



GATEWAY



May 2018 - - Vol. LIII No. 5



Rev. Kawawata and Jeannie delighted our sangha with a surprise visit to WCBT on April 22. He shared that they are enjoying Hawaii and he invited us to attend his temple in Honolulu.

"They are so wrong!"...How about you?

Rev. Nobuko Miyoshi

With recent events in the Middle East, we are once again faced with a complicated and turbulent international situation that is causing uncertainties and anxieties. The U.S., U.K., and France launched airstrikes against three sites in Syria on Friday, April 13th, in response to the Syrian regime's alleged use of chemical weapons attack on civilians the week before. In his address to the nation, President Trump fiercely accused the Syrian government saying, "The evil and the despicable attack left mothers and fathers, infants and children thrashing in pain and gasping for air. These are not the actions of a man. They are crimes of a monster instead." On the other hand, Iran and Russia, both of which are supporting the Asad regime, denounced the at-

tack. Alexander Sherin, first deputy chairman of the State Duma Defence Committee said to Russian media, "U.S. President Donald Trump is not just a criminal for the whole world, he is Adolf Hitler number two."

While leaders of countries play a blame game and try to bring enemies into submission by force, they never realize that they prey on many ordinary people. It is people in their countries and those who are sent to the battlefields who are exposed to the life-threatening violence. Wishing for peace, we seem to deviate from the direction significantly.

Many of us are wondering how Buddhism engages these issues. Some may even expect Buddhism to give us some guidance for the peaceful world.

A peaceful world cannot be achieved by force from a Buddhist viewpoint, because it would have to include all people not just certain groups of people. Also, Buddhism points out that those leaders who severely condemn each other share the same problem. They firmly believe in their righteousness and judge the other as evil or criminal. However, seeing themselves as the absolute right is a delusion, and it is such a delusional view which divides this world between those who are with them or against them. This is the highest obstacle to peace. Learning from Buddhism, we come to be aware of the root of the problem which both sides have.

Here, Buddhism reveals to us

Please see WRONG, con't on page 8



T H E G A T E W A Y

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

On May 13 we will be celebrating Mother's Day. In appreciation for all that our mothers and grandmothers have done for us, the Dharma school children will give our moms and grandmas a gift with all our love and thanks.

We will be celebrating the birthday of Shinran Shonin on May 20th. The Dharma school staff will present a lesson about Shinran followed by a short activity. This important service is called Tanjo-e. During this service, our temple will also have our Hatsumairi presentation in which the new born child is introduced to the temple. If any family would like to participate in this introduction of their little ones born since the last Hatsumairi, please let Miyoshi Sensei know.

We hope to see our Dharma school children on these special Sundays in May!

Gassho,
Claire Hansen

Quote of the Month

Since you lack
the karmic cause
enabling you to do this,
you do not kill
even a single person.

It is not that you keep
from killing
because your heart is good.

In the same way,
a person may wish
not to harm anyone and yet
end up killing
a hundred or
a thousand people.
-Shinran Shonin

Hanamatsuri April 8, 2018



Our beautiful hanamido was decorated with flowers brought in by the sangha. The Dharma School children and sangha enjoyed pouring sweet tea over the baby Buddha.





T H E G A T E W A Y

T E M P L E N E W S

WCBT 22nd Annual Golf Classic

WCBT will be holding their 22nd Annual Golf Classic on Friday, May 11, on the Babe Zaharias Course at Industry Hills Golf Club at the Pacific Palms Resort in the City of Industry. Registration begins at 11:00 AM and the tournament will begin at 1:00 PM.

Entry forms and sponsorship forms have been mailed to Temple members. If you are able to help on the day of the golf tournament or have any questions, please call Roy Takemura at (909) 594-3600 (office) or (909) 973-2580.

Mother's Day Service

A Mother's Day family service will be held on May 13, at 10:00 AM. A special tribute to all mothers will be presented on this special day so please plan on attending.

Tanjo-e & Hatsumairi

The Tanjo-e and Hatsumairi (new baby) Service will be held on May 20 at 10:00 AM. There will be a special ceremony to acknowledge new additions to our Sangha. Please contact Rev. Miyoshi if you or your family member has had a new baby in the last year.

The Study Class

The Study Class will meet on May 8 and 22 at 10:00 AM. Discussions will be based on selected topics that vary from week to week. The class usually meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. For more information, please contact Rev. Miyoshi at (213) 219-6140.

Oldies Dance LX (60)

"Fifty Plus Ten, Feel Young Again!" Oldies LX (60) will be held on Saturday, June 2. It's our 60th Oldies with our friend Steve Kikuchi & High Resolution providing favorite hits from the 60's, 70's and 80's. The dance begins at 7:30 PM and ends at 11:30 PM with lots of dancing and fun in between. The earlier hours, although giving us less time to set up, will make it easier for the members who come to help clean-up after the dance.

