

Kelowna Buddhist Temple

The New Dharma Express



PO. Box 22092, RPO Capri Centre Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 9N9 phone 250-763-3827
www.kelownabuddhisttemple.org

Special points of interest:

- Wed. Dec 2, TSS Meditation 9:30am
- Thurs. Dec 3, TSS Meditation 9:30am, Japanese Class 7pm.
- Fri. Dec 4, TSS Meditation 9:30am
- Sat. Dec 5 & 6 Christmas Tree Sales—Rick's Garden World
- Wed. Dec 9, TSS Meditation 9:30am
- Thurs. Dec 10, TSS Meditation 9:30am
- Fri. Dec 11, TSS Meditation 9:30am, Rice Washing 8:30am
- Sat. Dec 12, Mochi Making 8am
- Sun. Dec 13, Dharma School 10am, Bodhi Day & Monthly Memorial 2pm

Monthly Memorial

Mr.	Yoshisaburo Nagasawa
Miss	Setsuko Nishi
Mr.	Shozo Takashita
Mr.	Chiyokichi Yamauchi
Mr.	Zintaro Hamazaki
Mr.	Zenichi Nakano
Mr.	Tatsuzo Higashida
Mrs.	Toku Nishi
Mr.	Kichiya Nishi
Mrs.	Yasue Nishi
Mr.	Suezo Tanemura
Master	Masayoshi Ueda
Mr.	Harumatsu Nishi
Mr.	Rihachi Tomiye
Mrs.	Hatsuyo Kawano
Mr.	Yoshio Takenaka
Mrs.	Yasue Kitaura
Mrs.	Toshiko Terada
Mrs.	Fumiko Matsuda
Mrs.	Michiko Sugimoto
Mrs.	Mary Koga

- Wed. Dec 16, TSS Meditation 9:30am
- Thurs. Dec 17, TSS Meditation 9:30am
- Fri. Dec 18, TSS Meditation 9:30am
- Sun. Dec 20, Dharma School 10am

Clean-up Altar Toban

Group #5
M/M Morio Koga
M/M Yosh Terada
M/M Kaichi Uemoto
Mr. Reg Tomiye
Mrs. Joan Kitaura
Mrs. Toyoko Tamaki
Mrs. Dot Wakano
Mr. Suey Koga
M/M Kim Kendal
M/M Gord Lacey
Mrs. Shigeko Kurahashi
Ms. Karen Stewart
Mr. Harry Tonn
Mrs. Janice Richardson

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Temple Election Closing Date for Ballot Return Dec 13, 2009

Christmas Tree Sales

Rick's Garden World— Dec. 5th 9am to 4pm and Dec. 6th 9am to 4pm

Help needed for morning and afternoon shifts, please call Isao Terai at 250-717-5863 (plus, if you can help Friday Dec. 4th 9am 3236 Hall Road, again call Isao, he needs at least 3 volunteers). This and other Temple Projects help to keep Jodoshinshu Buddhism alive and active in our community, please give generously of your time and remember where to buy your tree this year!

In Gassho

From Sensei: Thank You For Tomorrow

It is almost December, and we Buddhists have our own traditions. On December 8th we celebrate Bodhi Day, the day that Sakyamuni Buddha attained spiritual awakening and showed us that a human being can become a Buddha- a fully Awakened one. All human beings therefore have this potential, called Buddha-Nature, which, when awakened and cultivated, enables them to realize the oneness of all life.

The coming Season is a time for reflection, and for celebration with our families. Parents invest their energies and affections into their children in many ways. We try to teach our children the traditions and values of life. However, our children often teach us to become better parents, and also better individuals. Sometimes the honesty and innocence of a child can give us important insights, and can help us realize what is really important. A child can teach us important lessons about something we may have not recognized, or overlooked. The following story illustrates this, through the honest feelings of a child, which touches the heart of his father.

This boy was an active six-year old. Sadly, his mother had died when he was only a toddler. Although his father tried his best, he found it hard trying to be both mom and dad for him. One weekend the father planned a special outing for them both- a picnic by the lake. The little boy had never been on a picnic before, and he was so excited about it. Together he and his dad made plans for the next day, and began packing their picnic lunch basket. They would need to leave early the next morning, so they went to bed an hour earlier than usual.

