, by Asako Yamamoto (pen name for Hisa Aoki), translated by Archie Miyamoto. Paperback copies for sale in bookstore.
- Anonymous: 5 keychains with Buddhist wheel stamped on it.

Thank you all (named and unnamed) very much.

NISHI DHARMA CENTER WINTER 2016 (JANUARY - MARCH) COURSES

The Dharma Center of the Los Angeles Hampa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple will be offering the following classes in General Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. The classes will be introductory for those who are new to the Buddhist concepts and continuing education for those already learning the Truth of the Dharma to live each

Shoshin Nembutsu-ge (Shoshinge) - Hymn of True Shinjin and the Nembutsu -

Monday, 6:30-8:00PM Rev. Koho Takata

February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (5 week class: \$50)

"Shoshinge" is composed of 120 lines in 60 verses and is most widely chanted among Jodo Shinshu followers, was written by Shinran Shonin summarizing the Teachings of Jodo Shinshu. It is Shinran Shonin's expression of joy and gratitude for encountering the Nembutsu teaching in being guided by the Sutra of the Buddha of Immeasurable Life and the seven masters from India, China, and Japan.

Tannisho - A Record in Lament of Divergences

Tuesday, 7:00-8:30PM Rev. Ryuta Furumoto

January 26, February 2, 16, 23, March 15 (5 week class: \$50)

"Tannisho (A Record in Lament of Divergences)" is a Jodo Shinshu classic. This record of Shinran Shonin's words and teachings is easy to read, and each chapter is not long, so it is often read as an introduction to Jodo Shinshu teaching. To deepen the understanding of Shinran Shonin's thought, several translations and the texts will be used at the class, such as "Collected Works of Shinran," Dr. Rev. Taitetsu Unno's translation, and Japanese original text.

Contemporary Issues and Jodo Shinshu Perspective (Discussion)

Wednesday, 7:00-8:30PM Rimban William Briones

January 6, 13, 20, 27, February 3 (5 week class: \$50)

Issues like same sex marriage, immigration, global warming were not an issue during Shinran's life, on the other hand there was war, sexism, and poverty during his time. What is our understanding of these contemporary issues living a life of Nembutsu? These five lectures will discuss current events and issues that effect our way of life and how Jodo Shinshu Buddhism influences our view point.

Rituals

Monday & Thursday, 7:00-8:30PM Rev. Masao Kodani
January 4, 11, 18, 28, February 4, 18 (6 week class:

\$60)

Ritual tradition in Jodo Shinshu, it's adaptations for better or worse in BCA temples, and the connection between ritual and practice.

Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (In Japanese)

Every Friday, 10:00-11:00AM (\$5 per class)

Rev. Kazuaki Nakata

Seeking a Final Solution to (One's) Life, Guided by Shinran Shonin and Helped by Insights from Zen and Western Thinkers

Saturday, 10:00-11:30AM

Rev. Tetsuo Unno

January 9, 23, February 20, 27, March 5 (5 week class: \$50)

For Shinran Shonin, the "Final Solution to (One's) Life," in a word is "Shinjin" (Entrustment, Faith, etc.). But what is "Shinjin?" In an attempt to answer that question, these lectures will turn first to Shinran and secondly, to supportive insights of Zen and Western thinkers.

Introduction to Buddhism/Jodo Shinshu Buddhism

Every Sunday, 11:00-11:30AM (free)

Rimban William Briones

This class will be held right after the Sunday service. There will be Q & A for Dharma message from Sunday service. It will help you to understand the basic teachings of Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

Applied Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Studies for Teens (Age 11 and up)

Sunday, 11:30-12:15AM (free)

Rev. Kazuaki Nakata

January 17, 24, February 7, 21, 28, March 13, 20

This course fully covers "Sangha Award" and "Padma Award" for Cadettes and Senior" requisites. The goal of this course is to cultivate critical problem-solving, the sense of the mindfulness, the skill to reduce/manage one's stress, the character of gentleness and the mind to make one's life more appreciative through the teaching of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

The course tuition is collected and no refund on missed classes. Please mail completed registration form with a check for the total payment (payable to: LAHHBT) or bring it to temple.

For more information: Phone: (213) 680-9130/ Email: nishidharmacenter@gmail.com

2016 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Valid from January 1 through December 31, 2016

\$250 FOR EACH ADULT FAMILY MEMBER

CHECKS ARE PAYABLE TO:
L.A. HONPA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Payments may be made in full or by installments throughout the year of 2016

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

As we look forward to 2106, I would like to express my sincere thank you for your support of our Betsuin and ask for your continued membership again this year.

