The ECHO

June 2023

Volume 62 Number 6

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

June Highlights

- ***6/4, Sun, 10:00 am, Hybrid***
  June & July Shotsuki Hoyo
  * *11:00 am*
    Japanese Language Service
  * *11:00 am*
    English Language Discussion
- ***6/5, Mon, 7:00 pm***
  Buddhist Discussion Group
- ***6/11, Sun, 10:00 am, Hybrid***
  Graduation Service
- ***6/18, Sun, 10:00 am, Hybrid***
  Father's Day Service
- ***6/25, Sun, 10:00 am, Hybrid***
  Sunday Service

Chatbot's Dharma Talk

There has been a lot of recent news about artificial intelligence chatbots. How they can help with work and how they might replace some human workers and how they might even be dangerous. The following is a Dharma Talk that was written by ChatGPT, one of the artificial intelligence or "AI" chatbot that's been in the news lately.

By Minister's Assistant John Arima

Dharma Talk by ChatGPT

"Entrusting oneself to Amida Buddha is the most important act of the Pure Land Path, and the most difficult to realize. It is through the power of Amida Buddha's Primal Vow that we are able to attain liberation from suffering and attain birth in the Pure Land."

From the ***Kyogyoshinsho, Chapter 1, "The True Teaching, Practice, and Realization"*** by Shinran Shonin

Namo Amida Butsu
Namo Amida Butsu
Namo Amida Butsu

Today, I would like to speak about the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha, which is a central teaching of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

The Primal Vow is the vow that Amida Buddha made in the remote past to save all sentient beings from suffering by leading them to his Pure Land. This vow expresses Amida Buddha's infinite compassion and his desire to help

(Continued on page 4)

Rev. LaVerne Sasaki Funeral at MVBT Held on April 30, 2023

The funeral service for Rev. LaVerne Senyo Sasaki was held at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple on Sunday, April 30, 2023, at 3:00 pm. Rev. Sasaki was born on March 5, 1930 and passed away on March 31, 2023.

The funeral service was co-officiated by the Buddhist Churches of America and the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. The Officiant was Bishop Rev. Marvin Harada with

(Continued on page 6)

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FBWA Monto Shikisho Sale	*8*
Hanamatsuri & Hatsumai Service	*9 - 10*
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Sasaki Memorial Golf Tournament	*14*

The ECHO

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
28 9:30 am - 10:30 am ALTA MESA MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE	**29** 10:00 am - 11:00 am OAK HILL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm RPC MEETING	**30** 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ADULTS TAIKO 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm VISION LHF COMMITTEE MEETING	**31**	**1** 8:00 am - 12:00 pm SENIOR ACTIVITIES AND CRAFTS 11:00 am - 11:45 am SENIOR TAIKO	**2** 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm YABA SOCIAL HANGOUT	**3**
4 10:00 am - 11:00 am SHOTSUKI HOYO SERVICE 11:45 am - 2:00 pm YBA MEETING 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm KIDS TAIKO	**5** 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm BUDDHIST DISCUSSION GROUP	**6** 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ADULTS TAIKO 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm VISION LHF COMMITTEE MEETING 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB	**7**	**8** 8:00 am - 12:00 pm SENIOR ACTIVITIES AND CRAFTS 11:00 am - 11:45 am SENIOR TAIKO 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm TIGER TEAM MEETING	**9** 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm ABA GENERAL MEETING	**10** DHARMA SCHOOL YEAR-END ACTIVITY
11 10:00 am - 11:00 am GRADUATION SERVICE 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm KIDS TAIKO	**12**	**13** 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ADULTS TAIKO 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB	**14** 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm MVBT BOARD MEETING	**15** 8:00 am - 12:00 pm SENIOR ACTIVITIES AND CRAFTS 11:00 am - 11:45 am SENIOR TAIKO	**16**	**17** 10:00 am - 11:30 am BWA CHAPTER MEETING
18 10:00 am - 11:00 am FATHER'S DAY SERVICE 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm KIDS TAIKO	**19**	**20** 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ADULTS TAIKO 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB	**21**	**22** 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm TIGER TEAM MEETING	**23**	**24**
25 10:00 am - 11:00 am SUNDAY SERVICE 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm KIDS TAIKO	**26** 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm RPC MEETING	**27** 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ADULTS TAIKO 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm VISION LHF COMMITTEE MEETING	**28**	**29**	**30**	**1**

Support Your Temple

Donate to Past & Upcoming Services

Hanamatsuri / Hatsumairi / Gotan-e

Obon-Kangi-e-Urabon / Hatsubon

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

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While Sunday Services at the Temple are Hybrid, 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 — June 2023

