March 2020

Volume 59 Number 3

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

The Significance of the Makuragyo

March Highlights

- **3/1 Sun, 10:00 am**
  - * *Shotsuki Hoyo*
  - * *11:00 am - Japanese Language Service*
- **3/2 Mon, 7:00 pm**
  - * *Buddhist Discussion Group*
- **3/15, Sun, 10:00 am**
  - * *Spring Ohigan Service*
  - * ***Guest Speaker:*** ***Sensei Koichi Mizushima***
- **3/15 Sun, 1:00 - 3:30 pm**
  - * *Ohigan Seminar with* ***Sensei Mizushima***
- **3/22 Sun, 10:45 - 11:45 am**
  - * *Vision Workshops after Sunday Service*
- **3/29 Sun, 10:00 am**
  - * *Girl Scout Sunday*

Highlights In This Issue

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Girl Scout Cookies	*13*
Sake Social	*14*
Belong Circle	*15*

It is a sobering truth that since I came to America as a BCA minister, I have conducted too many funerals to count. It is always incredibly difficult to lose Dharma friends with whom together we have rejoiced in the Nembutsu teaching.

I have also had many opportunities to conduct the ***makuragyo***, or bedside service. I consider the ***makuragyo*** a profound occasion and because of this, it is a more difficult service for me to conduct than the funeral.

We have been taught that it is customary to hold the ***makuragyo*** service when death occurs. The minister and the bereaved family come together to show deep gratitude for the loving guidance of Amida Buddha during the deceased person's lifetime. I deeply understand its significance and for a long time have conducted the ***makuragyo*** service after the passing of members. However, when I served at the Buddhist Temple of San Diego as its resident minister, I received a call from the late **Rev. Jim Yanagihara** that his wife **Patsy** wouldn't last long. He asked me to conduct her ***makuragyo*** service. I was a little at a loss because I had never experienced the ***makuragyo*** before someone's passing before. When I entered her room at the hospital, Yanagihara Sensei was there with Patsy and a couple of their close friends.

By Rev. Yushi Mukojima

Patsy was very weak. But when she saw me, she said, "Thank you for coming, Sensei. Could you lead the chanting for me?" Although she struggled for every breath, when I started chanting "***Juseige***," she tried to follow my chanting. After the sutra, she expressed her gratitude to me saying, "Thank you Sensei. See you again in the Pure Land," and smiled at me.

In that moment, I became fully aware that the ***makuragyo*** should be the last service for the one who is going to die, the important opportunity to express deepest feelings of gratitude for the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha, which brings supreme enlightenment and entry into the Pure Land. It is the precious moment when both the loved one who is dying and the family being left behind make a promise to see one another again as Buddhas in the Pure Land.

I squeezed Patsy's hands and said, "Yes, I will surely see you in the Pure Land." We cried as we recited the Nembutsu. Two days later, Patsy peacefully entered the Pure Land.

After her death, I began encouraging members if at all possible to have the ***makuragyo*** service before their family member passes. Because of this, there have been many members who have been able to spend those final moments with their beloved family. They left this world with the deep gratitude of Nembutsu after promising to see one another again in the Pure Land. Of course, there were some members who were in a coma and not able to respond at the time they died. But because it is understood that our hearing functions until the moment of passing, I believe that even the comatose are able to feel the working of Amida Buddha's compassion with a profound sense of security: that by hearing the sounding of the bell, the familiar sutra chanting, and the voices of their family reciting the Nembutsu,

(Continued on page 4)

march 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 5:00 am BWA Chirashi Fundraiser 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	**2** 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Buddhist Discussion Group	**3** 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 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. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir 7:30 pm YABA	**5** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (Stanford Dist., PacSky, BSA) 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**6**	**7**
8 10:00 am Sunday Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 12:00 pm YABA General Meeting 1:00 pm Girl Scout Ambassadors Meeting	**9** 1:00 pm Senior Group 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	**10** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm FPC Meeting 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** 7:30 pm ABA Meeting	**14** 8:00 am Boy Scouts Junior Leader Training 9:00 am BWA Meeting/Cooking Class
15 10:00 am Spring Ohigan & Girl Scout Sunday Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 1:00 pm Ohigan Seminar 2:00 pm CD YBL Meeting 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 VISION 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**
22 10:00 am Sunday Service & Dharma School 11:00 am VISION 2020 Workshop 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 1:00 pm Girl Scout Ambassador's 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 MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**27**	**28** 2:00 pm Sake Social (7:00 - 9:00 pm)
29 10:00 am Girl Scout Sunday Service & Dharma School 11:45 am Dharma School Teachers' Meeting 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**30** 7:30 pm RPC Meeting	**31** 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				

