The ECHO

January 2024

Volume 63 Number 1

MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE

January Highlights

- ***1/1, Monday, 10:00 am, Hybrid***
  Shusho-e / New Year's Day
- ***1/7, Sunday, 10:00 am, Hybrid***
  Shotsuki Hoyo
  * *11:00 am: Japanese Language Service*
  * *11:00 am: English Language Discussion*
- ***1/13, Saturday, 10:00 am***
  Hoonko Seminar with Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka
- ***1/14, Sunday, 10:00 am, Hybrid***
  Hoonko Service with Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka
- ***1/21, Sunday, 10:00 am, Hybrid***
  BWA Memorial Service with Guest Speaker Karen Akahoshi
- ***1/28, Sunday, 10:00 am, Hybrid***
  * *Temple. BWA & ABA Cabinet Installations*
  * *Annual General Meeting*

Congratulation, Devon!

Happy New Year!

My wife and I are really appreciative of the loving kindness, help and support the Mountain View Sangha gave us in the past year. We humbly hope to avail ourselves of your warm friendship and continued support again in the coming year.

Devon in Tokudo Shurai Training

Although I am writing this article in the middle of December, our **Certified Minister's Assistant, Devon Matsumoto**, is in the middle of participating in the Tokudo Shurai Training at the Nishiyama Betsuin in Kyoto right now. In order to receive Tokudo ordination, he has taken all the mandatory sessions and has been making preparations begun a couple of years ago. And last year, he passed the tests (including written, chanting, ritual tests and interview) and is now finally undergoing the Tokudo Shurai Training in Kyoto.

Rev. Yushi Mukojima

Tokudo Shurai Training is eleven days of final training before receiving the Tokudo from the Gomonshu (the head priest). The training includes ritual training, academic lectures, participating in three daily services and group chores, and passing required assignments. During this training, Tokudo aspirants are isolated from the world, meaning that newspapers, TV and smartphones are all prohibited. On the final day, the Tokudo Ordination Ceremony takes place at the Nishi Hongwanji where the aspirants receive the "rite of the razor" from the Gomonshu and are granted the Tokudo Certificate. I believe that Devon is now making efforts to accomplish this severe training

(Continued on page 4)

MVBT President's Message

To All MVBT Sangha Members and Friends:

According to the Chinese Zodiac, 2024 is the Year of the Dragon.

The Dragon symbolizes power, nobleness, honor, luck, and success. Those born in the Year of the Dragon demonstrate unmatched loyalty and can be very dedicated to relationships and generous with friends.

Sound familiar? These characteristics also describe members of the MVBT Sangha. Thank you for your unmatched loyalty and dedication to MVBT!

I hope that you and your families have a healthy, safe and happy 2024.

With Gassho,
Jean Shimoguchi
MVBT Board President

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January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day 10a-11a Shusho-e Service	**2** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 7:30p-8:30p Ukulele Club (Sangha Hall\; Pancake Room/Hybrid) 8:30p-10p Jun Daiko (Sangha Hall\; Game Room/Hybrid)	**3** 6p-9p Boy Scouts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**4**	**5** 7p-8p Ukulele Club (Zoom)	**6**
7 10a-12p Shotsuki Hoyo Service & Dharma School 11:45a-2p YBA Meeting (YBA Hall\; Kitchen/Main Hall / Education Bldg.\; 2/3) 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class (Sangha Hall\; Gym) 12p-1p Miroku Meeting (YBA Hall\; Conference Room)	**8** 7p-8:30p Buddhist Study Class (Zoom)	**9** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall/Kitchen & Sangha Hall\; Patio) 7:30p-8:30p Ukulele Club (Sangha Hall\; Pancake Room/Hybrid) 8:30p-10p Jun Daiko (Sangha Hall\; Game Room/Hybrid)	**10** 7p-9p Boy Scouts (Sangha Hall\; All) 7:30p-9:30p MVBT Board Meeting (YBA Hall\; Board Room/Main Hall/ Kitchen)	**11** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**12** 7p-8p Ukulele Club (Zoom) 7:30p-9p ABA General Meeting (YBA Hall\; Board Room/Main Hall/Kitchen)	**13** Tri-Temple Crab Feed 10a-12p Hoonko Seminar w/Rev. Ken Tanaka (YBA Hall)
14 10a-11a Hoonko Service (Hybrid) 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class (Sangha Hall\; Gym)	**15** Martin Luther King	**16** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall/Kitchen & Sangha Hall\; Patio) 7:30p-8:30p Ukulele Club (Sangha Hall\; Pancake Room/Hybrid) 8:30p-10p Jun Daiko (Sangha Hall\; Game Room/Hybrid)	**17** 7p-9p Boy Scouts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**18** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**19** 7p-8p Ukulele Club (Zoom)	**20**
21 10a-11a BWA Memorial Service (Hybrid) 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class (Sangha Hall\; Gym) 2p-3p CD YBL Meeting (YBA Hall\; Board Room)	**22**	**23** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall/Kitchen & Sangha Hall\; Patio) 7:30p-8:30p Ukulele Club (Sangha Hall\; Pancake Room/Hybrid) 8:30p-10p Jun Daiko (Sangha Hall\; Game Room/Hybrid)	**24** 7p-9p Boy Scouts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**25** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**26** 7p-8p Ukulele Club (Zoom)	**27**
28 10a-12p Sunday Service & Dharma School 11a-12p MVBT Annual Meeting (Hondo) 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class (Sangha Hall\; Gym)	**29** 1p-2p Senior Activities Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall) 7:30p-9p RPC Virtual Meeting	**30** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall/Kitchen & Sangha Hall\; Patio) 7:30p-8:30p Ukulele Club (Sangha Hall\; Pancake Room/Hybrid) 8:30p-10p Jun Daiko (Sangha Hall\; Game Room/Hybrid)	**31** 7p-9p Boy Scouts (Sangha Hall\; All)			

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"Let us live with Kindness and Gratitude beyond words..."

