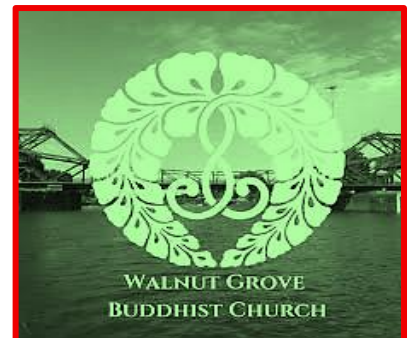


The Delta Dharma

The WGBC Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026

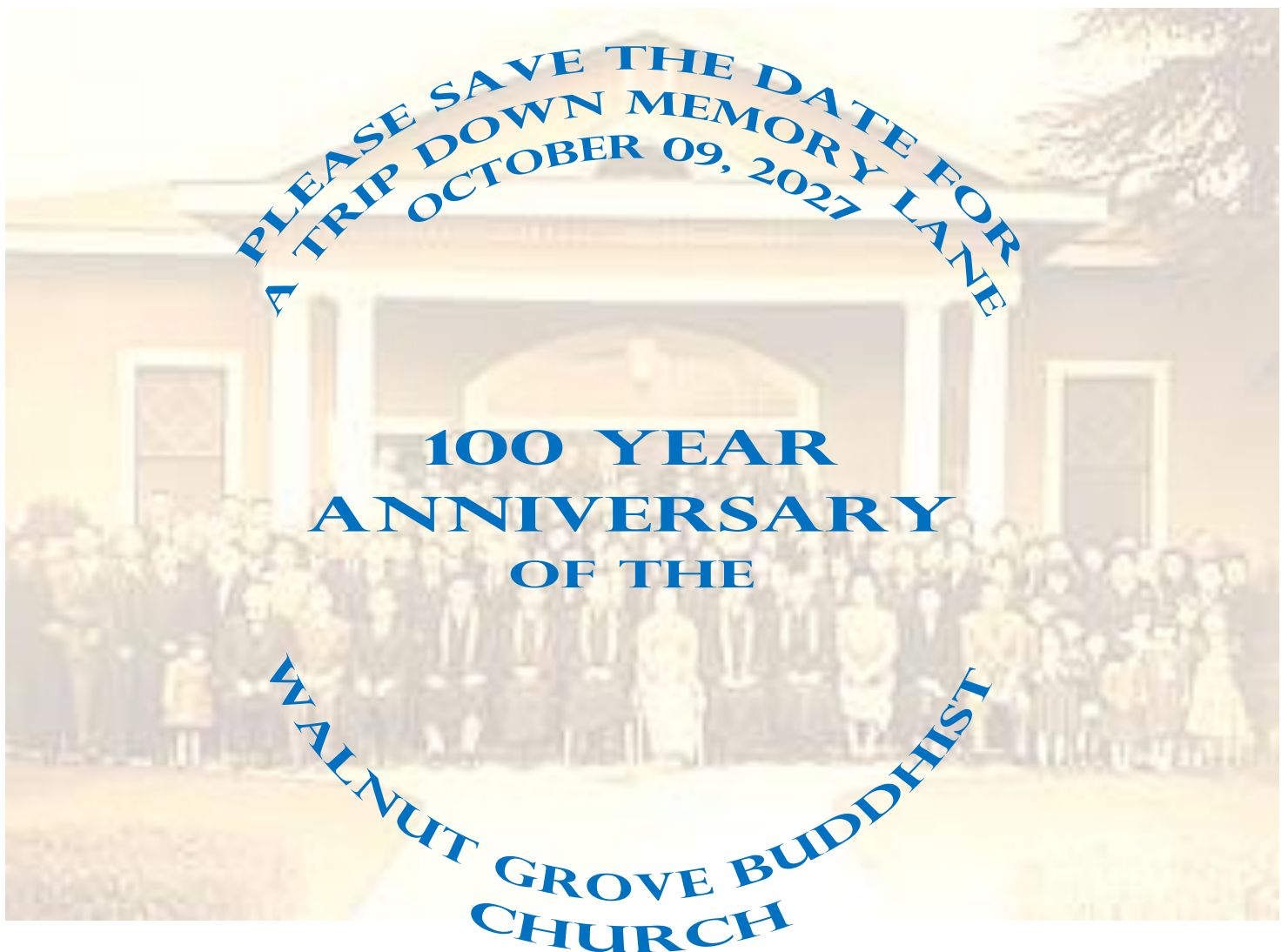


Sunday September 27 – 10AM – Adult Study

Sunday 4 1:30 PM Shotsuki/Monthly Service

Tuesday 6 7:00 PM Board Meeting (Hybrid)

**Sunday 25 10:00 AM Adult Study Class/Workshop
“Repairing and Making Onenju”**



Just one year ahead!! Details to follow as plans progress!!

What We Are Building Together

For the Buddhist Church of Stockton and the Walnut Grove Buddhist Church, the busyness of the summer has concluded as we enter the season of fall. Although it is thought of as a time of respite and relaxation, the summer months are very eventful and at times, an intense time of year of preparation for the temples' annual festivities.

The Buddhist Church of Stockton and the Walnut Grove Buddhist Church do differ in size, geographic area, and history, but I notice the similarities between them when I reflect upon the importance and meaning of gathering together, supporting the temples' summer fundraisers, and participating in Buddhist observances.

As the temples prepare for annual teriyaki chicken bento fundraisers, Obon/Hatsubon services, Obon Odori practices, final evenings of Obon dancing, or the annual bazaar, there are countless stages of planning, dedicated hours of preparing and volunteering, sharing of cultural experiences, remembrance, and an opportunity to deepen our sense of community and gratitude.

Many moments became extraordinary opportunities of reflection and appreciation for me this summer. At the Walnut Grove Buddhist Church, we welcomed a new couple to our Sangha, as Gregory and Lisa were married at the temple on May 2, 2026. Their shared love for music and community inspired the creation of their taiko group called Iwa Daiko who beautifully accompanied our Obon Odori. Gregory also taught us and shared the inspiration behind an Obon Odori song he wrote and