



Kamloops Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temple

NEWSLETTER

PHONE: 250-376-3130

EMAIL: ayoshida@telus.net

March 2021 – VOLUME 1

361 Poplar Street, Kamloops, B.C. V2B 4B9
Temple phone 250-376-5816

<http://www.kelownabuddhisttemple.org/kamloops>

Facebook page: **Kamloops Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temple**

Please forward any articles on or before the 10th in the month the Newsletter is to be mailed out. Newsletters go out on March 15th, June 15th, September 15th and December 15th.

2021 Annual General Meeting, and Gosenkai

On Sunday March 7th, the Kamloops Buddhist Temple held it's 75th Annual General Meeting. The meeting was held virtually on Facebook Messenger due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The members who were elected and accepted positions on the board are as follows:

Daniel Heslop
Anna Kato
Rick Nakashimada
Mariko Shirato
Michael Burwash

Barry Kato
Kaye Kaminishi
Kathy Kuroyama
Nancy Keller

We are happy to welcome Kathy and Nancy to the board of directors, and would like to thank Kazuyo Isobe for her service last year, as she has decided to not sit on the board this year.

In Gassho, Daniel Heslop.

Virtual Shotsuki Service for January, February and March Sunday, March 21, 2021 at 10:30am

Aoki Sensei, from the Vancouver Buddhist Temple has kindly offered to do a Shotsuki Service for Kamloops on Sunday, March 21 at 10:30am. This service will be done virtually, on Zoom. See details inside.

All temple services and activities remain cancelled until further notice.

One year ago, the temple along with you and the rest of the world, had sudden change impact our every day lives. We had to learn new ways of living and we are still learning to adapt and cope.

are very hopeful that we will be able to gather at the temple in the near future. Until then, please take good care and stay safe.

With vaccinations starting to be offered, we

Continue to wash your hands, wear your masks and maintain social distancing.

Online Dharma Services and Lectures

During this time when many of our temples are closed during the pandemic, the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada and its temples across Canada are holding services and lectures on line.

Temples may also offer recordings of recent services or dharma talks, with many now posting new content on a weekly basis.

By visiting a temple's livestream video page at the scheduled time, you are able to join service, chant and listen to dharma messages from your home. Check temple websites to confirm weekly livestream schedules, as services may not be streamed every Sunday.

Please check out the **JSBTC website**. It is excellent, full of information on services and upcoming lectures. It will lead you to zoom and you-tube services given by Aoki Sensei of the Vancouver Buddhist Temple, Grant Ikuta Sensei of the Steveston Buddhist Temple (in Japanese) , Rev Robert Gubenco of the Calgary Buddhist Temple, Rev Yoshimichi Ouchi of the Toronto Buddhist Church and Izumi Sensei of the Buddhist Temple of Southern Alberta .

Our deepest condolences are extended to Mich Sawada and family on the passing of husband, **Dick Sawada**. Dick pass away on February 15, 2021. Dick was a dedicated volunteer on the 'chow mein' assembly team for many many years.

Our deepest condolences to Edna Miyahara, Tracey and Trevor and families on the loss of husband and father, **Gordon Miyahara**. Gord passed away peacefully on March 7, 2021. Gord was a constant helper and supporter to our chow mein fundraisers.

2022 Membership fee:

As most of you are aware, the Temple has decided to apply last year's membership fees to this year. In setting the membership fee for 2022, members voted to keep the current fee of \$15 membership, \$85 assessment for a total of \$100. Members should understand that the Kamloops Temple does not retain most of your membership fee, as most is assessments sent to JSBTC, and BCJSBTF.

It should also be understood that the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) has been extremely supportive of all of the Temples through the pandemic, helping out by greatly reducing the assessments each Temple paid in 2020, and also offering to help us out financially in the beginning of securing a new Minister in the interior Temples. Their support of our Temple has been extremely helpful and is deeply appreciated!

**Virtual Shotsuki Service for January,
February and March
Sunday, March 21, 2021 at 10:30am**

Aoki Sensei (Socho), from the Vancouver Buddhist Temple has kindly offered to do a Shotsuki Service for Kamloops on Sunday, March 21 at 10:30am.

This service will be done virtually, on Zoom.

Please contact Anna Kato for link at ayoshida@telus.net

If you have not used Zoom see instructions below.

