



Buddhist Church of Lodi
Newsletter

23 North Stockton St., Lodi, CA 95240-2214
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<http://lodibuddhist.org/>

Sunday, June 10, 2018
9:30 AM Shotsuki Service

Tuesday, June 12, 2018
12:00 Noon Shinyukai Luncheon

Sunday, June 17, 2018
9:30 AM Family Sunday Service
 Dharma School

Saturday, June 23, 2018
12:00 PM–8:00 PM BCL Annual Obon Bazaar

Sunday, June 24, 2018
12:00 PM–7:00 PM BCL Annual Obon Bazaar
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Obon Odori

The Obon Bazaar will soon be here, please take a moment to review the Saturday and Sunday schedule. We are asking for volunteers to take an extra shift to fill the empty spaces. Please ask your family members and friends to help.

Please call or text Hannah Egi at 209-603-1107 to sign up.

The final Obon Bazaar meeting will be held June 12th, 7PM following the general meeting in the annex.

OBON PREP DATE

Thur. June 21,	8:00 AM	Cooking
Fri. June 22,	8:00 AM	Cooking
	6:30 PM	Decoration & Set up
Sat. June 23,	7:00 AM	Cooking
	7:30 AM	Booth Construction
Sun. June 24,	7:00 AM	Cooking
Mon. June 25,	6:00 PM	Clean up

ODORI PRACTICE

Monday	June 11 th	7PM
Wednesday	June 13 th	7PM
Friday	June 15 th	7PM
Monday	June 18 th	7PM
Wednesday	June 20 th	7PM

*Please come to help our Obon Bazaar including prep and clean up.

The newsletter is a monthly publication of the **Buddhist Church of Lodi**, 23 N. Stockton Street, Lodi, CA 95240. There is no subscription charge for members and friends, but donations are welcome.

Farewell Message from Rev. & Mrs. Nobuo Miyaji,

Since I came here Lodi Buddhist Church, over one year has passed. After my retirement from BCA, I was wondering what kind things to do in everyday with my wife. Then, Bishop Umezu called me to help the Lodi Buddhist Church for a while until a new minister would come. I thought it must be a couple months or so. However, it became one year. But I enjoyed the life here in Lodi because it is a beautiful town with nice weather and wonderful members of the church.

Especially I like to see the street of the downtown, it is not so big like Los Angeles, but so neat and clean. At the spring time, the downtown area was covered by the beautiful flowers and green trees. It is one of my favorite things here for me to commute through these fresh and bright streets to the church every morning.

According to the contract, I just do the dharma message delivering on Sunday or other memorial services. I love this kind of contract because it is my mission originally from Japan. I also appreciated your understanding to agree to this.

I could have some friends to talk about the Buddha Dharma or any other things. I could learn many things from them and share the joy of the Nenbutsu teaching. I would like to keep the friendship even after we leave here.

Looking back the year, many things happened, but I love to remember everything in my life here. I will never forget your kindness and encouragement. I would like to say thank you so much for your friendship and co-operation.

Please contact us anytime when you have a chance to come to Los Angeles area. I would like to take you to the nice restaurants to eat Japanese cuisine over there, of course, with your payment (don't worry about this is a joke!!).

I hope you will never neglect to listen to the teaching of Nenbutsu and find your solution about your own problem of death.

Sayonara and please good take care of yourself.

Gassho,

Rev. & Mrs. Nobuo Miyaji

2018 Memorial Service Schedule

In the Jodo Shinshu tradition, family memorial services are held on anniversaries to express gratitude and bring to mind memories of our loved ones. If you have a family member who passed away in the following years, you are encouraged to conduct a family memorial service.

2018 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2017	1 year	2002	17 year
2016	3 year	1994	25 year
2012	7 year	1986	33 year
2006	13 year	1969	50 year

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It never ceases to amaze me as to how quickly the years pass by. It has been six years since I was last Board President. One thing that has not changed over the years is the dedication and enthusiasm of your board members and for that I am grateful.

