



MINISTER ARTICLE

As I wrote this article we experienced a week of weather that included a fair amount of rain each day. The rain like many aspects of life is much needed but can be harmful if we receive too much or too little. We might perceive rain and the balance of nature as something separate from ourselves, but as we listen to the Buddha-Dharma we slowly awaken to the truth that our lives are interconnected with nature.

With the arrival of spring, there is an opportunity to witness the gentle rain nourishing the earth. Yet not everyone will view the rain with the same outlook. This is because of our tendency to distinguish the results of the rain based on our likes and dislikes.

The teaching of the Buddha-Dharma guides us from a place of wisdom and compassion to view the rain with non-attachment. For the rain descends on the earth without discrimination, it falls on every field, every garden, every blade of grass. Plants do not work to earn this gift; they simply receive it and in time, they grow, blossom, and bear fruit.

In our practice, we are reminded that Amida Buddha's compassion is like this spring rain. It flows unobstructed to all beings, regardless of our limitations or struggles. We do not have to achieve spiritual perfection to be embraced by this compassion. For it gently comes to us just as we are.

When we awaken to this truth, our hearts respond not with an overwhelmed exertion to be perfect, but with an acceptance and a deep sense of gratitude. We begin to live each day not from a sense of obligation, but from a natural appreciation for this boundless gift. In this way, a life of gratitude is not something we create on our own it blossoms naturally, like flowers after the rain, in response to the compassion we have received.

Perhaps in the future, as we watch the rain fall and notice the emergence of spring blossoms, we could also make time in our busy schedules to pause to reflect on the unseen support and compassion in our lives and live each day with a heart blooming in gratitude.

Namo-Amida-Butsu
Robert Gubenco Sensei



Calgary Buddhist Temple

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JUNE 2025 MEMORIAL (SHOTSUKI) SERVICE LIST

Jason Brandon	Yasuhiko Kaga	Shizu Nagai
Joyce Burkey	Takeo Kimura	Reiko Oishi
Brenda Cox	William Lane Sr.	Heidi Terakita
Michael Gubenco	Peter Liu	Misao Teshima
Miranda Haynes	Tamiko Miyanishi	Takao Teshima
	Seiji Mori	

TEMPLE SERVICE REMINDERS

JUNE SERVICES

- Sunday, June 1 st 10:00 am – Shotsuki/Monthly Memorial Service
- Tuesday, June 3 rd from 7:00 to 8:00 pm – Meditation (walking and seated)
- Sunday, June 15 th No Service - 11:00 am Family Picnic at Edworthy Park Site #4
- Sunday, June 22 nd 10:00 am – Service
- Sunday, June 29 th 10:00 am – Service and Open Sangha Dharma Talk

SPRING CLEANING THANK YOU!



Thank you to all volunteers (young and not-so-young) who braved the cold and miserable weather for the Temple spring clean-up.

The temple was buzzing with activity April 27, There was a hardy group of people decked out in rain gear cleaning out the leaves and garbage and another (warmer) enthusiastic group dusting, moping, vacuuming everywhere in the interior.

As anyone who has ever put something away in their own kitchen can appreciate, those cupboards and drawers where things get jammed were rearranged and organized!

Thank you again and see you all next year.



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Sunday, June 8, 2025

Think of others by providing lunch service this day at the Calgary Drop-In Centre.

Nine volunteers (18+) are needed. We leave after service from the Temple around 11:15am and walk over to the Drop-In Centre together, or meet us there at 11:30am.

The Eightfold Path to Happiness in action.

Sign Up Required: <https://bit.ly/DropIn-08Jun25>

C A L G A R Y
DROP-IN
C E N T R E

MAKE A JAPANESE WIND CHIME

Sunday, June 22 between 11:30am-1:30pm || Sunday, June 29 between 11:30am-1:30pm



Make a Japanese Wind Chime - Session 1

Link: <https://bit.ly/WindChime-22Jun25>

and/or

Make a Japanese Wind Chime - Session 2

Link: <https://bit.ly/WindChime-29Jun25>

Everyone is invited to take part in this fun activity that is popular in Japan - make a wind chime! Join the Sangha and use special POSCA pens to create or design your own personalized glass wind chime.

