The ECHO

January 2022

Volume 61 Number 1

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

January Highlights

- ***1/1/22, Sat, 10:00 am,*** ***Shusho-e Service -*** *New Year's Day Service*, ***Online***
- ***1/2/22, Sun, No Services***
- ***1/9/22, Sun, 10:00 am*** ***Shotsuki Hoyo, Online***
  * *Japanese Language Service*
  * *English Discussion Group*
- ***1/16/22, Sun, 10:00 am,*** ***Hoonko Service, Online*** ***Guest speaker:*** *Rev. Earl Ikeda, New York Buddhist Church*
- ***1/23/22, Sun, 10:00 am*** ***BWA Memorial Service, Online*** ***Guest speaker:*** *Rev. Naomi Nakano, San Luis Buddhist Church*
- ***1/30/22, Sun,10:00 am*** ***Sunday Service, Online***
  * *Temple, BWA & ABA Cabinet Installations*
  * *Annual General Meeting*

New Year's Greeting from Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani

Happy New Year, everyone!

At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Over these past couple of years, we have had to adjust our lives in accordance with the scale of the spread of COVID-19. I would like to offer my deepest condolences to those who fell victim to the disease and express my sympathies to those who are undergoing treatment. I would also like to express my respect and sincere gratitude to the doctors, nurses, and frontline medical professionals who have been engaging in the treatment of infected people, as well as all essential workers who have made it possible for us to continue with our lives.

Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani

(Continued on page 4)

Receive Shinjin - True Entrusting (Part 1)

Rev. Yushi Mukojima

Happy New Year!

Thank you very much for all that you have done for my family in the past year. My wife and I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to all the Sangha members for your ongoing thoughtfulness. We humbly hope to avail ourselves to your warm friendship again in the coming year.

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Let me focus on an important subject at the very beginning of the New Year. As you know, in talking about the Nembutsu teaching, our founder Shinran explained,

> "*Shinjin*, to entrust ourselves to Amida Buddha's Primal Vow, is the true cause of birth in the Pure Land. And our utterance of Amida's name

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Super Senior Highlights

MVBT's Super Seniors are those members who are over the age of 80 and have been the pillars of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. These valued members of our Sangha have led interesting lives and greatly contributed to the growth and success of our Temple.

With Gassho,
Senior Memories Committee

Miyo Takegami is the Super Seniors for this Echo. Her story starts on Page 8 of this issue.

This photo of Miyo is from the Mountain View Buddhist Temple's 50th Anniversary album dated October 2012.

january MMXXII

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 **New Year's Day** 10:00 am Shusho-e Service
2	**3** 7:00 pm Buddhist Virtual Discussion Group 7:30 pm Tech Support	**4** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club - Virtual 7:30 pm VISION LHF Committee Meeting	**5**	**6** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko - Virtual	**7** 5:00 pm Ukelele	**8**
9 10:00 am Shotsuki Hoyo Service 1:00 pm YBA Meeting	**10** 7:30 pm Tech Support	**11** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club - Virtual	**12** 7:00 pm MVBT Board Meeting	**13** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko - Virtual	**14** 5:00 pm Ukelele	**15**
16 10:00 am Hoonko Service	**17** **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** 7:30 pm Tech Support	**18** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club - Virtual	**19**	**20** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko - Virtual	**21** 5:00 pm Ukelele	**22**
23 10:00 am BWA Memorial Service	**24** 7:30 pm Tech Support	**25** 7:00 pm Young Adult Buddhist Discussion 7:30 pm Ukelele Club - Virtual	**26**	**27** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko - Virtual	**28** 5:00 pm Ukelele	**29**
30 10:00 am Temple, BWA & ABA Cabinet Installtions 11:00 am Temple General Meeting	**31** 7:30 pm RPC Virtual Meeting 7:30 pm Tech Support					

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While Sunday Services at the Temple are cancelled, Dharma Messages are available at Temple websites.

https://www.mvbuddhisttemple.org or https://tinyurl.com/MVBT-YouTube

Current and Past Dharma Messages are available.

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

Religious Planning — January 2022

January 1, 2022, Saturday, 10:00 am, Shusho-e / New Year's Day Service, Online Service

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

January 2, 2022, Sunday, No Services

January 3, 2022, Monday, Buddhist Discussion Group

To join, send email request to staff@mvbuddhhisttemple.org

January 9, 2022, Sunday, 10:00 am, Shotsuki Hoyo, Online Service

11:00 am: Japanese Language Service., Online
11:00 am: English Discussion Group, Online

January 16, 2021, Sunday, 10:00 am, Hoonko Service, Online Service

Hoonko: Means a gathering to repay the debt of gratitude. This service is in memory of our founder Shinran Shonin.

Guest Speaker: **Rev. Earl Ikeda,** Resident Minister of the New York Buddhist Church
11:00 am: Seminor following service

January 23, 2021, Sunday, 10:00 am, BWA Memorial Service, Online Service

Memorial Service for Esshinni-ko / Kakushinni-ko, Lady Takeko Kujo, Lady Yoshiko Ohtani and past MVBT BWA Members

Guest Speaker: **Rev. Naomi Nakano,** Resident Minister of the San Luis Obispo Buddhist Church
11:00 am: Seminor following service (TBD)

January 30, 2021, Sunday, Regular Service with Temple Installations, Online Service

Installation of Temple, BWA & ABA Cabinets
11:00 am: MVBT Annual General Meetiing following Service

JOIN US

Sunday Dharma Messages by Rev. Mukojima and Minister's Assistants John Arima and Devon Matsumoto are available on the MVBT website.

JOZAI: SUNDAY SERVICE DONATION

Put your Jozai into the Dana Box
Go to MVBT website & Press the Dona Box

Shotsuki Hoyo Service

Study Class

Check Temple Website for latest information about Temple activities

MVBT Annual General Meeting

January 30, 2022 @ 11:00 am

EVERYONE INVITED

Zoom Meeting following Online Service

New Year's Greeting from Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

This infectious disease has not only greatly affected the life of each one of us, but also revealed many issues that had been contained in our society. Sakyamuni Buddha, who passed on the Dharma to us, made clear of the fact that we cannot see the truth because we are too attached to our own thought. Therefore, it is only natural that conflicts and divisions come about in a society in which those who, like us, fundamentally self-centered beings, act in accordance based on one's own thought.