The Board anticipates another busy year and asks that all members help in any way possible to make this another good year. Thanking all of you in advance for your support and a special "Thank You" to Gordon Nitta for again chairing this year's bazaar.

Let's all make a concerted effort to make this year's Obon/Bazaar the best it has been in a long time. Let's spread the word and invite our friends to attend as well as their friends. Please mark your calendar for the weekend of June 23-24 to come out to help, to join the festivities, and to greet family and friends. We need a lot of help so I urge that you volunteer or when asked to help that you do so. Let's all work together, have a great time, and have a successful fund raiser!

In Gassho,

Fred Nagata
Board President

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF LODI
General Meeting May 8th

Fred Nagata called the meeting to order. After extensive search, Mr. Nagata announced that he would be President for the duration of 2018.

Those present: Bruce Sasaki, Steve Ogata, Gary Funamura, Judy Waters, Fred Nagata, Joyce Nagata, and Hannah Egi.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurers' Reports: General Treasurer, Bruce Sasaki submitted income and expenses for Feb. March, and April. Bruce was questioned if he had to take money from Special treasury funds in order to pay all monthly bills. He responded in the negative but will have to as to pay for the added expenses for the annual bazaar.

Special Treasurer, Steve Ogata also submitted a written report as of April 2018. Income is from Bank interest and expenses are for security locks and keys related to the new fencing. Regarding the BCA Endowment Foundation Account may show – interest loss, but overall, the account is ahead \$9,000. The body approved both reports. (M/S/P Judy Waters/Gary Funamura)

Correspondence: Scholarship application for Church Scholarship was submitted. Also received a Special donation via Schwab Charitable, this will be handled by the office staff.

LBWA: Judy Waters announced Movie Day, May 17. The group is overseeing the reservations for upcoming Keiro Luncheon after the Gotan-E (Fujimatsuri) Service May 20.

Shinyukai: Judy Waters reported luncheon, May 8 of Curry over Rice. Fed 31 people and some take-outs. Next month's menu is mabo-dofu, vegetable, and rice.

Dharma School: The Dharma School will not do the games this year at the Bazaar, too many conflicts. The group will do their annual Cemetery clean up at Pine Street on Saturday, May 26. We will start at 9:00 am.

Building Maintenance Report: Gary Funamura reported that the fencing is completed; the final sign off was May 8, 2018 in the am. The cost was the

profits of a good bazaar year (\$23,473.96). No Trespassing Sign have been ordered and will be placed high and out of reach so no one can vandalize the signs. Panic Bars, locks, and permit were more expensive than expected. Gary also met with City Health Inspector to clear up some code issues before the bazaar.

Old Business:

- a. Judy Waters updated the funeral book; Hannah, Fred Nagata, and Ron Oye have reviewed the book. Judy Klimko will review it next.
- b. Bruce Sasaki and his "Cooking Crew" will prep and cook tri-tip, salmon, asparagus, and rice. The LBWA will purchase small bag of rice and furikake as gifts for Keiro members.
- c. New Minister: He may come by the end of May or beginning of June.

New Business:

- a. Changed the date for general meeting, back to 2nd Tuesday at 7 pm.
- b. The 2018 Saturday and Sunday bazaar schedule could be put in the newsletter with a note that if listed people cannot help in the same areas for this year, call Hannah and tell her what times would work for them.
- c. Bazaar updates: The refrigerators, including the walk-in need to be cleaned. Looking for the rest of Bingo cards for Joint JACL picnic on Sunday, May 28 at Micke Grove.
- d. Other: Steve Ogata has updated the church website.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm with gassho led by Fred Nagata.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannah Egi

LBWA UPDATE – Judy Waters

Movie Day was held on Thursday, May 17th. We enjoyed the "Rainbow Kids", award winning comedy. We will not have Movie Day in June. Many thanks to the following who brought refreshments:

Ken Egi
Pat Kishida

Senbei
Senbei

Judy Waters	Spam Sushi
Yuki Fukunaga	Cookies
Amy Morita	Salami, cheese and crackers
Nancy Burgess	Apricot cake

Frances Nakahara	Kentucky beans
Roy Tashima	Tsukemono
Pat Kishida	Tsukemono
Salad	

You will soon be receiving calls to help at the bazaar on June 23/24th. As our membership is advancing in age, it is more difficult getting help in the kitchen, please ask your family and friends to help. It is greatly appreciated.

