



Buddhist Church of Lodi *Newsletter*

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Saturday, October 6, 2018
Chicken Teriyaki Sale (1/2 Chicken Box Lunch)
Curb Service: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Sunday, October 7, 2018
9:30 AM - Shotsuki Service

Friday, October 12, 2018
9:00 AM LBWA Meeting

Tuesday, October 19, 2018
11:30 AM – Ochanomi Hoza
12:00 Noon - Shinyukai

Sunday, October 14, 2018
9:30 AM - Eitaikyo (Perpetual Memorial Service) & Past Bishops' Memorial Service

Saturday, October 20, 2018
NC Buddhist Family Conference
in Stockton

Sunday, October 21, 2018
9:30 AM – Family Sunday Service

Sunday, October 28, 2018
9:30 AM – Family Sunday Service



We had a special visitor at our Shinyukai luncheon. Bishop Umezu joined us for lunch. He gave many members a little shoulder massage, maybe a little blessing for good health. He also attended our general meeting in the evening.

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 .

On September 15th, the LBWA and Buddhist Church of Lodi members made and delivered Japanese Bento Box lunch for our annual Age Appreciation. Many recipients enjoyed the delicious items. Thank you to all who came out on Friday and Saturday to make this a very successful event.

MESSAGE FROM REV. MASANARI

Hi, everyone! How are you? I felt the recent days are still hot, but the mornings and evenings are cooler. Fall is coming soon. I heard that the fall leaves are beautiful on the streets in Lodi. I want to enjoy watching such a beautiful viewing.

I don't have a driver's license yet, but have a driver's permit. So, I practice driving the church car with members. It was scary when I was driving on the streets in the US at first. When I was in Japan, I was driving every day. I had no traffic accidents and no traffic violations. So, I was confident with my driving skills. I am optimistic! There are some differences between the US and Japan. For example, Japanese drive a car on the left lane, but the US people drive on right lane. The maximum speed limit in the US is faster than in Japan. On a red light at the intersection, after you stop, you can turn right carefully in the U.S. I was surprised! I am getting used to driving because some members support me so well. I hope to pass the test on the first try. When you read this newsletter, I wonder if I'll have a driver's license?

Anyway, I am a lucky and happy man to become the minister of Buddhist Church of Lodi. When I clean up the naijin in the church, I realized that the Buddhist Church of Lodi is really beautiful. Amida Buddha, Shinran Shonin, and Rennyō Shonin are shining bright for us. When I am chanting in the church, I am always proud of them including all members. I am glad to share the teaching of Amida Buddha and Nembutsu, Naomoamidabutsu at a Sunday service.

How do you feel when we read aloud the "Three Treasures"? When we read it aloud, I always feel the important meanings.

"I rely on the Buddha."

"I rely on the Dharma."

"I rely on the Sangha."

These words not only mean just our minds, it also includes our appreciation for Amida Buddha and our ancestors. I want to tell all members that Amida Buddha is always with us here and now. Our daily life revolves around Amida Buddha. When I am in the church, I understand well about it. Amida Buddha is the center of the church. Amida Buddha is welcoming and watching us there. The naijin has been constructed specifically for the Pure Land by our ancestors. Amida Buddha is staying in the Pure Land and calling us from there. The reason we go to

the church is to see Amida Buddha and listen to Amida Buddha's calling of Nembutsu, Namoamidabutsu. The church is our treasure. We should remember and keep these for a long time. Let's see you at the church! I'll wait for you! Thank you.

In Gassho,

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

My how the time flies! You know what they say about time flies when you are having a good time. We must be having a good time because where has the past two months gone? By the time our members get this letter it will be two months since our new minister, Rev. Yamagishi, came to Lodi. With the help of Rev. Harada of Sacramento and Rev. Motoyoshi of Stockton, Sensei Yamagishi has been gaining valuable experiences in all aspects of his position. Thank you to Rev. Harada and Rev. Motoyoshi. If you have not yet met our new minister I invite you to come to our services and do so. I am sure you will find him to be quite pleasant.

On another topic, our annual church chicken teriyaki sale is October 6th and any help you can give will be greatly appreciated. Anyone who has not been contacted and who has the time to help please call the church office and we will be happy to put you in touch with the right person. If you are unable to help, please buy our chicken teriyaki box as a donation. Thank you in advance.

