

Kelowna Buddhist Temple

The New Dharma Express

PO. Box 22092, RPO Capri Centre Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 9N9 phone 250-763-3827
 Web: www.kelownabuddhisttemple.org Email: kelbudt@gmail.com

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In Memoriam - Chiyoko "Kathy" Tanaka

Chiyoko was born in Vancouver on January 30, 1929 to Yojiro and Hatsu Kondo. She was the second eldest and had six siblings - Etsuko, Yoichi, Satoshi, Hisashi, Tadashi, and Hiroshi. The Kondo family lived in Vancouver until the Japanese Canadian Internment in 1942 when they were interned to a number of locations, namely Sandon, New Denver, Roseberry, Moose Jaw, and Kamloops. In 1949, the family returned to Vancouver.



In 1954, Chiyoko married Shigeru Tanaka and together they started a farm near Westbank, growing fruit trees and vegetables. During the following years, Chiyoko and Shig expanded the orchard and their family as they welcomed three daughters - Wendy, Linda, and Naomi. Life was busy raising a young family.

It was during this time that Chiyoko and Shig were very involved in the Kelowna Buddhist Temple. Weekly attendance at the Temple and participation in Hanamatsuri and Obon were an important part of family life.

As a member of the Fujinkai, Chiyoko put her baking skills to use. She was a regular contributor of pies and other baked goodies for the various Temple functions such as the Chow Mein suppers and the annual Farmer's market. Her banana cream pies were especially popular!

Extending sincere condolences to Chiyoko's family and friends.

In Memoriam - Yukie Sakaki (nee Koga)

Yukie was born in Kelowna, B.C. on February 9, 1933, where she had fond memories growing up with her parents and seven siblings on an apple orchard. She graduated from Royal Columbian Nursing school in 1955. Yukie loved gardening, travelling, camping, singing, and Ikebana, always decorating her home with her beautiful flower arrangements. She was dedicated to her children's pursuits, becoming a gymnastics judge, an active cheerleader at hockey and lacrosse games, a creative costume designer for dance recitals, and proud supporter of her kids' musical endeavours. Yukie was predeceased by her husband and siblings. She is survived by her five children and extended family.



Extending sincere condolences to Dan, Carrie, Carol and the entire Sakaki and Koga families.

Peace Declaration

We are gathered here today on September 18 to observe the 40th Annual Memorial Service for All Who Perished in War, and particularly, this year marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War

II. Unfortunately, however, the entire world is facing a crisis that humanity has never experienced, at least in modern times. Last December, a mysterious pneumonia-like disease was reported by the media, and within a blink of an eye, the virus has been rampaging throughout the world. This new infectious disease was named COVID-19, and its pathogen has yet to be specified. At present, the death toll count is more than 900,000 and there is no sign of it slowing down. Nonetheless, under such circumstances, we have the determination to maintain the tradition of holding the memorial because we find it meaningful to reflect on the significance of having it.

In 2015 on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the end of the war, we released a recorded discussion that resulted from a dialogue on peace. Here, we pointed out the necessity of 'positive peace,' which can be achieved only by overcoming various social or systematic problems that could induce warfare. Social inequality, violation of basic human rights like freedom of religion, hunger, and even environmental crisis are all the issues that we need to deal with to realize a peaceful society.

However, in a surge of the pandemic, many people hoarded facemasks and other necessities, which were then in short supply, and there were even instances of some who resold those products at a greatly inflated price. Furthermore, another outstanding concern is the social exclusion of those who were infected with the disease, and this discrimination is directed even toward the patients' families. Thus, this new infectious disease is disclosing our hidden self-centeredness as well as ignorance that easily violates the dignity of other lives.

Our Head Priest, Monshu Sennyō states in his message, 'A Way of Living as a Nembutsu Follower' as follows,

In today's world, there is an endless list of difficult global issues that are directly related to the existence of humanity such as terrorist attacks, armed conflicts, widening economic gap, global warming, mishandling of nuclear waste, and violation of human rights through discrimination. Such are the result of our ignorance and blind passions in which we fail to see the true nature of ourselves.

Through this message, he clarifies that our egoistic human nature is the very origin of many of the global issues, and we must take this seriously.

Monshu also introduces the following Buddhist principle in the same message,

Buddhism describes the true reality of this world and humanity using such phrases as 'impermanence' and 'dependent origination.' 'Impermanence' refers to the fact that everything changes moment by moment. On the other hand, 'dependent origination' explains that all things and phenomena are interconnected with one another, which bring about various causes and conditions that then give another set of causes and conditions and so on and so forth. Therefore, in this world we cannot find an unchanging and fixed 'self.'

