September 2019

Volume 58 Number 8

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Obon Festival & Bazaar Thank-You

We would like to thank all the Temple members, families, and friends for their help at Obon. We were able to return to our traditional Obon hours, and had a great time in the terrific weather! Without the hard work and dedication of all, we could never put on such a popular and successful event.

We will be holding the **closing Obon meeting on Wednesday, August 28 at 7:30 pm** in the Board Room and hope to see the booth chairs there.

In Gassho,
Jeff Sato, Glenn Kitasoe &
Gary Tahara
2019 Co-chairs

September Highlights

- ***9/8 Sun, 10:00 am***
  - *Shotsuki Hoyo - August & September*

  11:00 am
  - *Japanese Language Service*

  Noon
  - *Welcome Back Luncheon*
- ***9/9 Mon, 7:00 pm***
  - *Tannisho Class*
- ***9/15 Sun, 10:00 am***
  - *Fall Ohigan Service*
    Guest Speaker:
    Rev. Patti Oshita
- ***9/15 Sun, 1:00 pm***
  - *Fall Ohigan Seminar with*
    Rev. Patti Oshita &
    Rev. Bob Oshita
- ***9/29 Sun, 10:00 am***
  - *Sangha Day Picnic at the Temple*

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Perspectives from Graduating High School Seniors

We recognize and celebrate our graduating high school Seniors by printing their Dharma Talks. In this Echo are the last two 2019 Senior Dharma Talks.

Many Communities in My Buddhist Life

By Vicky Shinkawa

Good morning everyone. My name is Vicky Shinkawa. I recently graduated from Homestead High School this past Thursday and I will be attending the University of Washington in the fall where I will be majoring in Chemistry.

This past week has marked the end of large chapter in my life. Seeing many things come to a close, I would like to reflect on where it has started. Unlike most of my peers, I joined the Dharma School in the first grade. Prior to that, my only exposure to the Temple was watching my father and brother leave on Sunday mornings only to return before lunch. I never knew what went on during those three hours every week, but I did find out very quickly that there was free food involved. But when I started the first grade, my

(Continued on page 4)

One Year, But What a Great Year!

By Aili Koga

Thank you for the introduction Mr. Morimoto.

Hi everyone. Good morning. I'm Aili Koga. It's actually kinda funny I just joined Temple this year, so this is my first and last year as a member of YBA. Even though I have only been here for a short amount of time, this year has been so much fun, and such a blessing. My parents aren't Buddhist, but they wanted our family to be close to the Temple because of the community, and enrolled me and my sister into Nakayoshi Gakko and we'd also go to Obon every year. I really enjoyed all the activities here and being able to grow up with everyone. Every summer my sister and I looked forward to Nakayoshi and every time we stepped onto the campus we felt at home and

(Continued on page 6)

september 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**2** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Tannisho Study Class	**3** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**4** 6:00 pm Boy Scouts - Junior Leaders/Parents' Meeting 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:00 pm FPC Meeting 7:30 pm MVBT Choir	**5** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**6**	**7** 5:00 pm Boy Scouts Court of Honor/Dinner
8 9:45 am Dharma School Welcome Back Lunch 10:00 am Shotsuki Hoyo Service & Dharma School 10:30 am Dharma School Parents' Meeting 12:00 pm Miroku 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 12:00 pm YBA General Meeting 12:45 pm Girl Scouts Meeting 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**9** 11:00 am Senior Group Meeting 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	**10** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**11** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir 7:30 pm Temple Board of Directors Meeting	**12** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**13** 5:00 pm Girl Scouts, YBA, YABA 7:30 pm ABA Meeting	**14** **Girl Scouts, YBA, YABA** 9:00 am BWA Meeting
15 10:00 am Fall Ohigan Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**16** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	**17** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**18** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir 7:30 pm MVBT Vision Committee Meeting	**19** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**20**	**21** 12:00 pm YABA BBQ 4:00 pm Sake Social 5:00 pm Dues & Donation Committee
22 10:00 am Sunday Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**23** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	**24** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**25** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir	**26** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**27**	**28** **Sangha Day Picnic Prep**
29 **Sangha Day Picnic** 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**30** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:30 pm RPC Meeting					

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Religious Planning — September 2019

September 8, 2019, Sunday, 10:00 am — Shotsuki Hoyo for August & September

Sunday Services and Dharma School's first day of new school year
Welcome Back Luncheon sponsored by Dharma School

11:00 am Japanese Language Service

September 9, 2019, Monday, 7:00 - 8:30 pm — Monthly Study Class

Rev. Mukojima's monthly study class and resumes through June 2020. Class is based on the Tannisho written by Yuien, who was Shinran's disciple.

September 15, 2019, Sunday, 10:00 am — Fall Ohgan Service

Ohigan: Higan, meaning Other Shore, is a service conducted in the fall on or about the vernal equinox. The practice of the Six Paramitas is emphasized on this occasion.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Patti Oshita

September 15, 2019, Sunday, 1:00 pm — Fall Ohgan Seminar

With **Rev. Bob Oshita** and **Rev. Patti Oshita**

September 22, 2019, Sunday, 1:00 pm — Sunday Service

Dharma School Cabinet and YBA Cabinet Installations

September 29, 2018, Sunday, 10:00 am — Sangha Day Picnic at the Temple

Service in the Hondo

Shotsuki Hoyo Service | **O-asaji (Morning Chanting) - 9:00 am** | **Study Class - 7:00 pm**

Adult Discussion - 11:00 am | **Dharma School - 11:00 am**

The **Mountain View Buddhist Temple** would like to express its heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of:

Dorothy Chikasuye ***Sept 29, 1930 – June 24, 2019***

Dora Sugimoto ***Mar 8, 1926 – July 28, 2019***

May you find comfort in the embrace of Infinite Light and Life,

the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

Namo Amida Butsu — With Kindness and Gratitude beyond words

Many Communities in My Buddhist Life (cont'd)

VICKY SHINKAWA

Homestead High School 2019

Bound for University of Washington

(Continued from page 1)

parents told me that I too would be going to Temple with my brother. Ever since then, the Temple has grown to become more than just a mysterious use of three hours every Sunday, but rather a community that has supported me and guided me throughout much of my adolescence.