We enjoyed curry over rice, tossed green salad, Kentucky beans, konyaku in miso sauce, and tsukemono.

The 16th World Buddhist Women's Convention is coming in 2019. The convention will be in San Francisco. They are asking for a special donation in honor of the Buddhist women that have been the foundation for the propagation of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in the Buddhist Church. We all remember the women of our church who have been the "backbone" of our church and cooking the delicious bazaar foods.

Thank you to Mitsuko Kishi and Sumiko Kishi who made the curry. Thanks to kitchen helpers who helped cook and serve. We had 31 people enjoy the luncheon and had 4 take out lunches.

Please see the flyer enclosed in this newsletter and make a special donation in honor of our grandmothers, mothers, aunts, and other women relatives. You may mail your donation to the address noted or you can give to me (Judy Waters) and I will mail it for you. Thank you for your consideration.

Next month's menu will include: Mabo-dofu, rice, vegetable and dessert.

Next meeting is June 8, 2018 at 9am in the church office.

If you need a ride to attend Shinyukai, please feel free to ask us. You can call the church office and leave a message. We will make arrangements for your transportation. Also, if you cannot come to Shinyukai, your family or friends can pick up the Bento. Please call the church office to make a reservation for your takeout bento. No Enryo (えんりよ), please.

SCRIP UPDATE – Kelly Yamane

Do you like to donate gift cards to the Obon Bingo and Raffle? Please try our scrip program and your donations will earn benefits through your purchase and make for popular prizes!

DHARMA SCHOOL - Jill Walter

Dharma School would like to extend our appreciation to all those who kindly donated flowers for our annual cemetery clean-up. We appreciate your generosity very much. We would also like to congratulate our Dharma School student for winning the Buddhist Church Scholarship. Way to go Jon! We wish you the very best in all your future endeavors. Lastly, we would like to mention that Dharma School will not set up our game booths for Obon this year however, we hope to set them up the following year. We wish you all a great summer!

Thank you for supporting our scrip program! Do you shop online at **Amazon**? If so, please try **AmazonSmile**. It is a simple and automatic way for you to shop, at no cost to you. To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select **Buddhist Church of Lodi** to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

SHINYUKAI – Judy Waters

Donations:

Craig Kurahara	Brownies and cake
Peggy Okabayashi	Senbei from Japan

Thank you to all who are participating in our scrip program! If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Yamane at 365-7124 or any of the scrip supporters listed below.

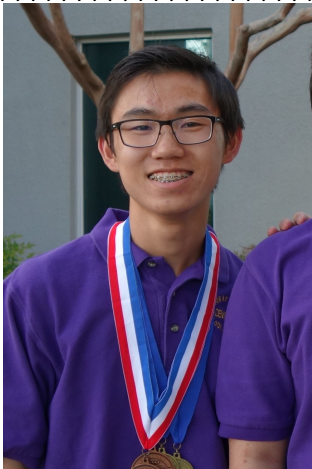
Scrip orders will be due by 10 a.m. on the order date. Please note that scrip pick-up days are changing to Tuesdays.

May Scrip Supporters

Chris Smith
Hannah Egi
Harriet Matsumoto
Haru Oga
Janet Morimoto
Joy Sasaki
Kathi Sasaki
Kenneth Egi
Liza Kanemura

Calendar Dates:

Scrip orders due: 6/1 at 10 a.m. (Friday)
Scrip pick-up: 6/12 (**Tuesday**)



Congratulations to Jon Sasaki graduating from Tokay High School. Jon will enter UC Merced in the fall, majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

BINGO 2018

With the annual Bazaar quickly approaching next month, just a reminder to all our members that Bingo prizes will be needed and appreciated. With the prices increasing, it is becoming more difficult to find items that people would like to play bingo

for. Bingo is still a relatively inexpensive game that people can play, have fun and **WIN!** Thank you again for your generosity and support! Let's all work together for another successful Bazaar.

