Hello everyone, welcome to November! This month we celebrate Thanksgiving, a holiday of gratitude. Around this time, everywhere we look, we see images of food overflowing from cornucopias (the symbol of ‘plenty’), families gathered around dinner tables and turkeys, so many turkeys. In fact, the turkey has come to be the standard symbol for Thanksgiving. Whether you celebrate Thanksgiving or not, if you are anywhere in the U.S. around Thanksgiving, you will encounter images of turkeys. They appear on greeting cards, in the family dinner-table pictures, and as paper centerpieces. Sometimes they are the steaming main dish on the table, sometimes they are dressed in a pilgrim’s costume and, as I am sitting here writing this, I am looking at a sweet card given to me by the pre-school kids which has outlines of each of their little hands and I am reminded of the hand turkeys that we made as elementary school students.

So why all the turkey talk? (hehe, we’re talking turkey) The image of the Thanksgiving turkey is a reminder to us of the life that was taken so that we may continue to live. All living things need sustenance of one kind or another and for sentient beings (animals, bugs, etc.) this sustenance, whether you are eating plants or animals, requires the taking of a life. Now I will admit that all of this sounds very dreary, but it is merely a fact of life. All living things strive for their own existence. Non-human animals fight over food, territory and to protect their young in order to survive. Even plants strive, from the crocus that pokes its wee head through a spring snow to the tomato plant in my garden that appeared from nowhere (I did not plant tomato seeds) and grew tall and strong all on its own in the month of September.

Of those living beings that strive for life, it is the human animal that is aware of the fact that we require other lives in order to live our own. (I will happily engage in discussion of the consciousness of plants and non-human animals, but I only have a page here so…) When we sit down to a meal, we should give thanks to those lives and saying ‘itadakimasu’ (ee-ta-da-kee-mas) is a way in which we can do this. ‘Itadakimasu’ means ‘raising to the head’ and is a way for us to symbolically bow in acknowledgment and gratitude for the life that was given for our benefit. It is a way for us to understand the long chain of existence that we are a part of and for the fact that we should care deeply for this life of ours so as not to waste the great benefit we have received from others.

As you sit down to your Thanksgiving meal this year, consider the turkey/tofurkey or beautiful piles of delicious vegetables. Because of them, you exist and therefore say ‘itadakimasu’ in gratitude for their lives. Remember that you are a living being, small and unenlightened, and say ‘Namo Amida Butsu’ in gratitude for the knowledge that the Buddha will always embrace us with great compassion despite our human foibles.

Namo Amida Butsu
10月に入り、朝夕冷え込む日も増えて参りました。寒くなるにつれて、太陽の光の暖かさをより一層有難く感じる今日この頃です。特に私は夕焼けの色が好きで、見かけたらつい写真を撮ってしまいます。

9月22日、デンバー仏教会でお彼岸の法要が行われ、多くの人が参加されました。お彼岸とは、彼方（あちら）の岸と書いています。彼岸の反対の言葉は此岸で、此方（こちら）の岸と書きます。こちらの岸とは今私たちが生きているこの世界の事です。今現代では科学が発達し夕陽の正体を誰もが知っていますが、昔の人々は、西方に沈む夕陽を見てお浄土をイメージしていたのでしょうか。しかし、科学が発達して夕陽の正体を知っている現代人も、昔と全く変わらない心の闇を抱えています。闇の中に一筋でも光がさすといろいろなものが見えてきます。

正信偈の中から、光に関する部分を紹介いたします。

【原文】普放無量無辺光 無碍無対光炎王 清浄歓喜智慧光 不断難思無称光 超日月光照塵刹 一切群生蒙光照

【読み方】あまねく、無量・無辺、無碍・無対・光炎王、清浄・歓喜・智慧光、不斷・難思・無称光、超日月光を放って、塵刹を照らす。一切の群生、光照を蒙る。

親鸞聖人は正信偈の中に12種類の光の名前をあげておられます。これは宗祖が「阿弥陀仏とは光の仏様ですよ」と教えてくれているように感じます。西方のはるか彼方からは、今日も暖かい光が届いています。それは親鸞聖人も見ていた夕陽と同じぬくもりを持っているのでしょうか。

Ohigan

October has come. It is getting cold in the morning and evening. When it gets colder, I feel the importance of the warmth of the sun light. I really like the orange color of the sunset and always take photos when I see it.

