



ONENESS

Buddhist Church of Florin



August 2023

Volume 8

One Taste When Entering the Ocean of Buddha's Compassion

Hello everyone, August has come. On July 15th, the Hatsubon service and Bon Odori were successfully held at our church. I saw many people visiting and enjoying the dancing, food, and music. I'm not very good at dancing, but Bon Odori's choreography for each song is simple. So, after repeating it a few times, our body will start to memorize it. By the end of a song, most of the people in the circle will have learned the dance well. By the time I was finally able to remember the choreography, a new song had started, and I even felt the urge to dance a little more. Every song has its own unique dance routine that you can dance without getting bored. Even people who didn't know how to dance at first, eventually began to dance like everyone else, and it reminded me of the image of being born in the Pure Land and becoming one with a Buddha.

Our founder Shinran Shonin described the appearance of a person being born in the Pure Land as the appearance of fresh water entering seawater and changing to the salty taste of seawater. We call it ICHIMI, which means "one taste". It is said that those born in the Pure Land can have the Buddha's compassionate mindset, want to help others, and return to this world. The Nembutsu that we recite is Buddha's appearance in front of us in the form of voices. Also, one of the meanings of the Nembutsu is the expression of joy and gratitude, like we do during Bon Odori, for receiving the Nembutsu.

You can find the word ICHIMI in the sutra ShoshinGe that we recited during the Hatsubon service.

能発一念喜愛心 (NOHOTSUITINENKIAISHIN)
不断煩惱得涅槃 (FUDANBONNOUTOKUNEHAN)
凡聖逆謗齊廻入 (BONJOGYAKUHOSAIENYU)
如衆水入海一味 (NYOSHUSHINYUKAIICHIMI)

When we receive the Nembutsu and the mind of rejoice, we enter Nirvana even without removing our Blind passion. (Sonomama - As you are)

No matter who we are, our hearts will change completely.

All people will unite in one taste in one ocean. (**Ichimi - One taste**)

[ShoshinGe]

Gassho,
Namo Amida Butsu
Rev. Noritaka Imada

If you need to contact Rev. Imada, you can email him at: imadabca@gmail.com

August Monthly Memorial (Shotsuki Hoyo) Service

The monthly memorial service for those who passed away during the month of August will be held on **Sunday, August 27, 2023, beginning at 10:00 am.** The persons who are noted in the Buddhist Church of Florin (BCF) memorial records as having passed away in the month of August are listed below. If you have a homyo (Buddhist name) on a card please bring it with you for placement on the onajin (altar) before the service.

If the year 2023 is a special service year (see table) for a dearly departed relative, please contact Reverend Noritaka Imada, Buddhist Church of Florin 916-383-1831 or email imadabca@gmail.com to make special memorial arrangements. Please inform Lois Kashiwase of any corrections or additions to the list.

Abe, Hiroshi	08-25-1917	Nakashima, Yasuke	08-10-1918
Asano, Yoshiro	08-10-1910	Nishiguchi, Toshiyuki	08-19-1923
Baishiki, Tsune	08-07-1943	Nobuso, Seishiro	08-09-1975
Fujii, Keiji	08-27-1939	Okamoto, Fusano	08-22-1970
Fujimoto, Satono	08-21-1918	Okazaki, Baby	08- -1939
Fukagawa, Chester Kiyoshi	08-01-2001	Okimura, Alice	08-10-2009
Fuwa, Rikizo	08-26-1936	Ono, Miyokichi	08-27-1911
Fuwa, Warren Hitoshi	08-28-1996	Otani, Robert Alan	08-06-2011
Hamataka, Sue Yoshiko	08-12-2002	Saigo, Toshiaki	08-05-1976
Haramoto, Manzo	08-16-1939	Sako, Morito	08-24-1956
Ishigaki, Hisako	08-02-1917	Sasaki, Fumiko	08-05-2016
Ishikawa, Infant	08-23-1912	Sekiguchi, Mitsue	08-09-1984
Kato, Kiyomi	08-13-2014	Shijo, Susumu	08-03-2006
Kawanishi, Natsue	08-11-1930	Sugimoto, Yei	08-04-1997
Kimura, Fumiko	08-17-1920	Sumida, Katsumi	08-03-1918
Kodama, Ritsu	08-09-1948	Tahara, Tome	08-17-1913
Kumamoto, Allen	08-07-1990	Takeoka, Kanao	08-31-2010
Maruki, Shozaburo	08-04-1930	Takeoka, Mikio	08-30-1999
Maruki, Tsuyuko	08-09-1930	Tanaka, Kay	08-08-2009
Mito, Isuyo	08-27-1918	Terada, Kansuke	08-21-1934
Mitsuyoshi, Misako	08-21-1926	Tsakamoto, James	08-19-2006
Mitsuyoshi, Toshiko	08-21-1926	Unno, Toshiuemon	08-04-1904
Miyata, Yoshinori	08-20-1912	Uno, Yoneko	08-07-1918
Mukai, Sannosuke	08-21-1951	Yabumoto, Miyeko	08-24-2008
Nakaguchi, Sana	08-18-1917	Yamamoto, Akio	08-15-1921
Nakahira, Kazutaro	08-04-1976	Yamamoto, Minoru	08-16-1911
Nakamura, Hisako Katherine	08-18-2008	Yoshida, Heikichi	08-18-1934
Nakashima, Aiko	08-04-1920		

