

Buddhist Era
2568 (2569)
二五六八年
(二五六九年)*

Common Era
2025
二〇二五年

Japanese Era
Reiwa 7
令和七年

Year of the Snake
巳年



THE SNAKE AND JODO SHINSHU

Happy New Year!

I hope the New Year will be a joyful and meaningful year for all. This is the Year of the Snake.

Snakes have long been regarded as mystical and religious beings in both Eastern and Western traditions.

Snakes have captivated human imagination due to their mysterious characteristics: they shed their skin, move without legs, and can possess venom. These unique traits led ancient people to view snakes as special, often attributing them with divine or

supernatural qualities. While snakes are sometimes seen as embodiments of evil, such as the serpent in the Garden of Eden, they are also revered as sacred creatures, like the white snake in certain cultures, which is considered a messenger or companion of gods. Across the world, many myths and legends revolve around

snakes, reflecting their duality as both feared and venerated beings.

One of the most famous symbolic snakes is the Ouroboros, originating in Greek tradition. The word “*Ouroboros*” means “tail-eater,” and it depicts a snake biting its own tail, forming a circle. This image is rich in meaning, representing infinity and the cyclical nature of existence—where birth and death, beginning and end, are interconnected.

A similar concept appears in Buddhist teachings, where snakes symbolize the interconnectedness of all beings. One story, possibly originating from India, tells of a large snake resting on a tall tree. The snake’s head and tail began arguing about which part was superior.

The head claimed, “I am the ruler of the body. I see, hear, eat, and lead. Without me, we would die.”

The tail countered, “No, I am stronger. I allow you to move forward. Without me, you couldn’t even budge.”

To prove its power, the tail coiled itself tightly around a branch, immobilizing the snake. After three days without food or water, the head admitted defeat, pleading, “You are stronger than I thought. I was wrong. Please lead the way.”

Proudly, the tail uncoiled and took charge, but being blind, it led the

snake off the tree, causing them to fall to their death on the rocks below.

This story offers a profound lesson about harmony and mutual respect. The head and tail failed to recognize their interdependence, focusing only on their own perceived superiority. Similarly, in life, conflicts often arise in relationships—whether between partners, families, friends or colleagues—when we lose sight of the interconnectedness that binds us all.

In Jodo Shinshu, we are encouraged to recognize and appreciate the deep connection shared by all beings. This perspective is rooted in Amida Buddha’s Hongwan (Primal Vow), which is extended to all beings across the universe, without discrimination or exclusion. Those who entrust themselves to the Primal Vow and recite the Nembutsu are assured of birth in the Pure Land and the attainment of Nirvana.

Amida Buddha’s Primal Vow states: “If, when I attain Buddhahood, the sentient beings of the ten quarters who, with sincere and entrusting heart, aspire to be born in my land and say my Name even ten times, should not be born there, may I not attain perfect enlightenment...”

By listening to the Dharma and learning the spirit of the Hongwan, we come to understand the profound interconnectedness of all beings. Reciting the Nembutsu fosters a mindset of

equality, kindness, and gratitude.

When conflicts arise, reflecting on the Buddha’s vast, impartial mind helps us to prevent discord from escalating. It enables us to approach challenges with understanding and patience, allowing us to live harmoniously.

While it is impossible to avoid all conflict, the teachings of Buddhism guide us to respond with compassion and wisdom. Through the Nembutsu and the Dharma, we can nurture peace and harmony within ourselves and in our relationships with others.

Namoamidabutsu

REV. RYUTA FURUMOTO

*Regarding the Buddhist era, abbreviated “B.E.,” there are several ways of counting. A popular one is from the Theravada Buddhists. They count the beginning of the B.E from the year Shakyamuni Buddha entered perfect Nirvana (passed away) but depending on the countries, the interpretations of the first year is different. According to them, the Buddha passed away in B.C. 544. Thus by adding 544 to the Common Era, we will arrive at the Buddhist era (544 + 2025 = 2569.) This calculation is used by Sri Lanka or Myanmar. Other Theravada countries, such as Thai or Laos add 543 to the Common Era. They start counting B.E. 1 year, next year from Shakyamuni Buddha’s passing. (543 + 2025=2568.) However, some traditions or scholars have their own interpretation and they say the Buddha passed away in the year B.C. 486 or 383, etc

“If, when I attain Buddhahood, the sentient beings of the ten quarters who, with sincere and entrusting heart, aspire to be born in my land and say my Name even ten times, should not be born there, may I not attain perfect enlightenment...”