On September 22, many people came to the Denver Buddhist Temple because we held our Ohigan Service. Ohigan means “the other side; the other shore”. Higan is opposite of “Shigan” which means this world; this life. Shigan is the world in which we live now.

Nowadays, everyone knows what a sunset is because physics can explain it. But people who lived a long time ago didn't know how or why a sunset occurred. Therefore, when they saw the sun set in the west, they might have imagined the Pure Land. But, even today with knowledge of science and physics we still have a darkness in our mind so, in a human’s mind nothing has changed. If light shines in the dark, we will see what we couldn't see. I am going to share the passage of Shinran Shonin from Shoshin-Ge.

[Original] 普放無量無辺光 / fu ho mu ryo mu hen ko 無碍無対光炎王 / mu ge mu tai ko en no 清浄歓喜智慧光 / sho jo kan gi chi e ko 不断難思無称光 / fu dan nan ji mu sho ko 超日月光照塵刹 / cho nichi gak-ko sho jin setsu 一切群生蒙光照 / is-sai gun jo mu ko sho

[Translation] Everywhere the Buddha casts light immeasurable, boundless, Unhindered, unequaled light-lord of all brilliance, Pure light, joyful light, the light of wisdom, Light constant, inconceivable, light beyond speaking, Light surpassing sun and moon is sent forth, illumining countless worlds; The multitudes of beings all receive this radiance.

Shinran Shonin wrote 12 different names for kinds of lights. I feel like he teaches me "Amida is a Buddha of light". The warm light still arrives today from the far west. It is the same warmth as seen by Shinran Shonin.

Gassho
It’s November! November is the month when we have fully settled into Fall and have started thinking about the upcoming winter. Being that we are in Colorado however it has likely already snowed a few times, gone back up to 80 degrees and then snowed once more. These rapid changes in weather allow us to experience all of the seasons in one day, and give us a good idea of what we should be thankful for. I know that I am thankful for the Sangha at TS/DBT, and all of the amazing and selfless work of volunteers who make every aspect of Temple life possible.

November also marks the Eitaikyo service. Eitaikyo is the Perpetual Memorial service, in which we remember those who have come before us and keep in mind our thankfulness for what they have provided and made possible.

The word *Eitaikyo* comes from *Eitai-Dokkyo*, which means “perpetually chanting Buddhist sutras.” As Shin Buddhists we do not literally chant sutras constantly but rather, think of the sutra chanting as something that we do in order to be mindful of the Nembutsu. For us, the Eitaikyo service is one where we are thankful for the Teachings being passed forward from generation to generation. The memorial becomes action by placing the Eitaikyo scrolls in the Hondo with the names of past temple members whose lives provide(d)/create(d) the causes and conditions for the teachings to reach us today. None of us live in a vacuum, and it is only through the actions of our forebears that we have been so fortunate to hear the True Dharma. How lucky and grateful we are!

With the theme of perpetually chanting Buddhist sutras in mind, we will be holding a Shoshinge chanting service starting at 8:30 am on the last Sunday of each month. The Shoshinge is one of the main liturgies used in Jodo Shinshu temples in Japan, normally chanted in daily morning service. The full name of Shoshinge is Shoshin Nembutsu Ge, and it means literally “Gatha on the True Faith in the Nembutsu”. It is comprised of 120 lines taken from Shinran’s master work, the Kyogoshinsho. The Shoshinge is the ultimate cliff notes version of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, with sections on Amida, Shakyamuni and the Seven Pure Land Masters. By chanting the Shoshinge, you learn the basis of Shin Buddhism, and can better appreciate the wonders of the Nembutsu. I truly hope that you are able to attend early in the morning and enjoy chanting the Shoshinge with the ministers.