June 4, 2023, Sunday, 10:00 am, Shotsuki Hoyo for June & July, Hybrid Service

11:00 am Japanese Language Service
11:00 am English Language Discussion

June 5, 2023, Monday, Buddhist Discussion Group

To join, send email to staff@mvbuddhisttemple.org

June 10, 2023, Saturday , Dharma School Year-End Activity

June 11, 2023, Sunday, 10:00 am, Graduation Service, Hybrid Service

Graduating High School Senior Speeches

June 18, 2023, Sunday, 10:00 am, Father's Day Service, Hybrid Service

Graduating High School Senior Speeches

June 25, 2023, Sunday, 10:00 am, Regular Sunday Service, Hybrid Service

Graduating High School Senior Speeches

JOIN US

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

JOZAI: SUNDAY SERVICE DONATION

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

Shotsuki Hoyo Service **Study Class** **Dharma School - 11:00 am**

Check Temple Website for latest information about Temple activities

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

Rev. LaVerne Senyo Sasaki *March 5, 1930 - March 31, 2023*

Ann Hisako Smith *July 24, 1940 - April 26, 2023*

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

Namo Amida Butsu

Chatbot's Dharma Talk (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

all beings, regardless of their background or abilities.

The Primal Vow is based on the understanding that human beings are limited in their ability to attain enlightenment on their own. We are all subject to the cycle of birth, old age, sickness, and death, and we often struggle with our desires and attachments. The Primal Vow is a way of overcoming these limitations by relying on the power of Amida Buddha's vow.

In Jodo Shinshu, the act of entrusting oneself to Amida Buddha's Primal Vow is known as "*shinjin*." ***Shinjin*** is the most important practice for Jodo Shinshu followers because it is the means by which we receive the benefits of Amida Buddha's vow.

Shinjin is not something that we can achieve through our own efforts or merits. It is a gift from Amida Buddha, which we receive when we sincerely entrust ourselves to his vow. When we entrust ourselves to Amida Buddha, we let go of our own efforts and place our trust in his infinite compassion.

Through the power of the Primal Vow, Amida Buddha promises to lead us to his Pure Land after we die. In the Pure Land, we will be surrounded by the Buddha's wisdom and compassion, and we will be able to attain enlightenment quickly and easily. The Pure Land is a realm of ultimate happiness and freedom from suffering.

The Primal Vow is freely available to all beings, regardless of their background or abilities. It is not limited by time, space, or individual differences. All we need to do is entrust ourselves to Amida Buddha with a sincere and open heart.

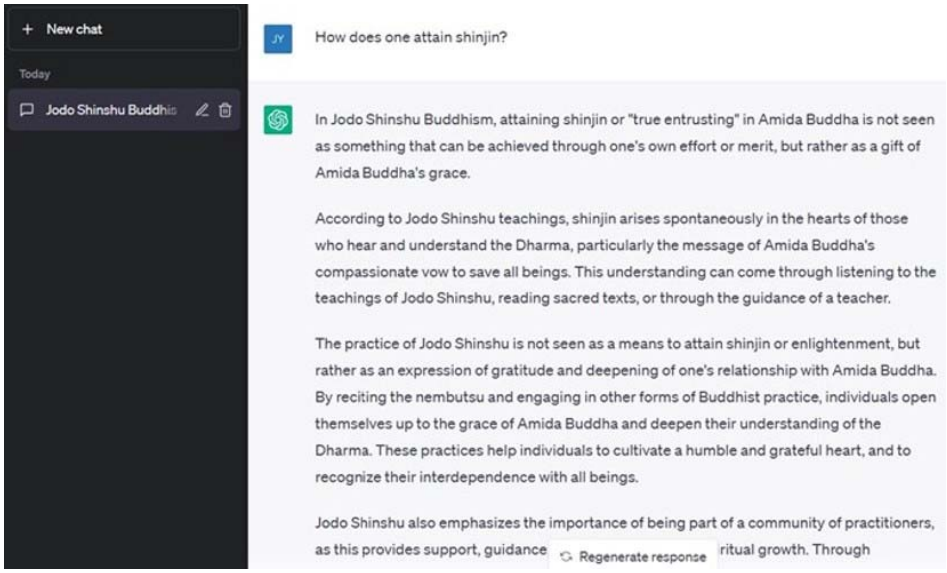
In Jodo Shinshu, we do not emphasize elaborate rituals or strict moral codes. Instead, we emphasize the importance of entrusting ourselves to Amida Buddha's vow with a pure heart. We try to live a compassionate and ethical life, not to earn merit, but as a way of expressing our gratitude to Amida Buddha for his infinite compassion.

In conclusion, the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha is a powerful expression of his infinite compassion and his desire to help all beings achieve enlightenment. It is a central teaching of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and serves as a source of comfort and hope for its followers. By entrusting ourselves to Amida Buddha's vow, we can overcome our limitations and attain liberation from suffering. May we all entrust ourselves to Amida Buddha with a sincere and open heart. Thank you.