2023 Memorial Service Schedule

Please schedule a service if your loved ones passed away in the following years:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Service</u>
2022	1 st Year	1999	25 th Year
2021	3 rd Year	1991	33 rd Year
2017	7 th Year	1974	50 th Year
2011	13 th Year	1924	100 th Year
2007	17 th Year		

Join us for August Service

**August Shotsuki Hoyo and Family Service
Sunday, August 27, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**

Officiant: Rev. Noritaka Imada

****The front gates may be locked 15 minutes after the start of scheduled services and/or activities. Thank you.**

In the event of a change, we will post the updates on our website, Facebook page and send out a message to our email list.

IMPORTANT LETTER FROM YOUR BCF PRESIDENT

July 20, 2023

Dear Sangha,

I hope all of you are enjoying your summer. I want to share two important items with you which concern matters happening at our church.

As you may have heard, the Buddhist Church of Florin (BCF) was searching for someone to assume the duties of Treasurer. I'm pleased to report that Janice Shintaku Enkoji graciously volunteered to join the BCF and assume the responsibilities of Treasurer. Thank you Janice, and thank you to Kathy Menda who performed Treasurer duties for several years.

Also, we learned that Reverend Imada may have to return to Japan in mid-April for approximately one year, due to Visa renewal regulations. Until then, he will continue to serve both Florin and Lodi temples. We have been reassured that when Reverend Imada returns he will resume his position. We will be working with the Buddhist Churches of America to ensure coverage for Florin in his absence. As we get a clearer understanding of his status, we will share more with our Sangha.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at efujii52@gmail.com or call or text me at (916) 955-1954.

In Gassho,

**Eric Fujii, President
Buddhist Church of Florin**

**Buddhist Church of Florin
Obon Festivities**

“Obon, Obon, it’s Festival Day!”

THANK YOU



**Thank you to Everyone for making this year’s Obon a success.
All your help is greatly appreciated. See you at next year’s Obon!**



**With new
generations
learning to
dance**



Arigato!

Our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the following for their help and selfless giving to the Buddhist Church of Florin.

Sandy Okuno, Sharon Okamoto and Ann Tsukamoto: For preparing the after-service refreshments and luncheons for our members to enjoy.

Jennifer Kubo: We appreciate all the hard work you do to make our Food Fundraisers a great success. She picks up and sorts the mail from the US Post Office Box and also, for your selfless giving as our Dharma School teacher.

Kathy Menda: For the many years of dedicated service as Church Treasurer. The Church is indebted to the many selfless hours that you gave towards the many tasks you performed as the past Treasurer.

Paul Kashiwase: Thank you for donating a laptop, printer and software for the Church Treasurer's use and assisting with setup.

Walter Menda: Thank you for chairing the first in-person Obon Odori in 3 years! We are thankful for your leadership in planning and organizing this event.

Ginny Syphax: For monitoring the BCF phone calls; emails; Facebook page & BCF website; hosted Sangha Check-in during the pandemic; and formats and prepares the "Oneness" newsletter for publication. She also occasionally bakes desserts for the Lotus Club.

Margie Sunahara: For being responsible for the use and security of BCF facilities and grounds. Picks up and sorts the mail weekly from the US Post Office Box.

LOTUS: Club: Rain or shine on every Thursday morning the group is committed to maintaining the church grounds, facilities and many other tasks.

