

**BUDDHIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA®**  
**2024**

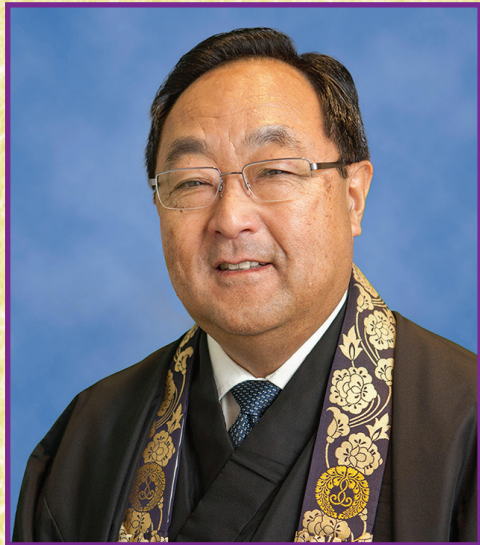
*Celebrating 125 Years*

**1899 - 2024**

*THE RIGHT TIME IS NOW*

# THE RIGHT TIME IS NOW

*Rennyo Shonin*



**A**s we welcome the new year of 2024, I would like to share the BCA theme for 2024, “The Right Time is Now,” a short quotation from Rennyo Shonin. In this short sentence, Rennyo Shonin is urging us not to put off listen-

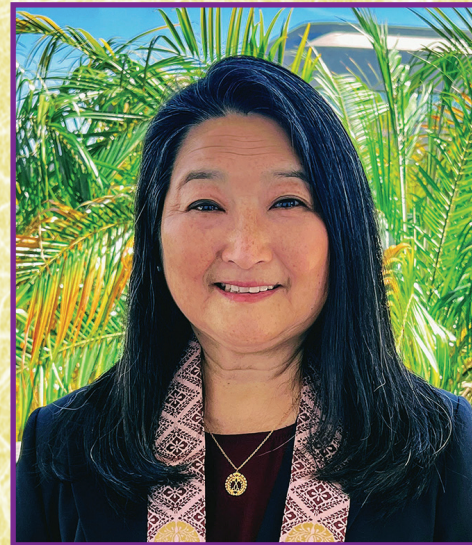
ing to the Dharma for another time. He is urging us to seek and then share the teachings with earnest.

For all of our churches and temples in the BCA, “The right time is now,” meaning, there is no waiting for tomorrow to put off our attempts to grow our Sanghas for another day, another month, or another year. The right time is now.

We have so much to share, and the world is in great need of our teachings. If we do not act now, when will we ever act?

As we celebrate and reflect on the 125-year history of our BCA this year, may we work to leave a legacy of the Buddha-Dharma for generations to come.

Gassho,  
Rev. Marvin Harada  
Bishop



**Happy New Year &  
Happy Anniversary!**

2024 is a milestone year for the Buddhist Churches of America as we observe its 125th anniversary. We have much to be grateful for. Our pioneers and all those before us made sacrifices and tremendous efforts so that we are able to receive the Dharma. What started as a request for spiritual fulfillment from Jodo Shinshu Buddhists in

California and the Hongwanji-ha in Kyoto, Japan fulfilling the request with two ministers has flourished into over 60 churches, temples, fellowships, and Sanghas across the United States mainland today. BCA, as a national organization, has grown and developed while supporting its ministry, churches, temples, fellowships, and Sanghas. The endeavors of numerous individuals, Dharma teachers and leaders have brought us to where we are today. Their vision, perseverance, dedication, and generous Dana have allowed us to walk our spiritual path together.

As we celebrate BCA’s quasiquicentennial, we will reflect on its historical accomplishments with gratitude and look to the future with hope for the continuation of Shinran Shonin’s teachings in America. For the present, now it is our turn.

As one Sangha, together, be a part of the celebration with deepest appreciation in your heart to ensure the legacy continues.

Gassho,  
Terri Omori  
President



### MYONYO SHONIN

The Buddhist Churches of America owes a great deal to Myonyo Shonin (1850-1903), the 21st Monshu of the Hongwanji. He was among the very first Buddhist leaders to send ministers to foreign countries to study the respective religious conditions. It added impetus to missionary work, both at home and abroad. He was the Lord Abbot who sent missionaries to the United States and laid the foundation for the present Buddhist Churches of America.