Getting Started on Zoom

- sign up for a Free Account
- download & install Zoom
- https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5eRDdoA2jIM_4mYkeF4ciJiv0zXbcaYf&mc_cid=bb904a312f&mc_eid=248ab04ff4

How to Join a Zoom Meeting

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5rFjD3JPDlU&list=PL5eRDdoA2jIM_4mYkeF4ciJiv0zXbcaYf&index=3

Note: If you do not have a camera on your computer you can still download the link and join via the audio link. You will be able to speak and hear and see others at the meeting, we will not be able to see you.



AGM Board Report for 2021.

2020 was an incredibly challenging year for all of us in so many ways!

For the Temple, most of us were taken a bit by surprise when Miyakawa Sensei suddenly announced he was taking one month holidays on February 14th. The board quickly looked over the scheduled services. We still had the February Shotsuki service, and in March we had Eitaikyo and our AGM scheduled for March 1st, and the March Shotsuki service set for March 15th.

We decided to go ahead and hold the February Shotsuki service, and to switch our March Shotsuki service and Eitaiykyo services so that I could lead the Shotsuki services, and Sensei's holidays would be over in time for him to perform the Eitaikyo service. We went ahead with our AGM as planned on March 1st.

The day before our scheduled Eitaikyo service, there were two issues.

First Sensei informed us that he was going to take three months medical leave. He was willing to come for the Eitaikyo service though I could tell he was concerned about it.

Second, Covid-19 was becoming a reality in BC. It was clear that while the Provincial Health Officer had not yet ordered the closing of churches, there was a very real concern in holding a large gathering. Given that our membership is mostly senior citizens, and Miyakawa Sensei's own health concerns, the board decided to cancel the Eitaikyo service, and to cancel all Temple activities until the situation became more clear with Covid-19.

With the Temple closed, Miyakawa Sensei applied for the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit (CERB).

The board of directors continued to meet regularly holding virtual meetings online. Three board members: Kay Hori, Kaye Kaminishi, and Kazuyo Isobe, did not have internet access, so Mariko Shirato met with Kaye and Kazuyo using her cell phone so they could participate in the meeting.

Early on Kay Hori was concerned about the health of Eddie, so Daniel phoned her following

meetings to keep her up to date on board activities.

Sadly we lost quite a few members in 2020. This was very sad for each and every member, but as this is a Board report, I would be remiss if I did not take a few moments to mention members who served for many many years on the board of directors.

Eddie Hori passed on to the Pure Land on May 31st. Eddie served on the board for many many years, at one time as our President, and for many years as Vice President.

Just two weeks after Eddie's passing, Kay Hori passed suddenly on June 14th, which was a big shock to all of us.

Despite being well into her 90's Kay was still a very valuable leader of our Temple both on the board of directors, and the Fujinkai. She was in fact our President at the time of her passing. The contribution to our Temple by Eddie and Kay cannot be over-stated.

We lost another long time board of directors member when Sho Tabata passed on August 14th. Sho served for many years as our treasurer, and was our go to man for repairs, or if anything needed to be built for the Temple. Sho had been living in Nikkei Place in Burnaby for his last years.

During the summer, when the covid numbers dropped, Barry and Anna Kato put together a plan allowing us to hold a Chow Mein sale while maintaining a safe work space for volunteers, and no contact pick-up for customers. This was extremely well done by Barry and Anna who had already started sales and preparations for the Chow Mein sale when the pandemic hit. With some customers having already purchased tickets, Barry and Anna felt it was important to try to complete the sale.

I would like to give me deepest thanks to Barry and Anna, and all of the member and non-member volunteers who made the Chow Mein sale possible!

Even though we were not able to hold services, the Temple building still needed to be maintained, and unfortunately the problem with homelessness continues to impact our Temple grounds. Throughout these months Barry Kato has continued to check on the Temple regularly even dusting and vacuuming, and taking on the unpleasant task of cleaning up after the homeless who have used the Temple grounds as shelter. Barry is such an incredible asset to our Temple, and I cannot begin to thank him adequately for all he has done over the years, and during this challenging time in our Temple's history.

The Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada waived our assessments for the first half of 2020, and invoiced us for only half of the second half of 2020. This has definitely helped all of the Temples out, however the national organization is also being hit by the pandemic, and needs our continued support.

With no regular Temple activity (though we did manage some private family memorial services for members who passed on this year) there has also been a drop in donations, and so this assistance from JSBTC is deeply appreciated.