choreographed as a tribute to his grandmother who resided in the Delta and was a member of the Walnut Grove Buddhist Church. With an increased crowd of dancers and spectators alike this year at our small but mighty temple on the Delta, the evening became a heartfelt moment of appreciation through remembrance, dancing, community, and even through conversation and snacking on rice balls and takuwan during intermission.

As the Buddhist Church of Stockton prepared for our annual bazaar and as I made my way to the temple office each day, I looked at all of the booths, canopies, signage, power cords, lanterns, lights, tables and chairs, the outdoor stage, and how manicured the grounds were, I was reminded of all of the people behind the bazaar build. They were not just structures and objects on the temple grounds, they represented the dedication of members, friends, and community partners who came together to support the temple. Without the support of all of these individuals, our temple bazaar would not be a success each year.

All of these summer activities not only financially support the temples to allow each of us to gather to hear and receive the Buddha's teachings, but they also build something. They build a sense of community. A community where we can come together, each with our own personal journeys, and share a spirit of togetherness, care, support, belonging, open mindedness, and compassion with one another. They also build a connection between the past, present and future as we preserve the memories of our passed loved ones and friends in the Dharma and as we welcome new Dharma friends and new ideas of sharing the Buddha-Dharma together.

I cannot thank the members and friends of the Walnut Grove Buddhist Church and the Buddhist Church of Stockton enough for your dedication, commitment, generosity, and support. Because of all of you, we will continue to build connections with each other and with the Nembutsu teachings for years to come.