Among all people who are equal,  
Let us disseminate the seeds of Buddha-Dharma.

もとよりも ひとにへだては なかりけり  
ひとつみのりの たねやしあまし

– Myonyo Shonin

Two Representatives of the Ancient Creed  
Are in San Francisco to  
Proselyte.



### MISSIONARIES

Rev. Dr. Shuye Sonoda and Rev. Kakuryo Nishijima were the first missionaries to be dispatched to the United States by Myonyo Shonin on September 1, 1899. (printed in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Sept. 13, 1899)



**Rennyō Shōnin**  
(1415-1499)  
8th Monshu of the Hongwanji and  
the restorer of the Hongwanji tradition



**Shinran Shōnin**  
(1173-1262)  
Founder of the Jodo Shinshu tradition

These illustrations of Rennyō Shōnin and Shinran Shōnin are located in the onaijin at the Jodo Shinshu Center.

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# JANUARY 2024

*The Right Time is Now*

# BCA Then and Now



BCA headquarters in 1971 before demolition. (upper left)

Current BCA headquarters building that replaced the older building on Octavia Street, San Francisco. (lower left)

BCA Memorial Monument in Colma, CA (above)

Stupa located above the Buddhist Church of San Francisco. It contains the relics of Shakyamuni Buddha and disciples Moggallana and Shariputra. (right)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		JANUARY S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	MARCH S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	 15 Nirvana Day (Nehan-E)	16 BCA Ministers' Association Meeting (virtual)	17 BCA National Council Workshops (virtual)
18	19 President's Day	20	21	22	23 BCA National Council Meeting Sacramento, CA	24
25 BCA National Council Eitaikyo Service, Sacramento	26	27	28	29		

# FEBRUARY 2024

*The Right Time is Now*

# National Council Meeting Then and Now



Installations of officers of various BCA affiliated groups at the 2020 National Council Meeting, Renton, WA (above)



Jr. and Sr. YBA members serving breakfast at a BCA Council meeting.



Gagaku and ukelele performers at the National Council meeting in Renton.



National Council Meeting, San Francisco, 1971



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			FEBRUARY S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	APRIL S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Girl's Day						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Daylight Savings Time Begins						
17	18	19	 20 Spring Equinox (Higan-E)	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