So let’s remember to be thankful for all of the causes and conditions that have brought us to where we are today. As Thanksgiving draws near, cries of Bingo are heard at Turkey Bingo, and when you fall asleep watching football after too much stuffing, remember those who came before us, our brothers and sisters in the Dharma. I will leave you with one of my favorite parts of the Shoshinge.

```plaintext
No Hotsu Ichi Nen Ki Ai Shin
Fu Dan Bon No Toku Ne Han
Bon Jo Gyaku Ho Sai E Nyu
Nyo Shu Shi Nyu Kai Ichi Mi

When the one thought-moment of joy arises,
Nirvana is attained without severing blind passions;
When the ignorant and wise, even grave offenders
and slanderers of the dharma, all alike and turn-
about and enter Shinjin,
They are like waters that, on entering the ocean,
become one in taste with it.
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In Gassho,

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TriState/Denver Buddhist Temples’ membership offers congratulations to:

Anna Tsuchimoto
Mile High JACL Recipient of the CWO 4 Murakami Kasai Memorial Scholarship

Anna is a former Dharma School and YBA student. Currently, she is a student at University of California, Berkeley
Dear Dharma School Family and Friends,

It's time for one of my absolute favorite events of the year! TURKEY BINGO! We hope you, your family and friends will be able to join us for this fun event. Besides being a great way to win a turkey or some cash, Turkey Bingo also hosts a raffle for gift baskets, pickle tickets, arts and crafts vendors and food offerings by YBA.

While you are enjoying your time playing bingo with lively company you can also feel good about the funds you are helping raise. This is Dharma School’s major fundraiser for the year and provides for: classroom supplies, field trips for our students, funds to host the end of year picnic celebration and helps our teachers participate in Federation of Dharma School Teachers League activities.

So, we hope you will join us this year, November 24th, at 11:30 am in the Temple Gymnasium!

In Gassho,
Alyssa Nilemo

---

**Save the Date!**

**Nikkei Treasures Sale!**

**November 23-24, 2019**

We are holding the 2019 Nikkei Treasures sale in conjunction with the TS/DBT Dharma School Turkey Bingo. We have many Japanese items that still need to find a new home – dolls, platters, bowls, artwork, etc. We are still accepting donations of gently used Japanese items. If you would like to participate as a vendor and sell your items with a portion of your sales donated to the temple, you are welcome to do so. Please contact: Joni Sakaguchi (jsak5280@centurylink.net) or Gail Ida (gailann.ida@gmail.com) for more information. Please DO NOT drop off any donations at the Temple without making prior arrangements.

All proceeds from this sale will be used to help furnish a new kitchen in the new temple.
TriState/Denver Buddhist Temples gratefully acknowledges donations and offerings received from September 1, 2019 — September 30, 2019

**Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temples’ membership offers condolences to the family and friends of:**

Shizuye Peterson
June 26, 1926 - September 21, 2019

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**Autumnal Ohigan**
Don Akiyama
Anonymous
Claynne & Nicholas Blanchard
Robin Burchardt
Michiko Chikuma
Frank Ciskovsky
Earl & Debbie Fukuhara
Mabel Googins
Ken & Aiko Horiuchi
Kirk Horiuchi
Gail & Robert Ida
Roy Kikuyama
Manabu & Junko Kimura
Justin & Stevie Lo
Theodore Matsuo
Frank Miyazawa
John & Sherri Nitta
Kumiko Ohtake
Stacey Umemoto Ospina
Charles & Teri Ozaki
Kay Takahashi
Norio & Doris Taniguchi
Hisae Taniwaki
Shirley Tsuchimoto
Tom Urano, Jr.
Louise Yamaguchi
Fumiya Yamashita
Gary & Deb Yamashita
Richard & Michiko Yoshida

**September Shotsuki donations**
Elaine & Ted Tsumura
Sachi Yoshimura & family
Sharon Shin
Shirley Tsuchimoto
Clyde & Judy Nitta
Family of Kay & Nancy Nitta

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**Donations**
Longmont Buddhist Temple
Sakura Foundation
Anonymous
Alan Morris
Brighton Buddhist Sangha
Kay Takahashi
