



THE SANGHA STREAM

Summer 2026

MINISTER ARTICLE

As much as we look forward to the sunny months of summer, we cannot help but be concerned that this time of year also brings with it forest fires which spread across Alberta. Dry conditions, high temperatures, and strong winds have proven to fuel wildfires. Over the years, we have seen many communities threatened by wildfires, with some families forced to leave their homes. We can only imagine how much wildlife also loses its habitat in these conditions. As dense smoke fills the sky, we are reminded of how vulnerable we are to the forces of nature.

When we witness such events, a feeling of being powerless to help can arise. After all what difference can one person make against something as devastating and difficult to control as a forest fire?

One of the Buddhist Jataka stories is about The Quail Who Saved the Forest. Long ago, in a beautiful forest, a family of quail lived happily among the tall grasses and trees. One spring, a mother quail laid her eggs, and soon a tiny chick hatched. The little quail was very young. Its wings were not strong enough to fly, and its legs were too weak to run very far.

One hot summer day, a great fire broke out in the forest. Driven by strong winds, the flames spread quickly. Animals of every kind fled in fear. Deer raced away, monkeys leaped through the trees, and birds soared into the sky.

The little quail watched in terror as the fire drew nearer. “Mother! Father!” cried the chick. “What shall I do? I cannot fly away!” Its parents loved the chick deeply, but there was nothing they could do. They encouraged the little quail to be brave and promised they would return if they survived. Left alone, the quail felt frightened. The fire was coming closer and closer.

Then the little bird remembered the goodness and truth that it had learned. Facing the flames, the quail spoke these words: “I have no strength to fly. I have no power to escape. But it is true that I have never knowingly harmed another living being. By the power of this truth, may the fire turn back.”

According to the story, the sincerity and truthfulness of the quail’s heart were so pure that a miracle occurred. The fire stopped advancing. The flames died down, and the forest around the quail was saved. When the danger had passed, the quail’s parents returned and found their chick unharmed.



The quail teaches us that making a difference is not dependent upon being big, strong, wealthy, or important. What matters is the sincerity of our actions and the quality of our hearts. Most of us cannot stop a wildfire on our own. Yet each of us can contribute in meaningful ways. We can support those affected by disasters, care for our communities, protect the environment, and offer kindness to those who are struggling. Small actions, when joined with the efforts of many others, become a powerful force for good.

The Buddha-Dharma reminds us that no act of compassion is insignificant. Like the little quail, we may sometimes feel small in the face of life's challenges. Yet every gesture of kindness, every word of encouragement, and every act of caring have the potential to bring relief and hope to others.

This year when the summer fires are once again active in our province may we remember the story of The Quail Who Saved the Forest. We do not have to be great to make a difference. We only need to act with compassion, courage, and sincerity.

May we all enjoy a safe, peaceful, and enjoyable summer filled with meaningful connections and gratitude.

Namo Amida Butsu
Robert Gubenco Sensei



Calgary Buddhist Temple

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Calgary, Alberta

Telephone: 403-263-5723

www.calgary-buddhist.ab.ca

JULY 2026 MEMORIAL (SHOTSUKI) SERVICE LIST

Harry Kimura
Nyambura Mwangi

Miyoko Nakayeda
Hideo Nishi

Jack Noboru Nishiyama
Moto Oshiro

AUGUST 2026 MEMORIAL (SHOTSUKI) SERVICE LIST

Sheldon Chan
John Ted's Costello
Michael Coulson
Fumi Fujiwara
Koichi Fujiwara

George Gubenco Sr.
Takako Karakama
Soma Kitagawa
Diane Laberge

Reiko Nogamine
Rocky Oishi
Mick Saruwatari
Sue Saruwatari
Robert Teshima



TEMPLE SERVICE REMINDERS

Sunday, July 5th, 10:00 am – Shotsuki/Monthly Memorial Service

Sunday, July 12th, 10:00 am - Service

Sunday, July 19th, 10:00 am – Family Service

Saturday, July 25th – Cemetery services

- 11:00 am at Strathmore Cemetery
- 12:30 pm at Mountain View Cemetery

Sunday, July 26th – Cemetery services

- 11:00 am – Eden Brook Cemetery
- 1:00 pm – Queens Park Cemetery

Sunday, July 26th, 3:00 pm – Obon/Hatsubon Service

Sunday, August 2nd, 10:00 am – Shotsuki/Monthly Memorial Service

Summer Break Schedule – Temple closed from August 3rd to September 5th

Sunday, September 6th, 10:00 am – Shotsuki/Monthly Memorial Service

2026 HATSUBON – FIRST OBON SERVICE AFTER A LOVED ONE PASSES

- Sally Hironaka entered Nirvana on August 10, 2025, at the age of 87 years.
- Miwa Kazama entered Nirvana on March 19, 2026, at the age of 58 years.