In the following *wasan* poem, Shinran Shonin deeply reflected on himself and described what we humans are like,

Although I take refuge in the true Pure Land way,
It is hard to have a true and sincere mind.
This self is false and insincere;
I completely lack a pure mind.
(*Hymns of the Dharma-ages*)

As the wasan shows, we are basically incapable of accepting the reality of this world, such as, dependent origination, impermanence, and no-self. And because of this we constantly suffer. Only through being aware of and appreciating Amida Buddha's compassionate and salvific working, are we enabled to accept our true self. Shinran Shonin clarified that such ignorance is the very reason why Amida Buddha's salvific working has reached every one of us. Keeping in mind that we are always embraced in Amida's compassionate Light, let us live each day to the fullest, even though we have yet to see the end of the tunnel.

I feel truly assured hearing that many of you have been making efforts to share the Jodo Shinshu teaching within the greater society through various and innovative ways despite the current situation. It is my hope that your temples will continue serving as your spiritual home, and therefore, I humbly ask for your understanding and cooperation in support of your temples. I would like to conclude my new year's greeting with my heartfelt appreciation to you all.

January 1, 2022
OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

年頭の辞

新しい年のはじめにあたり、ご挨拶申し上げます。

昨年も一昨年に引き続き、私たちの生活は新型コロナウィルス感染症（COVID-19）の流行に対応したものとなりました。ここに、新型コロナウィルス感染症によりお亡くなりになられた方々に謹んで哀悼の意を表しますとともに、罹患されている皆さまに心よりお見舞い申し上げます。また、治療・対策にあたられている医師、看護師をはじめとする医療従事者の方々、ライフラインの維持に努めておられる方々に深く敬意と感謝を表します。

この新型コロナウィルス感染症は、私たち一人一人の生活に大きな影響を与えました。それは、同時に社会の問題も浮き彫りにしています。仏教を説かれたお釈迦様は、自分自身の考えにとらわれ、真実をみることのできない私たちの姿を指摘されています。私たちが自分の思い通りに行動したら、社会の中に対立や分断を生むことになります。

親鸞聖人は、ご和讃に「浄土真宗に帰すれども　真実の心はありがたし　虚仮不実のわが身にて　清浄の心もさらになし」とうたわれました。阿弥陀さまのおはたらきによって知らされる私たちの本当の姿は、縁起や無常、無我というこの世界の真実をそのままに受け入れることができずに悩み苦しむ姿です。親鸞聖人は、そのような私たちに阿弥陀さまのおはたらきが届いていると明らかにされました。いまだに新型コロナウィルス感染症の収束が見通せない世界ですが、阿弥陀さまのおはたらきを聞き、それを依りどころとして日々の生活を過ごしてまいりましょう。

現在の厳しい状況の中でさまざまな試みを重ねながら、今までとは違った方法で浄土真宗のみ教えを広く社会へ伝える取り組みもなされていると聞き、たいへん心強く思います。これからもお寺が皆さまの心の支えとなりますよう、お寺の活動にご理解とご協力を頂きますことをお願い申し上げ、年頭のご挨拶といたします。

2022年1月1日

浄土真宗本願寺派
門主　大谷光淳

Receive Shinjin - True Entrusting (Part 1) (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

Namo Amida Butsu is an expression of our deep gratitude for the great working of Amida Buddha's Vow."

This is our Jodo Shinshu teaching based on Shinjin, or true entrusting. Very simply, it means that by saying the Nembutsu and entrusting oneself to the Primal Vow, one attains Buddhahood. That is why in Jodo Shinshu tradition we have been taught, "Receive *Shinjin*."

But just what is Shinjin? What state of mind must we have when we receive Shinjin? Many of you probably have such questions whenever you recite the Nembutsu. I am embarrassed to say that, if any of you were to ask me, "Sensei, have you received *Shinjin*?" I would not be able to answer with confidence, "Of course I have!"

Because it is the beginning of the year, it is a good opportunity for us to contemplate the essence of Jodo Shinshu, which is *Shinjin*.

Shinran describes *Shinjin* as a mind free of doubt. Doubt is an expression of our calculating mind which Shinran describes as, "the mind that believes in the recompense of evil and good." In other words, this is the mind to be fearful of one's bad deeds and dependent on one's own meritorious acts. All those with this calculating mind really understand that good acts cause good effects and that bad acts cause bad effects. This is the law of cause and effect, the essence of Buddhism.

Shinran was highly critical of religious groups that disregarded the law of causality as false. However, we should understand that in our Jodo Shinshu, we clearly deny a "belief in the recompense of evil and good" such as the belief that those who commit bad deeds will be denied birth in the Pure Land; or that those who perform meritorious acts will surely be able to go to the Pure Land.

This is because Jodo Shinshu follows the law of causality whereby we gain the result of being born in the Pure Land and attaining Buddhahood just by receiving *Shinjin*. To say it simply, if we receive *Shinjin*, or simply accept the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu" which is the fruit of Amida Buddha's wisdom and compassion, we are promised birth in the Pure Land as a Buddha. And an important point here is that *Shinjin* is also a deep realization and awakening that our own power is useless. Instead, we are entirely dependent on the power of Amida Buddha's Primal Vow. That is, *Shinjin* is to get rid of our own calculation and only depend upon the inconceivable power of the Primal Vow. These realizations are called "the two aspects of *Shinjin*" and they are completely different from the belief in the recompense of evil and good which depends on the calculation of self-power.

Because some of you may believe that those who do something wrong will go to hell, you might reflect on your daily lives often and be concerned whether you will really be able to enter the Pure Land. Or there must be some among you who make efforts to do good deeds by reciting the Nembutsu because you believe that doing so will bring about your birth in the Pure Land. However, both of these mindsets are the calculations of self-power.

It is our calculating mind that assumes we will surely enter the Pure Land because we recite the Nembutsu. It is also our calculating mind that worries that, despite gratefully reciting the Nembutsu, we may not enter the Pure Land because we are unable to rid ourselves of anger and jealousy. With such a mindset, we cannot say that we have received *Shinjin*. Do any of you believe that you are all right simply because you recite the Nembutsu? These are not thoughts of anyone who has truly received *Shinjin*.

