

# Walking with the Bonbu | Bodhisattva Spirit



In late July, as part of the Junior YBA's religious education program, I traveled to Japan with six high school students. Our journey took us through Kyoto, Nara, Hiroshima, Toyama, and Tokyo. Each day was packed with visits to two or three temples, museums, or cultural sites, meaning we walked more than 20,000 steps daily. The pace was brisk, and the weather was hot and humid, often over 90 degrees. Naturally, the students grew tired at times, but because I had explained from the beginning that this was not just a sightseeing tour but more



like a “boot camp of concentrated learning and experiences,” everyone accepted the challenge with enthusiasm. No one complained, and all seemed to enjoy the journey.

Recent studies even suggest that fast walking improves brain health and leads to longer life. So perhaps by walking quickly

with me, the students not only gained knowledge but may also have gotten smarter and gained a few extra years to their lives!

There are reasons why I walk fast. One is to arrive at the destination first, to make sure the route is correct and safe. Another is practical: in Japan, tourist sites and restaurants often have

tion, if someone says, “You are like a Bodhisattva,” the proper response is humility: “I am far from the Bodhisattva spirit of ‘others first’; I am just a *bonbu*, ordinary being, who thinks ‘me first.’” Almost no one would ever respond, “Yes, I am a Bodhisattva.”

Shinran Shōnin himself respected his teacher, Hōnen Shōnin, as an

train,” or “Let’s run, the train leaves in a few minutes.” Even so, in showing the direction, perhaps I play a small Bodhisattva-like role.

In truth, many people share the Dharma in Bodhisattva-like ways, even if they don’t see themselves as Bodhisattvas. Our teachers study deeply and pass their learning on to us.



long lines, so it helps to arrive early. As we walk, I constantly look back to make sure everyone is following, though sometimes I lose sight of those behind me. When that happens, I go back to check, which often adds about 1,000 extra steps to my daily count. Even when I arrive early, I often retrace my steps to meet the group.

A few years ago, Rev. Henry Adams from the San Mateo Buddhist Temple gave a seminar at our temple on the Bodhisattva. He kindly used my walking style as an example. “Rev. Furumoto walks fast so he can reach the destination first and confirm the way. If someone falls behind, he goes back for them.” Rev. Adams explained that this reflected the spirit of the Bodhisattva or *Bosatsu*, someone who prepares themselves to guide and support others along the way.

Of course, in Jōdo Shinshū tradi-

incarnation of Bodhisattva Seishi (Mahāsthāmaprāpta). Yet Hōnen Shōnin saw himself only as an ordinary, foolish being and even said, “I will be born in the Pure Land by realizing my foolishness.” Shinran Shōnin, too, though deeply respected, reflected on himself as filled with blind passions.

Even so, Rev. Adams’ analogy makes the Bodhisattva ideal easy to understand. The word “Bodhisattva” comes from Sanskrit: *bodhi* means awakening, and *sattva* means being. A Bodhisattva takes the suffering of others as their own, offering compassion and comfort. With wisdom, they also show others the path toward awakening. If I were truly like a Bodhisattva, I would carry those who lagged behind on my back and take them to the destination. But as an ordinary being, all I can do is point the way: “That’s the platform we should go to get on the

Many people recall beginning to say the Nembutsu because they saw their grandmother reciting the nembutsu. If we called that grandmother a Bodhisattva, she would surely answer, “No, I am just an ordinary being.” Yet in her way of living, she became a guide. Without any thought of “I am leading others,” simply doing what one should do, or naturally sharing what one knows, the bodhisattva spirit appears of itself.

During this trip, I was able to reflect on such things while walking; and it became a kind of boot camp journey for me as well, deepening my understanding of the teachings of the Nembutsu.

*Namoamidabutsu*

REV. RYUTA FURUMOTO

## 早歩きと菩薩のこころ

7月下旬にジュニアYBAの宗教教育の一環として日本旅行に行ってきました。今回は6名の高校生が参加し、京都、奈良、広島、富山、東京を訪れました。1日に2～3か所以上のお寺や博物館、観光地を巡ったため、毎日2万歩以上を歩きました。訪問先が多いため歩く速度は自然と速くなり、しかも毎日90度以上で湿度も高かったため、参加者たちは少し疲れている様子も

ありました。しかし「これは単なる観光旅行ではなく、短時間で集中的に知識や体験を得るブートキャンプのような旅だ」と説明してあったので、誰も不平を言うことなく楽しんで歩いていました。最近の研究では速く歩くことで頭が良くなり、長生きできるとも言われていますから、高校生たちは私と一緒に歩いたことで、少し賢くなり寿命