A Japanese wind chime, known as a furin (風鈴, literally “wind bell”) in Japanese, is a small bell usually found hanging from the balconies and porches of Japanese houses in summer.

In the days before air-conditioning, Japanese people used to listen to the sound of furin to promote a feeling of coolness to help get through Japan’s sweltering and humid summers.

The components for the wind chime, including the glass bell, are yours for a fee of only \$12 each thanks to support from the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society.

Registration is required and this activity is open to all.



SUMMER IKEBANA CLASS

May 24, June 7 and 21, July 5 and 26 || 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm



Classes will be held on Saturday afternoons at The Calgary Buddhist Temple from 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

The 5 classes are a series and the total cost including flower material and instruction, is \$250 for Temple members and \$300 for non-members. No refunds for missed classes.

Students must supply their own containers (please ask Rika for a suitable size and shape), scissors and kenzan (frog). Contact Rika if you need help selecting your items but these are not supplied as part of the lesson.

Rika Saruwatari trained under Ms. Takako Yokoyama, and became a certified Shihan (teacher) in 2012.

光風末生流 (Kofu misho school ikebana) classes

- May 24
- June 7 and 21
- July 5 and 26

Rika's contact info koufuikebana@gmail.com or call 403-701-0390

OBON ODORI PRACTICES

Sunday, July 6 and Sunday, July 20

After service in the lower level

The Calgary Buddhist Temple will be holding their Obon Service on Sunday, July 27 at 3pm at the Temple. This service is to show appreciation to all the people who passed before us whom we would not be here without.

Join the Sangha and participate in the custom of honoring our ancestors by learning/practicing Bon Odori (Japanese folk dancing) which involves repetitive movements that are easy and simple for everyone to follow.

Please plan to attend these Obon Odori practices so we're ready to dance, have fun, and share in the joy of doing Japanese folk dancing together after the Obon Service on July 27.

Everyone is encouraged to take part!





SANGHA ENGAGEMENT

June - August



We will be taking a break for the month of August, but then things get busy, so watch the website and future newsletters for activities coming up before the end of the year, such as:

- Kokedomo Workshop - the Japanese art of growing a plant in a moss-covered ball of soil and bind it together
- Sunday Sundae for Sensei: Minister Appreciation
- Calgary Drop-In Centre: serving lunch
- Origami and Card Making
- Japanese Calligraphy
- Taiko Drumming
- Furoshiki Workshop

SAVE THE DATE - CASINO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Wednesday September 10 and Thursday September 11, 2025

Our scheduled casino dates are Wednesday, September 10 and Thursday September 11, 2025 at the ACE Casino Airport (40 Aero Crescent NE).

We are looking for a few more volunteers for the casino; specifically for the cash cage and count room (evening shift). We are also looking for 3 to 4 spares just in case someone is unable to make their shift due to illness/ unforeseen circumstances. Although the night shift is a little long, it is good chance to meet and talk with other volunteers.



All volunteer jobs are simple and straightforward and there is expert assistance available at all times. Volunteers are provided with dinner and snacks. The Ace Casino Airport is a brand new casino and should be less busy mid-week, so volunteers should expect that there will be a lot of “down” time.

Please consider taking time out of your busy schedule to help us out. You can see the available shifts here:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17UiYTd1HuyiAfrXS_GrxvnpLM1yoGXVPcOj3phW8gh0/edit?gid=0#gid=0

Please contact me with any questions.

Doug Hironaka
Volunteer Casino Co-ordinator
doughironaka@gmail.com



REVERSE GARAGE SALE

June

Spring cleaning? Support your Temple while decluttering your home.

- **How:** Hold a garage sale, sell your unwanted items on Facebook Marketplace, or do a bottle drive on your own time. Then donate the proceeds to the Temple.
- **When:** On your own time during the month of June
- **Contact:** For more information or to submit the proceeds contact Mickey at mhkuta@outlook.com

REQUESTING DONATIONS FOR EVERYTHING JAPANESE SALE

On Going

We are accepting donations of new or used Japanese collectibles & Japanese items.