蛇と本願

新年おめでとうございます。新しい年が皆さまにとって意義深い一年となるとよいですね。今年は巳年(ヘビ年)なので、ヘビのお話をしましょう。

古来より、蛇は宗教的な存在として尊ばれてきました。蛇は神秘

的な生き物です。脱皮をする、足がなくても前に進む、毒を持つなどの特性があります。これらの独特な性質から、古代の人々は蛇を特別な存在と見なし、神聖な力や超自然的な性質を持つものとして崇めました。蛇は時に悪の象徴と見なされることもあります。たとえば、旧約聖書では、蛇がイブを誘惑して禁断の果実を食べさせた話が有名です。一方で、白蛇のように、神々の使いとして神聖視される文化もあります。世界中に蛇をテーマとした多くの神話や伝説が存在し、恐れと崇拜の両面を持つその二重性が反映されています。

蛇の象徴として特に有名なのが、古代ギリシャの「ウロボロス」です。「ウロボロス」という言葉は「尾を飲み込む」という意味で、蛇の頭が自分の尾をかじっていて、自ら輪を作る蛇として描かれます。このイメージは深い意味を持ち、無限や存在の循環—誕生と死、始まりと終わりのつながり—などを表しています。

仏教には、蛇が全ての存在の相互関係の象徴として登場するお話があります。あるところに、大きな木の上で休んでいた蛇がいて、この蛇の頭と尾が、自分たちのどちらがリーダーであるかで争いを始めました。

頭はこう言いました。「私がリーダーだ。私は目で見ることができし、

耳で聞き、口で食べることもできる。私がいなければ、私たちは生きられないだろう。」

尾は反論しました。「いや、私の方がリーダーに決まっている。私が体全体を動かしているのだから。私がいなければ、一歩も動くことができないじゃないか。」

尾は自分の力を証明するために枝に巻きつき、蛇全体を動けなくしました。三日間、水も食べ物も取れなくなり、ついに頭は降参して言いました。「君の方が強いことを認める。私が間違っていた。これからは君に従うよ。」

尾は誇らしげに枝に巻き付いていた体を緩め、自分の思うように進もうとしましたが、目が見えないため、蛇は木から落ちて岩に打ちつけられて死んでしまった、というお話です。

この物語は、調和と相互尊重についての深い教訓を私たちに示しています。蛇の頭と尾は、自分たちの相互依存を認識できず、それぞれの優位性にばかり目を向けていました。同じように、人生においても、パートナーや家族、友人、同僚との関係で、私たちを結びつけるつながりを見失うと、しばしば対立が生じます。

浄土真宗では、全ての存在が深いつながりを持っていることに気づくことがすめられています。この視点は、阿弥陀仏の本願に根ざしています。本願は、

「十方衆生」と呼ばれる、宇宙のすべての存在に対して、差別や排除なく平等に向けられています。本願を信じ、念仏をとる者は、お浄土に往生し、涅槃を得ることが約束されています。

阿弥陀仏の本願に、
「わたしが仏になるとき ☒ すべての人々が心から信じて ☒ わたしの国に生れたいと願ひ ☒ わずか十回でも念仏して ☒ もし生れることができないようなら ☒ わたしは決してさとりを開きません ☒」 と誓われています。

私たちはこの本願の精神を学ぶことで、全ての存在の深いつながりに気づいていくこととなります。また念仏は、平等、思いやり、感謝の心を育むのです。対立が起こったとき、阿弥陀仏の廣大で公平な心を思い起こすことで、不和が大きくなるのを防ぐことができるかもしれません。

すべての対立を避けることは不可能ですが、本願の精神を学び、自分自身と他者との間に平和と調和を育んでいきましょう。

南無阿弥陀仏

「わたしが仏になるとき、すべての人々が心から信じて、わたしの国に生れたいと願ひ、わずか十回でも念仏して、もし生れることができないようなら、わたしは決してさとりを開きません。」

Monthly Memorial January 2025

Shotsuki Service, January 5 at 10a

Seshu (Observant)