Now I would like to introduce the following haiku poem composed by Nagayama Shusei,

In the middle of rice planting, the rain comes, and everything becomes even more lively.

Every life receives the benevolence of nature. None can survive without air, soil, or water. It goes

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without saying for us humans as well. We are enabled to live because we take other lives to receive nourishment from them. We all are interrelated to one another and everyone is enabled to live because things allow us to be. In addition, things are changing at every moment, which means there is no solid or unchangeable matter or phenomenon in this world.

Therefore, once we realize this ultimate reality of dependent origination, we cannot help but want to make efforts for the benefit of ourselves as well as others even though the result of our efforts is unknown, because unlike the Buddha who has boundless wisdom and compassion, we are imperfect and our ability is limited. Being fully aware of our own limitedness, still we can try as hard as we can to control and minimize our ego, arrogance, attachment, and belligerence, feeling close to other people's joy and sadness. The path to our ideal peaceful world can be found only when we overcome the current hardship by making sincere efforts to realize a society of peace and harmony, not one of conflicts and exclusion.

With the wish for peace, temple bells shall be tolled across Japan. Our aspiration for peace for the world, which reverberates through the sound of the bells, shall reach our children and grandchildren. Now let us continue our efforts together.

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September 18, 2020

Governor General Iwagami Chiko Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

平和宣言 世界は、現代人がかつて経験したことの無い危機に直面しています。昨年2019年12月、病原体が特定されていない肺炎が報告され、その後、新型コロナウイルス感染症と称されるこの病気は、瞬く間に世界中にひろがりました。現在までに死者数は約90万人以上にのぼり、いまなお感染の勢いは収まる様子を見せていません。このような中、歳月は人を待たず流れ、本年も9月18日を迎えました。本日この国立・千鳥ヶ淵戦没者墓苑において関係者が集い、第40回千鳥ヶ淵全戦没者追悼法要を修行いたします。特にこの厳しい状況の中で、終戦75年という節目のご法要を行うことの意義を改めて考えることは大切なことです。私たち浄土真宗本願寺派は、戦後70年にあたる2015年、「平和に関する論点整理」を発表しました。その中で、公平・平等・信教の自由を含む人権の尊重・飢餓の克服・環境問題など、争いを引き起こす構造的な課題を解決することで成り立つ「平和」、すなわち「積極的平和」の必要性を指摘しました。しかしながら、マスクや日用品を我先にと買い占める姿や、それらを転売する行為が報道されたり、感染者に対して苦しみを共有しようとせず、その家族までも排除しようとする行為が話題になるなど、新型コロナウイルス感染症は、人間の内面に潜む自己中心性をあらわにさせ、他のいのちの尊厳を冒す人間の無明煩惱がもたらす姿を改めて明らかにしています。専如ご門主はご親教「念仏者の生き方」において、「テロや武力紛争、経済格差、地球温暖化、核物質の拡散、差別を含む人権の抑圧など、世界規模での人類の生存に関わる困難な問題が山積していますが、これらの原因の根本は、ありのままの真実に背いて生きる私たちの無明煩惱にあります」とお示しになりました。宗祖親鸞聖人のみ教えを、わかりやすく示されたこのご門主のお言葉は、いままさに世界中で起こっている差別や紛争、貧困や環境破壊など、これらの問題は自己中心的な心で行動してしまう私たち人間の内面にこそ、その原因があるとの鋭いご指摘と受け止めなければなりません。

またご門主は、同じご親教で「仏教では、この世界と私たちのありのままの姿を『諸行無常』と『縁起』という言葉で表します。(中略)『縁起』とは、その一瞬ごとにすべての物事は、原因や条件が互いに関わりあって存在しているという真実です。したがって、そのような世界のあり方の中には、固定した変化しない私というものは存在しません」とご教示になっています。次のような俳句があります。「降りだして 田植えいよいよ にぎやかに」(長山秋生) 空と大地と水と、そのつながりの中で人も生きています。食材に恵まれ、無事、食べられる。水も喉を通ってくださる。そのお蔭で、いま生きています。人はみな縁起する事実の中で生かされ、いのち在らしめられているのです。しかも大事なことは、すべての現象は縁起していますから、変わらない固定したすがた・かたちは何もないということです。ですから、仏さまのように完全にはできなくても、私たちは、縁起というありのままの真実に教え導かれ、精進するのです。自他をわけ、かまえ、執われ、対立する心を限りなくおさえ、人と喜びや悲しみを分かち合うなど、日々精いっぱいつとめるのです。対立や排除ではなく、心を通い合わせ、痛みを分け合い、協力し合って生きていく社会の実現に向け共に努力する先にこそ、この厳しい苦難を乗り越え、平和をより確かなものにする道が切り開かれていくことでしょう。本日、この同じ時に全国各地の寺院から、平和の鐘の音が鳴り響きます。鐘の響きに込められた私たちの願いが、世界へ、子や孫へ届いてゆくよう、共に精いっぱいつとめてまいりましょう。2020(令和2)年9月18日 浄土真宗本願寺派 総長 石上智康