2026 DONATIONS

DONATE TO THE CALGARY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

The temple appreciates your kindness and support, which enables us to share in the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha.

Here are 3 ways to give to the temple:

- E-transfer to calgarybuddhisttemple@gmail.com
- Mail to 207 – 6 Street NE, Calgary, AB T2E 3Y1
- Canada Helps at [Donate Now - CALGARY BUDDHIST TEMPLE](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/39361) or <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/39361>



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

SANGHA ENGAGEMENT

Sangha Engagement provides a variety of in-person activities with the purpose of keeping people engaged and to strengthen our community or Sangha. We are taking a break for the months of July and August so watch the Temple website and newsletters to keep up to date.



In addition to our continued community outreach activities, Sangha Engagement will again be collecting toys for those less fortunate and warm clothing for those in need from the end of October to the beginning of December. Your support and generosity over the years have been amazing.

We look forward to engaging with you.

CBT FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE



We are holding our second annual golf tournament at D'arcy Ranch on August 29. It will be a fun event for die-hard and novice golfers alike. Members, family, and friends are welcome! Same as last year, it will be a 4-man scramble. You can register as a team or as an individual and we will place you on a team. The defending champs are the Robb family team with Barrie, Jackie, Ryan, and Noah.

- Date: Saturday, August 29
- Cost: \$175 per person and includes 18 holes golf, cart, dinner, and prizes for every player.
- Time: Tee times starts at 2:15pm

If you are interested, please email Lester Ikuta at ikuta@telus.net to register before spots fill up!

MINISTER APPRECIATION

Sunday, Sep 20

The Calgary Buddhist Temple is fortunate to have a kind, dedicated and inspiring minister, Sensei Robert Gubenco.

After service on Sunday, Sep 20, let's show our appreciation to Sensei by enjoying a sweet treat together. Everyone is welcome to come shake his hand and let him know how much his time and efforts are appreciated.

Thank you, Sensei!





MOVIE MATINEE – RENTAL FAMILY

Saturday, Sep 27 at 2:00pm

September is Japanese Heritage Month and as such, the Calgary Buddhist Temple Sangha Engagement is proud to hold a movie matinee at the Temple. Set in Tokyo, **RENTAL FAMILY** follows an American actor (Brendan Fraser), who struggles to find purpose until he lands an unusual gig: working for a Japanese "rental family" agency, playing stand-in roles for strangers. As he immerses himself in his clients' worlds, he begins to form genuine bonds that blur the lines between performance and reality. Confronting the moral complexities of his work, he rediscovers purpose, belonging, and the quiet beauty of human connection.

- Admission is by Donation
- 2025 comedy-drama ♦ PG-13 ♦ 1h 49m
- Official Trailer <https://www.searchlightpictures.com/rental-family>



**Join the Calgary Buddhist Temple for an unforgettable
movie matinee on
Saturday, Sep 26, 2026 at 2:00pm**

Set against modern-day Tokyo, **RENTAL FAMILY** follows an American actor (Brendan Fraser) who struggles to find purpose until he lands an unusual gig: working for a Japanese "rental family" agency, playing stand-in roles for strangers. He rediscovers purpose, belonging, and the beauty of human connection.

PG13 - 1 hour 49 min

Admission is by Donation



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OCEAN RESIN WALL ART

Saturday, Oct 10 at 2:00pm



Ever wanted to try resin art? Now's your chance! Sangha Engagement is pleased to host an Ocean Resin Wall Art workshop on Saturday, Oct 10 from 2:00 - 4:00pm at the Temple. Cost is \$40/person, which will include all materials and step-by-step guidance. Participants will learn how to create their own ocean-inspired resin wall art, including how to mix and pour resin, create wave effects, blend colours, and finish a beautiful handmade piece to take home.

REGISTER OR <https://bit.ly/ResinArt-10Oct26>

Shinran Shonin (the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism) frequently used the phrase “ocean-like Primal Vow” as a metaphor describing Amida Buddha’s all-embracing compassion. Just as the vast ocean accepts all rivers, Amida Buddha’s compassion embraces all beings.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Think of others by providing lunch service on Sunday, Oct 11 at the Calgary Drop-In Centre downtown. Volunteers must be 18+ to participate. We need 10 volunteers to leave from the Temple around 11:15 am and walk over to the Drop-In Centre together OR you can meet us there at 11:30 am. We ask people to register to ensure we have the requested number of volunteers – **SIGN-UP** OR <https://bit.ly/Drop-In-11Oct26>



Additional Sunday lunch service dates in 2026: Nov 8, and Dec 13.