Deceased Relation To Obervant, Deceased

Aihara, Chris Father Iwanaga, James	Kunitake, Kimiyo Grandfather Wada, Zembei	Saneto Family Grandfather Saneto, Kanaye
Akahori, Julie Grandfather Akahori, Mitsuo	Lam, Derek Wife Lam, Andrea Yee	Shimabukuro-Leong, Marilyn Mother Shimabukuro, Fumie
Akahori, Julie Aunt Higashi, Kiyoko (Kiyo)	Matsuda Family Grandfather Akamichi, Junichi	Shirasago Family Mother Shirasago, Sally
Fujimoto, Miki Father Fujimoto, Ted	Matsumura, Henry Grandfather Yamaguchi, Kenji	Shirasago, Paula, Todd, Dale Husband/Father/Brother
Harada, James Mother Harada, Grace	Minami, Jean Husband Minami, Tatsuo	Shirasago, Gary
Hayamizu, Sumiko Mother Nakashima, Tsune	Miyamoto, Dennis Father Miyamoto, Masaru	Sunday, Reiko Grandfather Fukumoto, Kazue
Hirayama, Kiyome Husband Hirayama, Art	Murakami, Julia Father Murakami, Arthur	Sugano, Maya Husband Sugano, Norman
Hisamune, Catherine Father Fujita, Katsujiro	Murakami, Eugene Grandmother Murakami, Rui	Sugano, Michiko Mother-in-law Sugano, Aiko
Ikari, Kathy Grandfather Kato, Genichi	Nakashima, Alan Mother Nakashima, Hana	Takashima, Iris Aunt Nakashima, Hana
Ikari, Kathy Mother Tsuboi, Ruth	Nakawatase, Richard Grandfather Nakawatase, Nisoji	Takashima, Iris Grandfather Jinde, Eiji
Iriye, Kenneth Sister Carlson, Diane Chizuko	Nakawatase Family Father Nakawatase, Shigemi	Takashima, Wilbur Grandfather Taniguchi, Hisaichi
Isomoto, Glen Uncle Suehiro, Mitsuo	Ogawa, Jerry Mother Ogawa, Kaoru	Takemoto, Jon/Takemoto Ron Grandfather
Isomoto, Glen Aunt Suehiro, Kinuko	Ogawa, Jerry Grandfather Shimada, Kanetaro	Takemoto, Toyosuke
Kamikawa, Emi Father Kamikawa, Glenn	Ogawa, Jerry Grandmother Shimada, Satsu	Takemoto, Ron Father Takemoto, Arthur
Kitagawa, Linda Father Matsuura, Clifford	Ogawa, Jerry Grandmother Ogawa, Hisayo	Terrell, Jackie Father Howard, Jack
Kodani, Denise Father Goto, James M.	Ohata, Ron Mother Ohata, Fumiko	Umemoto, Marty and Kathie Grandfather Akamichi, Junichi
Kojima, Chikako Grandfather Uneda, Izaemon	Oyama and Middo Families Mother Oyama, Mieko	Ushirogata, Yukie Sister-in-law Ushirogata, Ineko
Kunitake, Kimiyo Father-in-law	Saiki, Yumi Father Yoshida, Kazuhiro	Ushirogata, Yukie Brother Matsushita, Bunji
Kunitake, Masamitsu		Usui, Suzuko Mother Ariyoshi, Kiyo
		Watanabe, Marsha Brother Imai, Randy
		Yokota, Carole Father Yokota, Hiroshi

The monthly memorial service is usually held on the first Sunday of each month in memory of those who have passed away in that month. At the service, the list of names of the deceased, the person observing the memorial and the person's relation to the deceased is read. The Monthly Memorial List is also published in the Prajna newsletter. To have a name entered into the Monthly Memorial List, please call the office as names may not automatically be entered after a funeral.

Senshin Hoonko 2025

2025 Shusho-ye (Gantan-ye) New Year Day Service January 1, 2025, Wednesday 10a

Shusho-ye, or Gantan-ye, simply means "Service for the New Year." The literal translation of Shusho-ye is "a gathering for a revision, modification or correction." New Year's Day is an opportunity for us to begin the new year with refreshed hearts and minds. The service will begin at 10:00 a.m. on January 1. This year, *ozoni* and *sake* will be served. We also will have Taiko and *Shishimai* performance.

修正会 (しゅしょうえ)

一月一日にお勤めする法要を修正会といいます。元旦にお勤めするので、元旦会ともいいます。正月に修する、ということで、修正会と言いますが、新年の最初の日に心を正しい方向に修正するという意味もあります。

浄土真宗では、阿弥陀如来に「お金がもうかりますように」、「病気になりませんように」とか「いい大学にはいれますように」などのことを祈りません。そういう願いはたいていが自分のエゴを拡張することになり、本当の安心にいたることが難しくなるためです。修正会は、そういう自己中心の願いを持つ自分を反省し、その自分を受け入れてくださる阿弥陀如来に感謝し、一年を心安らかに生きていくご縁となる法要です。

Hoonko

Hoonko is the most important observance for Jodo Shinshu Buddhists, honoring Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

This memorial service commemorates Shinran Shonin's passing on January 16, 1263 (November 28 in the lunar calendar) at the age of 90.