To receive *Shinjin* means to completely rid oneself both of a belief in the discrimination of evil and good as well as in the delusion of self power. We do not need our own calculation at all because Amida Buddha's calculation allows us to attain Buddhahood. *Shinjin* is the world minus our calculating mind.

However, each of us stubbornly lives only by our own calculations from birth till we die. We depend on our limited yardstick to view the world and we dislike denying we do so. However, please consider that if those who perform only good acts will be happy and those who commit bad deeds will pay for them, honestly, nobody will be able to go to the Pure Land! Even when we perform good deeds, we do so out of self-centeredness. So our good deeds are done to receive the rewards based on our judgment. But even at our most vulnerable, when we see our true selves from the viewpoint of the Buddha's true wisdom, our calculation is both impure and imperfect.

Thus, Shinran teaches us to throw away the imperfect concept of self-power (our calculating mind) and rely instead on other power which is Amida Buddha's Vow (Amida's calculation) in order to receive true peace of mind.

I will share the rest of my message next month.

In Gassho,

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」二〇二二年一月法話

ー信心をいただく（一）ー

駐在開教使　向嶋裕史

新年明けましておめでとうございます。旧年中はご門徒の皆様に大変お世話になりましたこと、心より御礼申し上げます。本年も家族共々宜しくお願い申し上げます。

さて早速ではありますが、皆さんもご存知のように、浄土真宗の宗祖である親鸞聖人がお勧め下さったお念仏のみ教えは、信心を根本とする「信心正因・称名報恩」の教えであります。つまり、信心をいただくことが浄土へ生まれて仏になることのできる正しい道であり、私達が「南無阿弥陀仏」と称えることは、阿弥陀仏のご本願への報恩感謝を表すお念仏であるということです。このみ教えを一言で説明しますと、「本願を信じて、念仏を申せば必ず仏になる」となります。

ですから私達は日頃からよく「信心をいただきなさいよ」と聞かされています。しかし、そもそもこの信心とはいったい何のことでしょうか？どういう心の状態を信心をいただいたというのでしょうか？皆さんの多くがこの疑問を抱きつつお念仏を称えておられることと思います。恥ずかしながら、私自身、「先生は信心をいただきましたか」とご門徒さんに問われても「もちろん、いただいていますよ」と自信を持って答えることはできません。

そこで、年始めということで、浄土真宗のみ教えの要となる信心について皆さんと共に味わってまいりたいと思います。

まず、親鸞聖人は信心について「無疑心」という言い方をされています。疑というのは私達の「はからい」を表しているのですが、この「はからい」を別の言葉で親鸞聖人は「信罪福心」とおっしゃっています。信罪福心というのは、自らの罪を恐れ、自らの功徳（善い行い）をあてにする心をいいます。このような心を持つ人は、善い事をすれば必ず善い結果が生まれ、悪い事をすれば必ず悪い報いを受けるという「善因善果・悪因悪果」、つまり、仏教の因果の道理を熟知されておられる方です。

親鸞聖人も因果の法則を無視した宗教は偽物でしかないと厳しく批判されています。しかし、浄土真宗では、信罪福心のような悪を犯した者は浄土に往生できないと考えたり、善を積んだ者は必ず浄土に往生できるであろうという因果律は否定しています。

なぜなら、浄土真宗は、阿弥陀仏の智慧と慈悲の結晶である名号（南無阿弥陀仏）が私達に至り届いた「信心」という因によって、私達は「往生成仏」の果を得ることができるという因果の法則に従った教えだからです。そして、往生の因である信心とは、自分の力が浄土往生について何の役にも立たないのだと認識することであり、浄土往生はひとえに阿弥陀仏の本願力にあると信知することです。すなわち、信心とは、自らのはからいを捨てさり、阿弥陀仏の本願力にすべてお任せするということなのです。このことを「二種深信」というのですが、自力のはからいを持つ信罪福心とは大きく異なります。

皆さんの中にも、悪いことをすると地獄に堕ちると思って、自分の日常生活を省みては、本当にお浄土に行けるのだろうかと心配している方がおられると思います。また、善行を積むことがお浄土参りをもたらすのだと考えて、お念仏に励んでおられる方もいるはずです。しかし、このような心を自力のはからいというのです。

お念仏しているから、お浄土に生まれることは間違いないと思うこともはからい。感謝のお念仏はしているけれども、腹を立てたり、人を妬む心を捨てられないでいる自分は、ひょっとするとお浄土に行けないのではないかと思う心もはからい。このような心の状態であったら、信心をいただいたとは言わないのです。皆さんの中で、「私はお念仏しているから大丈夫」と思っている人はいませんか？残念ながら、これは信心をいただいた人の言葉ではありません。

信心をいただいていくということは、信罪福心がない、つまり、自力のはからいのない世界をいいます。阿弥陀仏のおはからいでお浄土に参って、仏にならせていただくのですから、自らのはからいは必要ありません。

しかし、私達人間は生まれてきてから死ぬまでずっと、自らのはからいばかりの生活です。つねに理屈をならべ、自分の限られた物差しだけで物事を見ています。ですから、私達は自らのはからいを否定するのを嫌がります。しかし、善いことをする者が助かって幸せになり、悪いことをする者が悪い報いを受けると考えるのであれば、正直言って私達は誰一人としてお浄土には行けないのではないでしょうか。なぜなら、たとえ善いことをしたとしても、その心の奥底には自己中心の根っこがあって、自分の算盤勘定をもとに、善い報いを得たいという心で善いことをしているのにすぎません。痛いところをついていますが、真の智慧をそなえた仏さまから見れば、私達のはからいは非常に不純で不完全なものなのです。

ですから、親鸞聖人は、不完全な自力のはからいを捨てて、阿弥陀仏のおはからい（本願）の中に身を委ねて真の安らぎを得なさいと教えて下さっているのです。この続きについては来月の寺報法話でお話しさせていただきたいと思います。

Kevin Nishita: Temple Member and Friend to the Sangha

It was with great sadness that we learned that Kevin Nishita, a member of our Temple, died on the morning of November 27. Kevin's death has been an immense shock to our Temple community. We are devastated by the sudden loss of our Dharma friend who was taken from us so tragically. No matter what the circumstances, such a brutal act cannot be condoned.