Pretty Good Dharma Talk

That was a pretty good Dharma Talk. It fulfilled the basic format and requirements that Minister's Assistants are taught to do for a Dharma Talk:

1. Open with a quote meaningful to the subject of the Talk
2. There should be a lesson about the Primal Vow, *shinjin*, Other Power/Self Power, or the Pure Land.
3. That the teachings of Shinran and the Seven Masters are followed through the course of the Talk



Why Have ChatGPT Write a Dharma Talk?

You might be asking yourself, "Why present a Dharma Talk written by ChatGPT?" When I thought of seeing how ChatGPT would write a Dharma Talk, I was wondering how it would turn out. It was surprisingly simple to have a "conversation" with the AI about Jodo Shinshu to start the process. After the initial "conversation," I then continued to ask the AI more questions, feeding it prompts to narrow down the information that it should be searching for and processing to create the

(Continued on page 5)

Chatbot's Dharma Talk (cont'd)

(Continued from page 4)

Dharma Talk. After it took, literally, only a few minutes to have ChatGPT write the Dharma Talk, I was very surprised by the result. I thought it would take a lot longer and a lot more prompts to get a decent Dharma Talk from the AI.

"How does one attain *shinjin*?"

So does this mean that ministers can be replaced by AI? To look for an answer to this, I went back to the AI and asked, "How does one attain *shinjin*?" As you can see, a lot of what is in the answer is the same points that were covered in the AI's Dharma Talk. However, towards the end of the answer to my question, ChatGPT talks about "practice." In the Dharma Talk, the AI said that *shinjin* is the most important practice that is consistent with the academic information available about Jodo Shinshu, but regarding achieving shinjin, the AI started mentioning practicing various forms of mindfulness and listing things such as Nembutsu recitation, listening to the Dharma, and reflecting on the Dharma as mindfulness "practices".

Here is where I feel the role of Ministers and other teachers becomes clearer. These "practices" are not meant to build merit or enable enlightenment through self-power. These "practices" are how we can hope to build trust in something we cannot understand. Something that the AI was not able to explain was the unexplainable; the inconceivable wisdom and inconceivable compassion of Amida Buddha. As arrogant human beings, it is in our nature to want to be able to explain everything, to have the answers to everything and maybe this is why the AI tries to answer all the questions; because it was made by people to be "intelligent" in the egocentric way we define "intelligent." To truly and completely entrust in Amida's Primal Vow means that you must release your attachment to self-power and trust the Other Power of Amida's Primal Vow. Helping evil minded people like me to accept the unexplainable and inconceivable is something that Ministers and other Dharma teachers do that AI may not be able to do. **If AI is built by humans to "think" like humans, then AI will have the same arrogance to have to find the answer to every question** – just like Skynet in the Terminator movies!

What I found interesting about seeing how the ChatGPT AI would write a Dharma Talk was that it was able to hit all the "textbook" points, but it was not able to convey the concept of entrusting without turning the focus back towards ourselves. When you reflect on the last sentence in ChatGPT's answer, it reveals a kind of paradox of *shinjin*, but doesn't express that complete entrusting means to have no feelings of doubt: *"By entrusting ourselves to Amida Buddha's vow, we can overcome our limitations and attain liberation from suffering."* The more you reflect on what ChatGPT says, the more it seems to say that you need to use your self-power to get the benefit of Other Power. This is not what is meant by *shinjin* because if we can understand the unexplainable, then Amida Buddha is no longer the Buddha of immeasurable life and light. Seeing the paradox of what the AI said helps us see and understand our own limitations.

In Closing

When I was working on this Dharma Talk, Rev. Mukojima said to me "to study Buddhism is not to become a wise person, but to become a foolish being who simply accepts their own limitations." Sensei's words remind me that, even more so than a good person, an evil person like me will eventually be born in the Pure Land.

In closing, I will share a passage from Chapter 2 of the Tannisho that expresses Shinran's understanding of his limitations and his acceptance, with no regrets, of the results of living a human life with its limitations.

Please join me in Gassho.

"I have no idea whether the nembutsu is truly the seed for my being born in the Pure Land or whether it is the karmic act for which I must fall into hell. Should I have been deceived by Master Honen and, saying the nembutsu, were to fall into hell, even then I would have no regrets.

The reason is, if I could attain Buddhahood by endeavoring in other practices, but said the nembutsu and so fell into hell, then I would feel regret at having been deceived. But I am incapable of any other practice, so hell is decidedly my abode whatever I do."

Namo Amida Butsu
Namo Amida Butsu
Namo Amida Butsu

Rev. LaVerne Sasaki Funeral at MVBT (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

Co-officiants Rev. Yushi Mukojima and Rev. Henry Adams. The Chairman and Intendent was Rev. Michael Endo.

The ministers chanted before the Onigin and presented honorary titles to Rev. Sasaki. Rev. Sasaki was presented with

Ingo Yon-In 要聞院

Homyo Shaku Sen Yo 釋千洋

The Sasaki Family, Relatives, Honorary Pallbearers and Ministers' Spouses then did Oshoko.

Rev. Michael Endo sang Rev. Sasaki's favorite Gatha, ***Shi Gu Zei Gan***.