From the Temple Executive

By now we would normally be full speed ahead with our fundraising events. Out of respect and concern of spreading this virus to our members, we will continue to keep all Temple activities on hold. Despite the closure, Temple maintenance continues as well as the Directors' monthly zoom meetings.

For many years Mr. & Mrs. Ogi generously donated a portion of their quality vegetables to the Temple for our Farmers Market. Due to the Temple closure this year, in lieu of their vegetables, the Ogi's have made a very generous donation of \$1500. We are very grateful for their most generous contribution.

Thanks to Jack and Alan for setup assistance, the CGB Medical's drive thru flu clinics held in our parking lot over several weeks was a successful venture. In appreciation Dr. Janet Evans generously donated \$1000 to our Temple. A reminder: This past week all members should have received a letter from the Temple executive requesting donations to help cover our costly roof repairs. We would be grateful if everyone responded generously. Please stay safe and healthy.

In Gassho
Joyce



Bodhi Day

Bodhi Day (Jodo-e) – December 8 This is the day to commemorate Śakyamuni Buddha's attainment of Awakening. According to legend, the historic event took place on December 8, as the first faint light of day began to glow in the eastern sky. By his example, Śakyamuni demonstrated that it was possible for man to become a Buddha – a fully Awakened Person. All human beings, therefore, are in possession of this potentiality – Buddha-Nature – which, when awakened and cultivated, enables them to achieve supreme wisdom and compassion. This day signifies the dawn of humanity's universal emancipation from suffering and unawareness



Women's Association (Fujinkai)

Another big project is almost at completion, thanks to Jack, Alan, Rick and Marc Charpentier. The Temple kitchen is currently undergoing a major cleaning and fresh look with new ceiling and wall paint. The faded wallpaper has been replaced with painted wallboard. The stove hood/vent was professionally cleaned, as well as the removal of caked-on grease by our guys. The Women's Association are forever grateful for your hard work. Looks amazing!

On November 7th 200 cookbooks were assembled and orders prepared by Maureen, Junko, Cheryl, Joyce and Shirley. Thank you to Maureen for organizing this project, inputting all the recipes, and purchasing supplies. Thank you to Meiko for punching the page holes beforehand and helping to assemble. And thanks to everyone who sent in their favourite recipes and photos. They make great holiday gifts!

There are still a limited number of cookbooks for sale at \$20 and can be purchased at L&D Meats and Deli, in Guisachan Village. For those who are out of town or unable to drop by L&D Meats, please email kelbudt@gmail.com or call 250-762-2653 to order.

On behalf of the KBWA we send sincere condolences to the families of Shirley Yamaoka and Chiyoko Tanaka, both honorary Fujinkai members. We also send deepest sympathies to Brian Yamaoka & family on the passing of his mother.

In Gassho,
Joyce



In Memoriam - Eileen "Audrey" Hisako Yamaoka, (nee Nakagawa)

Eileen Yamaoka of Calgary, AB passed away in her sleep on Sunday, November 8, 2020 at the age of 94 years, at Evanston Grand Village, where she resided for the last six years. Eileen was born the 4th child out of 8 children on February 7, 1926 in Salmon Arm, BC where she grew up and attended school.

Eileen married Iwamatsu Yamaoka on February 18, 1946. They lived in Kelowna, BC. Eileen and Iwamatsu had three children, Helen, Carol and Brian (twins), along with Iwamatsu's sons, Bob and Roy, from a previous marriage (wife passed away). When Iwamatsu was admitted to long term care, Eileen moved to Calgary, AB where her two daughters, Helen and Carol resided. In Calgary, at the age of fifty-five she attended Business College and after graduating Eileen worked for an oil company until she retired at sixty-five.

Eileen loved dog obedience classes, always attending with Mrs. Chiba. She really enjoyed playing card games (especially 31) with her grandchildren, always putting up her money for the pot. Her hobbies were travelling, fishing, watching Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune, cross stitching, carpentry, gardening and bowling.