Kevin was an invaluable Temple member and friend, devoted to protecting our community, so that we could live without constant fear of violence and crime. He was a true Buddhist who worked tirelessly in the spirit of loving kindness for the safety and well-being of others. His many years of selfless contributions to our community alone are worthy of our gratitude and praise. He was a brave police officer and security guard whom we cannot thank deeply enough for his great dedication to our temple and our community.

Kevin was a role model for all Jodo Shinshu Buddhists and we were privileged to have been part of his life. He had a profound influence on all of us in the way he led his life. His passing is a great loss to both his family and our Temple community. But his great spirit and gentle smile will live in our hearts as our spiritual guide.

The entire Sangha of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple extends our deepest condolences to Kevin's family whom we will support in any way we can during this difficult period. Kevin is now being embraced by Amida Buddha and is safe and at peace in our hearts and minds. We honor and thank Kevin, a Temple member who embodied compassion, and offer our deepest gratitude to him for being part of our lives.

May all beings be happy and well.
May they all be free from pain and suffering.
May they be free from illness, anguish and grief.
May they all be free from discrimination and violence.

May our wish for peace bless the world and all living beings. May all of our loving kindness ring throughout the ages.

In Gassho, (with palms together)

Namo Amida Butsu
Namo Amida Butsu
Namo Amida Butsu

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple Sangha

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

Kevin Nishita ***July 1, 1965 - Nov 27, 2021***

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

Namo Amida Butsu — With Kindness and Gratitude beyond words.

Dharma School News

Thank you to our families, teachers, and the Sangha for continuing to support our Dharma School program even as we continue to face the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

May you all have a happy and healthy holiday season and an auspicious start to the new year. I'll look forward to seeing all of you in 2022!

In Gassho,
Brent Izutsu
Dharma School Superintendent

Super Seniors Miyo Takegami

Written by Marie Ochi-Jacobs

Miyo at the 2019 Keiro Kai

Miyoko (known to friends as Miyo) Nakao Takegami has been an active member of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple Sangha for decades, but her life began in Hawaii.

THE NAKAO FAMILY

Miyo's parents, Shintaro and Natsu Nakao, ran a tailor shop in Kona, Hawaii. Her father was the tailor and her mother was a dress-maker. The family lived in the back of the shop where Miyo was born in 1934. She was the middle of seven children – four boys and three girls. The family attended services at the Kona Hongwanji. Miyo also joined the YBA and was a Dharma School instructor at age 16.

Sunday School Teacher's Conference in Kona, Hawaii in 1950. A high school junior, Miyo stands in the second row, sixth from the right.

Life was busy for the Nakao family. Balancing school schedules with farm needs, each November through March, the Nakao children harvested the red fruit of the coffee plants. Most of the coffee known as "Kona" was grown primarily on these small family-owned farms.

Growing up, Miyo's favorite past-time was reading. Her best subject was English, especially extemporaneous writing. When she moved away, she wrote copious letters to her mother who complained of the "novels" she had to read. The day after her high school graduation in 1952, Miyo flew to Honolulu to begin studies at the University of Hawaii for a teaching degree. It was a five-year program (the fifth year was student teaching) and while her parents managed to pay the $100 tuition per semester, Miyo covered other expenses such as room and board, working for a family. She graduated in 1956.

MEETS DAVID TAKEGAMI

David Takegami was born in 1934, in Aiea, Oahu. He had one sister and the family operated Fukuya, a Japanese cuisine delicatessen and catering business in Honolulu. After high school, in 1952, David moved to California to attend Santa Rosa Jr. College and afterwards studied at San Francisco State College. Heeding his parents' call, David returned home to help their business. Miyo was a student teacher at Palolo School in Honolulu when a classmate from Kona introduced her to David. Over time, Miyo noticed David's quiet manners, thoughtfulness and devotion to his parents.

MARRIAGE AND MOVING TO THE MAINLAND

Miyo and David married on April 20, 1957. Soon after, the couple started their family with Darren born in 1958 followed by Darci and Donna in Honolulu.

David Takegami and Miyoko Nakao wed in Honolulu , Hawaii April 20, 1957

On July 1,1967, Dave and Miyo's family, along with his parents, moved to Mountain View. Dave's mother, Mildred was at last, living closer to her sisters Myrtle Miyahara and Bessie Hayashida.

JOINING MVBT

Miyo gratefully recalled the people they met at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. Miyo says, "Aggie Hirotsu is a role model for me as she had an 'open arms' style welcome -- so giving and uncomplaining. She would encourage me to go places and sat with us in the Hondo. We became good friends."

Miyo also remembers that "Amy Imai was very influential and she taught me a lot -- the Senior Activities Group and ***Otoki*** Committee -- that definitely made me want to do all I could for our Temple. I wanted to follow her example of unselfishness, efficiency and hard work in whatever tasks were undertaken."

Sam Sugimoto, who was an avid fisherman, introduced Dave to his favorite fishing spots and, with a few Temple friends, invited

(Continued on page 9)

Super Senior Miyo Takegami (cont'd)

(Continued from page 8)

Dave and Miyo to their cabin for fishing at Huntington Lake. For family recreation, the Takegamis drove to Bay Area fishing holes, such as at San Luis Reservoir for stripers and sometimes traveled to the Klamath River for perch and/or salmon. The family took their camper to see and fish in Canada.

Dave's parents became acquainted with Mas Nakano, and in 1968 they joined MVBT. They were asked to open a Tempura Booth at the Obon Festivl and Bazaar. In later Bazaars, Dave set up the French Fries and Corndog Booths.

In 1977 their youngest son, Derek joined the MVBT Cub Pack 87 as well as Tri-City Association. In 1981, Miyo and Aggie Hirotsu became den mothers. Miyo and Dave also joined MVBT ABA and Dave served as a President for one term.

As Den Mothers for Pack 8, Miyo (left) and Aggie Hirotsu (right) pose with Den Leader Allan Moore (center) in 1987

Family photo at Derek's Court of Honor in 1988. Left to right: Darci, Donna, Miyo, Derek, Dave and Darren

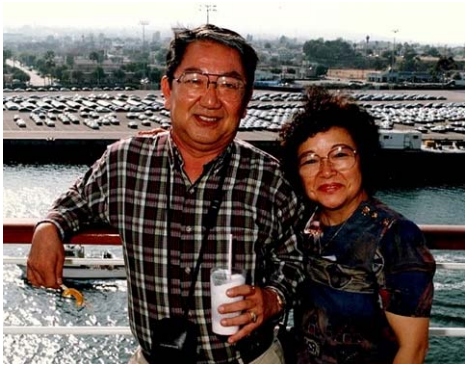
Dave and Sets Kuboyama would set up ABA's annual luau in the back of the Temple campus, digging a hole in the ground to fit the pig.

