



Buddhist Church of Lodi
Newsletter

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Sunday, August 5, 2018
9:30 AM – Shotsuki Service
Reverend Yukiko Motoyoshi

Tuesday, August 14, 2018
12:00 Noon – Shinyukai Luncheon
7:00 PM - Obon Wrap up Meeting

Wrap up meeting for Obon Bazaar to be held in the annex on Tuesday, August 14th at 7PM. Everyone is welcome to attend as this will be more than a wrap up meeting for:

Consideration to continue have the bazaar in its present form.

Chairman for the 2019 Bazaar is needed.

If a decision is made to curtail the bazaar as it is now, what types of events to be held to replace our major fundraiser.

Please attend, we need your input.

Age Appreciation date changed to September 15th.
Cooking to start at 7am.

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to Gordon Nitta for again chairing the Obon Bazaar. To individually thank all the members and friends that gave so much of their time and efforts to prepare for and carry out all the jobs --- purchasing, food prep and sales, set-up and clean up, bingo, entertainment, dance practice --- is too hard because there are just too many individuals to thank! Therefore, a **Special Thank You** to everyone that worked so hard to make this major fundraiser a success.

The weather was quite warm on Saturday but Sunday turned out to be a very pleasant day. In fact, towards the end of the Obon Odori it was starting to get a little chilly. The dancers that donned the traditional kimonos and hapis and all the other participants pleased the crowd with their dancing. Our audience this year may have been a little smaller but just as in past years, they were treated to traditional Obon Odori dances and music. It sure is wonderful to have live music for the odori making the evening just that much more festive!

Our former resident minister, Rinban Fujimoto, has announced his retirement and the San Jose Betsuin will be hosting an Open House Reception on Sunday, August 26, 2018, from 11:15 to 1:30 at the Betsuin Annex. If you are interested in attending this reception please call the church office and RSVP no later than Friday, July 20, 2018.

I received a phone call from Bishop Umezu. He said that our new minister, Reverend Yamagishi, should be here in August. Upon his arrival to the United States, he will spend a few days at the BCA Headquarters in San Francisco for an orientation and then he will come to Lodi. *Please extend a warm Lodi welcome to him by attending the Shotsuki Service in September.*

Gassho,
Fred Nagata

OBON BAZAAR

Dear Members & Friends of Lodi Buddhist Church, Arigatou gozaimasu. Just want to thank all the people who made this year's annual Obon bazaar a success. This year seemed especially difficult due to ageing membership and volunteers. But we

manage to pull together and put on a successful event. Again, many thanks to all of you.

On August 14, 2018 we will be holding a wrap up meeting at 7:00 pm in the annex. Everyone is welcome to attend, because I believe it will be more than a wrap meeting.

One, we must consider if we can continue having the bazaar in its present form. If you want to continue to have the bazaar, then someone must step up and chair the event.

If not, then we must decide what events we can hold to replace our major fund raiser. See you on August the 14th.

With Gassho,
Gordon Nitta

BINGO 2018

In spite of the hot weather especially on Saturday, it did not seem to dampen the spirits of our core Bingo players who played a total of 175 games in 2 days. They enjoyed winning our prizes that we selected and were donated as well as the many gift cards that our members donated. All in all, Bingo provided some entertainment and cool refuge from the outside heat upstairs. We would like to thank all of our donors, callers and cashiers who made Bingo possible for another year.

Ron & Michiko Oye

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

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF LODI

General Meeting July 10th

Members Present: President Fred Nagata, Joyce Nagata, Shirley Komatsu, Gordon Nitta, Steve Ogata, Bruce Sasaki, Gary Funamura, Judy Waters, Hannah Egi and David Morimoto.

Pres. Nagata called the meeting to order and lead Gassho.

Minutes – On a motion by Gary Funamura, second by Shirley Komatsu, the minutes of the June meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer's Reports**General Treasurer** – Bruce Sasaki

Bruce reviewed his report for the Board. He noted that the only unusual disbursement was the transfer of \$3,950. in donations for the fence construction to the Special Treasurer's Building Fund. He also noted that the Church had not received payments from the Walnut Grove Church for their share of the Minister's salary for the past several months. He will contact them to request payment. He also noted that he had paid Rev. Miyaji for the extra half a month of June that he worked beyond his agreed employment contract date.

Special Treasurer – Steve Ogata

Steve reviewed his report for the Board. He noted that he was still receiving bills and invoices from the bazaar and did not have a final financial report. He estimated that the bazaar was slightly less profitable than last year, with lower sales on Saturday. He will have a completed report once all the bills and expenses are reported.

On a motion by Shirley Komatsu, a second by Judy Waters, the Treasurer's Reports were approved as submitted.

LBWA – Judy Waters

Judy thanked everyone for their help during the Obon bazaar. She also discussed the upcoming Age Appreciation luncheon and requested everyone's assistance.

Shinyukai – Judy Waters

The Shinyukai had their monthly luncheon on July 10. The menu was Chirashi sushi, teriyaki chicken, green bean goma-ae and dessert. Approx. 25 people attended and a number of takeout lunches were also prepared. The next lunch will be on August 14th and the menu will be hamburgers and potato salad.

Building Maintenance Report – Gary Funamura

Gary reported that he repaired several sprinkler heads at the minister's residence. He felt that the residence was in reasonably good condition and ready for the new minister. Once the new minister arrives, additional items may need to be purchased depending on his particular needs.