確かめるためだそうです。もし後ろの人が遅れていたなら、先生は迎えに来てくれるでしょう」と言われ、それを菩薩のあり方にたとえてくださいました。すなわち、菩薩は他者のためにまず自らが悟りを得る準備を整え、その方法を人々に伝え、導いていく存在である、ということでした。

もっとも、浄土真宗のマナーとして「

とは、悟りを目指す人のことで、サンスクリット語の「ボディサットバ」に由来します。「ボディ」は悟り、「サットバ」は人・衆生を意味します。菩薩は他人の悲しみを自分の悲しみとし、寄り添って癒やす存在です。それを慈悲と呼びます。また智慧によって、他者が悟りを得られるように方法を伝え、助けるのです。もし私が菩薩のような人であれば、遅れている人を迎えに行っておんぶして目的地まで連れていってあげよう。しかし私は自分の身が大切な凡夫ですから、「あっちのプラットホームですよ」「電車で遅れないように急いでください」と伝えるだけです。それでも目的地や行き方を示す、という点においては、菩薩的な役割を果たしているのかもしれない。

この例のように、菩薩そのものではなくても、菩薩的なはたらきを通して念仏の教えを伝えてくださる方は多くいらっしゃいます。念仏の教えを伝えてくださる先生方は、学びを深めたいという、それを他の人の参考となるよう伝えてくださいます。

また「念仏をとこなえる祖母の姿を見て、自分も念仏をするようになった」という方も少なくありません。「おばあさんは菩薩だ」と言えば「いやいや、私は凡夫です」と謙遜されるでしょうが、その姿勢や導きが菩薩的な役割を果たしているのです。他人を導いているとかいうような思いはなく、ただ自分がすべきことをしていたり、ただ知っていることをシェアしている、というところに自然と菩薩的なはたらきが出てくるのです。

今回の旅では、歩きながらそのようなことを考えることができたので、私にとっても念仏の教えの理解を深めることのできた、ブートキャンプのような旅行になりました。

南無阿弥陀仏



も延びたかもしれません。

私が速く歩くのには理由があります。一つは、目的地に早く着いて道順が正しいか、危険がないかを確認するためです。また、日本では観光地やレストランで行列になることが多いため、早めに到着して並んでおく必要があるからです。歩いているときは常に後ろを振り返り、皆がついてきているか確認していますが、ときどき後ろの人を見失うことがあります。その際には、再び戻って全員がいるかを確認します。そのため、他の人よりも私の歩数が1,000歩ほど多いこともよくあります。目的地に早く着いても、来た道を戻ることが多いのです。

以前、サンマテオ仏教会のヘンリー・アダムス先生が洗心寺のセミナーで菩薩についてお話くださった際に、私の歩き方を例に挙げて説明されました。「古本先生は速く歩かれるけれど、それは目的地に先に着いて道が正しいかを

あなたは菩薩のようだ」と言われたときには、「私は他の人の幸せを第一に考える“others first”の菩薩の精神からは程遠く、“me first”の凡夫です」と謙遜して答えるようになっていました。「その通りです。私こそ菩薩です」と言う人はほとんどいません。

親鸞聖人は『浄土和讃』の中で、自らに念仏を伝えてくださった法然上人を勢至菩薩の化身として尊敬されていた、と思われるご文を書かれています。けれども、法然上人ご自身は、自分のことを凡夫と自覚され、「愚者になりて往生す(自分の愚かさに気づいてお浄土に生まれる)」とも言われています。親鸞聖人も多くの方から尊敬され、菩薩さまだと思われたこともあるかもしれませんが、ご自身で「愚禿」と名のり、自分は煩惱だらけの愚かな凡夫だと反省されていました。

とはいえ、アダムス先生の菩薩のたとえはわかりやすいものでした。菩薩

## Monthly Memorial SEPTEMBER 2025

### Shotsuki Service September 7 at 10a

Seshu (Observant)

Deceased Relation To Obervant, Deceased

Akahori, Julie  
Mother Akahori, Tomiko

Akahori, Julie  
Uncle Miyazaki, Fred

Harada, James  
Father Harada, Tom

Hayamizu, Sumiko  
Husband Hayamizu, Robert T.