The tradition of **Hoonko** began with Kakunyo Shonin, Shinran Shonin's great-grandson, who initiated it during Shinran Shonin's 33rd memorial service. The term **Hoonko** combines "Hoon," meaning to repay a debt of gratitude, and "Ko," meaning gathering. Together, it signifies a gathering to express gratitude for Shinran Shonin's teachings.

There are various ways to show appreciation to Shinran Shonin: listening to his teachings, chanting Shoshinge (written by Shinran Shonin), and reciting the *Nembutsu*. In some parts of Japan, followers also invite ministers to their homes for *Hoonko* services, where families gather to hear the teachings and honor Shinran Shonin together.

Our Hoonko Service will take place on Sunday, January 26. Prior to Hoonko Service, we are going to have Hoonko Study Classes.

Hoonko Week Schedule

This year, we will hold **Hoonko study classes** on **January 22, 23, and 24.**

January 22, 6:30pm to 7:15pm

Rev. Furumoto (Online, Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin, Basic Buddhism Class)

January 23, 6:30pm to 7:15pm

Rev. Koho Takata (Online)

January 24, 6:30pm to 7:15pm

Rev. Mas Kodani (In-person, eating *Shojin* meal and sit and talk with Mas-sensei)

The **Hoonko Service** will be on **Sunday, January 26, at 10:00am** with Rev. Koho Takata (West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple).

報恩講 (ほうおんこう)

今年も報恩講の集いを開催しますのでぜひお参り下さい。報恩講は浄土真宗の開祖、親鸞聖人のご命日法要です。親鸞聖人は1263年、1月16日(旧暦11月28日)に往生されました。親鸞聖人のひ孫で三代目門主の覚如上人が親鸞聖人の33回忌をお勤めされたのが報恩講の始まりです。報恩とは、感謝することで、親鸞聖人が念仏の教えを伝えてくださったこと、また私たちをお浄土に生まれさせ仏にしてくださる阿弥陀如来さまへご恩をおもい、そのご恩に報いるようにお念仏をとえ、聞法させていただく、という意味があります。報恩講のサービスは1月26日(日)で、ご講師はウエストロサンゼルス仏教会の高田興芳開教使です。22日(水)から24日(金)まで毎日、報恩講の集いを行いますので、スケジュールをご確認ください。

Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin Class Basic Buddhism Wednesdays, January 8, 15, 6:30 - 7:15p (On-line) Sunday, January 19, after service (in-person) Rev. Ryuta Furumoto

This will be a **Basic Buddhism Class** where you can learn the fundamental thoughts and concepts of Buddhism, including the life of **Shakyamuni Buddha**, the **Four Noble Truths**, the **Six Paramitas**, and more. It's an easy and relaxed class with no homework required. This class is also beneficial for those who want to review the basics of Buddhism.

The classes are online and those who have not attended previous sessions are welcome to join this session. If you have not signed up for this program before, please contact the temple. Those who took previous sessions will receive the link to join the classes.

NOVEMBER DONATIONS

Madalyne Adams *Nokotsudo*
Edmond and Susan Young
In memory of Al Shigaki
Janice Shigaki
In memory of Al and Doris Shigaki