Religious Planning — January 2024

December 31, 2023, Sunday, 7:00 pm, Joya-e / New Year's Eve Service, Hybrid Service

Joya-E Service: Express our gratitude for the countless blessings received throughout the year

* *

January 1, 2024, Monday, 10:00 am — Shusho-e Service / New Year's Day Service, Hybrid Service

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

January 7, 2024, Sunday, 10:00 am, Shotsuki Hoyo, Hybrid Service

11:00 am Japanese Languare Service
11:00 am Engliish Language Discussion Group

January 8, 2024, Monday, 7:00 pm, Buddhist Discussion Group, Online Meeting

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

January 13, 2024, Saturday, 10:00 am — Hoonko Seminar

Theme: "Everyday Buddhism for Dealing with Life Concerns and Problems — With a Bit of Humor"
Guest Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka**

January 14, 2024, Sunday, 10:00 am — Hoonko Service, Hybrid Service

Hoonko: Means a gathering to repay the debt of gratitude. This service is in memory of our founder Shinran Shonin.
Guest Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka**

January 21, 2024, Sunday, 10:00 am, BWA Memorial Service, Hybrid Service

Memorial Service for Esshinni-ko / Kakushinni-ko, Lady Takeko Kujo, Lady Yoshiko Ohtani and past MVBT BWA Members
Guest Speaker: **Karen Akahoshi**

January 28, 2024, Sunday, 10:00am — Regular Service with Temple Installations, Hybrid Service

Installation of Temple, BWA & ABA Cabinets

11:00 am: MVBT Annual Genearal Meeting following Service

JOIN US

Sunday Services are on Zoom. These Hybrid Services allow the Sangha to attend the service in person or on Zoom.
The Link to the Zoom Livestream can be found on Putra's Post that is emailed before the service.

JOZAI: SUNDAY SERVICE DONATION

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

MVBT Annual General Meeting

January 28, 2024 @ 11:00 am

EVERYONE IS INVITED
In the Hondo immediately following the Service.
Hybrid meeting

Shotsuki Hoyo Service

Study Class

Dharma School - 11:00 am

Check Temple Website for latest information about Temple activities

Congratulation, Devon! — cont'd

Devon Matsumoto
Certified Minister's Assistant &
Recipient of Asada Scholarship

Photo from August 2021 Echo

(Continued from page 1)

while dreaming of that ultimate moment.

I had the opportunity to talk to Devon before he left for Japan last month, and asked him whether he was ready to go. What he told me was unexpected. He said,

> "I am actually afraid of receiving Tokudo."

When I asked him why he felt so, he said,

> "Of course, I am excited to receive Tokudo, but I have mixed feelings about finally throwing myself into the world of the ministry."

When I heard his sincere words, I felt he was expressing something very important about his mindset for becoming a minister.

Tonsure [Shave My Head]

Originally, to become ordained meant leaving everyday life and giving up all worldly attachments — daily routines, work, family and friends — so as to make every effort to perform Buddhist practices. When Siddhartha decided to become a monk, he abandoned his family and his position of succession to the throne. And by shaving his hair which represented blind passions and attachments, Siddhartha expressed his strong will to seek liberation. At that time, he declared,

> "Now I take the tonsure [shave my head]. May I with all sentient beings get rid of the blind passions and hindrances!"

The ritual of shaving one's head when receiving Tokudo comes from this historical fact.

Our founder Shinran also received Tokudo ordination at the Shorenin temple when he was only 9 years old. The intensity of his anxiety and determination when he left his family to enter the priesthood at such a young age must have been beyond our imagination.

In the long Buddhist history of 2,600 years, the process of becoming ordained has changed depending on the era and region. But, because the resolution of someone who wants to become a monk or priest is the same as the aspiration of Sakyamuni Buddha and his predecessors, I think that Devon was deeply grateful that he would place himself in the world of this ancient Buddhist tradition; but at the same time he must have felt anxious about the heavy responsibility of becoming ordained. And because this anxiety comes from his modesty and humbleness, I believe Devon deserves to become a Jodo Shinshu minister.

When one becomes a minister, he or she tends to have a sense of superiority because of the elevated position one has attained to teach the Buddha Dharma to others. However, to become a Jodo Shinshu minister by receiving the rite of razor from the Gomonshu is also an expression of one's determination to give up one's ego (self obsession) and to live with the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha as spiritual support. And it is also a vow to live as a minister humbly each day with the Nembutsu.

When I was in Brazil

When I first arrived as a minister in Brazil, the Vice Rimban (head minister) of the San Paulo Betsuin asked me the following question.

> "Amida Buddha is often compared to a doctor. If so, the members who often came to the temple would be his outpatients. Given this description, how would you describe yourself, living at the temple every day?"

Without hesitation, I answered proudly,

> "I am a minister who serves Buddha, so if Amida Buddha is a doctor, I am like a nurse."

The Vice Rimban smiled at me and said,

> "What are you saying! You are an inpatient!"

He continued,

> "You have gotten used to life at the temple and now you fancy yourself great because you are made much of by the Sangha calling you, 'Reverend' or 'Sensei.' But all of us Jodo Shinshu ministers are definitely not nurses nor counselors as you said. We must never forget that we are inpatients (*serious cases*) allowed to stay by Amida Buddha's side (*doctor*) in the Temple (*hospital*). It is most important for ministers to fully realize that each one of us has a more serious illness (*burning with the flames of blind passions*) than our Sangha members (*outpatients*) have. This is why we must be more grateful than anybody else for Amida Buddha's Primal Vow, which is always tirelessly working on each of us without abandoning us; and why we must share our joy in the Nembutsu with others. It is called **Jishin-Kyoninshin** (*secure our own entrusting heart to the Primal Vow while guiding others to the same path*) and to do our best to

(Continued on page 5)

Congratulation, Devon! — cont'd

(Continued from page 4)

practice it is the minister's duty."