Being a part of the Temple has taught me so much about community and our interdependent connections. Before joining YBA, my only exposure to other Jodo Shinshu Buddhist youth was within the walls of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple Hondo. As a freshman, I participated in conferences and mixers, though I didn't really make an effort to meet many YBA members outside of my chapter and district. When I became the representative for the Coast District YBL in my sophomore year, it had been the first step to opening me up to a larger community of Buddhist youth. Since then, I have become closer to the people within my district and have become great friends with the other members.

In the winter of my sophomore year, I followed a small group of my fellow YBA members and attended the Youth Advocacy Committee Summit. The YAC Summit was a sort of leadership conference for YBA leaders to come together and collaborate to improve upon their own chapters as well as help others. This was my first time participating in a YAC event and I was hesitant to branch outside of my chapter. Over the weekend I had met high schoolers who had such different life experiences than I did, but we all bonded over our shared passion for YBA. Attending YAC summit had changed my perception of what YBA meant to me. It was no longer just a group of 20 kids who met every month in the Board Room, but rather it was an organization that connected these high school students through Jodo Shinshu Buddhism regardless of who they were or where they came from.

After having such a positive experience at the YAC summit, I decided to apply and attend the YAC summer retreat. Many members of MVYBA had attended this retreat over the years, but each of their experiences were unique so I had no idea what to expect. To my surprise, I reconnected with those who attended the YAC summit as well as other conferences I attended, but I also met people from all over, from Orange County to Washington to Idaho. We kept in contact over the years and still do today, even as we go off to college and beyond. YAC taught me that these can really change someone's life by providing a community of supportive people that truly transcend barriers of long distance.

Recently, I attended the Jr. YBA leadership conference where I met various attendees of the Buddhist Youth Retreat. As we went through the conference, we traded stories between the two retreats. Though the activities and events we described were different, I realized that there was a strong similarity that we shared. These retreats gave us an opportunity to meet with other youth and use Buddhism as a bridge to connect us to a larger supportive community as a whole. My experience at all of these great youth events was something that I wanted to share with the delegates at the CD conference. I wanted those attending to connect through these shared experiences together that would expand their own personal YBA community. From small things like the silly ice-breaker activities to the deeper themes of the workshops, I really wanted to focus on creating and developing these strong connections. Through the planning process of the CD conference, I realized how much work and effort was required to create events like these. From conferencers, to mixers to retreats, all of these needed the full support and efforts of so many people.

Looking back and reflecting on all of these years at the Temple, I realize how lucky I am to be able to be a part of this community and to have its support for all of my endeavours and activities that I have participated in. Through the support of the Temple, I was able to have so many wonderful and life changing experiences such as the YAC Retreat, join Oasaji, meet Girl Scouts in Japan and participate in activities such as Obon and Mochitsuki.

I think that in high school it is easy to become very self-focused as you are trying to make yourself the best possible candidate for colleges. There is a tendency to forget that there's a whole community outside of your own personal bubble. Through the Temple, I was able to connect with a vast and supportive group of people that helped me develop a deeper understanding of the concept of interdependence, that no one is truly alone on this earth.

I would like to conclude my talk by thanking Sensei for his constant support and guidance, whether that be through the

(Continued on page 5)

Many Communities in My Buddhist Life (cont'd)

Vicky Shinkawa

(Continued from page 4)

Padma Program, or the YBA or Oasaji Practice and every other endeavour in between. I will forever be thankful for all that you have done for me these past years.

I would also like to thank the Dharma School teachers for their help and efforts. You all made learning about Buddhism such a memorable and treasured experience. I appreciate all of the creativity and hard work that was put into these past 12 years to make learning outside of school so much fun.

I would like to thank the Girl Scout Troop and the leaders. Through Girl Scouts I was able to take advantage of the many opportunities presented to me. From the Padma Program to the trip to Japan in my sophomore year, these valuable experiences have shaped me into the person that I am today. I am so thankful for the Girl Scout leaders for all of their efforts and guidance over these past 12 years. You all have been such strong and empowering role models for me and helped shape me into the person I am today.

I would also like to acknowledge the YBA and the Coast District YBL. In high school, it is easy to narrow your focus on yourself to be concerned about your grades or your extracurriculars or your wants. But being in YBA really takes me from that "me" to "we" mindset. Through activities like volleyball tournaments to spaghetti dinner to conferences, it really opened me up to a community outside of myself. I have made lifelong friends through the YBA and CDYBL that I will treasure for a long time. I would also like to thank the YBA advisors for all that they have done these past four years whether that be guiding us through planning a full on conference or confirming another email draft. You all have put in an above and beyond effort into making all of our YBA experiences truly memorable. I would also like to thank the past YBA members, without the hard work and efforts of you all the current YBA would not be able to do any of the activities that it does today from the Disneyland trip to spaghetti dinner to conferences. I would especially like to thank Maddie Matusmoto and Jordyn Sato. You two have helped me so much these past four years, being there for me and guiding me through high school.

I would like to acknowledge the YAC program and the Oasaji group. Being connected to YAC was a life changing experience that connected me to generations of Buddhists from all over the country. Through the YAC program, I was able to become a YMA and join the Oasaji group. I remember hearing about the 9 am start time to practice chanting (of all things) and that was definitely a hard one for me. But now, I have no regrets joining the Oasaji group. Even though it means waking up an hour earlier, I enjoy my time spent here with them. I am so grateful to Sensei for allowing me, Stacey, Evan and Mitchell to come up on the Onaijin and help lead chanting, and Mr. Nakano for guiding the Oasaji group.

