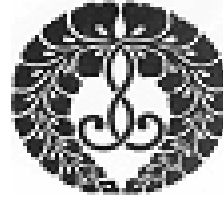


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Often I spend too much time wondering what will happen to me after I die. In a way it is foolish to even begin to ponder about life after death because the very answer I am seeking is in the very question. However in Shakyamuni Buddha's time many religious leaders and followers were very concerned about their mortality and if there was some form of life after death but Buddhism does not try to find immortality.

Instead, what the Buddha discovered, what he received in his enlightenment was *immeasurable life*, meaning life that cannot be measured. The ocean is too vast and deep to measure the amount of water in the ocean. There are too many stars in the sky to count. They are immeasurable. The Buddha discovered immeasurable life, not immortal life. Immeasurable life means that you cannot fathom the depth of life; you cannot measure the breadth of this great immeasurable life. Immeasurable life means you cannot measure the meaning, the value of such a life. For a person who touches and lives with great immeasurable life, there is neither birth nor death; there is only bright and shining life.

Once the Buddha gave a sermon in which he spoke not a single word, but instead held up a single flower in his hand. All of his disciples looked at him, puzzled, wondering what he was trying to say. On that day, only the disciple Mahakashapa smiled and understood the Buddha's message.

The Buddha was pointing to immeasurable life, by holding up a single flower. A single flower expresses the essence of life. It lives its life with the totality of its being. It does not compare itself to the grass or trees, the rocks or water. It simply lives its one life, with beauty and radiance.

Amida Buddha is immeasurable life. When we see the immeasurable beauty and depth of life in a flower we gassho and bow to Amida Buddha.

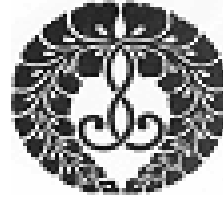
Namo Amida Buddha!

In Gassho - Sensei James

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Ministers and JSBTC Board to Meet in Lethbridge

Each year the Ministers Association (MA) has a meeting in the fall and it will be held in Lethbridge.

Similarly, the JSBTC Board has an interim board meeting, usually in Vancouver.

This year it has been decided to hold the JSBTC Board meeting in conjunction with the MA meeting and to do it in such a way that we can have a joint team-building workshop in between.

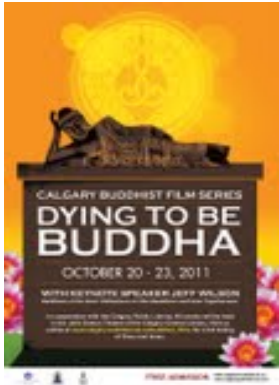
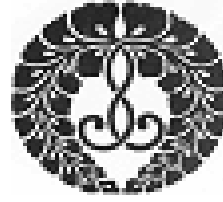
So the ministers will hold their meeting on Thursday, September 15th. The team-building workshop will be held on Friday, September 16th and then the interim JSBTC Board meeting will be on Saturday, September 17th. Trudy Gahlinger, a Calgary Temple member will be the facilitator on Friday.

At the Annual General Meeting in April in Toronto, the ministers participated in a team-building workshop and the reports from this workshop were positive. Our hope is that with the board members and the ministers getting together we will build a greater sense of unity and cooperation among the board members and the ministers.

For those who are not sure, the JSBTC board members are: Dave Otori (Vancouver), President; Jim Hisanaga (Manitoba), Vice President; Ray Nakano (Hamilton), Treasurer; David Major (BTSA), Secretary; Larry Ryan (Steveston); Susan Huntley (Calgary), Women's Federation representative; and James Martin (Calgary), MA representative. The Bishop, Rev. Grant Ikuta, is an ex-officio board member.

The ministers who will attend are Bishop Grant Ikuta (Steveston); Rev. James Martin (Calgary), MA Chair; Rev. Tatsuya Aoki (Vancouver); Rev. Yasuhiro Miyakawa (BC Interior); Rev. Yasuo Izumi (Lethbridge BTSA); Rev. Fred Ulrich (Manitoba); Rev. Tomufumi Fujii and Michael Hayashi (Toronto). Hamilton and Montreal are served by the Toronto ministers and Fraser Valley by the Steveston and Vancouver ministers. Roy Akune (Steveston) and Bob Akune (Vancouver) are assistant ministers.