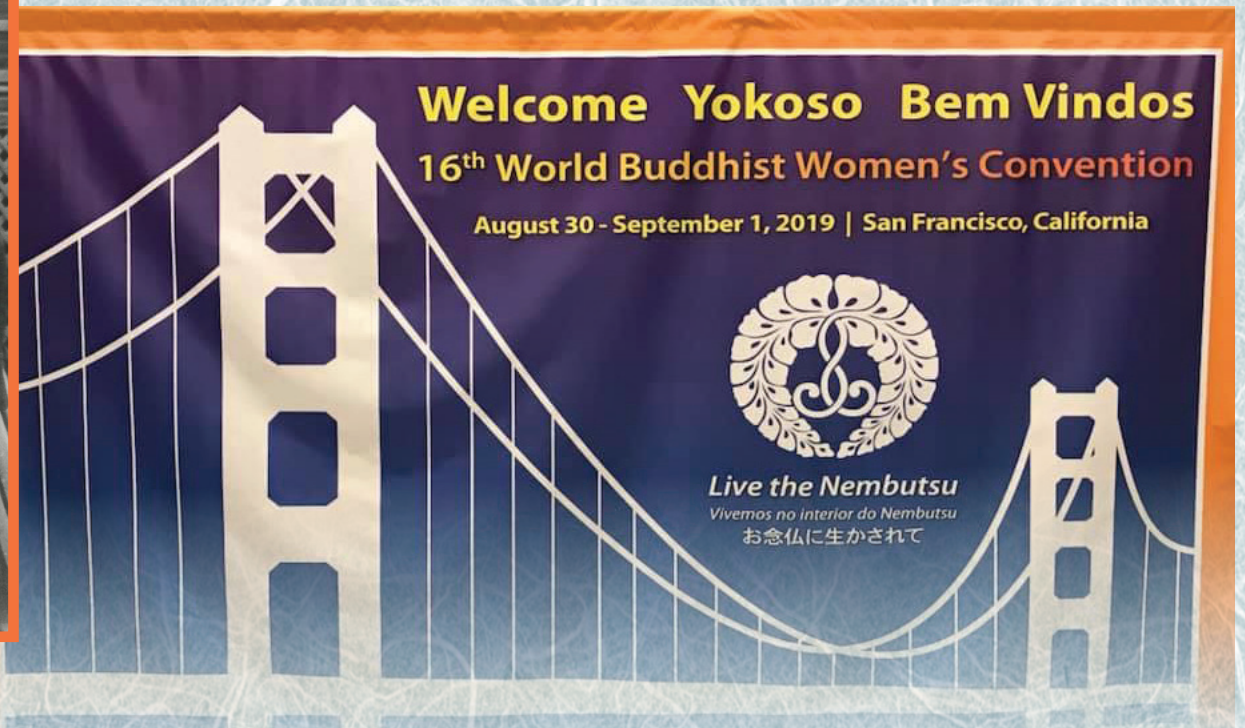
# MARCH 2024

*The Right Time is Now*

# Fujinkai / Buddhist Women's Association – Then and Now



Fujinkai, 1902



Federation of Buddhist  
Women's Association, 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	 8 Buddha's Birthday (Hanamatsuri)	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Federation of Dharma School Teachers' League Conference, Mountain View, CA
28 FDSTL Conference, Mountain View, CA	29	30	MARCH S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	MAY S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		

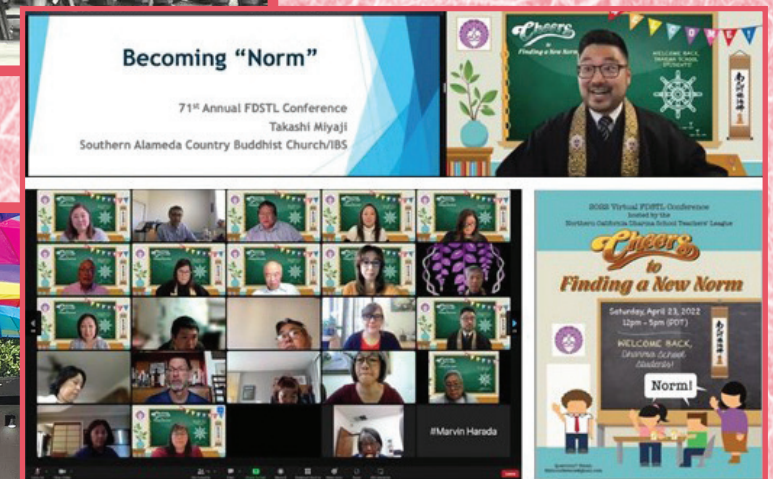
# APRIL 2024

*The Right Time is Now*



Federation of Sunday School Teachers, Stockton, 1952

# FDSTL Then and Now



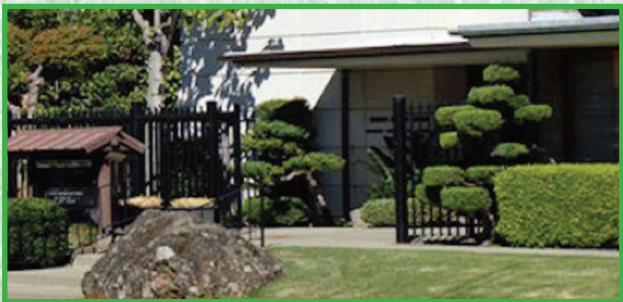
Federation of Dharma School Teachers League (FDSTL) Conferences 2022 (virtual) (above) and 2023, Palo Alto, CA (left)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	APRIL S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	JUNE S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1	2	3	4
5  Boy's Day	6	7	8	9	10	11
12  Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	 21 Shinran Shonin's Birthday (Gotan-E)	22	23	24	25
26	27  Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

**MAY 2024**  
*The Right Time is Now*



Since its inception in 1949, IBS has been able to grow and flourish thanks to the dedication and support of many people.