I'd especially like to thank a few people here who have made my time here at the Temple special. Even though they aren't here I would like to thank Kailey and Brandon for their support. They were my co-chairs for the CD Conference this past March, but it has really extended past that to become a lifelong friendship. I would also like to thank Aili and Lauren for being great friends these past years. You have made Dharma School and YBA such a fun and memorable experience for me. I would also like to express my gratitude to Caitlen. Caitlen has become one of my closest friends over the years. She is always such a positive presence in my life. She is one of those friends that you know every time you hang out, it's going to be a great time. Whenever I see Caitlen's face in the back of the Hondo during service, it always makes me so happy no matter what happened over the week.

I would like to thank the Sangha for their support. Without all of you I would not be able to stand up here today and have the opportunity to do all that I have done over these past 12 years. The Sangha has been such a nurturing and encouraging community that I will be eternally grateful to have in my life. I would especially like to thank the women of the Sangha for their guidance and support during my time here. The women of this Temple are such great role models and leaders who constantly inspire me to become a better person everyday.

I would like to finally thank my family. My parents have done so much for me so that I am able to pursue my interests. I will never be able to pay them back for what they have sacrificed over the past 17 years and beyond. I would like to thank them for their support and encouragement to push myself and try new things. I would like to thank them for giving me countless rides to and from church, forcing me to read announcements in front of the congregation and always being there for me. I would like to thank my brother, without him forging the way I would not be able to have the courage to do any of the things I have done these past four years, from attending the YAC Retreat to chairing the CD conference.

One Year, But What a Great Year! (cont'd)

AILI KOGA

Mountain View High School 2019

Bound for Foothill College

(Continued from page 1)

comfortable. Unfortunately, I didn't attend the last year of Nakayoshi Gakko because by the end of middle school I was having trouble with my energy and just feeling very sick and weak. So, I spent the next couple years focusing more on school and resting. It wasn't until I met Caitlen during the summer of freshman year that I started thinking about the Temple again. We met at a camp and found out we went to the same school. When she told me, she was also Japanese and part of the Temple, I was like "What!" and got super excited. Over the next two years she told me about YBA and described what it was about. I really liked the idea of Buddhism, and the activities were appealing. I was sold and finally decided to join the summer of junior year.

The first day here I was really nervous. I knew very little about Buddhism, and hadn't seen everyone for a while. I realized that, even though we would oshoko back in the Nakayoshi days, I had completely forgotten how to do it. Filled with nervousness, I looked for familiar faces in the pews and was pleasantly surprised. Evan was the first to greet me and Kylie showed me the pages the chants were on. When we went to oshoko, Caitlen went before me, so I would know what to do. I instantly felt so much better. I remembered what I liked about the Temple community. Everyone is very welcoming and supportive.

Over the past year I feel like I've gathered enough information to understand the essence of this philosophy. This is thanks not only to Sensei and his sermons, but also to you, the Sangha. I've learned that Buddhism is all about love and acceptance. It cherishes relationships over materialistic things. I especially like the idea of impermanence; the idea that things are inconstant and temporary. At first, this thought made me really sad. I didn't like the idea that the relationships that I have and the things that I've gained over the years are only temporary. However, after more thinking and listening to more sermons, I began to realize the truth of this belief. If you accept impermanence in your life, you begin to cherish every single moment and every single experience. Every hardship, every good thing that's ever happened, become tools that help you grow and guide you through your life. Isn't this why we enjoy Sakura so much? They're only here for a moment, but the experience always stays with you as a pleasant memory.

I've only been part of YBA for a short while, but despite this, this experience will always be an important, and treasured memory. I learned what community was here. Everyone here is so welcoming and supportive, and it feels very nice to be a part of something bigger. Being a part of this group, you really start to understand what it means to be one in many. When Sensei first introduced this topic, I didn't quite understand what it meant. He introduced this idea as "non-self" and I believe it was explained to be the idea that we do not exist as separate beings but as a whole together. This didn't quite make sense to me.

I felt like you could only really understand yourself, and that your actions, words, and thoughts were ultimately for you. It actually didn't hit me until I watched everyone set up and clean up for the spaghetti dinner. At the end of the event, not just the people who set the dinner up, but EVERYBODY came together to help clean. Each person would grab their chair, pick up all the gomi around them and clean their area and help their neighbors. If somebody spilled their drink or food, all the people around them would immediately get up and help wipe up the mess. Something I'll never be able to forget is when we put up the chairs. The guys will go to the bottom of the stage in the Sangha Hall and roll out the really heavy container thingy. Then everybody quickly gets into a single file line and wait to be dealt a chair. The whole process takes at most 20 minutes. It's such a small thing, but for some reason, it really hit home for me. Each person was their individual self, but we were able to accomplish the task as efficiently as we did because of the collective whole. Not one person could have done it by themselves. It makes one realize the importance of working together and being considerate of one another. Once we realize that we're all part of the same picture is when we can really start accomplishing great things and have fun.

Finally, I would like to say how grateful and appreciative I am for the Temple and the people gathered here. I'm so glad I got to reconnect with everyone and see how we've all grown and matured. I'm glad I came back because I got to meet Vicky again, somebody I remember from when we were younger, but got closer to this year.

Before I finish, I'd also like to thank my parents for all their support and unconditional love that they've given me. All the things that I admire about everyone here, I've realized they've been doing for me my whole life. Thank you for being so sweet, and considerate, for always putting my sister and I before yourselves. I couldn't say thank you enough. I love you.

