December 2019

Volume 58 Number 11

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

December Highlights

- ***12/1Sun, No Service***
- ***12/2 Mon, 7:00 - 8:30 pm***
  * *Buddhist Discussion Group*
- ***12/8 Sun, No Service***
  * *Mochi Tsuki*
- ***12/11 Wed, 6:30 pm***
  * *Temple Board Meeting*
- ***12/15 Sun, 9:45 am***
  Short Sunday Service
  * *Osoji after service*
- ***12/22 Sun, No Service***
- ***12/29 Sun, No Service***
- ***12/31 Tues, 7:00 pm***
  Joya-E Service -
  New Year's Ever Service

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January Highlights

- ***1/1/20 Wed, 10:00 am***
  Shusho-E Service -
  New Year's Day Service

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The Nembutsu Is the Precious Light

Last month, a huge wildfire caused great damage in Northern California. You will recall that the ignition point for last year's huge wildfires were power lines exposed to strong winds that resulted in some of the worst destruction of property in the history of California. For this reason, with strong winds forecast at the beginning in October this year, PG&E hoped that a planned power outage over a wide range of Northern California for several days would help reduce the risk of wildfires. However, despite this controversial plan, we once again had terrible property damage caused by wildfires this year. I sincerely hope that normalcy will return to all the victims of this destruction as soon as possible.

Some of my friends were obliged to spend the night without electricity because of the power outage. They complained that all the food in the freezer was wasted and had to be thrown out, and that they were not able to use their computer or smartphone, nor could they even charge their batteries. Because of this inconvenience, they had a really difficult time.

About ten years ago, while living in San Diego, I also experienced a power outage. It affected all of Southern California, western Arizona and northern Mexico.

By Rev. Yushi Mukojima

I still remember that, at night, our neighborhood was cloaked in an unsettling darkness and silence that filled my wife and me with anxiety. That period was also very inconvenient because we couldn't use the Internet or cell phones.

Selfishness can be divided into the three minds:

- That I alone am always right
- That wants to do only what I want
- That loves only oneself

But it gave me the opportunity to realize how much we depend daily on the benefits of science. At the same time, I was deeply aware of the reality that we cannot do anything without electricity.

Because we were not able to do much of anything that evening, I became lost deep in thought in the pitch darkness. As I spent several hours without light, it came to me that our lives are very much like this world of darkness where we cannot see anything. Then, I fully realized that we live in the darkness every day. For example, that night, unable to see a thing without a flashlight, it was really hard for me to even get to the bathroom. I made my way there, bumping into the table or chair. Each time I bumped into something, I hurt myself and didn't know how to vent my anger and discontent. Similarly, in everyday life, we live stressfully, bumping into someone or something because we live in darkness.

It is an emotional clash, like a marital dispute or a quarrel between parent and child. We live bumping into or facing the difficulty of human relations, as when we don't get along with our friends. The reason why we bump into such things is because we can't see what is ahead of us. If we could see clearly what is in our path, we would never run into anything. That we can't see anything indicates that we are in darkness;

(Continued on page 4)

december 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 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 Finance Committee Meeting 7:30 pm MVBT Choir 7:30 pm YABA	**5** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**6** 6:00 pm YABA	**7** 4:00 pm Boy Scouts - Court of Honor 6:00 pm Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts - Fuji Dinner
8 **Mochitsuki** 1:00 pm Girl Scout Ambassadors Meeting 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**9**	**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** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**13** 7:30 pm ABA Meeting	**14** 9:00 am BWA Meeting
15 10:00 am Osoji 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**16**	**17** 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	**19** 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**20** 6:00 pm YBA Holiday Party	**21** 12:00 am YBA Holiday Party
22 1:00 pm Girl Scout Ambassador's 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**23**	**24** 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**25**	**26** 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**27** **YBA (CYBA Conference)**	**28** **YBA (CYBA Conference)**
29 **YBA (CYBA Conference)** 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**30**	**31** 7:00 pm Joya-e Service 8:00 pm JD Taiko				

Religious Planning — December 2019

December 1, 2019, Sunday — No Sunday Services

No Services

December 2, 2019, Monday, 7:00 - 8:30 pm — Buddhist Discussion Group

Rev. Mukojima's monthly study class.