Rev. Endo

Janelle Sasaki

Incense Offering by Representative followed.

Rev. Sasaki's personal history was done by Ms. Janelle Sasaki. This was followed by a video presentation of Rev. Sasaki life.

Remembrances were done by:

Rev. Kenneth K. Tanaka,
Rev. William Masuda,
Rev. William Briones,
Mr. Brian Sasaki,
Ms. Sharon Sasaki,
Mr. Jared Sasaki,
Miss Lindsey Maseba, and
Miss Hailey Sasaki

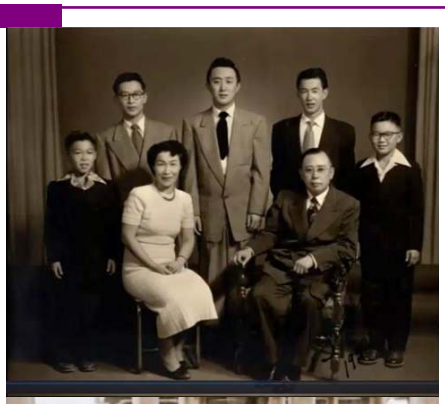
A Dharma Message was given by Rev. Marvin Harada. And, the ***Gobunsho*** was read by Rev. Candice Shibata in English and Rev. Yushi Mukojima in Japanese.

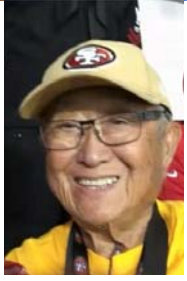
Words of Appreciation were given by the Sasaki Family, the Mountain View Buddhist Temple and Buddhist Churches of America.

After the Closing Remarks, the service ended by incense offering by the congregation.

The funeral service was held in the MVBT Hondo with an overflow into Sangha Hall. About 375 attended the funeral and 120 joined the service through Zoom.

After the service, Otoki was held in Sangha Hall.





Dharma School News

Dharma School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dharma School Year-End Activity

Please save the date! This year's Dharma School Year-End Activity will be held on Saturday, June 10. We will be screening a movie under the stars and have a bounce house in the Sangha Hall. Additional details and an RSVP form will be emailed out as they become available.

FDSTL Conference

This year's Federation of Dharma School Teachers' League (FDSTL) Conference was held on Saturday, April 29, at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple. The theme for this year's conference was "Inside Out Buddhism," **D. Trinidad Hunt**, the granddaughter of **Reverend Dorothy Hunt** (Honpa Hongwanji of Hawai'i) shared a history of her grandmother who authored the "Golden Chain."

Carol Yonemura was also recognized for 25 years of teaching service to our Dharma School.

ありがとうand Congratulations, Carol!

In Gassho,
Brent Izutsu
Dharma School Superintendent

Seniors Activities & Crafts Program News

Senior Activities:.

Thursday, June 8: We have a fun day planned that includes playing BINGO with prizes to be won.

Lunch will be provided and 11:30 am and the BINGO game will start at 12:30 pm. What better way to enjoy your afternoon with lunch at BINGO with your friends. Everyone is invited.

Also, June 8 will be our last Senior Activities session before the summer break. We will resume in September.

We plan to have interesting programs planned for you when we start up again. If you have any suggestions on things that you would like happen, please let any of our committee members know. They are: **Kimi Nishimura**, **Reiko Tsuchida**, **Colleen Choy**, **Scott Hirotsu**, **Alice Ishida**, **Kay Tachibana**, **Julie Ushiba**, and **Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto**. Appreciate any suggestions.

Weekly Activities

Please join in on some of the fun activities that is provided for your fun and your health. Line dancing, Card Games, Sing Along, Chair Exercise, Taiko or just relax and socialize with friends. This program is for you.

Senior Crafts

The craft program starts at 9:00 am and ends at 12:00 pm. Instructors **Jeanne Ohara**, **Toshiko Uyehara** and **Emi Fukushima** are in-charge.

Cookbook Now $10

Our Senior Cookbooks are still available at the office or can be purchased through our committee members. The price is $10, which makes for a nice gift.

Join Us

Light refreshments are provided with coffee and tea. Everyone is invited to join our program.

In Gassho,
Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto

MVBT Seniors Activities and Crafts

BWA Activities

Buddhist Women's Association

FBWA Monto Shikisho on Sale

The Federation of Buddhist Women's Association's (FBWA) "Golden Gate Bridge and California Poppy Design" Monto Shikisho is now on SALE for half. price of $30 (while supplies last). The proceeds will go to offset the cost of the FBWA Conference in San Jose in 2024, hosted by our Coast District. Anyone interested in purchasing the beautiful Monto Shikisho, please contact **Reiko Murakami**. Email: reikomurakami@comcast.net. Our chapter of BWA will gratefully appreciate your support.

On Sale for $30

Otsukemono

BWA will be making ***Otsukemono*** on June 2 and 3, for the MVBT Chicken Teriyaki Fundraiser.