On January first of 2021, our Minister for the past 16 years, Reverend Yasuhiro Miyakawa Sensei, retired from active service. The health concerns that had brought him to take medical leave earlier were no longer a concern, but Sensei felt it was time to move on to the next chapter of his life. It is so very unfortunate that the Pandemic restrictions prevent us from having a proper opportunity to thank Sensei for the enormous amount he has given us in spiritual guidance, being our spiritual leader for longer than any other Minister in our history, but certainly as soon as the restrictions are lifted and we can gather together again safely, a top priority will be to hold such an event.

Sensei and his wife Valerie will continue to live in Kelowna as it is what they consider "home".

Sensei served us incredibly well, not only with regular services and Dharma talks, and visiting those who were unwell. He gave comfort to our members in times of loss, and inspiration to us all with events like the marathon chanting

commemorating the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, to unique events like a swimming marathon, swimming continuously was a water bottle balanced on his forehead!

Miyakawa Sensei worked very hard to create our service book, which I think may be the most complete and extensive Jodo Shinshu Service book in the English Language!

I'm not sure any Sensei ever worked harder for his Temple, and of course Miyakawa Sensei had three Temples to oversee these last 16 years!

I feel we were extremely privileged to have received his spiritual guidance all of these years, and personally I feel very honoured to also have him as my friend.

I am sure the entire board, and membership of the Kamloops Buddhist Temple join me in thanking Sensei for all he has done for us over the years, and wishing him and Valerie all the happiness in the world as they enjoy retirement!

We are now working with Bishop Aoki Socho, and the board of the JSBTC to receive a new resident Minister for Kelowna, Vernon and Kamloops. I would like to express my deep gratitude for the hard work of the Socho and national board in working towards the continuation of the Jodo Shinshu teaching in the interior of BC.

As we look forward to 2021, it seems very likely to be another challenging year, but we hope to be able to try to find some ways to continue bringing the Dharma to our community, and of course we hope that the situation will allow us to return to regular services at some point in the not too distant future.

We look forward to a time once the pandemic is over, when we can once again gather together, once again enjoy tea and conversation following the service, once again join together for Obon dancing, once again join together to bring comfort in times of loss, and once again join together to hear an inspiring Dharma message offering hope for this life, and the life to come in the Pure Land.

We have some big challenges ahead even aside from overcoming the pandemic. Our Temple is a community based not only on a spiritual teaching, but also very much on family and cultural roots. As our membership gets older, and as members

pass on, move away, or develop health issues that prevent them from participating in our Temple, it becomes more and more vital that if we are going to be able to continue into the future, we are going to need the children and grand children of our long time members, to also step up, get involved, and keep those family and cultural roots alive. If they are not interested in doing so, I suspect our time as a Temple is drawing closer to an end, and as our membership dwindles, we may have to make some difficult decisions in order to maintain the Temple community as long as possible. These decisions might include how many services per month we can have, and even consideration for holding services in another location and selling the Temple properties. I don't think anyone wants to take such steps, but it may become a necessity as we strive to continue to serve our little community for as long as we can.

I would like to conclude by thanking my fellow board members:

Fujinkai Report:

2020 was a very short year of events for the temple. The Corona Virus pandemic shut down all temples from the end of March and it continued to be a time of uncertainty.

Last year, we sadly lost many of our senior Fujinkai members. We respectfully remember Kay Hori, Sue Nishikawa, Susie Tomiyama and Betty Hirowatari.

We express our gratitude to the Kamloops Buddhist Temple board for continuing to meet virtually throughout the year to look after the welfare of our temple.

The Spring chow mein sale in March was postponed but was successfully held at the end of June and beginning of July. This was the only fundraiser held last year. The bazaar and fall chow mein sale were cancelled. We are very fortunate and grateful to the many non-member volunteers who helped us. Everyone wore masks and were distanced when working, following COVID rules.

The late Kay Hori
Mariko Shirato
Rick Nakashimada
Anna Kato
Kaye Kaminishi
Kazujo Isobe
Michael Burwash
Barry Kato.

Each and every one of you have played an incredibly important role in helping our Temple stay together, and moving forward in this absolutely unique and incredibly challenging time in our history, and I feel so much gratitude to all of you!

On behalf of the Kamloops Buddhist Temple Board of Directors,
In Gassho:
Daniel Heslop

Membership has changed since last year. We have a total of 21 members in the Fujinkai.

The Fujinkai AGM was held on Sunday, February 7th, 2021 at 10:30am. This was our first virtual meeting, using Facebook Messenger. 6 members participated.