Buildings that housed IBS: Berkeley Buddhist Temple, building on Addison Street, Mountain View Buddhist Temple, Haste Street (currently the dormitory), Jodo Shinshu Center (current site)



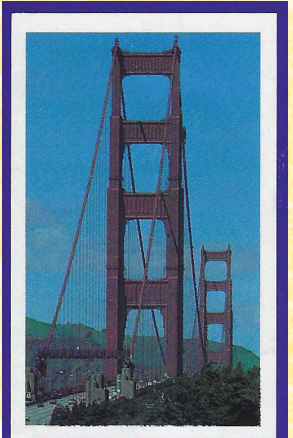
Summer program, dorm life, and class and faculty activities.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				MAY S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	JULY S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	I
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Father's Day				Summer Begins		
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

**JUNE 2024**  
*The Right Time is Now*

# BCA 75th Anniversary



The BCA 75th Anniversary celebration and related events were held over a 9-day period in San Francisco, culminating with the anniversary service at the the Civic Auditorium on September 1, 1974.



(above) The 75th Anniversary planning committee.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	1	2	3	4 <small>Independence Day</small>	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	 15 <small>Bon Memorial Day (Kangi-E)</small>	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31	JUNE S M T W Th F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		AUGUST S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	

**JULY 2024**  
*The Right Time is Now*

# BCA Centennial Celebration

August 1999, San Francisco



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BCA Ministers' Association Summer Seminar,  
Jodo Shinshu Center, Berkeley

# AUGUST 2024

*The Right Time is Now*

# Jodo Shinshu Center



(clockwise from top)  
The Jodo Shinshu Center,  
Berkeley, dedicated in 2006;  
statue of Shinran Shonin  
in the lobby; ministers and  
spouses entering the build-  
ing for the dedication; family  
service in the Kodo; beau-  
tiful hand stitched screen  
covering the onaijin in the  
Kodo; Onaijin of the Kodo.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 BCA Founding Day 125th Anniversary	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Labor Day	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
 Autumn Equinox (Higan-E)	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	AUGUST S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	OCTOBER S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			

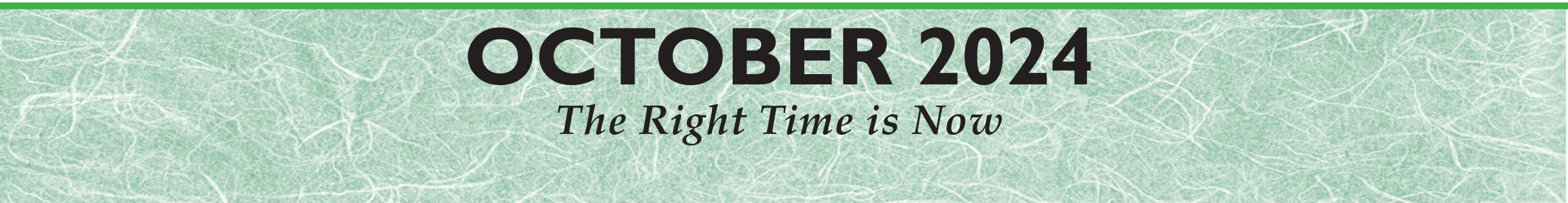
# SEPTEMBER 2024

*The Right Time is Now*

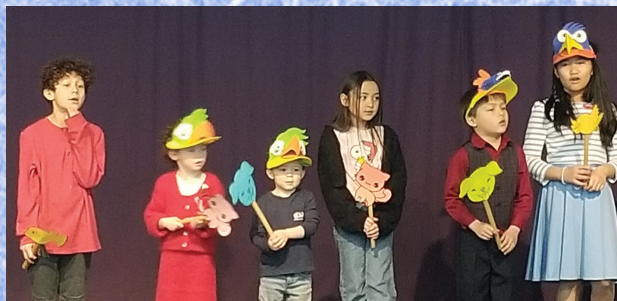
# Bay, Central California and Coast Districts



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13							14							15							16							17							18							19						
20							Indigenous Peoples'/ Columbus Day							22							23							24							25							26						
27							28							29							30							31							Halloween													