Dave helped the ABA Luau crew roast a pig inground using specialized rocks (from Hawaii) and banana leaves (from the trees planted on Temple grounds)

WORK AND THEN RETIREMENT

After 33 years at Hewlett Packard, Dave retired as facilities manager, then joined a friend's startup company, In Solutions. Miyo kept busy as an administrative assistant at Hewlett Packard for 11 years and later as a deli and formal clerk at Safeway.

David and Miyo enjoyed traveling. In 1999, they went to China and also attended a cruise to Mexico. In March 2001, the couple joined Sam and Aiko Sugimoto to visit Florida. Upon their return, David was hospitalized and succumbed to a coma. Sadly, after 16 days, David passed to the other shore.



Mexican Cruise in May 1994 on the Fair Princess

Miyo and Dave look happy as they stand on the Great Wall in China in 1999

CHEWY

After losing Dave, Miyo adopted Chewy in May. He was her solace during this difficult time of grieving. Chewy, in return, rewarded her with 19 years of unselfish love and companionship until the ravages of old age finally took him. Miyo shall be forever grateful for the years he was with her and Miyo shall forever cherish and remember him fondly.

Chewy

(Continued on page 10)

Super Senior Miyo Takegami (cont'd)

(Continued from page 9)

MVBT ACTIVITIES

In February 2002, Yas Shimoguchi, Richard Endo, Alan Nara, Amy Imai, Chuck Uyeda and Miyo were recruited by Rev. Jay Shinseki (as the advisor) to create the Thursday Seniors Activity Group.

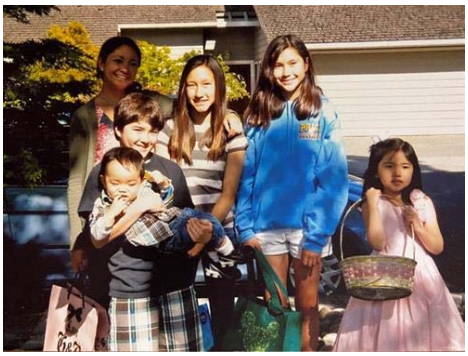
Rev. Dean Koyama, in 2003, began the Oasaji meetings to fulfill member requests. Miyo and Mildred Takegami joined since they enjoyed chanting. In 2009, Miyo and Aggie joined the BWA and Miyo became their corresponding secretary.

O-asaji Group in October 2019.
Miyo is in front row, 1st on left.

BWA Luncheon in February 2017
(Lt to Rt): Aggie, Miyo, Reiko & Kimi

FAMILY UPDATE

Miyo's family has grown over the years and now include seven grandchildren: Darren and Darlene are parents to Joanna, eldest daughter Darci and husband Matthew Hill are parents to Sarah and Lindsay, younger daughter Donna and husband Liam Kelly are parents to Katelyn and Jack, and youngest son Derek and wife Kami (Kawai) are parents to Taryn and Logan.



Takegami grandchildren in 2011.
Front Row (Lt to Rt): baby Logan Takegami is held by Jack Kelly and Taryn Takegami.
Back Row (Lt to Rt): Katlyn Kelly, Sarah Hill, and Lindsay Hill. Missing is Joanna Takegami.

DEVOTION TO FAMILY & MVBT

Miyo's infectious laughter, spirit of kindness, hard work and generosity have been shining examples of her devotion to her family and MVBT.

The Senior Memories Committee and the MVBT Sangha wish her a safe and healthy 2022.

Namo Amida Butsu —
With Kindness and Gratitude beyond words.

Seniors Activities & Crafts Program News

MVBT Seniors Activities and Crafts

The Senior Activities and Craft have few news to report, but we wish mostly to stay in touch with all of you. It is our hope we can once again join together our once-a-week Thursday meetings. For our safety in mind, the Temple has decided not to open the Temple activities until the first of the year. In the meantime, stay well and maintain your good health. You are all missed.

Thursday: Taiko

We will continue the Taiko program every Thursday from 10:00 am to 10:45 am. We thank our instructors, **Susan Yuen** and **Linda Uyechi**, for their patience, in giving our Taiko lesson via Zoom. Please join in the fun with us, for it is never too late to enjoy and learn Taiko. We are looking for interested Taiko members. For more information, call **Reiko Tsuchida**.

Cookbook

The Senior Activities Cookbook is still available and can be purchased at the Temple office or through the Senior Committee members. A great holiday gift. The sale price is still at $15.

In Gassho,
Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto

Volume 61 Number 1

Girl Scout Padma Award Program at MVBT

This is the first of the three articles by three MVBT Girl Scouts who are working for their Padma Award. Each scout is writing about a woman who is a Buddhist Reverend with the BCA.

By Cadette Kurumi Mukojima

Rev. Yukiko Motoyoshi

This summer, I had a great opportunity to interview Rev. Yukiko Motoyoshi, who is a BCA minister emeritus. She told me that the most important thing was being aware of yourself, knowing yourself and that the true teachings of Buddhism always starts with "I". She also said that Buddhism is not Buddhism unless it is connected to our everyday life.

Motoyoshi Sensei is a person just like myself, who is a daughter of a minister and had been listening to the teachings of the Buddha since her childhood. Her father was the 18th generation reverend and she became the 19th generation of Buddhists reverends in her family. Her father's youngest brother took over the family temple in Fukui, Japan.

Even though she had been listening to the teachings of Buddha since she was a child, she started getting interested in Buddhism when she entered college. When she experienced an identity crisis, she was able to find the answers through the teachings of Buddhism. She told me that she couldn't see who she was, what she was, where she was going, and how she was living. She was not able to see any value in everything. There was no direction in her life. She told me, "One day, I went outside and felt the warm Hawaiian sun and gentle Hawaiian breeze. I also felt lives of trees and flowers. They are all alive and they are so beautiful," I thought. I suddenly felt that I was embraced by Amida Buddha. "I wasn't alone, but I was always with Amida Buddha." With that feeling, I was able to reflect on myself and the surrounding in more a calm and clear mind. In other words, instead of looking at one's self and the world from clouded eyes (i.e., limited, discriminative and self-centered mind), I was able to see myself and the world more objectively. I was NOT completely free of discriminative and self-centered mind, but it was certainly little bit (it was just tiny bit, though) better than before. Because of the interdependent and empty nature of the world, I became what I am, who I am and how I exist."