Mary Hammond
Brighton Buddhist Sangha
Mabel Googins
Roland & Carrie Ann Aoki

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**September Shotsuki donations in memory of**
Amy Tsumura
Art Yoshimura
Choro Shin
Donn Tsuchimoto
Dorothy & Goro Nitta
Dorothy & Goro Nitta
Tom Sasaki
Fujie Nishi
Fujie Nishi
Hirosi & Setsuko Kusumi
Hitoshi Tawara, John Akio Tawara
Harry Umemoto, Art Yoshimura
James & Grace Shimada
Kaichi Sadahiro
Muneko Furuiye
Norma Lou Yoshimura
Sachiko Takaki
Sachiko Takaki
Sachiko Takaki
Tom Sasaki

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**Offering Box Osaisen**
4th/5th Grade Dharma Class
anonymous
Armijo Family
Kent & Jane Kano
Roy Kikuyama
Yoko Mooney
Preschool Dharma Class

---

**TriState/Denver Buddhist Temples’ membership offers condolences to the family and friends of:**

Shizuye Peterson
June 26, 1926 - September 21, 2019
November Shotsuki Names
(Sangha members who have passed away in the month of November)

Ine Ajisaka
Kichiro Akiyama
Kamekichi Ando
Chiyeko Aoki
Martha Arakawa
Naojiro Ariki
Naomi Brockman
Susan Hanatani Burkhardt
Yoshi Chikuma
Fred Kumaji Doizaki
Sumire Doizaki
Ura Doizaki
William Masashi Doizaki
Hisao Haley Fujii
Jean Ikuye Fujimoto
Warren Yoshiharu Fukuhara
Hisayo Furukawa
Itsuno Haru
Ugi Harada
Saju Hasegawa
Masaye Hashimoto
Kikuno Hayashi
Saju Hasegawa
Masayo Hori
Nakao Hoshijima
Earl Hiroshi Imanaka
James Inamasu
Shigeru Inamasu
Tajin Inamasu
Yoshie Inouye
Kaname Isashashi
Betty Ishiguro
Tatsuo Roy Ishiwashi
Haruko Ishiwashi
Hisako Iwakiri
Taka Iwata
Misao Kagiyama
Sam Fujio Kato
Akira Kawanabe
Miyono Kawano
Haru Kawashima
Frank Sueo Kimura
Kazu Kimura
Sunao Kinoshiba
Tsuchi Kinoshiba
Tsumai Kishimoto
Takao Kishimoto
Yuichi Kiyonaga
Kojima Takaharu
Kojima Takao
Mihoko Kondo
Katy Shizue Koshio
Asano Koto
Shosuke Kuroki
Logan Kusuno
Mark Isamu Kutsuma
Yaye Kuwabara
Kamematsu Masunaga
Sutekichi Matsubara
Isamu Sam Matsuda
Shunso Matsuda
Shiro Matsuno
Tomeko Mayeda
Kazuo Miyahara
Kimiyi Miyake
Misumasa Miyake
Genichi Miyamoto
Chizuko Mary Miyachii
Kiju Yamashita Miyoshi
Shigeo Miyoshi
Akira Mizunaga
Shigeru Momoi
Lucy Akiko Mori
Toi Morimitsu
Torajiro Mugishima
Anna Murahata
Matasaku Murai
Kenji Murakami
Linda Kimiko Murakami
Otokichi Murakami
Haru Murata
Mitsu Murata
Masako Nakadai
Elton Kusinubara Nakamoto
Suga Nakasawa
Harry Soichi Nakatsu
Atsumu Nakatsuka
Masako Nakayama
Yoshiho Nigo
Kenichiro Nishi
Bob Akira Noguchi
Nagafumi Nomura
Maki Numokawa
Howard Oda
Toyosuke Ogura
Gonshiro Okada
Tsuya Okamoto
Bill Mitsuo Okubo
Paul Den Ono
Yone Ono
Shuji Osaki
Yoshihiro Otaka
John Sadahiro
Nobu Sadahiro
Helene Haruko Saeda
Shinpachi Saeki
Robert Kingi Sakaguchi
Shin Ichi Sakai
 Takeno Sakamoto
Kie Sameshima
Hayami Russ Sato
Teruko Sato
Tatsuo Sera
Howard Haruo Shibao
Yoshi Shibao
Tatsuo Shibata
Hikoichi Shimamoto
Wesley Shimoda
Emiko Ruth Suekama
Ukichi Sumida
Francis Masaki Suzuki
Harry Tatsuo Tabuchi
Albert Tokio Tagawa
Hazel Haruko Tagawa
Kikue Takahashi
Tokuhei Takamori
Tsuyako Takata
Fujitaro Takemoto
Yonekichi Takeuchi
Nobuko Tanabe
Kenichi Tanaka
Sam Shozo Tanaka
Allen Hiroshi Tani
Kyo Tani
Masato Mike Tashiro
Chitose Tateyama
Mitsutaro Tawara
Shizue Terada
Jim Naoiuki Tochihara
Mary Asako Tokunaga
Shinkichi Tokunaga
Yoshiyuki Tsuchiya
George Eiichi Tsukiji
Nobuye Tsushima
Noboru Tsutsumi
Shannon Miki Oshiro Umetani
Lily Urano
Goro Watanabe
Miyoko Yago
Seiichi Yago
Kiso Yamada
Masakimi Yamada
Shiro Yamada
Sahei Yamaguchi
Yamao Hatsu
Betty Ayako Yamashita
Sannosuke Yamashita
Kazuyo Yasumichi
Asajiro Yonekura
Miyuki Yonemoto
Shintaro George Yoshihara
Hideichi Yoshimoto
Soji Yoshimoto
Mich Yoshimura
Chiye Yunoki

Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service
November 24, 2019
The Shotsuki Service is a general memorial service held on a monthly basis for members and friends of the temple who have passed away during the month of service. Although there are major memorial (hoji) services set at specific time intervals such as 49th Day, 1st Year, 3rd Year, 7th, 13th, 17th, 25th, 33rd and 50th years, the temple provides families with monthly memorial Shotsuki services held in conjunction with regularly scheduled Sunday services, so family members will have the opportunity to pay respect and gratitude to loves ones who have passed away in that particular month. Donation by affected family members is appreciated: $50/observance. In Gassho
