



GATEWAY



January 2013 -- Vol. XLVII No. 1

Living Dharma News

www.livingdharma.org

New on the website is Aiko Enoki's engaging account of her travels this past summer, entitled "Human Trafficking and HIV / AIDS." Please check out the active links at the end of her article to the compassionate organizations that are working to fight against human slavery and the global spread of HIV / AIDS.

Gassho,
Rev. Peter Hata

Selected E-mail

From: Anthony Gutierrez
Subject: Is my birth in the Pureland

Please see L.D. NEWS, con't on page 7



Mahalo Rev. Ken! by Claudia Haraguchi

On Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012, family, friends, and colleagues of Bishop Kenjun Kawawata gathered to wish our former minister a fond Aloha nui loa at the Royal Vista Golf Club in Walnut. Apparently, it was the event of the season, not to be missed, since we had a turn away crowd of approximately 273 people and then some. Although from the very beginning, planning was on the fast track and decisions had to be made quickly, it was like a Hollywood

Please see MAHALO, con't on page 4



Above: WCBT's staff pose after the Oseibo presentations at the 2012 Year-end Service; (front row, l-r) Rev. Peter Hata, Jeanne Kawawata, Diane Hata, Pat Sato, Ruby Kagawa, Denise Underwood, Claire Hansen, Merry Jitosh; (back row) Tor Ormseth, Rev. Fred Brenion, President Johnny Martinez, Richard Kagawa (see more Year-End pics on page 8)

Happy New Year!

By Rev. Peter Hata

I'd like to express my sincere wish to all our West Covina Buddhist Temple members and friends for a Happy New Year. I hope this year is a wonderful and memorable one for all of you.

But what is it that truly makes us happy? Most of us might say something like "good fortune," and do I hope you and your family experience good fortune this year. Of course, as Buddhists we are not encouraged to "pray" for such happy outcomes; instead we are simply asked to listen to the teachings of Buddhism and to follow them in our lives. But can this "listening" then guarantee us a "happy new year"? I think it all depends on how we define happiness.

Most of us probably think of happiness as living a life where everything goes the way we want it to. Or, if we're currently settled into a lifestyle we're satisfied with—we've got adequate financial security and are fortunate to

have good health—we probably are hoping things stay that way forever. None of us wants to deal with the stress that change or impermanence brings in our lives. Yet our life experiences tend to teach us otherwise.

But for that very reason, because we are all subject to the truth of impermanence, I think we are fortunate to be students of the Buddha-dharma. Though it at first seems counterintuitive, in Buddhism, our wish for

Please see NEW YEAR, con't on page 8

Temple Event Highlights:

- Jan.1, New Years Service
- Jan. 20, Eitaikyo/General Meeting
- Feb. 10, Pet Memorial Service
- Feb. 15-17, Family Retreat
- Please See Temple News



T H E G A T E W A Y

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

We were all fortunate in being able to attend the farewell luncheon honoring Bishop Kenjun Kawawata last month. As Jeanne Kawawata prepares for the big move, our staff would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest thanks for her friendship and lifetime of experiences working with pre-school children, all of which have been precious to us. We feel compelled to plan our next Dharma School staff meeting at her new home in Hawaii...

As we ponder the number "2013," please accept our never ending gratitude to you who have supported, thought about, and/or attended Dharma School. Naturally we would love to see more children at our classroom doors. But we have been reminded so often by our former teachers that the sharing of the Dharma is not based nor driven upon numbers of students. Happy, joyful, and healthy New Year everyone!

With Gassho,
Diane Hata



Quote of the Month
Those who are aware, do not die.
Those who are ignorant are as if
dead already.

-The Buddha

Mochitsuki 2012: From steaming to sticking, pounding, forming...and resting!





T H E G A T E W A Y

T E M P L E N E W S

New Years Day Service

A special service to commemorate the new year will be held Tuesday, January 1, 2011, at 10:00 AM. Following the service Jeanne Kawawata will be serving her delicious *Oshiruko* one last time so please let Rev. Peter know if you're planning to attend.

Board Meeting

The December 2012 and January 2013 board meeting will be held on Sunday, January 6 at 8:30 AM.