ALSO, you can volunteer with the Sangha on Sunday, Oct 18 from 1:00pm-4:00pm, at the Free Goods Program & Donation Centre. This family-friendly (aged 12 or older), volunteer opportunity supports various day-to-day activities at the Donation Centre located at 3640 11a Street NE. This is a great way to give back behind the scenes!

CALGARY
DROP-IN
CENTRE

Sign up and meet us at the Donation Centre (3640 11a Street NE Calgary). **SIGN-UP** OR <https://bit.ly/DonationCentre-18Oct26>

Together we can make a difference!



WOMEN'S FEDERATION CONVENTION

LIVE PEACE · LIVE ALOHA · LIVE AS ONE IN THE NEMBUTSU



18th WORLD BUDDHIST WOMEN'S CONVENTION

HONOLULU · HAWAII
September 11-12, 2027
Hilton Hawaiian Village
Waikiki Beach Resort



Rev. Dr. Masumi Kikuchi



Dr. Miki Tomita Okamoto

Please join us in Honolulu, Hawaii for the
18th World Buddhist Women's Convention!

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Rev. Dr. Masumi Kikuchi, Japan
Dr. Miki Tomita Okamoto, Hawaii

For more information please
visit www.hawaiiibwa.org
or scan the QR code.



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations



JULY/AUGUST CBT NEWSLETTER FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The fundraising committee is happily announcing future 2026 events.
Please stay tuned and save the dates.

Temple Golf Tournament on Saturday, August 29 at D'Arcy Ranch

- See the detailed announcement in this newsletter.

Dough making on Friday, September 25

- Venue to be announced in the Sign up Genius emails to come in early September.

Mein making on Sunday, September 27, 0830-1430

- Held at the CJCA venue.
- Sign-up Genius emails will come in early September

Grey Cup Pool tickets

- Calgary is hosting the 2026 Grey Cup, so we will be selling Grey Cup Pool Tickets this year.
- Get your tickets at Obon, Sunday July 26; Temple service commences at 3PM.

Fall Fundraising Dinner on Saturday, November 7, 2026

- Location: CJCA 2236 29 St SW, Calgary, AB T3E 2K2; due to the temple basement floor repair completion date uncertainty.

We are still collecting any Japanese items for our Everything Japanese Sale at a future event to be determined. Please contact Mickey if you have any items you have to donate; email Mickey at mhkuta@outlook.com.



THANK YOU, MERCI, DOMO ARIGATO
CBT Fundraising Committee
Thank you for supporting the community!



PAST WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

CALGARY DROP-IN – DONATION CENTRE

On Sunday, June 7, a super group of eager volunteers were at the Donation Centre working hard sorting bags and bags of donated items. This is a crucial step to helping low-income individuals and getting things where they need to go.

Thank you for supporting the community!





MAKE A JAPANESE WIND CHIME

Members of the Temple Sangha had a great time creating and designing personalized Japanese Wind Chimes on Sunday, June 14.





MAY DONATIONS

Canada Helps

Dodds A,
Ghann, J.
Griggs, M.
Haddon, S.

Howard, L.
Miyanishi, K.
Post, D.
Robson, T.

Stewart, M.
Sugimoto, L.
Sugimoto, S.
Wright, C.

Temple Donations

Anonymous
Armstrong, C.
Caldwell, B.
Cruickshank, D.
Delisle, Y.
Goudie, J.
Hayashi, D.

Ikuta, L. & M.
Kanegawa, S.
In memory of Richard Kanegawa
Kitagawa, S.
Masuda, M.
McCormack, D.
Miyanishi, K.
In memory of Tamiko Miyanishi
Nelson, P.
Odagaki, S.

Oshiro-Komaric, D.
Ota, F.
Pittman, C.&C.
Robb, B. & J.
Sangster, S.
Seaman, M.
Shoults, E.
Tanaka, M.
Wrolson, B.



2026 CBT Membership

Please take a few moments to complete the attached form and return it to the temple. Cheques can be made out to The Calgary Buddhist Temple. Mailing address: 207-6th St N.E. Calgary, Alberta T2E 3Y1. Tel: (403) 263-5723. Alternately, membership fee payments can be made online through [Canada Helps](https://canadahelps.org/en/dn/39361) (canadahelps.org/en/dn/39361) or via e-transfer (calgarybuddhisttemple@gmail.com). Just make sure to write "membership" in the message field. PDFs of completed forms can then be emailed to calgarybuddhisttemple@gmail.com.

Name:

Name:

Address: Line 1

Address: Line 2

City, Province,

Postal Code:

Telephone:

E-mail:

- ☐ Full Membership (\$150 per member)
- ☐ Student (Under 18) Membership –No Charge

Check to receive the CBT newsletter if you do not already receive it

___ by email

___ by mail

___ Please contact me regarding volunteering