Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara
1015 East Montecito Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93103
(805)962-3633





Cabinet Members: Setsuko Furuike, Dennis Furuike, Jodi Miles, Bobbi Okamoto-Subject, JJ Uyehara, Doug Wilson, and One Vacancy.

Summary of By-laws: by JJ Uyehara Cabinet Members are fiscally and legally responsible for Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara as part of the Buddhist Churches of America, upkeep and maintenance of facilities and grounds, and keeping the Sangha informed of services and Church business. Also, responsible for acting or appointing the Chairs of the Committees for the **Religious Department**--spread the Buddha teachings to members and nonmembers, **Education Department** - to establish libraries and supervise educational and cultural needs ..., and **Social Department** – to comfort and extend help to members and to be responsible for Church-related social activities.

If you are interested in engaging and keeping the momentum going as a Cabinet member, please speak to a Cabinet Member or email newsBCSB@gmail.com.

November 2026 *Geppo* (Newsletter)

Monthly Services are held the Second Saturday at 10:00 am

CALENDAR

November 14, Saturday

Service, 10:00 am, Rev. JP deGuzman

Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service 祥月法要
Eitaikyo 永代経

Dharma Discussion 11:15 am, Rev. JP deGuzman

December 2, Wednesday,

***Omigaki*, 12-2 pm, Rev. Blake Honda**

Assisted by **Rev. JP deGuzman** and **Jodi Miles**; Requesting help in the traditional annual cleaning of the *onaijin* and *geijin*.

December 12, Saturday

Service, 10:00 am, Rev. JP deGuzman *Bodhi* (Enlightenment) Day 成道会
Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service 祥月法要

Dharma Discussion 11:15 am, Rev. JP deGuzman

All Mondays, Qi Gong, 9 and 10:30 am, Dennis Furuike, PhD



Shoji Yamada left many origami including the rooster, monkey, dragon, and peacock. Junko Torigoe folded a cottontail rabbit.

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Recap of October Service By Rev. JP deGuzman

I explained the meaning behind our different rituals and delivered a message about how moments of crisis can sometimes teach us our greatest lessons and push us towards a deeper understanding of the true reality of life: impermanence, interdependence, and the embrace of Great Compassion. As Shinran, the father of Shin Buddhism, wrote: "Through the benefit of the unhindered light, we realize *shinjin* of vast, majestic virtues, And the ice of our blind passions necessarily melts,immediately becoming the water of enlightenment." *Shinjin* refers to the heart that entrusts in the limitless wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

***Shotsuki Hoyo* Monthly Memorial Service**, 祥月法要, is expressing appreciation and gratitude for those who passed in November:

November Memorial Service will be held for:

MR. DANZO ISODA	MRS. KIKUYE SHIMODA
MRS. NATSU TANAKA	MR. KICHIZO IKEURA
MRS. SHIGE YAMADA	MRS. TOMIKO SASAKI
MRS. HIDE TSUNODA	MR. FUKUO YAMADA
MRS. YUKIYE OMURA	THE FUJII FAMILY
MR. WAKASABURO TORIGOE	MRS. TAMI ISHIHARA
MRS. NAMIKO YONEDA	MR. YOSHITO INOUYE
MR. TOMOZO KUROKI	MRS. TOMOE TORIGOE
MRS. MATSUYO KUWAMOTO	MR. TOKITOSHI YONEDA
MR. YASUO HORIUCHI	MR. RAYMOND UYEHARA
MRS. AKIMI TAMURA	MRS. KUNIE YANAGI



Mrs. Tomoe Torigoe, who contributed much time and energy to BCSB and in following Buddhist principles.

Two November Memorials

By JJ Uyehara

Mrs. Tomoe Torigoe actively supported BCSB's ministers, was active in the *Fujinkai* and attended Miyagi-sensei's biweekly religious education meetings.