As you might expect, the little boy couldn't sleep. He tossed and turned in excitement, thinking about all the things that they would do the next day. Finally, he got out of bed and ran into his father's room where his father had drifted off into a light sleep. The boy nudged him, and the father's eyes opened. "What are you doing up, son?" asked the father. "I just can't sleep," replied the boy. "Why not?" asked the father. "Daddy, I just can't wait for tomorrow, I'm thinking about all the neat stuff that we're going to do together"

The father replied, "I'm sure you're excited, but if you don't go back to bed and get some sleep, you'll be tired tomorrow, and then it won't be half as much fun. Why don't you go back to bed, and get a good night's sleep?" "OK" said the boy. He trudged off down the

hall, got into bed. He tried to sleep, but he kept tossing and turning. His dad, tired from a hard day at work drifted off to sleep again. Soon he was awakened again with tiny hands, pushing and shoving him. But before angry words could slip out of his mouth, he saw in the eyes of his son the absence of a mother – long gone – and the loneliness of a child who still missed her. As he felt those little arms about his neck, his son whispered "Daddy--- I just wanted to thank you for tomorrow!" At that time, the father was surprised to hear this from his young son. He had not expected this spontaneous expression of appreciation and gratitude. He felt guilty, for having felt irritated, and about to reprimand his son. This incident caused him to confront himself and his own egocentric attitude. He had learned a good lesson from his child, and felt a sense of deep humility.

Some have said that the most important achievements of humanity are not so much the advances in technology or scientific discovery, but rather the recognition of one's own dysfunctions and weaknesses. 2,600 years ago on December 8th, Gautama Siddhartha was perhaps the first person to recognize this with clearness of mind. He was then given the title of "Buddha"- one who has liberated himself from the illusions of humankind. To have the ability to recognize one's own dysfunction leads one to transformation and a gradual process of awakening to the oneness of life.

Taitetsu Unno, in his book "River of Fire, River of Water" has described this process with great clarity. "When we realize that we are all sustained by both visible and invisible forces in our world, we should be humble and grateful. But the reality of human nature is that our karmic impulse goes against both humility and gratitude. To acknowledge this truly is to experience the sadness and sorrow of what it means to be human. But deeper and profounder than our feelings is the heart of great compassion that takes us in, The Primal Vow ultimately transforms the hopelessly self-centered and arrogant person into one who manifests true humility and gratitude." Indeed, every moment has a reason for its appreciation.

Happy Bodhi Day and Seasons Greetings everyone.
In Gassho
Rev. Yasuhiro Miyakawa

From the FujinKai

Thank you to everyone who answered the call for help during the production of the chow mein take out dinners! It was hard work and long hours, but it resulted in a sellout so it was worth it! Thank you also to all who brought the delicious baked goods for us to enjoy at our coffee breaks.

Here are the names of the ladies who donated to the bake table at the recent farmers market sales. Thank you, ladies. If there are any errors or omissions, please let me know.

Ruby Eikenaar - 13 large cinnamon buns. Joyce Favell - 2 chocolate banana pies, 2 cherry pies and 2 pumpkin pies. Suma Hunter - 2 apple cakes, 2 doz. blueberry muffins, 2 trays buns. Mid Mori - 140 manju, 2 lemon pies. Em Nishi - 7 doz. pumpkin chocolate chip cookies, 6 doz. gingersnaps, 28 jars shibazuke, 8 tubs sekihan, 4 jars eggplant mustard pickles, 20 pkg. salted cukes, 10 pkg. karashina. Tammy Nishi - 8 mini

