

**Buddhist Church of
Santa Barbara
1015 Montecito Street
Santa Barbara, CA
(805) 962-3633
MARCH 2026**



EVENTS CALENDAR

Sat. 10:00 am March 14.

Rev. JP DeGuzman
Spring *O-higan* (Equinox) 春 お彼岸
Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial
Service. 祥月法

Sat. 11:00 am Mar 14.

Rev. JP DeGuzman
Lunch and Learn
Buddhism and Pop Culture
"The Dharma of an 80's Pop Icon"

Sat. 10:00 am April 11.

Rev. JP DeGuzman
Hanamatsuri 花まつり
Celebrating Buddha's Birth
If you would like to contribute
flowers for Hanamatsuri, please
bring them to the service on April
11 by 9:45 am.

Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial
Service). 祥月法要

Other Event Opportunities

Friday, March 13, 9:00 am

Assistance requested in preparing
flowers onto the hanamido (flower
temple) for Hanamatsuri service.

Qi Gong Classes

Mondays 9:00 and 10:30

Okinawan Dance Practice

Wednesdays, 11:15 am

What is Ohigan?

Ohigan is celebrated around the time of the equinoxes when daylight and night are equal in length. [It is] a time of celebration to remind us of our deep connection to the rhythms and cycles of the earth and, by extension, to the whole universe."

Ohigan translates as "the other shore" and is a metaphor for crossing from this shore of ignorance, anger, and greed to the other shore of nirvāna and peace. ...

As Shin Buddhists, we are part of the larger Mahāyāna tradition that teaches the path of the *bodhisattva* – a path followed by a person who has the aspiration to become a Buddha. The path includes six activities called *pāramitās*, a Sanskrit word that means "arriving at the other shore." The activities of generosity, discipline, patience, energy, meditation, and insight are said to be transformative because they allow us to transcend the narrow perspective of the ego-self.

(from Orange County Buddhist Church)



Speaking of rhythms and cycles, did you notice our newest addition to our grounds? Due to the generosity and initiative of **Dianne Takeuchi**, granddaughter of **Mrs. Fukamaki**, we have a new dwarf cherry tree to replace the dying original peach tree planted as a memorial to Mrs. Aiko Fukamaki in 1976.

Mr. Richard Abe of **Abe Nursery** generously donated the ~8' sapling, and **Nomura/Yamasaki Landscapes, Inc.** expertly installed the tree, donating their labor. The tree is growing, even producing a few flowers at the base of the tree, perhaps Mrs. Fukamaki's spirit also appreciates the gesture of remembrance.



Shotsuki Hoyo March Memorial Names

MR. ASAZO HARASHIMA	MRS. KIKU SAKAMOTO
MR. KENNOSUKE NAKANO	MRS. KOTOYE OMURA
MR. CHUZO SAITO	MR. KEITH KAZUO HARUTA
MR. HIDEO KOMATSU	MRS. CHIMI KIMURA
MR. YASUJI AOKI	MR. SUYEKI HATTANDA
MRS. YUI KITAHARA	MRS. MASAKO HISATOSHI
MRS. SHIMA FUKUMURA	MRS. SUYE ARAKI
MR. MINESABURO MORIHISA	MR. MASAO SANO
MR. YAICHIRO EMURA	MR. MASAO NAKAMURA
MRS. UME KAI	MRS. NAMI IKEURA
MRS. YUKU OKADA	MRS. YASU MORIHISA
MR. MAMORU HIDE	MRS. MARY KAZUE OKINO
MR. SAICHI MORI	MRS. MIYE NUMAZU
MR. KANEICHI OTSUKA	MR. KEN KUROZUMI
MR. SHOJI YAMADA	

February Service Rev. Stacy Reardon gave a lively recounting of a scary time in her life when she felt threatened by the owner of the car she hit on the night of her high school prom. He was scary looking with a Confederate flag and white hoodie reminiscent of Ku Klux Klan. She was extremely apologetic



Figure 1 Rev. Stacy Reardon at February 2026 service

and he calmed down, explaining he was angry because he had just gotten his car fixed. He gave her advice when she noted a second threat, that her father was going to “kill” her for denting his car. He advised to just say that someone else hit her dad’s car while it was parked, not to say that she drove into his car. At the time, she took the other driver’s and her mom’s advice, ‘Let’s not tell your dad”. The next morning, her dad was banging out the dent in the car. But this lie weighed on her mind for decades. And so, when her dad’s health was declining, she told him the real story. He did not even remember that she had dented his car. And, they laughed about it – “your tragedy will become the time’s comedy”. And, she likened this story to the Primal Vow because they laughed about the incident, and she was set at ease.



Figure 2 Soapstone statue of Bodhisatva of Compassion

The Primal Vow, as explained by Rev. Torii of San Fernando Valley Buddhist Temple where both Revs. Reardon and deGuzman are minister’s assistants, “In Buddhism, “compassion” means that buddhas and bodhisattvas feel our suffering and sorrow as their own pain, remove them, and bring us ease—ultimately, perfect peace.” Stacy, her mom and dad, all showed compassion.

SANGHA CONTRIBUTIONS We are grateful for all contributions:

- Garden: Dianne Takeuchi, Abe Nursery, Nomura/Yamasaki Landscapes, Inc.
- Onaijin & Service Volunteers: Setsuko Furuike, Dennis Furuike, Jodi Miles, Doug Wilson, JJ Uyehara
- Outreach with Flyers: Rev. JP deGuzman (designing), and posting flyers- Dennis Furuike, Sylvia Shelton, JJ Uyehara

March 2026 – Called to Give

By Rev. JP deGuzman

With several new visitors and longtime families returning, BCSB’s future is bright! This momentum has led the Board to discuss temple membership, as you might recall from February’s *Geppo*.