Chibi No Gakko is a Denver, community-based program that provides children the opportunity to explore Japanese American culture in a fun and interactive way. Children will learn about traditional Japanese culture through cooking, song, dance, folk tales and art projects. They will examine their personal family history as well as the history of the Japanese American experience in America. Children will also explore Japanese pop culture like Anime, with other engaging topics such as Judo, Taiko, Hanafuda and the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. Classes are designed and led by CDE licensed teachers.

Who: Students currently in grades Kindergarten to 8th

When: Saturdays 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. (January 11th & 18th and February 1st & 15th) Celebration/Family Potluck on February 22nd 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Cost: $100 per child ($80 each additional sibling) $50 non-refundable deposit due with the application, final $50 due first day of class

Former Chibi students interested in being mentors for Chibi 2020 apply to:
Debby Tanigawa 303-503-1794 debby95@aol.com or
Judy Okamoto 303-426-0252 judyokamoto77@gmail.com

Registration Form

Child’s Name: Parent’s Name:
Birthdate: Cell Phone:
School/Grade: Email:
Address:

What years has child attended Chibi as a student? 

Total amount enclosed $________________ (cash or checks payable to Chibi No Gakko)

REGISTRATIONS DUE: November 30, 2019. (If space available, applications will be accepted after December 1st)

Mail to: Joni Sakaguchi 3866 E 133rd Court Thornton, CO 80241

Online: https://forms.gle/Au4Rps4x3E8eAp7a6

Questions: chibinogakkodenver@gmail.com
# November 2019

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**Events:**
- Dharma service & discussion
- Shoshinge service
- Nikkei Treasures Sale
- Thanksgiving service
- Turkey Bingo
- Interfaith Thanksgiving service
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December 2019
Chibi No Gakko
by Joni Sakaguchi

Chibi No Gakko - a community-based program that provides children the opportunity to explore Japanese American culture - is preparing its 2020 session. Please see the flyer on page seven for information regarding dates and times. **New for this session:** we are offering kindergarten – 1st grade introduction to Japan while continuing with our 2-8 grade program exploring family history. All students will be included in the cooking, arts, games and music sessions.

Students who are NOT of Japanese heritage are welcome to join Chibi no Gakko. You will learn about Japan and the Japanese American experience by participating in the cooking, arts, games and music sessions. You will also have the opportunity to explore your own family history.

Mentors, please be sure to contact Debby Tanigawa or Judy Okamoto if you wish to participate in the program.

Please forward this information to family and friends who may be interested in the program.

Online access to Page 7 flyer:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/16hwvHjRYdnwSLWM03KW6jnoF71-jSWKg/view

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Arigatou Gozaimasu

Thank you to Mary Jane, Dora, Shirley, Rod, Dick, Hailey and Kay for folding, sealing and labelling last month’s newsletter. A special thank you to Hailey who elected to volunteer on her birthday – we sure enjoyed sharing your birthday cake!!

Thank you to Dick Chikuma who bought new dry erase markers for the ministers so that people sitting in the back of the Hondo can see whatever words or illustrations are being written on the white board during Sunday Dharma talks.

Thank you to Dharma School parents, teachers and students for cleaning the kitchen and auditorium after weekly Bake Sales. The kitchen sinks have looked especially nice on recent Monday mornings 😊