December 8, 2019, Sunday, No Sunday Services — Mochi Tsuki

No Services

December 15, 2019, Sunday, 9:45 am — Short Service

10:00 am: Osoji - Temple Cleanup

December 22, 2019, Sunday, No Sunday Services

No Services

December 29, 2019, Sunday, No Sunday Services

No Services

December 31, 2019, Tuesday, 7:00 pm — Joya-e / New Year's Eve Service

Joya-E Service: Express our gratitude for the countless blessings received throughout the year
After the Service: Toshikoshi-soba served by Rev. & Mika Mukojima after service in YBA Hall

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January 1, 2020, Wednesday, 10:00 am — Joya-e / New Year's Eve Service

Shusho-E Service: Renew our resolution to live with Nembutsu gratitude

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**

Year-End and New Year's Day Services

JOYA-E

Year-End Service
Tuesday, Dec 31, 2019 at 7:00 pm

The Sangha is invited to the final service of 2019, the ***Joya-E*** (year-end) gathering on New Year's Eve.

This service is held to express gratitude for the countless blessings received throughout the year.

The service includes sutra chanting, meditation, a Dharma message from Sensei and the ringing of the Kansho (bell).

After the service, **Rev. and Mrs. Mukojima** invite everyone to enjoy traditional ***Toshikoshi-soba*** (buckwheat noodles) in the YBA Hall.

SHUSHO-E

New Year's Day Service
Wednesday, Jan 1, 2020 at 10:00 am

The new year is a new beginning.. Attend the Shusho-E service to renew your resolution to live with Nembutsu gratitude

Rev. Mukojima looks forward to sharing his first Dharma Talk in 2020 with you, followed by a toast to the New Year.

The Nembutsu Is the Precious Light (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

namely, we live in the world of delusion without light. There are those who absolutely believe that they alone can see everything. But because such people cannot actually see anything, they make trouble with others just by asserting their opinion. Unfortunately, people like this cannot even see themselves.

In Buddhism, that we cannot see ourselves means that we don't realize our mind is full of selfishness and ego. Selfishness can be divided into the three minds. First, the mind of believing is certain that I alone am always right. Second, there is the mind that wants to do only what I want. And, the third is the mind that loves only oneself.

In our day-to-day life, we are completely confused by our selfish mind, so even if we are wrong, we cannot apologize. We always take others' kindness for granted, so we cannot show our thanks. And we cannot forgive another's fault, so we instead we complain about it. Sadly, it is our nature that, when we accuse others, we brush aside our own problems and get angry with those we accuse while we unconsciously put ourselves up as a standard of justice.

Because those of us who have such ugly minds must live together, it is natural that the conflict will never come to the end. We always get angry over something. We always complain about something. That is how selfishness works.

The reason we suffer while bumping into our parents, child, husband, wife, brother, sister, friends and the many people in our daily lives, is because we are constantly restricted by the mind that believes that I alone am always right; the mind that wants to do what I want to; and the mind that loves only me. That is to say, our minds are always shadowed by the darkness of delusion created by the deep-rooted blind passions of greed, anger and ignorance. This means that we will never realize why we are suffering, nor even that we are wandering about the world in darkness, unless we encounter Amida Buddha's light of wisdom.

The light of wisdom reveals our true selves, bound by the selfish mind, the cause of our suffering. Just as candlelight pierces the darkness, so the light of wisdom emanating from Amida Buddha shines into every nook of our delusional mind in order to lead us to the way of true awakening.

We think that we encounter ourselves every day, but in reality, we cannot see our true selves because we are living in the dark. We will not be able to meet our true selves without the light of wisdom that is the Nembutsu teaching. Only when we are being illumined by Amida Buddha's light can we become fully aware of our deluded mind and, at the same time, deeply appreciate the great compassion of Amida Buddha that focuses on people like us. It is not that we remove our selfishness and ego. It is that we become true Nembutsu followers who strive to find the way of living that never makes Amida Buddha sad as we rejoice in ourselves, embraced by Amida Buddha, just as we are, full of selfishness. Because of the working of Nembutsu, we are able to see the noble path in front of us, allowing us to both recognize and cultivate the sincere mind that respects others as we reflect on our imperfect selves.

> The Nembutsu allows us to truly live in gratitude.

Just as electricity is essential to our everyday life, let us become fully aware how precious and important the light of wisdom—namely, the Nembutsu—is, for our mind that is darkened by selfishness. The Nembutsu allows us to truly live in gratitude.

Again, my deepest condolences to all the victims by the terrible wildfires.