Mr. Raymond Uyehara gave his daughter much good advice, (not that I listened!). But one saying he gave when I gave him excuses, "Everybody gets the same 24 hrs/day." How I prioritize and spend it is up to me, every day. Photo submissions to the newsletter are welcome!

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Dharma Message

November 2026 – *Eitaikyo*: A Reflection on Chanting and Legacies By Rev. JP deGuzman

In November we observe our annual service dedicated to the Perpetual Chanting of the Sutras, or *Eitaikyo*. Fret not, you don't need to come to the temple and chant perpetually! Rather, this gathering invites us to reflect on the collective ancestors who built our temple and whose labors of love allow us to hear and benefit from the *Dharma* today. Chanting itself is a meaningful way to connect to the legacies of those elders who planted the *Dharma* seeds generations ago.

Chanting is a ubiquitous practice across Buddhist sects and serves ritual, meditative, and even salutary purposes. For me, chanting is a way to express my appreciation for the *Dharma* and all those who enabled me to experience it, which is the essence of *Eitaikyo*.

One late night in the midst of ordination training in Japan crystalized that lesson for me. It had been an especially long day and though the sun had set long ago, our group from the US was still awake laboriously practicing in the *hondo* (main hall) of Nishiyama *Betsuin* for a service the next day. Our eyelids drooped, our postures curved, and our throats were parched from chanting



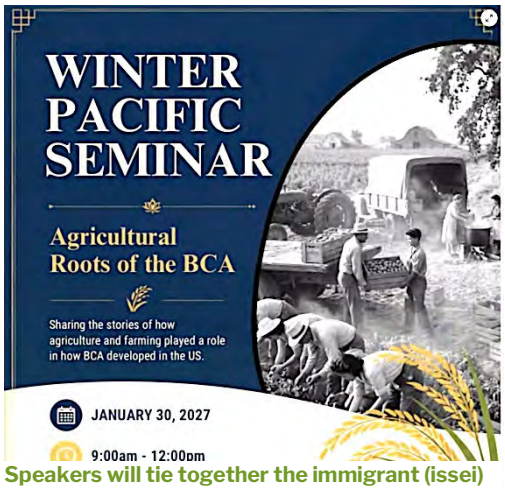
Figure 1 Rev JP deGuzman giving the Dharma message at the October service.

– and chanting even more after stern, yet caring, correction by the *shido-in* (instructors).

However, one teacher reminded us that every single minister who had been our mentor had also sat in that very same hall. Over the years the timeworn wooden walls and beams had absorbed the sounds of their chanting. How special it was for me to add my voice and, more importantly, how special it was that those voices had been a part of my karma that allowed me to be in that moment. How special it was that I could feel bonded to the voices of so many of my treasured teachers and fellow *Dharma* friends, not to mention the immeasurable numbers of others whom I have never met.

In that sense, chanting is an expression of gratitude and a realization of our interdependence. After all, from a Buddhist perspective I know that what makes me *me* is my karmic encounter with all of you and all of those who gave so much to build all the BCSB community. Chanting is my way to feel connected to those agricultural workers and gardeners who built the temple by hand, the *Fujinkai* (Buddhist Women's Association) ladies, *Dharma* school teachers, and individuals and families who donated so much when there was often little to donate.

The soil upon which our *sangha* stands holds the voices of generations who have intoned *Namo Amida Butsu* or chanted other sutras in both sorrow and joy. Though chanting I can express my gratitude to them and understand that they were conduits of the boundless wisdom and compassion that we call *Amida Buddha*. Please join us in chanting at our *Eitaikyo* service!



Speakers will tie together the immigrant (issei) agricultural roots in developing Buddhist Churches of America Panel member includes Rev. Blake Honda. See West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple event page

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BCSB at the Annual Federation Conference By Rev. JP deGuzman

From October 2-4, scores of members and friends of the **Buddhist Women's Associations** (BWA) across the country gathered in San Diego for the annual federation conference. Revs. Kenji Akahoshi and Yuika Hasebe delivered the keynote addresses and workshops included crafting, making your own home altar, tai chi, and more. In addition to the usual business meetings, luncheons, and banquet, several members got to explore San Diego's neighborhoods and cultures. BCSB was represented by our supervising minister and minister's assistant, **Revs. Blake and JP**. The BWA has led the way in service to the temple and larger community.

