

NICHIREN NEWS

September, 2015

Sacramento Nichiren Buddhist Church - 5191 24th Street, Sacramento, CA 95822 (916) 456-8371

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September, 2015

6	----	no service
13	----	no service
20	----	no service
27	11:30am	Ohigan service
27	noon	Church meeting

October, 2015

4	----	no service
10	Saturday 11am-2pm	Food Bazaar
11	11:30am	Sunday service
11	noon	Church meeting
19	----	no service
25	11:30am	Oeshiki service

November, 2015

1	----	no service
8	11:30am	Komatsubara
15	----	no service

OHIGAN SERVICE

Ohigan service will be held on Sunday, September 27, 2015. This service takes place twice a year (during the Spring and Fall equinoxes).

Please write the names of your deceased family members on the enclosed form, and return the form to Church before the 11:30am service.

CHURCH MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS

August 30, 2015

- Discussed roof repair of both carport and residence. Fusako Okamoto and Brian Tsuda received estimates

Highlights (continued)

for the cost, but no decision will be made until additional info is gathered.

- October bazaar was discussed. Once again crafts & baked goods will be sold.
- Agreed to increase mochi prices for the December sale. Order forms will be distributed at the October bazaar.

FALL FOOD BAZAAR Saturday, 10/10/15 11:00am to 2:00pm

Members & friends are asked to help at the Fall Food Bazaar. Preparations will take place on Thursday, October 8, 2015, Friday, October 9, 2015 and Saturday, October 10, 2015.

Pre-sale forms may be picked up at Church or printed from the website. Completed forms must be returned to the Church with payment by Monday, September 28, 2015

Barasushi - \$4.50

Bento - \$10.00

Spam Musubi - \$4.00

Teriyaki Beef Sandwich - \$5.00

Teriyaki Chicken - \$7.00

Udon - \$5.00

Please ask family, friends & neighbors to help support our Church. Depending on the number of pre-sale items ordered, additional food may be purchased at this event.

Baked goods and crafts will also be sold. Please bring in your donations for sale.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the generous donations from the following:

Memorial: Liz Nettle (in memory of Sachiko Aoki)/\$30.

Special donations: Joe Hitomi/trimmed trees; Betsi Ann Nagasawa/\$20 & \$20; Fusako Okamoto/flowers for Sunday services; Mike Tamai/book case and cutting board (for chicken shed)

Chicken Sale: \$80

Obon: Toshiko Akiyama/\$25; Shizuko Carr/\$50; Susumu Fujiwara/\$40; Yukiko Hachiya/\$20; Keri Hayakawa/\$30; Joe Hitomi/\$50; Kanji Hitomi/\$20; Lily Hitomi/\$20; John Hughes/\$100; Kazuyo Johnson/\$100; Miyo Kitamura/\$300; Liz Kono & Peter Kato/\$100; Keiko Lucas/\$50; Kathy Mine/\$20; Takashi Mizuno/\$50; Meriko Murata/\$30; Dag Nakatogawa/\$25; Toyoko Nakatogawa/\$10; Liz Nettle/\$25; Masanao Okamoto/\$20; Hiroko Sugitani/\$40; Arthur Sugiyama/\$20; Dave & Gail Tanaka/\$30; Hideko Tsuetaki/\$30; Chiharu Yamada/\$20