Elected to the 2021 board are as follows:
Anna Kato – Chair; Tomi Wakabayashi – Secretary; Kazuyo Isobe – Treasurer.
Directors: Nancy Keller, Hiroko Shidei, Mariko Shirato, Kathy Kuroyama, Rie Takahashi.

We welcome Rie Takahashi on to the Fujinkai board and look forward to working with you.

I am hopeful that this year will bring us back to the temple again. I know that everyone is looking forward to gathering again at the temple.

In Gassho,
Anna Kato

The Women's Federation & Living Dharma Centre present:

Jodo Shinshu Rituals - Part 1 — Gassho and Oshoko on *March 28 @ 5pm MST.*

Do you know why we traditionally place our palms together (Gassho) when we bow or when we offer incense (Oshoko) to Amida Buddha? Why do we burn incense in front of the Buddha during the service?

Rev. Ouchi will teach you how to do Gassho and Oshoko in Jodo Shinshu formal style.

Q & A will follow the lecture. If interested, please register in advance at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkde6upjwqG9A-O62SsE-Fua56cG3ImTI4>

2021 KBT Membership:

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Michael Burwash | Sumiko Kitagawa (out of town) | Hiroko Shidei |
| Katsuji Chiba | Kathy Kuroyama | Mariko Shirato |
| Kuniko Chiba | Marion Motokado | Hiroshi Tahara |
| Daniel Heslop | Ryoji Nabata | Marie Tahara |
| Kazuyo Isobe | Sumiko Nabata | Rie Takahashi |
| Barry Kato | Rick Nakashimada | Tomi Wakabayashi |
| Anna Kato | Tom Nishimura (out of town) | Kathy Yamada |
| Nancy Keller | Junkichi Shidei | |

Honorary:

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Howie Imada (out of town) | Irene Maeda | Sets Sakaki |
| Kaye Kaminishi | Toshiko Maeda | Fran Takenaka |
| Kazuko Kobayashi | Frank Nabata | Tosh Takenaka |
| Sakaye Kotani | Sumiye Nabata | |
| Tamae Kuroyama | Terry Sakaki | |

Friend of the Temple

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Joyce Shimokura | Lynn Gordey | Grant Reed |
| Rob Kuroyama | Hisako Johnson | Marie Reed |
| Maureen Nakashimada | Bev Komori | Len Nakashimada |
| Alice Tateishi | Mike Mori | Gail Jefferies |
| Jim Tateishi | Dave Nakano | Ken Jefferies |
| Gordon Gordey | Kazza Nakano | |

Donations List

*We gratefully acknowledge and thank the following for their generous donations for
January - March, 2021*

In Memory of Eddie & Kay Hori - \$250.

Lori North
Adele MacNeill
Katherine Mason

In Memory of Shizuko Tomiyama - \$120.

Jo-Anne Kobayashi
Joyce Shimokura

In Memory of Sho Tabata - \$100.

Jo-Anne Kobayashi

Shotsuki - \$650.

Len Nakashimada – in memory of T & S Nakashimada and Kato family members
Bill & Julie Turley – in memory of Hisakazu & Makiko Yamamoto
Reiko Tanaka – in memory of Fujiye & Tamezo Tanaka
Lori North – in memory of Roy & Betty Inouye

Special Donations - \$2218.85

Don Yoshida - in memory of Stan Yoshida, E & K Hori, T Nakashimada
Lori North
New Gold Inc. (Jess Nakashimada)
Kaye Kaminishi
Roy & Marie Tahara
David & Kazza Nakano
Kazuyo Isobe

Eitaikyo - \$25.

Shirley Nakashima – in memory of Tsuyako Nakashima

January Shotsuki - \$145.

Rick & Maureen Nakashimada
Marion Motokado – in memory of Joe Motokado
Sandra Wiesner – in memory of Joe Motokado
Tosh & Donna Tabata – in memory of Tsuyako Nakashima
Barry & Anna Kato

February Shotsuki - \$125.

Kathy Yamada – in memory of Sumi Yamada
Rick & Maureen Nakashimada – in memory of Sumi Nakashimada
Marion Motokado – in memory of Guntaro Kato
Barry & Anna Kato

In Memory of Dick Sawada - \$460.

Len & Melodie Nakashimada
Rick & Maureen Nakashimada
Kazuyo Isobe
Barry & Anna Kato
Toshiko Maeda

Gordon & Lynn Gordey
Gordie & Edna Miyahara
Sandy Wakabayashi
Dave & Pat McDonald

March Shotsuki - \$105.