Eitaikyo & General Meeting

WCBT Eitaikyo will be held on Sunday, January 20 at 10 a.m. followed by the General Meeting. Rev. Tomoyuki Hasegawa will be our special speaker. A fundraising bento will be provided by the Jr. YBA for \$12. All lunches will be presale only so make sure you contact one of the Jrs to get your Eitaikyo lunch tickets. Join us for our yearly service and meeting and stay to support our Jrs!

Pets Memorial Service

A special service will be held on February 10 at 10:00 AM to remember our animal friends. Everyone who has lost a pet is invited to pay tribute to them on this special day.

Family Retreat

Our annual Family Retreat will be held on Presidents weekend, February 15-17, as we return to the beautiful San Luis Obispo Temple. Rev. Ken Yamada from Berkeley Higashi Honganji will be our guest speaker to help us discuss the theme "Interdependence." We will be joined by other members from Berkeley. The fee for adults is \$35 and includes all meals and free lodging at the temple. You can also stay at a nearby motel if you wish. It will be another great weekend with stimulating discussions, quality time with sangha friends, access to the beach and as always, too much food. See the flyer on page 9 more information.

World Dobo Convention

The 11th World Dobo Convention will take place from May 5-13, 2013 and includes the 3-day Convention at the Honzan in Kyoto (lectures will be in English) and exciting tours of Kyoto (Otani Sobyō, Hokaiji Temple), Biwako Lake, a visit to a Japanese spa, Yoshizaki (an area rich in Rennyo lore), Kanazawa (Kenrokuen Garden, Kosenji Temple), Takayama (Festival Float Museum), Shirakawago Village (a UNESCO World Heritage site). Preliminary deadline to apply is January 31, 2013. For inquiries about travel arrangements, please contact JTB USA, Inc. (310-406-3200 Ex 706; Takashi Ochiai tochiai@jtbusa.com). For inquiries related to the World Dobo Convention, please contact the Higashi Honganji LA Betsuin (213 626-4200).



Top: Randy Juckesh holds Jakob as mommy Kendra looks on at the November 25 Hoonko service. Below: Bodhi Tree band play Shinran Sama for the sangha.

GATEWAY Staff

Layout & Editing: Rev. Peter Hata, Hisako Koga, Rev. Tomoyuki Hasegawa

Contributors: Rev. Fred Brenion, Diane

Hata, Merry Jitoshō, Joanie Martinez, Claudia Haraguchi, Jeanne Kawawata

Circulation: Mary Hatakeyama, Joy Kitaura

West Covina Buddhist Temple Mission Statement:

In the spirit of universal brotherhood, West Covina Buddhist Temple provides the opportunity for all to listen to and share the Teachings of the Buddha in order that we may awaken to our true selves, living our lives fully and dynamically.

The Temple's mailing address is:

West Covina Buddhist Temple

P. O. Box 1616

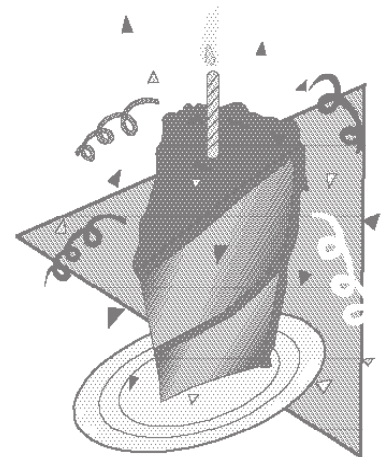
West Covina, CA 91793

(626) 337-8373

Website: www.livingdharma.org

Facebook: facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple

E-Mail: dharma@livingdharma.org



January Birthdays

Tami Kitaura, Casey Hansen, Kevin Maekawa, Susan Kashiwabara, Carol Oshima, Neil Kato, Kathy Oshima, Cora Ormseth, Matthew Ormseth, Kristen Nakano, Jesse Sakaue, Aiko Enoki, Don Frack, Maya Hendrickson



T H E G A T E W A Y

MAHALO, *con't* from page 1

production with all the various aspects of putting on an event for a well-known and well-loved Sensei. Luckily, it all came together as planned with only a few glitches, here and there, as is to be expected in any big production.

