

# NICHIREN NEWS

September, 2018

Sacramento Nichiren Buddhist Church - 5191 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95822 (917) 456-8371

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September, 2018

2	10:00am	Adult Study class
2	11:30am	Sunday service
9	----	no service
16	----	no service
23	11:30am	Kaji Kito
30	11:30am	Ohigan service
30	noon	Church meeting

### October, 2018

7	----	no service
13	Saturday 11am- 2pm	Food Bazaar
14	11:30am	Kaji Kito
21	----	no service
28	11:30am	Oeshiki service
28	noon	Church meeting

### OHIGAN SERVICE

Ohigan service will be held on Sunday, September 30, 2018. 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-7/29/18

- ▶ Discussed bazaar prices; will increase agesushi to \$7.00 effective Summer 2019
- ▶ Classroom building requires painting; John Hughes will get estimates
- ▶ Discussed need for donations for the Building Fund.

### CHURCH MEETING

#### HIGHLIGHTS-8/12/18

- ▶ John Hughes got 3 estimates for painting. After reviewing costs/services, it was agreed to

use the company that we previously used.

- ▶ Discussed Fall food bazaar; will add **fried rice** this Fall. As the order form was already distributed, this item will be sold at the bazaar.

### CHURCH MEETING

#### HIGHLIGHTS-8/26/18

- ▶ Discussed preparations for Fall food bazaar and the number of chickens to cook.
- ▶ Noted additional help is needed at the bazaar.

### BUILDING FUND

We are asking for donations to the Building Fund. The monies will be used for items such as painting & upkeep/repair.

### FALL FOOD BAZAAR

#### Saturday, 10/13/18

#### 11:00am to 2:00pm

Members & friends are asked to help at the Fall Food Bazaar. Preparations will take place on **Thursday, October 11, 2018, Friday, October 12, 2018 and Saturday, October 13, 2018.**

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 24, 2018.**

Agesushi - \$6.00

Barasushi - \$5.00

Bento - \$10.00

Curry Rice - \$6.00

Ruby's Chicken Salad - \$5.00

Spam Musubi - \$4.00

Teriyaki Beef Sandwich - \$5.00

Teriyaki Chicken - \$7.00

Udon - \$6.00

Please ask family & friends to help support our Church. 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:** In memory of Sachiko Aoki-Liz Nettle/\$30; In memory of Emiko Nagasawa-Todd Nagasawa/\$500, Jim Fujii/\$50, Yoshio Iwasa/\$25; In memory of Saburo Kawamura-Grace Hiuga/\$25, Mervin & Carol Tamai/\$30, Ronald Mori/\$20, Toshiye Kawamura/\$100, Mervin Tamai/\$30, James Dong/\$20; In memory of Richard Tamai-Michele Tamai/3 shelving units (value \$300);

**Special donations:** Fusako Okamoto/flowers for Sunday services; Thomas Murray/\$150 & \$200; Nichiren-shu Headquarters/\$375.57

**Building Fund:** Kenjo Igarashi/\$1,000 Norma Rodman/\$20; Anonymous /\$1,000;

**Obon:** Susumu Fujiwara/\$40; Joe Hitomi/\$20; Lily Hitomi/\$30; Yoshiko Hitomi/\$50; John Hughes/\$150; Mary Hughes/\$100; Kiyoko Kuwabara/\$40; Keiko & Kevin Lucas/\$50; Kathy Mine/\$25; Takashi Mizuno/\$50; Thomas & Deardra Murray/\$200; Kinjiro Nakatogawa/\$50; Masanao & Fusako Okamoto/\$30; Yurimi Sawamura/\$30; Dave & Gail Tanaka/\$30; Brian Tsuda/\$40; Keiko Tsuda/\$20; Hideko Tsuetaki/\$50; Chiharu Yamada/\$20

**Membership:** Kathy Mine/\$240; Betsi Ann Nagasawa/\$20 & \$20; Hitoko Nagasawa/\$240

### CONDOLENCES

We offer sincere condolences to the family of:

Emiko Nagasawa who passed away on August 6, 2018 at the age of 90.