The Vice Rimban's unexpected and profound words made a great impact on me as a callow young minister. With these words, he had shown me how I should live as a Jodo Shinshu minister.

Devon Now Tokudo Minister

Devon will return to the U.S. as a Tokudo minister in a couple of weeks. Tokudo is just the beginning and first level of ordination. I sincerely hope that he will never forget the beginner's mind, never be arrogant and conceited, always reflect deeply on his imperfect self, be humble and grateful, and do his best to carry out his role as a Jodo Shinshu minister just as Shinran did. And furthermore, I sincerely want him to enjoy his own life to the fullest with the minister's pride and responsibility.

From the time the Mountain View Buddhist Temple was established, our temple has turned out a lot of excellent ministers, such as Rev. Kenneth Tanaka. I am really proud of Devon who took over those ministers' noble aspirations to share the Nembutsu teaching with as many people as possible. Let us, the entire MVBT Sangha, welcome Devon with his shaved head warmly and openly, for he has just embarked on a new life as a Tokudo minister.

Congratulations, Devon!

In Gassho,

Mountain View Buddhist Temple YBA

YBA Spaghetti Dinner & BINGO Fundraiser

Holiday Party

On December 2, we had our annual YBA Holiday Party, which was planned by the advisors. The party, which started at 6 pm, consisted of a dinner with YBA members and their families, various games that were enjoyed by all, and a White Elephant gift exchange with the members who attended.

Mochi Tsuki

Our YBA helped out at the Temple's Annual Mochitsuki Fundraiser. Members helped out with a variety of tasks during the day like mochi shaping, take out, pounding, and being a cooling runner.

Coast District Winter Activity

We are currently planning and preparing for the CD Winter Activity, which will take place on Saturday, January 20, at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple. The current plans are to have a cooking demonstration and have all attendees cook their own meal.

YBA Spaghetti Dinner

Our YBA Spaghetti Dinner Chair **Jillian Higa** has been making preparations for this year's Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, February 10. The order form is on Page 10 and the committees have been communicating with each other about the event. We are excited to have our fundraiser and hope everyone will come out to support YBA.

In Gassho,
Allyson Itow
2023-2024 YBA President

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Services

JOYA-E

Year-End Service

Sunday, Dec 31, 2023 at 7:00 pm

The Sangha is invited to the final service of 2023, the ***Joya-E*** (year-end) gathering on New Year's Eve.

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

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

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

SHUSHO-E

New Year's Day Service

Monday, Jan 1, 2024 at 10:00 am

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

Rev. Mukojima looks forward to sharing his first Dharma Talk in 2024 with you, followed by a toast to the New Year.

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」二〇二四年一月法話

ー おめでとう！ 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。本年もどうぞ宜しくお願いいたします。

この原稿を書いているのは十二月中旬なのですが、今ちょうど松本デボン氏が京都の西山別院で得度習礼を受けている真っ最中です。デボンはこの度の得度を受けるにあたり、得度講習会やIBSの必須科目を受講し、数年前から準備をちゃくちゃくと進めてきました。そして昨年、得度考査（得度資格を得るための筆記試験、読経、面接）に合格し、はれて京都で得度習礼に参加することとなりました。得度習礼とは、ご門主から得度を授かる前の大切な研修で、十一日間にわたって西山別院において僧侶としての心得、知識、そして作法を学びます。研修中は世間と隔離され新聞やテレビ、携帯電話などは一切禁止されます。そして最終日に西本願寺において得度式が開かれ、ご門主より直々に御剃刀を受け、度牒を賜ります。今まさに、その瞬間を夢見て厳しい習礼に励んでいることと思います。

デボンがアメリカを発つ前に彼と話をする機会があったので、日本に行く準備ができているか尋ねてみると、彼から「正直、得度が怖い」と言う意外な言葉が返ってきました。何故かと問うてみますと、「得度を受けられることは嬉しいが、いよいよ僧侶の世界に飛び込むとなると複雑な心境です」と答えました。彼のその真摯な言葉を聞いた時、僧侶になる心構えとしてとても大切なものを持っているなと感じました。

本来、僧になることは出家することであり、それはこれまでの生活や仕事、家族、友人などといった世俗的な執着を一切捨てて仏道修行に励むことをいいます。僧になることを決意されたお釈迦さまも王位継承者の地位を捨て、家族も捨てて出家されました。そして、煩悩や執着の象徴である髪の毛を剃ることでお釈迦さまは解脱を求める強い意志を表し、「いま鬢髪を落とす、ねがわくば一切とともに、煩悩および習障を断除せん」と発願されたといわれています。仏門に入るときに剃髪をする起源はここにあります。

親鸞聖人も九歳の時に青蓮院で得度を受け出家されました。幼くして家族と別れ、仏門に入られた聖人の不安と覚悟は如何ばかりだったことでしょう。私達の想像を絶するものがあったと思います。

仏教の二六〇〇年の歴史の中で出家の形式は時代や地域と共に変化してきましたが、僧侶になるという覚悟はお釈迦さまを始め先人方の　志　と同じであって、仏教古来の伝統の世界に身を置くということがデボンにとって恐れ多く感じると同時に、僧侶になるという重責に不安を抱いたのだと思います。しかし、この不安は彼の謙虚な心からくるものですから僧侶になるにふさわしいと思います。

僧侶になると「仏法を教える」という立場から優越感を抱く傾向があります。しかし、お剃刀を受けて浄土真宗の僧侶になるということは、自我を離れ、驕りたかぶる心をなくし、ひたすら阿弥陀仏の本願を依り所として生きる決意表明であるとともに、念仏と共につねに謙虚に生きるという誓いでもあります。