If you were there, you, too, would have felt that the room was filled with love, admiration, and gratitude for Sensei. Participants included most of the WCBT Sangha including the Howakai, Senior and Junior YBA, Dharma school children, as well as members from our mother and sister temples of Higashi Betsuin and Newport. We even had a small contingency come all the way from our sister temple in Berkeley, represented by Alice and Dick Horio (Merry's sister). In addition, many family members, representatives from ESGVJCC, and Kawawata Sensei's fellow musicians from Kinnara Gagaku (ancient Japanese music) helped fill the large banquet room.

Stephanie and Merry Jitosho put together a thoroughly entertaining slide show accompanied by music which brought back memories of a young Rev. Ken and a young Bishop Nori Ito both with lots of hair and the two newest ministers from WCBT, Rev. Fred Brenion and our newly appointed WCBT minister, Rev. Peter Hata, with no hair! The slide show touched on all the high points of Rev. Kawawata's 14 year tenure at WC which included the Ministers Assistance Program, the Buddhist lecture series, retreats at the mountain temple in San Luis Obispo, Obons, Oldies, and the out crop of musical groups under the direction of Rev. Peter such as Lotus, Bodhi Tree, and Dharmatones. The list of Rev. Ken's



accomplishments was long and varied. But the thread that connected them all was his sincere desire to spread the word of the Dharma in as many different expressions or modalities as possible in order to connect with as many people as possible.

Dr. Roy Takemura, our Master of Ceremonies, talked about the significance of offering and receiving of a lei in the Hawaiian tradition; that it is an expression of Aloha, a word which is used in greetings and farewells. It is also an expression of love and compassion. The Aloha Spirit for which Hawaii is often known is this feeling of compassion; of helping, protecting, and doing for others because we are all connected as one.

Each subgroup from WCBT offered its own unique lei to Rev. Ken, which contained symbols representing significant memories each group had

of Sensei. Just a little FYI: While in Hawaii, Hisako Koga had the maili lei specially sent from the Big Island of Hawaii to California wrapped in dry ice and many layers of ti leaves. As Joanie Martinez explained the symbols on the maili, she also explained that the maili is known to many as the "lei

of royalty" and is given to signify respect and honor. The maili is most often reserved for memorable occasions and the plant is found only on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Representatives from the Betsuin also offered Rev. Ken a lei to commemorate his 14 years as a minister at the LA Betsuin and as Nancy Kurihara-Johnson choked back tears, she fondly placed the lei around Sensei's neck.

What was most touching to watch was Kevin Kawawata's lei offering to his parents. It was



humorous, as children tend to be, and also filled with warmth and love that only a child has for his father. Good job, Kevin!



Not part of the planned program and therefore caught the committee clock-watcher (we could not go over

Please see MAHALO, con't on page 5



T H E G A T E W A Y

MAHALO, *con't* from page 4

time!) by surprise was Bishop Nori's presentation of the special *gojo* to Rev. Peter Hata as the new minister for WCBT. Resident Ministers traditionally wear a green *gojo* and one was formally presented to Rev. Peter. In addition, as in the tradition of the passing of the gavel from one administration to another, Rev. Ken gave Rev. Peter a



white orchid lei along with his formal fan and a special *ojuzu* (*onenju*) used for special observances, which Rev. Ken used when conducting services at our temple. Jeanne Kawawata gave a



All pics courtesy of Elaine Harada



purple orchid lei to Diane Hata along with the recipe for the *kintoki*, which is part of the responsibility for all WC "okusans."

There were several short talks which were memorable and bear mentioning. Johnny Martinez as President of the Board of Directors did a "Recalling and Reflecting". He highlighted Sensei's accomplishments, but also said that

most importantly, Sensei was always there when members faced personal crisis, hardships, or during times of illness, loss and mourning. Rev. Fred and Rev. Peter both spoke about their



own journey to find the Dharma and how Rev. Ken was instrumental in helping them find the right path. We could actually say that WCBT has a new minister largely due to Rev. Ken's support, guidance and efforts in mentoring promising students of the Dharma.

Fun with Hukilau Dancing

Participants were able to get up out of their chairs not just to stretch, but also to sway and wiggle their hips when I, as a native Hawaiian,

Please see MAHALO, con't on page 6



T H E G A T E W A Y

MAHALO, con't from page 5

invited all to learn the "Hukilau." It was probably the most thorough explanation of this popular dance ever heard. The dance floor rocked with two bishops, reverends, men, women, and teens looking pretty darn good telling this fishing story with their hula hands and hula hips. Mahalo to all for such a fun moment!