With Sincere Gratitude & In Gassho, Rev. Candice Shibata

October Shotsuki

Joyous Monthly Memorial

Deceased

Sumi	Matsumoto
Sakiye	Matsumoto
Richard T.	Yoshimi
Kimiko	Kubota
Hiromi	Okada
Ichiro	Jinsaki
Doshun	Mizutani
Takako	Kondo
Yaeno	Kimura
Dix Kaoru	Koga
Takeo	Ito
Suzuko "Suzie"	Roberts
Chizuko	Oto
Bob	Matsumoto
Phil	Frame
Rev. Roy	Mayhugh
Steve	Sakata

Chief Mourner

John	Matsumoto Jr.
John	Matsumoto Jr.
Darrell	Yoshimi
Roy	Uda
June	Okada
Lillian	Matsuoka
Lillian	Matsuoka
Betty	Kimura
Dorothy	Koga
David	Ito
Linda	Roberts Waite
Clifford	Oto
Matsumoto	Family
Sangha	Family
Sangha	Family
Toshiko	Sakata



The editor would like to apologize to the family of Mrs. Toshiko Hamada for omitting her name from the September Shotsuki List for her 1 year memorial. Thank-you to Rev. Candice Shibata for realizing this and making sure her name was called during the service.

The Walnut Grove Buddhist Church Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations

SHOTSUKI

IMO Asako & Kathy Nakahara:

Nancy Nakahara	50.00
Amy Yamamoto	50.00
Bruce & May Iwasaki	50.00

IMO Misayo Nakahara:

Frances Nakahara	50.00
Craig Nakahara	50.00

IMO Masae Nakayama:

Stephen & Jean Kashiwada	25.00
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IMO Roy Yokoi:

Yuri Yokoi	100.00
Marvin & Sachi Yokoi	100.00
Sharon Yokoi & Gerry Shelton	100.00

IMO Yoshiko Sugimoto

Judy Young	100.00
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IMO Ichitaro Okada & Sukichi Kusaba:

June Okada	50.00
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IMO Toshiko Grace Sakai:

Joyce Sakai	100.00
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IMO Taka Ishizuka:

Dave & Chris Ishizuka	25.00
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IMO Toshiko Hamada:

Char Hamada & Jack Krug	100.00
Myra Okasaki	100.00

IMO Minoru Hori:

Steve Sakai	50.00
Carol Tang	100.00
Carol Tang	100.00

OTHER DONATIONS

Obon

Naomi Sakai	50.00
Stephen Sakai	100.00
Dennis K. Tsukagawa	100.00

Keiro

Mitsuko Norikane	50.00
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Patricia Nishite	100.00
Cynthia Lavagetto	75.00

Janet Sakata – In Honor of Sam Sakata's Birthday	100.00
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Hiromi Lorraine/Sumo	
Thomas Sakata	1,900.00



Northern California District Family Conference

Friendship, Understanding and Nembutsu

Cultivating understanding through sharing stories of community members who came from another country.

Dharma school students will hear children's stories and experience games and treats from Iran and Vietnam.



**Reverend
Melissa Opel**

Dharma Speaker

Resident minister at
the Buddhist Church
of San Francisco



**Mohammadamin
Asadirad**

Panel Member

Born and raised in Iran, he
immigrated to the United
States and graduated from
Northstate University
College of Pharmacy



**Yen
Marshall**

Panel Member

Born in Vietnam, she
immigrated to the United
States and has worked
for several non-profit
community based
organizations



**Northern California District Council
Family Conference
Saturday, October 10, 2026**

Registration Form

Please complete one registration form per household or group.