Ikari, Kathy  
Husband Ikari, Kei

Ito Family  
Mother Ito, Toshiye

Kitayama, Glen  
Mother  
Kitayama, Kimiko Esther

Kitayama, Glen  
Grandmother  
Kitayama, Kimiko

Kitayama, Glen  
Grandmother Nakagawa, Ritzu

Kok, Richard  
Father Kok, Yoke Chuan

Kodani, Masao  
Wife Kodani, Shirley

Kodani, Richard  
Father Kodani, Fred

Kojima, Chikako  
Father-in-law Kojima, Tom

Kunitake, Kimiyo  
Grandmother Wada, Tamae

Kunitake, Kimiyo  
Grandmother Yamada, Tsugi

Matsuda Family  
Father Matsuda, Miyoshi

Miyata, Satoshi  
Mother Miyata, Taka

Mori, Johnny  
Mother  
Mori, Tsutaye

Murakami, Julia  
Mother  
Murakami, Lena Hisako

Murakami, Eugene  
Brother Murakami, Raymond

Checel, Thai Binh  
Nakamura, Tad  
Grandfather

Nakamura, Harukichi

Nakawatase, Helen  
Sister Hosaka, Anna Lew

Nishikawa, Kelvin  
Grandfather  
Yoshida, Frank Eiichi

Oda, Cindy  
Mother Tomita, Misao

Ogawa, Jerry  
Father Ogawa, Kikuo

Rooks, Curtis, Rooks, Mariko  
Mother, Grandmother  
Rooks, Kikuyo

Sawada, Keith  
Grandmother Oshita, Umeko

Shimabukuro, Marilyn  
Aunt Oshiro, Misao

Shimabukuro, Marilyn  
Grandmother  
Shimabukuro, Yoshiko

Shimohara, Ellen  
Father-in-law  
Shimohara, Henry

Shirasago Family  
Brother Shirasago, Glenn

Shirasago Family  
Father Shirasago, George

Sugano, Michiko  
Grandmother-in-law  
Kanazawa, Fude

Takashima, Iris  
Father Jinde, Seichi

Takashima, Wilbur  
Great Grandmother  
Takashima, Haru

Takeuchi Family  
Takeuchi, Yoshiko

Tanezaki, Barbara  
Father Kakita, Bene

Terrell, Jackie  
Father-in-law  
Fukumoto, Katsumi

Tsunoda, Satsuko  
Father-in-law  
Tsunoda, Yaichi

Umemoto, Marty & Kathie  
Grandmother Akamichi, Ishi  
Umemoto, Marty & Kathie  
Father Matsuda, Miyoshi

Unno Family  
Unno, Rev. Enryo

Usui Family  
Father Usui, Roy

Uyemura, Koichi  
Father Uyemura, Tamio

Wakinaka, Bernice  
Son Wakinaka, Lester

Wakinaka, Bernice  
Nephew Nagaoka, Rick

Yamano, Fred & Patty  
Daughter Kent, Staci Yamano

Yoneda, Kiyoko  
Husband Yoneda, Kazuo

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 2025

## 2025 Senshin Fall Ohigan Seminar

### Saturday, September 20 Service, Sunday September 21

### Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin Class Chanting, Ritual and Buddhist Etiquette in Jodo Shinshu

Wednesdays, **September 3, 10 & 17, 6:30 - 7:15 pm** (On-line)

Sunday, **September 21**, after service (in-person) **Rev. Ryuta Furumoto**

Curious about what we do during our Sunday services, funerals, and memorials? Join us for an online class where we'll explore the meaning behind our rituals—like *oshōkō* (incense offering), *gasshō* (putting hands together), and bowing—as well as the content of the sutras and gathas we chant.

This is a great opportunity to deepen your understanding of Jodo Shinshu practice. New participants are warmly welcome, even if you haven't attended previous sessions. If this is your first time signing up, please contact the temple.

Those who have joined past sessions will receive the Zoom link automatically.

Our Fall *Ohigan* (equinox) Seminar will be on Saturday, September 20 and **Ohigan Service** will be on Sunday, September 21. The guest speaker will be **Rev. Yoichi Shimizutani**, Zenryu-in, Sensoji, Asakusa Tokyo. Rev. Shimizutani recently completed his master's degree in Gerontology at USC, and his seminar topic will be “**Buddhism and Gerontology.**”

#### Fall Ohigan Seminar, Saturday September 20

Speaker: Rev. Yoichi Shimizutani

Topic: “Buddhism and Gerontology”

10:00am: Opening service

10:20am: Lecture

Ends at noon

#### 秋のお彼岸セミナー並びにお彼岸法要のご案内

9月20日(土)10時より、お彼岸セミナーを行います。お彼岸法要は9月21日(日)10時からです。セミナーと法要のご講師は清水谷耀一師(浅草寺、善龍院)です。みなさまお誘い合わせのうえ、ぜひお参りください。

## “Oh Soh Ji” Temple Clean-Up

### Sunday, September 14, 9:00am

Our temple clean-up will take place on Sunday, September 14 at 9:00am. This is one of our important activities to deepen our understanding of Buddhism, so we encourage everyone to come and help.

“*Oh Soh Ji*” means “major clean-up.” *Oh* means “big” or “major,” and *Soh Ji* means “cleaning.”

In Buddhism, cleaning is not just a chore. It is an important daily practice. Our surroundings reflect our hearts and minds, and vice versa. When we clean the outside, we also cleanse the inside.