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Religious Planning — March 2020

March 1, 2020, Sunday, 10:00 am — Shotsuki Hoyo

11:00 am Japanese Language Service

March 2, 2020, Monday, Buddhist Discussion Group

In YBA Hall Conference Room

March 8, 2020, Sunday, 10:00 am — Sunday Service

Stacey Kawabata and **Megan Nakagawa** will give Dharma Talks reflecting on their experiences at the Buddhist Youth Retreat

March 15, 2020, Sunday, 10:00 am — Spring O-higan Service

Spring O-higan: Higan, meaning Other Shore, is a service conducted in the spring on or about the vernal equinox. The practice of the Six Paramitas is emphasized on this occasion.

Guest Speaker: **Sensei Koichi Mizushima**, minister's assistant at the Sacramento Buddhist Church

March 15, 2020, Sunday, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm — Spring O-higan Seminar

Guest Speaker: **Sensei Koichi Mizushima**

March 22, 2020, Sunday, 10:00 am — Sunday Service

Vision Committee's Workshops following Sunday Service

March 29, 2020, Sunday, 10:00 am — Girl Scout Sunday Service

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

Discussion Group - 7:00 pm

What does O-asaji mean?

"O" - means "**honorific**"
"asa" - means "**morning**"
"ji" - means "**affair**"

So O-asaji refers to something done in the morning with respect and reverence…thus at our Temple, it implies a Buddhist service in the morning.

Oasaji is the opportunity to take time out of our busy lives to stop, calm down, reflect upon ourselves and show our gratitude for everything that allows us to live at this moment by chanting in the morning.

A typical Sunday morning schedule is:

8:30 - Group members take turns arranging the O-Naijin (altar). Other members arrive at 9:00 am

9:00 - Chanting practice begins for 30 minutes

9:30 - Refreshments and socializing

10:00 - Service begins

In addition to chanting, the techniques of ringing the Kansho bell and arranging the O-naijin (altar) are learned. Also, chanting with the Reverend on the O-naijin during a Sunday service is another experience to encounter. (In the absence of the Reverend, the O-asaji Group conducts the chanting for Sunday services).

The current members are **John Arima**, **Ken Nakano**, **Marie Ochi-Jacobs**, **Alec Matsumoto**, **Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto**, **Miyo Takegami**, and **Ed Tsumura**. Also, this year's Youth Minister Assistants (YMA) are **Stacey Kawabata** and **Megan Nakagawa**. All previous YMA's are considered Oasaji Group members.

The O-asaji Group welcomes MVBT members who are interested in chanting, understanding the Jodo Shinshu rituals or just observing. if you are interested, please contact the Temple office at 650-964-9426, **Reverend Yushi Mukojima** or an O-asaji Group member.

The Significance of the Makuragyo (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

the dying person is assured Amida Buddha is always with them no matter what might happen. Even with those who were able to survive for several months after the ***makuragyo***, their families told me that because of the assurances of the ***makuragyo***, they all were able to spend a peaceful time with their family for all their remaining days. Their family really appreciated it.

However, I also completely understand that for the family, to have the ***makuragyo*** service before death means that they also have to accept the reality of their loved one's death. Because it is really hard for a family to decide whether to have the ***makuragyo*** service before or after their loved one's passing, I totally respect and support their decision they are faced with. So, if the ***makuragyo*** is held after death, it is perfectly all right.

Last December, **Mr. Richard Endo** passed away. As both our role model and great leader for a long time, he devoted his life to the prosperity of not only the MVBT, but also the BCA and the IBS. Eleven days before his passing, at his request, I conducted the ***makuragyo*** at the hospital with his immediate family. Although he was very weak and it was even hard for him to speak, he tried to chant the ***Juseige*** with us. And all of us cried as we recited the Nembutsu.

It was especially difficult to see his grandkids crying in their sorrow. But by having the ***makuragyo*** service with them there, Rich taught his grandkids that, owing to the compassion of Amida Buddha, death is not an everlasting separation for all of us because the Pure Land is waiting for us to see each other again as Buddhas. Before he died, he showed them this truth so that his death wouldn't make them feel only sad with grief, but also make them feel joy and hope about their future reunion in the Pure Land.

It is true that after Rich's diagnosis of leukemia, the Endo family suffered the agony and pain together for two months. But they always encouraged Rich to fight for his recovery. His daughters especially devoted themselves to supporting their father until the moment of his passing. I am sure that nothing could be more painful than seeing their loving father getting weaker day by day. But I believe that Rich was aware of their sorrow and anxiety at losing him. By having the ***makuragyo*** service when he did, Rich was able to help and comfort them with the promise of reuniting in the Pure Land.