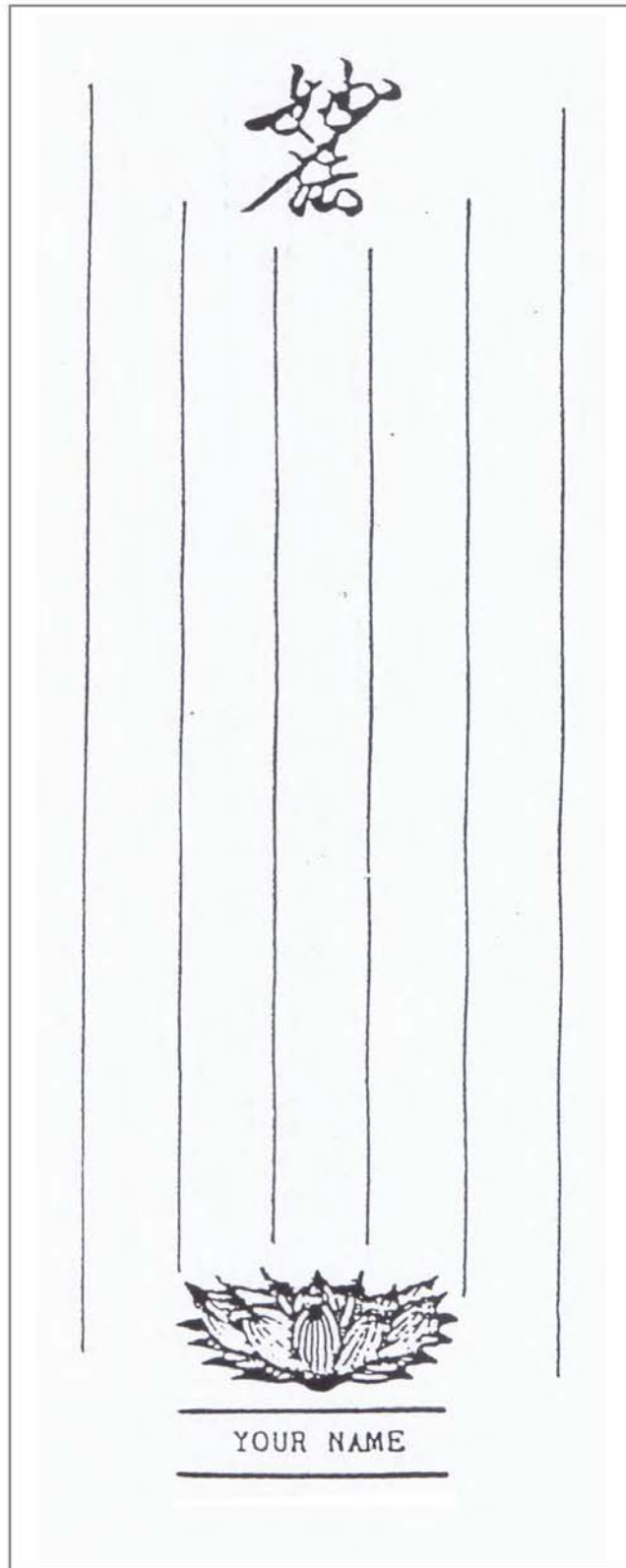
Membership: John Hughes/\$240; Dag Nakatogawa/\$240

CONDOLENCES

We offer sincere condolences to the family of:

Reverend Ryosho Nakajo who was the 7th Resident Minister of our Church. Reverend Nakajo passed away on April 8, 2015 at the age of 78.

Write the names of your deceased family members on the form below, cut out the form and return it to the Church before the service.



逝者

YOUR NAME

Understanding Buddhism

What is Buddhism?

Buddhism is the teaching of the Buddha, just as Christianity is the teaching of Jesus Christ and Islam is the teaching of Mohammad.

Yet, there is one major characteristic that distinguishes Buddhism from the other major religions—those who embrace Buddhism can also become a Buddha. In Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, believers are encouraged to learn the teachings of the founder and to devote themselves to a unique, absolute deity. Nonetheless, these followers cannot become a deity.

However, in Buddhism, anyone is said to have the potential to become the Buddha if they awaken to the truth behind the universe and human beings, which can be understood through studying the teachings of the Buddha. Ultimately, Buddhism is everyone's attempt to become a Buddha.

What is "Buddha"?

"Buddha" is the Sanskrit word for "aspirant". After practicing and overcoming austerities for six years, the Buddha decided to abandon the severe practices. He would eventually discover the truth while meditating under a bodhi tree. For this reason, people called him the "Buddha" or the "one who has awakened to the truth".

The original Buddha from India was an "ojin Buddha"—a body of a Buddha manifested to correspond to the different needs and capacities of living beings. The Buddha that is represented in the Lotus Sutra is called a "hojin Buddha", which is a Buddha that has gained Enlightenment a long time before the dawn of existence, even long before this universe was created. Essentially, this Buddha is the "truth".

As the teachings came to be received in the western regions of Asia, the Chinese used two Chinese characters ("butsu" and "da") to represent the word, "Buddha". When Buddhism came to Japan, the Japanese only used the first character and it came to be read as both "butsu" and "hotoke".

Higan is an important event in September. This is your opportunity to pray for your ancestors and yourself.