As we prepare to welcome the Ohigan Seminar and Services on September 20 and 21, let us refresh our hearts and minds by cleaning our temple together.

**JUNE DONATIONS**

Glen & Joyce Isomoto  
*Wednesday Study Class*

Lynn Kanda & David Gleeson  
*Kinnara Taiko*

Julie Akahori *Nokotsudo*

California Wellness Foundation *Dana*

Bernice Wakinaka  
*In memory of David Wakinaka*

Janis Ishitani  
*Funeral for Gayle Wada*

Gayle Wada Family  
*Orei*

USC Nikkei Student Union  
*Use of social hall*

Janis Ishitani  
*49 day service for Gayle Wada*

Janis Ishitani  
*Burial service for Gayle Wada*

Kenneth Hatai *Dana*

Brett & Susan Yoshimura  
*Memorial service for Addison Yoshimura*

Eugene Murakami *Dana*

Nick & Wendy Nagatani  
*Dana*

Joy Middo  
*In memory of Keith Kiyohara*

Nick & Wendy Nagatani  
*In memory of Susan Fujimoto*

Debra Nakatomi  
*Dana - Appreciation to Rev Furumoto for support of yoga and Sangha health and wellness*

Mayumi Kodani *Dana*

Dale Shirasago *Dana*

Jean Paul deGuzman  
*In gratitude for Robert Nakamura*

Barbara Tanezaki *Gotanye*

Garren & Stephanie Mizutani  
*Shotsuki Hoyo Hana Unno*

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.

**JUNE FLOWER DONATION**

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa

Jean Minami

John & Debbie Hiramoto

Merrie Nishisaka

Julie Akahori

Ruby Kiyohara

Tammy & Dale Matsubara

Toshiko Yamaguchi

Nishida Family

Catherine Hisamune

**JUNE SHOTSUKI HOYO**

Observant  
*In Memory Of*

Julie Akahori  
Kathryn Kawaye

Lisa Hashimoto-Elardo  
Miwako Hashimoto

John & Deb Hiramoto  
Shuichi Kanegawa

Catherine Hisamune  
*Mother Shizuye Fujita*

Ruby Kiyohara  
Toku Nakawatase

Tammy & Dale Matsubara  
Toku Nakawatase

Jean Minami  
Suma Minami

Eugene & Elaine Murakami  
Shinkichi Murakami

Arthur Nakashita  
Clark Nakashita

Richard & Helen Nakawatase  
Toku & Toshinobu Nakawatase

Debra Nishida & Neil Hurley  
*Grandfather*  
Kinai Yamaguchi

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa  
Isayo Nishida

Merrie Nishisaka  
Yukimasa Sanada

Kiyoko Ogawa  
Tsugi Yoneda,  
Agnes Nakamura

Wilbur & Iris Takashima  
Mika Sato, Hisayo Taniguchi & Kiyoshi Taniguchi

Yo Takeyama  
Ray Takeyama

Steven & Shelley Takeyama  
*Father Ray Takeyama*

Koichi Uyemura & Linda Wong  
Chine Wakamatsu

Toshiko Yamaguchi  
Kinai Yamaguchi

**JULY DONATIONS**

Carrie Morita *In memory of Bob Nakamura*

Karen Ishizuka & Family  
*Funeral for Bob Nakamura*

Dennis & Celia Huey *Dana*

Denise Takehara  
*Birth of Grandson Koji Jay Shojinaga*

Susan Nagata Bottari *Dana*

Masao Kodani *Dana*

Chikako Kojima  
*In memory of Noreen Kojima, Natalie Kojima, Bonnie Kojima*

Lance Nagano  
*In memory of Julia Tomoko Nagano*

Ana Maria Herrera Murray  
*Nokotsudo*  
Teodoawa Matsumune

Kazuo & Ikuko Matsubayashi  
*Nokotsudo*

Eugene & Elaine Murakami  
*Dana*

Dale Shirasago *Dana*

Mayumi Kodani *Dana*

Kazuo Matsubayashi *Dana*

Kathy Bohannon  
*25th Memorial for Kiyoto Shinmoto and other Shinmoto Family Members*

Tammy & Dale Matsubara  
*Hatsubon*

**JULY/AUGUST FLOWER DONATION**

Dana & Ann Saneto

Kazuo & Ikuko Matsubayashi

Satoshi Miyata

Michiko Sugano

John & Debbie Hiramoto

Paula Shirasago

Arlene Yokoyama

Jean Minami

Marilyn Shimabukuro

Ruby Kiyohara

Tammy & Dale Matsubara

Dana & Ann Saneto

Julie Akahori

Chikako Kojima

Dorothy Higa

**JULY SHOTSUKI HOYO**

Observant  
*In Memory Of*

Julie Akahori  
Keiso Uyetake

Miki Fujimoto  
Ben Takemoto

Dorothy & Bert Higa  
Masao Kuwaki

John & Deb Hiramoto  
Mitsuru Kanegawa

Jane & Keith Hirayama  
Koima Saneto

Vickie Ikeda  
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Sandra Maeshiro & Kenwood Jung  
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Kazuo & Ikuko Matsubayashi  
Atsuko Matsubayashi