Donations

Gratefully accepted:\

- Diane Shinta-Durst
- Mieko & Ken Nakano
- Teri & Norris Hirota

In Gassho,
Reiko Murakami
BWA President

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736

Scout Activities

Our Daisy earned her Orange Petal - Responsible for What I Say and Do, and along with our Junior/cadette scouts learned about Earth Day and how to be kind to our planet.

Thank You

Girl Scout Troop #60736 would like to thank the Sangha for their support of our cookie sales.

In Gassho,
Debbie Ho
Girl Scout Troop #60736

Hanamatsuri Service: Held April 9, 2023

This year's Hanamatsuri Service was held on Sunday, April 9. It was a very special service this year. The YBA chaired the service. The service had an Ochigo Procession, an in-person Hatsumairi, a decorated Hanamido White Elephant for the tea offering, the singing of In Lumbini's Garden led by the Dharma School, and a special presentation of "Life of Buddha" by the YBA.

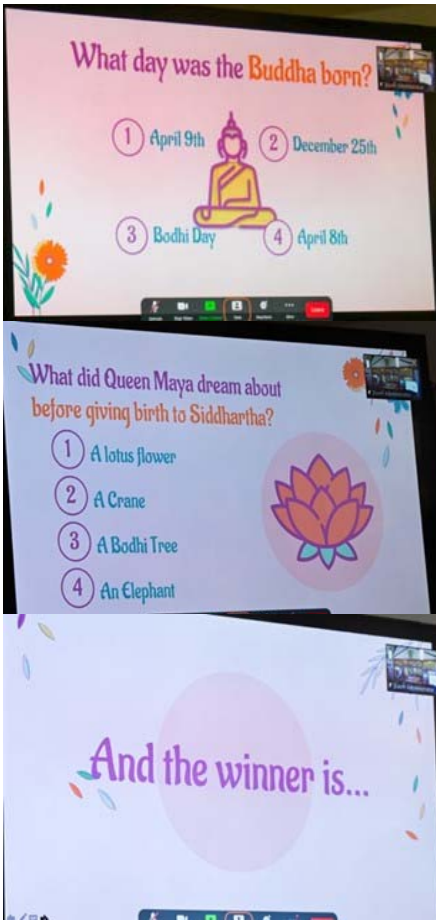
An O-chigo Procession started the service. Fourteen Dharma School students dressed in Ochigo outfits walked in the procession into the Hondo. Their parents were proudly smiling and cheering for their children as they walked down the center aisle.

A decorated white elephant was used to do oshoko by pouring tea over a statue of the Buddha. The photos show the Ochigo participants and Dharma School students doing Oshoko at the Hanamido.

The Dharma School children led the congregation in singing "In Lumbini's Garden." Lumbini's Garden is where Queen Maya gave birth to Siddhartha Gautama.

The Hatsumairi ceremony was held during the Hanamatsuri service. This is described in a separate article. See Page 10.

The YBA played a Quiz Show with the theme "Life of Buddha." The congregation seating in right-side pews played against the congregation seating in the left-side pews. Here are two of the questions. Can you answer them?



At the end of the Quiz Show, the score was tied. To decide on a winner, each side has a participant play "Jan Ken Po."

In Gassho,
The Mountain View Buddhist Temple

Hatsumairi: Held April 9, 2023

The Hatsumai ("First Visit Ceremony") was held as a part of the Hanamatsuri Service held on Sunday, April 9, 2023. This was the first Hatsumairi held since April 2019, so it was a combined ceremony for 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023. The Temple wanted to have the Hatsumai be an in-person service where parents presented their child before Amida Buddha and the Sangha and welcome him/her to the Dharma. The change in the Temple's COVID restrictions allowed the in-person Hatsumairi.

This year seven children were presented in front of the Onaijin to the Amida Buddha.

In Gassho,
The Mountain View Buddhist Temple

Child	Birthday	Parents
Ayden Isamu Yoshi Murashige	2/19/2019	Lynn Harada & Ryan Murashige
Carter Rei Shay	10/11/2019	Cheryl & Michael Shay
Weston Ng Tsuchida	6/23/2020	Amy Ng & Kevin Tsuchida
Daisy Sayuri Fajardo	7/24/2020	Jill & Chris Fajardo
Ari Miyuki Nguyen	11/18/2021	Lesley Makishima & Hai Nguyen
Kenzo Tomas Takeuchi	1/23/2022	Ellen Kamei & Chris Takeuchi
Owen Lucas Yuzuriha	4/28/2022	Alison Fong & Ken Yuzuriha
Reina Mayumi Fajardo	1/26/2023	Jill & Chris Fajardo

2023 150 Club News

Our winners for May are **Ron and Carolyn Murata's Grandkids, Chloe and Lucas Murata**.

Congratulations to Chloe and Lucas!

Thank you to everyone for participating in 150 Club!