I still remember the tears which formed in Rich's eyes during the chanting. His tears had two meanings. One of them was that he knew he would really miss his loving family in this life. Surely, he wanted to see more of how his loving grandkids would grow up. So, his tears were because he could not spend precious times with them anymore.

But the other reason was his deep gratitude to Amida Buddha for allowing us to see one another again as Buddhas in the Pure Land. There is a poem that goes: "Tears, tears, tears…, because of tears of sadness, Amida Buddha built the Pure Land." This is a famous poem among Jodo Shinshu Buddhists in Japan. So, his tears of sadness were also tears of gratitude for Amida Buddha because we are assured of meeting one another again in the Pure Land.

Before leaving the hospital, we promised to see each other again in the Pure Land saying, "We don't need to say Goodbye. See you again," and recited the Nembutsu together. I will never forget that moment when his smiling face was full of warmth and peace.

Rich was a real Nembutsu follower who clearly showed us before his passing through the ***makuragyo***, that our lives are a journey moving toward the Pure Land, the world of enlightenment that is our spiritual home.

I sincerely hope that before the passing of our loved ones, we can make the ***makuragyo***, a special moment when we look forward someday to our future reunion with them as Buddhas in the Pure Land. In this way, until that day comes, we can promise to live our fragile lives to the fullest every day with strength, joy and gratitude under the Nembutsu teaching.

In Gassho,

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」二〇二〇年三月法話

― 枕経の意義 ―

駐在開教使 向嶋裕史

私が米国に開教使として赴任して以来、たくさんのご門徒方を見送ってきました。共にお念仏のみ教えを喜ばせていただいた法友を失うことは大変悲しい限りです。これまで数多くの枕経を勤めてまいりましたが、枕経は開教使として最も大切すべき法縁であり、また、葬儀以上に大変難しいものであると考えています。

一般に枕経は臨終に際して行うのが習わしとなっており、僧侶や家族が亡き人の代わりに、永年お育てにあずかったご本尊に対するお礼の勤行だといわれています。ですので、私も長い間、ご門徒が亡くなった後に、枕経を勤めてまいりました。しかし、私がサンディエゴ仏教会に駐在していた頃、今は亡き柳原先生の奥さま、パッツィさんが危篤状態であった時、先生から枕経をしてほしいと連絡がありました。今まで、生前の枕経を経験したことのなかった私は少し戸惑ったのですが、すぐに病室に駆け付けました。

パッツィさんが私の顔を見るなり、「先生、来てくれてありがとう。お勤めしてもらえる？」とおっしゃいました。お勤めを始めると、息を切らしながらもパッツィさんは重要偈を一緒にお勤めされ、その後、「先生お世話になりました。ありがとう。またお浄土でお会いしましょう」といってニッコリと微笑まれました。

その瞬間、枕経の本来のあり方とは、臨終を迎える本人が行う生涯最後のお勤めであり、必ず浄土に導きこの上ない覚りの身にさせてみせようという阿弥陀仏のご本願に対してお礼をする大切なご法縁であり、また、愛する家族の前で浄土での再会を約束する尊い場でなければならないと気づかされました。

私は、パッツィさんの手を取り、「はい、またお浄土でお会いいたします」と言って、一緒に涙ながらにお念仏を称えさせていただきました。その二日後、パッツィさんは安らかにお浄土へと往生されました。

それ以来、私はご門徒方に枕経は亡くなる前に勤めるようにとお願いしています。その甲斐あって、多くのご門徒が生前に枕経をして、愛するご家族と生涯最後のお勤めをし、浄土での再会を約束しながら感謝のうちにお念仏と共に亡くなっていかれました。もちろん中には、昏睡状態の方もおられましたが、耳は最後まで聞こえると言われているので、リンの音、慣れ親しんだお経、そして、ご家族のお念仏の声を通して、何があっても阿弥陀仏がそばにいて下さるというお慈悲のはたらきを安堵の中で感じておられたことだと思います。また、枕経の後、半年ほど存命された方もおられましたが、枕経のお陰で、残りの数カ月を安らかに過ごされたと遺族の方が大変感謝しておられました。とは言うものの、ご家族にとって枕経を生前にするということは、愛する人の死というものを覚悟しなければならない大変つらい決断でもありますので、枕経のあり方はあくまでもご家族の意思を尊重して勤めることにしています。