October 2026 Contributions to Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara

The temple gratefully acknowledges the financial donations from the following groups and individuals **Total** for October Donations **$2,015**

Memorial Service	**Special**	**Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorial**
M/M Dennis Tokumaru (Richard Tokumaru)	Qi Gong Class (September)	M/M Dennis Furuike
M/M Dennis Furuike (Mitsuko Baba, Yasushi Ishihara)	Dennis Ito (October)	Jodi Miles
Bobbie Okamoto-Subject (George Okamoto)	Donation Box	Junko Torigoe
Linda Sasaki (Shoken Sasaki)	Nury Lara	JJ Uyehara
Fujii Family (Fujii & Nomura Families)	**Ohigan**	Mary Saito
M/M Tadashi Kamei (Yoshiko Nakahimo)	Mary Saito	

Thank you for the many in-kind contributions and activities in October!

Security **Judy Mayeda**, **Geoff Cole**, **Jodi Miles**, and **Dennis Ito** researched and upgraded our security!

Ideas! During the Sangha Discussion, folks suggested what BCSB could provide as activities in addition to the services. Cultural demos or classes were suggested as a way to introduce BCSB to those who did not know that BCSB is a couple blocks away from the Milpas' Trader Joe's. We have a sangha with many skills and enthusiasm. We will follow up!

Dennis Ito woodcraft. Photo submitted by Jodi Miles.



Special Contribution **Dennis Ito**, skilled woodworker of jewelry boxes, produced a donation or membership box with dovetail joinery.

Thanks! for Kitchen Contributions –**Mara Tucker** brought sunny dishtowels. **Bobbie Okamoto-Subject** donated a microwave oven!

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Thanks! to all the quick hands of the origami folders who busily folded origami to give away and display at the 17th Asian American Neighborhood Festival Display: **Jodi Miles, Ellen Clark, Emiliano Gallegos, Perry Melton, Nancy Husband,** and **Junko Torigoe.**

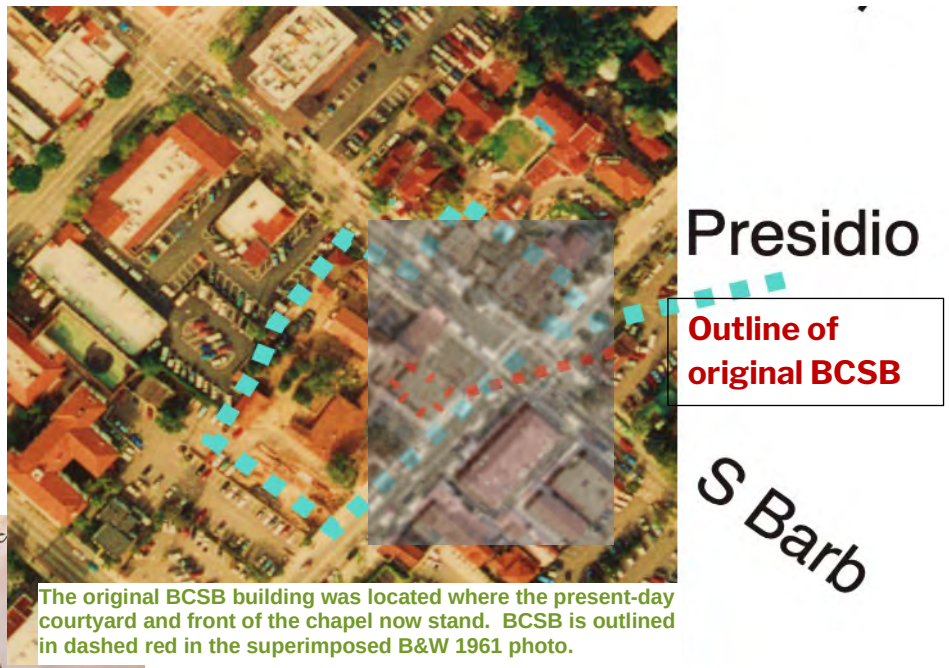

Many thanks! to those who folded origami for our display.