Gary also reported that the upstairs of the church office needed a major cleanup. The upstairs rooms have been unused for many years and are badly deteriorated. There are also old boxes and files stored there that appear to be untouched for many years. Recently there has been a rat problem traced to upstairs area. He recommended that the area be cleaned out and the clutter thrown away. He recommended that the job be done by a professional cleaning company because of the potential for hazardous material that might be present. He will look into the cost.

He also discussed additional security measures for the Church to combat the continuing problem with homeless people entering the church grounds.

Dharma School – Hannah Egi

Hannah explained that there will not be a regular Dharma School this coming year due to the lack of students and teachers. She may institute some kind of nursery school if there is interest.

Old Business

1) Update on new Minister – Fred explained that the Bishop has notified him that the new minister, Rev. Yamagishi, will arrive sometime in early August. He will spend a few days with the Bishop at BCA Headquarters in San Francisco, then arrive in Lodi.

2) Minister's Residence – The Minister's residence has been cleaned up and should be ready for occupancy by the new Minister. Some additional work might be needed once the minister arrives and the Church can determine the specific needs of Rev. Yamagishi.

3) Obon bazaar – The Obon Bazaar went reasonably well despite the 100 degree weather. Final figures for the revenue have not been tabulated but should be available by next month. There will be a Bazaar wrap-up meeting on Tuesday August 14th at 7:00 pm. All chairpersons and group leaders are asked to attend. Important decisions will have to be made regarding future bazaars.

4) BCL Membership List and Calling List – Fred and Joyce Nagata have been trying to put together

an accurate Membership List for the Church. It has proven difficult because some members have been paying sporadically or have not paid for several years. It is not clear whether members have just forgotten to pay or if they have dropped out of the Church. There may also be some confusion about who is required to pay. The Nagata's will continue to work on the list and people may have to be contacted by letter to clarify their membership status.

New Business

1) **Rinban Fujimoto's Retirement Reception** – Fred announced that Rinban Fujimoto was retiring from the San Jose Temple and a retirement reception was being held in San Jose on August 26, 2018. Anyone interested in attending should contact the Church office by July 23rd so a count can be given to San Jose.

Upcoming Services

- 1) **July 15, 2018 - Obon Service.** Rev. Candace Shibata, officiating minister.
- 2) **August 5, 2018 – Monthly Shotsuki Service** – Reverend Motoyoshi, officiating minister.

The meeting was adjourned by President Nagata

LBWA UPDATE – Judy Waters

We enjoyed the movie "Quill" on Thursday, July 12th. Thanks to all who brought refreshments. Next Movie day will be in September.

I want to thank everyone who helped prep, cook, and worked the weekend of the bazaar. There were many ladies who persevered the heat and stayed all day Saturday and Sunday to ensure we had a successful bazaar. The tempura crew prepped cooked and served up the best tempura in town. And of course, our famous Teriyaki Chicken was the tastiest yet thanks to the "Chicken Crew". Everyone is greatly appreciated.

We reviewed the Age appreciation list for our bento box lunch to be delivered on **September 15th**.

Next meeting will be September 14th in the church office at 9am.

SHINYUKAI – Judy Waters

\$20 Birthday
Frank Teranishi

Mitsuko Kishi
Shirley Komatsu
David Morimoto
Roy Tashima
Chieko Watt
Richard Bixler
Sach Watanabe

\$25 Birthday Donation
Judy Motoyama

\$50 Birthday Donation
Shizuno Nitta

We enjoyed Chirashi Sushi, teriyaki chicken, green bean goma-ae, and tsukemomo.

Next month menu will be hamburger and potato salad.

Donations:

Donna Blass	Cake
Craig Kurahara	Brownies & Cake
Steve Fujinaka	Rice
Roy/Chieko Tashima	Tsukemomo

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 arrange 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

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.

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.

July Scrip Supporters

Chris Smith
Hannah Egi
Harriet Matsumoto
Haru Oga
Janet Morimoto
Kenneth Egi
Liza Kanemura
Mieko Komatsu

Calendar Dates:

Scrip orders due: 8/3 at 10 a.m. (Friday)

Scrip pick-up: 8/14 (**Tuesday**)

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 as of July 19th

Total Donations: \$5,860.00

Tom & Gracie Iwamiya
Kenneth & Hannah Egi
Grace & Sachio Watanabe
Nancy & Jim Burgess
Brian & Cynthia Sasaki
Rose Sasaki
Mieko S. Komatsu
Mary Tsutaoka
Hisako Nakamura
Kazuko Shimozaki
Gary Funamura
Patricia, Melissa & Emily Angel

Nagata Family - IMO Masaaki/Shizue Nagata
Ron & Michiko Oye

HATSUBON RICE DONATIONS as of July 19th

IMO Yoshito Kasahara:

\$ 20.00 Michael/Marjorie Ikemoto

IMO Yoneko Sakakuchi:

\$100.00 Wayne Sakakuchi

IMO Jane Watanabe:

\$ 50.00 Robert/Jackie Watanabe

Correction - June NL

IMO of Tom Daijogo:

\$ 50.00 Barbara H. Daijogo

IMO Jim Namba

\$ 50.00 Rieko Namba

CHURCH DUES as of July 19th

2018 dues:

Erma H. Takeda