昨年十二月、当仏教会のみならず、永年にわたりBCA始めIBSの発展に多大な貢献をされた遠藤リチャード氏がお亡くなりになりました。遠藤氏が亡くなる十一日前、枕経をしたいというご本人の希望でご家族と共にお勤めをしました。遠藤氏は大分衰弱され、話すことも難しい状態でしたが、共に重要偈をあげられ、皆で涙と共にお念仏を称えさせていただきました。お孫さんが泣きじゃくる姿を見るのは胸が張りさける思いでしたが、遠藤氏は枕経を通して、阿弥陀仏のお慈悲により、この世のいのちが終わっても必ず仏となって会える世界、浄土があるということを示し、お孫さんが彼の死をただ悲しみで終わらせるのではなく、お浄土で再会できるという喜びと希望を最後にしっかりと教えられました。

また、遠藤氏が白血病と診断されてから亡くなるまでの二カ月間、ご家族は共に苦しみながらも懸命に闘病生活を支えられました。特に娘さん二人が献身的に看病されたのですが、日に日に衰えていく最愛の父親の姿を見るのは大変つらかったことだと思います。遠藤氏は娘達の父親を失う悲しみと不安を気づかれたうえで、娘達を安心させるためにも枕経でもって、倶会一処の世界を改めて教えられたのです。

お勤めの際、遠藤氏の目から絶え間なく涙がこぼれていました。彼の涙には二つの意味があります。一つは、愛する家族と別れなければならないという悲しみの涙。お孫さんの成長をもっと見届けたかったことだと思います。愛する家族と幸せな時間をもっと過ごしたかったことと思います。しかし、もう一つの涙の意味は、お浄土に仏として生まれさせていただける身にならせていただいた阿弥陀仏のご本願に対する感謝の涙です。

「涙、涙、涙のゆえに　みほとけは　清きみくにを建てたまひけり」という詩があるように、遠藤氏の悲しみの涙は、お浄土で必ずまた再会できるという喜びと感謝に満ちた涙でもありました。

遠藤氏は、臨終を前に、枕経を通して、念仏者の人生は浄土への旅路であることを私達に明確に示して下さった真の念仏者でした。愛する方が亡くなる前に、お浄土での再会を楽しみに、感謝と喜びの心でもってこの無常の世界をお念仏と共に力強く生きて行こうと約束できる尊いご縁を枕経で結ばせていただきたいと切に願っております。

MVBT: Vision 2020

Six Core Values

1. **Dharma-Centered**
2. Interdependence
3. Tradition
4. Impermanence
5. Compassion
6. Community

In November 2019, the Mountain View Buddhist Temple Board approved the adoption of six core values that serve as the foundation of our Temple. Deeply rooted in our Jodo Shinshu teachings, these values are not new. Rather, they are just an explicit articulation of what has been informally guiding us over the years, and therefore can serve to guide us in the years ahead. This series of articles is intended to briefly discuss each value one by one.

The first value is **Dharma-Centered**, meaning that we mindfully integrate and share our Jodo Shinshu teachings in all that we do.

This is the reason for our being. We see this clearly with the teachings actively being discussed and shared though our Sunday Services, Dharma School curriculum and study classes. Each of our Temple-affiliated organizations incorporate Jodo Shinshu teaching as part of their mission and operations, and all Temple events and meetings opening and closing with Gassho as a reminder of this value. This is historically why outside organizations who may rent our facilities without this focus are not Temple-affiliated.

How might this value show up as we engage in a MVBT 2020 visioning process? As we brainstorm ideas for different programs and activities, one question that the Sangha may want to ask themselves is the degree to which these ideas serve to advance Jodo Shinshu teachings? Or, as we consider allocating resources for facilities, how does this value show up in how we prioritize learning spaces for our children, our Sangha and broader community? What will it take to share our Jodo Shinshu teachings beyond our own Sangha? What do we need as a Temple to more mindfully live into this value?

We invite everyone to reflect on this value, and its implications for our future directions. Next month, we will tackle a different value.

In Gassho,
MVBT Vision Committee

Sunnyvale Golf

Save the Date

Sasaki Memorial Golf Tournament
at
Sunnyvale Golf Course
Sunday, August 23

BWA Activities

Buddhist Women's Association

UPCOMING EVENTS

BWA's Chirashi Fundraiser

The BWA's Chirashi Fundraiser is Sunday, March 1, 2020. Pick-up is from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. in the Sangha Hall. The cost is $7.

Cooking Class

The first cooking class demonstration of the year will be on Saturday, March 14, 2020, at 10:00 am in the Sangha Hall kitchen. The chef will be Shizue Hiroshige.