Stay safe!

150 Club Committee

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo Article Deadline	Echo Sent to Sangha
JUNE	Zones 8 & 9	N / A	N / A
JULY	Zones 10 & 11	June 16 (Fri)	June 22 (Thurs)
AUG	No Toban	No Aug Echo	N / A

Please note the article deadline and mailing dates. This will provide time to layout, proof, finalize and print the issue.
Thank you. ***Arigato Gozimasu***. ありがとう ございます。
Email all articles to echo@mvbuddhisttemple.org .

MVBT

Adult Buddhist Association

ABA News

MVBT Japan Trip

The 800th anniversary of the Jodo Shinshu teachings and the 850th birthday of Shinran Shonin is being celebrated in Kyoto, Japan, during the month of May along with the 17th World Federation of Buddhist Women Association Convention. The following ABA members are attending: **Will Dea & Lois Okino**, **Richard & Eileen Fujikawa**, **David Kariya**, **Glenn & Lorrie Kitasoe**, **Sterling & Joanne Makishima**, **Peter & Shirley Matsumoto**, **Jean Shimoguchi** and **Toshiko Uyehara**.

Upcoming Activities

June 3: Supply "personpower" for the Chicken Teriyaki cooking 2nd shift

June 4: Help with rice packing for the Chicken Teriyaki bento

July 15/16: Obon Chicken Teriyaki and Spam Musubi sales booth

August 25: San Jose Giants baseball game

October 8: ABA & Bishop's Memorial Service

TBD: Pickleball introduction and demonstration

TBD: Life Skills for youth

Next Meeting

Friday, June 9, 7:30 pm

In Gassho,
Ken Nakano
ABA President

Events in June, July, August & September

June 4, 2023, Sunday
- Shotsuki Hoyo for June & July

June 3 - 4, 2023, Sat-Sun
- Chicken Teriyaki Fundraiser

June 5, 2023, Monday
- Buddhist Discussion Group

June 10, 2023, Sat-Sun
- Dharma School Year-End Activity

June 11, 2023, Sunday
- Graduation Service

June 18, 2023, Sunday
- Father's Day Service

June 25, 2023, Sunday
- Sunday Service

July 9, 2023, Sunday
- Obon / Kangi-e Service
- Hatsubon Service

July 15 - 16, 2023, Sat-Sun
- Obon Festival & Bazaar

August 19, 2023, Saturday
- Sasaki Memorial Golf Tournament & Banquet

September 10, 2023, Sunday
- Shotsuki Hoyo for August & September
- Dharma School Resumes

Putra says,

"Join us on

July 15 & 16

for the

2023 Obon Festival & Bazaar"

LEFT: Maui Dancing in 2019

RIGHT: Odori Dancing in 2019

Volume 62 Number 6

Obon Festival Donation

SUPPORT MVBT OBON

The 2023 annual Mountain View Buddhist Temple's Obon Festival & Bazaar is coming up the weekend of July 15 and 16 where thousands of folks will be attending this two-day event from near and far. Each year, we look to our friends and Sangha members for their support making contributions to this festive event. Obon is our largest fundraiser and a primary source of income for the Temple. During the 2020 OBON at HOME, digital lanterns were created to honor our beloved ancestors and we would like to continue this tradition. You may purchase a digital dedication lantern starting from $25. Lanterns and sponsor names will be prominently featured on the website.

HOW DONATIONS WILL BE USED

Your donations to the Obon Festival & Bazaar are directed to the Temple's Building Renovation Fund (aka Expansion Fund), which currently pays for major repairs to our buildings and facilities and builds up the financial foundation for future Temple building projects. In recent years, due to ever-growing expenses for the normal operation of the Temple, we have had to turn to the Expansion Fund to fix leaks in the Hondo roof and to fill shortfalls in the annual daily operating budget.

HOW TO DONATE

Please look for information on how to donate in an upcoming "Putra's Post" or your residential mailbox.

Thank you for your support!

QUESTIONS & CONTACT

Please contact **Janell Tao** or **Kim Tsuchida**, 2023 Donation Co-chairs, at janellu@yahoo.com (408) 655-8106 or kim_tsuchida@yahoo.com (310) 259-7388.

Flower Shop at
2019 Obon Festival & Bazaar

WANTED PLANT & FLOWER DONATIONS

Attention home gardeners. The 2023 Obon Festival Flower Shop will be open, and we would welcome any plants and/or flowers you might be willing to donate.

If you are able to contribute, please contact Leslie Imai at leslie.imai@gmail.com or (650) 303-3001 so that your gift can be properly acknowledged.

We would appreciate it if you could drop the plants off at the Flower Shop on Friday (7/14) evening or Saturday (7/15) morning. If you need your donations to be picked up, please let us know so we can help.

Join Us in Welcoming Our New Members!
Introduced at the April 16 Sunday Service

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple warmly welcomes our newest members to our Sangha. We are so lucky to have had 26 new members join our Sangha since April 2022. We encourage everyone to get to know our newest members and help them navigate the Temple organizations, activities, and volunteer opportunities.