lemon loaves. Irene Sugie - 2 doz. muffins, 2 pumpkin loaves. Sandy Tahara - 12 large orange loaves, 11 large banana loaves. Peggy Tanaka - 6 doz. oatmeal chocolate raisin cookies. Shirley Tanemura - 5 mini pumpkin loaves, 10 pkg. bran muffins, 5 pkg. diabetic flax bran muffins. Yosh Ueda - 6 apple pies, 2 cherry pies, 3 peach pies, 2 key lime pies, 3 small pies, 5 doz. chocolate chip cookies, 7 doz. pecan shortbread cookies, 2 trays banana walnut loaves, 5 trays chocolate orange squares, 6 trays cherry coconut squares, 6 trays oatmeal brownies, 6 trays Danish kringles, 3 doz. lemon cookies, 3 doz. oatmeal cranberry cookies, 2 ginger carrot loaves, 2 cranberry bread loaves, 3 pumpkin pie crisps, 3 pear coffee cake, 6 jars peach ginger marmalade, 6 jars crabapple jelly, 6 jars pickled radish. Tomoye Yamaoka - 120 manju, 2 doz. buttertarts.

In Gassho, Em

Message from the Editor

As I sit at my computer to work on this edition of the Temple's newsletter, like so many other Sangha members, my body aches. Another hard days labor, preparing for the annual Fall Chow Mein Dinner. Wouldn't it be nice to just be a customer and pick-up my order of Saturday, without questioning what it took to prepare this meal. I doubt that I would enjoy the meal more knowing that it took 25 plus people, 4 days to make... it would just be a good meal. Would I care that people had worried about the fact that this years chow mein dinner had been oversold or that extra time and work went into getting and preparing more produce. I would be ignorant to what went on behind the scene, and should I be concerned or even care?

I think everyone should care, it isn't enough to enjoy the end result, you have to appreciate what goes into making it. You have to experience the effort, before you can fully appreciate not just chow mein, but everything in life.

Giving thanks for any meal seems insufficient, when one realizes the effort that went into preparing it. I'm not saying you should spend 30 minutes in prayer before eating, but what I'm trying to say is when you give thanks, it is with genuine gratitude.

I know this year, when or if I get my order of chow mein, that I will put my hands together in Gassho and be very grateful to all the Sangha members whose backs feel just like mine.. . Sore!

In Gassho, Jiro

Thus I Have Heard From Rennyō Shonin

When people got together at the Southern Hall (in Yamashina) to discuss each other's shinjin, Rennyō Shonin came and said, "What are you discussing? Only by discarding all calculations and single-mindedly entrusting yourselves to Amida without doubt, will your birth in the Pure Land be ensured by the Buddha. The proof of that is Namō Amida Butsu. Beyond this, what is there to discuss?" Whatever complicated questions they had, the Shonin's simple answers cleared their doubt.

Mein and Udon Sales—November 28, 1-3pm pick-up—come help, come support—enjoy—see yah there!

December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>TSS Meditation 9:30am</i>	3 <i>TSS Meditation 9:30am, Japanese Class 7pm</i>	4 <i>TSS Meditation 9:30am Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	5 <i>Christmas Tree Sales Rick's Garden World 9am to 4pm</i>
6 <i>Dharma School 10am, Christmas Tree Sales Rick's Garden World 9 to 4pm</i>	7 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	8	9 <i>TSS Meditation 9:30am</i>	10 <i>TSS Meditation 9:30am</i>	11 <i>TSS Meditation 9:30am Taiko Practice 7pm, Rice Washing 8:30am</i>	12 <i>Mochi Making 8am</i>
13 <i>Dharma School 10am, Bodhi Day & Monthly Memorial 2pm, Temple Election Closing Date for Ballot Return</i>	14 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	15	16 <i>TSS Meditation 9:30am Temple Executive Meeting 7pm</i>	17 <i>TSS Meditation 9:30am</i>	18 <i>TSS Meditation 9:30am Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	19
20 <i>Dharma School 10am</i>	21 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 <i>Taiko Practice 7pm</i>	29	30	31	1 <i>New Years Day Service 2pm</i>	

BCC Update:

A monthly update from the national headquarters of the Shin Buddhist Churches of Canada
 11786 Fentiman Place, Richmond, B.C., V7E 6M6
 Ph: 604-272-3330 fax: 604-272-6865
 Web: livingdharmacentre.ca

May this update find you in good health and spirits in the light of compassion of Amida Buddha as we are experiencing wintery weather across the country.