She states, "In happiness and in sadness, the teachings of Buddha (especially "interdependence" and "emptiness") enables me to be aware of the true nature of that very moment. This helps me to live that moment truly and appreciative as much as I am able to."

Buddhism made her more aware of herself (who she was and who others were). As she got older her perspectives started to change and because of that her appreciation for Buddhism became greater.

One question I asked her was, "What do you think women can do in our community today to contribute to the betterment of the community?" She told me that we are all different. Buddhism teaches us to see the connection with others, while also seeing the connection within ourselves. She also said as follows: "I am a woman and this is as much as I can do. I will serve the community because I am a person and not just a woman." She told me that contributing to the community does not matter whether I'm a woman or a man because I'm a person who is part of the community.

After talking with Motoyoshi Sensei, I learned that recognition is important. Everyone is different and recognizing each other's differences in a good way is important. Knowing the differences of each other and still being kind to each other are the teachings of Buddhism. Buddhism enables us to know who we are and understand each other better. The most important thing is to know that we are part of the community.

I've grown up attending the MVBT since I was in kindergarten. But to be honest, I hadn't listened to Buddha's teachings seriously because I was optimistic about my life. But when the pandemic occurred last year, I had the opportunity to think deeply about my life. I figured out that I didn't know what I was doing, who I was, where my life was going, and what I'm going to do in the future. I think this was an identity crisis, maybe? Although I wanted to try to find the answer to these questions, I didn't want to tell my parents because I didn't want them to worry. However, after talking with Motoyoshi Sensei and hearing how Buddhism enabled her to find the answers to her identity crisis, I was very impressed with it. Since then I've tried to find ways to connect Buddhism in my everyday life with the stories and teachings my dad tells every Sunday Service. I started being able to look at everything (myself, friends, family, homework, etc.) carefully. As you can see, talking with Motoyoshi Sensei helped me connect Buddhism in my everyday life, and see everything around me and myself in a calm manner.

Japanese American Incarceration Memorial Legacy Project

Flag Signing Event

To: MVBT Japanese-American WWII Incarceration Camp Internees
Date: Sunday, January 9, 2022
Time: 1 pm – 4 pm
Location: Mountain View Buddhist Temple
575 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mountain View, CA 94043

Manzanar Tule Lake Poston Gila River Granada

Heart Mountain Minidoka Topaz Rohwer Jerome

Flag photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

Inspired by Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Roberta Hayashi, Dr. Karen Korematsu, and Civil Rights Attorney Dale Minami, Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Johnny Cepeda Gogo obtained a WWII era, 48-star, American flag with the goal of inviting ALL Japanese American incarceration camp internees to sign the flag. MVBT is honored to host a flag signing event on January 9, 2022.

For more information about the flag signing project, please see the following site: http://www.discovernikkei.org/en/journal/2021/5/27/flag-signing-project/

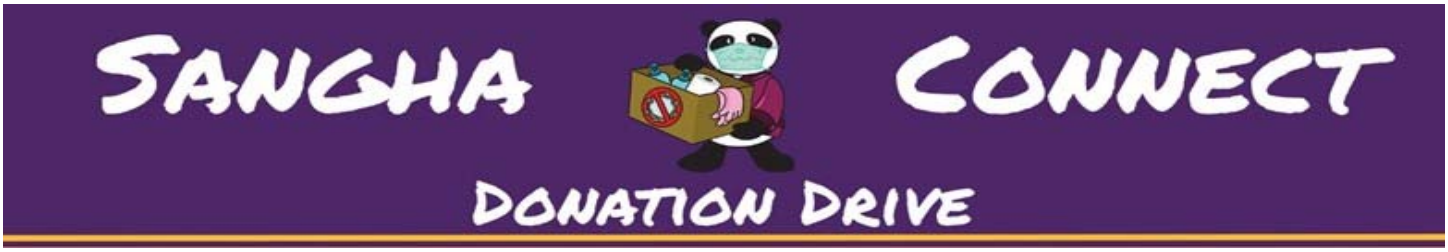
The flag signing will be by appointment and registration is limited. For more information and to register for a time slot to sign, go to: https://sangha.mvbuddhisttemple.org/events/flag-signing/ Registration Deadline: Wednesday, December 29, 2021.

For questions about the flag signing event please contact bwa@mvbuddhisttemple.org or call the Temple office Monday – Friday, 10 am – 2 pm at 650-964-9426.

**This event will follow all MVBT Health and Safety COVID-19 requirements:
COVID-19 vaccinations, face coverings/masks and physical distancing will be strictly enforced.**

Hondo & Nokotsudo Fumization

The Hondo and Nokutodo were fumigated over the Thanksgiving weekend. Termite dropping were found over several times in the foyer. Below are some photographs as the Hondo and Nokutsudo were being tented and fumigated.



On Tuesday, November 30, Giving Tuesday, the Sangha Connect Fundraiser launched and immediately received donations. Thanks to your generosity, we are well on our way to help offset the costs for touchless restroom fixtures, UV light filtration for Hondo furnaces, disinfecting supplies, and air purifiers. All of these purchases and upgrades enables the Sangha to maintain its ability to stay connected with each other and the community at large. While we are off to a strong start, there is still a long way to go, so we encourage everyone to please contribute to this very important donation drive.

A Donation Link and a Wish List can be found on the Sangha Connect Page:

https://sangha.mvbuddhisttemple.org/

Donations can also be made on the Mountain View Buddhist Temple's donation page:

https://secure.qgiv.com/for/mvbt

Thank you very much!

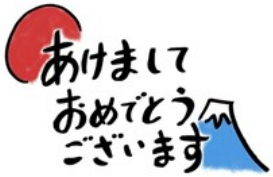
In Gassho
MVBT Reopening Task Force

Donate to Support your Mountain View Buddhist Temple

Help ongoing efforts to stay connected with the community and Sangha

BWA News

Buddhist Women's Association



Akemashita Omedeto Gozai-masu! BWA extends our Best Wishes for a safe, healthy and Happy New Year!