私がブラジルの開教使になって間もない頃、別院の副輪番が私に次のように尋ねました。「阿弥陀仏を医者とすると、お寺参りされる門徒は通院患者と言える。では、毎日寺で寝泊まりしている君は一体何者だ？」と。

私は迷わず「医師（阿弥陀仏）に仕える身ですから、私は看護師ではないでしょうか」と答えると、副輪番は笑いながら「何を言っている。君は入院患者だよ」。続けて「君は、別院の生活に慣れ、最近では門徒方に『先生、先生』ともてはやされて偉くなったつもりでいるかもしれないが、私達僧侶は君の言うような看護師でもなければ、カウンセラーでもない。私達僧侶は、お寺（病院）に住み込んで、阿弥陀仏（医師）のそばにおいていただいている入院患者（重症）だということを決して忘れてはならない。門徒（通院患者）より重い病気（煩悩熾盛）を自分自身が患っているということに目覚めることが僧侶として最も大切なことなのだ。だからこそ、四六時中休むことなく、こんな私を見捨てずつねにはたらきかけて下さる阿弥陀仏の本願に誰よりも感謝し、この喜びをみんなに伝えていかなければならない。これを自信教人信といい、その誠を尽くすことが僧侶の本分なのだ」と言われました。

副輪番のこの何とも有難いお言葉は、当時、新米僧侶だった私の心に大きな衝撃を与えるとともに、その後の私が僧侶として生きるべき道しるべをはっきりと示して下さいました。

得度を受けてアメリカに帰ってくるデボンには、くれぐれも初心を忘れず、決して驕り高ぶることなく、常に自らの愚かさ省みて、謙虚な心と感謝の気持ちを持って、浄土真宗の僧侶としての本分を全うして欲しい切に願っています。

マウンテンビュー仏教会は設立以来、田中ケン先生を始め多くの開教使を輩出してきました。お念仏のみ教えを一人でも多くの人と分かち合いたいという先輩開教使方の　志　を受け継いで得度を受けたデボンを誇りに思います。ご門徒の皆さまには、僧侶として新しい人生を歩み始めた丸刈り頭のデボンを温かく迎え入れていただきたいと思います。デボン、おめでとう！

Hoonko Seminar

with Rev. Dr. Kenneth K. Tanaka

Professor Emeritus

Musashino University, Tokyo

at the

Mountain View Buddhist Temple

Saturday, January 13, 2024

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

In YBA Hall

575 North Shoreline Blvd

Mountain View, CA 94043

(650) 964-9426 / www.mvbuddhisttemple.org

Theme: **"Everyday Buddhism for Dealing with Life Concerns and Problems: With a Bit of Humor"**

Details are on the MVBT website and in Putra's Post

MVBT Girl Scout Troop #60736

Brownie/Cadette

The Brownie and Cadette Scouts had their first in-person meeting. They prepared for their upcoming service project for The Crayon Initiative by making collection boxes.

The girls also learned how to make spam musubi and onigiri, and they talked about ideas for a fun trip.

Senior/Ambassador

The girls became chefs for a day and made sago (a Chinese dessert), spam musubi and yaki onigiri.

Boxes to collect crayons

Keiro Kai

Our Girl Scouts participated in the Flag Ceremony held before the Temple's annual Keiro Kai celebration.

The Crayon Initiative

The Brownie/Cadette Troop is collecting used crayons for The Crayon Initiative, which takes used crayons, remanufactures them into new crayons, and donates them to children's hospitals. You will find donation boxes in the YBA Hall, Sangha Hall and the Hondo! We will be collecting until the end of February!

Senior & Ambassador scouts showing the food they made

In Gassho,
Girl Scout Troop #60736

Happy New Year 2024!
CRAB DINNER FUNDRAISER
Saturday, January 13, 2024

Tri-Temple Fundraiser
for
Palo Alto Buddhist Temple,
Mountain View Buddhist Temple and
San Mateo Buddhist Temple

Crab Dinner on Saturday, January 13,2024

ONLINE PRE-ORDER ONLY with credit card or debit card

- ⇒ $70 per person. You can order now.
  - ♦ Go to or Type in your computer: **www.tinyurl.com/CrabDinner2024**
- ⇒ Deadline for orders: Friday, January 11, 2024
- ⇒ Check Putra's Post for latest information
- ⇒ Questions: Contact Bob Matsumoto at robertmats@gmail.com or (408) 802-3886

TAKEOUT or DINE-IN

- ⇒ 4:00 pm: Takeout Opens. MVBT Members pickup at MVBT
- ⇒ 5:00 pm: PABT Dining Room Opens. Locacted at 2751 Louis Road, Palo Alto

THANK YOU

⇒ THANK YOU for supporting the second Tri-Temple fundraising event of the Palo Alto, Mountain View and San Mateo Buddhist Temples!

⇒ While this event is hosted by Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, your Temple receives 50% of the net proceeds of all tickets purchased by your members or guests whether dine-in or takeout.

HAPPY NEW YEAR CRAB DINNER

- Enjoy a whole fresh cooked, cleaned and cracked dungeness crab, pasta marinara, salad, bread and dessert.
- PABT Dining Room guests will enjoy fresh cooked dungeness crab and all-you-can-eat pasta marinara, salad and bread, as well as LIVE Hawaiian style entertainment -- wear your favorite Hawaiian aloha attire!
- PABT Dining Room will have **300 Total Seats** available on first-come, first-sold basis until sold-out.

ABA News

MVBT

Adult Buddhist Association

Keiro Kai Check In
Haley Sawamura (left) and
Shirley Matsumoto (right)

Sunday Services

NOVEMBER 5. Thanks to **Russ Nakano** for chairing the Shotsuki Hoyo service on November 5 as well as organizing the Buddhist Reading with **Shirley Matsumoto**, Greeters, **Mieko Nakano** and **Alice Ishida** and Ambassadors **Peter Matsumoto** and **Glenn Kitasoe**.