With the rising costs of membership to the BCA and Southern District, it is necessary to make a change in the membership donations. We are asking for a donation of \$250 or more of each adult member and \$150 or more for adult children membership up to the age of 21 years old living in the same household. With the ever increasing cost of maintaining our temple, I hope you will understand and continue to make this worthwhile contribution.

gassho, Kenji Hatakeyama, Board President

WANTED

ITEMS FOR THE SURF AND TURF SILENT AUCTION

Hatakeyama - continued from page 2)

pecially to the 50th Anniversary Celebration that will culminate in 2019. With your help and support, it will truly be a very successful event.

In *Gassho*,

Kenji Hatakeyama, Board President



45TH ANNUAL KOHAKU UTAGASSEN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2016
 @ 1:00 PM

NISHI HONGWANJI
 BUDDHIST TEMPLE

TICKETS: \$20



BWA makes donations to Sangha Teens and Jr YBA.



Rev. Kaz giving the sangha a Sanskrit "lesson"

IN MEMORIAM

The *Nishi Betsuin* extends its deepest condolences to the families of the following members who have recently passed away. May the family members find solace and comfort in the *Nembutsu*.

--*Namo Amida Butsu*

September 2015	14 Masaki Shinohara
20 Yoshiko Kimura	16 Tami Yamaguchi
25 Yoshiaki Eto	
30 Jean Chizuko Amano	November 2015
	5 Richard Katsumi
October 2015	Yamada
10 Tomiko Konishi	6 Nobuo Sameshima
14 Ben Hisashi Yokotake	15 Shuji Nakano

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR 2016

The following years are the dates of special services for the deceased. The temple will send out notices to the next of kin. In the event that a notice is not sent, please notify the *Betsuin* office for an appointment at 213-680-9130 during the business hours of 9 A.M. to 6 P.M.

Memorial Observance	Year of Death
1st memorial	2015
3rd memorial	2014
7th memorial	2010
13th memorial	2004
17th memorial	2000
23rd memorial	1994
25th memorial	1992
33rd memorial	1984
50th memorial	1967

DAIJO FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

daijofcu@hotmail.com

ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 @ 12 noon
LA Betsuin

“WHITE ASHES”

HAKKOTSU NO GOBUNSHO

This letter by Rennyō Shōnin is usually read by the minister at Jōdo Shinshū funeral services.

In silently contemplating the transient nature of human existence, nothing is more fragile and fleeting in this world than the life of man. Thus, we have not heard of human life lasting for ten thousand years. Life swiftly passes, and who among men can maintain his form for even a hundred years? Whether I go before others, or others go before me; whether it be today, or whether it be tomorrow; who is to know? Those who leave before us are as countless and as fragile as the drops of dew. Though in the morning, we may have radiant health, in the evening we may be white ashes.

When the winds of impermanence blow, our eyes are closed forever; and when the last breath leaves us, our face loses its color. Though loved ones gather and lament, everything is of no avail. The body is then sent into an open field and vanishes from this world with the smoke of cremation, leaving only the white ashes. There is nothing more real than this truth of life.

The fragile nature of human existence underlies both the young and the old, and therefore, we must – one and all – turn to the Teaching of the Buddha and awaken to the ultimate source of life. By so understanding the meaning of death, we shall come to fully appreciate the meaning of this life which is unrepeatable and thus to be treasured above all else. By virtue of True Compassion, let us realize the unexcelled value of our human existence; and let us live with the Nembutsu, Namu Amida Butsu, in our hearts.

— translated by Taitetsu Unno



BON ODORI EXERCISE CLASS

BETSUIN LOTUS ROOM

(see calendar for meeting times)

Betsuin Jiho

Editor-in-Chief: Rimban William Briones

English Editor: Elaine Fukumoto

Photos: Koichi Sayano and Glen Tao

BETSUIN 2016 CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day Service
- 2 Betsuin Closed
- 3 45th Annual Kohaku Utagassen
- 10 Dharma School First Service
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 16 Hoonko Seminar
(Rev. Masao Kodani/Rev. Nobuo Haneda)
- 17 Hoonko Service
(Rev. Masao Kodani/Rev. Nobuo Haneda)
- 24 Auspicious Commemoration Service for Transporting Amida Buddha Statue and Altar for Restoration in Kyoto, Japan
- 31 Installation, New Member Welcoming, & New Year's Party

FEBRUARY

- 6 Special Seminar for 50 Years at Present Betsuin Site
- 7 BWA Kisaragi-ki, Lady Kujo's, & Late Members' Memorial Service
- 14 Nirvana Day
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 21 Scout Sunday