ESHINNI-KO / BWA MEMORIAL SERVICE

We will be observing our Eshinni -ko, Kakushinni-ko, Lady Ohtani, Lady Takeko Kujo and BWA Memorial Service on Sunday, January 23, 2022.

Eshinni - Wife of Shinran

DANA YOUTH FUND DRIVE

With deep gratitude, we thank you for your generous donations for our Dana Youth Fund Drive. We will be making our presentation to the Temple affiliated youth groups at our virtual "Eshinni-ko/BWA Memorial Service" on Sunday, January 23, 2022.

In Gassho,
Reiko Murakami
BWA President

SUPPORT YOUR TEMPLE

Shop at Amazon Smile

Earn Income for MVBT!

At no cost to you, Amazon will donate a % of your purchase to MVBT.

Visit **www.smile.amazon.com**. In your AmazonSmile account, pick "Mountain ViewBuddhist Temple" as your charitable organization.

Make your purchase. Thank you for your help.

Facilities Planning Committee News: Hiro Apartments

Hiro Apartments viewed from Sangha Hall patio

APARTMENTS ARE NEARING COMPLETION!

The Facilities Planning Committee is starting to form an interest list for any members interested in possibly renting an apartment at Hiro Apartments or any other apartments owned by Prometheus.

Please feel free to contact Justin Halada at jhalada@prometheusreg.com or 650-931-3468 if interested.

In Gassho,
Facilities Planning Committee

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736

Daisy Scout

Our Daisy will earn the Use Resources Wisely petal by learning about the "7 Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Refuse, Repair, Recycle, Repurpose, and Recover." For fun, she will make a ***kokeshi*** doll from a recycled snack container.

Junior Scouts

The Junior girls will begin preparations to earn their Bronze Award, the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can earn. The girls will team up to make a difference in their community; they will learn leadership skills, and see how small actions can make a big difference!

Padma Scouts

Our Padma Scouts will each be submitting an article about their interview of a female Buddhist Reverend. Be sure to look for **Kurumi's** interview of **Reverend Yukiko Motoyoshi** in this edition of the Echo.

In Gassho,
Girl Scout Troop #60736

Girl Scout Meeting
December 2021

Support Your Temple

Donate to Past & Upcoming Services

Bodhi Day / New Year's Eve / New Year's Day / Hoonko / BWA Memorial

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

(1) Use the MVBT online "DONATE" or (2) Send a check to the Temple office

Final 2021 150 Club News

We have two winners for December. Our winner for the month of December is **Marge Nishimoto**.

And, our 2021 Grand Prize winner is **Ken Nakano**.

Congratulations, Marge and Ken!

Thank you all for participating in 150 Club!

Everyone, please stay safe!

150 Club Committee

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo Article Deadline	Echo Sent in Mail
JAN	No Toban	N / A	N / A
FEB	No Toban	Jan 14 (Fri)	Jan 24 (Mon)
MAR	No Toban	Feb 11 (Fri)	Feb 21 (Mon)

Please note the article deadline and mailing dates. The mailing date has been adjusted to accommodate the Temple's COVID-19 requirements. This will provide time to layout, proof, finalize and print the issue. Thank you. *Domo Arigato.* Email all articles to echo@mvbuddhisttemple.org .

Miroku

This month at Miroku, we started our meeting off with an ice breaker. Next, we discussed old business, including Miroku T-shirts and Echo article sign up. Then, we talked about 2021 year and new business:

- **Service to the Temple:** Thank you to the Miroku members who participated in making Keiro Kai cards.
- **Service to the Community**: We voted on ideas for our Miroku service project and created a sub-group to do additional research and bring more information to the next meeting.
- **Fun!:** We thanked Kendall and Kai for organizing the Gartic Phone activity after last month's meeting. We discussed ideas for a social activity in 2022. We also voted to put together a "Secret Sangha" activity before Christmas! Miroku members should look out for more information to follow.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

In Gassho,
Kate Hojo
Miroku Member

MIROKU

Mountain View Buddhist Temple

YBA

MVBT YBA NEWS

YBA TRIP PLANNING

The majority of our YBA members have voted to go to Disneyland for our 2022 trip. The trip planning committee will begin to flesh out the details in January.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Our YBA holiday party is currently being planned for late December. This event is being organized by the YBA advisors.

MOUNTAIN VIEW COAST DISTRICT WINTER ACTIVITY

We are currently brainstorming ideas for the Mountain View CD Winter Activity which will take place sometime in March of next year. Given the rise of new COVID-19 variants, we have decided to proactively plan an outdoor activity, and so far, our top idea is an outdoor movie screening.

YBA SPAGHETTI DINNER

Our **YBA Spaghetti Dinner Chair Jake Aquino** has begun preparation for the Spaghetti Dinner in February 2022. We are anticipating having another dine out fundraiser again, but hope to bring back our traditional event in future years. Expect to hear more information in the near future.

In Gassho,
Evan Itow
2021 - 2022 YBA President

ABA News

MVBT

Adult Buddhist Association

Another year comes to a close. 2021 was another challenging year for everyone, but ABA kept our monthly Zoom meetings and enjoyed the camaraderie with everyone.

We are grateful to the support and dedication of the MVBT's Sangha and wish you all a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

In Gassho,
Jean Shimoguchi
ABA President

"Happy New Year 2022"
From the MVBT ABA

Keiro-kai @ Home

Keiro-kai is an annual gathering to honor, celebrate, and show our gratitude to our elders at MVBT

Arigato!

We at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, are deeply grateful for all that our Keiro have done and continue to do for our Sangha. As this is the second year in a row that we have been unable to gather together for our traditional Keiro-kai Luncheon due to the pandemic, we are acutely aware of all the ties and connections that our Keiros have with the Temple, their families, their friends and the community. We can truly appreciate the theme of **KIZUNA** (ties and bonds) as we consider everything the Keiro and Temple Community has done to maintain and strengthen our connections.