Tammy & Dale Matsubara
Nokotsudo

Ruby Kiyohara *Nokotsudo*

Jean Minami *Keiro Kai Orei*

Eugene and Elaine Murakami
Dana

Toshiko Yamaguchi
Nokotsudo

Carolyn Motokane
In memory of Ed and Helen Motokane

Diane Trihey *Dana*

Dale Shirasago *Dana*

Mayumi Kodani *Dana*

VEHICLE DONATIONS

Laraine Kirihara

Glen Isomoto

Kazue Maesaki

Laurie Kiyohara

Frank Nakano

NOVEMBER FLOWER DONATIONS

Merrie Nishisaka

Jean Minami

Lilian Tanaka

Arlene Yokoyama

Chikako Kojima

Toshiko Yamaguchi

Tammy and Dale Matsubara

Ruby Kiyohara

Julie Akahori

Betty Yamashita

Dorothy Higa

NOVEMBER SHOTSUKI HOYO

Madalyne Adams
Tosao Yamada

Julie Akahori
Bob Akahori

Julie Akahori
Harry & Ida Imai

Stanley & Debbie Fukawa
& Family

Michiko Takamine

Dorothy Higa
Martha Kuwaki

Glen & Joyce Isomoto
Satoko Isomoto

Chikako Kojima
Yoshiko Uneda

Tammy & Dale Matsubara
Akira Kiyohara

Jean Minami
Misako & Ted Tadashi
Yokomi

Eugene & Elaine Murakami
Yomiko Murakami

Richard & Helen
Nakawatase
Sachiko & Hideyoshi
Nakawatase

Merrie Nishisaka
Art Nishisaka

Ellen Shimohara & Family
Jerry Shimohara &
Chiyoko Shimohara

Mark & Reiko Sunday
Shinichi Nimi

Wilbur & Iris Takashima
Fred Shig Yasuda

Lilian Tanaka
Ethel Shiosaki

Suzanne Toji
Evelyn Toji

Yukie Ushirogata
Kiichi Ushirogata &
Hiroshi Matsushita

Toshiko Yamaguchi
Frank Yamaguchi

Betty Yamashita
Paul Takahashi

Arlene Yokoyama
Richard Yamada &
Harold Yamada

ANITYA DONATIONS

THRU 12/01/24

Don & Lynn Akamine
Stacey Camara

Miki Fujimoto

Bill & Yetsuko Fukawa

Yoriyo Furumoto

Judy Nakatani &
Gail Matsumura

Vickie Wakinaka &
Gary Asano

Kenneth Hatai

Bruce Hirayama

Robert Hori

Janis Ishitani

Cathy Iyemura

Masao Kodani

Chikako Kojima

JoAnn & Neil Komai

Tammy & Dale Matsubara

Kazuo & Ikuko
Matsubayashi

Gail & Mitchell Matsumura

Jean Minami

Dennis & Marilyn Miyamoto

Satoshi Miyata

Garren & Stephanie Mizutani

Eugene & Elaine Murakami

Richard Nakawatase

Debra Nishida & Neil Hurley

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa

Dexter Nishiyama

Shelly Okamura

Yvonne Perkins

Dale & Susan Shirasago

Mark & Reiko Sunday

Wilbur & Iris Takashima

Talismen Group
C/O Eugene Murakami

Barbara Tanezaki

Marty & Kathie Umemoto

Rev. Tetsuo & Sumi Unno

Wasabi-kai

John & Juriko Yamada

Tak & Betty Yamashita

Mike & Lily Yanagita

Carole Yokota

Amy Yukawa

Anitya Update

The Anitya Fundraising drive is doing well. As of December 15 we have raised more than \$100,000 in new funds since beginning our drive in October. The total project budget is \$250,000. Unspent 70th Anniversary funds were rolled into the 75th/Anitya pot giving us startup seed money of about \$75,000. So the total Anitya budget of \$250,000 less the \$75K seed money leaves a fundraising goal of \$175,000.

Work on the Hondo has resumed. Glass replacement, removal of the heavy handrails along the glass walls on the north and south sides of the Hondo and painting is in process. We are still working on a revised quote for completing the work and also for repair and repaving of our parking lots. As with many remodel/construction projects, the final budget is a bit of a moving target. We will keep you updated as the information becomes available.

Thank you for your continued support as we endeavor to preserve the structures and grounds of Senshin.

Gassho,

NEIL KOMAI

Anitya Fundraising Chairman

Nokotsudo Update 2025

It has been three years since our Senshin *Nokotsudo* was renovated. Thanks to the many volunteers who serve on regularly scheduled clean up teams, the *Nokotsudo* has been kept clean and tidy for all visitors. This year we had a few

first-time volunteers. As you might be aware, Rev. Furumoto conducts daily services for those interred in the *Nokotsudo*. You may have noticed we have tried to always have fresh flowers in front of the *Nokotsudo* altar, courtesy of the weekly Flower toban volunteers. There are many individuals interred in the *Nokotsudo* who served in leadership positions within the Temple Board of Directors, supporting organizations and Dharma School as well as several ministers and their family members. If any of you wish to pay your respects in the *Nokotsudo*, please feel free to ask Rev. Furumoto or someone in the office for the key.