NOVEMBER 12. ABA chaired the November 12 Sunday Service with **Russ Nakano** organizing the program and chairing the service. Assisting Russ were **Sterling Makishima**, **Rich & Emi Mori** and **Bob Matsumoto**.

Keiro Kai

ABA partnered with YABA to assist with the Keiro Kai Luncheon registration check in on Sunday, November 19, with the team of **Shirley Matsumoto**, **Teri Hirota**, **Alec Matsumoto** and **Haley Sawamura**.

Mochi Tsuki Lunch

Per a request from Zone 3 to bring a dessert, salad or snack for the Mochi Tsuki lunch, many ABA members responded to the ask that helped with the large turnout of volunteers this year. A heartfelt thank you was expressed from **Traci Inouye**, one of the Mochi Tsuki chairs.

New ABA Members

A happy welcome to our newest ABA members, **Linda & Bryan Nishimoto**, **Linda & Allen Sasaki** and **Sharon & Dwayne Okabayashi**. We have added 11 new members during 2023 and anticipate more additions in 2024!

ABA Cabinet

As the year 2023 comes to a close, I want to express my gratitude to the ABA team of cabinet members who contributed to keeping ABA active as a social organization that supports Temple activities, community service and just has fun!

The cabinet will remain intact for 2024 with the exception of the Treasurer, **Don Fukuma** who will be moving to Japan. We wish Don the best and a lot of Japanese language classes!

Upcoming Activities

- **ABA New Year's Dinner**
  Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 5:30 pm
  China Stix Restaurant, Santa Clara
  Contact **Teri Hirota** to sign up.
  Deadline January 15
- **Golden State Warriors vs. Denver Nuggets**
  Sunday, February 25, 2024 at 4:00 pm
  Chase Center, San Francisco
  Contact **Kathy Fujii**

To Join ABA

If you are interested in joining ABA or have any questions, please contact **Reiko Tsuchida** (Membership Chairperson), **Mieko Nakano** (Assistant Membership Chairperson) or any ABA member.

Next Meeting

The next ABA is Friday, February 9, 7:30 pm (Hybrid)

Happy Holidays!

In Gassho,
Ken Nakano
ABA President

2023 150 Club News

Our December 2023 winners were **Greg and Julie Uyekubo**.

And, our Grand Prize winner for 2023 was **Noreen Ikeuye**.

Congratulations! Greg & Julie and Noreen!

Thank you all for participating in 150 Club!

Have a Happy New Year!!!

150 Club Committee

Toban & Echo Schedule

	Toban	Echo Article Deadline	Echo Sent in Mail
JAN	Zones 8 & 9	N / A	N / A
FEB	Zones 10 & 11	Jan 12 (Fri)	Jan 17 (Wed)
MAR	Zones 12 & 13	Feb 16 (Fri)	Feb 22 (Wed)

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

Mountain View Buddhist Temple YBA

YBA Spaghetti Dinner & BINGO Fundraiser

Hello everyone, I am **Jillian Higa**, and I'm this year's YBA Spaghetti Dinner chair. The Spaghetti DInner Fundraiser is on Saturday, February 10, from 5 pm—8 pm.

We will also have BINGO and a 50/50 Raffle.

ORDER FORMS

Online order forms will be out soon, so please listen for an announcement at Sunday Services. Additionally, please look for the link in Putra's Post, check the Temple website and paper forms will also be in the back of the Hondo soon. You can also print the form below and send it to the Temple.

Please come out and support our YBA at this year's Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser.

In Gassho,
Jillian Higa
YBA Spaghetti Dinner Chair

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

Saturday, February 10, 2024

Dinner: 5:00-7:00 pm
BINGO: 6:00-8:00 pm
MVBT Sangha Hall

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple YBA (Young Buddhist Association) will be hosting our annual Spaghetti Dinner. The proceeds from our Spaghetti Dinner funds religious and social activities throughout the year that provide opportunities for YBA members to experience the Dharma together. We appreciate any and all support you can give, including donated goods or services and monetary donations. Please come out and enjoy a wonderful evening!
(Take-out is also available.)
Please pre-order if possible as this allows us to plan and give you the best Spaghetti Dinner possible. If you have any question,s please contact Jillian Higa at 408-921-8015 or jillian_higa@yahoo.com.
Thank you for supporting the Mountain View YBA.

In Gassho,
Jillian Higa, Spaghetti Dinner Chairperson

To Pre-Order Dinners **(Deadline February 3, 2024):**
- Fill out the order form below
- Mail your payment and order form to the Temple office addressed to "MVBT YBA" or drop them off at the Temple office

*Checks should be made out to: MVBT YBA
**We follow a ticketless system, so no tickets will be distributed

✂**********

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

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

	Quantity		Total
Adult Dinners:	_____	x $15.00	$_____
Adult Vegetarian Dinner	_____	x $15.00	$_____
Child (10 and under) Dinners:	_____	x $10.00	$_____
Child Vegetarian Dinner	_____	x $10.00	$_____
Bingo Cards:	_____	x $5.00	$_____
Additional Donation:			$_____
Total Amount Enclosed:			$_____

Dharma School News

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Maui Wildfire Relief Dana Project

Mahalo to all of the 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Dharma School students, teachers, and families for putting together the Button Sale and Bake Sale on December 3 in support of the Maui fire relief efforts! The donated baked treats were "ono" and the buttons were "u'i loa!"

In all, $2,340 was raised for the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i's Maui Wildfire Relief Fund thanks to the generosity of the MVBT Sangha .