Presale tickets are \$20 or \$25 at the door. For info and song requests, call Joanie at (626) 300-8947 or Lillian at (626) 780-9866. Your Toban chairs will contact you about work shifts and assignments. Plan to come by the center at 5 PM to help with the set-up and at 11:30 PM to help clean-up. Donations are welcome for raffle prizes and drinks. Sign-up sheets for drinks will be at our Sunday service.

Dads & Grads Family Service

A Father's Day & Graduation Family service will be held on June 17, at 10:00 AM. All graduates will be honored so please contact Rev. Miyoshi (213) 219-6140 with the names of graduates in your family. Join us for this special event.

Bon Odori Practices

Bon Odori (dance) practice will begin in June, every Tuesday and Thursday, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. All you need to bring are your kachi-kachi (castanets) and tenugui (Japanese towel) or fabric of equivalent size. The fans will be provided. The dates again are June 5, 7, 12, 14, 19 and 21. Everyone is invited to join in the fun. See you there!

OBON FESTIVAL!

Our 2018 Obon will be on Saturday, June 23 and is just a few weeks away. Preparations are in the works but there's still a lot to do to make this exciting annual event a success.

Set-up will begin on Friday, June 22, at 1:00 PM. We'll need help setting up inside the gym, social hall and parking lot. We'll also need help in the kitchen with food preparation.

In the mean time, we are accepting donations for rice, chili and children's and regular raffle prizes. Raffle tickets will be sent out and don't forget to get your favorite dessert recipes out for our famous West Covina Dessert Booth.

Sign-up sheets will be passed around at Sunday Services or contact Bruce at bwhang@earthlink.net to see how you can help.

GATEWAY Staff

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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) 689-1040

Website: www.livingdharma.org

Facebook: facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple

E-Mail: wcbt.livingdharma@gmail.com

**MAY**

Dina Mayeda, Stacey Miyashiro, Teri Ezaki, Takashi Ena, Say Masai, Ted Hamachi, Kay Sakaue, Garrett Hamachi, Kaylin Kanemaru, Sachiko Kobayashi, Claudia Haraguchi, Sara Kawai, Chimako Matsukiyo, Susan Mita, Derek Nakawatase, Cheryl Teragawa, Celina Meites, Ryden Harrison Meites, Ruby Kagawa, Jakob Yoshio Jucksch, Richard Hiroshima, Blake Kimio Le, Judy Takemura, Rev. Nobuko Miyoshi, Rev. Bill Briones, Shinran Shonin



T H E G A T E W A Y



West Covina Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple

Tanjo-e Service

In celebration of the birth of Shinran Shonin

Hatsumairi Ceremony

Held in conjunction with the Tanjo-e Service

Sunday, May 20, 2018 10:00 am

Dharma Message : Rev. Nobuko Miyoshi

親鸞聖人誕生会 新生児初参り法要

2018年5月20日(日) 午前10時

法話：見義信香開教使

A ceremony for infants and children up to 6 years of age who shall be presented initially before the Buddha. It signifies the foundation towards a spiritual life.

初参りは、新しいいのちの誕生を祝う儀式です。6才までのお子さんを受け付け致します。お早めにお寺まで申し込んでください。

Child's Name:

Birthday:

Age:

M F

Parent's Name:

Address:

City:

State

Zip

Telephone:

E-mail:









T H E G A T E W A Y



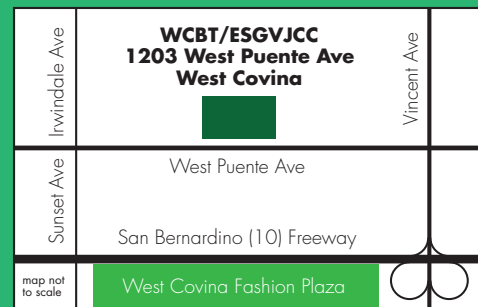
WEST COVINA BUDDHIST TEMPLE PRESENTS

FIFTY PLUS TEN FEEL YOUNG AGAIN! OLDIES LX (60)!!

SATURDAY, June 2, 2018
7:30 to 11:30pm

-  At the ESGV Japanese Community Center
-  Tickets: **\$20 presale**, \$25 at the door
-  Music by guest HIGH RESOLUTION
-  Drinks available, must be 21 or over
-  Dressy Casual
-  For tickets and/or information
Call or Text:

Joanie: **(626)300-8947** (calls only)
Lillian: **(626)780-9866**
or email: **lilnish77@gmail.com** or
joaniekmartinez@gmail.com



WCBT/ESGVJCC is located about a mile north of the West Covina Fashion Mall. Parking in rear of buildings.

NO HEELS for Ladies.