- **When:** Ongoing
- **Contact:** To drop off your donation or arrange a pickup, contact Mickey at mhkuta@outlook.com

Join us for our Temple's spring fundraising events !



1. Reverse garage Sale

Spring cleaning? Support your Temple while decluttering your home.

How: Hold a garage sale, sell your unwanted items on Facebook Marketplace, or do a bottle drive on your own time. Then donate the proceeds to the Temple.

When: On your own time during the month of June

Contact: For more information or to submit the proceeds contact Mickey at mhkuta@outlook.com

2. Requesting donations for Everything Japanese Sale

We are accepting donations of new or used Japanese collectibles & Japanese items.

When: Ongoing

Contact: To drop off your donation or arrange a pickup contact Mickey at mhkuta@outlook.com

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Fundraising Committee
Calgary Buddhist Temple





PAST WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

KEIROKAI – CELEBRATING OUR YOUNG AT HEART!

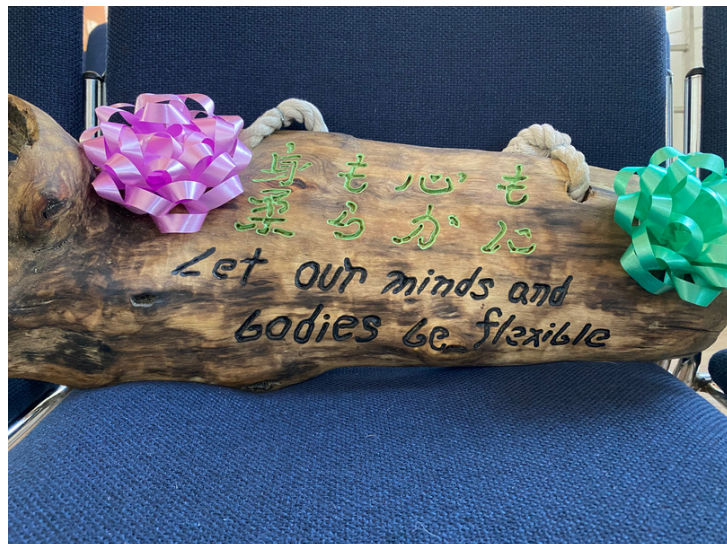


Sunday, May 18 was the temple Keirokai which is an event where we celebrate, honor, and show our appreciation to our more seasoned temple members. Their invaluable contributions, wisdom, and dedication have been instrumental in shaping the temple to what it is today.

Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu

INSPIRATIONAL DONATION

Thank you to Thomas Chung, who attended and was moved by a service at the Temple, to create and donate his lovely piece of handiwork.





IKEBANA INSPIRED MOTHER'S DAY ARRANGEMENT

In the morning of May 10th, the Dharma Time kids had fun putting together an arrangement for their mothers along with making lovely Mother's Day cards.

In the afternoon, members of the Sangha enjoyed creating unique flower arrangements for that someone special. We are grateful that both workshops were lead by our talented Shihan/teacher, Rika Saruwatari.





THE WAR BETWEEN US



JAPANESE
CANADIAN
LEGACIES

Sunday, May 25, the Temple had the distinct pleasure of hosting a special screening of the movie, *The War Between Us*, which was first shown in 1996 and it continues to be a distinctive, thought-provoking, and relevant film today. It is a true story of two Canadian families and what they endured when the Japanese one is interned as official enemy aliens during World War II.



It was an honor and privilege for the Calgary Buddhist Temple to host this film showing with the kind assistance from the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society.

Anne Wheeler is the film's acclaimed director, and we were so fortunate to have her join us in-person to introduce the film and engage with the audience after the film to answer questions as well as garner feedback and promote discussion.