Halloween Greetings for Maui

Thank you to the **Middle School class**, **Eric and Amy Arakaki**, and **Curt and Richard Fukuda**, for coordinating and assembling a special Halloween greeting for the Maui Sangha! For a "hana hou" viewing, visit:

https://tinyurl.com/mvbtmauihalloween

Mochi Tsuki and Osoji

Thank you to all of the Dharma School families who helped out at Mochi Tsuki on December 10 and to those who were able to help with Osoji on December 17.

Farewell 2023 – Welcome 2024

As we bid 2023 farewell, let us pause to reflect upon the past year with introspection and gratitude for the causes and conditions — good and bad — that have allowed us to connect, persevere and grow. May you all have a Happy Holiday season and a healthy and joyous start to the New Year! See you in 2024!

MVBT Dharma School

In Gassho,
Brent Izutsu
Dharma School Superintendent

Dharma School students making buttons

Dharma School students selling baked goods

Customers buying baked goods

ABOVE ROW & LEFT TWO:
Clips from 2023 Aloha Halloween Parade video.

See video at:

https://tinyurl.com/mvbtmauihalloween

Buddhist Women's Association

Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu!

あけまして　おめでとう　ございます

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Our wish is for all to stay Safe and Healthy!

Dana Youth Fund Drive

The Sangha was most generous for our Dana Youth Fund Drive in November. We are truly grateful and will present our MVBT Affiliated Youth Groups our gifts at our BWA Memorial Service on Sunday, January 21.

Our sincere **THANK YOU!**

Delicious Udon Lunch

Udon Fundraiser

BWA extends our thank you for your support of our Udon Fundraiser held December 3, 2023. With new members, friends, and spouses, it was like the past with many hands helping to make it a successful event.

BWA Memorial Service

On Sunday, January 21, 2024, we will have our Eshinni, Kakushinni, Lady Takeko Kujo, Lady Yoshiko Ohtani and BWA Memorial Service. At the service, past BWA members will be honored.

Karen Akahoshi (the wife of Rev. Kenji Akahoshi) will be our guest speaker. In May 2023, she was chosen to be the guest speaker for BCA at the 2023 World Buddhist Women's Conference in Kyoto, Japan.

Karen Akahoshi

New BWA Members

In 2023, we were very pleased to welcome new BWA members:

Teri Hirota
Emi Mori
Mieko Nakano
Reiko Tsuchida
Joanne Makishima
Judy Nakano
June Oto

Truly a great group of ladies to join us.

In Gassho,
Reiko Murakami
BWA President

Dashi/Shiitake Cooking Crew
Rich Mori, Peter Matsumoto, Ray Murakami, Ken Nakano, Eric Arakai & Russell Chan

BWA Members & Friends

Preparing to Work
Martha Okamura, Julie Ushiba, Glenn Kitasoe & Kurumi Mukojima

Ladies Cutting Shiitake

Unpacking Udon
Ken Nakano, Sterling Makishima & Will Dea

Udon Cookers
Glenn Kitasoe, Reiko Murakami (observer), Eric Arakaki, Peter Matsumoto, Scott Hirotsu & Will Dea

Miroku

Maui Wildfire Relief Dana Project

This month in Miroku, we hosted the Bake Sale and Button Sale with Dharma School on Sunday, December 3. All proceeds will be donated to Maui Wildfire Relief Dana Project. We raised a ton of money.

Thank you for your support.

Kelly & Oji
Button Sales

Sunday Service Chair

Prior to the Bake Sale on December 3, we chaired the Shotsuki Hoyo and Bodhi Day Service.

Garrett, Odin & Ko
Bake Sales

We also went around the Temple grounds to complete the AED checks.

Holiday Party

On Saturday, December 2, we had our holiday party. We had a white elephant gift exchange with a few steals, but all in good fun. Most people were very pleased. We also enjoyed the candy cane pinata.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held Sunday, January 7, after Dharma School (at approximately 12 pm) in the YBA Conference Room.

See y'all at the next meeting.

In Gassho,
Garrett Tao
7th Grade Miroku Student

MIROKU

middle school group

2023 MVBT Eitaikyo Service and Keiro Kai Luncheon

Eitaikyo Service

The Eitaikyo Service was held on Sunday, November 19. The guest speaker was **Rev. Kenji Akahoshi**, a retired BCA minister. The Eitaikyo Service is a time when we remember all those whose contributions to our Temple in the past allow us to continue to hear the Dharma today.

Keiro Kai Luncheio

After the service, the Mountain View Buddhist Temple hosted its annual Keiro Kai Luncheon to honor the Seniors, who are MVBT members who are 70 years old and older.

Keiro Kai is an annual gathering to honor, celebrate, and show our gratitude to our elders at MVBT. We at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, are deeply grateful for all that our Keiro have done and continue to do for our Sangha.

The MVBT and Zone 12 hosted approximately 225 attendees at our annual Keiro-Kai Luncheon. This year's theme was "Issho Ni" or "All Together Now," expressing MVBT's spirit of appreciation and cooperation shared between our multiple generations.

During the program, we also honored two Centenarians **Mr. Tad Horino** and **Mr. Hiroji Kariya**.

Thank You to Zone 12!

In Gassho
Mountain View Buddhist Temple

Rev. Kenji Akahoshi

Hiroji Kariya

Tad Horino

YBA

Keiros & Guests

Bento

Upcoming Events

February 4, 2024, Sunday
Shotsuki Hoyo

February 10, 2024, Saturday
YBA Spaghetti Dinner

February 11, 2024, Sunday
Nirvana Day & Pet Memorial

February 17, 2024, Sunday
Boy Scout Sunday Service

February 25, 2024, Sunday
BCA Eitaikyo Service

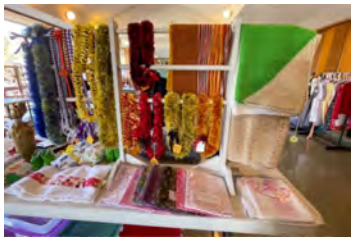
MVBT Winter Boutique

The Mountain View Buddhist Temple's Winter Boutique was held on Sunday, December 3, 2023. This was a fundraiser for the MVBT Seniors Activities Program. The proceeds are used to supplement lunches, trips and special activities that are planned during the year. These donations enhance the operation of the program.