T H E G A T E W A Y



WEST COVINA BUDDHIST TEMPLE presents

Obon

FESTIVAL 2018

BON ODORI DANCING

public invited to participate

**MARTIAL ARTS
DEMONSTRATIONS**

**CULTURAL EXHIBITS
AND ENTERTAINMENT**

TAIKO DRUMMING

**DELICIOUS FOOD
GAMES • PRIZES**

**JUNE 23 SATURDAY
2 PM TO 9 PM**



**1203 W. Puente Ave, West Covina 91790
626.689.1040**

**wcbt.livingdharma@gmail.com • www.livingdharma.org
facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple**



T H E G A T E W A Y

West Covina Buddhist Temple Announces Bon Odori Dance Practices

- **WHAT:** The Bon Odori dancing is the highlight of the Obon because, as a celebratory “group dance,” it symbolizes the world of oneness that is the goal of the Buddhist teaching. It's also just a lot of fun! The public is invited to learn the specific moves of each dance at the free and popular public dance instruction practices.
- **WHEN:** Every Tuesday and Thursday, 7-8:30 pm starting Tuesday, June 5. (June 5, 7, 12, 14, 19 & 21)
- **WHERE:** the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center parking lot, 1203 West Puente Avenue, West Covina, 91790
- **THE OBON FESTIVAL:** Saturday, June 23, 2-9 pm



- **Contact Info:**
phone: 626 689-1040
website: www.livingdharma.org
e-mail: wcbt.livingdharma@gmail.com
Facebook: facebook.com/westcovinabuddhisttemple



T H E G A T E W A Y



WRONG, con't from pg. 1

another important thing, that is, *we* also have the same problem. This is the reality we often ignore.

We make a face and criticize leaders who aggressively blame each other. When we do this, we usually separate them from us and judge them as being wrong. Without noticing, we also do the same thing as they do. Buddhism teaches us that our problem is that we all want to be a 'right person.' To make us feel right, we judge those who have different viewpoints from us as 'wrong' and exclude them. The problem manifested by current leaders is undoubtedly our problem also.

The teachings Shinran Shonin encountered do not judge people good or bad, or right or wrong. Instead, it taught him that our existence is a compilation of Dependent Co-Arising (*engi*). 'Living as a compilation of Dependent Co-Arising' means that we all have potential to do anything once causes and conditions mature. No matter how much we do not want to hurt anyone, there is no guarantee we will not. It was Shinran Shonin who sincerely accepted it as his reality and the reality of all.

Buddhism talks about the kinds of problems in which we are entangled. It sheds light on our true nature and aspires us to awaken to it. Buddhism is universal because the reality Buddhism shows us is true and real for all human beings beyond a border of countries, time, gender and social status.

Many people expect religion to make them a just person or to rid problems, however this is not the goal of Buddhism. Revealing our problems to us is what Buddhism does. It is not a comfortable reality. Therefore, it is much easier to apply Buddhist teachings to other people than to ourselves. Encountering the teachings, we are finally able to realize that it talks about me. Being utterly free from self-righteousness and becoming non-judgmental may not happen to us. However, opportunities to be aware of it are always with us. Whenever we judge others, Buddhism always asks us, "How about you?" The voice is very subtle but ceaseless. Listening to the calling and receiving an opportunity to reflect on ourselves would become a step to walk on the path to peace.



(「教え」 9 ページからの続き)

ます。仏法に出遇うとは、問題が解消されてよりよい自分になるのではなく、問題を抱えた自分の姿が初めて知らされたということだと思ふのです。けれども、自分の身を照らしているその教えを私たちは往々にして人を評価し、排除する道具として利用してしまっています。そうした間違いに聞法を通して目覚めていく。それは「あなたはどうかのですか？」と呼びかけられている声を聞き続けていく歩みと言えるのではないのでしょうか。



T H E G A T E W A Y

我が身を照らす教え
見義信香

国際情勢がますます混迷を極めています。そんな中4月13日、アメリカ軍がイギリス、フランス両軍とともにシリアを攻撃しました。

トランプ大統領は国民向けの演説で、アサド政権が化学兵器を使用したことを断じ、「悪辣かつ卑劣な攻撃で女性や子供に苦しみを強いた。怪物による犯罪だ」と痛烈に批判しました。一方、アサド政権の後ろ盾として軍事的な連携を続けているロシアのプーチン大統領は、今回の米英仏のミサイル攻撃を激しく批判。またアレクサンドル・シェリン下院国防委員会副委員長も、トランプ米大統領について「犯罪者と呼ぶのはおとしすぎる。第2のヒトラーだ。」とロシア通信に語り、強く批判しています。