MARCH

- 2-3 BCA Ministers' Meeting in Visalia
- 4-5 BCA National Council Meeting in Visalia
- 12 Surf & Turf Fundraiser
- 13 Girl Scout Sunday
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 19 Spring Higan Seminar
(Rev. Tetsuo Unno/Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara)
- 20 Spring Higan & Rimban-ki Memorial Service
(Rev. Tetsuo Unno/Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara)

APRIL

- 3 Betsuin (Rev. Tesshi Aoyama) & Butsuren Hanamatsuri
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 29-1 FDSTL Conference at Sacramento

MAY

- 8 Mother's Day Service
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 22 Gotan-e & Infant Presentation (Hatsumairi)
(Rev. Yushi Mukojima/Rev. Seikan Fukuma)
- 29 Memorial Day Service
- 30 Memorial Day Hakamairi Service

JUNE

- 6-7 SD Ministers Summer Fuken
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 18 SD Buddhist Conference @ Crown Plaza San Diego

- 19 Father's Day Service
- 26 Graduation & Attendance Award Service

JULY

- 4 Independence Day Betsuin Closed
- 9-10 Obon Carnival, Hatsubon Service, & Odori
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 17 Obon (Rev. Fumiaki Usuki) & Hakamairi Service

AUGUST

- 7 Atomic Bomb Memorial Service
- 16-18 BCA Summer Fuken hosted by Bay District
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service

SEPTEMBER

- 3-4 SD Jr. YBA Conference hosted by LA Betsuin
- 5 Labor Day Betsuin Closed
- 11 Dharma School Registration
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 17 Autumn Higan Seminar
(Rev. Mutsumi Wondra/Rev. Masanori Watanabe)
- 18 Autumn Higan Service
(Rev. Mutsumi Wondra/Rev. Masanori Watanabe)

OCTOBER

- 2 Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorial Service
(Rev. Tomoyuki Hasegawa)
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service

NOVEMBER

- 6 Altar Rededication Service,
85th Anniversary of Betsuin Status, & Betsuin 111th
Anniversary Service (Bishop Kodo Umezu)
- 13 General Sokai Meeting
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 19-20 Eitaikyo Service (Rev. George Matsubayashi)

24-25 Thanksgiving Day Betsuin Closed

DECEMBER

- 4 General Temple Cleanup
- 11 Bodhi Day Service
- 16 Gomeinichi-ko Service
- 18 Oseibo Taikai Appreciation Service
- 25 Holiday Betsuin Closed
- 31 Year End Service

Dates and information is subject to change



WINTER PACIFIC SEMINAR -21ST CENTURY

PRESENTED BY THE INSTITUTE OF BUDDHIST STUDIES & BCA CENTER FOR BUDDHIST EDUCATION



EAST MEETS WEST

Jodo Shinshu from the Higashi and Nishi Perspectives

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2016

9:00 am - 4:00 pm (Doors open at 8:30 am - LA Homba Hongwanji)

THIS SEMINAR TAKES PLACE AT TWO HISTORIC TEMPLES IN LA'S LITTLE TOKYO.

Registration, morning sessions & lunch at LA Homba Hongwanji. Afternoon sessions at Higashi Honganji.

**Los Angeles
Homba Hongwanji
Buddhist Temple**

815 East First Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Higashi
Honganji
Buddhist Temple**

505 East Third Street Los Angeles, CA 90013

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Dr. Mark Blum Japanese Studies, University of California, Berkeley (English/Japanese)

Rev. Henry Adams Resident Minister, San Mateo Buddhist Temple (Japanese/English)

"THE HISTORY OF THE SPLIT" PRESENTED BY:

Rev. David Matsumoto Director, Contemporary Shin Buddhist Studies, IBS (English)

Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara - Co-Director, BCA Center for Buddhist Education (Japanese)

- Panelists for English and Japanese Sessions to be announced -

REGISTRATION: \$40 (Includes lunch) **DEADLINE: JANUARY 21, 2016**

Southern District Temple members: Please register through your temple.

Checks are payable to "SD BEC" Memo: "Winter Pacific Seminar 2016" Mail to LA Homba Hongwanji at the address above.

Contact: Rev. William Briones Email: malik615@msn.com Ph: (213) 680-9130.

General Registration:

Visit : www.BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org for online registration, forms and schedule.