Gifts to Sensei

Our Sangha presented Sensei with a gift certificate to a famous restaurant in Oahu called "Alan Wong's." It is one of the 2 places in Hawaii that President Obama dines at, and has exceptionally delicious Asian fusion food and impeccable service. (FYI, the other place President Obama loves to go to is Island Snow, a shave ice stand in Kailua, Oahu).

Our Sangha also gave a beautifully engraved glass plaque to Sensei, which we hope he will keep on his shelf as a remembrance of his friends and fellow Bombu from West Covina.

In addition, a picture scrapbook was put together with personal notes of appreciation from many of the Sangha

members.

As Sensei humbly looked out at the crowd while donning his many leis, he said that he would never forget this Aloha celebration and expressed his deepest appreciation.

In Hawaii, there is a word we use, ohana. It means family, relative, or kin. But it has also come to mean those people with whom we may not be related by blood or through marriage, but with whom we have a deep connection or bond. They are part of our "ohana." As Rev. Ken stood quietly and looked around the vast banquet hall, he saw that it was filled with his Southern California ohana; people whose lives he touched in his special wonderful way and who will miss him as he continues his journey on the path of the Dharma. Although an ocean physically separates us from Rev. Ken, we are all part of and quenched by the



same Dharma water.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who helped plan and carry out this Aloha Luncheon for Rev. Ken. It is impossible to name names because inevitably some important individual will be left out by accident. But to the Reverends, to the Board members, to the committee people and the Sangha members who gave up their precious time and tireless efforts and who often gave us the needed encouragement to

carry on, I want to express my deepest Aloha. Most of all, my sincerest Mahalo to all of you who attended this luncheon. Just your presence was the best gift we could ever give to Rev. Ken. Mahalo nui loa. Thank you from my heart. ☸





T H E G A T E W A Y

L.D. NEWS, con't from page 1

Assured?

Message: How do we know if our birth in the Pureland is settled? There is no amount of practice we can do to be sure we will be born there. It is just as Zen master Bodhidharma says to a monk who is meditating, "What are you doing?" The monk replies "I am meditating to become a Buddha." As the monk says this, the Master picks a brick up and starts to rub it. The monk says to the Master "What are you doing?" The Master replies "polishing this brick to make it a mirror." "That is impossible!" The monk replies. Then the Master says "Just so, it is impossible for you to become a Buddha through meditation practice."

So then what is it? What must we have to ensure our birth in the Pureland, to begin on the path of Buddhahood? It is Shinjin, Shinjin is faith or translated is Entrusting Mind, Deep Mind Entrusting in the Buddha Dharma. In the Higashi Honganji service book page # 76 on The Letters of Rennyo Shōnin, The letter titled "On Faith as Fundamental" reads: What is taught by Master Shinran and his school is that faith is fundamental. For when we cast away the sundry practices and single-heartedly take refuge in Amida, birth in the Pureland is assured through the inconceivable working of the Vow. Attaining this state is also described as "Entering with the awakening of the one thought-moment of entrusting, the company of those whose birth is truly settled." The Nembutsu, saying the name of the Buddha, should then be understood as the Nembutsu of grateful return for Amida's benevolence, through which the Tathagata has established our birth. So there is nothing we need to do but to have Faith in Amida's Primal Vow and as our understanding of the Buddha Dharma is deepened our birth in the Pureland becomes more and more assured. I know sometimes we feel if we keep looking for our awakening we will find it and become a Buddha. But I feel this is wrong, when we place awakening outside ourselves or see it as something external to be attained we

move further and further away from it, instead we should just allow it to come through us from within, then we will truly appreciate Amida's Primal Vow. I often imagine myself in a deep dark ocean sinking lower and lower and looking up and just giving up knowing I will drown, but suddenly I see a bright light and then a fist slamming into the water reaching for me and onto his boat. I look up and it is Amida fulfilling his Vow for me and at that moment I know my birth in the Pureland is assured.
Namu Amida Butsu,
Anthony Gutierrez.