国の指導者同士の非難合戦と力で相手をねじ伏せることによって秩序を保とうとする影で、犠牲となるのは力を持たない弱者であります。命が翻弄される恐怖を強いられるのはその国の人々であり、実際戦地に赴く人々です。本当に私たちは平和に向けた歩みをしているのか。むしろ背き続けているのではないかと感じずにはられません。

立場の違いから全く相容れない両者について、仏教はどちらが正しいかという判断を私たちに与えてくれることは決してありません。仏教とは、両者がともに抱えている問題の根を私たちに明らかにしてくれる教えです。敵対する相手を犯罪者と呼び激しく非難するという点において、アメリカと

ロシアの主張は全く同じです。自らの立場を絶対的に正当化する点でも共通しています。

さらにもうひとつ仏教は大切なことを教えてくれています。それは、私たちもまた同じ問題を抱えているという事実です。

現在の国際情勢を憂い、国の指導者たちを批判するとき、自分は彼らのように愚かではない、という思いに私たちは立ってはいないでしょうか。自分を彼らと切り離す時、批判している者と結局は同じことをしているのです。そしてそのことに気づいていない暗さを私たちはもっています。私たちは他者の間違いには敏感な一方、自らも同じ間違いを犯していることにはなかなか気づけません。あらゆる状況において、常に正しい立場に立とうとし、そこから人を批判したり、「あんな人とは違う」という形で排除しようとするのが私たちの姿ではないでしょうか。

親鸞聖人は自分と他者を切り離さない教えに出会い、縁起としての身を生きる人間の姿を深く見つめられた方でした。縁起としての身を生きるとは、人は善人か悪人かに分けられているのではなく、私たちは誰もが縁さえ整えば何をするかわからない危うさをもつ身を生きている、ということです。聖人はそのことを何よりも自身の身の事実として深く領かれたのです。

仏法が明らかにする真理は私たちの身の事実です。そしてそれは国や時代、性別や社会的地位に関係なく、あらゆる人にとっての事実であります。そこにこそ仏法の普遍性があると思うのです。

仏教は私たちの誰もがもっている問題を明らかにし、その問題に目覚めるよう促すはたらきであり

(「教え」8ページに続く)

お寺ニュース

母の日家族礼拝

5月13日(日)午前10時より、母の日家族礼拝をお勤めいたします。例年のように、メンバーの方による母の日のメッセージがございます。皆さまのご参詣をお待ちしております。

親鸞聖人誕生会
並びに新生児初参り法要

来る5月20日(日)午前10時より親鸞聖人誕生会並びに新生児初参り法要を勤修いたします。親鸞聖人の誕生をお祝いし、合わせて新生児の初参り法要をお勤めいたします。皆様のご家族、お知り合いの方に0歳から6歳までのお子様がいらっしゃいましたら、どうぞお申し込み下さい。初参り参詣をご希望の方は、見義信香開教使までお知らせ下さい。

盆踊り練習

本年度の当寺院のお盆祭り(6月23日)もいよいよ近づいて参りました。今年の盆踊り練習は以下の予定にて行われます。練習日は火曜日と木曜日、時間は午後7時から8時半までを予定しております。どうぞお誘い合わせの上、お気軽にご参加下さい。

練習日

6月 5日(火)
7日(木)
12日(火)
14日(木)
19日(火)
21日(木)

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

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THE WEST COVINA BUDDHIST TEMPLE

GATEWAY

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May

- 3 7:30 pm Howakai Japanese Service
- 6 8:30 am Board Meeting
- 6 10:00 am Shotsuki Service
- 8 10:00 am Study Class
- 11 11:00 am WCBT Golf Tournament
- 13 10:00 am Mother's Day Family Service
- 20 10:00 am Tanjo-e/Hatsumairi Service
- 22 10:00 am Study Class
- 27 10:00 am Sunday Service

June

- 2 7:30 pm Oldies Dance
- 3 10:00 am Shotsuki Service
- 5 7:00 pm Bon Odori Practice
- 7 7:00 pm Bon Odori Practice
- 7 7:30 pm Howakai Japanese Service
- 10 8:30 am Board Meeting
- 10 10:00 am Sunday Service
- 12 10:00 am Study Class
- 12 7:00 pm Bon Odori Practice

2018年5月行事予定

- 3日 午後7時半 法話会
- 11日 午前11時 ゴルフトーナメント
- 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 母の日家族礼拝
- 20日 午前10時 誕生会／初参り法要
- 27日 午前10時 日曜礼拝

6月行事予定

- 2日 午後7時半 オールディーズダンス
- 3日 午前10時 祥月法要
- 5日 午後7時 盆踊り練習会
- 7日 午後7時 盆踊り練習会
- 7日 午後7時半 法話会
- 10日 午前10時 理事会

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こおりおおきにみずおとし
さわりおおきに徳おとし

親鸞聖人