Tammy & Dale Matsubara  
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Joy Middo  
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Satoshi Miyata  
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John & Wendy Mori  
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Koima Saneto

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Mae Satsuki Shimada

Michiko Sugano  
Sayo Yoshimoto

Iris & Wilbur Takashima  
Minoru Yasuda

Bernice Wakinaka  
Meta Nagaoka,  
Chiyoye Yamada

Arlene Yokoyama  
Thelma Yamada,  
*Sister Ellen Yamada*

Sue Shigaki Young  
Doris Shigaki

**OBON / KANGI-E 2025**

Anonymous

Anonymous

Christine Aihara

Julie Akahori

Don Akamine

Jane Asahi

Susan Asamura

James & Karen Harada

Kenneth Hatai

Sumiko Hayamizu

Bert & Dorothy Higa

Deb & John Hiramoto

Paul Hiramoto

Jane Hirayama

Catherine Hisamune

Patti Honkawa

Janice & Victor Huey

Denise Ishitani

Janis Ishitani

Karen Ishizuka

Glen & Joyce Isomoto

Cathy Iyemura

Karen Kimura Joo

Emi Kamikawa

Kristine & Glenn Kawaguchi

Richard & Denise Kodani

Masao Kodani

Chikako Kojima

Richard Kok

Kubota Nikkei Mortuary

Tammy & Dale Matsubara

Doug Matsuda

Joy Middo

Jean Minami

Marilyn & Dennis Miyamoto

Garren & Stephanie Mizutani

Eugene & Elaine Murakami

Judy Nakatani

Deb Nakatomi & Bob Miyamoto

Richard & Helen Nakawatase

Russell & Lori Nishida

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa

Merrie Nishisaka

Sachie Oda

Craig & Cindy Ogawa

Ron & Fujie Ohata

Shelly Okamura

Michael & Carol Okuda

Susan Omori

Yasuhiro Osako

Michiko & Richard Sakakura

Dana & Ann Saneto

Marilyn Shimabukuro & Gilbert Leong

Mark & Reiko Sunday

Michiko Sugano

Kiyoe Suzuki

Wilbur & Iris Takashima

Julia Takeda

Amy Takata

Barbara Tanezaki

Suzanne Toji

Mika Toyoura

Kathie & Marty Umemoto

Nancy Usui

Bernice Wakinaka

Joyce Wakano Chinn

Betty Yamashita

Qris Yamashita & Chris Komai

Toshiko Yamaguchi

Michael & Lily Yanagita

Greg Yee

Arlene Yokoyama

Kiyoko Yoneda

Amy Yukawa

## 2025 Obon Raffle Fundraiser Thank you



Our gratitude to everyone for your generous support of our 2025 Obon Raffle fundraiser. Through your raffle ticket donation we are able to continue funding important religious programs at Senshin. Additional thanks to the following business, friends and individuals who generously donated many amazing prizes, cash and in-kind items.

Adams, Madalyne  
 Akahori, Julie  
 Akamine, Don & Lynn  
 Ebata, Donna  
 Fujita, Caren & Duck  
 Gee, Myron  
 Harada, James & Karen  
 Hatai, Ken  
 Hiramoto, John  
 Hiramoto, Paul  
 Horiuchi, Edna  
 Iriye, Ken & Jojiye  
 Ishitani, Janis  
 Isomoto, Glen & Joyce  
 Kodani, Rev. Mas  
 Kojima, Chikako  
 Komai, Neil & JoAnn  
 Matsubara,  
 Tammy & Dale  
 Minami, Jean  
 Miyamoto, Bob &  
 Debra Nakatomi  
 Nakawatase, Richard  
 Nishida, Russell & Lori  
 Nishikawa, Kelvin & Yoko  
 Nishisaka, Merrie

Nishiyama, Dexter  
 Noriyuki, Hideko  
 Ogawa, Craig & Cindy  
 Ohata, Ron & Fujie  
 Okamura, Shelly  
 Okuda, Michael & Carol  
 Onishi, Randy  
 Senshin ABA  
 Senshin BWA  
 Shimabukuro Marilyn &  
 Gilbert Leong  
 Shirasago, Dale & Susan  
 Shirasago, Paula &  
 Todd Shirasago  
 Takeda, Richard  
 Toji, Suzanne &  
 Feast from the East  
 Umemoto, Marty & Kathie  
 Uyemura, Koichi & Linda  
 Yamashita, Qris &  
 Chris Komai  
 Yee, Greg  
 Yokota, Carole  
 Yokoyama, Arlene

## Donation College Savings 529 Plan

Senshin has a College Savings 529 Plan to help with the costs of higher education for our minister's family.