# Mountain States, Northern California and Northwest Districts



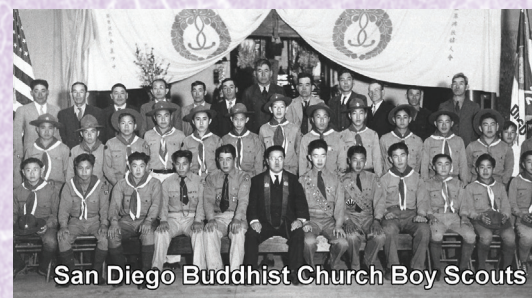
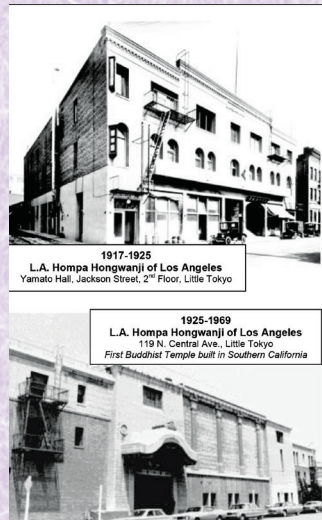


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			OCTOBER S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	DECEMBER S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1	2
3  Daylight Savings Time Ends	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11  Veteran's Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28  Thanksgiving Day	29	30

# NOVEMBER 2024

*The Right Time is Now*

# Southern District



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
 8 Bodhi Day (Jodo-E)	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Winter Begins
22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29	30	 31 New Year's Eve (Joya-E)	NOVEMBER S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	JANUARY S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		

# DECEMBER 2024

*The Right Time is Now*

# Buddhist Churches of America®

[www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org](http://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org)

**National Headquarters** 1710 Octavia St., San Francisco, CA 94109 [info@bcahq.org](mailto:info@bcahq.org)

**Jodo Shinshu Center** 2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704 [info@bcahq.org](mailto:info@bcahq.org) (510) 809-1400

**Center for Buddhist Studies (CBE)** 2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704 [cbe@bcahq.org](mailto:cbe@bcahq.org) (510) 809-1460

**Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS)** 2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704 [info@shin-ibs.edu](mailto:info@shin-ibs.edu) (510) 809-1444

**Jodo Shinshu International Office (JSIO)** 1710 Octavia St., San Francisco, CA 94109 [office@jsinternational.org](mailto:office@jsinternational.org) (510) 809-1441

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## **BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF ALAMEDA**

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Alameda CA 94501  
(510) 522-5243  
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Web: [btoa.org](http://btoa.org)

## **ARIZONA BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

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(602) 278-0036  
Email: [azbtemple@gmail.com](mailto:azbtemple@gmail.com)  
Web: [azbuddhisttemple.org](http://azbuddhisttemple.org)

## **BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

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Berkeley CA 94704  
(510) 841-1356  
Email: [info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org](mailto:info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org)  
Web: [berkeleybuddhisttemple.org](http://berkeleybuddhisttemple.org)

## **EKOJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

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Fairfax Station VA 22039-1879  
(703) 239-0500  
Email: [ekoji.info@gmail.com](mailto:ekoji.info@gmail.com)  
Web: [ekoji.org](http://ekoji.org)

## **ENMANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

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## ABOUT THE CALENDAR

2024 marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Buddhist Churches of America. 125 years ago, a group of young Buddhist men in San Francisco petitioned the Hongwanji in Kyoto, Japan requesting for a permanent relationship to be established between those in the United States and the Hongwanji in order to fulfill their desire for religious and spiritual guidance. Because of their efforts, we have been able to nurture and deepen our appreciation for Shinran Shonin's Jodo Shinshu teaching and hear and receive the great compassionate calling of infinite wisdom and compassion.

This year's calendar is a look back at the then and now of the BCA over our 125-year history.

To see more photos submitted to BCA, please visit the [BCA website](#).

### October Calendar Photos:

Buddhist Temple of Alameda  
Berkeley Buddhist Temple  
Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple  
Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple  
Buddhist Church of Oakland  
Reedley Buddhist Church  
Buddhist Church of San Francisco  
Watsonville Buddhist Temple

### November Calendar Photos:

Buddhist Church of Florin  
Buddhist Church of Lodi  
Buddhist Church of Ogden  
Buddhist Church of Sacramento  
Salt Lake Buddhist Temple  
Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple  
White River Buddhist Temple

### December Calendar Photos:

Gardena Buddhist Church  
Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji  
Buddhist Temple  
Orange County Buddhist Church  
Buddhist Temple of San Diego  
Senshin Buddhist Temple  
Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

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