"Gunman's motives unclear in mass shooting" that was one of the top news in this morning's paper and it reminded me of a sign posted at the entrance of a home in downtown Toronto. Back in 1980 when I was serving the Toronto Temple on Bathurst St, I remember seeing many signs reading 'Be Aware of Dog' in front of the homes in the neighborhood. But one of the homes had a unique sign saying 'Be Aware of Human Being', which gave me such a strong impression that I can't forget even today.

The gunman in the recent shooting in the US said he was opposed to the US-Iraq War. Having a Palestinian background he was a US citizen and US army psychiatrist who had just been promoted to major. He killed 13 soldiers and wounded 30 at the army base in Texas.

In the Tannisho, "Notes Lamenting the Divergence", Shinran Shonin states in chapter 13;

"Good thoughts arise in us through the prompting good karma from the past, and evil comes to be thought and performed through the working of evil karma. Every evil act done--even as slight as a particle of a strand of rabbit's fur or sheep's wool--has its cause in past karma.

You should realize that if we could always act as we wished, then when I told you to kill a thousand people in order to attain birth, you should have immediately done so. But since you lack the karmic cause inducing you to kill even a single person, you do not kill. It is not that you do not kill because your heart is good. In the same way, a person may wish not to harm anyone and yet end up killing a hundred or thousand people."

It clearly states the working of the causes and conditions of the past karma may make you commit any evil. We all think we are good, ordinary, and harmless citizens, but at the same time we know that we are selfish, greedy, hateful, envious, explosive and dangerous and may do anything at any time depending on the circumstance.

Let us walk step by step carefully with Namu Amida Butsu. In Gassho, Orai Fujikawa

皆様、家の玄関口に「犬にご注意」というサインを見かけられたことがあるでしょう。ところが以前東部駐在のころ、トロントの町のある家の入り口に「人間にご注意」という張り紙を見つけたことを思い起こします。びっくりするような言葉であり、大変なメッセージで今でも忘れられません。特にごく最近アメリカのテキサス州での米兵による信じられないような虐殺事件のニュースを耳にした時、本当に人間はいつ、どこで、どんなことをするか分からない、恐ろしい生き物であることを今更ながら思い知らされます。

親鸞聖人の教えを良く聞いていますと、人間は欲も多く、怒り腹立ち、妬む心も多い、煩惱具足の凡夫であり、宿業の縁あれば人殺しもやりかねない、地獄ばかり造っている自分に気付かされます。そういうものがまさか自分の力で仏になろうと考えるだけでも傲慢な思いであることが領かれます。

煩惱具足が知られるとき、素直に本願の忝（かたじけ）なさがうなずかれ、お念仏を唱えざるを得ない自分が発見されることであります。 合掌。

Coming events;

Dec 12-13 Visit to Manitoba Buddhist Temple

Jan 16-17 Steveston Buddhist Temple Hoonko

24 Kelowna Temple's Hoonko

Feb 27-28 BCA 750th Memorial Service of Shinran Shonin in San Jose, CA

Just Rambling

Our mother sometimes maintained that to be a good Buddhist one must have compassion, not just for members of the human race but also for all creatures on earth. I realize that it would not be too difficult to have such sentiments regarding most human beings and creatures. However I do have reservations in reference to people who firmly believe that it is their right to kill men, women, children and harmless animals.

This brings back memories of when we lived in Okanagan Mission when I was 7 or 8 years old. Our neighbors living a 100 metres down the road were a Japanese couple without any children. We had a mother cat who had 6 kittens a few weeks old. Our neighbor had a chicken house quite close to our home. One day he found some of the eggs devoured by some animal and then saw our cat near the shed, immediately coming to the conclusion that she was the culprit and clubbed her to death. That was a terrifying experience for a 7 year old. Now there were kittens to take care of which my sisters did, spoon feeding them warm milk. The horrible incident did not end there. A few days later the lady, and I use that word rather loosely, came to our home when my 6 year old sister and I were alone. Carrying an empty sack, the woman said that she was going to take the kittens. According to her, because of the mother's egg eating habit, the kittens would have inherited