- **Zone 2:** Alyssa Imai, Ian Chase and Rob Imai
- **Zone 5:** Mark & Nicole Higaki, Steven & Janice Doi and Chandler Forbord
- **Zone 6**: Erick Sugimura
- **Zone 7:** Stuart Ishida, Megan Ohara, Wendy Kaneko and Michael Yamaguchi
- **Zone 8**: Devon Matsumoto
- **Zone 10**: Gabriel Beringer
- **Zone 11:** Cori Nishimoto
- **Zone 12:** Lauren Sasaki & William Kretsch
- **Zone 13:** Yona Ngo
- **Community Members:** Katherine Donaldson, Kenji Maru, Susan Ogawa, Judy Sun, Jean Urushima, Pear Urushima and Jane Yap

In the meantime, if any new members have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the membership committee at membership@mvbuddhisttemple.org

In Gassho,
MVBT Membership Committee
Bob, Steve, Jean, & Leslie

From Left: Bob Yamanaga (Membership Committee); **New members: Stuart Ishida, Rob Imai, Yona Ngo & Lauren Sasaki**; and Rev. Mukojima

36th Annual Sasaki Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament
To be held Saturday, August 19, 2023

2023 SASAKI GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 2023 Sasaki Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, August 19, 2023, at the Sunnyvale Golf Course. After playing the round of golf, a banquet in the Sangha Hall at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple is planned.

SASAKI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Golf Tournament funds the Sasaki Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to college-bound, high school seniors who attended the Mountain View Buddhist Temple Dharma School and participated in other Buddhist activities.

Since the first scholarship was presented in 1986, 63 deserving high school graduates have received scholarships.

SEE YOU IN AUGUST

Put the Sasaki Golf Tournament on your calendar – Saturday, August 19. Form a foursome with your friends. If you are a single, you will be placed in a foursome of friendly golfers.

"The most important shot in golf is the next one."

In Gassho,
MVBT Golf Committee and
Sasaki Memorial Scholarship Committee

MVBT Membership Committee News

69% of our Members have Renewed their Membership for 2023

You should have received your 2023 Member Handbook and Directory from your Zone Chair or in the mail. If you haven't received it, please let your Zone Chair or the Membership Committee know.

Thank you so much for being a part of our family here at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple! We have loved having you here and hope you have enjoyed being a member. If you haven't renewed your membership, it has expired, but we hope you'll join us again today!

Membership at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple is not just about saying you belong to a community. It's about investing in the place you love, a community that feels like home both physically and spiritually.

Being a Mountain View Buddhist Temple member is the best way to have access to all that the Temple has to offer.

- Learn about Jodo Shinshu Buddhism through Dharma services, Buddhist discussion groups, workshops, special services, and cultural activities. Attend BCA seminars, classes, and activities.
- Enjoy the camaraderie of the Sangha through our affiliated organizations and Temple activities.
- Stay connected with the Echo newsletter, Putra's Post emails, and your Zone Chair.
- Use the support of our Sangha with personal guidance from our minister, the funeral planning committee, for weddings, and much more.
- A Nokotsudo (columbarium) maintained in the Jodo Shinshu traditions by the Temple.

JOIN or **RENEW** your Membership **TODAY**, by going to the MVBT website main page "MEMBERSHIP INFO."

If you have questions, please email us at membership@mvbuddhisttemple.org

In Gassho,
MVBT Membership Committee
Bob, Steve, Jean, Leslie, & Debby

Miroku

Dana Project

In Miroku in May, we began our meeting by reviewing our Dana Project and the $1,350 that was raised to support the Palo Alto Humane Society along with the many items generously donated. We talked about how lucky we are to have such a supportive Sangha! We also discussed when we will deliver the donations and took a group picture with one of the collection boxes.

Alta Mesa Cemetery Clean Up

Next, the Miroku members that attended the joint activity with ABA talked about the Alta Mesa Cemetery clean up. Everyone said that it was nice to help with the cleanup and that the lunch was delicious.

End-of-Year Picnic

We voted on a social activity and decided on an end-of-year picnic once the weather warms up.

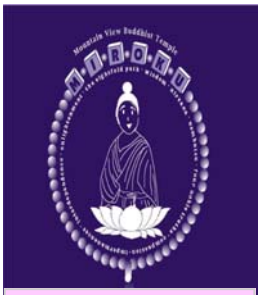
AED Check

Finally, we ended the meeting with our monthly AED checks and snacks.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, June 4, after Dharma School at about 12 pm in the YBA conference room.