Fundamentals of Jodo Shinshu Workbook

By Victoria Shinkawa

My name is Victoria Shinkawa and earlier this year I created a workbook that focused on the fundamental teachings of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. This workbook was created as part of my Girl Scout Gold Award. I have been a Girl Scout at Mountain View Buddhist Temple for the past 12 years. I had the idea to create this workbook after using the "Introduction to Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu" booklet, created by Courtney Kashiwagi. I wanted to build off of the basic teachings she introduced in her workbook and bring a deeper connection from the teachings to the user.

This workbook was originally intended to serve as a learning tool for future Padma Girl Scouts and other Dharma School students, but it can also be read by anyone else interested in learning more about Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and wants to explore how Buddhist teachings can be applied to their personal lives. The workbook is formatted as a series of chapters that can be used all together or as an individual lesson.

In addition to designing this workbook, I also coordinated a High School Youth Interfaith Forum. The event brought together many high-school aged, religious youth across a variety of denominations, including participants from our very own MVYBA. I would like to thank those who participated in the event and helped set up for the event. I would also like to thank and acknowledge the help and wisdom of my various advisors throughout this whole project, without them this workbook would not have been possible.

I have created a Google website to house a digital (PDF) version of the Fundamentals of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism Workbook. The full workbook can be found there as well as each individual chapter. This website can also be found on the Mountain View Buddhist Temple website under the 'Our Teachings' tab.

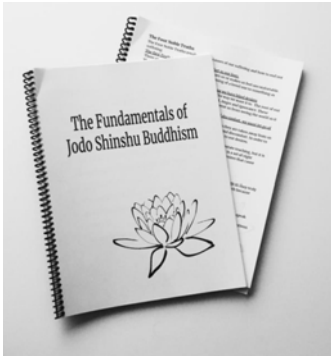
The link to the website is

https://sites.google.com/view/jodo-shinshu-fundamentals/home

or

https://bit.ly/2yYLbWh

In Gassho



MVBT Taiko Update

The MVBT Taiko kids and adult groups performed at the Obon Festival & Bazaar on Saturday and Sunday. The Obon Festival & Bazaar is our final performance and the highlight of our year!

In their very first Obon Festival performance, the younger Kohai class performed "Renshu" with the older Kohai students accompanying them on *odaiko*. The older Kohai and Senpai classes performed an energetic piece called "Doko Kara." And the Senpai class also performed "Aces Full," which was composed by one of our MVBT Taiko instructors! Our first-year adults performed a piece called "Matsuri," which literally means "festival." And our experienced adult group put together an original and fun piece called "MVBT Funk," which incorporated well known beats from popular music.

Thank you to all who came out to enjoy our performances! And thank you to our wonderful instructors who dedicate so much time and energy to teach us and share their love of taiko with us!

We will be starting our new session of Taiko in September, and will be holding our "Taste of Taiko" event for interested Dharma School kids (age 7 or older) and adults on Sunday, September 22 at 12:00 noon. Please contact Ashley Uyehara at taikocoord@mvbuddhisttemple.org if you are interested in learning Taiko.

Mountain View Buddhist Temple YBA

Hot Dog Booth and YBA members working in the booth

YBA Activities

YBA Obon Hot Dog Booth

Thank you to all of our YBA members and parents who worked at our Obon Hot Dog booth this year! Our deepest gratitude goes to our parent volunteers, **Mrs. Debbie Sato**, **Mrs. Betty Hamasaki** and **Mrs. Pauline Shinkawa**, who have chaired the YBA's Obon booth for three years now!

College YBA Dana Leadership and Life Skills Retreat, BCA Summer Youth Retreat, BCA CBE Mini Youth Retreat, Young Buddhist International Cultural Study Exchange (YBICSE)

A special thank you to the Board of Directors for sponsoring our members' attendance at these retreats as well as YBICSE. We are truly grateful for your continued support of our youth programs!

CDYBL Summer Activity

We had nine of our members join other Coast District chapters at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk on August 10. It was a day of FUN swimming at the beach, riding rides at the Boardwalk and enjoying a friendly game of miniature golf! Thank you to Salinas YBA for organizing this event for the Coast District chapters and for providing lunch. The day ended with twenty of us returning to the Tsukahara's for a pool party until late that evening where we said our "good-byes" to many of our graduating seniors. Thank you to our parent drivers/chaperones: **Mr. Craig Hamasaki**, **Mr. Brent Izutsu** and **Mr. Garret Higa**.

CCYBL Volleyball Mixer

Eleven of our YBA members participated in the Central Cal Jr. YBA Volleyball Mixer on Labor Day weekend. Thank you to our drivers, **Mr. Craig Hamasaki**, **Mrs. Debbie Ho** and **Mrs. Tracey Mukoyama** for giving up their 3-day weekend to accompany our group to Fresno.

Best wishes to our YBA Cabinet 2019-2020

Please join me in congratulating and supporting our new YBA President, **Stacey Kawabata** and her 2019-2020 cabinet. I wish Stacey and her cabinet the very best during their upcoming term as leaders of the Temple's youth group.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation

Since this will be my last Echo article as YBA President, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the YBA Advisors, the Temple Board, and our Temple members for their continued support and guidance. It is with mixed feelings that I say "good-bye" to my home Temple as I step into the next chapter of my life at Cal Poly SLO.

In Gassho,
Evan Tsukahara
2018 - 2019 YBA President

Adult Buddhist Association

ABA News

OBON FESTIVAL & BAZAAR

Big thanks to the ABA members who participated in the 2019 Obon Festival & Bazaar – we were everywhere!

Chicken Booth with long lines

The Chicken Teriyaki Booth was well staffed and members worked as well-oiled teams. Members also helped with other booths: Beef Teriyaki, Yakisoba and Corn on the Cob. They staffed the Dining Room and helped with preparation of manju and strawberry shortcake. Those with musical talent played with the Taiko Group and danced during the odori. When we needed a rest and some snacks and drinks, the "cABAna" was the central spot.

Relaxing in the "cABAna"

Thanks again to everyone.