Gassho,
Fred Nagata

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF LODI
General Meeting September 11th

1. The meeting was called to order by President Fred Nagata at 7:05 PM. Rev. Yamagishi led the group in gassho.

Those present: Fred Nagata, Joyce Nagata, Ron Oye, Steve Ogata, Judy Waters, Amy Morita, Shirley Komatsu, and Hannah Egi.

Guest, Bishop Umezu attended the meeting and spoke about coming to help our new minister, Rev. Yamagishi, create a nice atmosphere for him. He thanked those present for having him. When asked if many of the openings for ministers are being filled, Bishop Umezu stated that those openings are gradually being filled with Minister Assistants who are working on their second careers and potential ministers studying Japan who want to become BCA ministers. He hopes the NC ministers will work together as a "team" to cover all NC Temples.

2. Minutes of July 10, 2018 meeting were approved as printed and corrected. Correction of Age Appreciation Bento, help needed on Friday and Saturday mornings, most help needed on Saturday, not Friday. Moved, seconded, and passed. (Judy Waters/Shirley Komatsu)

3. Treasurers' Reports:

General Treasurer, Bruce Sasaki submitted income and expense for July 2018 and August 2018.

Special Treasurer, Steve Ogata submitted income and expense for July and August. The \$3,000 was due to Obon expense and Scholarship checks cashed in August. The BCA Foundation funds are on the positive side. The donation for the Fencing Project is about \$6,000 so far.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve both sets of reports. (Judy Waters/Ron Oye)

4. Minister's Report: Not given at this time, want to allow more time for Rev. Yamagishi to do more activities in the church.

5. LBWA: Judy Waters reported that 56 people will be recipients of an Age Appreciation Bento Saturday, September 15, 2018. Those who qualify are 88 years or older, are homebound, or living in a care facility.

NC Family Conference in Stockton on October 20, 2018, LBWA will pay registration for members who want to attend. Please contact her and the church will send one check. Members of Lodi Temple, not just BWA, are asked to help with Continental Breakfast and providing 3 dozen desserts. In the Oct. newsletter, will be a fundraiser to help offset financially hosting the BWA World Conference in San Francisco. Next meeting October 12 at 9:00 AM in the office.

6. Shinyukai: Judy Waters reported July served BBQ hamburger lunch to 37 people and 6 take-outs; August served Saba to 40 people and 6 take-outs. October will serve Umani, miso soup, and green beans. Fred Nagata said his brother Phil was going to do his boneless chicken teriyaki for one of the coming luncheons.

7. Building Maintenance Report: No report given, but report of dim lighting in the Supply Room.

8. Dharma School: Hannah Egi will start a Nursery Class that will meet once a month. Young preschool age children and parents are welcome. The few DS families will be encouraged to attend as many services as possible, but will not chair the regular services.

Also, will cover DS students and parents to attend NC Family Conference in Stockton. Hannah Egi will continue to represent Lodi DS at NCDSTL quarterly meetings and be the Secretary at those meetings.

9. Old Business:

a. Final Bazaar Report: Not quite ready, waiting for a few more bills to be submitted.

Judy Waters would like to order more dishtowels to be embroidered and sold at the bazaar. Hannah Egi found some and will bring to office.

b. BCL Membership List and Telephone Calling List: Fred Nagata is still working on this.

c. Insurance Inspection for fire, Shirley Komatsu is waiting for a call back.

d. Chicken Teriyaki Sale – October 6, 2018, # of chicken ordered down from last year, Hannah Egi is rechecking the # of cabbage because for the last 2 years 9- 5 lb. bags of cabbage were leftover. This will probably be the last time we attach a plastic fork; wooden chopsticks will be

used next year. Hannah Egi needs people on Friday PM to make salad dressing and cook the carrots. She will also contact Tokay High Japanese Club to help in the kitchen as well as curbside service. There was discussion as to who should receive tickets to sell. Steve Ogata will work on the new spreadsheet to help in mailings.

e. Appreciation/Acknowledgement for Rev. Miyaji was tabled for another meeting.