Contributing to this fund will provide tax-free income for the minister's children when they are college age. In eight years at 7%, monies put in today could almost double by the time they are ready to go to college.

If you would like to contribute, you have two options:

1. Write a check out to Senshin Buddhist Temple along with a memo or note indicating you would like to contribute to the 529 account.
2. You can write a check out to MESP (Michigan Education Savings Program) and mail it directly to PO Box 55925, Boston, MA 02205-5925. Be sure to send a note indicating the contribution is to go to the Senshin Buddhist Temple, Account #9393725.

If you write a check to Senshin, there is no minimum. If you write a check to MESP, the check must be \$25 or more.

Owned by the temple, the intention of the fund is to provide additional support to its minister and family.

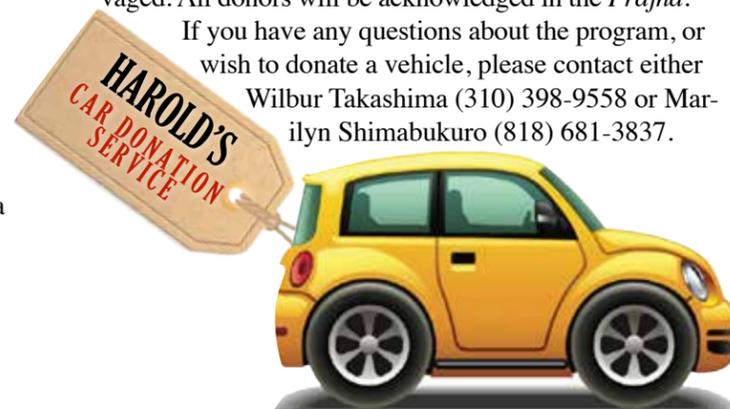
## Vehicle Donation

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 Wilbur Takashima (310) 398-9558 or Marilyn Shimabukuro (818) 681-3837.



# Updates & ANNOUNCEMENTS!

## Message from the Board

I hope everyone had a meaningful Obon season – a time for visiting with family, celebrating together, and honoring the loved ones we have lost throughout the years. Obon reminds us of the deep connections we share, not only with our families and ancestors, but also with one another as a community.

Speaking of community, we welcome you all back to temple this month and I would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone for directly and indirectly supporting our Sangha and the upkeep of our Temple property. The recent improvements – including the repaving of the back parking lot, roof repair on both the Education Building and Social Hall, and also the new patio concrete – were a significant expense, but they were made possible through your generosity. Whether through temple dues, donations, helping hands or the steady growth of our temple investments, every contribution plays a part in sustaining and improving our community.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support and commitment to keeping our Temple a welcoming space for all.

*In Gassho,*  
 STAN FUKAWA

## BWA

Leading up to the August “harvest break”, the BWA had a good time making and selling spam musubi and cookies for Obon, and preparing and serving *chirashi* after the *Kangi-e* ser-

vice. Containers of *chirashi* were also delivered to our homebound seniors. During the break, we had fun with family and Sangha at the Senshin-ji picnic and had a lot of laughs facilitating the sponge game. This month we will participate in the temple *Osoji* and will also volunteer at the Kei Ai Bingo Event at Kei Ai Hospital on Sept. 14th. If you would like to volunteer, please let Fujie Ohata know.

## ABA

ABA and friends had a fun luncheon social at Eatalian in Gardena. Yummy food and good company with Dharma friends.

Fun and playful times at the Senshin picnic. Thank you all for your participation and joining in. Many thanks to Keith for running ABA's bean bag toss game and Suzanne for purchasing the ABA prizes.

Coming up in September, ABA will be providing *Otoki* for Fall Ohigan. Hope to see everyone there.



## Jr YBA

As the summer came to an end, we were all hands on deck with helping Reverend Mas in our annual backyard clean-up in mid-August, especially after all the help he has given us throughout this year!

The next day, we enjoyed a fun day filled with games and a potluck for the Senshin-Ji Picnic at Kenneth Hahn Park with the rest of the temple.

During Labor Day weekend in September, we were excited to attend the 75th Southern District Jr. YBL Conference, hosted by Pasadena and Oxnard at Cal Poly Pomona. For this two-day event, Jr. YBA members discussed Buddhist teachings relating to the “Studio Shinran” theme during the seminar and came together for an incredible banquet and dance. It was quite the experience and a very special occasion, given it was the 75th anniversary of this conference.