BWA DIRECTORY

If you have not completed and sent in the important BWA Directory information request sent out to all members, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

DONATIONS

Gratefully accepted

In Memory of husband, Tom Fukuda
Mitsue Fukuda

In Memory of Richard Endo
Endo Family

2020 BWA CABINET

President:
Reiko Murakami

Recording Secretary:
Lois Okino

Corresponding Secretary:
Miyo Takegami

Treasurer:
Joan Aoki

Religious Chairperson's
Lorrie Kitasoe
Shirley Matsumoto

Historian:
Kimi Nishimura

Official Delegates:
Toshiko Uyehara
Reiko Murakami

MEMBERSHIP DUES

$20 membership dues for 2020 are now being accepted.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Saturday, March 14, 2020, at 9:00 am in Sangha Hall.

Donate to the Upcoming Services

Support Your Temple

Spring O-higan

Hanamatsuri / Gotan-e / Kangi-e (Obon)

Your donations go to the General Fund supporting day-to-day operations

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(1) Use the MVBT online donation "DONATE NOW,"
(2) Send a check to the Temple office, or
(3) Donate at the Service

Seniors Activities & Crafts Program

MVBT Seniors Activities and Crafts

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Thursday, March 19. We will have **Attorney Mitoshi Fujio-White** speak to us about Estate Planning. She is from San Jose and is happy to help and educate us on Living Trusts, Living Wills and etc. Feel free to ask questions that may help you understand the needs of a trust. We will provide lunch at 11:30 am and the presentation will be at 12:15 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday, April 15. A day trip to Cache Creek Casino is planned. Everyone is invited to take advantage of this fun trip. The price is $40 and please call **Chuck Uyeda** for reservations. Don't be left out.

Thursday, May 21. Julie Nakatani, our Temple member and a professional Ikebana sensei, has agreed to show us a simple way to do flower arrangement. Please join us as we will also provide lunch.

Thursday, June 11. Reverend Nekoda has graciously accepted to share his good health and educate us on Shiatsu (finger pressure) Acupressure=Pressure Point. Continues to help health problem, per Rev. Nekoda. Mark this date on your calendar.

Thursday, June 11. Please Note: this will be the last Senior Activities day before we take a summer break. We will provide lunch. We will start up again Thursday, September 10, after Labor Day.

DONATIONS:

Our sincere appreciation for the thoughtful donations received with gratitude. *Arigato.*

In Memory of George Nakano (3rd Year Memorial)
Fumi Nakano

COOKBOOKS

Our Senior cook book will make an ideal gift. The price is $15. You can get it at the Temple office or from a committee member.

SENIOR CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES

Request for Origami Paper. The Senior Craft Group is requesting anyone who may have extra Origami Paper to please contact **Jeanne Ohara** or **Debbie Kitani**.

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 timing and rhythm, and also for balance. So much 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 and make a special friend. We are always looking for new ideas if you can share them with us.

In Gassho,
Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto

Upcoming Events

April 5, Sunday
- Shotsuki Hoyo

April 12, Sunday
- Hanamatsuri & Hatsumairi

April 24 - 26, Thursday - Sunday
- Federation of Dharma School Teachers Leagues Conference
- No Dharma School

May 10, Sunday
- Gotan-e Service
- YBA's Mother's Day Brunch

May 17, Sunday
- Chicken Teriyaki Fundraiser

Miroku

ACTIVITIES

Miroku started February with a productive meeting on February 2. Twelve people attended. This meeting we worked on "Fuzzy Feelings" Sock Drive for the homeless. The drive will end on February 16. We are still determining where we will donate the socks. We hope that you will donate to help our cause.

We also brainstormed ideas for a fun activity together. We will be helping Girl Scouts chair the Sunday Service on March 22. Lastly, we completed our monthly AED checks.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, March 1st.

DONATIONS

Donations gratefully acknowledged:

- **BWA Eshinni-ko Donation**
- **Debby Inenaga**
- **Glenn & Lorrie Kitasoe**
- **Jeff & Jean Sato**
- **Michael & Traci Inouye**
  In Memory of Mr. Richard Endo
- **Bob Matsumoto & Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto**

In Gassho,
Kylie Uyekubo
6th Grade Miroku Member

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

MIROKU

middle school group

Dharma School News

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hanamatsuri Luncheon

As announced in a recent email to Dharma School parents, Hanamatsuri is on Sunday, April 12. And we are still looking for parents to coordinate the lunch portion of the event: organizing the ordering and pickup of the main dish (it was sandwiches and chips last year), making and serving the hot and cold beverages, and overseeing the sign-ups for salads and desserts by the Dharma School families. While this activity is still months away, we do need your help. If you have already signed up for another volunteer position and you would like to switch and/or have any questions, please contact any member of the Dharma School cabinet.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Donations

The follow donations are gratefully acknowledged:

- **BWA – Eshinni-ko Donation**
- **Todd and Ashley Uyehara**
  For Trevor's Birthday
- **Endo Family**
  In Memory of Richard Endo