With Kindness and Gratitude beyond words,
Jean Shimoguchi
ABA President

Voice Workshop with Yoko Fujimoto

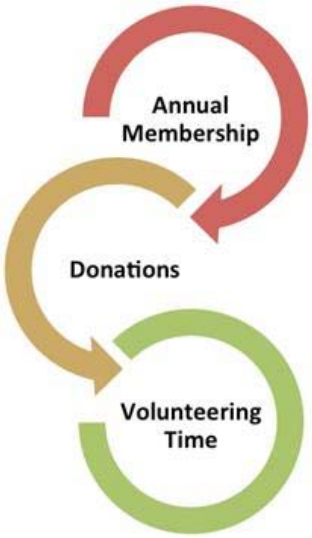
On Wednesday July 10, the Mountain View Buddhist Temple Taiko along with members of the MVBT choir came together to take a workshop from **Yoko Fujimoto** of the KODO Group. As a Distinguished Member of KODO, (which means she has been with the company from its inception in 1981 to present time), Yoko now travels all over the world to teach and perform songs that are dear to her heart. Yoko is also the lyricist of the song ***Ei Ja Nai Ka?***, which was composed by **PJ Hirabayashi** of San Jose Taiko.

Due to fortunate timing and Yoko's desire to come to the Bay Area during Obon season, this year we were able to schedule a workshop with her to learn how to sing ***Ei Ja Nai Ka?*** in preparation for MVBT's own Obon Festival and Bazaar dance!

Thank you to our participants who prepared a yummy reception for after the workshop, to **Amy Arakaki** for her awesome photos, and, of course, to Yoko for a workshop that all of our participants enjoyed.

Yoko Fujimoto teaching

Attendees at Workshop



Dues & Donation Committee

The Dues and Donations Committee is sponsoring its 2nd Sake Social.

The social offers opportunities for friends to gather and have fun. It also creates opportunities to make new friends and networks.

Join us. Everyone is welcome.

SAKE SOCIAL

It is FREE for Temple members who join in 2019.

The Sake Social will be held on Saturday, September 21, from 7:00 – 9:00 pm in the Sangha Hall at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. Childcare will be provided in YBA Hall.

To purchase tickets, go to the online site:

tinyurl.com/mvbtsake19

The cost is $30 for each current MVBT member and $40 per each non-MVBT member. And, FREE for New Members joining in 2019.

If you have any questions, please contact **Susan Yuen**, **Glenn Kitasoe** or **Steve Tsuchida**.

SAKE SOCIAL

FREE

to 2019 New Temple Members

Fall Ohigan Seminar with the Oshitas

On Sunday, September 15, the Mountain View Buddhist Temple will host a Fall Ohigan Seminar. The guest speakers will be the husband and wife team of **Rev. Patti Oshita** and **Rev. Bob Oshita**, both retired ministers of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento.

Please join us at the seminar in the YBA Hall.

BACKGROUND

Rev. Bob Oshita served as the Chaplain of the California State Assembly in 2017 – 2018 with Rev. Patti Oshita as the Alternate Chaplin. For 2019 and 2020, they have reversed roles. Rev. Patti Oshita is now the Chaplin and Rev. Bob Oshita is the Alternate Chaplin. They are the first chaplains to be appointed together as husband and wife for the California State Assembly.

They express the Buddhist Teachings to the State Assembly members without using Buddhist terms. At the opening of each State Assemby meeting, the Oshitas present a "Moment of Reflection." Below is an example.

Moment of Reflection

May 4, 2017 at the opening of the California State Assembly

Please join me in a Moment of Reflection

For me, the beginning of every month of May, now reminds me of a May 1st day from over 20 years ago. I recall feeling a little irritated with myself, for I had to return home to retrieve something I had forgotten. During that brief moment home, my doorbell rang in three quick bursts. Rather than walk down the hall to the door, I looked out the front window to see who it might be. To my dismay, I saw a young child running as fast as he could from my doorstep and across the lawn. He was rejoining with his classmates who were walking in pairs down the block with their teacher leading the way. Lisbon Elementary School was right across the street.

I thought to myself, "That teacher should keep a closer watch over her class! And they shouldn't be playing pranks like that!"

Only that evening when I returned home did I notice on the handle of our front door was a handmade, crepe paper basket, filled with now-wilted flowers. There was a note that read, "Happy May Day! From Julio - Mrs. Robinson's 2nd Grade Class."

Although over two decades have past, the memory of Julio's May Day Flowers still brings a smile to my face; and continues to remind me that there is much pure goodness in the World; and I must try to refrain from judging, criticizing and coming to conclusions too quickly.

Wishing for us all such a Happy May Day…and month of May

Namo Amida Butsu – Let us live with Kindness and Gratitude beyond words.

Donate Your IRA Minimum Distribution Directly to the Temple and Avoid Taxes

If you are 70 ½ years or older, you can take advantage of a simple way to benefit the Mountain View Buddhist Temple and receive tax benefits for yourself.

Benefits of an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution

- Satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year
- Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions
- Help further the work and mission of Mountain View Buddhist Temple

How an IRA Charitable Rollover Gift Works

1. Contact your IRA plan administrator to make a gift from your IRA to the Temple (Your IRA administrator must make the distribution directly to the Temple).
2. Please note that IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions do not qualify for a charitable deduction.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions about an IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions, please contact us at treasurer@mvbuddhisttemple.org. We would be happy to assist you and answer any questions you might have.

The above information is not intended as legal or tax advice. Please contact your attorney or tax advisor for further details on making an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution.

Volume 58 Number 8

MVBT Sangha Day Picnic

Sunday, September 29 to be held at the MVBT Sangha Hall, 575 N. Shoreline Blvd.

*** PLEASE NOTE THIS YEAR'S PICNIC LOCATION ***

ALOHA, all Temple members, affiliated organizations and their families. Zone 12 invites you all to attend this year's Sangha Day Picnic to be held at the MVBT Sangha Hall. Yes, the location has changed this year, so please make note of it!