Extending sincere condolence to the Brian and Audrey's entire extended family.



With Gratitude the Temple and all of its Affiliated Organizations

Acknowledge Your Generous Contribution

Apologies for any Errors or Omissions.

Dharma Shotsuki

| | |
|---|--------|
| Nishi, Ms. Geraldine ~ in memory of Emiko Nishi | \$50. |
| Minato, Mrs. Nancy ~ in memory of Linda Terai | \$30. |
| Ewuk, Mrs. Meiko ~ in memory of Yukie Sakaki | \$40. |
| Virtue, M/M Mark ~ in memory of Yukie Sakaki | \$40. |
| Tanaka, Ms. Naomi ~ in memory of Shigeru Tanaka | \$100. |
| Tanaka, Mrs. Chiyoko ~ in memory of Shigeru Tanaka | \$100. |
| Matsuyama, M/M David ~ in memory of Shigeru Tanaka | \$100. |
| Matsuyama, M/M David ~ in memory of Hideo Matsuyama | \$50. |
| Ostapchuk, Mrs. Rae ~ in memory of Roy Tanaka | \$50. |
| Ueda, Mrs. Yoshiko ~ in memory of Shizue Ueda | \$20. |
| Ueda, Mrs. Yoshiko ~ in memory of Butch Ueda | \$20. |
| Ueda, Mrs. Yoshiko ~ in memory of Jutaro Ueda | \$20. |
| Ueda, Mrs. Yoshiko ~ in memory of Masami Ueda | \$20. |
| Suzuki, Mr. R. & Tanaka, Ms. P. ~ in memory of Roy Tanaka | \$100. |
| Suzuki, Mr. R. & Tanaka, Ms. P. | \$50. |
| Kondo, M/M Tadashi ~ in memory of Shigeru Tanaka | \$100. |
| Kurahashi, Mrs. Shigeiko | \$30. |
| Tanaka, M/M Herb ~ in memory of Yukihisa Tanaka | \$50. |

Fujinkai

| | |
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| Koga, Mrs. Carol | \$20. |
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Memorial ~ In memory of Mitsuko Shirley Yamaoka

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Hori, Takashi | \$100. |
| Favell, M/M Don | \$100. |
| McMillan, Cindy & Bryan | \$50. |
| Nagata, Luri | \$50. |
| Anonymous | \$50. |
| Anonymous | \$30. |
| Anonymous | \$100. |
| Anonymous | \$100. |
| Tahara, M/M Tim | \$100. |

Memorial ~ In memory of Jack Hatanaka

| | |
|--|--------|
| Anonymous | \$50. |
| Kondo, M/M Tadashi | \$50. |
| Memorial ~ In memory of Chiyoko Tanaka | |
| Kimura, M/M Mike | \$50. |
| Suzuki, Mr. R. & Tanaka, Ms. P. | \$100. |
| Mayeda, Mr. Derek | \$50. |
| Sellers, Shirley | \$50. |
| Tanaka, M/M Herb | \$30. |
| Memorial | |
| Suzuki, Mr. R. & Tanaka, Ms. P. ~ in memory of Emiko Nishi | \$25. |
| Suzuki, Mr. R. & Tanaka, Ms. P. ~ in memory of Elsie Hagel | \$100. |
| Suzuki, Mr. R. & Tanaka, Ms. P. ~ in memory of Jack Tahara | \$50. |
| Kondo, M/M Tadashi ~ in memory of Pebbles Kondo | \$100. |
| Tanaka, M/M Herb ~ in memory of Audrey Yamaoka | \$30. |
| Eitaikyo (Perpetual Memorial) | |
| Tanaka, Ms. Naomi ~ in memory of Shigeru Tanaka | \$50. |
| Tanaka, Mrs. Chiyoko ~ in memory of Shigeru Tanaka | \$50. |
| Matsuyama, M/M David ~ in memory of Shigeru Tanaka | \$50. |
| Suzuki, Mr. R. & Tanaka, Ms. P. | \$50. |
| Kondo, M/M Tadashi ~ in memory of Shigeru Tanaka | \$100. |

General

| | |
|---|---------|
| Evans, Janet ~ Appreciation - Parking Lot Usage for Flu Clinic | \$1000. |
| Suzuki, Mr. R. & Tanaka, Ms. P. ~ Appreciation to Alan & Barb Yamaoka | \$100. |
| Ogi, M/M Teruo ~ Farmers Market | \$1500. |
| Tanaka, M/M Herb ~ Thanksgiving | \$30. |
| Building Fund ~ Roof Repair | |
| Ueda, Mrs. Yoshiko | \$200. |
| Uyeyama, Mrs. Pegi Hayashi ~ in memory of Jack Hatanaka | \$25. |
| Kondo, M/M Tadashi | \$200. |