10. New Business:

a. New Minister's Contract, Michael Endow will provide a standard BCA form.

b. NCDC Chicken Throw Down, November 10 at Florin at 6 PM – need enough people to cook.

c. Spaghetti Dinner – Hannah Egi stated why the event was changed from Nov. 2017 to Feb. 2018. Since it is difficult to organize and gather enough help, it was changed to Hall opening that was once was JAFL spaghetti dinner. After some discussion, will try to get a cook for the sauce and have take out only March 16, 2019. Curbside pick up from the annex. Can earmark the funds going to buy new tables to replace broken, heavy, old ones.

d. Japanese Community Hall parking lot needs resealing. There is a bid of \$4,500 effective till October 31, 2018. It was moved, seconded, and passed to pay for up to \$2,250 from the church.

e. Candidates for Church President – No one in line for 2019. We do have Corey Okazaki for 2020 and Derrick Egi for 2021.

f. Rabobank is offering a high yield CD. It was moved, seconded, and passed to move the money in the Youth Fund to Rabobank high yield CD. (Steve Ogata/Judy Waters)

g. May need a new vacuum at the residence. Steve Ogata will look into a new and easier handling one and will donate it. Thank you Steve!

h. Next year's Bazaar dates were discussed. Walnut Grove's Janet Sakata said they were looking at July 6 and 7, 2019. The group decided on the last full weekend, June 29 & 30, 2019 for the church bazaar.

i. Rev. Yamagishi was asked to order BCA Calendars for 2019, deadline 9/15/18. The office will give Rev. the current number.

11. Upcoming Services:

a. September 16, 2018 – Fall Ohigan, Ron Oye agreed to chair this service. Light refreshments will be served.

b. September 23 and September 30 – Family Sunday Service & Dharma School. Rev. would like to do a Dharma Talk for DS students and parents and then have an adult Dharma talk.

12. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 PM. Rev. Yamagishi led the body in closing gassho.

13. The next meeting will be October 9, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted and in gassho,
Hannah Egi

LBWA UPDATE – Judy Waters

The Age Appreciation Bento Box lunch was successfully made and delivered on September 15th. Thank you to all the ladies and gentlemen who helped prep the foods on Friday and return on Saturday to finish cooking and plating the delicious Japanese cuisine in ornate bento boxes. We had LBWA and church members personally deliver the bento box so they could enjoy the bento for lunch.

October 20th is the NC Family conference in Stockton. LBWA members attending will have their registration paid by the club. Sign up deadline is October 8th, please contact Judy Waters at 334-3556 or email at stitchnbear@sbcglobal.net.

The World BWA conference is coming up in 2019 in San Francisco. As part of their fundraising, they are asking for donation honoring our grandmothers, mothers, aunts and sisters. Please review the flyer in the newsletter.

Movie Day is scheduled for Thursday, Sept 27th. Please bring refreshments to share if you are able.

Next meeting is October 12, 2018 at 9am in the church office.

DHARMA SCHOOL – Hannah Egi

Hannah Egi will start a Nursery Class once a month, any preschool age children and parents are welcomed.

Encourage the few Dharma School families to attend as many services as possible, but will not be responsible to chair services as in previous years. Hannah Egi will continue to be a representative and attend quarterly Northern California Dharma School Teachers' League (NCDSTL) meetings at Sacramento Betsuin at 6:30 PM. Next meeting is September 27, 2018.

SHINYUKAI – Judy Waters

We enjoyed barbeque hamburger, potato salad, pickled beets in August. September, we had Saba no Shiyoyaki, Sunamasu, miso soup, daikon oroshi, Japanese sweet potato and an assortment of desserts. Thank you Fred, Roy, and Rod for barbequing the Saba for us.

Thank you to Mitsuko Kishi who made the potato salad. Thanks to kitchen helpers who helped cook and serve. We had 37 people enjoy the luncheon and had 6 take out lunches for August and we had 40 people enjoy the luncheon and had 6 take out for the month of September.

Next month's menu will include: Umani, rice, miso soup, green bean vegetable, and an assortment of desserts.

Donations:

Kazuko Shimosaki	Grapes
Toshi Yoshioka	
Cookies	
Craig Kurahara	
Brownies, choc. cake	
Nellie Kawamura	Figs
Mitsuko Kishi	Figs
Fred and Joyce Nagata	Saba
Rod Kaida	
Saba	
Roy Nagata	
Saba	

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 transportation for you. 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.

September Scrip Supporters

Chris Smith
Christine Iwamiya
Hannah Egi
Haru Oga
Janet Morimoto
Joy Sasaki
Kelly Yamane
Kenneth Egi
Lodi Buddhist Women's Association

Calendar Dates:

Scrip orders due: 10/5 at 10 a.m. (Friday)
Scrip pick-up: 10/16 (**Tuesday**)

JAPANESE & ENGLISH STUDY CLASS

If you are interested in learning the Japanese language or an English study class of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, please call the church office (2090 368-5589) to register. Reverend Yamagishi will use the