The annual picnic is held in appreciation of all our members and for the countless hours they all spend making MVBT the best Temple in the BCA, or for that matter the best Temple in the world!

Imagine you're basking in the sunshine, on your favorite beach, with Mai Tai in hand. That's a good way to describe this year's picnic! In true ALOHA spirit, Zone 12 will be featuring some new twists on the traditional Sangha Day Picnic menu (but it's a surprise).

Picnic at MVBT Sangha Hall

10:00 am ..... Short Service in the Hondo
11:00 am ..... Activities:

- Children's activities (YBA)
- Fly tying demonstration (MVBT Fishing Club)
- Monkey bridge (Boy Scouts)

12:00 noon ..... Lunch
1:30 pm ..... BINGO
2:30 pm ..... Raffle – Must be present to win

A representative from your zone or affiliated organization will contact you for a head count and for your potluck assignment. Each zone and affiliated organization will be assigned a potluck category.

If you have not been contacted by September 15, please call Doug/Phyllis Sawamura at 650-428-1994.

Come join us in celebrating and honoring our Seniors

SAVE THE DATE

Keiro Kai Luncheon

Sunday, November 17, 2019
12 Noon

Invitations will be mailed out to all Temple members

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA Activities

CONDOLENCES

BWA extends our deepest condolences to the families of Dorothy Chikasuye and Dora Sugimoto. Both Dorothy and Doe were long-time members and will truly be missed.

OBON FESTIVAL & BAZAAR

At the Obon Festival and Bazaar, our ladies were in charge of the

Sushi Combo's, Udon and Otsuke-mono. We were very happy that all sold out. Thank you to our members for your hard work.

WBWC

Please watch for our next month's article for the World Buddhist Women's Conference update and pictorial.

DONATIONS

Donations gratefully accepted:

Derek and Natalie Ives - For WBWC

Dora Sugimoto – Special

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, September 14, 2019, at 9:00 am in the YBA Hall.

MVBT Seniors Activities and Crafts

* * * * *

Resumes on Thursday, September 5

Seniors Activities & Crafts Program

We will start the Senior Activities and Craft on Thursday, September 5. Please join us on this date.

UPCOMING ACTIVITY

October 16, Wednesday: This is a day trip planned to Black Oak Casino. Call **Chuck Uyeda** to sign up for the day trip. Cost is $40. Ask your friends to join us and don't be left out. Sign up as soon as possible. More information will be provided.

COOKBOOKS

We will be selling our Senior Cook Book for $15, a special and perfect gift you should not want to miss. They are available at the Temple office or from any of the committee members.

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

9:00 am to 12:00 noon. **Debbie Kitani** has been very helpful with the Senior Craft Class every Thursday morning, showing the ladies many new ideas in knitting and different crafts. Please support Debbie with any ideas in craft for our upcoming events.

9:15 am to 10:00 am. Learn line dancing instructed by **Reiko Kameda, Reiko Tsuchida** and **Toshiko Uyehara**. A fun thing to do to start your day

10:00 am to 10:45 am. Join **Kinji Ushiba** with the "Sing Along Group."

10:45 am to 11:00 am. Following the Sing Along, a chair exercise as you sing along, led by **Julie Ushiba**. What better way to start your day, with a light chair exercise.

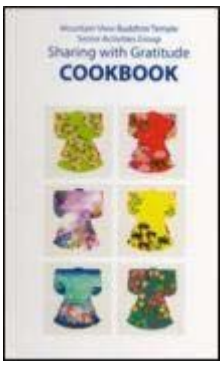
11:15 am to 11:45 am. Taiko Drums. This is great mentally for rhythm, timing, and balance; and, it's fun doing the Taiko drums with friends. Join the group and enjoy.

SENIOR HOURS

Every Thursday,
9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Light refreshment of coffee, tea and desserts are always provided. Everyone is welcome to join us to share new ideas and to make new friends.

In Gassho,
Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto



Cookbook for $15

Dharma School News

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer! The new school year is upon us, and I look forward to seeing all of our Dharma School families when Dharma School resumes on Sunday, September 8.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Obon Festival & Bazaar

Special thanks goes to **Janell Tao** and **Cheryl Shay** for chairing the Duck Pond and Grab Bag booths and **Tricia Hojo** for chairing the Shooting Gallery booth. Thank you to **Julie Uyekubo** for coordinating the booth volunteer sign-ups, **April Kabasinskas** for coordinating the Dharma School displays, and **Ashley Uyehara** for coordinating the volunteers who helped to clear the furniture from all of the Dharma School classrooms, Sangha Hall Game Room, YBA Hall, and Hondo for the annual floor refinishing and deep cleaning. And a big thank you to all of the Dharma School families who volunteered throughout Obon and supported our Temple community. Obon is a tangible reminder of the Buddhist lessons in impermanence and gratitude, but it is an active demonstration of interdependence on so many levels. It really takes our entire community to host our community event.

Dharma School Booths

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dharma School Parents' Meeting

The Dharma School Parents' Meeting will be held immediately after service on September 8 while the students are in their classes. We will provide an overview of the Dharma School program and hold sign-ups for the volunteer roles throughout the 2019-20 academic year.

Welcome Back Lunch

Dharma School invites the Sangha to join us for a Welcome Back Lunch on September 8. The lunch will be held in Sangha Hall after Dharma School class.

We Need You!

There is a critical need for a Parent Coordinator for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. ***Please consider signing up for this essential role.*** The Dharma School Cabinet is also in need of an Assistant Superintendent and is beginning the search for new Cabinet members. Please contact Brent Izutsu <brent.izutsu@gmail.com> if you are interested in learning more.