In Gassho,

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

Kazuo Abey	***May 21, 1931 - Sept 30, 2019***
Mary Nishita	***Jan 22, 1922 - Oct 1, 2019***
Taneyo Tiny Yamaji	***Mar 19, 1930 - Oct 6, 2019***

May you find comfort in the embrace of Infinite Light and Life,
the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

Namo Amida Butsu

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」
二〇一九年十二月法話
― お念仏は尊い光 ―

駐在開教使　向嶋裕史

先月、カリフォルニア北部で大規模な山火事が発生し多大な被害がでました。昨年、強風による送電線からの発火が原因で山火事が発生し、同州史上最悪の被害が出たこともあり、PG&Eは、火災を防ぐために強風が予想された十月初旬にカリフォルニア州北部で大規模な計画停電を数日間実施しました。しかし、その計画停電も功を奏さず、今年も山火事による被害がたくさんでてしまいました。火災の被害に会われた方々が一日も早く平穏な暮らしに戻れるよう心より念じております。

さて、今回の計画停電の件で、電気を使えない生活を余儀なくされた方々の中に私の友人が何人かいたのですが、皆、冷凍庫の中の物が全て溶けて無駄になったり、PCやスマホが充電できずに使えなくなったりしてとても大変だったと口をそろえて不満を漏らしていました。

私もサンディエゴで開教使をしていた頃、一度だけ停電を経験したことがあります。その停電は、カリフォルニア州南部からアリゾナ州西部、そしてメキシコの北部に及ぶ大規模なものでした。夜は町中が異様な暗闇と静寂に包まれ、不気味な不安が襲ってきたのを今でも鮮明に覚えています。その時も、インターネットが使えなかったことから、大変不自由な時間を強いられたのですが、如何に私達の日常が科学の恩恵にすがって生きていたかを改めて気づかされると同時に、電気がなければ何もできない現実に恐ろしさを感じました。

その晩は、何もできなかったことから、暗闇の中で物思いに耽っていたのですが、何も見えない暗闇の中で数時間過ごしているうちに、まさに何も見えないこのような暗闇の世界が私達の日常であり、その暗闇の中で私達は日々生きているという現実に目覚めさせられたのを覚えています。例えば、暗闇の中でトイレに行こうとした時、テーブルや椅子の角などに足をぶつけてしまい、その極度の痛みにやり場のない怒りと不満を感じたのですが、人生に於いても同じことで、暗闇であるが故にいろんな人にぶつかってストレスを抱えながら生活しているのではないでしょうか。

それは、夫婦喧嘩や親子喧嘩のようなぶつかりであったり、また、ふとした感情の行き違いから友人とうまくいかなくなるなどの人間関係の中で生活しているということです。何故ぶつかるのかというと、周りが全く見えていないからです。前方や足元がはっきりと見えていれば決してぶつかることなどありません。見えていないということは、私達が暗闇の中、つまり、明かりのない迷いの世界にいるということなのです。自分だけは何もかも見えていると信じて疑わない人がいますが、実はそういう人に限って、周りが全く見えていないので自分の意見だけを主張して、すぐ揉め事を起こします。実は、そのような方ほど、自分の姿さえも全く見えていないのです。

仏教で、自分の姿が見えていないということは、我執に満ちた己の心が全く見えていないということです。この「我執」を三つの心に分けますと、一つ目に、自分が常に正しいという心。二つ目には、自分の思い通りにしたいという心。三つ目には、自分がかわいいという心となります。この我執の心に振り回されて生活しているのが私達ですから、自分が悪くても謝る事ができない、相手の好意を当たり前のように思って感謝することもできない、そして、他人の欠点だけは許すことができずにいつも愚痴をこぼします。私達の悲しい性は、他人の非を責める時、自分の事は棚に上げて、常に自分が正しいという立場に立って腹を立てているのです。このような醜い心を持ったもの同士が共に生活をしているわけですから、争いが絶えるはずがありません。いつも腹を立てて、愚痴を言っている、これぞ我執のなせる業なのです。

日常生活に於いて、親、子、夫、妻、兄弟、友人―いろんな人と衝突して苦しんでいるのは、常に自分が正しい、自分の思い通りにしたい、自分が可愛いという心に束縛されているからです。つまり、私達の心が常に貪り、怒り、そして愚痴などの根深い煩悩によって迷いの闇に覆われているのです。ですから、阿弥陀仏の智慧の光りに出遇わない限り、何故自分が苦しんでいるのか分からないどころか、無明の世界でさ迷っていることにさえ気づくことができないのです。

智慧の光明は、苦悩の原因である我執の心に囚われた私達の本当の姿を明らかにして下さいます。阿弥陀仏から発せられる智慧の光明が闇を貫く蝋燭の灯火のように、心の闇を隅々まで照らして、私達を目覚めの世界へと導いて下さいます。