In Gassho,
Brent Izutsu
Dharma School Superintendent

Dharma School

Mountain View Buddhist Temple YBA

MVBT YBA

SPAGHETTI DINNER

On Saturday, February 8, YBA had our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Bingo fundraiser. This event would not have been possible without our Spaghetti Dinner Chair, Megan Nakagawa, who would like to extend her gratitude: A big thank you to all those who attended or purchased takeout orders. This event would not have been a success without the help of the YBA members, their parents, the committee leads and the advisors. We also appreciate the numerous Temple members who did a lot of behind the scenes work to make this event happen. Thank you to our donors for their generous donations to YBA. Again, thanks to everyone who helped make this a success. Looking forward to seeing everyone next year!

YBA Members at Spaghetti Dinner & Bingo Fundraiser

DONATIONS:

Our YBA would like to gratefully acknowledge the generous donations we received from the following:

BWA

Endo Family

In Gassho,
Stacey Kawabata
2019-2020 YBA President

MVBT

Adult Buddhist Association

ABA News

NEW YEAR'S PARTY

ABA's annual New Year's Party was held on January 18 at the China Stix Restaurant in Santa Clara. The evening included dinner, drinks and entertainment that included a sing-along and line dancing. Great time was had by all. Thanks to **Kathy Fujii** and **Eileen Fujikawa** for organizing another successful event.

DONATIONS

ABA gratefully acknowledges the following donations:

Richard Endo Family
Special

Doug and Phyllis Sawamura
New Year's Party

With Kindness and Gratitude beyond words,
Jean Shimoguchi
ABA President

Line Dancing

Enjoying Dinner with Friends

ABA New Year's Party

Members who were born in the Year of the Rat

Hatsumairi Infant Presentation — Sunday, April 12, 2020

Register for Hatsumairi by Friday, April 3, 2020

ATTENTION NEW PARENTS

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple would like to invite you and your child to the annual **Hatsumairi Service** ("First Visit Ceremony") to be held during the Hanamatsuri Service. This special service will be held on **Sunday, April 12, 2020 at 10:00 am.**

During the ceremony, parents present their child before Amida Buddha and the Sangha and welcome him/her to the Dharma. The Naijin (or altar) symbolizes the truth that is embodied within the human experience.

Children of all ages are welcome to participate in the Hatsumairi ceremony

Please fill out the application below and mail it to the Temple or email it to Rev. Mukojima by **Friday, April 3, 2020**.

Rev. Yushi Mukojima
Resident Minister
ymukjima@gmail.com

The ceremony includes a pledge by all parents to raise their child according to the Buddhist Teachings, as the first step in establishing a world of stability and peace of mind for their infant. It is a time to share (with your child) the true hopes and aspirations manifested in your hearts and minds.

Child's Last Name _____

Child's First and Middle Name(s) _____

Child's Gender ___ **Boy** ___ **Girl**

Child's Birth Date _____

Mother's Name _____

Father's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** ___ **ZIP** _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please return this form by Friday, April 3, 2020 to the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, or email the information to Rev. Mukojima (ymukjima@gmail.com)

Follow-up on 2019 DANA Project by 5th and 6th Grade Dharma School Class

News headline on November 8, 2018

Last year, the Mountain View Buddhist Temple 5th & 6th Grade Dharma School class adopted **Ms. Erin Suttles'** special needs class at Paradise Intermediate School. The students had not only lost their school in the 2018 Camp Fire, but also many had lost their homes. Through our class efforts fundraising and the Sangha's generosity, we were able to send $1,793 and notes of encouragement to Paradise Intermediate School to help them recuperate.

We checked in with Ms. Suttles this past fall to see how things were going. Ms. Suttles' class originally had 12 students at the time of the fire. By the end of the school year, she had eight students having gone through a temporary classroom set-up at the old Orchard Supply Hardware (OSH) building in Paradise, CA, and then another move to the Pine Ridge School in Magalia, CA. In the end, Paradise Intermediate school was transformed instead into an elementary school for Paradise and Ponderosa schools, which had burned and the intermediate students were combined with high school, so it's now 7th-12th grade in high school and K-6th at the elementary schools.

Ms. Suttles received a job offer to teach in Chico, CA, at Pleasant Valley High School, which is where her three children attended and was close to her home. Five of her original students at Paradise Intermediate School will be attending there, including Emily, so she is happy to be able to stay in contact with them and also avoid the long commute.

She talked to the new teacher replacing her and taking care of the remaining students and told him about the donations still available in the Paradise Union School District account as she didn't use up all of the funds. She said this will be great for him to buy what he needs as he is a first-year special education teacher.