In the spirit of Kizuna, we invited all our Keiro to order a complimentary Bento as a gesture of our appreciation. We offered Bento delivery to Keiro who were unable to pick it up themselves. And each Keiro bento order included a gift bag of scratchers, snacks and fresh persimmon. In addition, Sangha members could purchase additional Bento to enjoy with their Keiro and other family/friends. We were fortunate to have Rev. Mukojima greet drivers and passengers during Bento pickup time. As a special treat, Jun Daiko performed throughout our pickup time for the enjoyment of our Sangha. We encouraged all Keiro and their loved ones to submit photos so that while we were still unable to gather, we could enjoy seeing our friends. Dharma School students reached out to our Keiro with greeting cards and notes, and shared photos of their creations that we added to our Photo Gallery.

As added incentive to build our collection, each photo entry qualified for prizes in two categories: Keiro and Dharma School Students. Congratulations to all prize winners!

- **Keiros:** Fay Matsumoto, Esther Bunya, Frances Sawamura, Irv & Marilyn Ozawa and Misao Tanouye
- **Dharma School Students:** Mason I., Jett N., Gavin C., Connor S. and Yumi P.

We could not have had the Keiro-kai Bento Distribution without our many volunteers. We are grateful for their time and support for our event. Thank you to Daniel Ryu, Elizabeth Sauber, Alex Tsukahara, Evan Tsukahara, Bob Matsumoto, Courtney Makishima, Lois Okino, Joanne Makishima, Doug Sawamura, Barry Tao, Eric Arikaki, Ed Ryu, Ray Yuen, Rev. Mukojima, Peter Matsumoto, Gail Satake-Nakamura, Alyson Olivera, Kaila, Kainoa, Kelly M., Kelly T. and Keiko T.

And thanks to our troupe of Jun Daiko performers: Susan Yuen, Loreen Ellsbury, Elise Fujimoto, Linda Uyechi, and Rome Hamner.

We encourage everyone to check out the website and enjoy our Keiro-kai 2021 Photo Gallery. Thanks to ALL who contributed!

Appreciating connections to our Keiro and our Sangha,
Zone 10 Keiro Kai Committee
Sterling Makishima, Sharon Tsukahara, Linda Uyechi & Julie Satake Ryu

January 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 **January** Shotsuki loved ones are:

Nobuko Akahoshi	**Tamaye Ishikawa**	**Tsuyako Osaki**
Kiyoshi Aoyagi	**Shirlee Ishimaru**	**Kiyoshi Oto**
Ronald Asada	**Ronald Iyemura**	**John Saito**
Tsuyuko Virginia Asada	**Itsuyo Kato**	**Karen Sakae**
Ichiro Endo	**Katsuko Kochi**	**Doris Sakai**
Shigeko Betty Fujii	**Muneo Masaki**	**Shinajiro Satake**
Tomizo Furuichi	**BettyJane Masukawa**	**Larry Shimamoto**
Yoshiye Furuichi	**Joe Matsumoto**	**Tomoye Shimamoto**
Yasuko Betty Furusho	**Tsuya Nagasaki**	**Tom Sugimoto**
Hidemi Furuzawa	**George Nakano**	**Shig Tachibana**
Mary Hiramoto	**Haruyo Nakano**	**Linda Takahashi**
Kiyoye Hirano	**Misao Nakano**	**Shinsaburo Togashi**
Tom Hirano	**Yashichi Nakano**	**Yoshimitsu Tokutomi**
Frank Hirohata	**Sylvia Nara**	**Thomas Tsukamoto**
Alan Hoshi	**Kisaye Nishimoto**	**Yoshio Yamaguchi**
Robert Hoshi	**Katsumi Nishimura**	**Yumi Yoneda**
Masaburo Hoshi	**Kaichi Okazaki**	**James Yoshino**
Kiyoko Inamori	**June Okino**	**Ben Yoshizumi**
Setsuko Sara Ikeuye	**Brad Okuno**	**Henry Yusa**
Grace Ishii	**Kazuko Okuno**	
Minoru Ishii	**Satoru Okuno**	

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 **reverend@mvbuddhisttemple.org**

Phone (Temple office) **(650) 964-9426**

January

Monthly

Memorial

Service

* * * * *

Service at Temple Cancelled

* * * * *

Virtual Shotsuki Hoyo for January to be held on Sunday, January 9

* * * * *

See MVBT website or Putra's Post for details

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.

2022 is the Memorial Year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2021	3rd Year Memorial	2020	7th Year Memorial	2016
13th Year Memorial	2010	17th Year Memorial	2006	25th Year Memorial	1998
27th Year Memorial	1996	33rd Year Memorial	1990	50th Year Memorial	1973

february MMXXII

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 **First Day of Black History Month** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club - Virtual 7:30 pm VISION LHF Committee Meeting	**2**	**3**	**4** 5:00 pm Ukelele	**5**
6 10:00 am Shotsuki Hoyo Service 1:00 pm YBA Meeting	**7** 7:00 pm Buddhist Virtual Discussion Group 7:30 pm Tech Support	**8** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club - Virtual	**9** 7:00 pm MVBT Board Meeting	**10** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko - Virtual	**11** 5:00 pm Ukelele	**12**
13 10:00 am Nirvana Day & Pet Memorial Virtual Service	**14** **Valentine's Day** 7:30 pm Tech Support	**15** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club - Virtual	**16**	**17** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko - Virtual	**18** 5:00 pm Ukelele	**19**
20 10:00 am Boy Scout Virtual Sunday Service	**21** **Presidents' Day** 7:30 pm Tech Support	**22** 7:30 pm Ukelele Club - Virtual 7:00 pm Young Adult Buddhist Discussion	**23**	**24** 10:00 am Senior Taiko 6:30 pm Adult Taiko - Virtual	**25** 5:00 pm Ukelele	**26**
27	**28** 7:30 pm RPC Virtual Meeting 7:30 pm Tech Support					

Upcoming Events

February 6, Sunday
Shotsuki Hoyo Service

February 7, Monday
Buddhist Discussion Group

February 13, Sunday
Nirvana Day & Pet Memorial Service

February 20, Sunday
Boy Scout Sunday Service

Join MVBT Sangha

- **Five membership categories — One will fit you**
- **Build & Support your Sangha, so that we can learn & live the teachings of the Dharma**
- **Impermanence & Interdependence — we are in this together**

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Mountain View Buddhist Temple

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www.mvbuddhisttemple.org

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