*Dear Anthony,
I think you've got it right! There is nothing we can do to gain settlement on our own, it is a gift given to us. I entrust in the Hongan, the promise of our acceptance because at the deepest levels of my heart it accords with the same impulse within. I want for me and for all what the Primal vow wants for me and for all. I am told that a crystal, when brought near to a guitar string playing will resonate and vibrate at the same frequency. I believe that this is what happens to us when we encounter this most central of teachings. We are brought to the same note and the same pitch. I know I often have trouble with chanting because I have trouble hearing the pitch of others, but in my heart I "hear" the pitch of Amida's vow, and I am brought instantly to that same key. It is the only note worth singing! You too have found it. I welcome and embrace you as a fellow traveler on the road. Together, let us bow and sing the Nembutsu of our total acceptance by a power greater than ourselves.
Namu Amida Butsu!*

Rev. Frederick

To: dharma@livingdharma.org
From = [NameWithheld]
Subject = Classes?
Message = Hello,
Do you offer any classes to study or otherwise learn about Buddhism in addition to temple services?

Dear [NameWithheld],

Thanks for visiting our Living Dharma Website. As to your question, yes, besides our regular Sunday Services, we do offer a wide variety of classes. These range from evening study classes (usually a series of four classes) on topics from beginner to advanced, to our weekday Bombu Study Classes (we are currently studying one of the ancient sutras of our particular tradition). You can see descriptions of some of our previous classes on our website (<http://www.livingdharma.org/CurrentEventsW-CBT.html>). You can also view a recent picture of our Bombu class on our Facebook page.

Our classes for the upcoming year have yet to be set, but most likely the first class series will likely be an introduction to Buddhism and to our particular Shin Buddhist tradition. Are there any Buddhist topics you are especially interested in?

Thanks for your interest,

Rev. Peter Hata

*The Living Dharma Website
West Covina Buddhist Temple*

Dear Rev. Hata,

Thank you for your response. I would be most interested in the introduction to Buddhism and Shin Buddhism series. I've recently become very interested in Buddhism but have limited exposure (casual reading) and am looking for a way to become more engaged. Is there a way I can keep current as to when the series will be offered? I typically work in the evenings during the week, but may be able to work my schedule around the class if it's once a week. Otherwise I would be interested in any morning classes.
Thank you!

Hi [NameWithheld],

*Based on your interests, I would recommend attending our upcoming Introduction classes. They should be announced soon and will take place this spring. In the past, the classes usually are on consecutive Tuesday evenings, but have also been on consecutive Mondays and even Thursdays (it depends on coordinating room availability, the instructor's schedule, etc.). The
Please see L.D. NEWS, con't on page 10*



T H E G A T E W A Y

More Year-End 2012 Pics



Clockwise from top: Rev. Peter and President Johnny pose with Diane Hata, Merry Jitosh, Joanie Martinez, Dick Koga, Claudia Hara-guchi, Frank Tanji, and Stephanie Jitosh, who coordinate special temple functions; the YBA's hilarious mock presidential debate; the audience enjoyed the YBA skit; The Bodhi Tree Band; not shown: the Dharmatones (photog Jeanne Kawawata had to sing!)

NEW YEAR, con't from page 1

happiness should not only be a wish for "good fortune," but should also acknowledge what seems like its opposite, which in general terms, is our experience of things *not* going as we planned. Some teachers might even say we should appreciate these difficulties because they often are our greatest teachers. In this sense, it is not impermanence itself that we should be so concerned about; it is our attitude towards it. True happiness, which in Buddhism is equated with enlightenment or awakening, is a kind of dynamic peace where one is in tune with impermanence. We say this is a person who is able to "live with change," or who lives in the light of constant change: open, creative, and appreciative.

Therefore, from a Buddhist standpoint, I think a truly happy year might be one where we—both individually and collectively as a Sangha—are able to find deeper meaning in the changes we encounter, and which then also enables us to appreciate and live our lives to the fullest.