Lastly, as the school year begins, we want to send off seniors Mina, Zoe, Cassidy, Ava, Jake, and Gen with good luck for college and give a warm welcome to the new freshman who will be joining Senshin Jr. YBA!

If you have any questions or would like to join Jr. YBA, don't hesitate to reach out to our parent advisor, Mrs. Juriko Yamada at: [afstue@gmail.com](mailto:afstue@gmail.com).

## Sangha Teens

Sangha teens ended the school year strong by participating in many activities. At Senshin Obon some came early and helped BWA make spam musubi and also helped the Juniors with the shaved ice booth. Other Sangha Teens danced and helped the Juniors with the 1,000 oil lamps. One participated in the taiko performance and two helped clean the oil lamps the morning following Obon. One teen was also spotted dancing in the parade at Nisei week in Little Tokyo! At the Senshin Picnic, Sangha Teens led a watermelon seed spitting contest! Kudos to the teens and their parents for participating in so many events!



## SENSHIN PICNIC WRAP-UP

On Sunday August 17th, Senshin held its Annual Picnic at Kenny Hahn Park. Approximately 100 people attended (the most in the last 20 years!), including 28 kids ranging from 16 months to 18. Lots of delicious home made food to eat, plenty of fun games to participate in, and just a nice day to spend with members of the Senshin Sangha!

The Picnic Committee members, Wilbur, Chris, and me, Kelvin, are now retiring after having planned the last 8 Picnics for Senshin. We thoroughly enjoyed planning this event each and every year.

If you have enjoyed the picnics, please consider volunteering to continue this wonderful tradition. The planning is not difficult and does not take a lot of time. If you volunteer, I will gladly hand over all of my notes and explain everything required to plan our Senshin picnic. You can contact me at [kelvinenishikawa@gmail.com](mailto:kelvinenishikawa@gmail.com) with questions, but please do so before December in order to make the park reservation.



## Kinnara

2025 Obon is in the books! We prepared 625+ servings of somen for otoki after Bon Odori.

We would like to thank Feast from the East (Jared Nishikawa/Suzanne Toji) for their donation of the somen noodles. We also received a large pan of their Chinese Chicken Salad and a large pan of their new Sesame Chicken Salad to supplement lunches for the Gagaku Retreat held on August 23/24. Thank you to Jared, Suzanne and Feast for your generous donations!



Wasabikai happily welcomed the Saishin Dojo students into the pottery studio again this summer. We worked with them on some familiar pottery projects and also introduced a new project and new techniques with multiple glazes and underglazes. The 1st graders made pinch pots; 2nd graders: CPR plates; 3rd graders: new fish project; 4th graders: jizos; 5th graders: wind bells; 6th graders: kero. It was so much fun for us to see the individual creativity they put into their projects and how skillful a lot of them are with clay. We hope it was as much fun for them and that their finished pieces brought them a sense of accomplishment and joy. And maybe this experience with clay will spark an interest in ceramics in their future.

## Senshin Karate Class

Wednesday evenings (tentative). Open to all ages and genders. For members, their families and friends. Contact us if you are interested: [oyamakarata@gmail.com](mailto:oyamakarata@gmail.com)



# SENSHIN-JI 2025 SEPTEMBER 2568

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: Chanting, Ritual & Buddhist Etiquette in Jodo Shinshu (Zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
8:30a BWA Reikai 9:45a Japanese <i>Howa</i> 10a Monthly Memorial Service ( <i>Shotsuki Hoyō</i> ) & Family Service <i>Following Service</i> Donuts		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: Chanting, Ritual & Buddhist Etiquette in Jodo Shinshu (Zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko	6p So. District BCA Council Meeting	
<b>14</b> Temple Osoji, no service	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Fall <i>Ohigan</i> Seminar
8a Board Meeting 9a-11a Osoji, temple cleanup, no services <i>Meetings Following Cleanup</i> Jr. YBA, Sangha Teens 1:30p ABA/BWA KeiAi Bingo	7:30p ABA meeting (Zoom)	10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: Chanting, Ritual & Buddhist Etiquette in Jodo Shinshu (Zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		10a-12p "Buddhism & Aging", Rev. Shimizutani, Zenryu-in, Sensoji, Asakusa, Tokyo
<b>21</b> Fall <i>Ohigan</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
10a Fall Higan Service, Rev. Shimizutani <i>Following Service</i> Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin (in person) Rev. Furumoto <i>Otoki</i> by Senshin ABA		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	Oct. <b>1</b>	Oct. <b>2</b>	Oct. <b>3</b>	Oct. <b>4</b>
10a Family Service		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		