私達は毎日、自分に遇っていると思い込んでいますが、実は、暗闇の中では本当の自分が見えていません。阿弥陀仏の光であるお念仏の教えに遇わない限り、本当の自分に遇うことはできません。智慧の光明に照らされて、初めて浅ましい私の心に気づかされると共に、そんな私目当てのお慈悲であったと頷かされるのです。

それは、我執がなくなるのではなく、我執を抱えたまま阿弥陀仏に救われていく我が身を喜ばせていただき、少しでも阿弥陀仏を悲しませない生き方を追求することこそ真の念仏者のありようだと思います。私達の日常生活に光が不可欠であるように、私達の我執に満ちた心の闇に智慧の光明、つまり、お念仏が如何に大切で尊いものであったかを気づかせていただきましょう。

MVBT Safety & Security - The Role of our Safety Ambassadors

It's sad to be worried about security during our Sunday Services, but reality has hit too close to home and we can no longer be bystanders waiting for something to happen. Too many events have made us all woefully aware that we must learn to protect ourselves.

STEPS TAKING FOR SAFETY

MVBT has taken several steps to educate our Sangha in the importance of Safety & Security.

- Our recent Active Shooter Training was one step in keeping our Sangha safe.
- We have also recently trained about a dozen Safety Ambassadors, who will be monitoring the doors and keeping a watchful eye out during our services.
- We have establish procedures for Sunday Services

SUNDAY SERVICE PROCEDURES

For the safety of our Sangha and guests during our Sunday Services, all the doors to the Hondo are now being locked at 10:00 am. The Safety Ambassadors will let welcomed guests enter after the doors are locked and will be watching for anything (or anyone) out of the ordinary. The Safety Ambassadors also monitor our parking lot and surrounding buildings during service.

BECOME A SAFETY AMBASSADOR

If you are interested in helping to serve as a Safety Ambassador, please contact Doug Sawamura or Jeff Sato.

Namo Amida Butsu:
"With kindness and gratitudebeyond words."

MVBT Boy Scout Troop #87

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

The Boy Scouts of Troop 87 wrapped up their Webelos Open House event on Wednesday, November 13, at the Temple. Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts alike participated in a fun Egg Drop activity to introduce potential Boy Scouts to the troop!

In November, the Scouts participated in the annual food drive collection, Scouting for Food. Flyers were distributed on Saturday, November 16, and collection happened the Saturday after that, on the 23rd. The Scouts participated at the Keiro Kai Flag Ceremony on Sunday, November 17, gamed at their Video Game night on November 16, and competed against each other to whip up the best dishes at their Cook-Off meeting on the Wednesday, November 20.

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

In December, the Scouts will have a Court of Honor on Saturday, December 7, and afterwards set up tables for Mochi Tsuki. We will also participate in the Mochi Tsuki on Sunday, December 8.

If you would like to join the Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts, please contact **Jeff Sato**.

Hasith Basnayake
Troop 87 Scribe

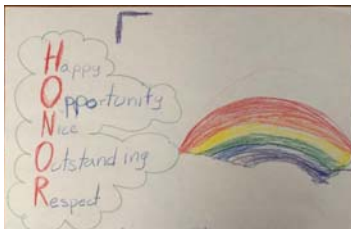
Dharma School News

Dharma School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keiro Kai Placemats

Thank you to all of our Dharma School students for making such colorful and creative placemats in appreciation of our keiros.



Dharma School Registration

If you have not already done so, please turn in your completed Dharma School student registration forms to Janice Lee (michiko1084@yahoo.com).

New Student Introductions and Dharma School Birthdays

New Dharma School students will be introduced immediately following service on November 24. Dharma School students who celebrated their birthdays between August and November will also receive gifts.

Hanamatsuri Luncheon

Volunteers are needed for the Hanamatsuri Luncheon on April 12, 2020. If you are available or have any questions, please email Ashley Uyehara (ashley.uyehara @gmail.com).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Keiro Kai Luncheon

Dharma School organized and served coffee, tea, punch and dessert during the Keiro Kai Luncheon on November 17. Special thanks goes to Yumi Higa, Debbie Kitani, Grace Kosakura and Dana Nakagawa for coordinating!

After-Service Refreshments

Thank you to the Dharma School parents and teachers for all of the help with after-service refreshments throughout September and October.