Hosted by the BCA Southern District Ministers Association & Buddhist Education Committee

JANUARY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					Shusho-e New Year's Day Service 10:00 am	Temple Closed
Bon Odori Exercise 8:30 am 3 Family Service 10:00 am Jodo Shinshu for Teens Rev Nakata 11:30-12:15 Kouhaku Utagassen 1:00 pm	4 Rituals Rev. Kodani 7:00-8:30 pm	5	6 Contemporary Issues & Jodo Shinshu Perspective Rimban Briones 7:00-8:30 pm	7 Buddhist & Jodo Shinshu Vocabulary from the Japanese Rev. Kodani 7:00-8:30 pm	8 Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (Japanese) Rev. Nakata 10:00-11:00 am	9 Seeking a Final Solution to Life, Guided by Shinran and... Rev. Unno 10:00-1130 am
Regular Service 10:00 am 10 Dharma School Resumes Jodo Shinshu for Teens Rev Nakata 11:30-12:15	11 Rituals Rev. Kodani 7:00-8:30 pm	12 Bon Odori Exercise 6:30 pm	13 Contemporary Issues & Jodo Shinshu Perspective Rimban Briones 7:00-8:30 pm	14 Board Meeting 7:30 pm	15 Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (Japanese) Rev. Nakata 10:00-11:00 am	16 Ho-onko Seminar 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Bon Odori Exercise 8:30 am 17 Ho-onko Service 10:00 am Jodo Shinshu for Teens Rev Nakata 11:30-12:15	18 Rituals Rev. Kodani 7:00-8:30 pm	19	20 Contemporary Issues & Jodo Shinshu Perspective Rimban Briones 7:00-8:30 pm	21 Buddhist & Jodo Shinshu Vocabulary from the Japanese Rev. Kodani 7:00-8:30 pm	22 Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (Japanese) Rev. Nakata 10:00-11:00 am	23 Seeking a Final Solution to Life, Guided by Shinran and... Rev. Unno 10:00-1130 am
Special Service Onaijin Restoration 10:00 am 24	25	26 Tannisho-A Record in Lament of Divergences Rev Furumoto 7:00-8:30 pm Bon Odori Exercise 6:30 pm	27 Contemporary Issues & Jodo Shinshu Perspective Rimban Briones 7:00-8:30 pm	28 Rituals Rev. Kodani 7:00-8:30 pm	29 Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (Japanese) Rev. Nakata 10:00-11:00 am	30 BCA Winter Pacific Seminar "East Meets West" Higashi and Nishi Perspectives 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
31 Regular Service & Joint Installation 10:00 am New Member & New Year Luncheon @ 11:30 am						

FEBRUARY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Shoshin Nembutsu-ge (Shoshinge) Rev Takata 6:30-7:30 pm	Tannisho-A Record in Lament of Divergences Rev Furumoto 7:00-8:30 pm	Contemporary Issues & Jodo Shinshu Perspective Rimban Briones 7:00-8:30 pm	Rituals Rev. Kodani 7:00-8:30 pm	Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (Japanese) Rev. Nakata 10:00-11:00 am	
Bon Odori Exercise 8:30 am 7 Kisaragi-ki Service 10:00 am Jodo Shinshu for Teens Rev Nakata 11:30-12:15	8 Shoshin Nembutsu-ge (Shoshinge) Rev Takata 6:30-7:30 pm	9 Bon Odori Exercise 6:30 pm	10	11 Board Meeting 7:30 pm	12 Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (Japanese) Rev. Nakata 10:00-11:00 am	13
14 Nirvana Day Service 10:00 am Jodo Shinshu for Teens Rev Nakata 11:30-12:15	15 Shoshin Nembutsu-ge (Shoshinge) Rev Takata 6:30-7:30 pm	16 Go-Meinichi-ko 1:30 pm Tannisho-A Record in Lament of Divergences Rev Furumoto 7:00-8:30 pm	17	18 Rituals Rev. Kodani 7:00-8:30 pm	19 Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (Japanese) Rev. Nakata 10:00-11:00 am	20 Seeking a Final Solution to Life, Guided by Shinran and... Rev. Unno 10:00-11:30 am
Bon Odori Exercise 8:30 am 21 Scout Sunday 10:00 am Jodo Shinshu for Teens Rev Nakata 11:30-12:15	22 Shoshin Nembutsu-ge (Shoshinge) Rev Takata 6:30-7:30 pm	23 Bon Odori Exercise 6:30 pm Tannisho-A Record in Lament of Divergences Rev Furumoto 7:00-8:30 pm	24	25	26 Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (Japanese) Rev. Nakata 10:00-11:00 am	27 Seeking a Final Solution to Life, Guided by Shinran and... Rev. Unno 10:00-11:30 am
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