More information on Anne Wheeler can be found at www.annewheeler.com

A special thank you to the awesome Temple volunteers who helped make this event a success: Sensei Gubenco, Susan H, Laurie, Susan K, Masaye, Marty, and Evan as well as projector support from David H.



DANA DAY/WF AGM

The JSBTC and the WF (Women's Federation) met in Toronto at the end of April for the AGM. The WF met Friday and Saturday with good attendance and discussions. Bishop Umitani from Hawaii gave a brief presentation on the WBW Convention that will be held Sept. 11/12, 2027. The theme of the conference will be "Live Peace, Live Aloha and Live Nembutsu." Our main speaker, Dr. Jeff Wilson, talked on the inclusive nature of the Nembutsu, with reference to how women were viewed in feudal Japan, and the second half on the inclusiveness of the LGBTQ+ community. Excellent presentation.

The WF had 3 Dana Day submissions. As two of these did not have national coverage, the charity PC Kids was picked to receive our donation of \$2000.00.

Thank you for your kind generosity in donating to the Dana Day Fund.

In Gassho

Laurie Takeda

WF Leadership Committee



LIBRARY NEWS

Because of the Father's Day Picnic, the library will be open on Sunday June 8, NOT Sunday June 15th. Come downstairs and browse the books while you enjoy a cup of tea!

I am looking forward to meeting you and would greatly appreciate feedback on books, especially book recommendations that you may have.

For any newcomers to the church, it is easy to join our library. For \$20.00, you get a lifetime membership. The book loan period is 3 months. Please see me if you are interested in joining. I will be at the library anytime it is open.



You can return a book even if the library is closed. Just leave it in our Returns box.

If you have books on Buddhism that you would like to donate to the library, we are very grateful to accept donations! These can go into the Returns box too.

New books and booklets this month include:

- Mansions of the Moon by Shyam Selvadurai
 - A novel written from the viewpoint of Yasodhara, wife of Siddhartha Gotama
- A Buddhist Quarterly, Vol. 14, Issues 1 - 4, Jodo Shinshu International
- Dharma: My Guiding Light, Issues 13 & 16 by Yasuo Izumi

Thanks, Kim and Masaye



APRIL DONATIONS

Canada Helps

Dodds Alexandra
Giggs, Melanie
Haddon, Samantha
Howard, Leslie

McCullagh, Bob
Miyanishi, Kiyoko
Post, David
Robson, Tomiko

Stewart, Matthew
Sugimoto, Laura
Sugimoto, Sumire
Wright, Charlene

Temple Donations

Anonymous
Alexander, Robert &
Tracee Sano
Auld, Belle
Dolph, Heather
Giroux, Erin
Goudie, Jane
*In memory of Muneo, Connie and
Ronnie Takeda*
Hayashi, Deborah
In memory of Butch Hayashi
Hironaka, Doug

Huntley, Susan
In memory of Ronnie Takeda
Kitagawa, Susan
Konno, Marie
In memory of Yoshiko Teshima
Liu, Olivia
Masuda, Jean
In memory of Russ Hironaka
Masuda, Misae
Miquelon, Dixie
Oishi, Jits

Oshiro, Evan
Ota, Fumi
Pittman, Craig & Cathy
Porteous, Angela
Takeda, L
In memory of Ronnie Takeda
Takeda N.
Tanaka, Masaye
Teshima, Roger

Donations in memory of June Tajiri

Durand, Joanne and family
Huntley, Susan
Inaba, Frank
Kitagawa, Susan
Kikushi, Dennis
Maruno Family
Masuda, Jean
Masuda, Misae

McMullen, Brenda
Nishi, Ken and Mary
Obayashi, Harry
Oishi, Jits
Sakaguchi, Tad and Chieko
Sameshima, Masumi
Sameshima, Teresa

Skelly, Robert & Linda
Sugimoto, Laura
Tamura, Ken and Maxine
Thirukkumaran, Vinoth
Tomiya, Yoshio &
Sumiko
Wodelet, Kathleen & David

南無阿彌陀佛



CALGARY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

www.calgary-buddhist.ab.ca

2025 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](http://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