Arigato

2023 Membership Dues

Thank you to the following members for their 2023 membership dues received in June:

Calvin Abe
Cheryl Miles
Steve & Lorraine Otani

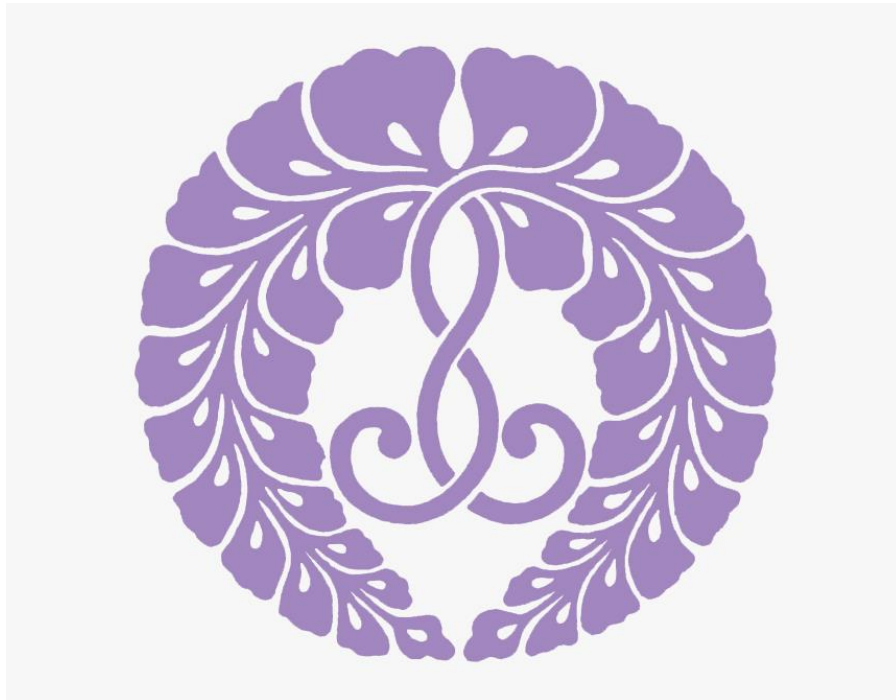
Cindy DeGuzman
Frank Mouton (monthly)
Debra Yamamoto

Larry Ito
Keith & Irene Nakaoka
Burt & Carol Yoshioka
(monthly)

Thank you to all temple members who have paid their membership dues. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps with the day-to-day operations of the temple. A reminder to those who have not yet submitted their dues payment. We would appreciate your payment as soon as possible.

Please direct membership questions to Susan Takeda at (916) 837-5699 or s.takeda@comcast.net.

If you know someone interested in joining us, please refer them to florinbuddhist.org for more information & the BCF membership form.



Buddhist Church of Florin
Governing Board Meeting Highlights
July 2023

1. Obon Odori will be July 15 at 7:30 pm. The time change was due to the excessive heat warning. Taiko will be at 7 pm. Other activities will be at the scheduled times.
2. The parsonage blinds will be replaced with the cost covered by Dharma School.
3. BCF will host a Chicken Throw Down contest. This is a district-wide event and the NCDC will be working out details with BCF. If you wish to volunteer to help organize this fun, social event, please contact Eric Fujii (efujii52@gmail.com).
4. Congratulations went out to Skylar Lam (parents: Nadine Nouchi and Henry Lam) who won the BCA gatha lyric contest. Her lyrics will be set to music creating a new gatha!
5. The Board congratulated Sacramento Kendo members that competed in the National Kendo tournament held in Detroit at the end of June. Competing members were Aileen Niizawa, Rei Ootose and William Lee. William received a top 8 finish in his division.
6. The Board heard a report from Paula Yoshioka who attended the Ogasawara Clinic in Honolulu on behalf of Kyudo Kai Florin. It was led by a 31st generation grand master of the Ogasawara Ryu. The Ogasawara Ryo teaches kyudo as well as yabusame (Japanese bow and arrow on horseback) and samurai and formal Japanese etiquette.
7. BWA will hold Summer Camp on August 8. Watch for details to follow.
8. BCF will be recognized by the Florin JACL at their annual luncheon, silent auction, and raffle on December 2. Details to follow on how to get tickets to participate.
9. A New Member event is being planned to welcome the members who joined during the past three years since BCF has not been able to have a proper welcome event due to Covid.
10. Police have arrested a juvenile for the parsonage break in that occurred on Sunday, May 14. Everyone should be vigilant for individuals that should not be on property.