Seven dates have been established as **Nokotsudo Clean Up Days for 2025: February 1, March 30, May 17, June 28, September 14, October 25, December 14.**

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on a clean-up team, please notify Fujie Ohata at fuji2va@gmail.com. As the temple *Nokotsudo* is maintained by volunteers, any donations (in kind or otherwise) are greatly appreciated.

Vehicle Donation

This is a reminder that Senshin will take any vehicle (car, pickup, truck, motorcycle, and even boat) as a donation to the temple. Donors can report the full amount of funds received from the vehicle donation as a deduction on their tax returns.

We work with Harold's Car Donation Service (HCDS) to have vehicles picked up, processed and refurbished as necessary to bring in the highest sale amount for the donated vehicle.

Once the proceeds from the vehicle donation are received by Senshin, a letter is sent to the donor to acknowledge the vehicle donation.

The letter includes details of the donated vehicle and the amount for which the vehicle was sold or salvaged. All donors will be acknowledged in the *Prajna*.

If you have any questions about the program, or wish to donate a vehicle, please contact either Jean Minami (323) 938-0048, or Wilbur Takashima (310) 398-9558.



Listed are donations handled by the Regular Treasurer: **Special:** donation received with no specific reason given **Orei:** donation for use of temple facilities, equipment, etc.

Nokotsudo: donation by families who have family cremains in the *Nokotsudo* (columbarium)

The Regular Treasurer is required to send receipts for donations of \$250.00 and over. Receipts for all other donations will not be sent unless requested by the donor.

洗心仏教会

2025年1月

11月感謝録:

寄付: J竹田, M小谷, D.Trihey, D白砂, E/E村上 故A&D志垣追悼: E/S.Young, J.Shigaki
 お礼: 敬老会 故E&H元金追悼: C元金
 納骨堂: M.Adams, T/D松原, R清原, T山口
 車寄付: L桐原, G磯元, K前崎, L清原, F中野一家

1月法要スケジュール:

12月31日(火)	5p	除夜会法要, ポットラック
1日(水)	10a	修正会法要
	11:30a	お雑煮 Sangha
3日(金)	午後	Sr. YBA 会議
5日(日)	8:30a	婦人会例会
	9:45a	日本語法話
	10a	祥月法要
	11a	ドーナツ
8日(水)	6:30-7:15p	仏教学院(オンライン), 浄土真宗入門: 古本先生
11日(土)	12n	ABA新年宴会
12日(日)	8:30a	理事会
	10a	家族礼拝: 小谷正雄名誉開教使
	11:30a	Jr.YBA, Sangha Teens, ABA会議
15日(水)	6:30-7:15p	仏教学院(オンライン), 浄土真宗入門: 古本先生
19日(日)	10a	家族礼拝
	11a	Youth 緊那羅太鼓
22日(水)	6:30-7:15p	仏教学院(オンライン), 浄土真宗入門: 古本先生
23日(木)	6:30-7:15p	報恩講セミナー (ズーム) 高田興芳開教使(Orange County 仏教会)
24日(金)	6:30-7:15p	報恩講セミナー (in Person) 小谷先生と共に精進料理を
26日(日)	10a	報恩講法要, 親鸞聖人追悼式 高田興芳開教使(Orange County 仏教会)
	12n	おとき: 婦人会
2月1日(土)	9:30a	納骨堂掃除
	2p	南加地区 Jr.YBA セミナー
毎水曜日	10a-2:30p	本願寺プレイス

1月法要当番: お寺

当番主任は、1/5日祥月法要の後のドーナツと飲み物, 1/12日理事会のスナックとお茶を用意してください。

1月本堂当番: K/Y西川, J原田, S/D深川

1月お花当番: 4日J/G磯元, 11日S岡村, K原田, 18日J南, 25日(報恩講)S.Aguilar, 2/1日J駒井, L赤嶺
 もし予定日に当番ができない時は、Iris(310-951-0160)またはitakashima@aol.comまでご連絡ください。

2月の予定: 8-9日念仏レトリート(見義信香開教使), JrYBA親の日朝食, 17日西心道場始業式

供花-月: C小島, J赤堀, E下原, M西坂, J南, L田中, A横山, T山口, T/D松原, R清原, B山下, D比嘉

Updates & ANNOUNCEMENTS!

From the Board

As we welcome the new year, I want to reflect on the last two years and thank Koichi Uyemura for his exceptional leadership as Board President. Koichi's dedication and hard work have been invaluable to Senshin. I am truly honored to follow in his footsteps and serve as your new Board President. I look forward to continuing the incredible work of building a meaningful, inclusive, and spiritually fulfilling community for all of us and into the future.