Donations

The following donation is gratefully acknowledged:

- **Toshiko Uyehara**
  Jeremy Tao's Birthday and Birth of New Grandson

In Gassho,
Brent Izutsu
Dharma School Superintendent

Miroku

MIROKU

middle school group

On Sunday, November 3, Miroku had its 3rd meeting of the school year.

The meeting began with eating pizza before we headed off to "Escape the Mad Hatter," the Escape Room which Miroku agreed on. To get there, we divided into two cars, **Mr. Inouye** and **Mr. Randy's** cars. When we arrived, we met the Game Master, the man that supervised the game, and divided into two teams, Team "Better than Red" and Team "Chris."

The Escape Room consisted of four rooms, Red, Green, Blue and Yellow. In each room, you spent 5 minutes before switching to the next, and you visited each room 3 times, for a total of 60 minutes in the Escape Room. Both teams needed to unlock 4 locks on a briefcase that held the clues to how to escape. Unfortunately, both teams only got 3 locks off, so Miroku did not escape, but we did develop good team building skills through this experience. Finally, we returned back to church and went home.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 24 at noon.

In Gassho,
Kaila Matsumoto
6th Grade Miroku Member

MVBT: Vision 2020

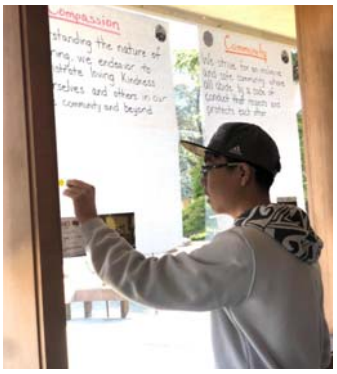
The imminent development of our backlot presents an exciting opportunity to think about our future. With this in mind, earlier this year, the MVBT Board of Directors created an ad hoc Vision Committee to put in motion a visioning process that can help our broader Sangha discuss and plan for the future of MVBT. This process is planned to officially kick off in 2020 at our annual General Meeting in January.

To help prepare us for this discussion, the Vision Committee has been talking with various people within our Temple community to better understand what brings them to MVBT. We also reviewed our mission and surfaced a set of values that 1) feel deeply rooted in our Jodo Shinshu teachings and 2) seem to have been informally guiding our development over the years. These include:

- **Dharma-Centered.** We mindfully integrate and share our Jodo Shinshu teachings in all that we do.
- **Interdependence.** We operate as a Sangha of individuals that look out for our collective well-being.
- **Tradition.** We value the wisdom of those who came before us and look to them to pass on evolving traditions and responsibilities.
- **Impermanence.** We operate with a deep appreciation for all the causes and conditions that brought us here, and are forward-looking with a long view for future generations.
- **Compassion.** Understanding the nature of suffering, we endeavor to demonstrate loving kindness to ourselves and others in our Temple community and beyond.
- **Community.** We strive for an inclusive and safe community where all abide by a code of conduct that respects and protects each other.

We introduced these values during this Fall's Sangha Day Picnic (see photos). Over the next few months, we plan to engage the Sangha further with these values through a series of short Echo articles. The hope is that—with a shared understanding of our core values as our foundation — we can all engage in productive discussion and decision-making about our vision for MVBT, including our ideas for programs and facilities our community needs into the future.

In Gassho,
MVBT Vision Committee



Donate to the Upcoming Services

Support Your Temple

Donations go to the General Fund supporting day-to-day operations

Bodhi Day / New Year's Eve / New Year's Day

Hoonko

Mochi Tsuki — Sunday, December 8

December brings many thing,s but most important comes our annual **Mochi Tsuki**. A time for one and all to get together and prepare our traditional and ever delicious MOCHI. This is an opportunity to share a timeless tradition and let our children experience a very special event.

Tickets have been distributed to each zone, **all orders are due MONDAY, December 2, 2019**. Tickets are also available at the MVBT office or through your Zone Chairperson.

Komochi
$ 4
(1-pound pkg)

Okasane
$ 6
(Kagami)
(1-pound pkg)

WORK SCHEDULE IS:

SAT, Nov 30	8:00 am	.....Pre-preparation, test equipment & hang plastic
FRI, Dec 6	8:00 am	.....Wash barrels & soak rice
SAT, Dec 7	8:00 am	.....Final setup, clean area & move equipment
SUN, Dec 8	**Mochi-Tsuki Day**	
	5:00 am.	.....Start steamers
	5:30 am	.....Start cooking rice
	6:00 am	.....Start pounding
	6:30 am	.....Start shaping mochi
	11:00 am - 3:00 pm	.....Mochi Pickup
	3:00 pm	.....Clean up
WED, Dec. 11	8:00 am	.....Final clean up

If you have any questions, please contact **Bryan Nishimoto** (650)967-9290 or fishhawkent@earthlink.net.