## Reflecting on My *Shugyou* (Part 2)

Kenjo Igarashi

After walking for over six hours, the typhoon had finally subsided. I was very hungry and wanted to enter a small restaurant, but decided to do so after drying myself off. I opened my *zudabukuro* to take out a change of clothes, but all the contents in the bag were soaked because of the rain. I took out each piece of clothing that I had and left them out to dry. I also proceeded to unzip a small compartment in my *zudabukuro*, which I knew contained my wallet. However, to my disbelief, my wallet was gone. Thinking back, I am glad that I noticed my wallet was missing before entering the restaurant and eating my meal. Yet at the time, I was so shocked that I could barely stand.

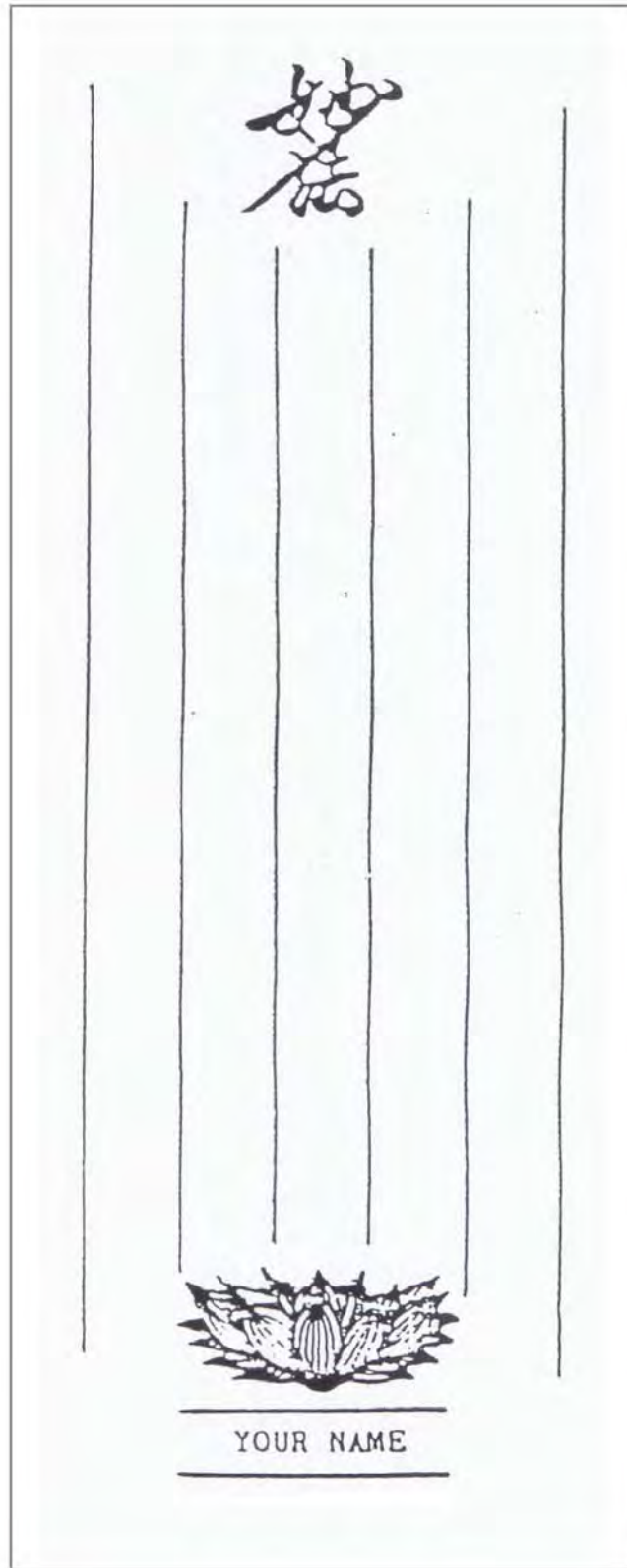
With each passing moment, I felt my hunger grow as I frantically tried to figure out how to return to my parents' house in Tokyo. After some thinking, I calmly reasoned that since (1) I was a minister and (2) I was in a small town, the best way of surviving would be to do *takuhatsu* (stopping and praying in front of each house and if possible, receiving a donation in return). Having never done *takuhatsu* before, I was unsure about the exact steps, but decided that I would do my best and focus on praying for the peace and prosperity of all members of each household. I stopped by the first house and prayed, simultaneously beating my hand-held taiko. When I finished my prayer, I realized that someone from the house had stepped outside holding an *ohineri* (wrapped offering of money, often coins). Knowing that I was not allowed to receive the donation with my bare hands, I presented the backside of my taiko where the person placed the *ohineri*. I cannot forget the feeling I had when I received my first *ohineri*. I recall stopping by around 20-30 houses in this small town. Most of the individuals who were home at the time I stopped by to do the *takuhatsu* waited for me with the *ohineri* in their hand. There were varying amounts in the *ohineri*, ranging from a couple cents to a few dollars. I was very grateful to have received more than enough donations to buy some food. With that being said, I had reached the outskirts of the town and realized that it would take too much time to walk back to the restaurant that I had initially planned on stopping by. I instead decided to eat at the next town over.