Thank you to everyone who donated goods, made goods and sold goods. Everyone's help was greatly appreciated.

And, thank you to the MVBT Sangha and its friends for purchasing the goods.

In Gassho,
MVBT Senior Activities Program



Wanted: Old iPads - Donate Your Old iPads to the MVBT Obon / Bazaar

MVBT Obon Festival & Bazaar Looking for Unwanted iPads

The Obon Festival and Bazaar Committee is looking for iPads (2019 or newer). If you have one of these iPads that you don't need anymore, consider donating it to the Temple. If you are considering upgrading your current iPad, you can donate your old one to the Temple.

We can use the iPads to do credit card and cash transactions in the food booths and other major booths. It's a great way to sell more and reduce the need for cash.

Questions. Please send them to:

Treasurer @mvbuddhisttemple.org

Thank you
Treasurer
MVBT Obon Festival & Bazaar

Wanted iPads - 2019 or newer

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

Patty Toshiko Ogino June 18, 1931 - Nov 26, 2023

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

Namo Amida Butsu - With Kindness and Gratitude beyond words

Seniors Activities & Crafts Program News

MVBT Seniors Activities and Crafts

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Thursday, January 11, 2024: Mark this date on your calendar. It is the 2024 start up for the Senior Activities Program.

Thursday, January 18: We have our own Temple member **Joyce Okumura-Lee** doing a presentation on "Succulents." She will share "grow and care tips" of this Delightful Plant Family. If you have some succulents that you want to share or swap cuttings, bring a few in wrapped paper towels.

Lunch will also be provided at 11:30 am and the presentation is at 12:30 pm. Please join us and learn about growing and keeping your plants healthy. You're all welcome.

Thursday, February 15: **Jeff Sato**, another one of our active Temple members, will share his expertise on Safety, mainly to focus on CPR. If we are to help someone in distress, it will be comforting to know you can help with the current and up-to-date practice.

Lunch will also be provided at 11:30 am and Jeff's presentation will begin at 12:30 pm. Don't miss this valuable information. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday, March 27: We have a day trip planned to Sky River Casino. We will be taking sign up in January. More information will be provided. Sign up with any Committee member, don't be left out.

DONATIONS:

Gratefully acknowledged.

- **Nancy Hironaka**

SENIOR COOKBOOKS

Cookbooks are still available at the Temple Office or can be purchased through any committee member. The price is $10, which makes for a nice gift.

SENIOR CRAFTS:

The Craft program starts at 9:00am to 12:00pm.

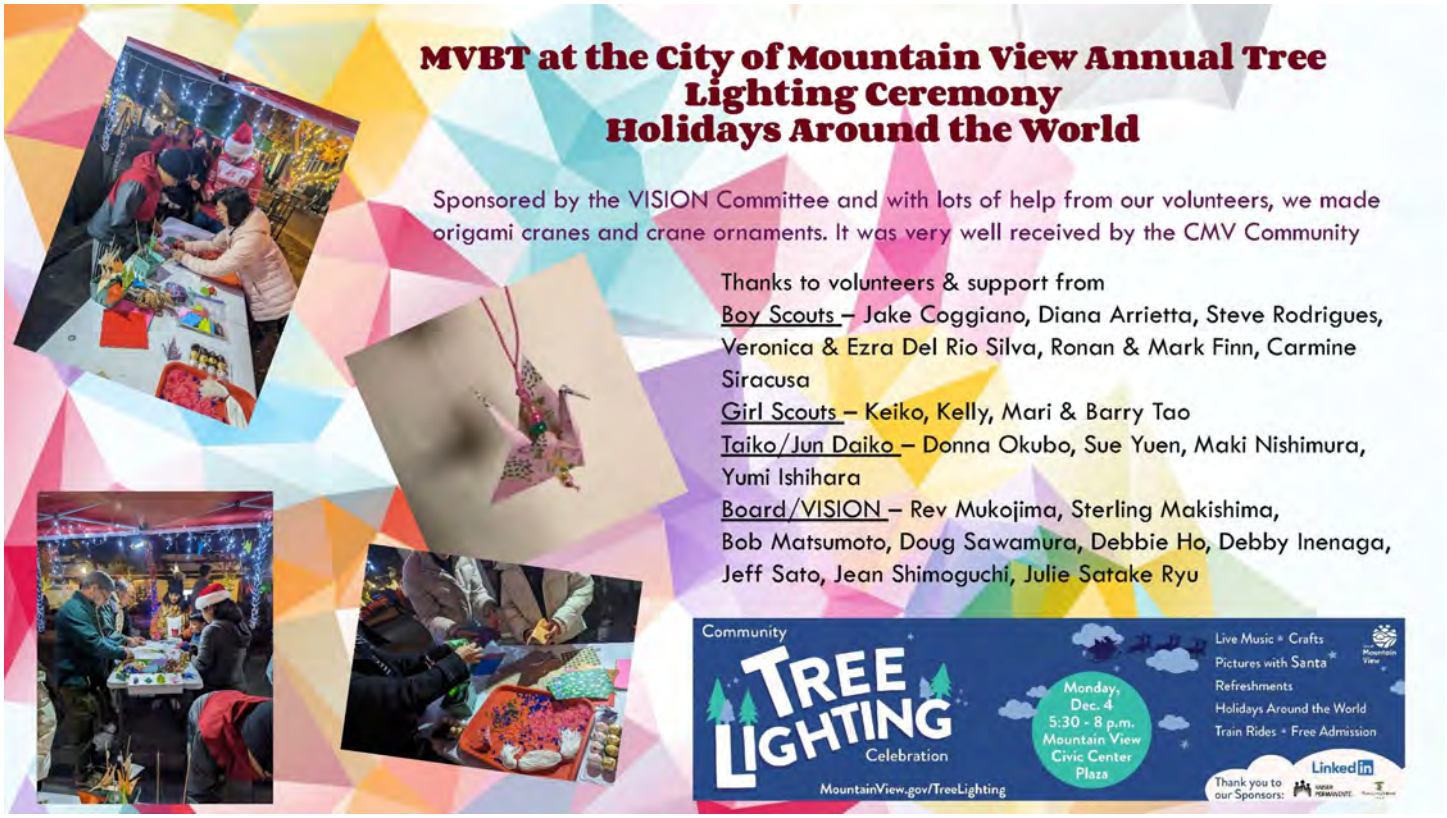
MVBT SENIOR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