the same trait and become egg eaters. Despite our loud protests, she put the little ones in the bag and took them down to the nearby lake with my sister and I following and crying all the way. One by one they were tossed into the water to drown before our eyes. I did not think that it could happen but retribution came swiftly. The eggs continued to be broken and eaten. Our neighbor in entering the shed, saw what he thought was a large black cat eating an egg. Without a second thought, he grabbed a club and struck the animal from behind. The blast from the skunk got him full force in the face. As our place was his closest refuge, he hurried over there yelling at mother to fill a tub outside with water. All of his clothes had to be burned. I recall mom later remarking "Bachi ga attatsta". To this day 80 years later, I have never experienced such cruelty and lack of compassion. However mother who believed in Amida Buddha's teachings was quick to forgive them saying that she thought that the couple was somewhat bitter because although they wanted to have children, they were unable to have any.

The chow-mein sales in early November was a tremendous success mainly due to the tireless effort of the hard working helpers. When I sat back and watched everyone going about their jobs so efficiently, I realized how fortunate our Temple was to have their assistance in carrying out the numerous fund raising projects.

In Gassho, Suey

Executive Report

Already December, another year has whizzed by. Kelowna Buddhist Temple has made it through their big Fall Projects again: Farmers Market, Apple Pie Making and Chow Mein. To many, it was their first time to oversee these big projects as key people like Min Mori, Shirley and Yuki Tanemura, and George Hayashi have been visibly absent from the new executive.

Many thanks for hard working members like Alan Yamaoka, Jerry Takeda, and Herb Tanaka, for tak-

ing time off from work to help out. As usual we were short of help during the week, and then on the other hand, a few non-members helped us out (which was greatly appreciated).

Y.A.B.A. Mein & Udon making is coming up this weekend and then mochi tsuki, December 12th. Please come out to give them a hand.

Ballot sheets have been sent out, it will only takes 5 minutes to fill out. Please do so and return to the Temple as soon as possible. In Gassho, Mid

**HAPPY NEW YEAR! Come celebrate with Sangha Friends...
New Years Day Service—January 1, 2010—2pm**

行事案内

12月	2日(水)	午前9時半	千部経三昧
	3日(木)	午前9時半	千部経三昧
		午後7時	日本語教室
	4日(金)	午前9時半	千部経三昧
	5日(土)	於・リックスカパーテーションワールド	クリスマスツリー

セール

6日(日)	午前10時	日曜学校
	午後2時	成道w) - 顧c遊

醒)・・鹿届淋昭岱昭届淋 ▪ 壹馨

仏教会役員改選投票締切日

9日(水)	午前9時半	千部経三昧
10日(木)	午前9時半	千部経三昧
11日(金)	午前9時半	千部経三昧
	午前8時半	もち米洗い
12日(土)	午前8時	餅つき
16日(水)	午前9時半	千部経三昧
	午後7時	仏教会役員会
17日(木)	午前9時半	千部経三昧
18日(金)	午前9時半	千部経三昧
20日(日)	午前10時	日曜学校

2010年

1月	1日(木)	午後2時	修正会
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#もう年の瀬です。12月の行事もいくつか控えています、お忙しい中、どうかよろしくお願ひします。

Kelowna Buddhist Temple Gratefully Acknowledges your Generous Donation to the Farmers Market

Rick's Garden World: Tulip Bulbs
Reg Tomiye: Ambrosia Apples, Red Delicious, Gala

Yosh Terada: Spartans, Ambrosia Apples, Aurora Golden Gala, Criterion

George Terada: Prunes

Ken Ito: Pumpkins, Kobocho

Sam Sugie: Kobocho

Rick Suzuki: Aloe Vera Plants

Yosh Ueda: Beets, Shopping Baskets

Em Nishi: Kobocho, Green Tomatoes

Brian Yamaoka: Golden Delicious, Mitsu, Red Delicious, Spartans, Fuji, Tooro emo

Yoko Uemoto: Jade Plant

Albert Tainaka: Parsnips, Tooro emo, Tomatoes, Pears, Acorn Squash, Kobocho

Narminder Hehar: Spartans, Apples

Alan Yamaoka: Aurora Golden Gala, Ambrosia Apples, Royal Gala, Granny Smith, Spartans, Mac's, Golden Delicious, Red Delicious, Flemish Pears, Daikon, Gobo, Fuji, Apples
Serge Bergeron: Labor

Ogi' Greenhouse: Cabbage, Sour Kraut Cabbage, Savoy Cabbage, Red Cabbage, Early Cabbage, Hakusai Napa, Cauliflower, Carrots, Squash



Just another way to express your...