2019 Mochi Order Form

Komochi (1-lb) _____@ $4/ticket = _____

Okasane (1-lb) _____@ $6/ticket = _____

Total amount due = _____

MEMBER NAME_____ ZONE_____

Make check payable to "MVBT." Orders must be received by Monday, December 2.

Submit this form to Temple office. Thank You!

MVBT Seniors Activities and Crafts

Seniors Activities & Crafts Program

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

November 21, Thursday:

This day will be our last session due to the coming holidays. Enjoy the Holidays and maintain good health. We will resume on Thursday, January 9, 2020.

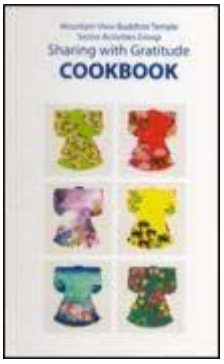
Thursday, January 16, 2020:

We are fortunate to get a professional guest speaker educating us on a a topic that some of us are faced with. The presentation will be "The Basic, Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia." Everyone is welcome to listen and learn first-hand about Alzheimer, to ask questions that you may have, and to help you understand the problem. We will also provide lunch at 11:30 am and have the presentation at 12:15 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Seniors making Washi Paper

COOKBOOK SALE

With the coming Holidays, what better gift to give than a good cookbook. Our Senior Cookbook will be an ideal gift. The price now is a great deal for $15. You can get it at the Temple office or any committee member.



In Gassho,
Aiko SugimSoto-Miyamoto

Mountain View Buddhist Temple YBA

MVBT YBA

HALLOWEEN ACTIVITY

The YBA gathered for its annual Halloween party on October 18. We had a very fun night carving pumpkins, practicing our CC Conference skit, and watching *Monsters Inc.*! Thank you to our Activities Chair, **Kelli Kosakura**, for planning a fun evening!

CENTRAL CAL JR. YBA CONFERENCE

Sixteen YBA members and four Advisors attended the CC Jr. YBA Conference at the Fresno Buddhist Temple (Family Dharma Center) on November 9. The theme for the conference was based off the movie Monster's Inc., "Buddhist University: It's What's Inside That Counts!". A special "thank you" to **Tyler Sato** for putting together a skit that our YBA performed during the talent show! Everyone enjoyed the workshops, dance, and meeting new delegates from across California.

KEIRO KAI LUNCHEON

YBA members served refreshments at our Temple's annual Keiro Kai Appreciation Luncheon on November 17. This gathering was the perfect opportunity for our youth to pay tribute to the many Keiros at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Megan Nakagawa, our Vice President and Chair of this year's YBA Spaghetti Dinner, has started the planning process for our largest fundraiser of the year. Look for your order forms that were mailed. We appreciate the continued support from our Temple members at this event!

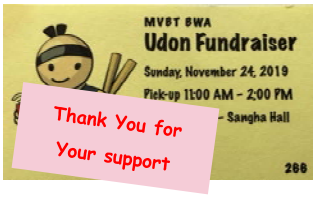
In Gassho,
Stacey Kawabata
2019-2020 YBA President

MVBT YBA at Halloween Party

MVBT YBA at Central Cal Jr. YBA Conference

BWA Activities

BWA welcomes new member, **Sandra Furuichi**. She will be a great asset to our organization.



UDON FUNDRAISER

Thank you, Sangha, for your support of our Udon Fundraiser. We sold all of our tickets and it was a great success! Thank you BWA ladies for all your hard work!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

BWA extend our Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Safe Holiday Season.

NEXT MEETING

No meeting in December.

Next meeting: Saturday, January 11, 2020, at 9:00 am in the YBA Hall.

Buddhist Women's Association

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736

The **Brownie Girl Scouts** worked on projects that taught them about plants and how to care for them, and how to use Rubbing Alcohol with Sharpie pens to create beautiful artwork.

The **Cadettes** had a fun time making mochi with fun fillings, such as ice cream, nutella, peanut butter and more!

Our **Troop Scouts** performed the opening and closing flag ceremonies at the Temple's Keiro Kai luncheon.