**Buddhist Church of Florin Dharma School
News & Events- August 2023
“B.R.A.I.D.” – Building Respectful Awareness
& Inclusion through Dharma**

A couple of weeks ago, I had the privilege of attending the Buddhist Youth Retreat along with thirteen other youths. It was the first time since COVID that the retreat had been open for the full week period, and everyone in charge had worked so hard to prepare and get everything ready for us to come. So, imagine their horror and exasperation when the organizer of the entire event got tested positive on the first day.

Anyways, we did continue on as normal, and thanks to the amazing helpers and reverends who stepped up in order to make sure that all of us could continue to enjoy our time at the Jodo Shinshu Center as we continued to learn more about Buddhism and our particular branch with lessons that included how to conduct a service, the meaning of the sutras, and how to chant the sutra, “Shoshinge.”

But of course, that wasn't all of it, us participants also bonded with each other, hanging out in the common area while small groups of people went into the classrooms to draw on the large, digital whiteboard, or during our break periods between activities. I've made so many friendships that have made such a lasting impression on me, and made memories with them that I'll carry for the rest of my life. From going to Japantown to trying desperately not to laugh as we stressed over having to officiate a service or give a Dharma talk.

Lastly, but most importantly. This great opportunity was due to the financial support of the Buddhist Church of Florin Buddhist Education Fund, who paid for my registration (an amount of \$350). Thank you so much for allowing me to participate in this retreat.

