



Buddhist Church of Lodi

Newsletter

23 North Stockton St., Lodi, CA 95240-2214
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<http://lodibuddhist.org/>

Sunday, September 6, 2015

No Service

Saturday, September 12, 2015

Age Appreciation Bento Delivery

Sunday, September 13, 2015

8:30 AM Propagation Committee meeting

9:30 AM Shotsuki Service

(Monthly Memorial Service)

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

7:00 AM Shinran Shonin's Monthly Memorial Service (Oasaji)

Saturday, September 19, 2015

Fall Seminar

"Birthdeath"

–How different we are from Christian thinking–

Lecturer: Rev. Mas Kodani

(BCA Minister Emeritus)

Sunday, September 20, 2015

8:30 AM Chanting & Meditation

9:30 AM Fall Ohigan Service

Guest Speaker: Rev. Mas Kodani

***Let's get 100 attendees!!!**

Sunday, August 27, 2015

8:30 AM Chanting & Meditation

9:30 AM Family Sunday Service (DS/AD)

DS- Dharma School, AD – Adult Discussion

The newsletter is a monthly publication of the **Buddhist Church of Lodi**, 23 N. Stockton Street, Lodi, CA 95240. There is no subscription charge for members and friends, but donations are welcome.

MESSAGE FROM REV KATSU**[The 70th Anniversary of A-Bomb]****“The basis for peace is for people to understand the pain of others.”**

An atomic bomb victim, Mr. Katsuji Yoshida, left this message for us before he passed away in 2010. He was a member of my family temple, Kougenji and also a good friend of my father. He was thirteen years old when the A-bomb was dropped on Nagasaki on August 9th, 1945. He was badly burned because he was close to ground zero. Later, he made a big effort to tell his experience to younger generations. He also came to the U.S.A. to convey his experience and wish for peace. I truly appreciate his words, which are related to the Buddha's great compassion. I would like to introduce his article written in 2005 and think about “Peace” with you.

<Suddenly “Kaboom!”>

I cannot forget the day even though I try to forget it. It happened on August 9th, 1945 at 11:02 AM.

The air-raid warning had been called off in the morning, so my friends and I, seven of us, left a place of refuge at a commercial high school and began to walk back to an industrial high school. On the way there, we found a water well by a farmer's house. We were so thirsty so we decided to stop there and have some water. By chance, I looked up and saw two parachutes coming down from a break in the clouds. My friends also held their hands toward sun and looked at the parachutes. At that moment, “Kaboom”, An A-bomb was exploded. It is difficult to find words to describe the moment.

My body was blown off and flew over a vegetable field and road. I flew to a rice field about 40 meters away (about 44 yards). Some people described the sound of the explosion of A-bomb “Pika-Don”. However, I didn't understand at all what happened at that time. I didn't feel any pain. I was quite conscious while my body was in the air. (I think it was about a few seconds.)

After a while, I felt burning pain and my body was curling up. It was as if my body was a dried squid that was being grilled. I only had experienced slight a burn that formed blisters before. However, this time my burn was more severe. I was covered in blood and my skin was

hanging down. My head's skin was still there but got charred. The cold water in the rice field brought me back to myself. At first, I felt at ease that it was just a burn and I could cure it if I applied some ammonia water. I didn't feel any terrible pain. I experienced severe pain later.

<It was a nightmare. The Urakami River was dyed a blood red and was filled with people.>

When I looked around, everybody, men, women, young and old people, were burned and had charred skin. These people screamed and came down from a hill and gathered at a riverbank. I could hear an airplane's menacing sound from the sky. I covered my body with leaves to hide. Around that time, I began to feel fear. My burned body felt more pain.

After the explosion, my friends and I were talking to each other without knowing what happened to our faces. One person had a piece of mirror and we looked at it. Something weird was reflected in the mirror. We were shocked and frightened more when we saw our burned faces.

We could not distinguish these people who were walking down from the hill. We couldn't tell if they were men or women. They were almost naked. When we went near ground zero, we found a charred body, a person whose eyes fell out, a person whose internal organs came out, and a person who had no arms and legs. People wandered around. We found many burned people at the Urakami River near Shimo Ohashi. The river was dyed the color of blood and oil. It was very dirty. Some of the people went down to the river and drank the dirty water. They died there one after another. We saw the horrid sight from shore. Our school song said, “The Urakami River is pure and beautiful...” The river was dyed a blood red and filled with dead people. It was the horrible day.

(To be continued)

<100 attendees at the Fall Ohigan Service>

The propagation committee is now working for getting 100 attendees. I really want to see that 100 people are sitting in the Hondo and we chant the sutra together, sing a Gatha together, and listen to the Buddha's teaching together.

Please ask your family, daughters, sons, grandson, and granddaughters to attend the Fall Ohigan

service on Sunday, September 20th. Our guest speaker is Rev. Mas Kodani, BCA Minister Emeritus.