T H E G A T E W A Y

West Covina Buddhist Temple Family Retreat **Interdependence: The Interconnectedness of Life**

Lecturer: Rev. Ken Yamada
Berkeley Higashi Honganji



Date: Feb. 16 (Sat.)-17 (Sun.), 2013
Place: San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple
 6996 Ontario Road
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
Fee: \$35.00
Contact WCBT: (626) 337-8373

The 2013 Family Retreat will be held on President's Weekend of February 16-17 at the San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple with guest speaker Rev. Ken Yamada. The theme is "Interdependence." Don't miss out on this memorable experience. It's always the perfect weekend getaway set in a beautiful location, with stimulating discussions with friends—and we will be joined by members of Berkeley Higashi Honganji, outdoor activities, and plenty of delicious food.

The fee is \$35 for adults, and there is free lodging at the temple, or you may wish to stay in a nearby motel. See Rev. Peter for more info.



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

West Covina Buddhist Temple
 P.O. Box 1616 West Covina, CA 91790
 Telephone (626) 337-8373
www.livingdharma.org
facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple



T H E G A T E W A Y

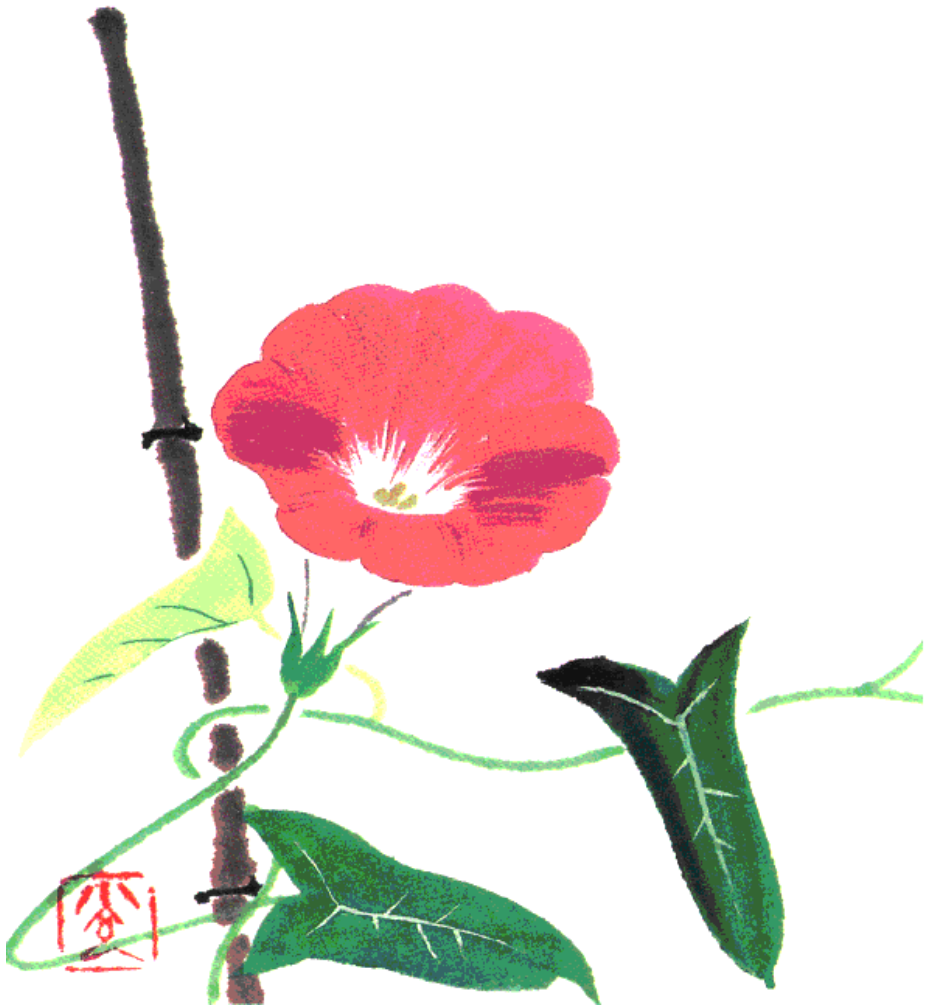
L.D. NEWS, con't from page 7

classes always from 7 to 8:30 pm, and the cost is nominal, usually \$40 for all four classes.