Skylar Lam

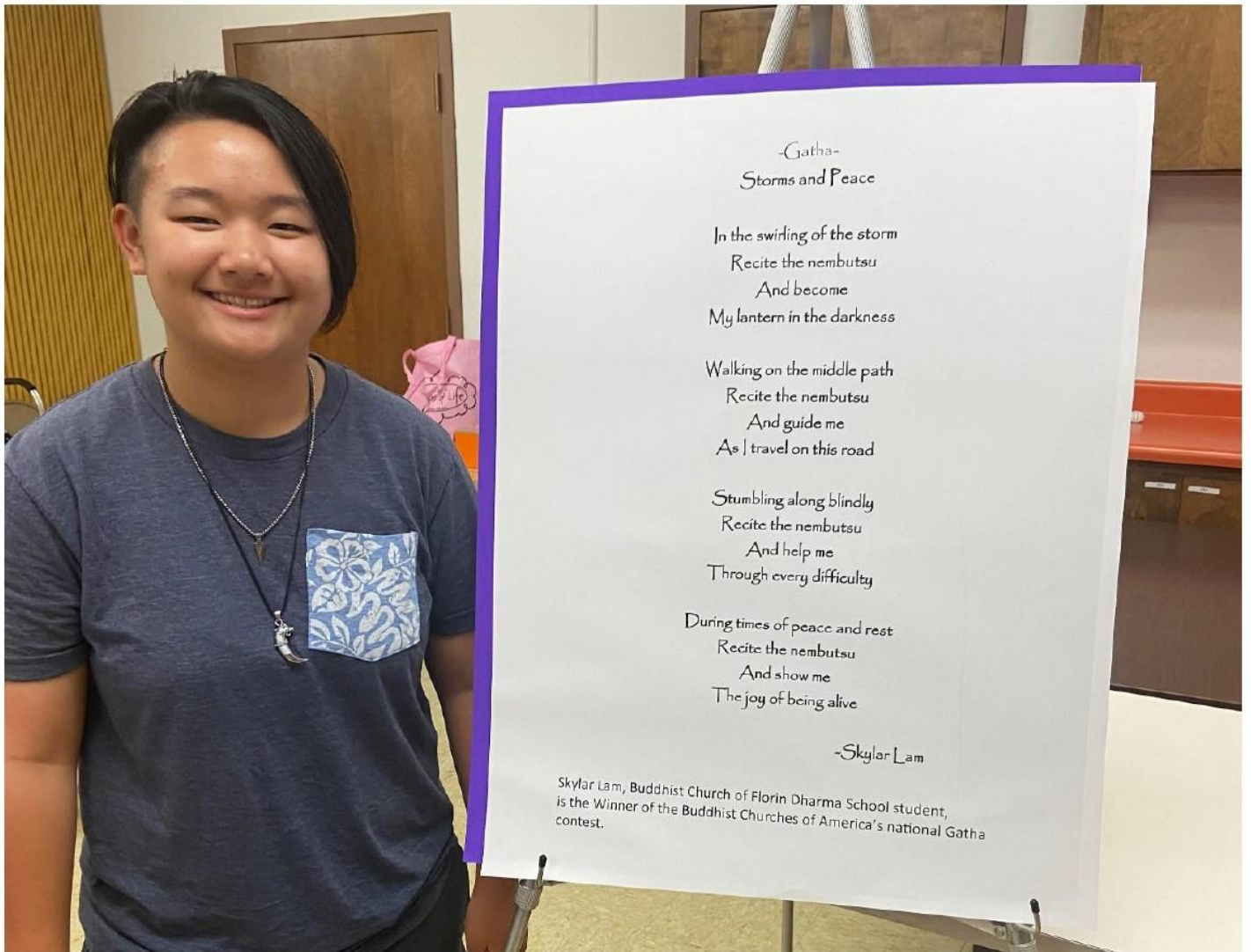


Thank you to everyone that supported the Dharma School this summer by participating in our activities and events. We appreciate your help and attendance at the 4th of July celebration and Obon Festivities. Special thank you to the camping committee for organizing the DS Family camping trip to Donner Memorial State Park.





Congratulations to Skyler Lam! She was the youth winner of the 2023 BCA Music Gatha Lyric contest & 2023 FDSTL Gatha Lyric contest winner. When music is written for her lyrics, it will become a new gatha...coming in 2024! Congratulations Sky!



Buddhist Church of Florin
Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant
\$2,000

Public school education is the foundation for a harmonious and prosperous society. Unfortunately, public school teachers pay for classroom supplies and educational material with their own money because of school budget cuts. The Buddhist Church of Florin supports public school teachers by offering a \$2,000 grant for classroom supplies, education materials and educational field trips.

To be eligible for the Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant, you must be a full-time public school teacher in Kindergarten through 12th grade; and a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin (church membership dues are paid and current).

How to become a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin? If you are married, please join under the couple/family category or if single, the adult single category. Contact Walter Menda for a 2023 Church Membership Form at (916) 392-1896 or wmenda@pacbell.net.

Please complete the Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Application and email to Walter Menda. Applications are being accepted on an ongoing basis.

Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Application

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number and E-mail Address:

Member of Buddhist Church of Florin (Yes/No):

Name of School:

School District:

Grade:

Teaching Credential (Yes/No):

School Term (i.e., September 2023 to June 2024):

How I plan to spend the \$2,000 grant:

I certify that I have provided complete and accurate information to the items on this application. I fully understand that any misrepresentation of information may revoke any right to a grant.

Signature of Applicant

Date

BWA August Dana Project

REQUESTING:

Non-perishable items



ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.
SACRAMENTO STATE

- Non-perishable items, menstrual products, and toiletries.
- Students like low-sodium, low-sugar, low-processed items.

July Dana Project



School Supply List

Rulers Sharpeners Scissors Flash Cards Washable markers Writing Pens Crayola watercolors workbooks (Preschool- 5th grade) Color Pencils markers sharpies Cardstock (all colors & Plain) Playdoh	Backpacks Women's Large socks Coloring Books Clorox Wipes Kleenex
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Gift Cards to:
Walmart Target Safeway Costco & Gas Cards
 These cards are for the school to go out and Purchase certain items for the school or students.

Still REQUESTING:
School Supplies



Collection Dates: **Aug. Thurs [LOTUS days] (9 a.m. - 12 p.m.)**
BCF Gym Aug. 27 Shotsuki Service Before/After Service

BC Florin's Obon Odori 7/13/'23



Photo courtesy of Rev. Sugahara. Printed with permission.

★ First Hatsubon-Obon service & festivities in 3 years. BWA's age sushi (fundraiser) was "sold out." Boutique Items were also displayed/sold.

LOTUS Vegetable Garden



June 15

Sunomono prepared by JoAnn from freshly picked cucumbers



JoAnn prepared grilled eggplant with these freshly picked eggplants.