Season's Greetings

In the next issue of the Dharma Express—please contact the editor today!

With Gratitude the Temple and all of its Affiliated Organizations
Acknowledge Your Generous Contribution and Apologies
for any Errors or Omissions.

General

Yamaoka, M/M Alan (Sunday Service)	\$20.00
Yamaoka, M/M Gerry (Farmer's Market)	\$30.00
Yamaoka, M/M Gerry (Chow Mein Donation)	\$30.00
Kitaura, Joan (In Appreciation)	\$50.00
Tahara, Mrs Jane (Farmer's Market & Bake Sale)	\$50.00
Cavanaugh, Genevra (Sunday Service)	\$50.00
Tanemura, M/M Yuki (Chow Mein)	\$50.00

Memorial

Ostapchuk, R. (In Memory of Roy Tanaka)	\$20.00
Kitaura, Joan (In Memory of Jim Kitaura - 5 Years)	\$50.00
Ueda, Mr. Douglas (In Memory of George Ueda)	\$50.00
Crosbie, Ms. Linda (In Memory of George Ueda)	\$50.00

Monthly Memorial

Hokazono, Mr. Aiji	\$20.00
Kurahashi, Mrs. Shigeko (In Memory of Husband, Yukio Kurahashi)	\$20.00
Sugie, M/M Sam (In Memory of Father, Mr. T. Tatebe)	\$20.00
Yamauchi, Kuniko (In Memory of Mother, Mrs. Yuki Horiuchi)	\$30.00
Ueda, M/M Ken (In Memory of George Ueda)	\$40.00
Tanaka, M/M Herb	\$50.00
Neher, Jean (In Memory of Yoshio Tabata & Fumie Tabata)	\$200.00

Membership

Eikenaar, M/M Rob	\$250.00
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FujiKai

Mr. Ken Hokazono (In Memory of Mother Mary)	\$100
Mr. Lloyd Hokazono (In Memory of Mother Mary)	\$100

are strong and able-bodied, we can use your help to pound the mochi. Come out to form the mochi - It's an experience of a lifetime. Mochi will be sold for \$5.00 per lb. Place your order with Laurie Takeda 250-861-5626 or Barb Yamaoka 250-763-8420 by December 7 and pick-up between 1 and 3pm

Upcoming Events:

YABA Annual General Meeting January 23, 2010.

Keiro Kai Supper for Seniors will be held on January 30, 2010. Information to follow next month.

Ladies Night Out tentatively scheduled for February 13, 2009. Location to follow in future newsletters.

We hope to see you all out! Our delicious mein, udon and mochi are a treat you can't miss.

In Gassho, Barb

YABA Update

It sure feels like winter!
 Brrrrr.
 November 28, 2009 Mein and Udon sales.
 Our YABA Fall fundraising project is underway. We need help! Dough making will start on Friday, November 27 at 6pm. Mein \$5.50/pkg and Udon \$4.50 per lb. will be for sale on Saturday, November 28. Work will start at 8am, and pickup will be between 1 and 3pm. Place your order with Laurie Takeda or Barb Yamaoka by November 23.
 December 12, 2009 Mochi Tsuki
We will need help! Washing the rice from 8am on Friday, December 11, 2009. Work will start at 8am on Saturday, December 12. If you

Recent legislation enacted by the Provincial Government restricts organizations from divulging personal information without the approval of the individuals affected. The donations generously made by Temple members and friends fall under the realm of personal information. Therefore, if you object to your donations being published in the Temple Newsletter, please let us know and we will cease doing so (Mail or Email your wish to be omitted from the published list). In Gassho, Temple Board of Directors

Mochi Order Form

Order _____ @ \$5 per 454 gram Name _____ Phone Number _____