In terms of morning classes, currently, our Bombu study class ("bambu" means an ordinary, unenlightened person—this is why we need to study) meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday morning from 10:00 to 11:30 am (with Q&A time until noon); the next class meets on January 8. It's not exactly an "introduction" class as we're studying a core sutra of our Shin tradition, however we have discussed certain basic Buddhist terms and concepts in order to better understand the larger context of this sutra. You're welcome to come to any of these morning classes. We would certainly try to accommodate you by reviewing some of the basic material (don't worry, it wouldn't be the first time).

Regarding keeping informed, if you'd like, we can add your name to our Gateway Newsletter e-mail list. You'll not only get our monthly newsletter, but also up-to-date notifications of special events and of course, upcoming classes. There's no charge, and we never share your e-mail with others. Alternatively, you can always check our Facebook Page ([Facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple](https://www.facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple)) where we announce upcoming events in advance, or our website's calendar, which actually has our schedule for the entire year (<http://www.livingdharma.org/Calendar.html>), though some events like our upcoming classes have yet to be added to it.

Best Wishes,
Rev. Hata



From: Silvana Bialosiewicz

Subject: Request for your participation in a brief survey for a school research project
Hello,

We are a group of four students from Claremont Graduate University (CGU). We are currently researching the topic of community participation/volunteering in a course taught by Dr. Allen Omoto, Professor of Psychology at CGU. We are interested in surveying various religious leaders to learn more about their teaching and leadership. We would be very glad to hear your thoughts as an leader in the form of a

brief online survey. Upon completion of the survey you will be given the opportunity to provide your name and email address to be entered in a raffle for a \$20 gift card. The responses you provide will remain confidential and will not be linked to your name or your information.
Your response would be greatly ap-

preciated!
Best Regards,
Silvana, Shelly, Bonnie, & Rob
Doctoral Students, Evaluation and Applied Research Methods
School of Organizational and Behavioral Sciences
Claremont Graduate University



T H E G A T E W A Y

功德の宝海みちみちて 煩惱の濁水へだてなし

この文は、親鸞が著した和讃(わさん)の一節です。その全文は次のようなものです。

本願力にあいぬれば
むなくすぐるひとぞなき
功德の宝海みちみちて
煩惱の濁水へだてなし

この文の意味は以下のようになります。私たちが、はかることができないいのちのはたらきと、そのいのちからの私の心の闇を照らす光のはたらきに出遇(であ)ったならば、私たちの人生がどのようなものであったとしても、それは決して「空しい」ものにはなりません。そこには、常に、はかることができないいのちと光のはたらきが豊かな海のように満ち、私たちの自分中心の濁った心がわき上がったとしても、それが自分と他者を冷たく分けへだてるものにはならないのです。

親鸞は海を非常に大切にしました人です。彼が出遇った海、それは、いのちを育み、恵みをもたらすと同時に、時に荒れ狂い、すべてを呑み込んでしまう存在でもありました。そうした海と、その豊かさとおそろしさを肌で感じつつ生きる人々に出遇った親鸞は、その中に人間が出遇うべきいのちの本当の意味での尊さを感じ取ったのです。

私たちが普段の生活の中で想定する豊かさやいのちの尊さとは、自分にとって都合がよく快適な状況のもとでのものです。しかし、実際には私たちのいのちは、自分に都合がよいつながりだけによってあるではありません。いのちのつながりとは、人間の都合のものさしをはるかに超えた、私たちがはかることができないものと言えるでしょう。

昨年三月の大地震・津波の後、「想定外」という言葉が多く用いられました。

私たちは、日常の中で、様々なことを想定し計画を立ててゆかなくてはなりません。しかし、今回の地震・津波によって、私たちは、そうした自分たちの想定・計画やものさし、さらにはそれらによって「私のもの」としてはかったつもりになっていたいのちが、非常にもろく弱いものであるということ、余りにも過酷な現実を通して知らされました。そして同時に、いのちのつながりというものは、私たちがそのすべてをはかってしまうことができないものだ、ということにも気づかされました。また、そうしたいのちからの、私たちの自己中心的な心のあり方を問い直す様々な促しがある、ということにも気づいたのではないのでしょうか。

私の普段のあり方そのものを問い直してくる、いのちの願いに本当に出遇った時にこそ、私のものさしでは決してはかれない豊かなつながりを尊ぶ生き方が開かれてくる、そのことを冒頭の言葉は伝えています。