Having been approached a couple of times at *Mochitsuki* by the *Prajna* staff regarding my tardiness in submitting my first article, I'm actually glad I waited. It gave me the opportunity to truly witness how special Senshin is. Seeing so many people come together to help, with laughter, hugs, reunions, and a deep sense of belonging, was incredibly moving. It made me realize just how fortunate we are to be part of such an amazing community—one built through the dedication of past presidents, board members, and, most importantly, our Sangha as a whole. Thank you for your trust, support, and commitment to making Senshin such a special place. Here's to 2025!

In Gassho,
STAN FUKAWA

BWA

Happy New Year of the Snake! In December, the BWA participated in the year end events of *Mochitsuki* and *Osoji*. Thank you to all of the BWA

members who came out to help. And thank you to the many BWA members who made the delicious desserts for the *Mochitsuki* lunch. Some BWA members joined ABA at Kei Ai for a December bingo visit. Consider joining ABA and BWA for the next bingo visit in March. Contact Debbie Hiramoto if you are interested.

To end the 2024 year, the BWA Cabinet members enjoyed a nice lunch at JoAnn Komai's home. It was a nice and relaxed time to reflect on the past year and look forward to the new year. Thank you to JoAnn and Fujie for hosting the small group. And thank you also to JoAnn for serving as co-president for the past term. We appreciate your leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication. Congratulations to the new 2025-26 BWA Cabinet:

Co-Presidents

Fujie Ohata and Donna Ebata

Secretaries (rotating):

Linda Uyemura, Amy Yukawa & Debra Nishida

Treasurer Arlene Yokoyama

Social Welfare Chairman

Kathie Umemoto

Publicity Chairman/Historian

Sue Omori

Religious Chairman JoAnn Komai

Auditor Yoko Nishikawa

On January 26th, Senshin will observe our annual *Hoonko* Memorial Service. The BWA will prepare the vegetarian dish *nigome* for *Otoki* after service. *Nigome* contains vegetables that represent Shinran Shonin's travels throughout Japan to spread the teachings of Amida Buddha. The basic veg-

etables are *gobo* (his walking stick), *shiitake* mushroom (his hat), *daikon* (his white leg-wear), and carrots (his zori slipper strap). We express our respect and appreciation to Shinran Shonin through cooking *nigome*. "Save the Date" for the BWA New Year's lunch on Sunday, February 23rd, 2025. Details will be coming soon.

Thank for the following donations:
 Reiko Souday *In memory of Kiyoko Nimi – 13th year memorial*
 Linda/Koichi Uyemura
Thank you for omimai
 Amy Yukawa *Special*

ABA

Happy New Year! ABA will be ringing in the New Year with a luncheon on Saturday, February 15, 2025 at 11:00 am. We chose Gold Hibachi Buffet in Alhambra to hold our celebration! Everyone is welcome to join us! Please contact Greg Yee to sign up, 626.277.6696.

Jr YBA

In December, the Jrs helped at *Mochitsuki* and Senshin Dojo. Some of the Jrs attended Southern District Jr. YBA events such as JAM session at Gardena, and religious retreat. We also started planning for Seminar 1 with Nishi and West LA Jr. YBAs, which will take place in February. In January, the Jrs are planning to continue with monthly meetings as well as helping with weekly *kansho*.

If you have any questions or would like to join, please feel free to contact our parent advisor, Ms. Juriko Yamada at: afstue@gmail.com, (310) 569-9052.

Recap Of 2024 Mochitsuki

550 lbs of mochigome

865 lbs of mochi

This year we added *yomogi* (mugwort)

Thank you all for your help!

- Jr YBA



Sangha Teens

Sangha Teens had another fun month. After a lovely Sunday service, the group went on a field trip to watch Hayao Miyazaki's classic and loved film *My Neighbor Totoro*. Everyone reveled in the film's majestic qualities, such as its beautiful painted scenes, backgrounds, and the amazing creature Totoro itself. The beginning of 2025 culminates the end of a wonderful first year since the establishment of the new Sangha Teens group. We're all so grateful for the adults who have organized and supported our group and its activities, as well as everyone at Senshin who have been so kind, friendly, and welcoming. We're all looking forward to another great year, and a great year for Sangha Teens!

Dharma School/ Kinnara Taiko

Youth Taiko Classes will be starting on Sunday, January 19, 2025. The classes begin right after the 10am Services, which we encourage everyone to attend. The taiko classes usually begin at 11am and end around 12noon. We ask that the child be at least 6.5 years of age or in the First Grade. No experience necessary. If interested, please contact Johnny Mori: jmori888@gmail.com.