Unfortunately, I soon realized that there was a problem with my plan, as it seemed that there was no town nearby. I continued walking only to find that I was approaching the mountains and what seemed like no sign of human existence. Hungry and thirsty, I contemplated drinking the muddy water that had accumulated due to the typhoon. Even the weeds started looking appetizing and like a potential food source. However, I told myself that I would not become like the individuals in the world of hungry spirits and used every bit of energy I had left to force myself to continue walking.

After walking a bit further, I finally came across a farmer who had stopped by his farm to check on his field after the typhoon. I was elated to see him and decided to approach him. I was so thirsty that I asked him for some water and he instead invited me to come along with him to his friend's house nearby. I followed him there only to realize that the house was empty. The farmer offered to take me to his own house where his wife was waiting for his return. I had initially requested for only some water, but upon reaching his house, the farmer's wife greeted me warmly and asked me if I was hungry. The happiness and gratefulness I felt at that very moment when she offered me food is unexplainable. I believed that the Buddha and deities had transformed into this couple to help me. To this day, during my morning prayers, I remember to pray for all those individuals who had helped me during my pilgrimage. However, I must admit that the farmer and his wife are the individuals that first come to mind. I do not know their name or where they live or used to live. However, their kindness is one that I will never forget.

After receiving the food, I tried to leave them some money, but they refused and insisted that the food was their form of donation to me. I thanked the farmer and his wife and proceeded to leave their house, only to realize that I did not know how to find my way to my next expected stop, Lake Motosuko. I asked the farmer who told me that his son, who was maybe in elementary school at the time, knew of a shortcut and would be able to lead the way. I once again thanked the couple and followed the child, knowing that my *shugyou* would continue. (*To be continued...*)

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.



Calligraphic symbol

YOUR NAME

# ❖ Japanese Food Sale (pre-sale) ❖

**Saturday, October 13, 2018**

**11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Sacramento Nichiren Buddhist Church  
5191 24<sup>th</sup> Street - Sacramento, CA 95822  
(916) 456-8371**

Keep this top portion for your records.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>	X	<u>Quantity</u>	=	<u>Total Cost</u>
Agesushi	\$ 6.00		_____		_____
Barasushi	\$ 5.00		_____		_____
Bento	\$10.00		_____		_____
Curry Rice	\$ 6.00		_____		_____
Ruby's Chicken Salad	\$ 5.00		_____		_____
Spam Musubi	\$ 4.00		_____		_____
Teriyaki Beef Sandwich	\$ 5.00		_____		_____
Teriyaki Chicken	\$ 7.00		_____		_____
Udon	\$ 6.00		_____		_____
<b>TOTAL</b>					_____

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To place an order, please visit our website at [www.sacramentonichirechurch.org](http://www.sacramentonichirechurch.org) or complete the form below & mail it along with your check made payable to "**Sacramento Nichiren Buddhist Church**" to the church by **Monday, September 24, 2018.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>	X	<u>Quantity</u>	=	<u>Total Cost</u>
Agesushi	\$ 6.00		_____		_____
Barasushi	\$ 5.00		_____		_____
Bento	\$10.00		_____		_____
Curry Rice	\$ 6.00		_____		_____
Ruby's Chicken Salad	\$ 5.00		_____		_____
Spam Musubi	\$ 4.00		_____		_____
Teriyaki Beef Sandwich	\$ 5.00		_____		_____
Teriyaki Chicken	\$ 7.00		_____		_____
Udon	\$ 6.00		_____		_____
<b>TOTAL</b>					_____