(「きょうのことば(大谷大学)」より)

お寺ニュース

修正会法要

修正会法要を2013年1月1日(火)午前10時より厳修いたします。皆様と正信偈をお勤めし、その後、幡ピーター開教使の新年の挨拶があります。法要後は河和田ジニー夫人の作ったおしるこを頂き、新年の歓談の時をお楽しみ下さい。どうぞこの新年初のお参りにご家族ご友人お誘い合わせの上ご参詣いただきますようご案内いたします。一年を皆様と一緒に正信偈のお勤めで始めましょう。

2013年度 永代経法要教団総会

2013年度永代経法要を1月20日午前10時より厳修します。今年は講師として北米開教監督部の長谷川智行

師をお招きしております。法要後、教団総会を開催し、新年度の役員を選出いたします。大切な行事ですので、どうぞご出席下さいますようお願い申し上げます。またお斎は仏教青年会よりお弁当が用意されます。お弁当は12ドルで、収益は仏教青年会の活動資金として使用されます。お斎をご希望の方は事前に開教使までお申し込み下さいますようお願いいたします(テイクアウトも可能です)。

1月日本語祥月法要 / 法話会

2013年最初の法話会及び日本語祥月法要は来る1月3日(木)午後7時半よりお勤めされます。どうぞご家族、ご友人お誘い合わせの上、お参り下さいますようお願い申し上げます。

お寺家族リトリート

来る2月15日(金) - 17日(日)に家族リトリートをサンルイス・オビスポ仏教会にて開催いたします。この度はご講師として山田ケン開教使(パークレー東本願寺)を招きしております。今年のテーマは「縁起」です。講義、座談、野外活動など家族一緒にお楽しみいただける予定が組まれております。参加費は\$35で、宿泊費は、お寺に宿泊される場合は無料です(近隣のモテルにも宿泊可能ですが、別途宿泊費がかかります。)日常を離れ、仏法にただ耳を傾ける絶好の機会です。是非お誘い合わせの上ご参加下さい。詳しくは幡ピーター開教使までお尋ねください。



1月祥月法要 / 法話会

1月3日(木)

午後7時半

East San Gabriel Valley
Japanese Community Center, Inc.

West Covina Buddhist Temple
1203 W. Puente Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790
P.O. Box 1616, West Covina, CA 91793

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 38
Covina, CA 91722

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

THE WEST COVINA BUDDHIST TEMPLE



GATEWAY



January 2013 - - Vol. XLVII No. 1

January 2013

- 1 10:00 am New Year's Day Service
- 3 7:30 pm Howakai Japanese Service
- 6 8:30 am Board Meeting
- 6 10:00 am Shotsuki Service
- 8 10:00 am Bonbu Class
- 13 10:00 am Sunday Service
- 20 10:00 am Eitaikyo Service/General Meeting
- 22 10:00 am Bonbu Class

February

- 3 8:30 am Board Mtg
- 3 10:00 am Shotsuki Service
- 7 7:30 pm Howakai Japanese Service
- 10 10:00 am Sunday Service
Pets Memorial Service
- 12 10:00 am Bonbu Class
- 15-17 WCBT Family Retreat
- 24 10:00 am Sunday Service
- 26 10:00 am Bonbu Class

2013年1月行事予定

- 1日 午前10時 修正会法要
- 3日 午後7時半 法話会
- 6日 午前8時半 理事会
- 6日 午前10時 祥月法要
- 13日 午前10時 日曜礼拝
- 20日 午前10時 永代経法要／総会新年会
- 27日 午前10時 日曜礼拝

2月行事予定

- 3日 午前8時半 理事会
- 3日 午前10時 祥月法要
- 7日 午後7時半 法話会
- 10日 午前10時 日曜礼拝／ペット追悼法要
- 15日-17日 家族リトリート
- 17日 日曜礼拝はありません
- 24日 午前10時 日曜礼拝

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Living Dharma News	1	Mochitsuki Pics	2
Mahalo Rev. Ken!	1	Temple News	3
Happy New Year!	1	Acknowledgments	10
D.S.News	2	Japanese Page	11

今、いのちが

あなたを

生きている

宗祖親鸞聖人750回御遠忌テーマ