In Gassho,
Kate Hojo
8th Grade Miroku Member



MIROKU

middle school group

June & July

Monthly

Memorial

Service

* * * * *

Shotsuki Hoyo for June & July to be held on Sunday, June 4

* * * * *

See MVBT website or Putra's Post for details of the Service

June & July 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 **June & July** Shotsuki loved ones are:

Shiro Abe	**Kisa Ruth Kamei**	**Mika Okita**
Dorothy Chikasuye	**Kevin Kamimoto**	**Ichitaro Okumura**
Spencer Cowap	**Koyuki Kamimoto**	**Bruce Okuno**
Robyn Delgado	**Yasuto Kamimoto**	**Lily Omokawa**
Kazuo Domoto	**Iris Kawamoto**	**Florence Ozawa**
Kazuko Eidmann	**Kojuro Kawamoto**	**Ryu Ozawa**
Frank Fujii	**Yasu Kawamoto**	**Yoshio Ozawa**
Kotome Fujii	**Norma Kochi**	**Ken Sakamoto**
Masakazu Fujii	**Albert Kosakura**	**Hannah Sato**
Nobu Fukuda	**Mitsue Koto**	**Mishi Sako**
George Furuichi	**Tayeko Kurashige**	**Nizo Sako**
Mike Furusho	**George Akira Makishima**	**Tad Sawamura**
James Furuta	**Kiyoshi Makishima**	**Suye Shimamoto**
Tomoye Goto	**Erin Maruyama**	**Mary Shimizu**
Shizue Haruta	**George Masuda**	**Margaret Shinseki**
Ben Hayamizu	**Jimmy Matsuba**	**Dora Sugimoto**
Masako Hayamizu	**John Matsumoto**	**Trevor Sugimoto**
Grace Hayano	**Frank M. Matsumoto**	**Yuki Taniguchi**
Joe Hayano	**Jimmy Matsumoto**	**Barry Tokunaga**
Bessie Hayashida	**Shizuko Mayeda**	**Ted Tokunaga**
Mae Higaki	**Natsumi Michihira**	**Ito Tsukagawa**
Sidney Hiramoto	**Helen Miyake**	**Toshie Tsukamoto**
Masataka Hirabayashi	**Chizuko Murai**	**Irene Uchiyama**
Asa Hori	**Kazuko Nagatani**	**Kiyoshi Umeda**
Genzo Horino	**Bernice Nakagawa**	**Kazuko Watanabe**
Josephine Hoshiko	**Katsuki Nakagawa**	**Eiko Yamamoto**
Akie Idota	**Shigeo Nakanishi**	**Ichiji Yanaba**
Kou Imai	**Megumi Nakano**	**Kenji Yamane**
Yukishige Imai	**Kuni Nakagawa**	**Naoko Yamashita**
Takao Ishikawa	**Tsuyoshi Nakashima**	**Imi Yasuda**
John Ishizaka	**Jim Nakayama**	**Goichi Yonemoto**
Yotsu Iwata	**Kiyo Ogata**	
Kenzo Kamei	**Takara Ogawa**	

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**

Volume 62 Number 6

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
25 10:00 am - 11:00 am SUNDAY SERVICE 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm KIDS TAIKO	26 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm RPC MEETING	27 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ADULTS TAIKO 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm VISION LHF COMMITTEE MEETING	28	29	30	1
2 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm KIDS TAIKO	3	4 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ADULTS TAIKO 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm VISION LHF COMMITTEE MEETING	5	6 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm TIGER TEAM MEETING	7	8
9 10:00 am - 11:00 am URABON-E/HATSUBON SERVICE 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm KIDS TAIKO	10	11 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ADULTS TAIKO 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB	12 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm MVBT BOARD MEETING	13	14 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm ABA GENERAL MEETING	15 OBON FESTIVAL & B...
16 OBON FESTIVAL & B...	17	18 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB	19	20 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm TIGER TEAM MEETING	21	22
23	24	25 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm VISION LHF COMMITTEE MEETING 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB	26	27	28	29
30	31 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm RPC MEETING	1 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm VISION LHF COMMITTEE MEETING 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm UKULELE CLUB	2	3 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm TIGER TEAM MEETING	4	5

Support Your Temple

Donate to Past & Upcoming Services

Hanamatsuri / Hatsumairi / Gotan-e

Obon-Kangi-e-Urabon / Hatsubon

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

These donations make up one-third of the Fund Income.

(1) Use the MVBT online "DONATE" or

(2) Send a check to the Temple office

Upcoming Events

July 9, 2023, Sunday

- Urabon / Kangi-e / Obon Service
- **Hatsubon Service**

July 15 - 16, 2023, Sat-Sun

- Obon Festival & Bazaar

August 19, 2023, Saturday

- Sasaki Memorial Golf Tournament & Banquet

Sept 10, 2023, Sunday

- Shotsuki Hoyo for August & September
- Dharma School Resumes

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**

Highlights in June Issue

FBWA Monto Shikisho Sale	*8*
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Obon Festival &	*12*
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MVBT New Members Welcomed	*14*
Sasaki Memorial Golf Tournament	*14*

Mountain View Buddhist Temple

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www.mvbuddhisttemple.org

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