The evaluation of 2015's resolution
(E-excellent, G-good, S-so so, B-bad)

Lodi: Get 24 new members	B
WG: Get 8 new members	B
Give my dharma talk without paper	G
Practice playing "Ryuteki"	B
Practice playing golf	E

-The number of attendees – (Lodi)

Date	Attendees	Date	Attendees
Aug 2 nd	38	Aug 16 th	39

2015 Memorial Service Schedule

2015 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2014	1 year	1999	17 year
2013	3 year	1991	25 year
2009	7 year	1983	33 year
2003	13 year	1966	50 year

In Gassho,

Rev. Katsu: reverend@lodibuddhist.net

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF LODI
General Meeting

No meeting in August.

LBWA UPDATE – Hannah Egi

There are many events coming up in September. The Templars baseball team has invited up to 50 LBWA members to their banquet on, Saturday, September 5, 2015, time to be announced later. Those who would like to attend please contact the church and reserve a spot for dinner. This is to thank the ladies who have helped prepare lunch and dinner over the many years of the team.

Thank you to the many ladies who could come out to prepare the delicious bento, including the kuri manju.

A sign up to bring food for after the Fall Higan Service is by the Osaisen table. If more than 107 people attend that service, we need more refreshments after service so we can discuss, reflect, visit, and partake in some snacks.

Miyo Kawamura donated a new food processor for

carrots in inari sushi. Thank you for your generosity.

On Saturday, October 31, 2015, will be our annual Eshinni/Kakushinni/Past Members Memorial service. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Tim Castle. A letter will go out to all members, please reserve a spot at Yen Ching following service.

Next general meeting is Friday, September 4, 2014 at 11:00 AM, Toban: Group A.

DHARMA SCHOOL – Jill Walter

Dharma School officially kicked off their school year on August 16th. It was very enjoyable visiting with our Dharma School friends after our long summer break. We enjoyed games, ate snacks (one of which was space ice cream), and discussed some up coming activities. This year we intend on generating a new donation box made out of wood so that we can further encourage the Buddhist practice of Dana, or giving. We will be doing some crafts, like painting Buddha's words on stones to place around our courtyard, as a reminder of Buddha's sage words, and Hannah will be giving us a lesson on making delicious apple wonton turn overs for our Fall Ohigan celebration. We are also discussing the possibility of practicing Taiko drumming the second half of the Dharma School year and perhaps, with some hard work, we will be able to perform for our church members. We look forward to a fun and interesting school year!

SHINYUKAI – July 28th

Birthday donations:

Roy Tashima	\$20.00
Wendy Nagao	20.00
June Masui	20.00
Pat Kishida	20.00
Sach Watanabe	20.00
Mitsuko Kishi	20.00
June Shimosaki	20.00
Frank Teranishi	20.00
Shizuno Nitta	20.00

Special donations and contributions:

Roy Tashima
 Tsukemono
 Asa & Shigeko Koyama Sack of Rice
 Rev. Katsu & Ayano Somen
 Shiso
 Kazuko Shimozaki
 Zucchini & Eggplant Nagata
 Brothers
 Shrimp
 LBC
 June Shimozaki
 2 cases of water
 Nancy Burgess
 \$50 Raley's gift card

August Scrip Supporters

Arleen Mataga
 Chris Smith
 Harriet Matsumoto
 Janet Morimoto
 Joy Sasaki
 Kelly Yamane
 Liza Kanemura
 Mieko Komatsu
 Nagako Sumida
 Nancy Burgess
 Terry Oga

Calendar Dates:Scrip orders due: 9/4 at 10 a.m. (**Friday**)Scrip pick-up: 9/14 (**Monday**)***SCRIP UPDATE***

In addition to the gift cards, Raley's has a new electronic scrip program and you don't need a card to participate! It is called Extra Credit and is part of the Something Extra rewards program. **To enroll, please sign up for a Something Extra rewards account at www.somethingextra.com. After enrollment, you can visit Extra Credit and select the church (listed as Buddhist Church of Lodi) as a scrip beneficiary.**

Thank you to all who are using their SaveMart SHARES card. Every time you shop, your card is scanned and the church receives a 3% benefit. Please contact me if you would like a card – the SHARES cards are free! Like Raley's, SaveMart is not able to provide reports by individual contributions for their SHARES program. Year-to-Date June 2015, the church earned **\$625**, as a result of purchases with your SHARES card. If you purchase SaveMart gift cards (2% benefit), we can continue to track your individual contributions.

Thank you to all who are participating in the program! If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Yamane at 365-7124 or any of the scrip supporters listed below.

Scrip orders will be due by 10 a.m. on the order date.

SHOTSUKI – Janet Morimoto

Thank you to all the following ladies that graciously brought refreshments for the August Shotsuki fellowship after the service:

Nagako Sumida
 Hannah Egi
 Shizuno Nitta
 Janet Morimoto

For those Shotsuki families wishing to bring food following a service please contact the church office or Janet Morimoto to let us know.

THANK YOU

To the Monthly Clean Up crew:
 Ken Egi, Harriet Matsumoto, Frank Teranishi, David Morimoto, Nagako Sumida, Ayano and Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki.

VIDEO AND MOVIE CASSETTES

Video and movie cassette tapes are available in the library for viewing. The Noma Family donated them.