The following is the schedule:

2025 Youth Taiko Classes

- Jan. - 19
- Feb. - 16
- Mar - 16
- Apr - 20
- May - 18 & 25
- June - 15, 22, 29
- July - 5, Senshin Obon



Guardian At The Gate

As the year came to a close a lion briefly appeared at the gate of the Temple. It was lying in a relaxed manner, not threatening, observing, maybe welcoming. Although the lion was not real, it was life sized and could have easily gone unnoticed.

Many enter the Temple grounds and fail to notice changes that occur over time. The removal of the hand rail in the Hondo which has blocked the view of the rock garden, the newly renovated rock garden on the southside of the Hondo, the removal of the sago palm at the entry to the Hondo, and the many hours spent trimming the garden by our members to name a few. Be sure to take a moment to appreciate what goes on at the Temple.

WasabiKai will be offering classes this spring. Japanese dinnerware and plating will be on five consecutive Saturdays, dates TBD. I will post a sign up sheet with details on the bulletin board mid-January. I will also post a sign up sheet to see if we have interest in *Kintsugi* and *Kurinuki* classes as well.

Please feel free to stop by the WasabiKai studio whenever the door is open to meet and see what the potters at Senshin are creating. The studio is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30a-2:30p.

For information or questions regarding classes contact me at: 1bobmiyamoto@gmail.com or 323 791-2719.



SENSHIN-JI 2025 JANUARY 2568

1311 W. 37TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90007 ☎ 323 731 4617 ✨ SENSHINTEMPLE@GMAIL.COM 🌀 SENSHINTEMPLE.ORG

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 29 No Service	Dec 30	Dec 31	1 Oshogatsu	2	3	4
10a <i>Ojo Raisange Practice</i>		5p <i>Joya-e</i> End of the year service and potluck	10a <i>Shusho-e</i> , New Year Service 1la <i>Ozoni</i> served by Sangha in the Social Hall			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30a BWA Reikai 9:45a Japanese <i>Howa</i> 10a Monthly Memorial Service (<i>Shotsuki Hoyo</i>), Installation of temple board and affiliated orgs 11a Donuts		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: Basic Buddhism (zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		12n ABA <i>Shinenenkai</i> (New Year Party)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30a Temple Board Meeting 10a Family Service, Rev. Mas Kodani 11:30a Meetings: Jr. YBA, Sangha Teens, ABA		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: Basic Buddhism (zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10a Family Service 11a In-person Study Class 11a Youth Kinnara Taiko Class		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: Basic Buddhism (zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 6:30-7:15p <i>Hoonko</i> Seminar (zoom) Rev. Koho Takata (WLA) 7-9p Kinnara Taiko	6:30-7:15p Rev. Kodani (In-person), eating <i>shojin</i> meal; sit and talk with Mas Sensei	9a-12n Winter Pacific Seminar, Orange County Buddhist Church
26	27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1
9:45a Japanese <i>Howa</i> 10a <i>Hoonko Service</i> – Shinran Shonin Memorial Service, Rev. Koho Takata (WLA) 12p <i>Otoki</i> by BWA		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		9:30a <i>Nokotsudo</i> cleanup 2p SD Jr. YBA Seminar

JANUARY SERVICE TOBAN: Temple

Monthly Toban group responsible for:

- Weekly chair Sunday Service
- Jan 5 Provide donuts / beverages following monthly memorial service
- Jan 12 Provide / serve snacks and beverage for Temple Board Meeting
- Jan 26 Provide *osona*e (altar offering) for *Hoonko* Service

JANUARY Hondo Toban

Kelvin Nishikawa
Yoko Nishikawa
Stan Fukawa
Debbie Fukawa

JANUARY ONAIJIN Flower Arrangement

Jan 4 Joyce/Glen Isomoto
Jan 11 Shelly Okamura/Karen Harada
Jan 18 Jean Minami
Jan 25 (*Hoonko*) Sandra Aguilar
Feb 1 JoAnn Komai/Lynn Akamine

(Note: If you are unable to fulfill the week you are scheduled, please contact Iris at (310) 951-0160

FEBRUARY Upcoming Events

Feb 8-9 *Nembutsu* Retreat (Rev. Nobuko Miyoshi)
Feb 16 *Nirvana* Day Service
Feb 23 BWA New Year Party