Kathy Yamada - in memory of Tom Wakabayashi
Rick & Maureen Nakashimada
Marion Motokado – in memory of Kikuye Kato
Barry & Anna Kato

APRIL SHOTSUKI (Monthly Memorial Service):

| | | | | | |
|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|---------------------|
| 1949 | Kondo, Koichi | 1980 | Inouye, Yoshinobu | 2000 | Kawabata, Eijiro |
| 1950 | Yamamoto, Katsumi | 1986 | Matsumura, Matsu | 2017 | Kaminishi, Florence |
| 1965 | Yasui, Tatsukichi | 1988 | Kitamura, Nobue | | |
| 1976 | Kuromi, Shukei | 1990 | Nishimura, Fusaye | | |
| 1978 | Nabata, Sue | 1997 | Yamakawa, Isamu | | |

MAY SHOTSUKI (Monthly Memorial Service):

| | | | | | |
|------|--------------------|------|---------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1942 | Suzuki, Tomojiro | 1969 | Sawada, Kisoji | 1996 | Yokome, Mitsuo |
| 1945 | Iwasaki, Minoru | 1971 | Ryujin, David | 2000 | Kawata, Yukiko |
| 1947 | Kurusu, Takeshi | 1973 | Sakida, Nagaharu | 2002 | Iio, Hatsue |
| 1947 | Mori, Hajime | 1974 | Osuga, Tomojiro | 2005 | Uyeda, Haruko |
| 1948 | Serizawa, Kasui | 1977 | Ohama, Yukie | 2010 | Nabata, Atsushi |
| 1953 | Nakashima, Harumi | 1980 | Kuroyama, Chieno | 2011 | Araki, Akio |
| 1957 | Nishimura, Sanjiro | 1982 | Teranishi, Natsu | 2014 | Tanaka, Hideo |
| 1958 | Tahara, Toyotoshi | 1983 | Ohama, Eizo | 2016 | Tabata, Nobue |
| 1961 | Aura, Koyono | 1984 | Tsutsumi, Hiroshi | 2018 | Sakaki, Sumiko Vi |
| 1963 | Hamaseri, Taro | 1989 | Nakashima, Masayuki | | |
| 1968 | Kobori, Shige | 1990 | Sakaki, Sakae | | |
| 1969 | Nishimura, Tamiko | 1995 | Kodama, Denkichi | | |

JUNE SHOTSUKI (Monthly Memorial Service):

| | | | | | |
|------|--------------------|------|-----------------------|------|------------------|
| 1949 | Miyahara, Hatsumi | 1969 | Kitagawa, Suekichi | 1993 | Sugiyama, Isamu |
| 1950 | Okamoto, Kotaro | 1970 | Uyeda, Tsunehiko | 1998 | Nishimura, Gunzo |
| 1951 | Kurusu, Kikusaburo | 1975 | Kobayashi, Ishisaburo | 2005 | Maeda, Mikie |
| 1951 | Kondo, Asanosuke | 1979 | Nishizaki, Kyushiro | 2007 | Miyahara, Sadako |
| 1953 | Nabata, Nou | 1980 | Takenaka, Katsu | 2008 | Deshima, Yuri |
| 1953 | Miyazaki, Takahiko | 1984 | Tsuji, Sadao | 2012 | Tabata, Saburo |
| 1963 | Omatsu, Tome | 1986 | Hirowatari, Yu | 2014 | Betty Inouye |
| 1964 | Oikawa, Tane | 1988 | Tanaka, Tamezo | | |

JULY SHOTSUKI (Monthly Memorial Service):

| | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1939 | Iwasaki, Otomatsu | 1958 | Suginobu, Keizo | 1991 | Otsubo, Tokuichi |
| 1947 | Miyahara, Sugematsu | 1961 | Wakabayashi, Jisaburo | 1998 | Kobayashi, Shizue |
| 1948 | Nakashimada, Kakutaro | 1963 | Yoshida, Chiyoki | 2000 | Maeda, Hideo |
| 1950 | Kato, Kintaro | 1976 | Kuromi, Ryuji | 2005 | Yamada, Sho |
| 1954 | Motokado, Kiyoshi | 1981 | Kotani, Shima | 2011 | Yoshida, Yoshio |
| 1956 | Nogami, Kiku | 1986 | Nishizaki, Yosomatsu | 2015 | Tomiye, Mieko |