In her message to us, she shared: "I am keeping in touch with all of my students via their parents and Facebook, and texting them audio messages and pics back. These students and their parents/guardians will hold a special place in my heart forever. We went through so much this year together. Thank you again for thinking of me. Keep in touch!"

Thank you to the MVBT for your kindness and generosity supporting Ms Suttles' class. In rough times, just knowing that someone cares goes a long way.

2020 DANA PROJECT

Stay tuned for our next DANA project for 2020. You'll be hearing about this soon!

In Gassho,
The MVBT 5th & 6th Grade Dharma School Class

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736

BROWNIES

Brownie Kelsey was "leader for a day" at our last meeting. She taught the other Brownies how to make glittery slime, and they all had a great time.

Three Brownies and their Dads attended the Service Unit "He & Me" Luau. They danced, they played games, did crafts, and of course ate lots of snacks.

Brownies & Dads at "He & Me" Luau.

IT'S COOKIE TIME

Girl Scout Cookie Sales will run through March 15. We will have our first booth sales on Sunday February 16, but any Girl Scout or Leader can also be contacted for sales.

Thank you for your support!

SUPPORT YOUR TEMPLE

Shop at Amazon via MVBT (NOT AmazonSmile)

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

&

amazon.com

MVBT's Spring VISION Workshop

Spring VISION Workshop

Sunday, March 22

This is your opportunity to have your voice shape the future of MVBT

The **SPRING VISION WORKSHOP** will be held on Sunday, March 22.

WORKSHOP activities will allow everyone in our Sangha Community to thoughtfully consider various profiles of sample community members and how our shared Values can lead to new and improved MVBT activities, programs and services.

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE YOUR VOICE SHAPE THE FUTURE OF MVBT.

This workshop is the first step to develop ideas and get feedback on programs, services, resources and facilities to help us with Master Planning.

Lunch will be provided for all! Children younger than Middle School age will have entertainment scheduled during the Breakout Groups.

WE NEED YOUR VALUABLE FEEDBACK, IDEAS AND COMMENTS. PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING.

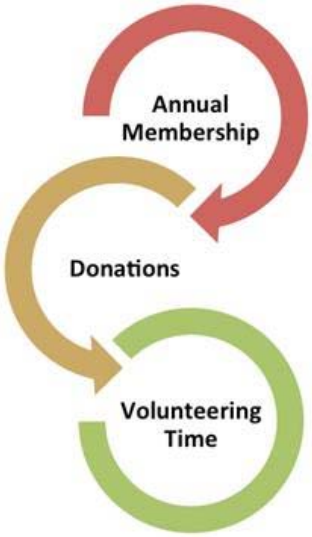
Tentative schedule is as follows:

10:00 am ..... Sunday Service

10:45 - 11:45 am ..... Rotating Breakout Groups

12 Noon ..... Pizza!

In Gassho,
MVBT Vision Committee



Dues & Donation Committee

The Dues and Donations Committee is sponsoring its 3rd 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.

It is FREE for Temple members who join in 2020.

The Sake Social will be held on Saturday, March 28, 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/mvbtsake2020

The cost is $35 for each current MVBT member and $45 per each non-MVBT member. And, FREE for New Members joining in 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact **Donna Okubo** or **Susan Yuen**.

SAKE SOCIAL

FREE

to 2020 New Temple Members

Building a Community Where We ALL Belong – Join a Belong Circle!

Last November and December, fifteen diverse community members met together at Mountain View Buddhist Temple in a "Belong Circle" to build relationships and understanding across difference through four sessions of structure dialogue.

Sangha members - including Rev. Mukojima, Board President Doug Sawamura, and young adults – participated in the group along with "neighbors" from congregations and community groups in Mountain View and Sunnyvale. Everyone came together with the desire to learn together and create a community where we all truly belong. At this time, with many divisions in our country, we are seeking new ways to create a more inclusive community for all of us, including different people with different views.

The "neighbors" who joined the Belong Circle were interested in learning about our Temple and our traditions, since they knew of MVBT but many had not visited the Temple or met Sangha members before. Sangha members in the Belong Circle had the opportunity to meet people from nearby Unitarian, Congregational, and Catholic churches and to learn about efforts to support immigrants and people in need of affordable housing.

The purpose of the Belong Circle is to build understanding with people from different backgrounds and with different experiences. Participants may choose to get involved in additional activities they learn about, but that is simply an option, not an expectation. The focus is on building understanding and relationships – that's the foundation for creating a community where everyone feels accepted and respected, where we all belong.

The purpose of the Belong Circle is to build understanding with people from different backgrounds and with different experiences.