With Gratitude the Temple and all of its Affiliated Organizations

Acknowledge Your Generous Contribution

Building Fund ~ In memory of Chiyoko Tanaka

| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley | \$100. |
| Uemoto, M/M Kaichi | \$30. |
| Favell, M/M Don | \$30. |

Building Fund

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|---|-------|
| Ueyeyama, Mrs. Pegi Hayashi ~ in memory of Mitsuko Shirley Yamaoka | \$50. |
| Tanemura, Mrs. Shirley ~ in memory of Yukie Sakaki | \$40. |
| Yamaoka, M/M Alan ~ in memory of Jack Hatanaka | \$30. |

Newsletter

| | |
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| Ueda, Mrs. Yoshiko | \$50. |
|--------------------|-------|

Sustaining

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Ueda, Yoshiko | \$170. |
|---------------|--------|

Śakyamuni Buddha

Birth

Once long ago, a clan called the Sakya established a small country on the high plains of northern India, with Kapila Castle as the center of its activities. Their leader was King Suddhodana; his wife, Queen Maya. On about the eighth of the fourth month in the middle of the fifth or sixth century BCE, about 2,500 years ago, Queen Maya was on her way to her parents' home to give birth to their child, as was the custom in those days. Passing by Lumbini Garden on their journey, Queen Maya's retinue decided to rest there for awhile. While rising to take a closer look at a branch of a lovely Asoka tree, the queen suddenly gave birth to beautiful prince. The name chosen for him was Siddhartha. According to sutras that describe the event, Prince Siddhartha took seven steps as soon as he was born. Pointing to the heavens and to the earth, he proclaimed in a loud voice, "In the Heavens above and on the Earth below, I alone am the World-Honored One. All that exists in the Three Worlds is suffering, but I will bring comfort." In addition, it is said that the Heavens were so moved by these words that they rained down sweet tea in response. The day of his birth, April eighth, is celebrated today as Hanamatsuri (lit. "Flower Festival") or Buddha Day.

Leaving Home

Even as a child, Prince Siddhartha showed great ability in his studies and in the practice of martial arts. His father, King Suddhodana, and the people of his country had high hopes for him. During his young life, however, the Prince witnessed a constant cycle of living things killing and eating other living things in order to survive. These experiences made such a great impression on him that he began to consider deeply the meaning of life. In order to divert his son from such reflections, King Suddhodana provided a luxurious castle for him. When Prince Siddhartha came of age, he married Yasodhara. However, although the outward aspects of his life were exciting and dynamic, his quiet contemplation of the suffering of life continued. The day came when the Prince decided to observe the world outside his secluded palace grounds. Leaving through the Eastern Gate of Kapila Castle, he was surprised to see an emaciated old man. Later, when the prince left through the Southern Gate he saw a man wasted by illness, and when he left through the Western Gate, he caught sight of a funeral procession, leading him to realize that life was just one endless cycle of birth and death and suffering. Finally, leaving through the Northern Gate, he spotted a renunciant who had abandoned the ways of the world. Struck by the noble and dignified attitude of the man, it is said that Siddhartha resolved to become a renunciant that day. When a child was born to Siddhartha and Yasodhara, the Prince rejoiced at the birth, but he could not avoid thinking that the child was just another obstacle to his spiritual quest. The baby was given the name Rahula. The desire to satisfy his inner turmoil continued to grow within Siddhartha. At 29 years of age, he relinquished the life of a prince, abandoned his beloved family, and sought answers among those who performed ascetic practices. His extended family still cared for his wife and child, a common practice among warrior families.

Shinshū Pledge (Seikatsu Shinjō)

- 1) I take my refuge in the Vow of the Buddha. Reciting his Sacred Name, I will live through life with strength and serenity.
- 2) I adore the light of the Buddha. I will put my effort in my work with self-reflection and gratitude.
- 3) I follow the Teachings of the Buddha. Discerning the Right Path, I will spread the True Dharma.
- 4) I rejoice in the Compassion of the Buddha. I will respect and help others and do my best for the welfare of mankind.

Śakyamuni Buddha & Shinshū Pledge (Seikatsu Shinjō) are excerpts from JŌDO SHINSHŪ SHŌGYŌ

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