BCSB in the news, by JJ Uyehara

Noozhawk wrote an extensive article about the 17th Asian American Festival at El Presidio. And, there was mention of BCSB and its place in the former Japantown. See Asian American Neighborhood Festival Celebrates 17 Years of Culture | Local News | Noozhawk). Togen Daiko from Oxnard Buddhist Temple gave a lively performance, and led the Obon dancing.

In planning the festival layout, **Tucker Foltz of Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation** deliberately placed our table location so it overlapped with the back door of the original Buddhist Church. **Doug Wilson** printed out the aerial photos with the present day Presidio, and a B&W photo which showed the original location of the Japantown neighborhood outlined in red. Below, I superimposed the two photos.


The Presidio is outlined in blue. The chapel is the long diagonal building.



The original BCSB building was located where the present-day courtyard and front of the chapel now stand. BCSB is outlined in dashed red in the superimposed B&W 1961 photo.


BCSB table in the El Presidio chapel with Doug Wilson and JJ Uyehara. Perry Melton and Nancy Husband also greeted folks at the BCSB table. Photo by Perry Melton.

Our festival display was visited by 60+ folks. The tops were a hit with children, who came back bringing friends to choose their spinning tops. Fortunately, **Junko** and **Perry** had made extra tops during the week! We would show how well the tops spun on a lacquerware dish – who knows?, those dishes may have actually been used at the site at the original

BCSB. It made a slick surface for the tops to spin. And, the children were so proud of how they could make the tops spin!

Besides tops to give away at the display, we also had bookmarks of kimonos and whales. **Nancy** even figured out how to make a Blue Whale origami with a larger head, in addition to the whale origami that more resemble humpback whales. Many thanks to Nancy for coming earlier than scheduled to bring more whales and kimonos because we were running out!





Marléné Zoellner came by and inaugurated our wooden box with its first donation. **Jodi Miles** visited and thought the festival was "happy".

Many thanks to **Perry Melton** who helped set up and gave marketing advice on the display, simplifying it. Perry suggested the brochures on mindfulness, happiness, and buddhism would be of the most interest. Many people took brochures and a dozen people signed our guestbook to receive more news on Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara. There were new and longtime residents who asked about our present-day location and the Milpas' Trader Joe's is the easiest landmark to point to. All in all, a very fun event!

UNITY SHOPPE
DIGNITY. RESPECT. CHOICE.

Request for Help to our Community

Led by Jodi Miles, BCSB is reviving our tradition of donating food items to the Unity Shoppe. The donation box is in the front hall. Drop off times include Service dates (Nov 14 and Dec 12), Dec 2 from 12-2, and every Monday morning, including Dec 14.

Most Needed Items:

- Baking essentials (sugar, flour, salt, etc.)
- Instant potatoes and stuffing
- Yams and gravy
- Cooking oil and cranberry sauce
- Broth (vegetable, chicken, and beef)
- Pasta, rice, beans (canned or dry)
- Peanut butter
- Canned soup, fruit, vegetables, chicken, or tuna
- Breakfast items (cereal, oats, etc.)

Etymology of Eitaikyo (永代経, short for Eitai Dokkyō) translates literally to the "perpetual chanting of sutras" in Japanese Buddhism. [1, 2]

- **Ei (永):** Means eternal or perpetual, often depicted by characters representing a flowing river with many tributaries.
- **Tai (代):** Means generations, symbolizing family members and lineage passing through time.
- **Kyō (経):** Refers to the sutras or the teachings of the Buddha.
- **Dokkyō (読経):** Means to read or chant sacred texts. [1]