In Gassho,
Brent Izutsu
Dharma School Superintendent

Dharma School

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736

NEW YEAR STARTS

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736 will begin their new year on Sept 16 by welcoming girls and leaders to re-dedicate themselves to the Girl Scout program. This year we welcome back 15 girls to our Troop.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Over the summer, the Girl Scouts and their families ran the Drinks Booth once again at the Obon Festival & Bazaar.

Eight of our MVBT Troop Scouts participated in the 2019 National Scouting Obon Odori patch program.

Drinks Booth

LEADERS THIS YEAR

Brownies:
Debbie Ho &
Jill Nishimoto

Cadettes:
Joy Watanabe

Seniors/Ambassadors :
Joan Aoki &
Patty Sakuma

We look forward to a new year of fun activities, learning and growth.

MIROKU

middle school group

Miroku

OBON / BAZAAR

Our final meeting of the school year was in June, but Miroku was still active during the summer. On Saturday, July 13, members gathered outside the warehouse to help sort prizes for the Shooting Gallery at Obon. Students (and parents) organized prizes according to level and what day they would be available to win. The following Saturday, July 20 members arrived two hours before Obon opened and set up the booth. Once the Shooting Gallery was in operation, students were able to "hang out" behind the booth to rest their feet and have a cold drink or snack. A huge thank you to both **Tricia and Dave Hojo** for organizing and operating the Shooting Gallery!

Organizing Prizes for Shooting Gallery

Shooting Gallery

NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Now that the new school year is upon us, Miroku will hold its first general meeting on Sunday, Sept. 8 at noon (Sangha Hall Classroom 3 – across from bathrooms). All middle school aged students 6th through 8th Grade are welcome to join. At this meeting we will give a brief intro as to what Miroku is all about and what we do. We will also talk about any thoughts the kids might have regarding the operation of the Shooting Gallery. Finally, we'll conduct our monthly AED check in the YBA Hall and Sangha Hall, and teach the incoming 6th Graders what this Temple service activity entails.

PARENT ADVISORS NEEDED

Once again, if there are any parents who are interested in becoming Miroku Parent Advisors, please let us know. This is a wonderful opportunity to engage with these kids who are all incredibly thoughtful and eager to help out. And, don't worry if this is your first time being a parent advisor, we're here to show you the ropes. It's truly a collaborative effort!

In Gassho,
Miroku Parent Advisors

Namo Amida Butsu: "With kindness and gratitude beyond words."

150 Club News

Our winner for July is **Kimi Kitasoe**.

Congratulations to our winner and thank you for participating in the 150 Club!

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo Article Deadline	Echo Print & Mail
SEPT	Zones 8 & 9	N / A	N / A
OCT	Zones 10 & 11	Sept 13 (Fri)	Sept 18 (Wed)
NOV	Zones 12 & 13	Oct 11 (Fri)	Oct 16 (Wed)

Please note the article deadline and printing dates. This will provide time to layout, proof and finalize the issue. Thank you. *Domo Arigato.*

THANK YOU!

2019 OBON FESTIVAL & BAZAAR COMMITTEE

THANK YOU!

2019 OBON FESTIVAL & BAZAAR COMMITTEE

Thank You to All of the 2019 "Obon Bazaar Sponsors"

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple thanks all of our donors, who donated cash and merchandise, to the 2019 Obon Festival and Bazaar. With your support, we make a better place.

Rev Yushi, Mika Mukojima & Family
Anonymous (4)
Margaret Abe
Marcus & Debbie Aiu
Kiyoshi & Hiroko Aoyagi
Nathan Aquino & Cynthia Hiroshige
Eric & Amy Arakaki
John & Lois Arao
John & Chau Arima
Russell & Phyllis Chan
Dorothy Chikasuye
Ricky Chu
RAYCO Painting
Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary
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Sherri Cusimano
Tim & Jennifer Sahara Dalbec
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Brian & Grace Lee
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Aly Makishima
David & Candice Maruyama
Yoshito & Tomiko Maruyama
Toshiko Masaki
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Alfred & Atsuko Matsuki
Edith Matsumoto
Millie Matsumoto
Peter & Shirley Matsumoto
Robert Matsumoto & Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto
In Memory of John Matsumoto
Lolly Mayeda
In Memory of Shizuko Grace Mayeda
Tom & Aiko Sugimoto-Miya-moto
Yosuke Mizuhara
Bruce & Joy Morimoto
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Clark Nakamura
Ken & Mieko Nakano
Russell & Judy Nakano
Julie Nakatani & Ikebana Students
Allan Nara
Clifford & Irene Nishimoto
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Craig & Kimiyo Nishimura
Lucy Nomura
Mariko Nomura
Harry & Jeanne Ohara
Norman & Tamie Ogawa
Rodney & Irene Okimoto
Joyce Okumura Lee
In Memory of Ichitaro & John Okumura Families
Masae Okuno
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Allen & Linda Sasaki
Go & Kay Sasaki
Jeff & Jean Sato
Norm & Adele Sato
In Memory of Kay & Setsuko

Thank You

on behalf of

The MVBT

and

The Obon Festival & Bazaar Committee

ありがとう
ございました！

Thank You to All of the 2019 "Obon Bazaar Sponsors" (contd)

Arigato Gozaimashita!

Ikeuye
Randy & Debbie Sato
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Ray & Jo Ann Yokoyama
Kazuyo Yonemoto
In Memory of Fred & Yuki Yonemoto
Kiyoshi & Joan Yoshinaka
Edna Yoshino
Edna Yukawa
June Yusa

2019 Bazaar's Home Craft Booth — Thank You

The Home Craft Booth would like to thank all the many donors who have donated their many hand-made craft items as well as many used items to the Home Craft Booth at this year's Obon Festival & Bazaar, our biggest fundraiser for the year.