Contact Information

Last Name	First Name
Address	
Temple Affiliation	District
Email Address	

Please Check

	Last Name	First Name	Grade Level			Adult	Please List Any Food Allergies
			K-6	7-8	9-12		
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							

Cost of Registration

Age Category	Registration Fee	Number Registered	Total
Adult Registration / Over 12 Years Old	\$30.00		
12 Years Old and Younger	\$10.00		
Total Cost of Registration:			

Payment Method

Cash

Check: Please make check payable to NCDC

Please mail your completed form and payment to:

Myra Okasaki – NCDC, 1020 East Landing Way, Sacramento, CA 95831-5617

If you have any questions, please email: NCDCFamilYConference2026@gmail.com



Walnut Grove Buddhist Church's

FREE! Onenju



Adult Study Class + Onenju Making & Repair Workshop

Join Rev. Candice as she shares the meaning & significance of the onenju or "mindful of the Buddha" beads during our next Adult Study Class. Talented Mike Shibata from the Buddhist Church of Stockton will teach us how to make an onenju. Find your broken onenjus that need to be restrung and/or learn to make a new one. Materials will be provided and refreshments will be served following the session.

10/25/2026

10:00 am

Walnut Grove Buddhist Church
14105 Pine Street, Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Please RSVP By: 10/10/2026
Call: (916) 776-1312
Email: walnutgrovebuddhistchurch@gmail.com

Join us for a free test screening of the documentary

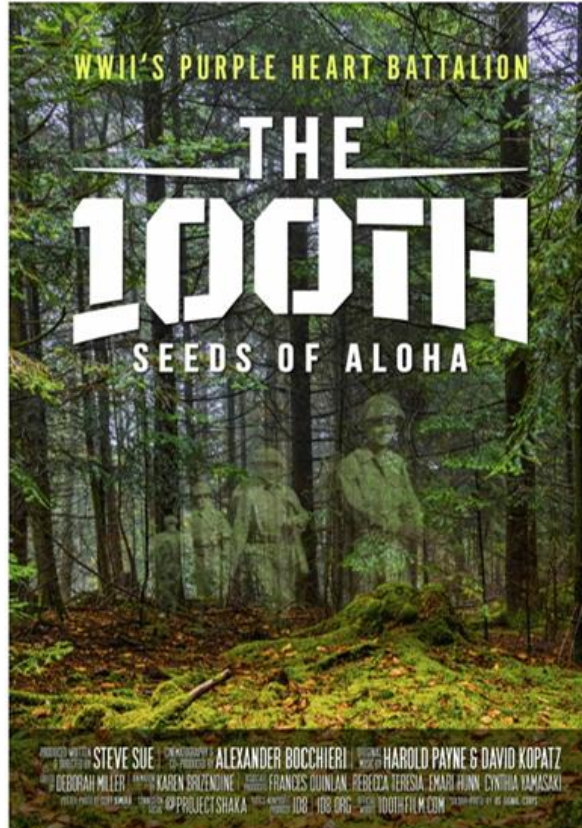
“The 100th, Seeds of Aloha”

Date: Saturday, November 14, 2026

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Buddhist Church of Sacramento

Sponsored by: Carl Williams (Curator of Heroes of the Vosges Museum) and the Sacramento Adult Buddhist Association



The 100th: Seeds of Aloha is a feature-length educational documentary dedicated to the 100th Infantry Battalion – a unit predominately made up of Americans of Japanese descent (AJAs) from Hawai‘i – who fought heroically to liberate Italy and France, earning the name “The Purple Heart Battalion.” This film is a delicate balance of being respectful of those in the war effort while framing a hopeful and healing story of a post-war legacy that results in paradise rising from the ashes of war.

Be among the first to see this epic film, and comments and feedback are welcome.

Q&A Session to follow the documentary.

Register to attend this free screening: <https://forms.gle/DQwRXiSAAkTnizVK9>

If you have any questions, contact Carl Williams, (916) 233-8069, cwilliams@intl-aero.net or John Yoshikawa, (916) 320-2111, spyron@aol.com.

Mental freedom
is the ability to
choose not to
react.

We are not what others say
about us, nor what we
momentarily feel – we are
the awareness that observes
it all without becoming it.

A free mind
needs no revenge
and no approval.
Only peace.