Flag Ceremory at Keiro Kai Luncheon

150 Club News

Our winners for October are;

Emi & Ko Hirabayashi

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

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo Article Deadline	Echo Print & Mail
DEC	Zones 1 & 2	N / A	N / A
JAN	Zones 3 & 4	Dec 13 (Fri)	Dec 18 (Wed)
FEB	Zones 5 & 6	Jan 10 (Fri)	Jan 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.*

MVBT Annual General Meeting

January 26, 2020 @ 11:00 am

In the Hondo immediately following the Service

Lunch provided for everyone after the meeting

MVBT **Y**oung **B**uddhist **A**ssociation

& Bingo Fundraiser

February 8, 2020

Dinner: 5:00-7:00 pm

Bingo: 6:00-8:00 pm

MVBT Sangha Hall

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple YBA (Young Buddhist Association) will be hosting our annual Spaghetti Dinner. The proceeds from our Spaghetti Dinner funds religious and social activities throughout the year that provide opportunities for YBA members to experience the Dharma together. We appreciate any and all support you can give, including donated goods or services and monetary donations. Please come out and enjoy a wonderful evening! (Take-out also available.)

Please pre-order if possible as this allows us to plan and give you the best Spaghetti Dinner possible. If you have any questions please contact Megan Nakagawa at 408-888-1279 or megan.nakagawa@gmail.com.
Thank you for supporting the Mountain View YBA.

In Gassho,
Megan Nakagawa
Spaghetti Dinner Chairperson

To Pre-Order Dinners **(Deadline February 1, 2020):**
-Fill out the order form below
-Submit payment and pre-order form in the self-addressed envelope or drop off in the MVBT office
*Checks should be made out to the: MVBT YBA
**We follow a ticketless system, so no tickets will be distributed

****

Name: _____

Phone Number:_____ Email: _____

Please Check One: Eat In: [ ] Take Out: [ ]

	Quantity	Total
Adult Dinners:	_____ x $10.00	$_____
Child (10 and under) Dinners:	_____ x $6.00	$_____
Bingo Cards:	_____ x $5.00	$_____
Additional Donation:		$_____
Total Amount Enclosed:		$_____

MVBT

Adult Buddhist Association

ABA News

ABA / BISHOPS' MEMORIAL SERVICE & SEMINAR WITH REV. HARRY BRIDGE

On Sunday, October 13, ABA hosted the ABA & Bishops' Memorial Service and seminar with **Rev. Harry Bridge** from the Buddhist Church of Oakland.

During his seminar, Rev. Bridge shared his perspectives on the *Four Immeasurable Minds*:

Maitri.....Kindness, Friendliness
Karuna....Compassion
Mudita.....Sympathetic joy
Upeksa....Equanimity, Calm-balance

He talked about trying to be positive and creative. "Negativity just doesn't work like positivity," he said. "Buddhism is getting to know yourself. Amida Buddha accepts me just as I am."

DONATIONS

Donations gratefully acknowledged:

ABA Seminar with Rev. Harry Bridge
Mel & Audrey Inouye
Allan & Marie Jacobs
Bob & Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto
Peter & Shirley Matsumoto
Ray & Reiko Murakami
Carolyn & Ron Murata
Russ & Judy Nakano
Kimi Nishimura
Martha Okamura
Carolyn Sakae
Jean Shimoguchi
Miyo Takegami
Lorrie & Glenn Kitasoe
Ed Tsumura
Chuck Uyeda
Toshiko Uyehara
June Yusa

Birth of Grandchild
Toshiko Uyehara

With Kindness and Gratitude beyond words,
Jean Shimoguchi
ABA President

In Memory of MVABA Members

George Abey
Sue Abey
Robert Ariyama
Dorothy Chikasuye
Ed Chikasuye
Helen Fukurna
Gary Hirotsu
Amy Imai
Robert Imai
Yasuko Kariya
Katsuko Kochi
Dave Kawamoto
Jim Kawaye
Sets Kuboyama
George Kunimoto
Muneo Masaki
Keiko Mizuhara
Akira Morishima
Emi Morishima
George Nakano
Iwao Nakao
Sally Nakayama
Jim Nakayama
Miki Nishimoto
Yoshio Nishimoto
Stanley Okamura
George Okashima
Sam Okimura
Lou Osato
Harry Sakae
Karen Sakae
Kinuko Sasaki
Jim Satake
Tad Sawamura
Betty Shidawara
May Shimoguchi
Yas Shimoguchi
Sam Sugimoto
Dave Takegami
Seiko Tsumura
Sumi Uyeda
Roy Uyehata
Akio Yamamoto
Henry Yusa

Upcoming Events

January 1, 2020, Wednesday
New Year's Day / Shusho-e Service

January 5, 2020, Sunday
Shotsuki Hoyo

January 12, 2020, Sunday
Hoonko

January 26, 2020, Sunday
Temple General Meeting

Read if you are over 70 1/2 years old

Another Way to Donate to the Mountain View Buddhist Temple

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 in return.