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Calgary Buddhist Temple
In association with the Calgary Public Library
at the
John Dutton Theatre
(Library Main Branch)
6th annual Calgary Buddhist Film Series

Thursday, Oct 20

7:00 PM - **'Suicide Tourist'** (PBS Frontline) Panel discussion to follow

Friday, Oct 21

7:00 PM - **'Dead Man'**

Saturday, Oct 22

10:00 AM - **'Finding Nemo'**

1:00 PM - **'Tibetan Book of the Dead'**

3:30 PM - **'A Monk's Awakening'** (short film)

4:00 PM - Keynote speaker **Jeff Wilson** - **"Great to be Alive"**

Jeff Wilson is an assistant professor of religious studies and East Asian studies in Ontario. His most recent books include: [Mourning the Unborn Dead: A Buddhist Ritual Comes to America](#) (Oxford University Press 2009) and [Buddhism of the Heart: Reflections on Shin Buddhism and Inner Togetherness](#) (Wisdom Publications 2009). His next book, with University of North Carolina Press, will examine Buddhism in the American South.

7:30PM - **'Biutiful'**

Sunday, Oct 23

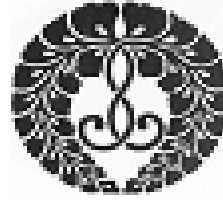
2:00 PM - **'Cherry Blossoms'**

4:30 PM - **'Zen Noir'**

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Temple Calendar of Events

National statutory holiday Provincial statutory holiday

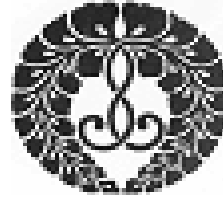
September 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:30 pm Service Movie night	2	3
4 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Shotsuki Service	5 Labour Day	6	7	8 7:30 pm Service	9	10
4 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Service	12	13	14	15 7:30 pm Service	16	17
18 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Service	19	20	21	22 7:30 pm Service	23	24
25 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Service	26	27	28	29 7:30 pm Service	30	

National statutory holiday Provincial statutory holiday

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October 2011

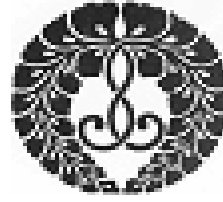
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Shotsuki Service	3	4	5	6 7:30 pm Service Movie night	7	8
9 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Service	10 Thanksgiving	11	12	13 7:30 pm Service	14	15
16 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Service	17	18	19	20 Film Series Suicide Tourist Panel Discussion	21 Film Series	22 Film Series Guest speaker Jeff Wilson
23 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Service Film Series	24	25	26	27 7:30 pm Service	28 ABC Lethbridge	29 ABC Lethbridge
30 ABC Lethbridge	31 Halloween	10 – BC AB SK MB ON QC YT NT NU				

National statutory holiday Provincial statutory holiday

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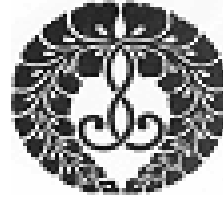
November 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 7:30 pm Service Movie night	4	5
6 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Shotsuki Service	7	8	9	10 7:30 pm Service	11 Remembrance Day	12
13 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Service	14	15	16	17 7:30 pm Service	18	19
20 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Service	21	22	23	24 7:30 pm Service	25	26
27 9:30-10:00 am Meditation 10:30 Service	28	29	30			

11 – BC AB SK NB PE NL YT NT NU

National statutory holiday Provincial statutory holiday

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2011 Alberta Buddhist Conference
October 28, 29, 30, 2011 Lethbridge, AB

The Buddhist Temples of Southern Alberta (BTSA) is proud to host the
33rd Annual Alberta Buddhist Conference.



Sensei Don Castro – Guest Speaker

(Photo from Seattle Betsuin website)

Sensei Castro is the Rinban (head minister) at the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple. He was born and raised in Santa Clara, CA. He has a BA in Anthropology from San Jose State, an MA in Buddhist Studies from the Institute of Buddhist Studies, and a California State Teaching Credential from Sonoma State University. Castro Sensei has been a Buddhist minister for 32 years and served at temples in San Francisco and Sebastopol, California before transferring to the Seattle Betsuin in 1986.

“Pay It Forward: Dana in Daily Life”

“Ho on Kansha”

(報恩感謝 ほうおんかんしゃ)

The Registration form is available at <http://www.calgary-buddhist.ab.ca/abc.htm>