June 29



Lloyd: Provided 4 large fish; also deboned. BBQ'd chicken & eggplant
Harvey: Provided smoked fish
JoAnn: Prepared namasu, steamed fish ...
Ann: Potato-mac salad
Jennifer: Slaw

July 6

- Sharon O** – Garden coordinator
Seedling starter, planted/weeded, harvested ...
- Ben** Rototilled the ground/2 wks.; weeded
- Ken** Composted
- Greg, Danny, Mike, Ron**
Installed the post & fence
- Danny** Dug water ditch and helped plant
- Gary** Set up water drip system
- JoAnn** Prepared various dishes from harvest

“COMMUNITY EFFORT”

TOMIO & SHIRLEY VISIT



Buddhist Church of Florin
florinbuddhist.org

Fall Food Fundraiser

Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

To Order:

1. Return your order form with payment
2. Orders **MUST** be postmarked by August 17, 2023
3. Make check payable to: BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN
4. Mail check and order form to:

Buddhist Church of Florin
 Fall Food Fundraiser
P. O. Box 292006
Sacramento, CA 95829

Pick up your order on September 10th, between 11:00 AM -1:00 PM
 7235 Pritchard Road, Sacramento, 95828

Prepaid contactless drive thru pick up only
 Email or phone orders will **not** be accepted

ITEM	QTY	UNIT COST	TOTAL
Chicken Plate (½ teriyaki chicken, vegetable, rice, pickled vegetable, sliced oranges)		x \$18.00	
Chinese Chicken Salad		x \$6.00	
Curry Rice		x \$6.00	
Udon (Fresh udon; cooking instructions will be provided)		x \$6.00	
TOTAL ENCLOSED			

Name (Print)	
Address	
City	Zip
Contact Number (required)	
Email Address	

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TOTAL ENCLOSED			

Name (Print)	
Address	
City	Zip
Contact Number (required)	
Email Address	



Ogasawara Sensei (center), Hawaii Kyudo Kai members and Paula Yoshioka (Kyudo Kai Florin)

Kyudo Kai of Florin

KKF was represented at the Ogasawara Ryu Clinic in Honolulu from July 30-July 1. Ogasawara Kiyomoto Sensei is the 31st generation grand master of the Ogasawara Ryu. His famous family lineage goes directly back 850 years to the 9th century. The Ogasawara Ryu was founded in the 12th century to teach kyudo, yabusame (Japanese bow and arrow on horseback) and etiquette (samurai and formal etiquette in all things Japanese).

We learned much about the philosophy of the ryu as well as how yabusame is taught. We also got to witness a 150 year old ceremony performed by Ogasawara Sensei at the Gedatsu Church in Kuliouou. Sensei has only done this ceremony 4 times in public, so being able to watch it was quite an honor.

In a career capacity, Sensei holds a PhD in neuroscience from Tsukuba University and researches pharmaceutical medicine related to cancer treatment.



If you plan on attending this special joint service, PLEASE RSVP to florinbuddhist@gmail.com by September 30, 2023. We have been asked to provide a head count. Thank you!

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION



WELCOMES YOU TO ATTEND



THE 850TH & 800TH JOINT CELEBRATION SERVICE

To commemorate the 850th birthday of Shinran Shonin and the 800th anniversary of the establishment of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, all Northern California District temples are cordially invited to attend this joint service on October 8, 2023 at 10:00 AM at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento.

We are honored to have Rev. Marvin Harada, Bishop of BCA, and Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto, President of the Institute of Buddhist Studies, as our guest speaker.

Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Registration is not required, but a temple headcount is greatly appreciated.



Sunday, October 8, 2023 @ 10:00 AM | Buddhist Church of Sacramento | In-Person & Livestream
2401 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818

916-446-0121

www.buddhistchurch.org





Register @ <https://forms.gle/8BPNta7ZL9ydriky6>



The Buddhist Church of Stockton & Ichi-Mi Presents: Engaging with the Compassion of Amida Buddha's Vow

"A Profound Silence" Screening & Workshop

This in-person event will feature the screening of "A Profound Silence," which is a short film produced by Gardena Buddhist Church's organization called Ichi-Mi and features Jodo Shinshu Buddhist voices from the LGBTQ+ community, family, and allies. Following the screening we will continue with a Q&A discussion and workshop to foster awareness and engagement of Amida's Vow in supporting individuals who identify as LGBTQ+, their families, and as allies.

Saturday, August 26, 2023

9:00 AM-2:30 PM (PT)

Buddhist Church of Stockton

2820 Shimizu Dr., Stockton, CA 95203

209-466-6701

\$20 Suggested Donation

\$15 for High School Students & Younger

Continental Breakfast & Lunch Will Be Provided

SCAN ME



sign up here!