Benefits of an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution

- Avoid taxes on transfers of up to $100,000 from your IRA to Mountain View Buddhist Temple
- Satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year
- Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions
- Make a gift that is not subject to the 50% deduction limits on charitable gifts
- 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. Your IRA funds will be directly transferred to Mountain View Buddhist Temple to help continue our important work.
3. Please note that IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions do not qualify for a charitable deduction.
4. Please contact us if you wish for your gift to be used for a specific purpose.

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.

December Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial

December

Monthly

Memorial

Service

Sunday

November 24, 2019

10:00 am

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 **December** Shotsuki loved ones are:

Yoshiko Akizuki	**Muriel Izumi**	**Shunsuke Nakano**
Edward Chikasuye	**Shogo Kaku**	**Leo Nakayama**
Ichiro Chikasuye	**David Kawamoto**	**Frank Okimoto**
Emiko Fujikawa	**Junso Kawamoto**	**Kelly Sakae**
Mamoru Fukuma	**Tsue Kawamoto**	**Jiro Sakano**
Emiko Furuta	**James Ichiro Kawaye**	**Hatsue Sako**
James Furuta	**Tomiko Kosakura**	**Chiyo Shimoguchi**
Eigoro Hashimoto	**Alice Koyano**	**Yasuki Shinke**
Myrna Hayashi	**Tomoe Kumamaru**	**Laurie Takasugi**
Sato Hiroshige	**George Kunimoto**	**Robert Taniguchi**
Dorothy Horiuchi	**Yoshio Kusaba**	**Kiyomi Tanouye**
June Hoshi	**Nobuichi Masaki**	**Florence Tsukagawa**
Teruko Ikeda	**Kiyoko Murakami**	**Hiro Uyehara**
Amy Imai	**Tamae Nagatsuyu**	**Edward Yonemura**
Hana Inouye	**Jane Nakamura**	**Teruo Yukawa**
Harry Ishii	**Masazo Nakamura**	
IJ Iwamoto	**Miyuki Nakano**	

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**

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Memorial services allow us to pay homage to loved ones who have passed away. In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, family members hold a service at certain intervals following a relative's death to express gratitude for and acknowledge their continuing influence in our lives. If you wish to schedule a memorial service for a loved one, please call during weekly office hours.

2019 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2018	3rd Year Memorial	2017	7th Year Memorial	2013
13th Year Memorial	2007	17th Year Memorial	2003	25th Year Memorial	1995
27th Year Memorial	1993	33rd Year Memorial	1987	50th Year Memorial	1970

january 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 am Shusho-e Service	**2** 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (Stanford Dist., PacSky, BSA) 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**3**	**4**
5 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	**6** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	**7** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**8** 6:00 pm Boy Scouts - Junior Leaders/Parents' Meeting 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir 7:30 pm Temple Board of Directors Meeting	**9** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**10** 7:30 pm ABA Meeting	**11** 9:00 am BWA Meeting
12 10:00 am Hoonko Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 12:00 pm YABA General Meeting 1:00 pm Girl Scout Ambassadors Meeting 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**13** 1:00 pm Senior Group	**14** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**15** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir 7:30 pm VISION Meeting	**16** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**17**	**18**
19 10:00 am Eshinni-ko/Kakushinni-ko Lady Ohtani and BWA Memorial Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**20** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	**21** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**22** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir	**23** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**24**	**25**
26 10:00 am Sunday Service & Dharma School 11:45 am Dharma School Teachers' Meeting 11:00 am Temple General Meeting & Luncheon 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 1:00 pm Girl Scout Ambassador's 2:00 pm CD YBL Meeting 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**27**	**28** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 7:15 pm Dharma School Cabinet Meeting 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**29** 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir	**30** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**31**	

&

amazon.com

Do's & Don'ts

DO's

1. Do place your item into cart only if you started at MVBT website
2. Do help MVBT earn free money
3. Do tell your friends to use the Amazon button on MVBT before buying

DON'T's

1. Don't forget to use the MVBT link to Amazon
2. Don't start at Amazon.com and put item into cart. Start at MVBT website, and then into cart
3. Don't forget to help MVBT earn free money from Amazon

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Mountain View Buddhist Temple

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