Thank you to our Donors:

Judy Nakano
Nancy Yoneda
Phyllis Chan
Lori Kitasoe
Taye Kurashige
Colleen Kobashigawa
Lucy Nomura
Irene Uchiyama
Marla Yonamine
Haruye Hoshi
Colleen Choy
Judy Kato
Debbie Kitani
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Diane Umemoto
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Toshiko Uyehara
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Keiko Morita
Naomi Ariyama
Hiroko Kohaya
Keiko Wakayama
Kay Sasaki
Mayumi Thibodeaux
Shari Yamaji
Cindy Sakuma
Anonymous donors

We also want to thank all those who help set up the booth, man the booth and pack the unsold items.

Haruye Hoshi
Miyo Yamanaga
Sandy Enomoto
Suzanne Nakashima
Jeanne Ohara
Toshiko Uyehara
Megan Ohara
Donna Federspiel
Natalie Ives
Derek Ives
Don Swartwood
Jeannette Ingalls
Nanine Seratto
Marla Yonamine

In Gassho,
2019 Home Craft Booth

Volume 58 Number 8

August & September Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial Service)

The Shotsuki (Monthly Memorial) Services are conducted and sponsored by the Temple in memory of the past members and their family members who have passed away during a given month. It is not meant to be a substitute for families to observe their Family Memorial Service for their loved ones. The **August & September** Shotsuki loved ones are:

Kent Abe	**Itsume Kawamoto**	**Kin'ichi Okuno**
George Abey	**Shina Kinaga**	**Toshiko Okuno**
Jean Abey	**Sumiye Kito**	**Chiyo Ozawa**
Thomas Arakaki	**Albert Kobayashi**	**Haruno Saito**
Masataro Fujii	**Toshio Kochi**	**Harry Sakae**
Helen Fukuma	**John Kondo**	**Warren Sakae**
Masao Fukumoto	**Kazuo Kurashige**	**Kitao Sakai**
Dorothy Furuichi	**Chiyomi Masuda**	**Miyuki Sakano**
Masuo Hamada	**Helen Matsuba**	**James Satake**
Hiroshi Haruta	**Haru Matsuzaki**	**Shimano Satake**
Mary Haruta	**Kazuo Mayeda**	**George M. Sato**
Ronald Higaki	**Yoshino Miyamoto**	**Koma Shinke**
Akira Hiroshige	**Keiko Mizuhara**	**Hisayo Shinta**
Matsujiro Hiroshige	**Kiyoko Muranaka**	**Nancy Irene Smith**
Minoru Hiroshige	**Kakuemon Nagasaki**	**Susan Haruta Stokes**
Takeshi Hori	**John Nagatoishi**	**Hiroshi Sugimoto**
Minoru Horino	**Toshio Nakagawa**	**Sam Sugimoto**
Edith Hoshi	**Edward Nakano**	**Dora Suzuki**
Aya Ichinaga	**Janice Nakashima**	**George Takaki**
Misaye Ikebe	**Magoji Nakashima**	**Michiko Takehara**
George Ikemiya	**Alice Nishimura**	**June Tokunaga**
Akira Inamori	**Tomisaburo Oda**	**Jack Tsuchida**
Atsushi Inouye	**Frank Ogata**	**Nobuko Tsuchida**
Gregory Inamori	**Iyano Ogawa**	**Hiro Tsukimura**
Kiyoye Inouye	**Chieko Okamoto**	**Yukiye Watanabe**
Asa Ishimaru	**Mineko Okamoto**	**Tom Yamaji**
Satoshi Ishimaru	**Stanley Okamura**	**Noriko Yanaba**
George Izumi	**Alfred Okubo**	**Akio Yamamoto**
Kimiko Kashima	**Tsuyo Okumura**	**Yumi Yokoo**
Shigeo Kashima	**Albert Okuno**	**Totaro Yoshida**

If a name has been inadvertently left off or you would like to add a family member to the Mountain View Buddhist Temple list of Shotsuki names, please contact Rev. Mukojima.

E-mail **ymukojima@gmail.com**
Phone (Temple office) **(650) 964-9426**

August & September

Monthly

Memorial

Service

Sunday

September 8, 2019

10:00 am

Upcoming Shotsuki Hoyo Services

October
October 6, 2019

November
November 3, 2019

December
November 24, 2019
NOTE: This is one weeks early

october 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**2** 6:00 pm Boy Scouts - Junior Leaders/Parents' Meeting 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir	**3** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 7:30 pm MVBT Calendar Planning Meeting 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**4**	**5**
6 10:00 am Shotsuki Hoyo Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Miroku 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 12:00 pm YBA General Meeting 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**7** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Tannisho Study Class	**8** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**9** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir 7:30 pm Temple Board of Directors Meeting	**10** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**11** 7:30 pm ABA Meeting	**12** 9:00 am BWA Meeting
13 10:00 am ABA & Bishop Memorial Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 12:45 pm Girl Scouts Meeting 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**14** 11:00 am Senior Group Meeting 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	**15** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**16** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir	**17** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**18**	**19**
20 10:00 am Sunday Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**21** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	**22** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**23** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir	**24** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**25**	**26** 4:00 pm Cub Scouts Overnighter
27 **Cub Scouts Overnighter** 10:00 am Sunday Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**28** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:30 pm RPC Meeting	**29** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**30** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir	**31** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko		

Upcoming Events

October 6, 2019, Sunday

October Shotsuki Hoyo Service

October 13, 2019, Sunday

Bishops' & ABA Memorial Service

* * * * *

November 3, 2019, Sunday

November Shotsuki Hoyo Service

* * * * *

November 24, 2019, Sunday

December Shotsuki Hoyo Service

SUPPORT YOUR TEMPLE

Shop at Amazon via MVBT
Earn income for MVBT!

Use the Amazon link on the MVBT home page to get to the Amazon site and your **Amazon purchases will help MVBT earn income** – **at no additional cost to you or the Temple**

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Mountain View Buddhist Temple

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