Belong Circle participants from MVBT and other congregations and community groups

The relationships started within the small "Belong Circle" are creating new opportunities to build community and practice engaged Buddhism. For example, Rev. Mukojima was invited to speak at a multi-faith Peaceful Presence service at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Palo Alto.

The Religious Planning Committee sponsors the Belong Circles and is planning to start the next group in March. **If you are interested in participating or learning more, please contact AkemiFlynn@gmail.com or John.Arima.mvbt@gmail.com.**

Religious congregations and community groups are holding Belong Circles throughout the state with support and partnership from PACT: People Acting in Community Together, a local organization, and its statewide network, PICO CA.

150 Club News

Happy New Year as we start with new 150 Club winners.

At the February Board meeting of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, the January and February winners were drawn.

January: **Kelsey Nakano & Ricky Chu**

February: **Lois Okino & Will Dea**

Congratulations to our winners!

Thank you for participating in the 150 Club.

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo Article Deadline	Echo Print & Mail
MAR	Zones 7 & 8	N / A	N / A
APR	Zones 9 & 10	Mar 13 (Fri)	Mar 18 (Wed)
MAY	Zones 11 & 12	Apr 10 (Fri)	Apr 15 (Wed)

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

March Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial Service)

March

Monthly

Memorial

Service

Sunday

March 1, 2020

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 **March** Shotsuki loved ones are:

Theodore Abe	**Shizuko Matsumoto**	**Rev. Sensho Sasaki**
Robert Arima	**Tom Matsumoto**	**Frank Sato**
Mine Chikasuye	**Akira Morishima**	**Kanesuke Sato**
Alice Asaka Fujii	**Cynthia Muranaka**	**Brett Sugimoto**
Satoru Fujikawa	**Haruko Muranaka**	**Tora Tamaji**
Kazuo Furusho	**Roy Nagatani**	**Patricia Yukie Togashi**
Harriet Hamamoto	**Linda Nakagawa**	**Thomas Takegami**
Yutaka Hamamoto	**Haruyo Nakano**	**Shimoye Yamaji**
Sekitaro Hananouchi	**Harry Nakano**	**Yoshikichi Yamaji**
Masao Hayashi	**Ken'ichi Nakano**	**Kazuo Yanase**
Itsuyo Hori	**Rokuro Nakano**	**Torao Yokoyama**
Ronald Hoshiko	**Komao Nara**	**Kiriye Yoshida**
Koriyu Kariya	**Robert Nishimura**	
Ruth Kawaguchi	**Shizuko Nishimura**	
Miya Kawamoto	**George Tetsuo Noguchi**	
Hakobu Koyano	**Shigeru Okamoto**	
Shinobu Maruyama	**Fumio Okayama**	
Helen Matsumoto	**Kinuko Sasaki**	

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.

2020 is the Memorial Year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2019	3rd Year Memorial	2018	7th Year Memorial	2014
13th Year Memorial	2008	17th Year Memorial	2004	25th Year Memorial	1996
27th Year Memorial	1994	33rd Year Memorial	1988	50th Year Memorial	1971

april 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00 pm Boy Scouts - Junior Leaders/Parents' Meeting 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop Mtg. 7:30 pm MVBT Choir 7:30 pm YABA	**2** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 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 7:00 pm Buddhist Discussion Group	**7** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**8** 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**
12 9:45 am Hanamatsuri Lunch 10:00 am Hanamatsuri Service & Dharma School 12:00 pm YABA General Meeting 1:00 pm Girl Scout Ambassadors Meeting 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**13** 1:00 pm Senior Group 7:00 pm FPC Meeting	**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** 9:00 am BWA Meeting/Cooking Class 12:00 pm ABA Post Cemetery Clean-up Lunch 4:00 pm Cub Scouts Overnighter
19 12:00 am Cub Scouts Overnighter 10:00 am Sunday 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 7:30 pm Obon Committee Meeting	**23** 8:00 am Senior Activities and Crafts 4:00 pm Boy Scouts Mochi Making 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm MVBT Adult Basketball 8:00 pm JD Taiko	**24** FDSTL Conference 4:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Cherry Blossom Fest Prep	**25** FDSTL Conference 7:00 am Boy Scouts Cherry Blossom Fest Spam making
26 FDSTL Conference 7:00 am Boy Scouts Cherry Blossom Fest Spam making 12:00 pm Taiko - Kids 1:00 pm Girl Scout Ambassador's 2:00 pm JD Taiko	**27** 7:30 pm RPC Meeting	**28** 6:00 pm Taiko - Adults 7:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm YABA 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		

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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

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3. Don't forget to help MVBT earn free money from Amazon

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