BAZAAR UPDATE – Hannah Egi

The Obon /Bazaar dates are approaching quickly. We need helpers in all areas.

Last year some members didn't think we needed to do a lot of prep work on Thursday. When Friday morning came, there was a lot of rushing around and they agreed to start on Thursday morning for 2018.

Last year we needed to scramble to get a crew to boil, rinse, and make individual servings for udon. If any of the old crewmembers are available on June 22, Friday at 1PM, we are appreciative of your support.

Another area is dashi making. We need a few ladies to make the udon dashi

Doing the carrots could also use more than one person. Please do not assume the person who has always done it will be available. The same goes for the cooking of the eggs.

The cooking outside is being handled by the "Cooking Crew". I'm sure they could also use a few more helpers.

Many of the prices of food items have increased. If you are not able to help, perhaps you would like to make a monetary or food donation of offset the rising prices of ingredients.

We will cut back on the # of sushi rolls and Inari sushi made as well as udon noodles.

Warren Ito had secured the church's Environmental Food Permit for the bazaar and other fundraisers involving food. Thanks Warren!

If you don't receive a phone call or email, don't assume we don't need your help; we just don't know everyone and their relatives!

OBON BAZAAR SCHEDULE

Included in the newsletter is this year's Saturday and Sunday bazaar schedule. Names listed have been forwarded from last year. There are many openings available for both days and any help is greatly appreciated. Please call your family and friends to help. If you are unable to work these time slots or wish to work another time, please call or text **Hannah Egi** at **209-603-1107**.

KEIRO LUNCHEON

Our Keiro and church members/guests enjoyed a wonderful tri-tip and salmon lunch following the Gotan-E service. Thank you to Bruce and Joy Sasaki, Bruce Nakamura, Mark Nishizaki, and Kirk Sasaki who did all the grilling and cooking. The table decorations were made by Beth Oesterman and Kathi Sasaki, very creative way to display roses. LBWA gifted the Keiro members with a bag rice and furikake. The parents of Dharma students, Dharma students, and church members plated and served everyone. Thanks to those who stayed and cleaned up.

NEW FENCE

Thank you, Gary Funamura, for overseeing the completion of our new fence, gates, and locks! He added planks and boards to cut off access to our grounds. Since the cost was almost \$24,000, any donations are gratefully appreciated.

OFFICE HELP

Due to health issues and added personal responsibilities, we are down to 4 people to cover 4 days the office is open, only Tuesday has 2 people. Shirley Komatsu has stepped in and helped doing the newsletter and making bank deposits. If anyone has some computer skills, we could use the help, even if it is limited to once a month.

CHURCH CLEAN-UP

The present schedule has not been that productive. There are other things and areas needing attention, but 2 people can only do limited cleaning of pews and woodwork. Perhaps when the new minister arrives, more people will come out and or we can find a better day.

2018 WISH LIST – Donations may be made in any amount to be used towards purchasing your specified item:

Gift card (Scrip) from Staples

ORGANIST

Buddhist Church of Lodi is in search of an organist (or pianist) for Sunday Services. If you or you know of anyone with musical skills who would like to volunteer, please contact the church office. Thank you for your consideration.

FENCING UPDATE

Our fencing has been completed. It has helped to keep our premises safe and is very attractive. The premises have been relatively free of any problems. We greatly appreciate the following donors for their donations of \$3,750.00 to help defray the cost.

Tom/Gracie Iwamiya
Kenneth & Hannah Egi
Grace & Sachio Watanabe
Nancy & James Burgess
Brian & Cynthia Sasaki
Rose Sasaki
Mieko S. Komatsu
Mary Tsutaoka

CHURCH DUES as of May 17th

2018 Dues:
Ben Motoyama
Wendy Nagao
Chris Bertsch-Smith
Takeo Tsusaki
Ken & Hannah Egi
Jim Sakoda
Jim M. Sakoda