"Keeping our Senior Activities Strong"

Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto	Reiko Tsuchida
Colleen Choy	Scott Hirotsu
Kimi Nishimura	Kay Tachibana
Alice Ishida	Julie Ushiba

Thank you for your continued support to our Senior Activities Program.

In Gassho,
Aiko Sugimoto-Miyamoto



January

Monthly

Memorial

Service

* * * * *

Shotsuki Hoyo for January to be held on Sunday, January 7

* * * * *

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

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

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.

2024 is the Memorial Year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2023	3rd Year Memorial	2022	7th Year Memorial	2018
13th Year Memorial	2012	17th Year Memorial	2008	25th Year Memorial	2000
27th Year Memorial	1998	33rd Year Memorial	1992	50th Year Memorial	1975

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**2** Groundhog Day 7p-8p Ukulele Club (Zoom)	**3**
4 Super Bowl 10a-11a Shotsuki Hoyo Service & Dharma School (Hybrid) 11:45a-2p YBA Meeting (YBA Hall\; Kitchen/Main Hall / Education Bldg.\; 2/3) 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class (Sangha Hall\; Gym) 12p-1p Miroku Meeting (YBA Hall\; Conference Room)	**5** 7p-8:30p Buddhist Study Class (Zoom)	**6** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall/Kitchen & Sangha Hall\; Patio) 7:30p-8:30p Ukulele Club (Sangha Hall\; Pancake Room/Hybrid) 8:30p-10p Jun Daiko (Sangha Hall\; Game Room/Hybrid)	**7** 6p-9p Boy Scouts (Pancake Room/Kitchen)	**8** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**9** 7p-8p Ukulele Club (Zoom) 7:30p-9p ABA General Meeting (YBA Hall\; Board Room/Main Hall/Kitchen)	**10** **YBA Spaghetti Dinner (5:00-7:00 Dinner, 6:00-8:00 BINGO)** 10a-12p BWA Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall / Kitchen)
11 10a-11a Nirvana Day/Pet Memorial Service & Dharma School (Hybrid) 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class (Sangha Hall\; Gym)	**12**	**13** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall/Kitchen & Sangha Hall\; Patio) 7:30p-8:30p Ukulele Club (Sangha Hall\; Pancake Room/Hybrid) 8:30p-10p Jun Daiko (Sangha Hall\; Game Room/Hybrid)	**14** Valentine's Day 7p-9p Boy Scouts (Sangha Hall\; All) 7:30p-9:30p MVBT Board Meeting (YBA Hall\; Board Room/Main Hall/Kitchen)	**15** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**16** BCA National Council Meeting Minister's Association Meeting & Workshops (Virtual) 7p-8p Ukulele Club (Zoom)	**17** BCA National Council Meeting Minister's Association Meeting & Workshops (Virtual)
18 10a-11a Boy Scout Sunday Service & Dharma School (Hybrid)	**19** Presidents Day	**20** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall/Kitchen & Sangha Hall\; Patio) 7:30p-8:30p Ukulele Club (Sangha Hall\; Pancake Room/Hybrid) 8:30p-10p Jun Daiko (Sangha Hall\; Game Room/Hybrid)	**21** 7p-9p Boy Scouts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**22** **BCA National Council Meeting IBS Symposium (Buddhist Church of Sacramento)** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**23** **BCA National Council Delegates' Meeting (Buddhist Church of Sacramento)** 7p-8p Ukulele Club (Zoom)	**24** **BCA National Council Delegates' Meeting (Buddhist Church of Sacramento)**
25 **10a-11a BCA Eitaikyo Service (Hybrid)** 12p-2p Kids Taiko Class (Sangha Hall\; Gym)	**26** 1p-2p Senior Activities Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall) 7:30p-9p RPC Virtual Meeting	**27** 5:30p-7:30p MVBT Adult Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Continuing Taiko (Sangha Hall\; Gym/Hybrid) 7p-8p Cub Scout Pack Meeting (YBA Hall\; Main Hall/Kitchen & Sangha Hall\; Patio) 7:30p-8:30p Ukulele Club (Sangha Hall\; Pancake Room/Hybrid) 8:30p-10p Jun Daiko (Sangha Hall\; Game Room/Hybrid)	**28** 7p-9p Boy Scouts (Sangha Hall\; All)	**29** 9a-12p Senior Activities and Crafts (Sangha Hall\; All)		

KOMOCHI
For Sale

Contact the Temple office to arrange a pickup time.
Office hours are Monday - Friday
10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Support Your Temple
Donate to Past & Upcoming Services

Bodhi Day / New Year's Eve / New Year's Day / Hoonko / Nirvana Day & Pet Memorial

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

Highlights in December Issue

YBA News & Spaghetti Dinner with BINGO	*5, 10*
Hoonko Seminar with Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka	*7*
Tri-Temple Crab Feed	*8*
Dharma School News	*11*
BWA News	*12*

Mountain View Buddhist Temple
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