Before proceeding I must emphasize that, as long as we are able, we will ensure that opportunities to hear the Dharma will be as accessible as possible. It does not matter if you are a member or not, or even if you consider yourself a Buddhist or not. That is the nature and example of the non-discriminatory wisdom and compassion of the Buddha.

Thus, we understand that membership is not meant to draw distinctions between each other. There are no material benefits to membership akin to joining a tony athletic club or upscale speakeasy. As Rev. Marvin Harada told me, he joked with folks at Orange County Buddhist Church, “If you join as a member, then you get to work at the Obon!”

Then why become a member?

When I first started attending my home temple, San Fernando Valley Hongwanji, I was struck by the kind

community that welcomed me with open hearts. They entertained my curiosities about Buddhism and got to know me as a person, asking how grad school was coming along or if I was staying healthy in the midst of flu season on campus. Moreover, I witnessed how they **lived** the Dharma: how they savored moments together, gave generously and joyously of their time for different events, and approached the world with compassion, humility, and gratitude. I heard stories about how their families gave everything they could (when they often had so little) to the temple out of an abiding belief in the sustaining power of Buddhism to help them navigate life's vicissitudes. I feel that same spirit with all the senses at BCSB.

As I awoke to a community and set of teachings that embraced me, an immense gratitude arose within me that I felt called to give back so that others could experience the warmth and clarity of the Dharma. I volunteered or donated when I could and, when my karmic circumstances were right, I became a member. No pressure from others, just a natural feeling, washed over me.

I sincerely hope that your encounters at BCSB will likewise create that feeling!

Namo Amida Butsu

MEMBERS. Thank you to all those who chose to become members; Membership is \$100 for the year, except for honorary members who are 90+ years old, and if you wish to become a member but are not able to afford the dues, then membership is \$50 (By-laws). We will have membership forms available at service and as attachment to the newsletter.

2026 Members:

Dennis and Sets Furuike, Susie Okada Nakata, Donald & Sharon Muneno, Doug Wilson & JJ Uyehara, Janine Wilson, Miko Tollefson

Honorary Members We have 4 honorary members:

Mary Hide, Tamako Nishimura, Grace Tamura, Reiko Takeuchi

TREASURER’s REPORT Setsuko Furuike DONATIONS including Membership Dues for February \$2610

<u>Memorial Service</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Nirvana Day</u>
M/M Dennis Furuike (Naoko Ishihara) Lonny Ishihara (Naoko Ishihara, Yoshio Aoi) M/M Tadashi Kamei (Masashi & Kazunobu Nakashimo, Mitsuo Shibao, Masao Nakamura)	Monday Qigong (Jan) Dennis Ito (Feb) Donation Box	M/M Dennis Furuike Bianca Ayers Tamako Nishimura Mary Saito

BCSB CONTRIBUTIONS BCSB donated \$100 to the Buddhist Churches of America Endowment fund. Buddhist Churches of America Endowment Foundation (BCAEF) manages endowments, temple investment accounts, and administers fundraising support for the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA).

Request for Assistance -- BCSB Cabinet would like some advice on the tax law exceptions for religious organizations and for property insurance. We would be most grateful for a discussion on those topics. If you have experience on tax law or on property insurance, could you please txt me, JJ Uyehara, at (805)450-1617? Would love to be able to discuss for about a half-hr.

FEATURED Honorary Members

Reiko Ikeura Galbraith Takeuchi was born in Hokkaido, Japan, on June 5, 1933, the 4th of 5 children. She is the only member of her family to have left Japan. She met her American husband, who was serving in the U.S. Navy in Japan, and married him and moved to Santa Barbara in 1959. She had two daughters and a son. Reiko worked in a Japanese restaurant and regularly attended service and events at the Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara.

In the mid-late 1970s, she met her next husband, Mamoru Takeuchi, a second-generation (*Nisei*) Japanese American who had been interned in WW2. Mamo and Reiko had many happy years together, living at the very end of San Roque Road, until his passing in November 2024.

Reiko is currently living in Solvang and still continues her lifelong habit of daily walks. She attended last year's Obon festival and is thankful for the many years of involvement with the Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara.



Grace Toki Hayashida



Figure 3 Left -Grace Tamura volunteering as Staff for BCSB ; and Right -Grace and Nobu Tamura enjoying a laugh. Photos and biography courtesy of Laurie Tamura.

Grace Toki Hayashida was born in Morro Bay on August 4, 1928. Her father was Kichizi Hayashida and her mother was Yaye (Kiyomura) Hayashida. Both her parents were originally from the Kumamoto-ken region of southeastern Japan. Grace was sixth of seven children.

In 1941, the family was ordered to the Tulare Assembly Center and later moved to the internment camp in Gila, Arizona. Grace attended Gila High School for her freshman

and sophomore years. Her older brothers Louie and Henry left the camp to enlist and served in the renowned 442 Regimental Combat Team.

After four years in the camp, they moved to Santa Barbara. Grace attended Santa Barbara High School and graduated in 1947. Although in her senior year, the rest of the family moved to Monterey, Grace stayed in Santa Barbara by herself to finish high school. She lived with the Gilead Family who had a jewelry store. She cared for their children and was a maid for four years.

While at camp she had met Nobuo Tamura at one of the dances. Once in Santa Barbara, they reconnected and eventually were married at the Buddhist Temple. They started a family with Jeff, Chris and Lynda.

After the children were grown, Grace worked for many years at the school district in the cafeteria. She also volunteered her time at the BCSB and was involved in many programs including the Obon festivals. She was a great cook and enjoyed hosting the family holiday dinners. Grace's husband Nobu passed away in August 2007.