## SEPTEMBER SERVICE TOBAN: A B A

### Monthly Toban group responsible for:

- **Weekly** Chair September Sunday Service
- **Sept 7** Provide donuts/beverages following monthly memorial service
- **Sept 14** Provide/serve snacks and beverages for Temple Board Meeting
- **Sept 21** Provide *osonae* (alter offering) for Spring *Higan* Service

## SEPTEMBER

### Hondo Toban

Eugene Murakami  
Carole Yokota  
Richard Katsuda  
Henry Matsumura

## SEPTEMBER ONAIJIN Flower Arrangement

**Sept 6** Wendy/Johnny Mori  
**Sept 13** Deb/John Hiramoto  
**Sept 19** (Friday) Iris Takashima - Fall Higan  
**Sept 27** JoAnn Komai/Lynn Akamine  
**Oct 4** Denise Takehara

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

## OCTOBER Upcoming Events

**Oct 19** Eshinni-ko/Kakushinni-ko,  
Takeko Kujo-sama/BWA Memorial  
**Oct 26** Dharma School 'Day of the Gaki' Event

**JR. Y B A FUNDRAISER 2025**

**Senshin Jr. YBA  
Scrip Order Form**

Send to: Stephanie Higa 213/700-1042  
1775 Santa Fe Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501  
SenshinScripSale@gmail.com

Name	Order Date
Address	Phone Number.
	Email Address

How do you want your order delivered? (pls circle) Leave at Senshin    USPS

<b>Clothing &amp; Accessories</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Total</b>
Bloomingdale's \$25 \$100		\$
Kohl's \$25 \$100		\$
Macy's \$25 \$100		\$
Nordstrom \$25 \$100		\$
Old Navy \$25		\$
TJMaxx/HomeGds/Marshalls \$25		\$
TJMaxx/HomeGds/Marshalls \$100		\$
<b>Dining - Casual</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Total</b>
Applebee's \$25 \$50		\$
Baja Fresh \$25		\$
California Pizza Kitchen \$25		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10 \$25		\$
Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf \$25		\$
El Pollo Loco \$10		\$
Islands \$25		\$
Olive Garden \$25		\$
Panera Bread \$10 \$25		\$
Rubio's Restaurants \$25		\$
Starbucks \$5 \$10 \$25		\$
Subway Restaurants \$10		\$
Taco Bell \$5 \$10		\$
<b>Discount Store &amp; Outlets</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Total</b>
Sam's Club \$25 \$50 \$100		\$
Target \$10 \$25 \$100		\$
Walmart \$25 \$100		\$
<b>Electronics &amp; Office</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Total</b>
Best Buy \$25 \$100		\$
GameStop \$25		\$
Office Depot / Office Max \$25		\$
Staples \$25 \$100		\$
<b>Entertainment</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Total</b>
AMC Theatres \$25		\$
Barnes & Noble \$10		\$
Fandango \$25		\$
Regal \$25		\$
<b>Gas &amp; Auto</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Total</b>
76 Gas \$25 \$100		\$
ARCO \$50 \$100		\$
Chevron CA Only \$50		\$
Exxon \$50		\$
Jiffy Lube \$30		\$
Mobil \$50		\$
Shell \$25 \$100		\$

<b>Grocery</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Total</b>
Albertsons/Pavillions/Vons \$25		\$
Albertsons/Pavillions/Vons \$100		\$
Smart & Final \$25 \$100		\$
Sprouts Farmers Market \$25 \$50 \$100		\$
<b>Health &amp; Beauty</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Total</b>
Bath & Body Works \$10 \$25		\$
CVS Pharmacy \$25 \$100		\$
Sally Beauty \$25		\$
Rite Aid \$25		\$
Sephora \$25		\$
ULTA \$25		\$
Walgreens \$25 \$100		\$
<b>Home Improvement</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Total</b>
Ace Hardware \$25 \$100		\$
Home Depot® \$25 \$100		\$
Lowe's \$25 \$100		\$
The Home Depot® \$25 \$100		\$
<b>Online Shopping</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>\$</b>
Amazon.com \$25 \$100		\$
Apple Store \$15 \$25		\$
Groupon.com \$25.00		\$
Zappos.com \$25 \$100		\$
<b>Specialty Retailer</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>\$</b>
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25		\$
Container Store \$25		\$
Disney \$25		\$
Jo-Ann Fabric \$25		\$
Michaels \$25		\$
PetSmart \$25		\$
See's Candies \$25		\$
<b>Sporting Goods &amp; Outdoors</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>\$</b>
Bass Pro Shops \$25		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25		\$
REI \$25		\$
<b>Universal Prepaid Cards</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>\$</b>
VisaGiftCd No Activation Fee \$50		\$
VisaGiftCd No Activation Fee \$100		\$

Please see [www.RaiseRight.com](http://www.RaiseRight.com) for more any more businesses with available gift cards. Family Enrollment #C2861D4362L25